

INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS

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REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER 2017 TO JUNE 2020

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DECEMBER 2017 TO JUNE 2020**

International Collective In Support Of Fishworkers (ICSF)

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I. ORGANOGRAM



II. ICSF ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Ana Paula Rainho (Brazil)
Antonio García Allut (Spain)
Beatriz Mesquita Pedrosa Ferreira (Brazil)
Bobby (Myanmar)
Brian O’Riordan (Belgium)
Charles R. Menzies (Canada)
Cornelie Quist (The Netherlands)
Leopoldo Cavaleri Gerhardinger (Brazil)
Maarten Bavinck (The Netherlands)
Peter Linford Adjei (Ghana)
Ravadee Prasertcharoensuk, (Thailand)
Rosemarie N. Mwaipopo (Tanzania)
Serge Raemaekers (South Africa)
V. Vivekanandan (India)
Vivienne Solis Rivera (Costa Rica)

ICSF TRUST

John Kurien, Managing Trustee
Nalini Nayak, Trustee
Sebastian Mathew, Executive Trustee
Vivekanandan, Trustee

SECRETARIAT

Executive Director: Sebastian Mathew
Programme Manager: N. Venugopalan
Programme Officer: Manas Roshan
Accounts Manager: S. Ganga Devi
Junior Office Secretary: Manjula R.
Housekeeping Staff: Anjammal T.

BOARD

Leopoldo Cavaleri Gerhardinger, Secretary
Maarten Bavinck, Chairperson
Peter Linford Adjei, Member
Ravadee Prasertcharoensuk, Treasurer
Sebastian Mathew, ex officio Member
Vivienne Solis Rivera, Member

Consultants

SAMUDRA Report
SAMUDRA News Alerts Editor: K.G. Kumar
Yemaya Newsletter Editor: Nilanjana Biswas
South Asia News Alerts Editor and Website Consultant: S. Sangeetha
Proof reader: Deeyali Nayar
Cartoonist: Surendranath Reddy
Layout Designer: Vasanth Christopher

III. ICSF MEMBERS, THEIR ORGANIZATIONS AND WEBSITE ADDRESSES

ANA PAULA RAINHO

Ângela Chaves Street,

No.35, Florianópolis,

Lagoa da Conceição,

Brazil

Email: anap.rainho@gmail.com

Skype: anap.rainho@gmail.com

Phone: (+5541) 99244-8659

Country: BRAZIL

ANTONIO GARCÍA ALLUT

C/ Wenceslao Fernández Flórez N° 2,

12 C, A Coruña, 15005

Spain

Email:
antonio.garcia.allut@fundacionlonxanet.org

Phone: 0034 669899187 (m)

Country: SPAIN

Website: <https://anthfilm.anth.ubc.ca>

**BEATRIZ MESQUITA PEDROSA
FERREIRA**

Rua Guilherme Salazar,

150/702E Poço da Panela,

Recife/PE,

Brazil

ZIP CODE: 52061-275

Email: mesquitabia@hotmail.com;
beatriz.mesquita@fundaj.gov.br

Phone: 55 81 32697316 (home) / 55 81
996329230 (mobile) / 55 81 30736617 (work).

Country: BRAZIL

M R. BOBBY

(NAG)

No. 31-A-1, Rose Park (3),

Hnin Si Myaing Road,

North Dagon Township

Myanmar

Email: 72.bobby@gmail.com

Phone: 95-9795278816/ 95-9-252875631

Country: MYANMAR

Website: <http://www.nagmyanmar.org/>

BRIAN O'RIORDAN

Sentier Des Rossignols, 2

1330 Rixensart

Belgium

Email: briano138531@gmail.com

Phone: 00322 6525201

Country: BELGIUM

Website: <https://lifeplatform.eu/>

CHARLES R. MENZIES

6280 Logan Lane,

Vancouver, BC,

Canada,

V6t 2k9

Email: charles.menzies@ubc.ca

Phone: 1-604-318-2504

Country: CANADA

CORNELIE QUIST

Mient 341,

2564 La Den Haag,

The Netherlands

Email: cornelie.quist@gmail.com

Phone: +31 70 3800187, +31 6 45592474

Country: THE NETHERLANDS

**LEOPOLDO CAVALERI
GERHARDINGER**

Rua Dublin, 244 Ap3;

Ubatuba; São Francisco Do Sul;

Santa Catarina State, Brazil; Zip: 89240-000

Email: leocavaleri@gmail.com

Phone: +55 047 992858456

Country: BRAZIL

Website:

<https://leocavaleri6.wixsite.com/oceanhealersunite>

MAARTEN BAVINCK

Email: J.M.Bavinck@uva.nl

Country: THE NETHERLANDS

ICSF Board Member: Chair

PETER LINFORD ADJEI

P. O. Box Ct 6440 Cantonments – Accra,

Ghana

Email: pieroquz@gmail.com

Phone: + 233 (0) 26 1464481

Country: GHANA

RAVADEE PRASERTCHAROENSUK

86 Sustainable Development Foundation
(SDF),

Sutthiwattana 2, Wangthongland,

Plab-Pla,

Bkk10310

Email: prasertcharoensuk@gmail.com

Phone: 66819125725

Country: THAILAND

Website: <http://www.sdfthai.org/>

ROSEMARIE N. MWAIPOPO

Department of Sociology/Anthropology

Po Box 35043, Dar Es Salaam,

Tanzania

Email: salwengele@gmail.com

Phone: +255 787 050287

Country: TANZANIA

SERGE RAEMAEEKERS

P.O. Box 332, 7979 Noordhoek

(Physical Address 2 Lindum Close,

7979 Noordhoek)

Email: serge@abalobi.info

Phone: +27 82 366 0270

V. VIVEKANANDAN

2b, G Block,

Kalpataru Apartments,

Padikuppam,

Chennai 600107

India

Email: vivek@siffs.org

Phone: +91-9677034670/9847084840

Country: INDIA

VIVIENNE SOLIS RIVERA

CoopeSolidar R.L.,

P. Box. 2459-2050,

San Pedro De Mantas De Oca,

San Tore,

Costa Rica

Email: vsolis@coopesolidar.org

Skype: Vivienne.solis.rivera

Phone: (506) 22836928 (office) (506) 83-69-80-28

Country: COSTA RICA

Website: <http://coopesolidar.org/>

IV. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND BOARD MEETINGS

a. First General Assembly and Board Meeting: Amsterdam, Netherlands, 7th-8th December 2017

The first General Assembly and Board Meeting's agenda was to discuss the organization's governance; to develop work strategies for its programme activities; and to create a financial plan to sustain the secretariat and remunerate staff. The Board also discussed the ongoing programme of ICSF including its website and online publication SAMUDRA Report and Yemaya; daily news alerts (SAMUDRA News Alerts and South Asia News Alerts); and the digitization of grey literature and public domain documents which are valuable source of information relevant to small-scale fisheries, dealing with fishworker organizations, fishing communities, fisheries trade, fisheries policy, etc.

