

National Training of Trainers (TOT)
Workshop on the SSF Guidelines (Inland Fisheries)
December 22-24, 2022
Seva Kendra, Kolkata, West Bengal

FEEDBACK

Based on the feedback collected from 32 participants

Key Learnings

The workshop empowered participants to build knowledge on issues related to institutions, policies concerning fishers and fisheries, and issues related to access, tenure, and rights of fishers. The participants found the session on fisheries-related schemes, including PMMSY, to be very insightful. Most participants opined that this workshop enabled them to look into fisheries cooperatives in the inland context, particularly focusing on how to improve them. Some trainees suggested that more state-level training workshops should be held to build the capacity of a larger section of the community. There was a demand for awareness programs focusing on national policies and welfare schemes pertaining to SSF communities to be organized. One of the participants voiced that there is often a conflict between traditional knowledge and scientific knowledge, and this workshop provided a platform for healthy discussions as there were representatives from scientific organizations, research organizations, as well as NGOs.

Suggestions and comments received:

The participants provided valuable feedback on ways to improve future workshops. Firstly, they suggested that more reading material in regional languages be shared before the workshop to better equip them to understand the various sessions. Secondly, they felt that the time spent on group discussions and interactions could be increased, as opposed to time spent on presentations. Thirdly, they recommended a dedicated session on experience sharing to enable peer-learning. During the current workshop, a participant learned that in Odisha, fishermen were allowed to fish and earn their livelihood even in sanctuaries, while he did not have such privileges. Fourthly, participants expressed interest in workshops on ecosystem restoration and the impact of climate change on the ecosystems concerning small-scale inland fishers. Finally, some participants suggested that field visits be included in the workshop to provide practical learning and exposure. The suggestions received were critical, and would aid in designing future workshops that would meet the needs and expectations of the participants and enhance their learning experience.

Based on the answers received for the ranking questions asked, the following charts were drawn

