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Natural Resource Management: The Case of Capture Fisheries in Africa

‘Responding to Crises’

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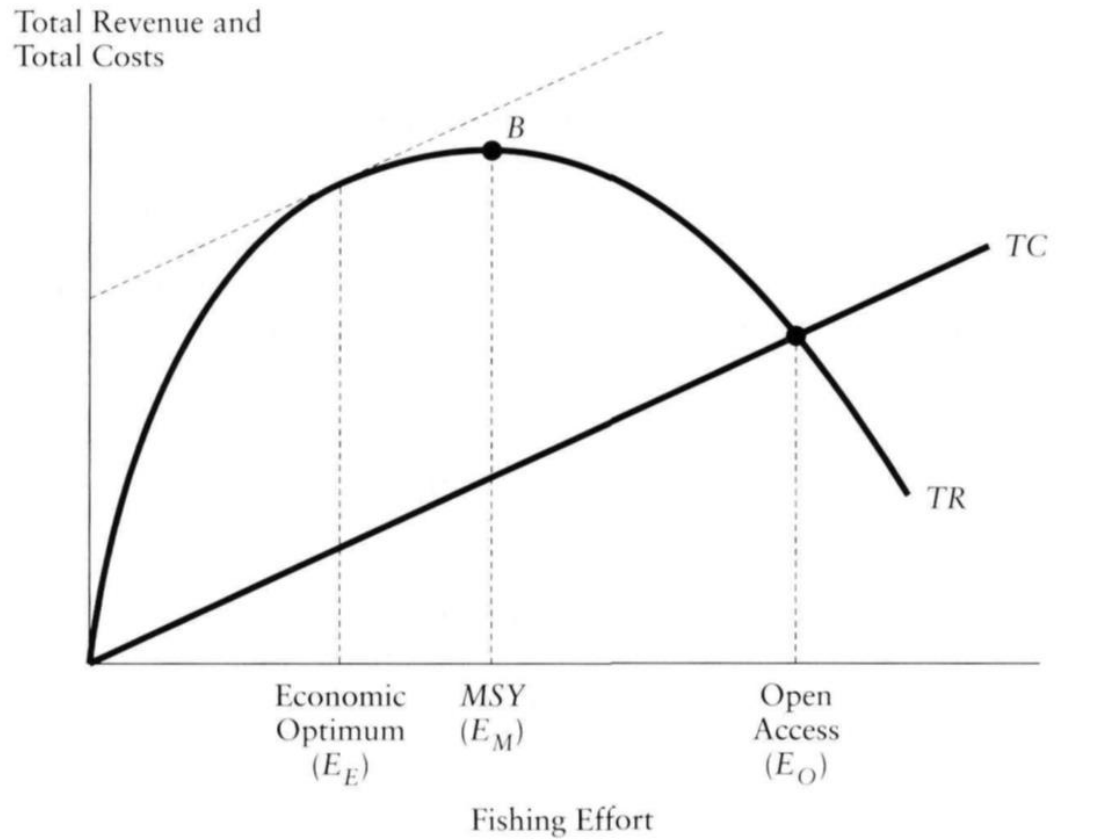
Outline of Presentation

- Renewable Resources
- Some Facts about Fisheries in Africa
- Artisanal vs Industrial Fisheries
- Challenges of Fisheries Management
- The way forward

Renewable Resources (RRs)

- RR are living resources (forest stock, fish stock, etc)
 - Replenishes itself if exploited within reasonable limits
 - If unexploited: it grows until it reaches its carrying capacity
 - Very small and very large stocks generate small rates of growth
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MSY and MEY (Biology and Economics)