After its relaunch in December 2017, it was decided that ICSF would work locally while maintaining a global perspective; work applying a human rights-based approach; work in both the global North and South. Overall, the activities undertaken by ICSF during the reporting period have been in line with ICSF's Mission and have been effective, keeping in mind the challenges facing the sector.

b. Second Board Meeting; Chiang Mai, Thailand, 21st October 2018

Vivienne Solis Rivera was appointed the fifth member of the Board, and, among other organizational matters, the Board welcomed new members of ICSF staff and passed the audit report for financial year 2017-18. An ICSF Membership Policy was finalized, and it was decided that decisions on inducting new members would be taken once the organization has re-established itself financially and administratively. At the meeting, members discussed strategies to take forward ICSF's work on the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at international and national levels.

As discussed at the Chiang Mai Board meeting, during the period between November 2018 and December 2019, organizational activities were to be directed towards the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at the national and subnational levels. During this period, ICSF signed a contract with the Oak Foundation; which pledged to support ICSF's secretariat and its work till 2023. With a strategy and sources in place for ICSF's funding and its sustained engagement in national, regional and international processes in the reporting period, the organization has been in a position to pursue its long-term objectives of knowledge sharing, capacity building and advocacy in service of small-scale fishing communities and their associations.

ICSF has always recognized the empowering effect of information. ICSF's information services – the SAMUDRA Report, Yemaya Newsletter, SAMUDRA News Alerts, South Asia News Alerts, ICSF's website, Facebook and Twitter – provide the main vehicles for realizing the organization's commitment to the sharing and dissemination of information. Efforts undertaken during the reporting period have aimed to enhance understanding among a wide range of stakeholders and decision-makers, informing them about the importance of SSF, issues of concern, aspirations and demands for the future. Importantly, they have enhanced access to information about key developments in a timely manner.

In addition to these, the Board, during its meeting in 2018, decided to develop a series of thematic campaigns running through 2022; in order to revitalize its Members' contributions to ICSF's work and as a part of its new communication strategy. Anchored by the expertise of its members in fisheries research, policy and activism, the campaigns are aimed at raising the profile of small-scale fisheries in international processes for food security, climate change and the global maritime (blue) economy. The campaigns are designed to cover the following themes: SSF contributions and rights to food security and nutrition; SSF contributions and justice in a blue economy perspective; scenarios and prospects for SSF under the impacts of climate change; SSF and the protection of tenure over water, land and resources.

c. Third Board Meeting; Bangkok, Thailand, 8th-10th December 2019

The following year, the Board met again in Thailand. The Board took the opportunity to thank Brian O'Riordan for his contributions towards ICSF's financial matters from 2017-2019. Reflecting on the limited capacities (in terms of personnel and funding) available to ICSF in this period, the Board agreed on the need to discuss staff capacities and work allocation for the future. The need for the Secretariat and Board to animate Membership was reiterated. The Board decided that the Secretariat would prepare a quarterly newsletter for its Members, with updates and information on new work, publications, participation in meetings and upcoming conferences.

The Board also deliberated on the most recent draft of the Membership Policy in detail, including criteria to fulfill, such as gender, regional representation, age, and, most importantly, members' contributions to small-scale fishing communities. The Board was also requested to suggest how the funds raised through donations from an informal 'Friends of ICSF' could be spent, and how the remainder of the funds required to overcome accumulated outstanding debts would be raised. It was suggested that the organization take up projects as consultants and donate the proceeds to meeting the debt.

The agenda for the meeting included, among other matters, progress on conceptualizing and launching proposed thematic campaigns including the campaign for food security and small-scale fisheries; review of the completed ICSF-FAO project to implement SSF Guidelines in nine countries; consolidating the response to the 'Blue Call to Action' draft document and discussion of the proposed study 'Sustainable Development and Human Rights-based

Approach in Aquaculture: A Case Study of Indian Aquaculture Systems’; and the ongoing re-design of the ICSF website.

The Board was informed that FAO would continue to support the SSF Guidelines activities: a) to deepen some of the activities already initiated, and b) to bring in new countries. Noting the successful completion of Phase One, for a long term implementation plan, Members devised a preliminary list of ten countries or regions, and priority areas, drawing from the interests of partners and the learning from the previous phase; with the work in India carried out during the first phase to serve as a model for other countries.

Suggestions made for running the thematic campaigns:

- Considering the strategic need for continued engagement with various UN agencies, including the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), it was decided that the campaigns should be overlapping and not sequential. This would allow ICSF to undertake activities on individual themes during 2020-2023.
- It was noted that the campaigns - including the Food Security Campaign - had to respond to the needs of the fishing communities and their organizations, and that ICSF’s work should contribute to bringing the focus back to the supply-side as against the demand-side in order to facilitate the protection of fishers’ rights to supply seafood to local and domestic markets, studying the contribution of fish to national food bank and nutritional requirements.
- A campaign was proposed to recognize and enforce preferential access zones for small-scale fishing, running parallel to existing thematic activities till 2023. However, considering that the environmental lobby in some zones could very easily call for ever-expanding fishing restrictions and such a campaign has the potential to limit the rights of small-scale fishers to inshore waters, it was agreed that this campaign would be discussed in more detail and be limited to Asia.
- ICSF campaigns would have the chief objective of giving visibility to fishworkers (women and men) and fishing communities; and they would be designed and conducted in a spirit of collaboration with ICSF partners, providing them knowledge and information.
- The campaigns were to be linked to the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries 2022, for which FAO will be looking to collaborate with ICSF; they also need to bring other organizations on board.

Several collaborations with key partner organizations were considered. ICSF planned to collaborate with the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) Fisheries Working Group as a support NGO to fishworker movements; and the Advisory Group of the Global Strategic Framework (GSF), an informal global mechanism, to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at all levels; and Oak Foundation and its partner NGOs which are keen to contribute to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. WorldFish and Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) have also discussed the modalities of collaboration on the SSF Guidelines. The Board resolved that it would formally write to the IPC Fisheries Working Group and request a meeting of the organizations, either during the COFI meeting in 2020 (now postponed to early-2021 due to Covid-19) or in the intervening period.

