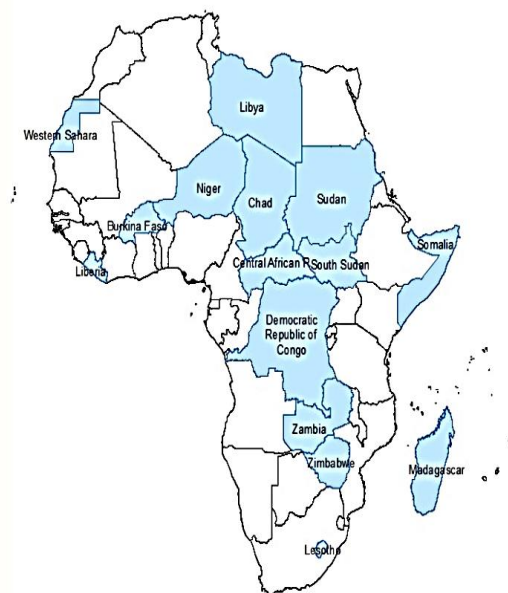


STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIVE AND VALIDATION WORKSHOP FOR THE STATE OF LIBYA for the  
Review of National Policies in African Union Member States and Make Specific Recommendations for Alignment  
and Domestication of Global Instruments

Assessment of The Alignment of National Fisheries–Aquaculture Strategies and The National Agricultural  
Investment Plans to The Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa and  
Climate–Change Adaptation

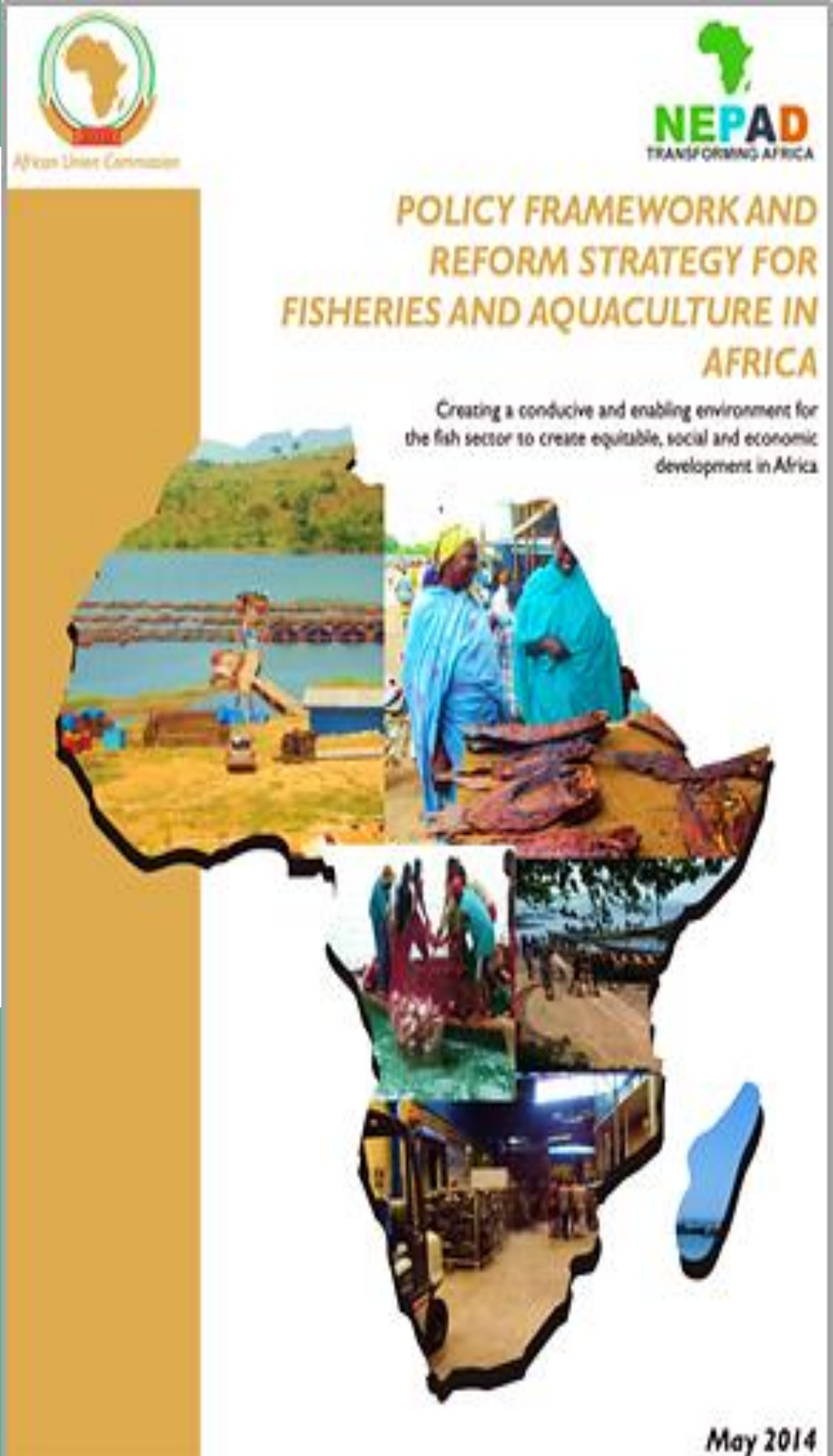


18th to 21st May, 2025, Tunisia.

# ALIGNMENT OF LIBYA'S FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES WITH THE POLICY FRAMEWORK AND RE-FORM STRATEGY FOR AFRICAN FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE (PFRS)

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National Consultant – Libya





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# INTRODUCTION

**The African Union's Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture (PFRS) offers a roadmap for sustainable sector development across Africa. In Libya, despite its vast marine resources and the sector's potential to support food security and economic diversification, fisheries and aquaculture remain underdeveloped due to regulatory and institutional challenges. Aligning Libya's national policies with the PFRS, the African Blue Economy Strategy, and other international instruments is essential to improve governance, attract investment, and promote sustainable resource management. This presentation assesses Libya's policy alignment, highlighting key gaps and reform priorities.**

# Methodology

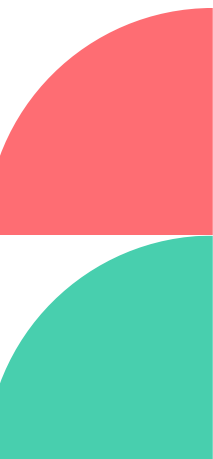
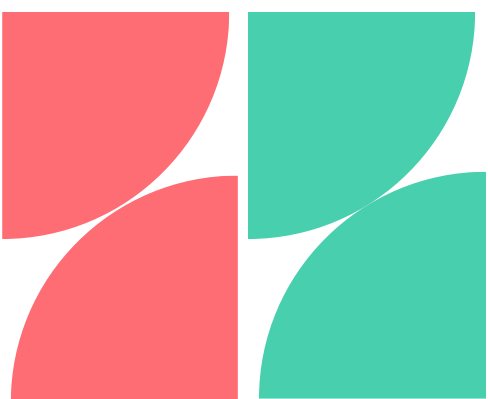
The analysis of Libya's national fisheries and aquaculture policies was conducted through a structured review of the framework for assisting the revision of fisheries and aquaculture policies and laws. This assessment was guided by the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa (PFRS) , alongside relevant regional and global best practices.

## 1 - Policy alignment matrix

The evaluation used a policy alignment matrix based on the eight core PFRS policy areas to systematically assess Libya's fisheries and aquaculture policies. This method quantified alignment levels, highlighting strengths and critical gaps. The results guided the identification of priority areas for reform and strategic intervention.

## 2 – Data collection

A mixed-methods approach was applied, combining literature review, surveys, and interviews. Key documents and national policies were analyzed alongside AU-IBAR and international reports. An online survey gathered insights from public and private stakeholders, while interviews with policymakers provided in-depth perspectives, guided by AU-IBAR's 2023 consultancy framework.





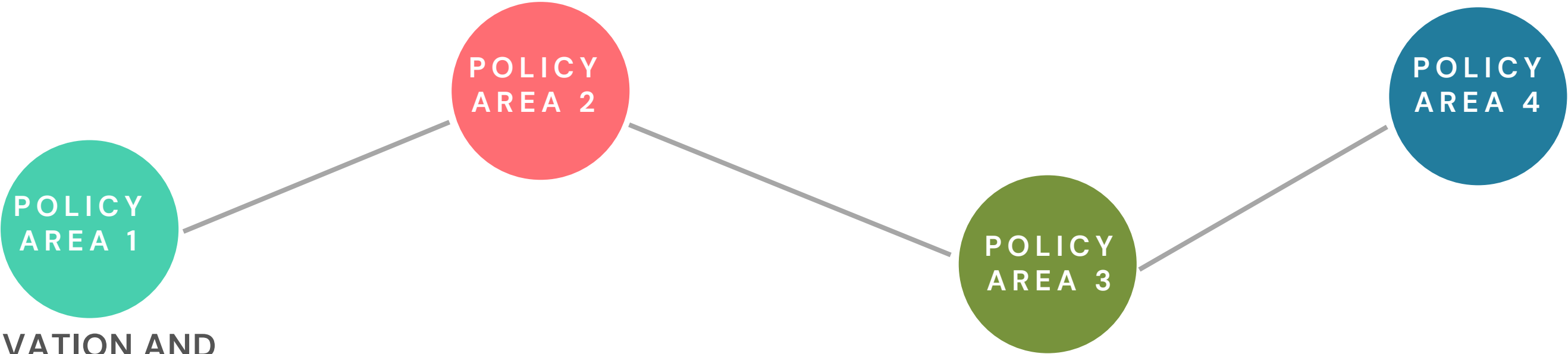
# KEY POLICY AREAS

## SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT

Policy objective: To improve and strengthen the contribution of small scale fisheries to poverty alleviation, food and nutrition security and socio economic benefits of fishing communities.

## RESPONSIBLE AND EQUITABLE FISH TRADE AND MARKETING

Policy objective: To harness significantly the benefits of Africa's fisheries and aquaculture endowments through accelerated trade and marketing.



## CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE USE

Policy objective: To establish national and sub-national governance and institutional arrangements that ensure that the societal contribution generated by Africa's sectors have the greatest impacts at the most appropriate level.

## SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT

Policy objective: To jumpstart market-led sustainable aquaculture through a variety of strategies and, where appropriate, support interventionist development approaches in aquaculture by strong strategic and implementation plans.



