

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)
Narrative Report from November 2017 to October 2018

Introduction

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) was incorporated following the International Conference of Fishworkers and their Supporters in 1984 in Rome, Italy. ICSF plays a supporting role for the movement that endorses the rights of small-scale fishermen and other participants in small-scale fisheries in the world. In the past ICSF was established in India and Belgium. ICSF re-registered as ICSF/CIAPA in Amsterdam, the Netherlands (KvK number 69248761). Thereafter, a general assembly meeting was held in Amsterdam on 7-8 December, 2017. A new board was elected for a period of 3 years.

It was decided that ICSF would work locally while maintaining a global perspective; work within a human rights-based approach; work in both the global North and South. ICSF has always recognized the empowering effect of information. The SAMUDRA Report, SAMUDRA News Alerts, Yemaya, South Asia News Alerts, ICSF Website provide the main vehicles for realizing ICSF's commitment to the sharing and dissemination of information. Efforts undertaken during the reporting period have no doubt contributed to an enhanced understanding among a wide range of stakeholders about the importance of SSF, their issues of concern, aspirations and demand for the future. They have also enhanced the access of small-scale fishworkers to information about key developments of relevance. Overall the activities undertaken by ICSF during the year have been effective, keeping in mind the long-term nature of changes sought, the challenges facing the sector. The local level impacts like Cyclone Ockhi in India and due to lack of early warning system, the vulnerability hampers risk reduction and planning.

In September, 2018, the ICSF office shifted to this new address in Amsterdam: International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), Zaanstraat 282, 1013 SB Amsterdam, The Netherlands

ICSF Members

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Beatriz Mesquita Pedrosa Ferreira
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Maarten Bavinck, *Chairperson*
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Activities

1. Proposal writing and coordination

During the period November 2017 to October, 2018, ICSF has approached the Oak Foundation (Switzerland), SwedBio (Sweden), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation - NORAD (Norway).

A. Oak Foundation: Towards the Implementation of the Small Scale Fisheries Guidelines (November, 2017 to November, 2018)

OAK has supported ICSF to organize the First General Assembly and Board meeting in Amsterdam in December 2017 and to discuss the governance issues and to develop work strategies related to programmes, to remunerate staff, pay facilities and rent premises, continuation of ongoing programmes of ICSF such as website, online publication of SAMUDRA Report and Yemaya(English),Daily SAMUDRA News Alerts, Documentation Centre News Alerts(South Asia) and digitization of gray literature and non-copyright documents dealing with fishworker organizations, fishing communities, fisheries trade, fisheries policy, etc. of relevance to small-scale fisheries. This gray literature can be an important source of information and of relevance to small-scale fisheries. The OAK support helped us to continue without break even while the multiyear programme is in the process of development.

B. SwedBio: Implementation of the SSF Guidelines (1 April, 2018 to 31 December, 2019)

SwedBio supports SAMUDRA News Alerts, South Asia News Alerts, Advocacy work related to the United Nations, its agencies and WTO, online availability of inputs made to various workshops/meetings/conferences in terms of papers and presentations, publication of reports of participation in UN/FAO/ILO/WTO events, ICSF website, Support to ICSF office in India, ICSF Board meeting in a developing country and additional support for SwedBio project audit and ICSF 's IFF audit and India Trust audit. The objective of the support is to further ICSF's engagement with sustainable small-scale fisheries; to promote the collaborative implementation of the SSF Guidelines, the SDGs and international instruments; to provide timely information and analyses, employing its social capital, publications, news services and website.

C. FAO Project on Implementation of SSF Guidelines (Duration: July 2018 to October 2019)

The countries involved in this project are: Brazil, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. The aim of the project is to support the social, economic and environmental transformation of the SSF sector towards its better contribution to food security and poverty eradication as a result of improved policies, strategies and initiatives and particularly, stakeholder empowerment and to strengthen small-scale fishery communities and produce related global information products in the context of implementation of SSF guidelines. The activities envisaged under this project are: To Organize workshops and meetings to consult stakeholders and discuss implementation of SSF Guidelines, to undertake studies and mapping exercises and prepare policy papers, preparatory documents, draft action