Following a request from the African Confederation of Professional Artisanal Fisheries Organizations (CAOPA) for an adviser to guide discussions regarding the human rights-based approach to the Blue Economy, ICSF has helped CAOPA with knowledge and information inputs. A formal request from CAOPA, through Beatrice Gorez of Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements (CFFA), was for ICSF to play an advisory role at a larger level. In the past, assistance from ICSF has taken the form of policy inputs or clarifications on international legal frameworks in fisheries. The Board decided to accept the invitation from CAOPA and to encourage Members in the region to play a role in facilitating the support to CAOPA.

The Board resolved to endorse the document on a ‘Blue Call to Action’ petition to be presented to government delegations at the UN Ocean Conference in 2020 (now postponed to 2021). Led by a group of conservation NGOs, the document called on governments to take urgent actions to protect the oceans, reduce carbon emissions, regulate fisheries and to transition to a zero-waste economy.

The Board discussed the draft concept note for the study on social issues in aquaculture in India, prepared by the secretariat. Members expressed an interest in expanding the work on aquaculture to other regions, provided that the small-scale perspective in aquaculture and culture-based fisheries is maintained, affording sustainable development.

V. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SSF GUIDELINES

1. FAO-ICSF Project on Implementation of SSF Guidelines (July 2018 - March 2020)

The countries involved in this project are: Brazil, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. The aim of the project is to support the social, economic and environmental transformation of the small-scale fisheries sector and to enhance its contribution to food security and poverty eradication through improved policies and, particularly, stakeholder empowerment; to strengthen small-scale fishing communities; and to produce global information products towards the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The activities undertaken through this project are: organizing workshops and meetings to consult

stakeholders and discuss the implementation of the SSF Guidelines; undertaking studies and mapping exercises on small-scale fisheries governance and livelihoods and preparing policy papers and draft action plans; developing audio-visual material and other communication tools on the SSF Guidelines and country-level activities, and animation videos on four chapters of the SSF Guidelines.

ICSF's partners in the project include Operação Amazônia Nativa (OPAN), Brazil; Technical Services for Community Development (TESCOD), Ghana; ICSF Trust, India; Koalisi Rakyat Untuk Keadilan Perikanan (KIARA), Indonesia; Network Action Group (NAG), Myanmar; Tambuyog Development Center, the Philippines (TDC); Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries (SLFSSF), Sri Lanka; Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF), Thailand; and Centre for Marinelifelife Conservation and Community Development (MCD), Vietnam. Activity reports for nine partner countries based on workplans and performance indicators, tables with output and outcome indicators, were all prepared by ICSF in consultation with partner organizations (available at: <https://igssf.icsf.net>).

National workshops have been completed in Brazil, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. Reports about some of these workshops have been published in SAMUDRA Report No.80 (December, 2018) and SAMUDRA Report No. 81 (June, 2019). To share the findings of national workshops and projects, videos were also prepared for Brazil, Ghana and India, and shared on social media.

1.1. COUNTRY REPORTS

1.1.1. BRAZIL: Operação Amazônia Nativa (OPAN)

Towards creating awareness of the SSF Guidelines among the small-scale fishers in Brazil and thus to organize the Indigenous Fishers Workshop, a preparatory meeting was held in Manaus, the capital of the state of Amazonas in Brazil, on 7th December 2018. Following this, a prior survey was conducted on the main conflicts involving fishing and community management initiatives in Amazonas. This helped in defining the working groups most relevant to indigenous communities, based on the actual problems faced by these communities, including land tenure, sport fishing, sale of indigenous products and community-based tourism.

The 'Seminar on Indigenous Fisheries in Amazonas and Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries' was held on 27th and 28th March 2019, in Manaus. It was attended by 25 indigenous fishers from 16 ethnic groups, including: Apurinã, Baniwa, Baré, Deni, Desano, Kambeba, Kanamari, Kokama, Kulina, Munduruku, Mura, Paumari, Piratapuaia, Tenharim, Tikuna and Tukano, as well as representatives from NGOs and governmental entities from the state of Amazonas. Indigenous participants participated in large numbers, beyond the invited ones. The additional costs to bring them all from faraway places to the venue and accommodate them there was raised partially with assistance from NGOs –

namely Social-Environmental Institute (ISA), OPAN and International Institute of Education Brazil (IEB).

The seminar featured an introduction to the organizing institutions followed by a presentation on the SSF Guidelines. Four groups were formed with representatives of several Amazon watershed basins and rivers as part of the seminar. They came from the Solimões basin, Rio Negro basin, Juruá River, Purus River, Amazon River, Marmelos River and Madeira River, to discuss the problems, opportunities and demands of indigenous peoples in relation to fisheries. On the second day, participants worked in thematic groups around the issues discussed on the first day, including fisheries management and commercialization, community-based tourism and aquaculture. The plenary was attended by the Fisheries and Aquaculture Secretary of the Amazon state as well as the federal-level Secretary of Aquaculture and Fisheries, who said that the seminar recommendations would be used in the context of fisheries policies for North Brazil.

The seminar was unique in bringing together a number of indigenous community representatives to learn about the SSF Guidelines, and for sharing experiences between different groups on aspects of fisheries management as well as family aquaculture in rivers and the regulation of sport fishing. As mentioned above, the participation of the state and federal level officials and their intent to take the recommendations forward was an achievement. Indigenous populations from almost all the Amazon basins, as well as riparian communities and civil society organizations, presented their perspectives for the management of aquatic natural resources considering the need to conserve the environment for future generations (as seen in recorded videos of the seminar). The workshop and video have generated considerable interest. Video of the seminar proceedings is made available at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pGFxr2ly_Wc (English),
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiWrw244THU> (Portuguese).

A final report of proceedings and a synthesis document to update the vital fisheries strategy was prepared, documenting all working group discussions and information on the main basins in Amazonas, as well as the ethnic groups living in each basin/river, land demarcations, protected areas, conflicts, and fisheries-related problems of the indigenous peoples of the region.