# KEY POLICY AREAS

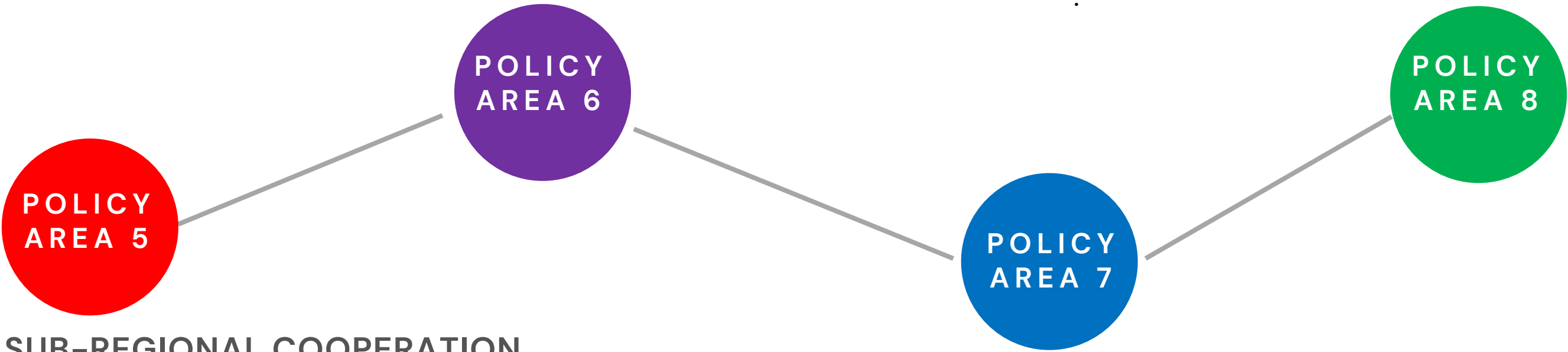
## AWARENESS ENHANCING AND HUMAN- CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Policy objective: To increase awareness of the potential and importance of the sector and enhanced capacity of people and institutions in the African fishery sector to ensure the sustainable development of capture fisheries and aquaculture based on current and emerging trends, challenges and needs.

## CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

This policy area has three dimensions which include:

- a. Strengthening Resilience and Reducing Vulnerabilities to Climate Change
- b. include knowledge-based gender and youth considerations in policies, laws and plans
- c. improve the financial services offered to SMEs in the fisheries and aquaculture value chains.



## REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION Policy

objective: To strengthen South-South (bilateral and regional) cooperation, and develop coordinated mechanisms among RECs, RFBs and LME-based commissions to ensure coherence of fisheries policies and aquaculture development and their adoption and adaptation

## HIGH SEAS FISHERIES

Policy objective: To increase and consolidate the African Voice in the governance and management of high seas fisheries.



# ASSESSMENT OF LIBYA'S NATIONAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE INSTRUMENTS AND THEIR ALIGNMENT WITH THE PFRS



Literature  
and  
documents  
review



Stakeholder  
engagement



**Framework for assisting  
the revision of fisheries  
and aquaculture  
strategies, policies and  
laws.**

**Overview of the national  
legislation, laws and  
regulatory frameworks**

**Institutional framework and  
governmental bodies  
involved**

**Benchmarking Libya's policies  
and best practices from other  
African nations..**

**Libya's fisheries and  
aquaculture and key policy  
intervention entry points:**



Overview of the national legislation, laws and regulatory frameworks

Law No. 14 of 1989 is the cornerstone of Libya’s legal framework for marine fisheries and aquatic resources. Its effective review must also include the evaluation of two key implementing decisions: Decision No. 71 of 1990 (executive regulations) and Decision No. 80 of 1991 (technical regulations). These instruments collectively govern the operational aspects of the sector and are essential for aligning Libya’s fisheries governance with current national and international standards.

Libya’s marine and aquatic environments are public resources that remain vulnerable to overexploitation without clear regulation. While existing fisheries legislation reflects long-standing efforts to govern the sector, enforcement and institutional coordination remain weak. In response, the National Project of Aquaculture has introduced the Guide to Practicing Aquaculture Activity in Libya, which provides formal procedures for licensing, environmental safeguards, and responsible farming practices. This guide enhances governance, supports investment, and helps structure the country’s emerging aquaculture industry for sustainable growth.

A breakdown of what enforcement tools do exist, what’s missing, and areas for development:

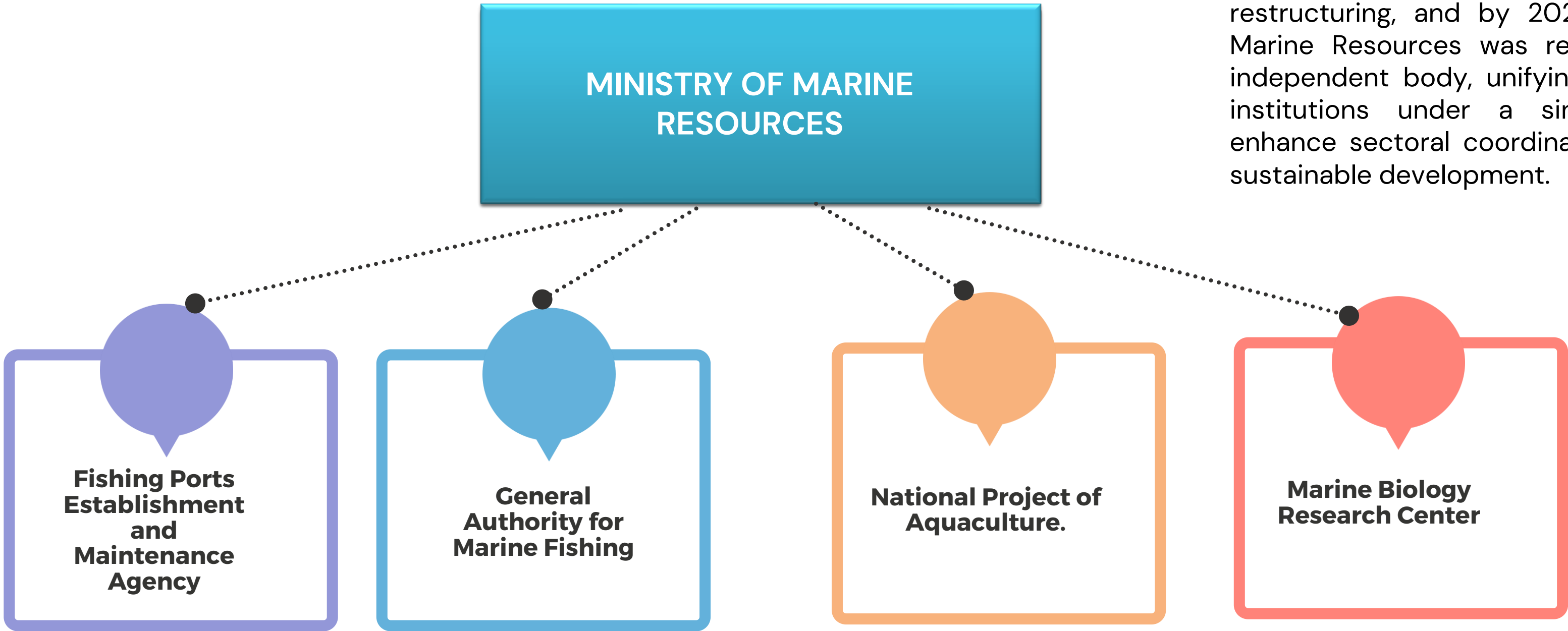
ENFORCEMENT COMPONENT	STATUS IN LIBYA	NOTES
Updated Fisheries Law	Absent	Existing laws no 14 1989 outdated, not comprehensive.
Trained Fisheries Inspectors	Very limited	Few officers with specific training.
Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)	Not implemented at scale	Small-scale fishers not monitored.
Patrol Boats for Fisheries	Available but not dedicated	Coast Guard and the Navy do general maritime patrols.
Port Inspection Mechanisms	Nonexistent	No systematic checks at landing sites or ports.
IUU Fishing Deterrents	Weak penalties and application	Minimal prosecutions or deterrence.
Observer Programs	Not implemented	No coverage of industrial or artisanal vessels.

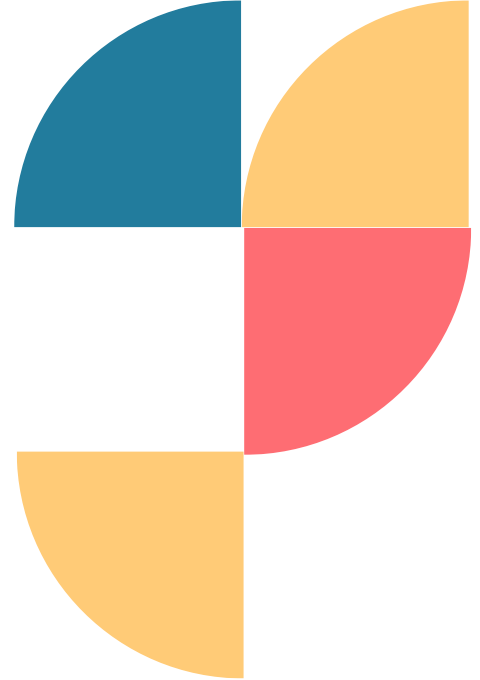
A well-regulated sector can contribute significantly to food security, employment generation, and economic diversification. As the legal framework evolves, it will be essential to ensure that policies remain adaptable to changing environmental and economic conditions, supporting a resilient and sustainable blue economy for Libya.

**Institutional framework and governmental bodies involved**

Since Libya’s independence, the institutional framework governing fisheries and aquaculture has undergone significant transformation, evolving from decentralized fishing offices in the 1950s to the creation of a specialized Ministry of Marine Resources in 2021. Early management was fragmented across ministries, but major reforms, such as the creation of the Fisheries Affairs Authority (1962), the Marine Biology Research Centre (1984), and the General Secretariat of Marine Resources (1988), reflected growing recognition of the sector’s importance. Subsequent reorganizations consolidated marine resource governance, culminating in the 2007 establishment of the General Authority for Marine Resources.

Post-2011 political transitions led to further restructuring, and by 2021, the Ministry of Marine Resources was reestablished as an independent body, unifying all major marine institutions under a single authority to enhance sectoral coordination, planning, and sustainable development.





Seychelles has successfully deployed advanced Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) systems, including satellite tracking and electronic reporting, significantly reducing IUU fishing. These tools allow real-time vessel monitoring and efficient data processing to detect violations. Libya could adopt similar systems to track vessels, electronically report catches, and strengthen port inspections. This would enhance regulatory compliance and reduce illegal fishing activities in Libyan waters.



Egypt's aquaculture success is rooted in strong government leadership, robust policy frameworks, strategic investments in infrastructure, and public-private partnerships. Its national strategy promotes training, financial incentives, and regulatory support for fish farmers. Libya can adopt a similar approach by creating a fisheries strategy, investing in hatcheries and cold chains, offering training programs, and incentivizing private sector participation through subsidies and loans.