plans for small-scale fisheries governance and livelihoods, to develop audio-visual material and other communication tools on country level activities and SSF Guidelines and to develop two global products: a guide on social development, employment and decent work (Chapter 6 of the SSF Guidelines); and animated videos on (i) governance of tenure in small-scale fisheries and resource management; (ii) Social development, employment and decent work; (iii) Value chain, post-harvest and trade; and (iv) Disaster risks and climate change. We have signed LOA with partners(OPAN in Brazil, TESCOOD in Ghana, ICSF Trust in India,KIARA in Indonesia, NAG in Myanmar, TAMBUYOG in Philippines, SFSF platform in Sri Lanka,SDF in Thailand and MCD in Vietnam) and recently the work plan and performance indicators have been prepared for all nine countries and global products. Partners have begun preparatory work on individual country targets. Four scripts for the animated videos on SSF Guidelines (Global Product) and production of the first film on the tenure and resource management will be completed by 31 October, 2018.

2. Publications and Films

SAMUDRA Report

SAMUDRA Report is brought out to disseminate information, views and analyses of relevance for and about, small-scale fishers and it is continued to be an important medium to disseminate information about and for small-scale fisheries.. During this period, published two issues of its triannual journal. There were delays in publication because the team was occupied with project proposal writing and planning the workshop on Cyclone Ockhi in Kerala, India. Currently, work is on for the preparation of the October, 2018 issue. SAMUDRA report has carried articles on important developments and processes, in searchable format, are available online.

Samudra Report No. 78, January, 2018

Article topics included tenure and user rights in Belize, Brazil and the Lake Victoria countries; fisheries policy and legislation in Indonesia and Vietnam; and community fisheries in Cambodia. In the aftermath of Cyclone Ockhi, which struck south India late last year, this issue of Samudra contained several perspectives on cyclone preparedness, disaster risk management and sea safety for small-scale fisheries.

Samudra Report No. 79, August, 2018

This issue of Samudra brought together diverse perspectives from several countries, including on indigenous people's tenure rights in Brazil; fisheries cooperative in Sri Lanka; weather forecasts and disaster management for fisheries in India; and land reclamation and nutrition in Indonesia. The issue also contained overviews of recent international meetings, including FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) 33rd Session and the Fifth International Fishing Industry Safety & Health Conference (IFISH); and reviews of books and film festivals on small-scale fisheries.

Samudra Report No. 80, November, 2018

In the process of commissioning and editing: participation in FAO's Tenure and User Rights conference and IFISH 5; learning exchange to strengthen women's capacities in Costa Rica;

fisheries tenure issues in Cambodia; small-scale fisheries in Myanmar; IUU fishing in Vietnam; a review of a documentary film on Cyclone Ockhi produced by ICSF Trust; women in the seafood industry; and safe communication technology for fishermen.

Yemaya (WIF Newsletter)

Yemaya seeks to disseminate information about gender issues in fisheries, and , in particular, the perspectives and concerns of women of fishing communities and their organizations. Yemaya contributed to providing greater visibility to the organizational efforts and initiatives of women from fishing communities, and to the issues facing them. several articles have reported on grassroots organizational processes and on women leaders in different countries. Yemaya is available online.

Yemaya No. 56, January, 2018

Article on Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisation, profile of a seagoing fisherwoman from Kerala, a new network of women fish processors and traders in Tanzania, an overview of the Global Gender Gap Report by the World Economic Forum, information on what is new webby about FAO's Family Farming Knowledge Platform, impact of the Norwegian quota system on women fishers, 20 years of organizing women in European fisheries, and beach profiling for community resilience in India.

Yemaya No. 57, July, 2018

Article on situation and lack of recognition of women in Sri Lanka's fisheries, the boat clinics bringing health and home on the Brahmaputra River in India, profile of a fisherwomen's organizer in Madhubani, India, gaps in data on women fishworkers in the State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2018, SSF Guidelines implementation in Costa Rica, and reviews of publications and films on women in fisheries.

Yemaya No. 58, November , 2018

In the process of commissioning and editing: women in Lake Chad fisheries, interview with a Mexican fisherwoman, articles on small-scale fish vendors, and more.

Cyclone Ockhi Study,Workshop Report and Film(April-August 2018)

FAO project on Cyclone Ockhi, Disaster Risk Management and Sea Safety produced a study, authored by Manas Roshan, a report on the national workshop on Ockhi held in Kerala, India, and a documentary film, directed by Shibani Chaudhary of Dustyfoot Production and produced by ICSF. All of these have been uploaded on the ICSF website and also shared on ICSF's social media channels and news alerts.