1.1.2. GHANA: Technical Services for Community Development (TESCOD)

Activity 1: Translation of the summary of the SSF Guidelines (prepared by John Kurien for ICSF) into Nzema, Fanti, Ga And Ewe

The TESCOD panel of translators and linguists for the four languages included senior professionals from academic and religious institutions as well as younger expert translators from print and electronic media houses. Peer reviews of the translations pointed out that texts were quite technical (with many legal expressions) and difficult for the average reader to

comprehend. This observation led to several rounds of modification of the translated texts to simpler and easy to understand texts, while staying true to the original meaning from the English text. Electronic copies of the Ga, Ewe, Fanti and Nzema summary of the SSF Guidelines are available at:

[https://igssf.icsf.net/en/page/1067-SSF%20Guidelines%20\(Summary\).html](https://igssf.icsf.net/en/page/1067-SSF%20Guidelines%20(Summary).html)

<https://sites.google.com/site/ssfguidelines/materials-on-ssf-guidelines>

Activity 2: One-day Workshops for Fishworkers and Fishworker Organizations

A. Accra, Greater Accra Region, 27th November 2018

Accra is the capital of Ghana and houses the judicial, executive and legislative arms of the government. A major economic hub, with business and transportation network across Africa, it remains the homeland of the Ga and Adangme people. Fisheries play an important social, economic and cultural role in Ga-Adangme communities along the coast. However, fishworkers in Accra have not been spared the challenges of small-scale fisheries and the consequent economic reversal. Despite many interventions from the central government, fishworker organizations (FWOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs) have mostly focused on legislative and enforcement aspects. Informed by the local context of SSF in Accra, a one-day workshop was held in the Ga language on 27th November 2018 at the Trade Union Congress. Participants were drawn from the Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council (GNCFC), Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MOFAD) and other stakeholders across the fish value chain in the region.

In his inaugural address, David Sackey, a representative of MOFAD, noted that whereas MOFAD's mandate has revolved around policy and oversight, its new focus was to harness fishery development to enhance the livelihood of actors in the value chain. Nii Ayebli, a chief from the Sempe royal family and a member of GNCFC, underscored the stabilising role of the GNCFC in the face of several challenges militating against the SSF sector.

Peter Adjei of TESCOG Ghana/ICSF drew attention to the human rights approach in SSF Guidelines and the struggle that led to the adoption of the SSF Guidelines in 2014. The FAO Policy Series video on sustainable SSF Guidelines by Nicole Franz and Yvette Diei Ouadi was screened to show the relevance of the SSF Guidelines. Other videos focused on cross-cutting issues such as gender, tenure rights and value chains in Costa Rica, India, Tanzania and Indonesia. The video session was followed by highlights of the SSF Guidelines by the Ga translation team leader, Richard Kyei. He guided the participants through the SSF Guidelines by highlighting and explaining the guiding principles and thematic pillars of the Guidelines.

Participants identified with the five themes of the SSF Guidelines but prioritized illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, lack of direct involvement in policymaking and weak enforcement of fishery laws as major worrying concerns. The participants pledged to

support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at the community level. Christiana Sackey and Esther Addo of Prampram Cooperative Fishmongers' Society, who participated in one of the consultative meetings on the Zero Draft, said the negotiated SSF Guidelines justly reflected their concerns. The GNCFC led by Nii Ayetey, pledged to work with their members to determine how to incorporate the SSF Guidelines into their traditional fishing regulations.

B. Takoradi, Western Region, 11 December 2018

Since the mid-1990s, the once vibrant small-scale fishery economies of the Central and Western Regions have been on the decline. Various interventions have proved ineffective in reversing this decline. The two regions have a high incidence of illegal trans-shipment of fish at sea (saiko) and illegal pair trawling. Other unsustainable fishing methods—the use of light, and chemicals (DDT, carbide)—are reported to be on the increase. Central Region, despite being viewed as the hub of Ghana's tourism, is among its poorest regions. It is also a major source of children who are trafficked for child labour on the Volta Lake. On the other hand, the Western Region is endowed with mineral and timber resources. In the year 2010, offshore oil production began in the region and fishers were denied access to their fishing grounds for posing a danger to the oil installations. The Fanti/Nzema language workshop at Takoradi, brought together stakeholders from GNCFC, Central and Western Fishmongers' Improvement Association (CEWEFIA), Fisheries Commission and major fishing communities—Axim, Shama, Elmina, Moree and Sekondi.

During the workshop Abaka-Edu from GNCFC recounted that through demonstrations, the GNCFC advocated for the enactment of the Fisheries Act 625 of 2002 but political interference was hindering the effective enforcement of the law. While acknowledging the challenges facing the SSF sector, Peter Adjei underlined that the workshop was structured for fishworkers' engagement with the SSF Guidelines and to deliberate on its relevance in addressing challenges and expectations in the SSF sector.

Participants prioritized areas of concern and offered their submissions for addressing the identified challenges, most of which centred around IUU fishing, security of tenure regarding management and access to the fishery resources, and worsening livelihoods. The consensus was the need for Parliament to ratify the Co-Management Bill so fishworkers could participate in management and enforcement of mutually agreed regulations, as well as the urgent need for government, fishers and oil/gas companies to use dialogue to address conflicts of tenure rights and access. Participants were urged to familiarize themselves with the SSF Guidelines to influence SSF policy direction and change.

C. Keta, Volta Region, 16th December 2018

Located 160 km east of Accra is Keta, the administrative capital of Keta Municipal in the Volta Region. The Municipal is endowed with considerable water bodies—60 km of the Atlantic coastline and 300 km Keta Lagoon, the largest lagoon in Ghana. In addition, there are numerous rivers and creeks that support the small-scale fisheries economy. In recent years, the once thriving fishery sector, noted for its anchovies, mullets, shrimps, sea breams and oysters, has been on the decline. According to the SSF actors, the decline in landings is attributable to overfishing by migrant fishers from neighbouring countries who use destructive fishing gear and unsustainable fishing methods. The downturn in the fishery fortunes has adversely affected livelihoods and ancillary businesses. Another looming threat is oil/gas production in the Keta Basin. In 2016, Swiss African Oil Company was granted a licence by the Parliament of Ghana to explore hydrocarbons in the Keta Basin. A coalition of fishworkers and farmers estimate that some 600,000 inhabitants are likely to lose their livelihood from commercial oil production. The Keta Workshop brought together municipal and fisheries officials, GNCFC and fishworkers from Keta Municipal and neighbouring Ketu South Municipal to deliberate on these concerns.