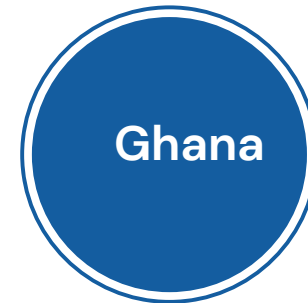
Morocco's Halieutis Strategy emphasizes sustainability, value chain development, and access to global markets through resource protection, industry modernization, and compliance with international standards. Libya can adopt a similar strategy by creating a national fisheries master plan, enforcing marine protection and quotas, investing in fish processing infrastructure, and aligning with global export standards to boost competitiveness.



Nigeria's fisheries sector has grown through deregulation, tax incentives, and strong public-private partnerships that empower private sector leadership. The government reduced direct control, encouraged investment, and provided supportive financial policies. Application for Libya: Libya can replicate this by removing regulatory barriers, offering tax incentives, easing business registration, and promoting fisheries-focused lending through local banks to boost private sector engagement.



Mauritania has effectively balanced foreign investment with national interests by licensing foreign vessels under regulated terms, reinvesting fisheries revenue into local infrastructure, and enforcing local content policies that mandate employment of nationals and local fish processing. Libya can adopt a similar model by establishing transparent foreign fishing agreements that ensure equitable benefit-sharing. Revenues from foreign licenses should support fisheries infrastructure, such as landing sites and monitoring systems. Additionally, local employment requirements for foreign vessels can generate jobs and strengthen coastal economies.



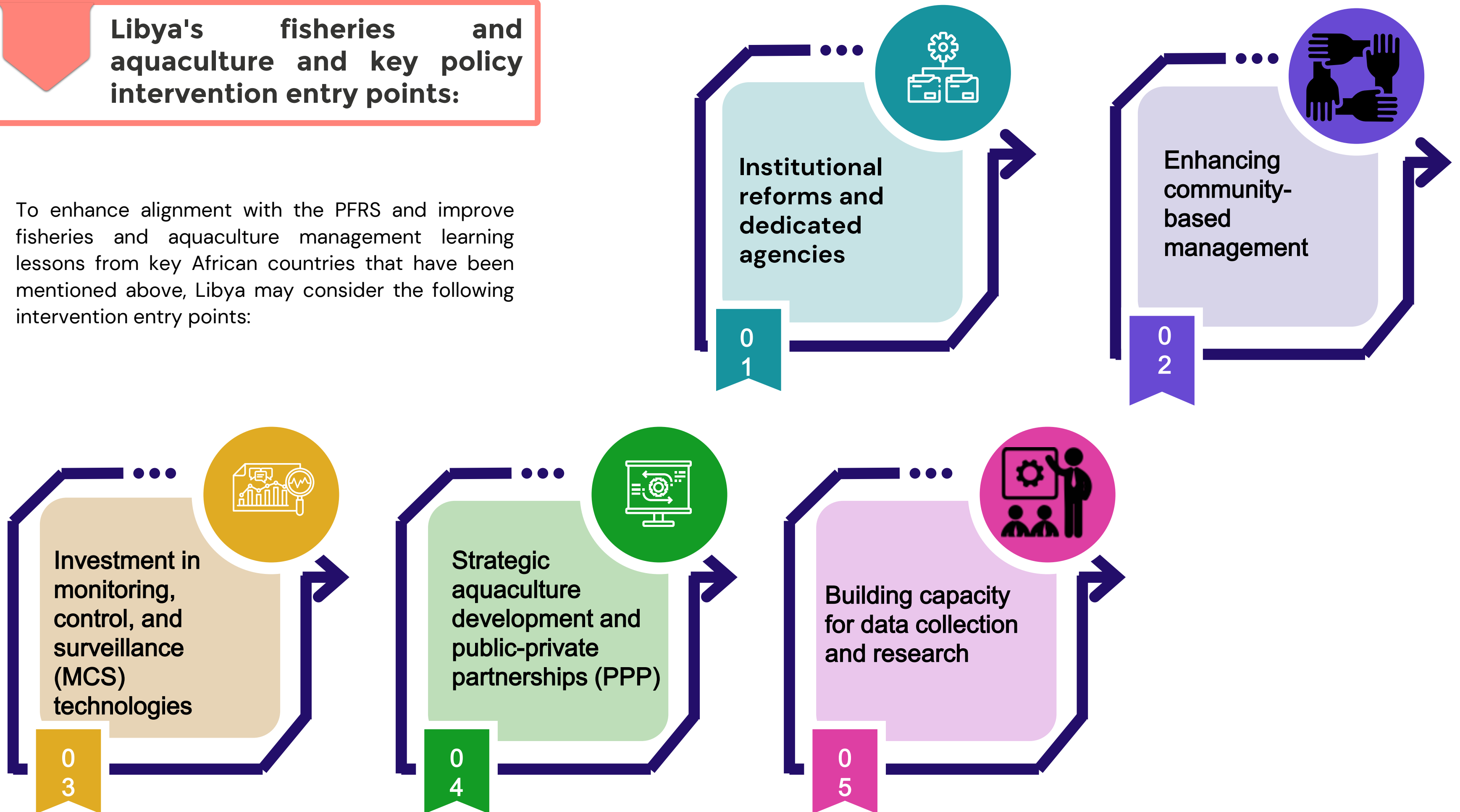
Ghana's Community-Based Fisheries Management Committees have proven effective in reducing illegal fishing and promoting sustainable practices by involving local communities in governance. Through co-management, seasonal bans, and local decision-making, fishers actively contribute to regulation and resource stewardship. Libya could apply this model by empowering local fishers through community-based management structures, implementing seasonal fishing closures, and establishing local fisheries committees to enhance participatory governance and sustainability.

**Benchmarking Libya's policies and best practices from other African nations..**



## Libya's fisheries and aquaculture and key policy intervention entry points:

To enhance alignment with the PFRS and improve fisheries and aquaculture management learning lessons from key African countries that have been mentioned above, Libya may consider the following intervention entry points:



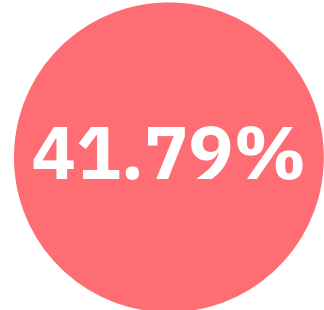
# THE CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR ALIGNMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PFRS:

From the various documents, discussions, surveys and interviews, Libya's fisheries and aquaculture frameworks show partial alignment with the African Union's Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa (PFRS), Agenda 2063, Kampala declaration, and trade protocols like SACU, SADC, and AfCFTA. However, significant gaps remain in institutional capacity, policy implementation, and regulatory enforcement. Below is an assessment of how Libya aligns with these frameworks and where improvements are needed.

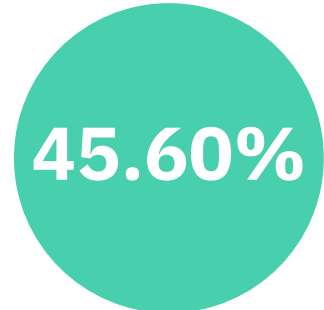


# POLICY AREA 1 – 56.27%

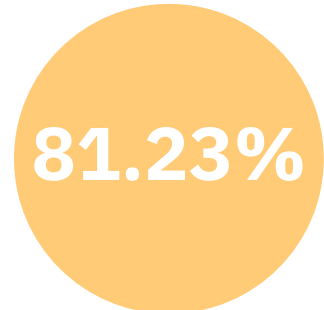
## Conservation And Sustainable Fisheries And Aquaculture Resource Use



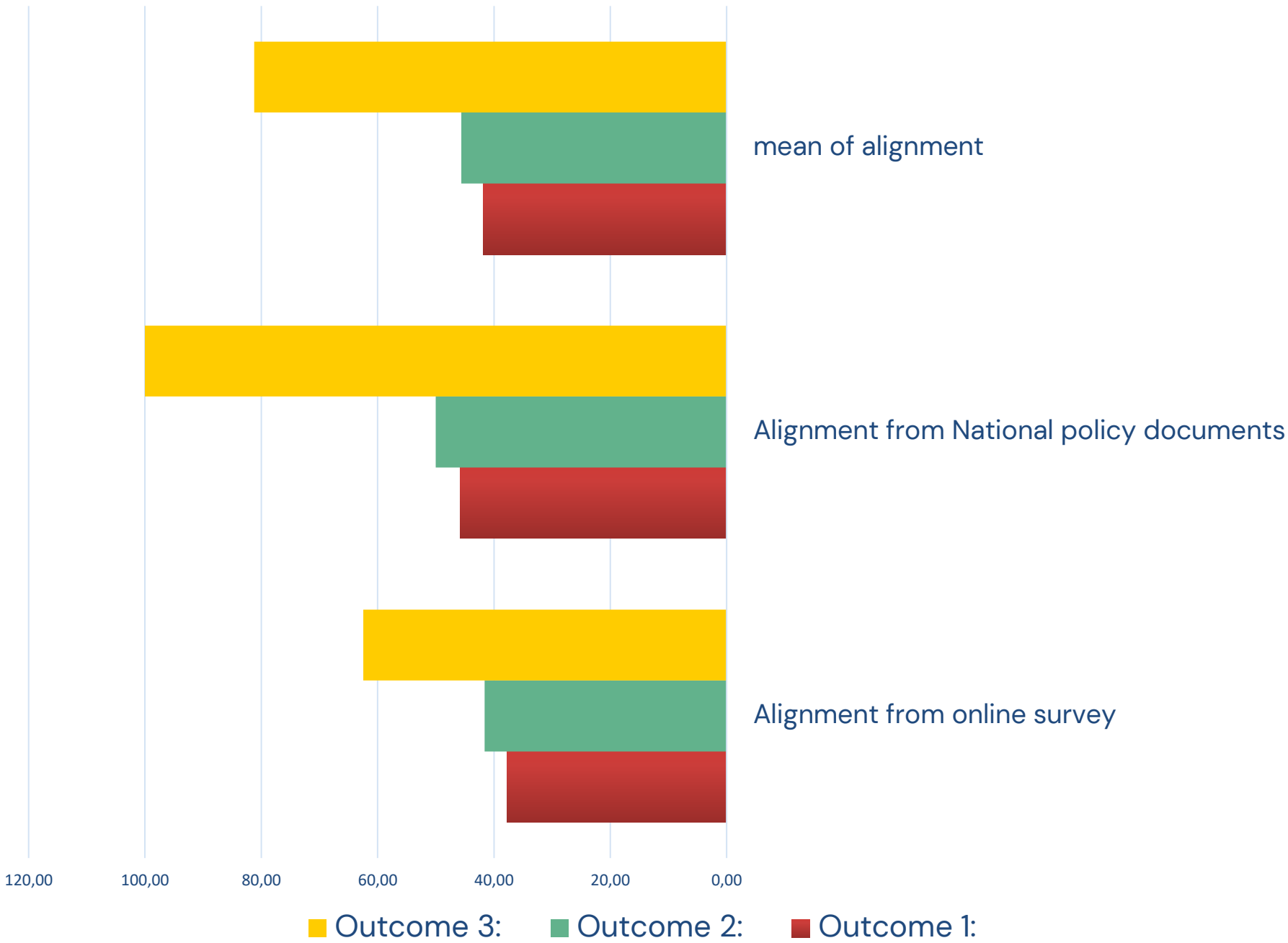
**Outcome 1:**  
Policies, frameworks and tools in place to sustainably increase national benefits from fisheries and aquaculture