Video interviews from FAO tenure conference at Yeosu, Republic of Korea

As part of its efforts to evolve fresh communications strategies to mainstream small-scale fisheries issues, ICSF conducted video interviews with several participants at the FAO Tenure and User Rights in Fisheries 2018 conference held in Yeosu. These interviews, which capture a diverse perspectives on gender, customary tenure, the Sustainable Development Goals and local fisheries management, are now online on ICSF's YouTube channel. ICSF has presented an overview of more than 70 case studies presented during the tenure conference with a focus on Can Tenure and User Rights Help Achieve 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? The presentation based on case studies argued that SDGs provide an important normative framework to make tenure rights and user rights consistent with human rights principles and standards. Moreover, securing tenure and user rights through formalization might help in providing a stable legal and policy environment and it is important to maintain greater coherence across tenure rights and SDGs so that no one is left behind. The presentation concluded that we would need more studies on tenure systems and practices to identify the most optimal arrangements to balance the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The presentation and interviews are widely appreciated. The presentation is available at: <https://www.icsf.net/en/paper-presentation.html>

3. Information services

The News Alerts seeks to increase awareness about developments of relevance to artisanal and small-scale fishworkers, particularly in the South and to enhance access of fishworkers and support organizations to information needed to protect their right to life and livelihood.

This is via various mediums, as below:

SAMUDRA News Alerts: Samudra News alerts with, 2000 subscribers, carried a total of 1400 news items focusing on national fisheries policy issues, issues of fisheries management and governance, UN processes related to SSF, trade and certification, besides the ongoing focus on arrest and detention of fishers, disaster and community initiatives.

DC News Alerts(South Asia): The South Asia Dc News Alerts , initiated in October 2011, presently has 3600 subscribers. The alerts carry news articles on India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Nepal and Afghanistan as well as press releases, petitions and other reports from fishworker organizations.

Linking with other Networks and Dissemination of Publications and Films Alert: The ICSF publications are updated on the Aquatic Commons, Academia.edu, selected publications on FAO's Family Farming and Knowledge Platform database regularly with ICSF's publications, including the latest issue of SAMUDRA Report and Yemaya. The Publications and Films Alert has disseminated SAMUDRA Report, Yemaya and other publications periodically through the subscription base of 3600 persons/institutions.

4. Website

The work of updation of ICSF site and subsites on a monthly/quarterly basis with information on various publications, statements made at UN/FAO/ILO/WTO meetings, statements from ICSF organized workshops, papers and presentations made by ICSF, important fisheries events, and online resources.

5. Support to ICSF programmes

To provide direct inputs to ICSF papers and presentations.

6. Social Media

ICSF is active on social media like Facebook and Twitter. Its posts generally follow the following topics: on ICSF's work/ publications (13%), on FAO, ILO, etc. fisheries-related publications / meetings (40%); news on India / South Asia fisheries (16%); international fisheries news (20%); global fisheries research / conferences (10%).

Facebook: Followers: 1,226 and Post frequency: Flexible. 2-5 per day; 40 per month on average. Usually between 11am - 4pm IST.

Twitter : Followers: 671 and Post frequency: Flexible. 2-5 per day; 60 per month on average. Usually between 11am - 4pm IST.

7. Other Repositories

All articles of ICSF publications, including Samudra Report and Yemaya are deposited in repositories like Aquatic Commons, FAO Family Farming Knowledge Platform and Academia.edu.

8. Digitization

ICSF Documentation Centre has a special collection of grey publications related to fishing communities, demands of fishworkers organizations, fisheries policy, and fisheries trade etc. of relevance to small-scale fisheries. The collection is popularly known as ICSF DC are rare publications in the sense that they may not be available anywhere else and are sought after by researchers, policy makers, students, leaders of fishworkers organizations, journalists etc. The collections are stored in soft copies and print copies. The centre actively disseminates information available in soft copies to users. But the print copies of documents are vulnerable to damage.