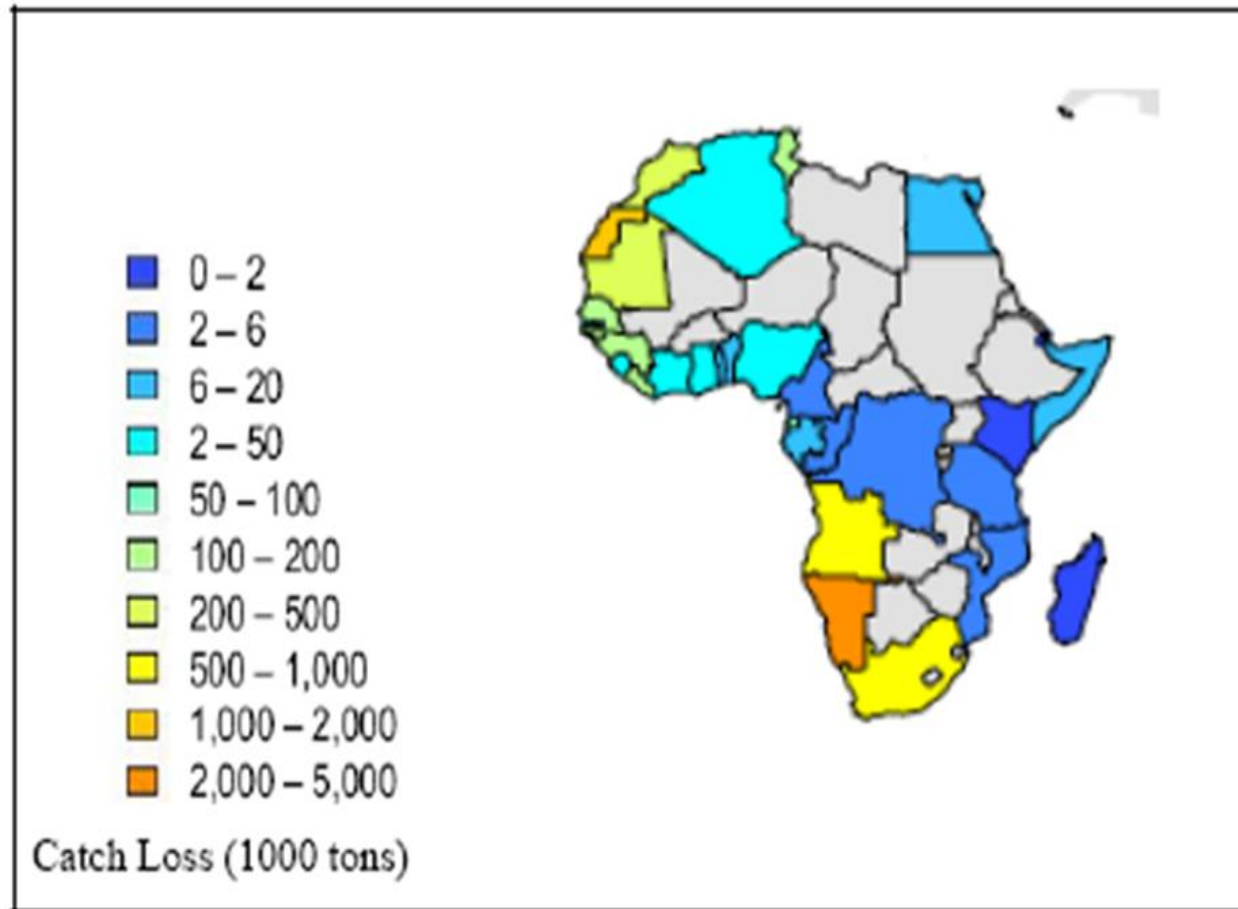


- **MSY**: Maximum sustainable Yield
- **MEY**: Maximum Economic Yield (**Profit**)
- **Profit**: **Revenue** – **Cost**

Facts (Africa)

- The continent lands about 7.6 million tons of fish annually
- Contributes US\$24b (1.26%) to Africa's GDP
- Employs about 0.8% of the active labor force (SSA: 2.1%).
- Fish makes up 17.4% of the protein intake
- Per capita fish consumption in Africa is the lowest in the world (9.1 kg)
- Aquaculture is less than 2.2% (SSA is 0.6%) of global total. (US\$3b)
- Capture fisheries are overcapitalized and overexploited

Catch losses in Africa over 1991–2000



Industrial and Artisanal Fisheries

- **Industrial**
 - Large fleets mostly made of steel
 - Fish offshore
 - Mostly foreign owned
 - Generate revenue through licensing and taxes



Industrial and Artisanal Fisheries

- **Artisanal**
 - Low technology/capital
 - Fish close to the shore
 - provide jobs, income and food to marginalized communities



Challenge of Fisheries Management

- Uncertainty and Misperceptions
 - Simple models don't describe a complex world
 - Inadequate enforcement of rules
 - Endemic corruption in fisheries governance
 - Harmful subsidies
 - Poorly designed (top-down) management processes
 - Ignorance of social considerations...
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Way forward (Artisanal Fisheries)

- Fisheries policies must be incentive compatible
 - Community-wide institutions must be considered in policy design and implementation
 - Access and withdrawal rights
 - Exogenous factors impacting catch must be well understood
 - Biophysical dynamics of the stocks must be understood
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Thank You





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