**Outcome 2:**  
Effective and sustainable national and regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance systems in place to ensure that sustainable benefits are realized

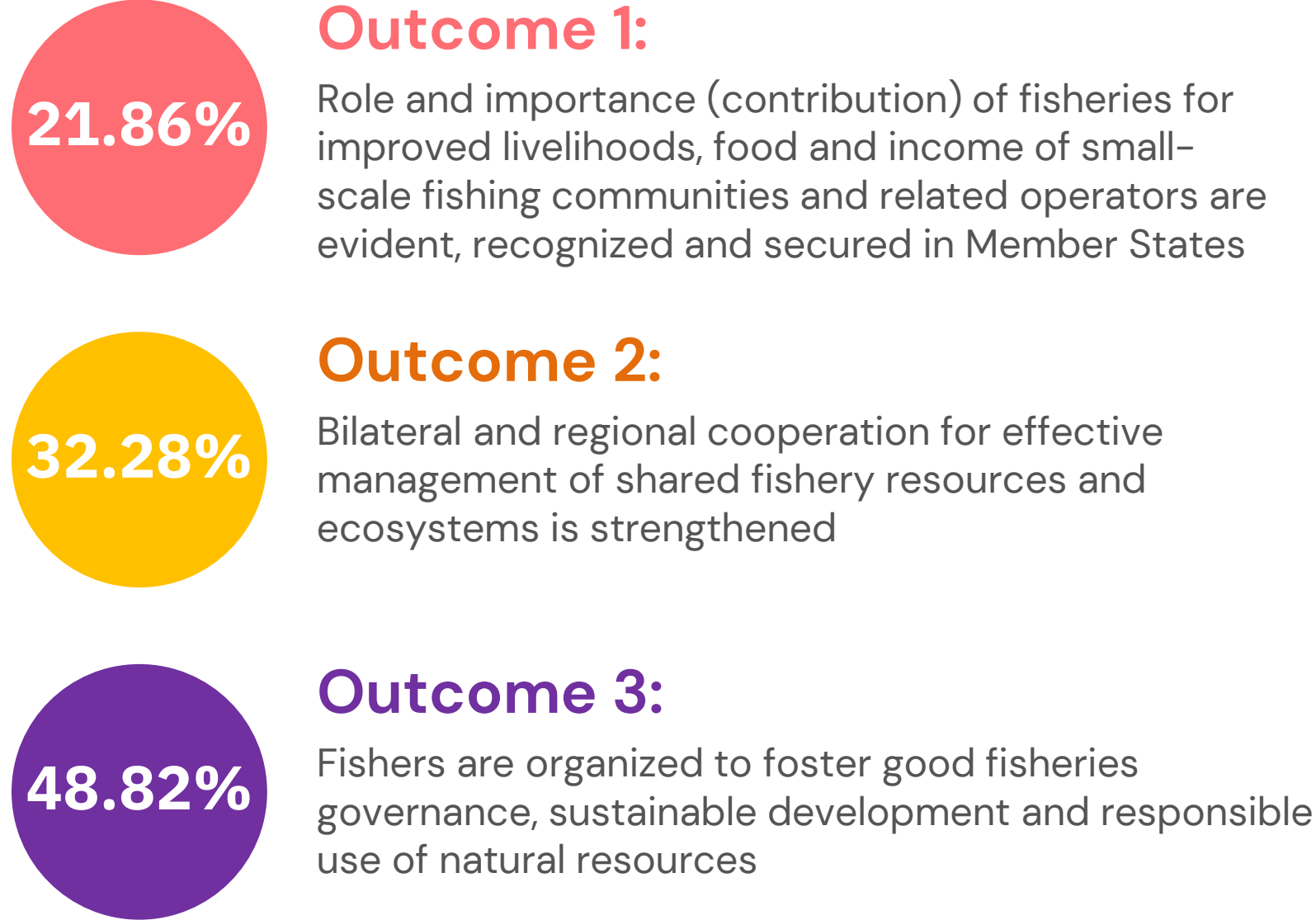


**Outcome 3:**  
Healthy ecosystems to support sustainable fisheries and aquaculture.



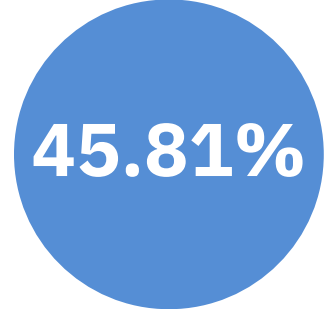
# POLICY AREA 2 – 34.31%

## Small Scale Fisheries Development



# POLICY AREA 3 – 34.38%

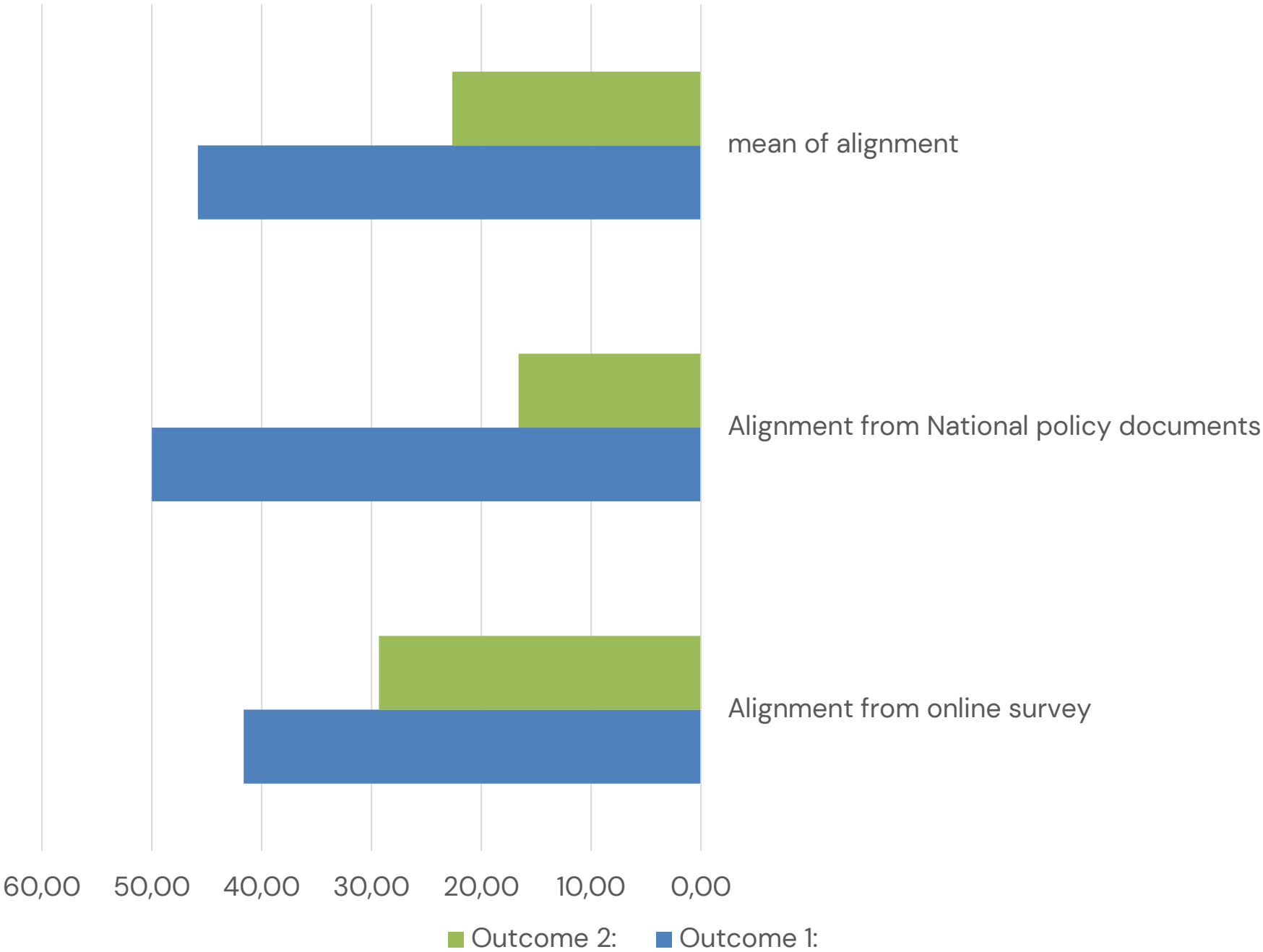
## Sustainable Aquaculture Management



**Outcome 1:**  
Improved market-led aquaculture investments

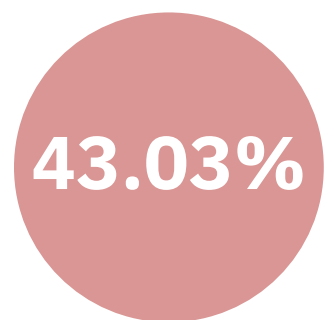


**Outcome 2:**  
Improved regional cooperation in shared ecosystems

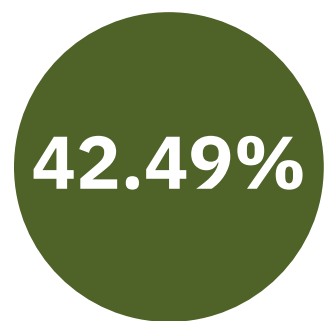