The centre embarked on a project to digitize all ICSF publications in 2006. We have digitized Samudra Report, Yemaya (WIF Newsletter) and publications during the period 2006-2010. We have searched for Journal articles (available only in print copy at DC) during the period April

2017 to October 2018 and added 2819 soft copy of Journal articles to the collection. During July to October 2018 we have searched for soft copies of documents and added 364 numbers of documents to the collection. At present we have approximately 6000 soft copy documents in our collection. The goal is to digitize remaining 4500 fisheries grey literature documents within a year and make them available using the intranet before they were accessible online through platforms such as Eprints or Dspace using a cloud server facility. The cost of hosting DC collection online is Euro 3000 per year. The project, which received initial funding from OAK Foundation during 2017-18, has started the process of digitization. During the preparatory work which we have started from July 2018 we have identified 330 soft copies of documents for digitization and the work has started.

9. Participation in UN/FAO/ILO/IPC/CSOs/FWOs

During this period, ICSF participated in several national and international meetings and multi-stakeholder dialogues. (See Annex1)

10. Organization and support to other international meetings

In November 2017, ICSF organized the “Special Workshop on Challenges in the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on Small Scale Fisheries (SSF-VG) in South Asia” at the 11th Global Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum, Kochi, Kerala, India. The workshop looked at issues in women in fisheries in India and Sri Lanka through human rights framework. The SSF guidelines framework is better focused and provides the basis for understanding the issues and taking more appropriate action. The SSF Guidelines also reinforces the importance of an integrated and complete supply chain approach to fisheries. Without the focus on gender dimension in fisheries studies and action tend to value fish production and fish stocks and only the knowledge directly linked to these. Ujjwala Patil from Maharashtra Machhimar Kruti Samiti, Mumbai, India and Herman Kumara, NAFSO, Sri Lanka presented their views.

10. ICSF Trust Activities(April - August 2018): Cyclone Ockhi Project

Study

In light of Cyclone Ockhi, which killed over 350 fishers in southern India late last year, ICSF Trust, supported by the FAO, undertook a study to assess disaster risk management and sea safety in the Indian marine fisheries sector. The study reviewed national and local policies to manage disaster risks; evaluated the efficacy of cyclone warning systems for fishing communities, both on land and at sea; and highlighted the need to integrate sea safety into the management of fisheries. The report was authored by Manas Roshan, then a consultant with ICSF Trust. The findings of the study were shared with the affected communities, government and other stakeholders at a workshop held in the region in May 2018, and also used to script a documentary on the lessons from the cyclone.

Workshop

A National Workshop on “Small-scale Fisheries, Cyclone Ockhi and Disaster Risk Management” was held on 28 to 29 May, 2018 at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, organized by ICSF Trust with the support of the FAO. The workshop was attended by over 60 diverse participants from government, inter-governmental organizations, academia, civil society and the disaster affected community. The workshop statement made several recommendations to build the resilience of coastal communities to cyclones, natural disasters and climate change, stressing on the need for co-ordination at all levels and open consultation with, and participation of, fishing communities, applying a human-rights-based approach within the Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030 and the SSF Guidelines.

Documentary Film

Based on the findings of the study, the documentary film, “In Ockhi’s Wake: Disaster Preparedness at Sea,” directed by Shibani Chaudhury, Dusty Foot Production, was produced for ICSF Trust. Based on grassroots interviews and recordings, the film records different points of view of the victims who struggled through the trauma of the storm. The film also focuses on how families have coped with loss and the lessons learnt by disaster managers and government authorities. *(Kindly use the YouTube link for private viewing, not circulation.)*

ANNEX1: List of other Meetings Attended During November 2017- October 2018

S.No.	Timeline	Meeting	Country	Activity
1.	16 November 2017	Knowledge-Sharing Seminar on Fisheries Subsidies, organized by ICTSD, Geneva, Switzerland	Switzerland	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
2.	15-21 November	The World Forum of Fisher People’s (WFFP) 7th General Assembly, New Delhi	India	Sebastian Mathew and N. Venugopalan
3.	24 November 2017	Special Workshop on Challenges in the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on Small Scale Fisheries (SSF-VG) in South Asia' at the 11th Indian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum, Kochi, Kerala, India	India	Three presentations (ICSF organised the session) India from a gender perspectives by Ujwala Patil, NFF, and Herman Kumara, NAFSO, Sri Lanka
4.	28 November	The Dialogue on Mainstreaming Biodiversity into inland Fisheries sector, at the National Academy for Agricultural	India	N. Venugolapalan