During the course of the workshop, Promise Gavor, a representative of the Fisheries Commission in the Keta Municipal Assembly, gave an overview of SSF in the municipality and the support his outfit offers to fishworkers, including building their capacity through training and assisting them with accessing credit from banks, particularly Agricultural Development Bank and Anlo Rural Bank. Togbui Sri Abussi of GNCFC outlined the local GNCFC's key role as ensuring cohesion within the SSF sector and promoting sustainable fisheries. He observed that the current challenges in SSF were driven by a combination of factors such as institutional lapses and weak enforcement of regulations as well as the exclusion of fishers and community leaders from the management of fishery resources. The Keta workshop sought not only to introduce the SSF Guidelines to fishworkers but also to interrogate the pertinent challenges and issues that can be addressed by the SSF Guidelines at the community and national level.

The participants identified poor social infrastructure, lack of enforcement of by-laws, frequent tidal waves, lack of proper beachfront development and exclusion of fishworkers in decision-making as key constraints. The participants declared their readiness to help in implementing the SSF Guidelines together with other responsible stakeholders as it was agreed that SSF Guidelines provided a systematic approach to addressing challenges in SSF and offered the opportunity to right the ills and social injustice in SSF. They called for all actors to work towards more sustainable fisheries.

Activity 3: Two-day National Workshop, University of Ghana, Legon, 14th-15th August 2019

While the sub-national workshops focused on raising awareness amongst fishers, fishworkers, community-based fishworker organizations (CBFWOs) and local branches of

national fishworkers' organizations (NFWOS), the national workshop's overarching objective was to prioritize the common SSF challenges highlighted by the local workshops and how they can be addressed within a national framework.

The workshop was held after extensive consultation with all representatives of major SSF stakeholders in Ghana. Participants and delegates were drawn from National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA), Prampram Cooperative Fishmongers Society, National Inland Canoe Fisherman Council (NICFC), GNCFC, CEWEFIA and the University of Ghana, among others.

A solidarity statement from FWOs marked the beginning of the deliberations. FK Enunoo, the former chief director of Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, dwelt upon 'The SSF Guidelines: Nature, Scope and Relevance in the Ghanaian SSF Sector' from the perspective of policy and regulation. The presentation of local workshop reports formed the basis of focus group discussions along three main areas: (a) key national SSF challenges and opportunities for change within the SSF Guidelines framework; (b) identifying roles and responsibilities of primary actors—the state, FWOs, CSOs, academia, etc—in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines; and (c) ways forward—actions for addressing key identified and/or prioritized issues with the SSF Guidelines.

Key prioritized issues and recommendations at the end of the plenary session that were deeply rooted in the outcomes of the local workshops, yet broader in scope, included:

- (a) Work with the MOFAD and other stakeholders to adopt the Guidelines into enforceable fisheries laws and regulations; develop SSF development document for presentation to MOFAD and Fisheries Commission—to advocate a long-term vision document on SSF with clearly outlined annual plans;
- (b) Conduct a complete stakeholder analysis of the SSF value chain—including definition of SSF and relationship with other organized businesses in the fisheries sector;
- (c) Increase advocacy efforts regarding inequalities in the SSF sector (particularly gender and inland SSF that are marginalized)
- (d) The need for training and capacity building of FWOs and other interest groups to sustain the dissemination of the SSF Guidelines at both national and subnational levels.

Activity 4: Establishment of a National SSF Guidelines Platform

The National SSF Guidelines Platform seeks to raise awareness of the SSF Guidelines among different stakeholders and to promote a human rights-based approach to the SSF through appropriate policy responses. To this end, a seven-member national SSF Guidelines platform was launched on 15th August 2019 at the national workshop on the SSF Guidelines in Ghana. The members joined voluntarily after requests were made by TESCOD Ghana during the local workshops in 2018. The platform has no hierarchical structure and is open to any person with interest in human rights values in SSF. By consensus, it was agreed that dialogue may be initiated by any member through social media but physical meetings will be held twice a

year. Besides, at any physical meeting, the members present will elect someone to moderate the meeting. The first meeting was moderated by Peter Adjei of TESCOG Ghana/ICSF. The second physical meeting was held in January 2020.

The first members of the SSF Guidelines Platform are:

1. Mike Abaka-Edu, Secretary of Western Region branch of GNCFC, Sekondi, Western Region
2. Jennifer Glover, Department of (Fisheries) Cooperatives, Keta Municipal Assembly, Volta Region
3. Nicholas Smith, Programmes Officer, CEWEFIA, Elmina Central Region, Peter Adjei, Acting Director, TESCOG Ghana and member of ICSF
4. Jacob Tetteh Ageke, President, NICFC, Greater Accra
5. David KotaneKaku, fisher and member of GNCFC, Axim Western Region
6. Andrew Kojo Mensah, boat owner and member of GNCFC, Axim Western Region

In its maiden physical meeting, the underlisted objectives were set:

- Work collaboratively with FWOs, CSOs, media houses, MOFAD and academia to sustain and expand the awareness of the SSF Guidelines at the national and sub-national level;
- Monitor and document activities that are related to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in Ghana; and
- Promote the alignment of the SSF Guidelines with national fisheries policies/laws through appropriate media campaign, petitions to appropriate authorities and/or representations at relevant fisheries stakeholders' fora.

The initial phase of implementing the SSF Guidelines in Ghana has led to many meaningful outcomes and lessons. Besides the development of local language contents, over 120 participants from FWOs, CBOs, academia and MOFAD benefited from local and national implementation workshops. In addition to the establishment of the national SSF Guidelines Platform, the implementation of activities by TESCOG is the most visible and comprehensive in Ghana since the adoption of the SSF Guidelines in 2014.

This success notwithstanding, the year-long SSF Guidelines implementation was fraught with a number of notable organizational and logistical challenges. As many as two and half million Ghanaians are dependent on SSF spread across thousands of communities, local governments and traditional jurisdictions. In order to achieve greater impact, the TESCOG team not only engaged with FWOs and fishing communities in the workshop locations, they also introduced the SSF Guidelines directly to chiefs and fishworkers.

This approach led to great interest in the SSF Guidelines and among a diverse blend of workshop participants. While all activities were executed as per the timeline, the national workshop date was rescheduled many times, moving from the original date of February 2019 to August 2019. Nevertheless, it was critical in getting the major FWOs in Ghana, including GNCFC, NAFPTA and NICFC, to harmonize their views and commit to working together to implement the SSF Guidelines.

