

Highlights – Region-wise

1. TENURE

Region	Topic	Challenges	Recommendations
Asia	Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor implementation of rules and laws; Lack of knowledge of existing laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen fisher organizations and improve fishers' knowledge and awareness.
	Development projects/ Blue Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor coordination between ministries, no involvement of fishers while discussing such projects, loss of access to fishing grounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empowering community groups for participation in development planning Clear boundaries for different areas/ activities
	Licences/ access rights in fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally open access fisheries Uncertainties over licencing (where they prevail) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comanagement to ensure resource security Identification of fishing community important to ensure licences go only to traditional fishers
	Property rights (coastal land)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rights over areas used by women not recognized Absence of legal documents based on which fishers can claim coastal land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rights for areas used exclusively by women needed to be given to women; gender equitable rights Documentation for title of land used by fishing community
Africa	Legislation and institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low level of awareness and knowledge on fisheries and related legal instruments Weak institutions and structures for co-management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocacy and communication strategy Institute a network of fisher associations, starting from the bottom fishers to their regional or national level; fishery cooperatives
	Property rights/ Development projects/ Blue Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional tenure rights made obsolete by national governments; lack of recognition for fishing communities' customary, traditional and access rights Absence of tenure documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community tenure rights protected by law to give community ownership and widen people's access to resources. Mapping to identify the zones of the various players (fishermen, tourism, oil companies) and involving fishers in updating such maps Implementation of SSF Zones
	Access rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restricted access to fishing grounds had increased gender-based abuse and human rights abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holistic policies and gender focused planning

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Latin America & the Caribbean	Blue Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Privatization destabilising SSF territories • Tourism – sport fishing not regulated, resort complexes block access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training local communities as a group rather than training individuals and promoting alliances and through information dissemination • Make mandatory for tourist complexes to buy products from local fishers to generate income for the community
	MPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protected areas are created to cater to foreigners and tourists rather than artisanal fishers, who are never consulted on maritime issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to be empowered to manage coastal resources • Demand shared governance or right to self-management
	Ancestral Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancestral rights not recognized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize the customs and rules established by the communities as traditional rights and guarantee that customary and traditional tenure systems accommodate constitutional or legal reforms
Europe	Spatial planning and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of spatial management in some countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spatial management to reduce conflicts between high impact and low impact fishers
	Access rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict with larger vessels – sharing same fishing space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gear with superior social, environmental and economic outcomes should be given preferential access rights or should be incentivized

2. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Region	Topic	Challenges	Recommendations
Asia			

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Africa	Poverty	Most countries have poverty eradication policies but implementation is poor, these are not targeted at fisherfolk	Some countries (e.g. Ghana) have targeted support via subsidies for fisherfolk, need improved targeting
	Employment and decent work	Fisheries policy has segment addressing decent work Seychelles only country with policy for migrant workers	
	GBV	Patriarchy, poor awareness among women about who to report GBV, no transparency STD not prioritised in health	Increased awareness
	Access to justice	Chief fisherman at landing beach provides opportunities for redressal; there are also police and courts; however there can be discrimination/ lack of access due to poor knowledge	
	Infrastructure (housing, sanitation, health, education)	Policies are available, not focused on fisherfolk but general populace Basic education is available for all	Focused action on fishing communities that lack infrastructure Increased awareness on health and hygiene through NGO interventions
	Climate change	Policies present, but poor implementation	Focus on fisheries for climate change adaptation
Latin America and the Caribbean	Social security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to establish policies specifically for fishers including benefits related to disability, old age and death Fishers don't know about social security schemes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campaign to highlight fishworkers' rights and their need for social security Awareness among Fishworkers about social security schemes
	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many fishers still unable to read/ write 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special programmes for adult literacy Traditional knowledge should be part of education systems
	Health	Issue of mental health and occupational diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accidents at work (during fishing and on boats) to be registered and attended to; antidote for fish poisons; traditional medicine to be valued