	er 2017	Research Management (NAARM), Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad, India		
5.	29 November 2017	Workshop on exploring SDG 14.b and its proposed indicator 14.b.1, 28-29 November 2017, Gaeta, Italy	Italy	V. Vivekanandan
6.	Feb 28- 2 March 2018	Fourth TERI-KAS Resource Dialogue on Marine Resources- Sustainable development through geopolitics and trade, at Mahabalipuram, Chennai, India	India	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
7.	12-16 March 2018	The IPC General Meeting, 12-16 March 2018, Cape Town, South Africa	South Africa	Serge Raemaekers
8.	21-22 March 2018	Regional Technical Seminar: Joining forces in the fisheries sector; Promoting safety, decent work and the fight against IUU fishing	Manila, The Philippin es	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
9.	9–13 April 2018	The Thirty-fourth Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, Nadi, Fiji,	Fiji	Sebastian Mathew
10.	23 – 24 April 2018	National Workshop for Preparation of India’s Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (NPOA-IUU), Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India	India	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
11.	26-27 April 2018	A National level Consultation to discuss and finalize the draft National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy, Mumbai. India	India	Sebastian Mathew
12.	7 to 9 May 2018	The 7th APFIC Regional Consultative Forum Meeting “Sustainable Development for Blue Growth of Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific, Bohol, the Philippines	Philippin es	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
13.	11-13	Thirty-fifth Session of Asia-Pacific Fishery	Philippin	Sebastian Mathew

	May 2018	Commission, Bohol, The Philippines	es	
14.	10-13 June 2018	The Fifth International Fishing Industry Safety & Health Conference, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada	Canada	Nilanjana Biswas Presentation
15.	19 to 20 June, 2018	The Contribution of Human Rights to the Sustainable Development of Fisheries - The Danish Institute for Human Rights International Expert Meeting Copenhagen, Denmark	Denmark	Manas Roshan Presentation
16.	28 - 29 June 2018	The Workshop on 'Fisheries and Law Enforcement Issues,' Indian Coast Guard, Chennai, India	India	Sebastian Mathew
17.	10 July 2018	Consultative Meeting on Livelihood Issues of Inland Small Scale Fish Workers, Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi, India organized by National Platform for Small-scale Fishworkers (Inland),India	India	N. Venugopalan Inaugural address
18.	9-13 July 2018	Committee on Fisheries, Thirty-third Session, Rome, Italy	Italy	Sebastian Mathew Intervention on Small-scale and Artisanal Fisheries Governance Intervention on climate change and other environment related matters Intervention on the CCRF questionnaire
19.	10 August 2018	2nd Techsurge Technologies and Innovation for Sustainable Fisheries, Chennai, India	India	N. Venugopalan and Manas Roshan
20.	18 August	Skill Development Training Programs for fishermen/fisherwomen, Chennai, Tamil	India	N. Venugopalan

	2018	Nadu		
21.	27 August 2018	International Workshop on Exploring the Social, Economic, Ecological, and Political Dimensions of the Blue Economy, Kolkata	India	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
22.	10 -14 September 2018	Tenure and User Rights in Fisheries 2018, Yeosu, Republic of Korea	Korea	Sebastian Mathew Presentation Manas Roshan
23.	02 October 2018	Vigo Dialogue on Decent Work in Fisheries and Aquaculture, 02 October 2018, Vigo, Spain	Spain	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
24.	3 – 4 October 2018	Second Regional Workshop on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance in the Bay of Bengal Region, Chennai, India,	India	N. Venugopalan
25.	10 to 11 October 2018	National Workshop on Fish Marketing Chains and the Urban Poor, Chennai, India	India	N. Venugopalan and Manas Roshan
26.	12 October 2018	Workshop on Knowledge Management in Marine Fisheries in India, Chennai	India	Manas Roshan
27.	15 October 2018	Fisheries Subsidies meeting, New Delhi	India	Sebastian Mathew
28.	18-20 October 2018	GAF7 – the 7th Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand	Thailand	Nalini Nayak and Cornelia Quist
29.	22-26 October 2018	The 3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress (3WSFC), Chiang Mai, Thailand	Thailand	Sebastian Mathew, N. Venugopalan and Manas Roshan