# POLICY AREA 4 – 42.76%

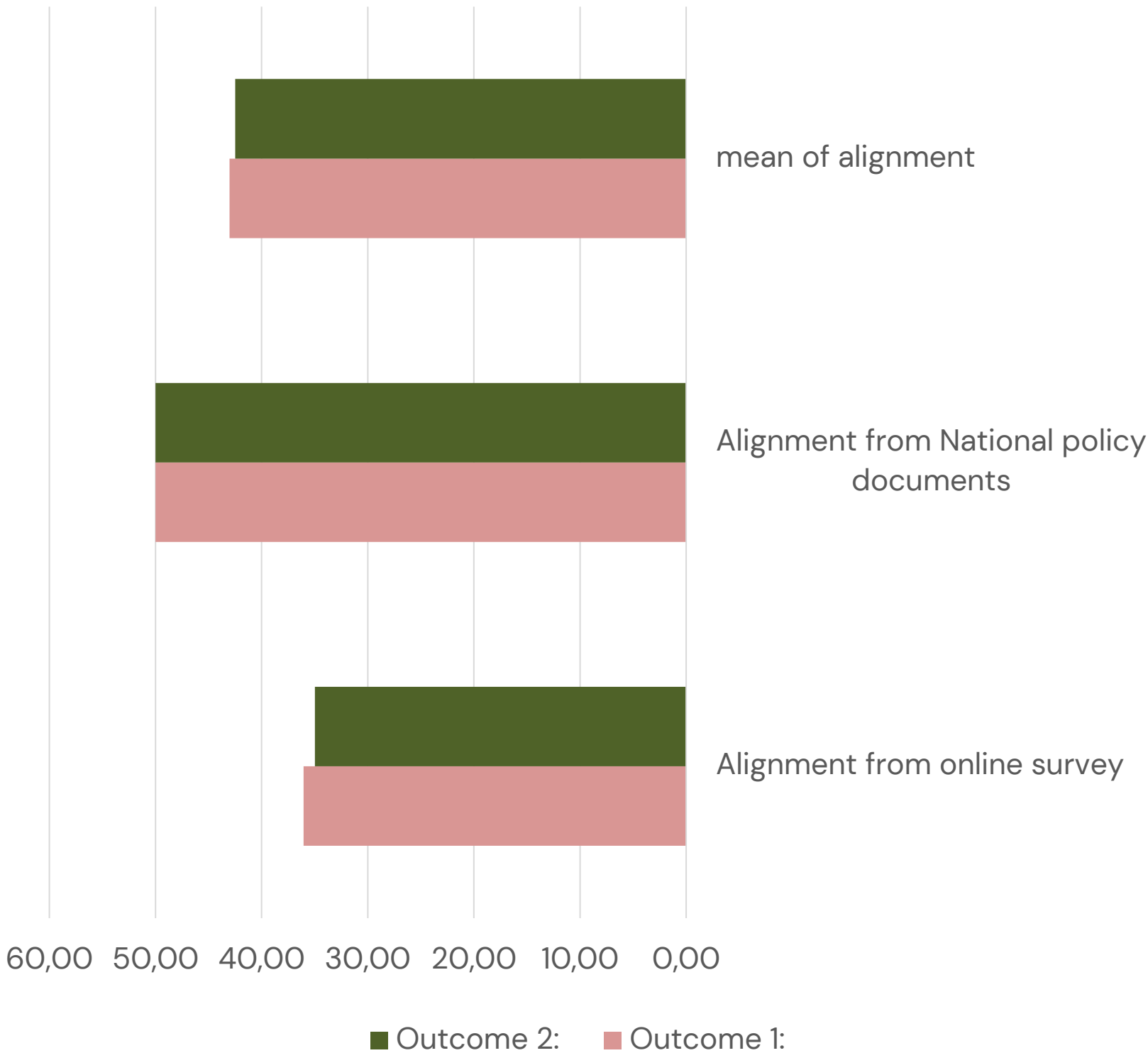
## Responsible And Equitable Fish Trade And Marketing



**Outcome 1:**  
Improved intra and inter regional trade

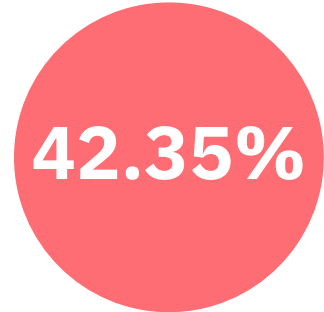


**Outcome 2:**  
Increased competitiveness for African fish and fishery products



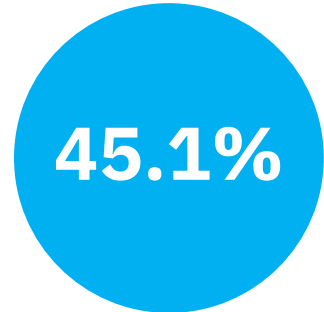
# POLICY AREA 5 – 43.72%

## Regional And Sub-Regional Cooperation



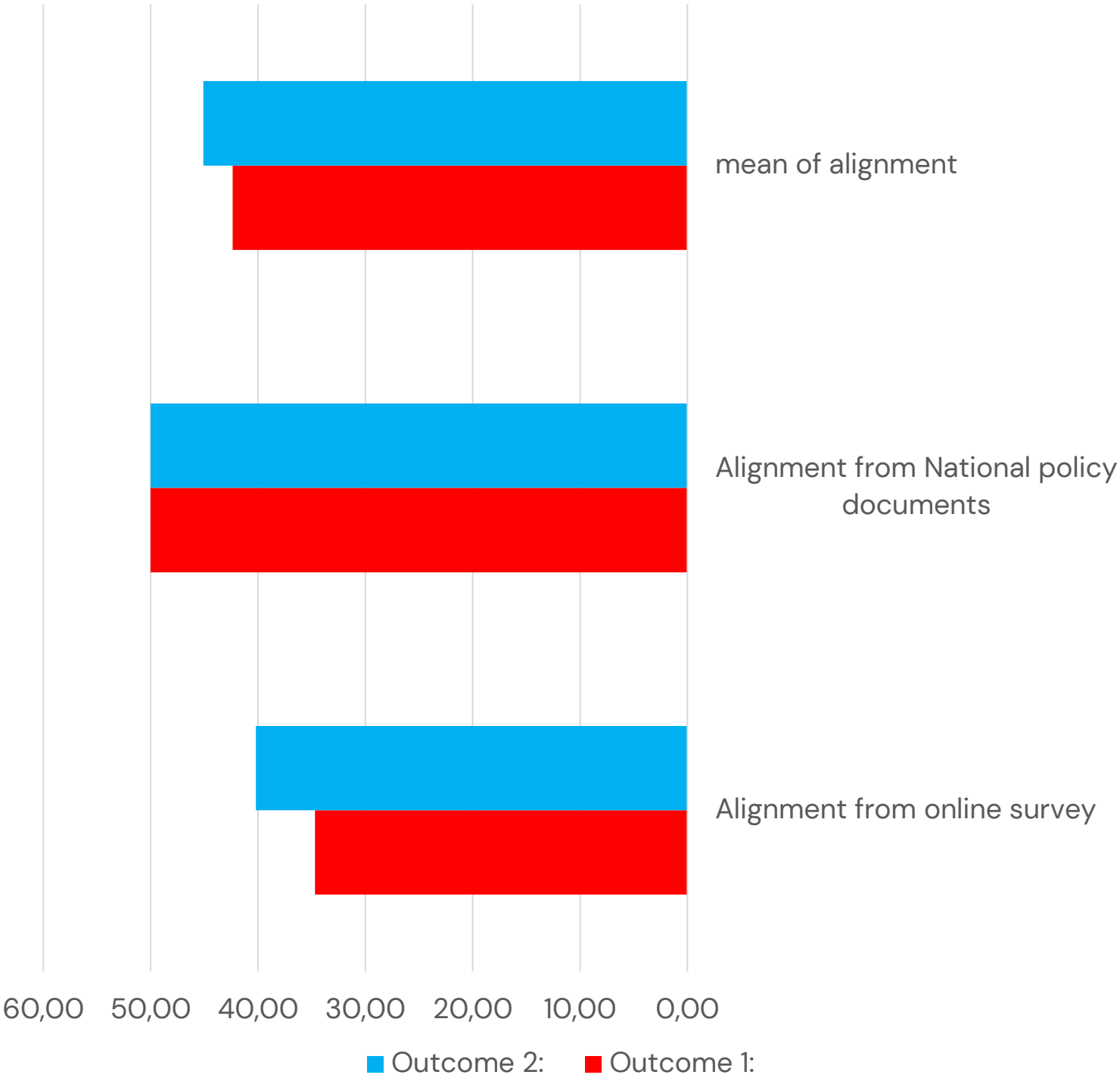
### Outcome 1:

International fisheries issues at regional levels are coherent and harmonized



### Outcome 2:

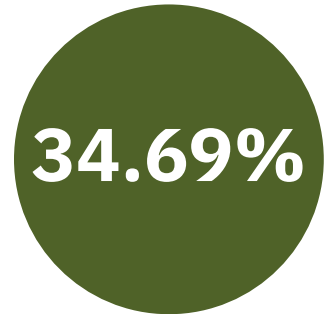
RECs and RFBs are positive forces for fisheries management within the framework of regional economic and political integration agenda