The overall success of the first phase of implementation was the main driving force. Building on this fine foundation, TESCOOD advocates for a continuation of the SSF Guidelines from the awareness stage to addressing specific challenges such as IUU/saiko, and oil/fisher conflicts.

The following recommendations are made: 1) training and capacity building of CBOs/FWOs, Fisheries Commission, and other relevant stakeholders in small-scale fisheries; 2) promoting dialogue and consultation among SSF actors and regulatory bodies for formulation of appropriate policies or guidelines to address sector challenges; 3) influencing or driving policy alignment of national fisheries regulations/laws with the human rights principles and standards mentioned in the SSF Guidelines.

1.1.3.INDIA: International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) Trust

Four workshops dealing with different aspects of the SSF Guidelines were held in India between July and November 2019: to develop action points for the implementation of the 2017 National Policy on Marine Fisheries ([19-21 July 2019](#)); to mainstream gender into fisheries policies and legislation ([18th-20th August 2019](#)); to improve inland fisheries governance in the context of the National Policy on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture ([6-7 September 2019](#)); and a workshop exploring the capacities of local self-governments to implement the SSF Guidelines ([5-6 November, 2019](#)). The workshop resources and recommendations are available at: <https://igssf.icsf.net/>.

In all four workshops, the format was a mix of presentations from experts and voices of the fishing community, as well as group discussions to develop action points based on specifically formulated questions. Since the workshops had multilingual participation, interpreters provided support to various linguistic groups from different states of India.

The first workshop was held in Chennai from 19th to 21st July 2019, towards developing an implementation plan for India's National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017 (NPMF), in light of the SSF Guidelines. The NPMF was developed through a consultative process involving stakeholders, including representatives of fishers and fishworkers, to improve the socio-economic conditions of fishing communities and to ensure the sustainability of marine fishery resources. The NPMF acknowledges that fishers will be at its core and strives to maintain the small-scale character of Indian marine fisheries in India's maritime zones; also, to provide

legislative support to the tenure rights of traditional fishers. It envisions providing guidance to coordinate and manage marine fisheries until 2027.

The main objectives of the workshop were: to develop long-term and short-term action points for the implementation plan of NPMF, with special emphasis on vulnerable and marginalized groups; integrate elements of the SSF Guidelines into the implementation plan of NPMF within the framework of a human rights-based approach; and to empower fishers and fishworkers and their organizations by building capacities and raising awareness in the context of the implementation of the NPMF and the SSF Guidelines. Accordingly, the workshop was expected to come up with long-term and short-term action points in the light of the SSF Guidelines and other relevant national and international instruments and processes from a CSO/NGO perspective toward developing an implementation plan for NPMF from 2020 to 2027. The concept note, NPMF and the SSF Guidelines were made available in Indian languages of the coastal states, including Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi, Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, Odia and Bengali. Other resources provided online included presentations and compilations of fisheries sector schemes and relevant news articles.

The workshop had over 80 participants, with 52 representatives from small-scale fishing communities of ten coastal states and union territories, and others from research institutes, CSOs, inter-governmental organizations and other agencies. The resource persons were scientists from the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), both based in Kochi, India, and trustees of the ICSF Trust.

The workshop had six sessions, with presentations from experts on various aspects of the NPMF and its connection with the SSF Guidelines, apart from group discussions, open forum and plenaries. Sections of the NPMF were compared and contrasted with equivalent sections in the SSF Guidelines in the technical sessions which included ‘Fisheries Management’, ‘Fisheries Post-Harvest and Trade’, ‘Mariculture, Deep Sea Fishing and Other New Initiatives’, ‘Coastal and Marine Environment, Climate Change and Blue Growth’, ‘Social Development of Fishing Communities’, and ‘Gender Equity in Fisheries’.

In the first Plenary Session, six representatives from FWOs/CSOs gave their perspectives on the implementation of the NPMF 2017. The Action Points, short-term and long-term, that had been developed were presented in the second plenary. They addressed the tenure of fishers and customary rights of the fishing communities involved in fisheries for generations, and included effort control measures for resource sustainability, creation of fish refugia through consultation, developing information services for fishers, promotion of participatory management, capacity building for deep sea fishing, post-harvest and processing and gender equity, among others.

The SSF Guidelines and Mainstreaming Gender into Fisheries Policies and Legislation was the focus of the second workshop, held from 18th to 20th August 2019 in Chennai. Key women CSO/NGO fishery stakeholders from the states of Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal attended the workshop, along with CSOs and research institutions such as CIFT in

Kochi and the Central Institute for Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai. Nalini Nayak coordinated the workshop.

The key objectives of the workshop were: to enhance the capacities of women fishworkers to mainstream gender into fisheries policy and legislation; to conduct a gender analysis of fisheries budget allocations and schemes and the socio-economic indicators of fishing communities; to recommend action points for the implementation of NPMF and the National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy (NIFAP) (draft) from a gender perspective; to facilitate exchange of knowledge between diverse women fishworker representatives; and to develop a national platform for women in fisheries. The concept note in four languages, apart from English; schemes for fisherwomen; extracts from census data; presentations and a report on a brainstorming session held earlier were part of the online resources made available.

In the first session, women from fishworker organizations in each of the four states described the work their organizations did for women in fisheries, including liaising with the state government and raising issues and demands. The second session was on gender perspectives in the NPMF and the SSF Guidelines, in which the resource person looked at where women were mentioned in NPMF and what opportunities they could get from the policy. Session three was on ‘Women's Rights to Tenure and Role in Fisheries Management’, in which the ecosystem-based approach was highlighted. State-wise figures regarding the status of health, education and other parameters for the fishing community versus the general populace were presented and the general social status of fishing communities from a historical perspective was also outlined. The concept of gender budgeting was explained in detail, along with the various schemes available in the different states. In the last technical session, ‘Fisheries Management and the Role of Women’, frequently-used words were explained so that women would be sure of what they meant while asserting their rights. In the group discussions, the social development needs of fishing communities, financial and technical support for women in fisheries, and the role of women in fisheries management were discussed and recommendations made. It was agreed that a platform with participants from member-based organizations would be established to take up major common issues at the state and central levels.

The third workshop was held in Kolkata from 6th to 7th September 2019, focusing on NIFAP (draft) and the SSF guidelines. The workshop was attended by almost 90 participants drawn from 17 states, including 63 from fishworker organizations and others from CSOs, NGOs and research institutions. The resource persons were from leading fisheries research institutions, such as CIFE, Mumbai; Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Barrackpore, Kolkata; Patna University, Patna, Bihar; and National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited (FISCOPFED), New Delhi.