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishers trained to use safety equipment at sea Women specific health care
Europe	Technology and literacy	Difficulties in accessing appropriate technology and issues of digital literacy	Advocate for the development of inclusive technologies and equitable digital tools to boost the livelihoods of SSF. Support capacity building of SSF to access these technologies and tools.
	Market access	Small-scale/ low impact fishers at a disadvantage because of industrial/ large scale captured fish flood markets	Preferential access to catch from low impact fishers
	Climate change	Chain reaction to climate change related migration of fish and algal growth	Support an adaptive approach to fisheries management that takes into account the impact of climate change and accommodates the specific needs of small-scale fishers and fishworkers

3. WOMEN IN FISHERIES

Region	Topic	Challenges	Recommendations
Asia	Recognition of women's labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is often invisible, seen as familial duty without economic compensation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's labour must be more widely recognized for its crucial contributions to the fisheries sector Data collection on women working in fisheries must be expanded significantly in order to develop a better picture of the contributions they make to the sector
	Organizations and participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor organisation of women and women's groups without proper leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's organizations and networks must be established as spaces where women can

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			<p>discuss common challenges, support each other, collectively develop ways to address issues they are facing, and amplify their voices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spaces must be opened up for women to participate in fisheries governance and co-management processes • Gender-sensitivity in fisheries policies must be improved
Africa	Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low capital/ access to capital at high interest rates from private money lenders • Corruption, lack of transparency in scheme allocation • Security of investments (in fishing boats, gear, working capital for fishermen) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperatives • Regular savings, internal chits
	Assets & Processing infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural variation in asset ownership (gear may be owned but not boats) • Inadequate infrastructure, poor fishing processing methods, no guideline on quality control & value addition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the value chain to avoid waste in post-harvest losses
	Resources and markets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate fisheries resource • Competition with fish meal factory (higher prices offered by the factory) • Cultural variation in harvest activities (e.g. oyster fishing acceptable but marine fishing is not) • Market access, transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the value chain to avoid waste in post-harvest losses • Relevant, accessible and affordable technology - accessible, modern/ innovative – to improve productivity, value addition • Establish community marketing cooperatives, connectivity to regional and lucrative markets
	Women-related	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender stereotyping, socio-cultural norms and traditions, patriarchy • Persona safety issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilising people in the form of associations, cooperatives; mobilising across social groups, providing psychological support,

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early marriage, child-bearing, abandonment • Need for alternate income generating activities 	<p>roof over heads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective representation of women in decision making • Family planning for women and day care and child-minding facilities for the children within the fisher communities • Alternative livelihoods based on their culture
Latin America and the Caribbean	Rights and recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of visibility of women, seen as catchers and not producers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote knowledge of women's rights through SSF organizations; • governments and labour institutions should recognize the rights and work of fisherwomen across the value chain • Put women in charge of administrative institutions, give them more platforms to share their experiences
	Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • women bring with them traditional knowledge including ancestral knowledge of medicine • adept at handling technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support women's development by making boats and gear more comfortable for women to use
	GBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence against women due to masculinity, alcoholism, drugs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all kinds of violence should be recognized and addressed, including sexual violence and violence due to men's alcoholism • Preventive measures such as self-defence training
Europe	Cultural norms	Cultural and traditional ideas constrain women	Women's labour (including informal labour) must be recognized for its crucial contributions to the economy, food security of the communities and sustainable fisheries.
	Leadership and governance	At the beach level, no discrimination; in the	Spaces must effectively be opened up

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		fishing organizations, there was discrimination	for women to participate in fisheries governance equitably, so that they can contribute their knowledge and experience to processes and policymaking affecting their life. This should also be reflected in legislative and social transformations.
	Decent work and Occupational health	Women's work was not recognized, their health issues were not considered	Protect women's livelihoods by promoting principles of decent work, including social security, health protection (including the recognition of occupational illnesses) and social benefit schemes such as maternity and paternity benefits.