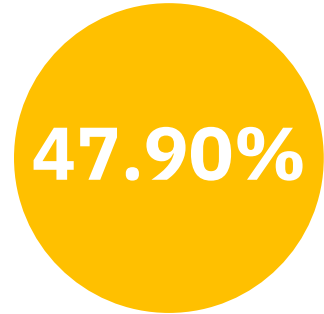


# POLICY AREA 6 – 41.29%

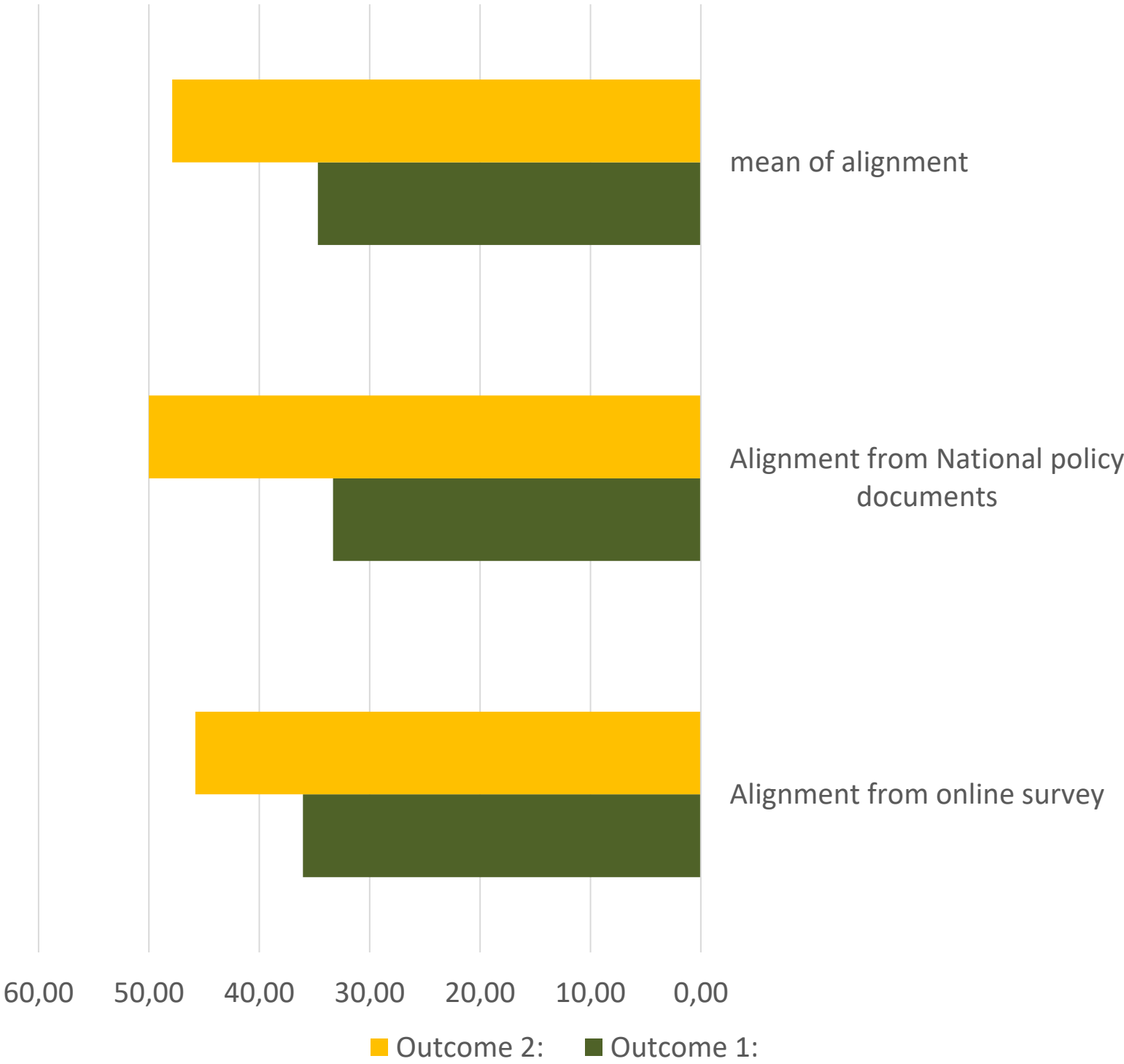
## Awareness Enhancing And Human Capacity Development



**Outcome 1:**  
Enhanced sectoral competencies and proficiencies

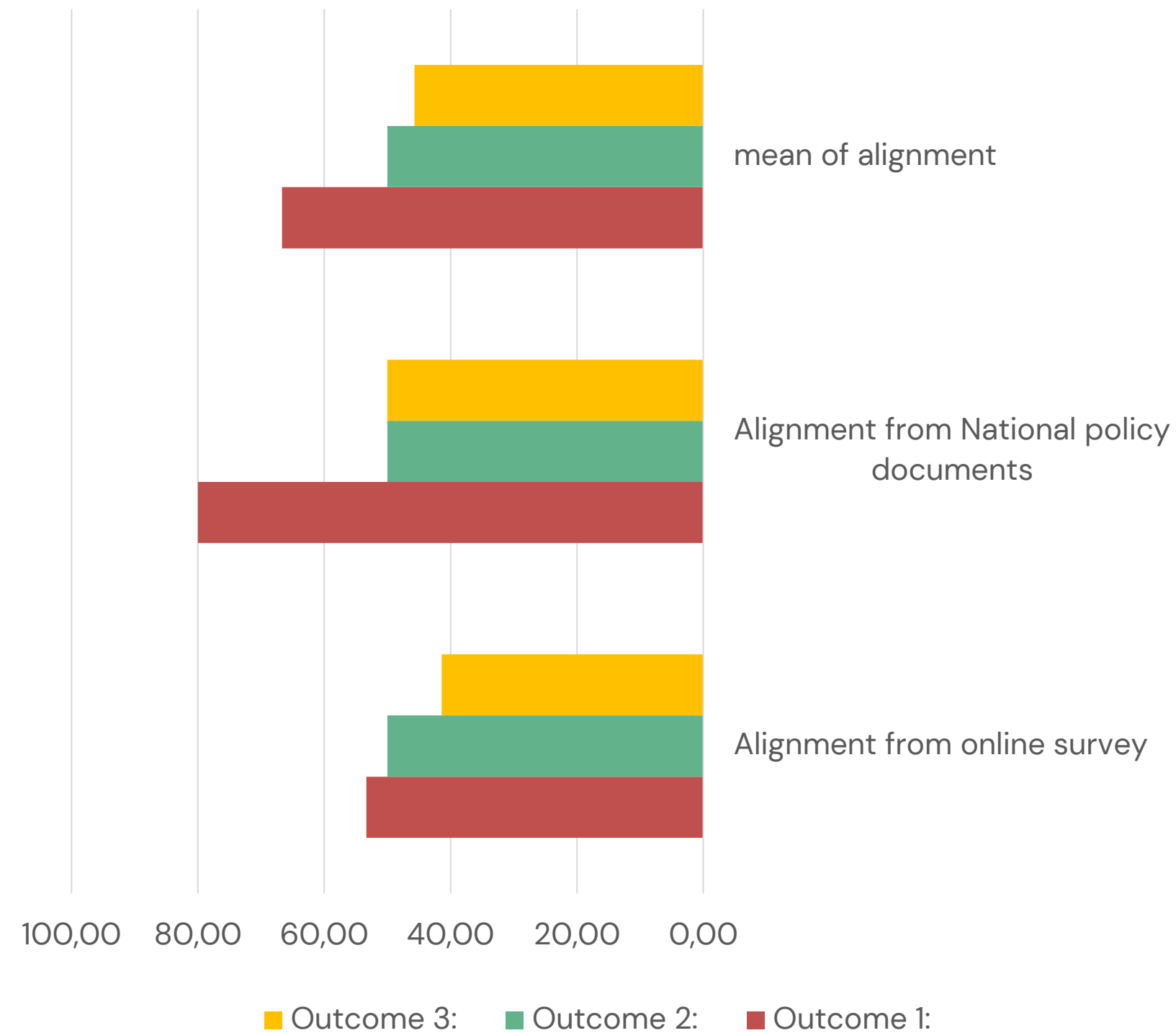
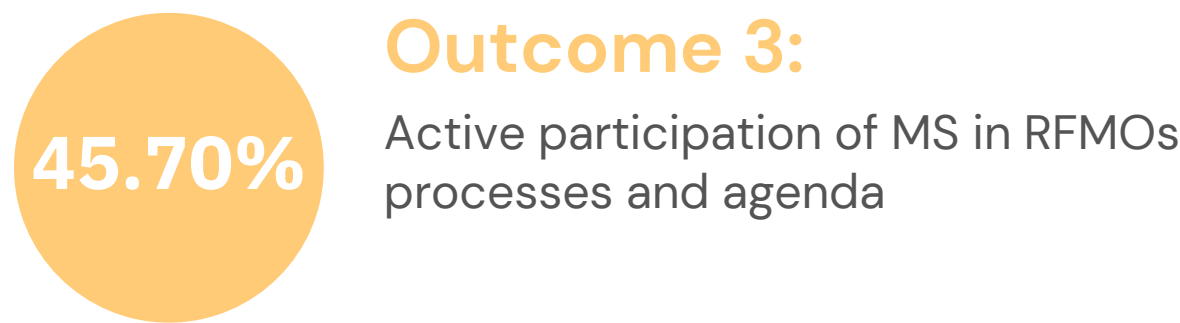
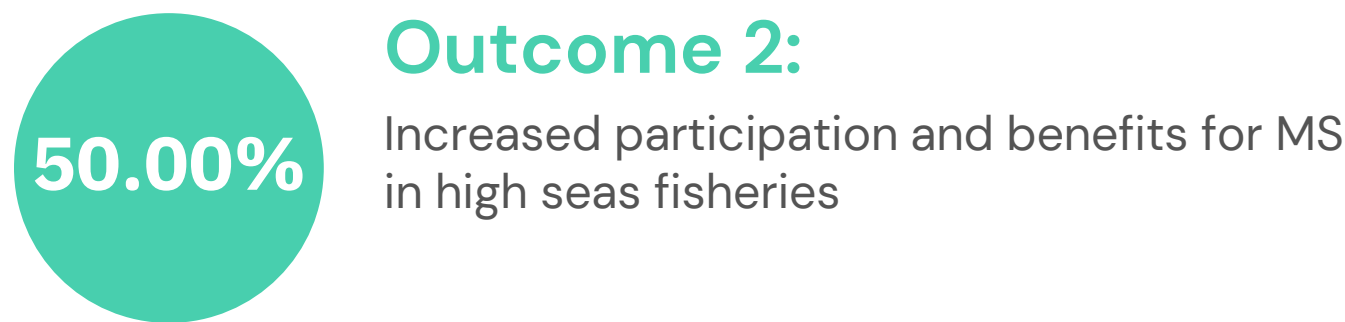
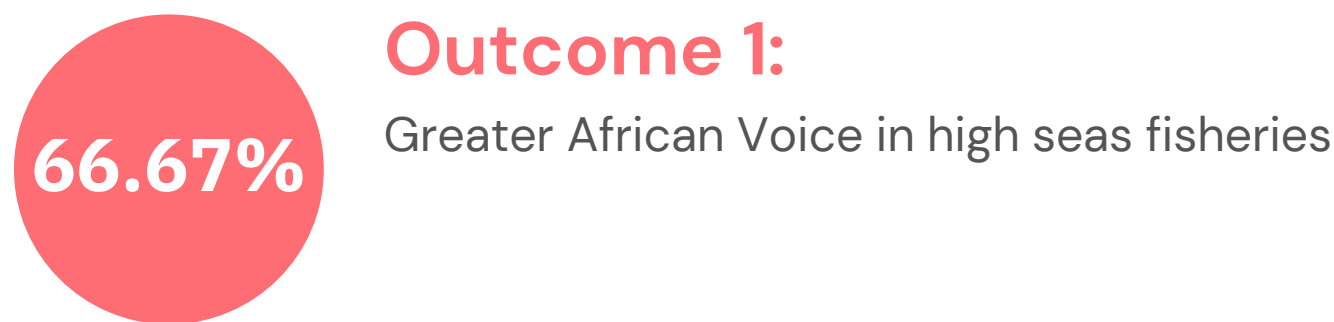