The objectives of India's 2018 NIFAP (draft) pertain to the optimal utilization and sustainable management of inland fisheries and aquaculture resources, increasing fish production and fishers' living standards, creating gainful employment and marketing

opportunities, and ensuring food security while conserving native fish genetic stocks and associated ecosystem services from fisheries.

The objectives of this workshop were to review the existing social and ecological knowledge gaps that might influence processes and outcomes of existing and proposed inland fisheries governance systems, to develop realistic long-term and short-term action points for implementing NIFAP with special emphasis on the vulnerable and marginalized groups, to integrate elements of the SSF Guidelines in the implementation of NIFAP within the framework of a human rights-based approach, and to empower fishers and fishworkers to help build their institutional capacity and raise their awareness about the SSF Guidelines in the context of implementing the NIFAP. As background material, the draft NIFAP was made available in six Indian languages apart from English. In addition, workshop presentations, additional resources and a compilation of relevant news articles were made available online.

At this workshop, there were three technical sessions – on ‘Tenure Systems, Institutions and Governance’, ‘Fisheries Legislation, Policy Implementation and the Environment’ and ‘Socio-Economic Development, Gender Issues and Role of Cooperatives’ – in which presentations were made by resource persons. Nachiket Kelkar presented a situation paper on ‘Governance of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture in India’ in the context of the NIFAP. It focused on two questions regarding the role of tenure systems in sustainable use and environmental conservation of different water bodies, and the scope for adaptive management in existing tenure systems in response to ecological, economic, and socio-political change in fisheries. Group discussions (in state/linguistic groups) were also held on developing short-term (one to three years) and long-term (five to ten years) recommendations for the three broad workshop themes of: (i) tenure systems, institutions and governance; (ii) fisheries legislation and policy implementation; and (iii) socio-economic development and gender issues. Outcomes from the group discussion were pooled and presented at the end as workshop recommendations listed under focus areas such as awareness and outreach, addressing data gaps, identifying pollution, sanitation, and health risks during fish culture, need for appropriate legislation, and the role of women in inland fisheries.

The fourth workshop in the series to raise awareness about the SSF Guidelines among the Local Self-governments (or LSGs, known as Panchayat Raj Institutions in India) attracted 63 participants, including representatives from fishworker organizations, local self-governments and state governments, state fisheries department officials, academics and researchers (both community based organizations and non-governmental organizations were represented). The resource persons included advisers and consultants to the Ministry of Panchayati Raj and experts in the subjects from academia and the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), as well as those working in local governments. The workshop was held at KILA in Thrissur, Kerala, on 5th and 6th November 2019 in association with KILA.

The objectives of the workshop were: to raise awareness about the SSF Guidelines and review the capacities of panchayat institutions to implement them; to review existing panchayat budgets and programmes for marine and inland fisheries and fishing communities;

to identify opportunities and gaps in local governance; to highlight panchayat-level best practices on participatory decision making, delivery of welfare and social services benefiting fishing communities, women's socio-economic development and equal representation; and to focus on climate change adaptation and disaster risk management, and sustainable fisheries management and resource utilization. Additional resources on local self-governance, the fisheries sector in the Panchayati Raj of different states, as well as the concept note and presentations made at the workshop, are available online.

The sessions were on 'The Panchayati Raj System and the Governance of Fisheries in India', 'Panchayati Raj Institutions and Fisheries Management in Kerala', 'Panchayati Raj Institutions and the Socio-Economic Development of Fishing Communities' and 'Panchayati Raj Institutions, Governance of Tenure'. The success stories of schemes implemented in the fisheries sector by local bodies in the southern districts of Kerala were presented as case studies by M Saju of the Fisheries Department, Government of Kerala. Three questions were discussed during the group discussion: (1) How can local self-government contribute to the social development of fishing communities (coastal and inland)? (2) How can LSGs effectively restore, conserve and manage aquatic and coastal ecosystems? (3) How can all stakeholders – LSGs, union and state governments and civil society – strengthen participation of fishing communities (coastal and inland) in democratic platforms for local governance? Among the recommendations were the preparation of a fisheries sub-plan as part of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan, and the holding of a 'matsya sabha' (fisheries council) where the panchayat comprises members from the fishing community. In the closing session, SM Vijayanand, Chairman, Sixth State Finance Commission, Government of Kerala, gave the valedictory address through a video presentation in which he suggested holding a write-shop to develop an action plan for each state, the development of a resource cluster as a proof-of-concept, and localizing plans for climate change and SDGs. He emphasized the importance of capacity building, and also suggested the establishment of a platform for advocacy and providing technical support to bring together agencies to share views on helping fisherfolk.

Feedback was obtained from most participants at the workshops. In general, most of them felt that the content and the methodology of the workshops were adequate. A few participants mentioned that the information shared during the workshop would be useful for their day-to-day work and that they would share it with leaders and fisherfolk in their communities. Participants said that the group discussions helped in clarifying certain points and hoped there would be follow-up on workshop recommendations.

1.1.4. INDONESIA: The People's Coalition for Fisheries Justice (KIARA)

From the 3rd to the 5th of March 2019, KIARA together with Kelola Foundation and the Customary Coastal Community Forum held a Workshop of Customary Community on the Coastal and Small Islands at Perumahan Kalibata Indah, in Jakarta, Indonesia. This meeting discussed the issue of tenure rights and invited the government to implement the SSF

Guidelines. This activity was attended by Coastal Customary groups from several regions, such as Aceh, Riau, East Nusa Tenggara, West Nusa Tenggara and Maluku.

The participants explained that the deprivation of living space, legitimized by government policy, was becoming one of the important issues they faced. The rampant development of reclamation projects in 42 Indonesian coastal areas; 26 mining projects; marine conservation areas of more than 20 million hectares; expansion of large-scale tourism projects with the National Tourism Strategic Zone (KSPN) scheme; and expansion of oil palm plantations on the coast and small islands of more than 600 thousand hectares— all these are having a negative impact on coastal indigenous people who are also categorized as small-scale fisherfolk in Indonesia.

In this context, the SSF Guidelines have significance for providing protection to small-scale fishers, especially coastal indigenous communities in Indonesia.

The Workshop on Customary Community on Coastal and Small Islands resulted in a number of important recommendations, including the following:

Firstly, build an inventory of coastal customary peoples in Indonesia, as small-scale fisheries actors. To this day, the existence of coastal indigenous communities in Indonesia has not been well recorded and consolidated. KIARA noted that there are 790 coastal indigenous communities in Indonesia, but the facts in the field could be more numerous, considering that such an inventory had never been carried out by the central government.