**Outcome 2:**  
Improved evidence-based decision making



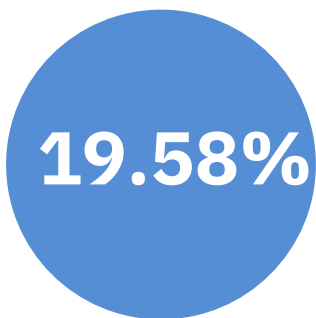
# POLICY AREA 7 – 54.12%

## High Seas Fisheries



# POLICY AREA 8 - 26.39%

## Cross Cutting Issues in African Fisheries And Aquaculture



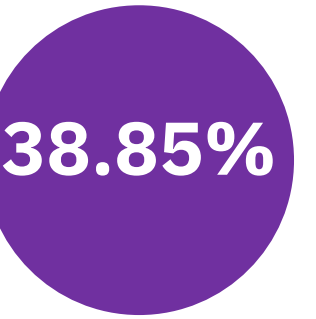
### Outcome 1:

Adaptive capacity and resilience at the local level built



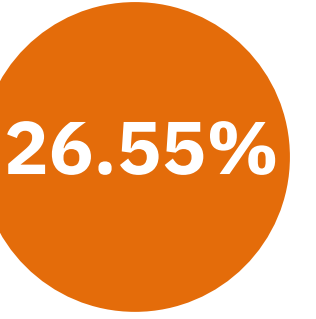
### Outcome 2:

Policy coherence and coordination at the national and regional levels improved



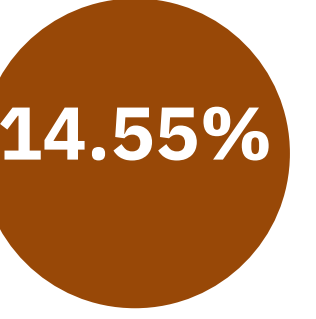
### Outcome 3:

Increased access to resources.



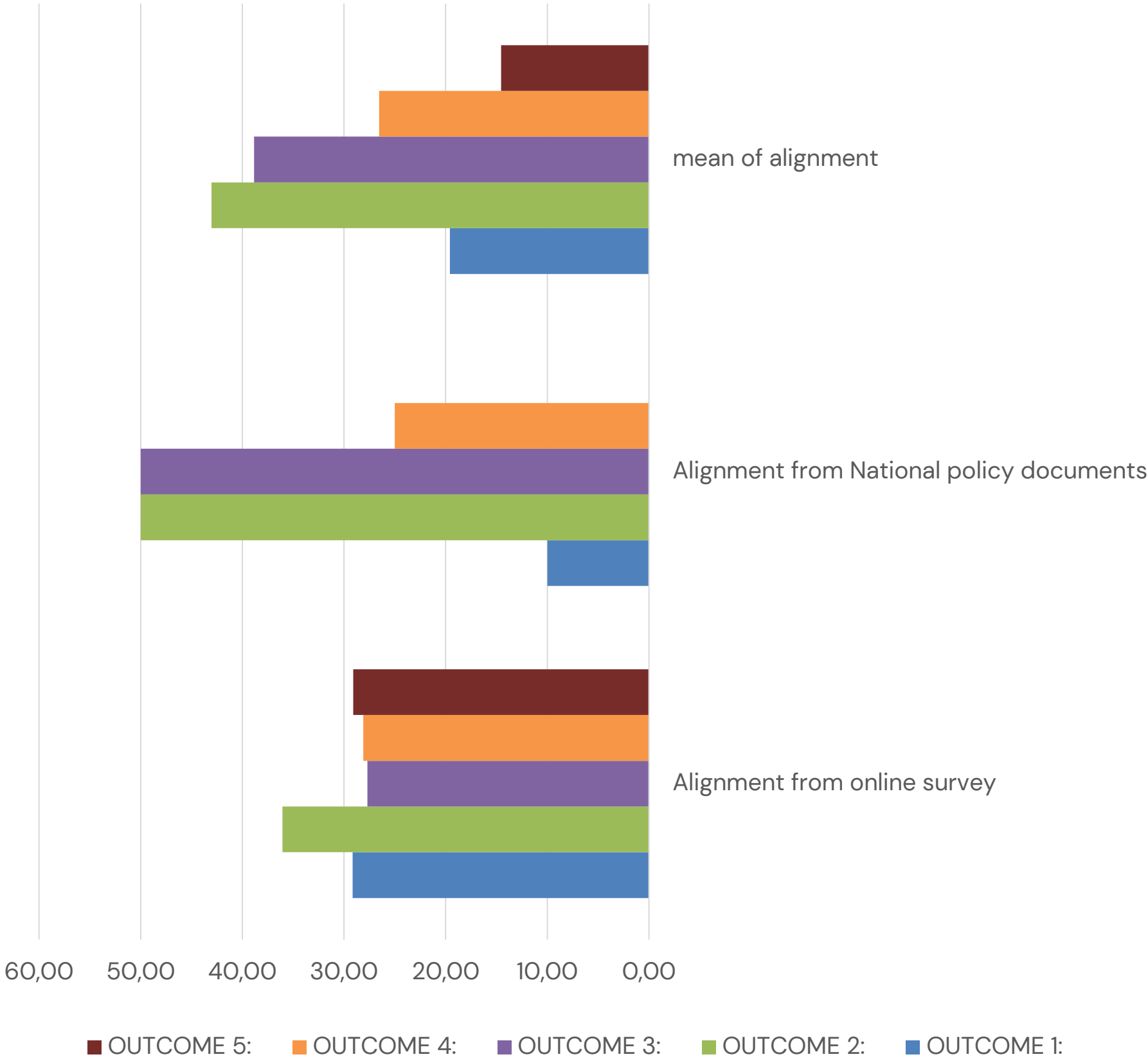
### Outcome 4:

Improved enterprise performance within the fisheries and aquaculture sector

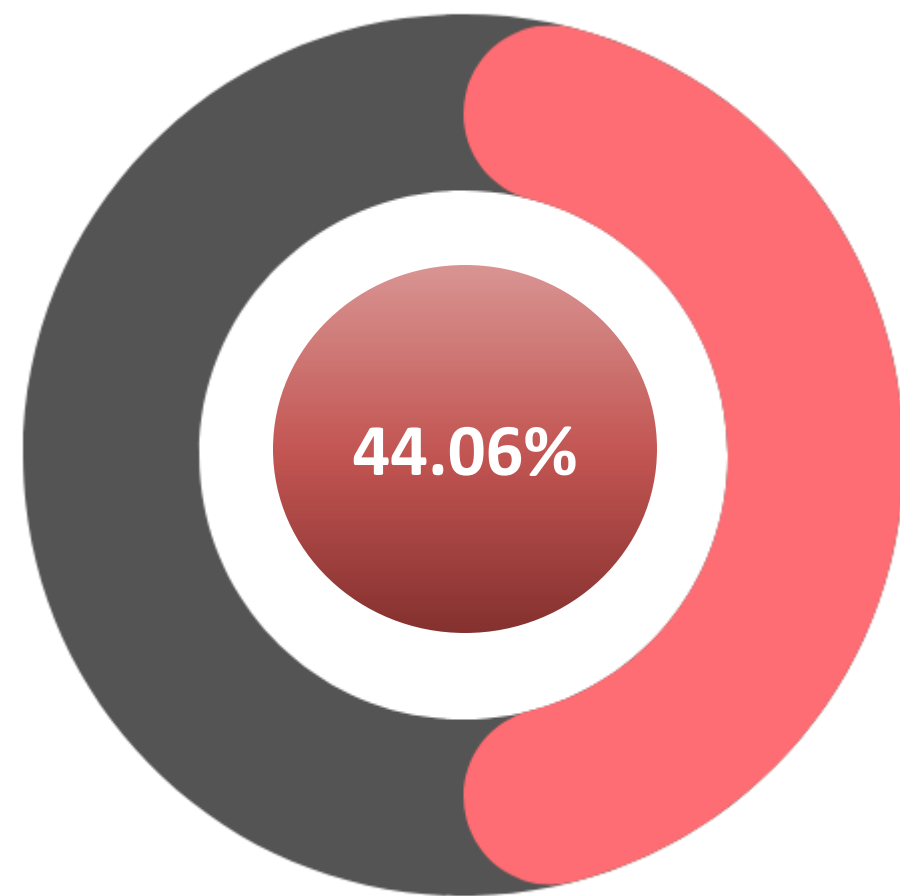


### Outcome 5:

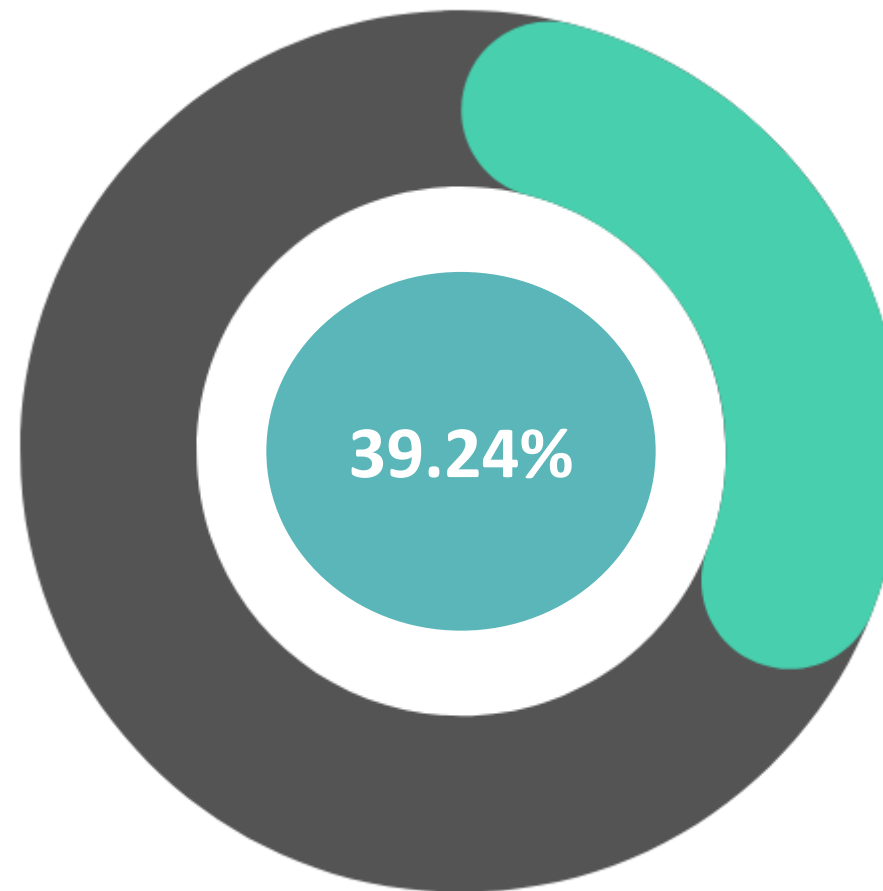
Improved private sector governance



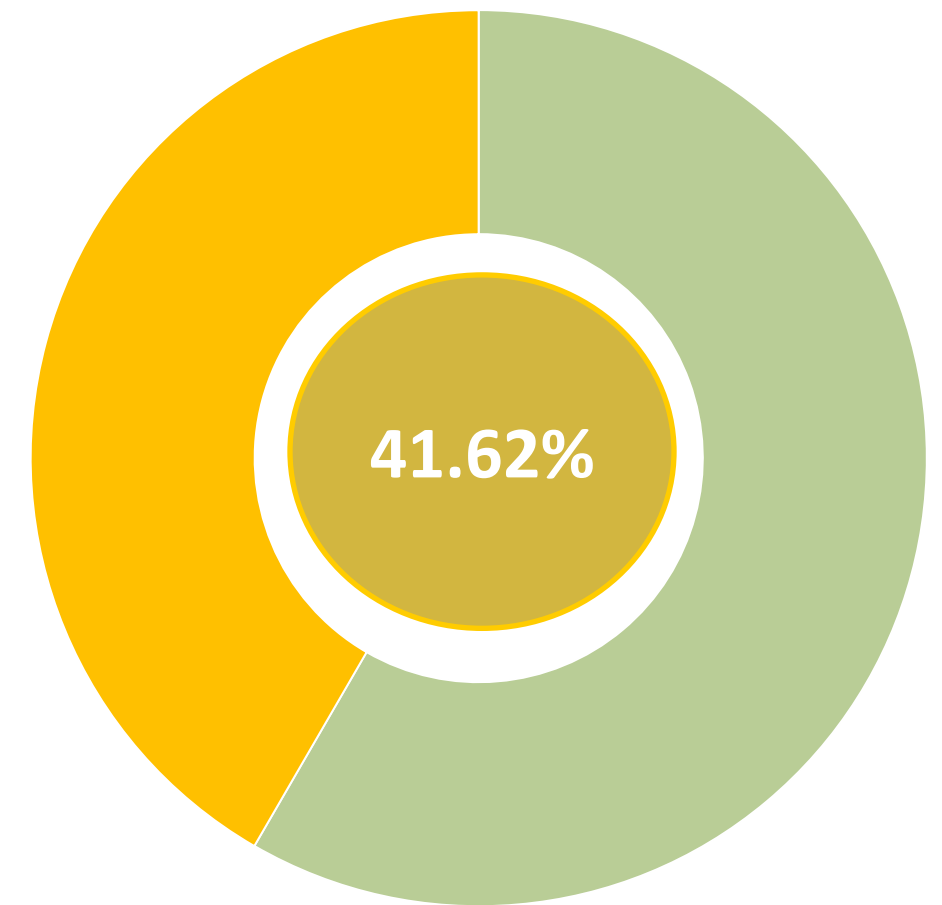
# OVERALL ALIGNMENT WITH PFRS



Alignment from documents



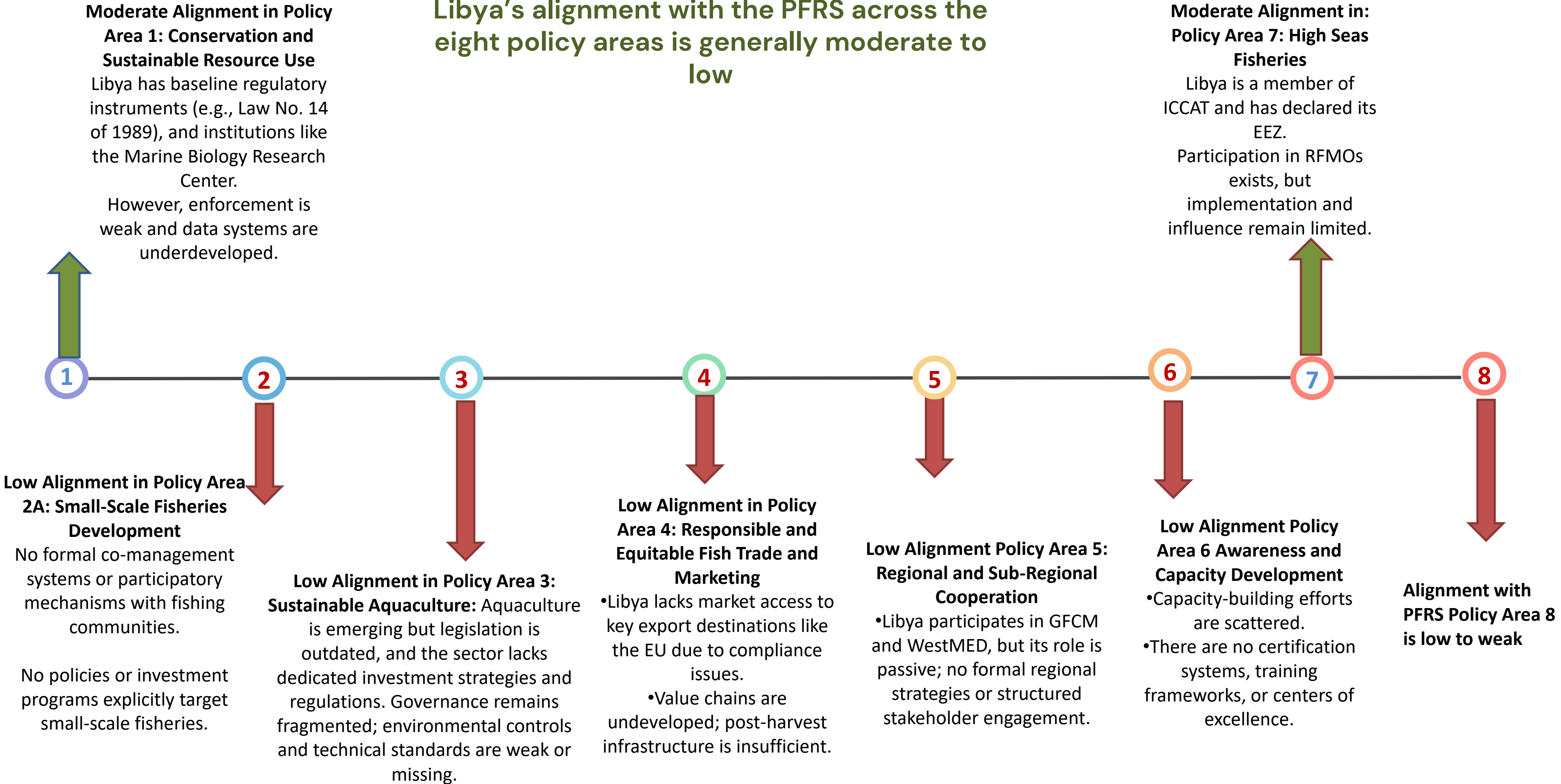
Alignment from online survey



Mean of Alignment

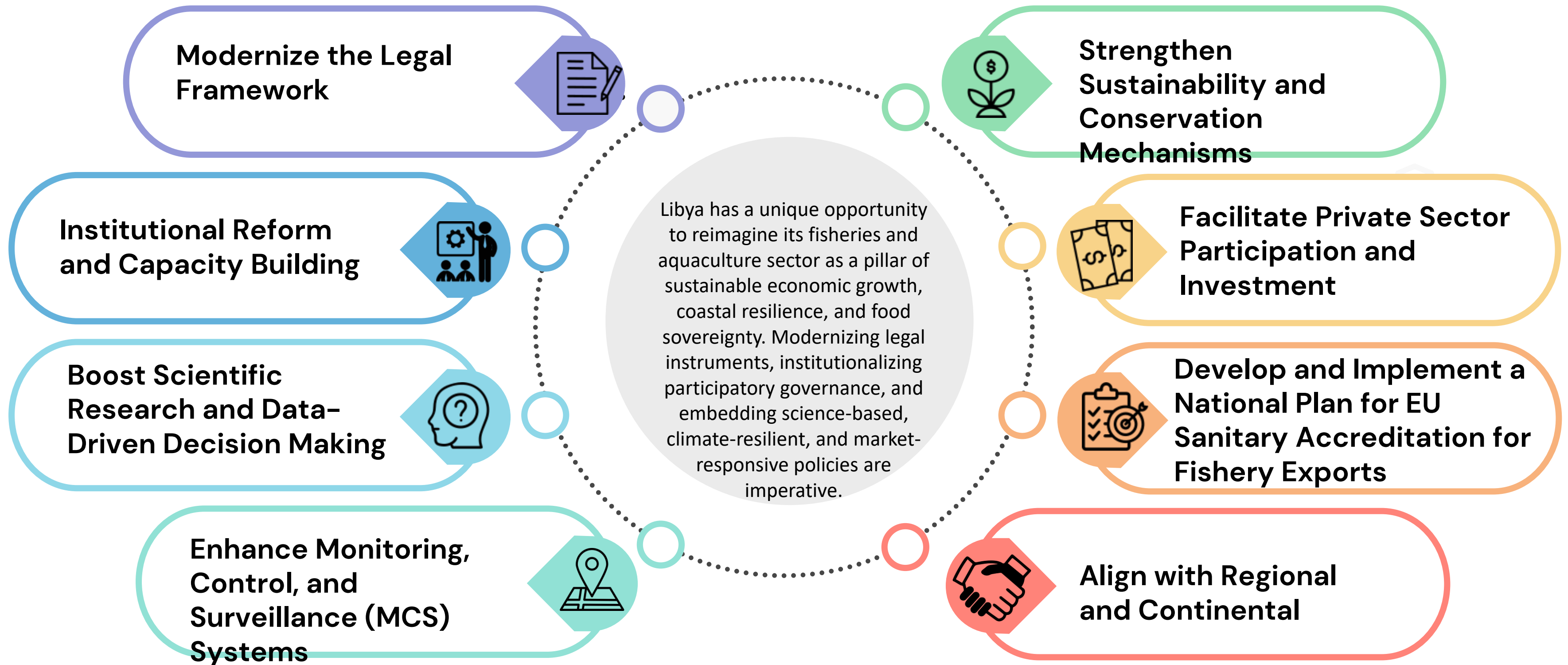
# CONCLUSION

**Libya's alignment with the PFRS across the eight policy areas is generally moderate to low**





# RECOMMENDATIONS



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**THANK YOU**