Secondly, create an inventory of small-scale fisheries practices that have been carried out by coastal indigenous communities, along with their vast traditional wisdom. In Indonesia, various small-scale fisheries practices with their traditional wisdom are known to help safeguard marine and coastal ecosystems from damage. As a result, coastal indigenous communities have never experienced an ecological crisis or even a food crisis.

Thirdly, include human rights issues from the SSF Guidelines. Though the SSF Guidelines are sound and adequate, small-scale fisheries practices, especially in Indonesia, see many human rights violations committed by the state and business institutions. The issue of human rights is very crucial.

Fourthly, inventory various national policies that weaken the position of coastal indigenous peoples as small-scale fisheries actors.

And finally, to draw lessons from the papers commissioned by ICSF to protect and empower indigenous and local communities and their families in light of the SSF Guidelines: on how the two new pieces of legislation in Indonesia—Law No 1/2014 and Law No 7/2016— can secure the tenure rights to conserve and sustainable use marine and coastal living resources of customary, local and traditional fishing communities, as well as other resources that form the basis of their social and cultural well-being, livelihoods and sustainable development, in line

with the SSF Guidelines; and how women's rights can be strengthened to enhance fisheries governance, food security and poverty reduction.

Indonesia Studies

The paper by Dedi Adhuri, *Marine tenure rights and small-scale fisheries in Indonesia: Comparing legal context and reality* suggested that it is important to recognize the role of small-scale fisheries in national food security, poverty eradication and fisheries management. The paper stressed training government agencies and other stakeholders in responsible governance of tenure for fisheries management, also to protect small-scale fisheries from threats posed by other maritime sectors. The paper suggested reviewing legislation and policy governing marine tenure, fisheries management and the livelihoods of small-scale fishers and fishworkers towards supporting the legitimate traditional tenure systems and to strengthen the rights of fishing communities. The paper proposed establishing fishworker associations throughout Indonesia so that fishing communities are represented in decision-making processes.

Another paper by Pujo Semedi, Elok Anggraini, Runavia Mulyasari and Gaffari Rahmadian, *Women in Indonesian small-scale fisheries: Strengthening rights to enhance governance, food security and poverty reduction* sought strengthening the role of women in the governance of fisheries, food security and poverty reduction in Indonesia, in line with the SSF Guidelines. Two Javanese fishing communities, Pasongsongan and Batang on the north coast, were taken as an empirical case study in line with the SSF Guideline. Pasongsongan represents a closed corporate fishing community with limited fishing grounds, where the village's fishing business is mainly to supply the village and regional market under tight control of women fish traders, known locally as *pengamba*. Batang represents an open market fishing community with large potential for fishing grounds expansion and a growing trading network to fulfil demand in local and faraway markets. Fisheries at both sites are very market-oriented, and as a consequence actions of the communities' fishers and traders are dominated by the logic of the marketplace, viz., maximizing individual, short-term gain rather than promoting sustainability and common, long-term benefit.

The SSF Guidelines and the fishworkers' everyday practices are of two different worlds, yet it is possible to insert some of the SSF Guidelines' values to bring about desirable changes; the most strategic step is transforming fishing governance from market-driven to sustainability-oriented governance, the paper argues. This goal is to be achieved through capacity building among fishers by reactivating fisheries cooperatives and associations, with a bigger role for women on the board of management and staff, in order to enable a small-scale fishing community to run the fishery with their own capital. Maintaining that these recommendations are basically conceptual ones, the paper proposes that a series of action research and pilot projects be carried out before the SSF Guidelines can be effectively implemented in Indonesia.

1.1.5. MYANMAR: Network Activity Group (NAG)

Myanmar has a total population of about 60 million and 75 percent of the population lives in rural areas. Those in the delta and coastal areas account for about 20 million, and 40 percent of these coastal and riparian communities are directly involved in fisheries. The majority of these are poorly resourced and highly vulnerable; they are dependent on outsiders for fishing rights, and the latter also have significant control over the credit arrangements and the price offered for fish catches. With a squeeze on fishing access, there is increasing pressure on those who eventually obtain fishing rights to over-exploit fishing grounds. Natural disasters such as Cyclone Nargis and Giri had the dual effect of badly affecting coastal spawning grounds and constraining small fishers' capital base and loss of productive assets. The pressure to manage the resulting accumulation of debt has further exacerbated the weak position of small fishers relative to those who exercise primary legal rights over fishing. These broader processes act to trap the poor and vulnerable fisherfolk in a cycle of debt, dissociate them from control over their livelihoods, add unnecessary inefficiencies into the production and value chains, constrain the opportunities for value addition, and undermine sustainable management of fishing grounds. Further, the loss of fishing rights/livelihood opportunities forces the small-scale fishing communities to migrate in large numbers to work as casual labourers in Yangon and other major cities, as well as to join the marine fishing industry as fishworkers.

Activity 1 – Review the Existing Co-management Plan of Targeted Fishing Grounds and Improve the Co-management Plan, Including Species Conservation and Close Season Arrangement

The current government, spurred by the efforts of the Fisher Development Association (FDA) and the Ayeyarwaddy Region Fishery Network (ARFN), has provided access to fishing grounds for some small-scale fishing communities in the Dedaye township. The FDA has had co-management mechanisms in the concerned communities since 2013, in collaboration with community leaders. However, it was observed that the management practices were seen by the fishers as merely a mechanism to allocate access to fishing grounds to those fishers living alongside the particular fishing zones. This observation led to undertaking a series of awareness and knowledge programmes relating to fishery ecology and trends indicating resource declines over the years, which helped the FDAs and ARFNs to improve their management plans by integrating important aspects of conservation and better governance approaches into them. In order to ensure effective community participation in the management process, NAG facilitated FDAs and ARFNs to undertake a participatory review of their existing co-management by organizing a workshop which saw strong participation from representatives of all relevant fishing zones. The workshop was held at the NAG sub-office, Pyapon township, on 22nd and 23rd December 2018 for two days, with 19 participants (14 males, five female) largely from the FDAs and the ARFNs, but also including a few non-member villagers.

At the workshop, critical issues and constraints facing the implementation of the existing co-management plan were discussed by the participants, who also dwelt on the root causes of issues in brainstorming sessions. In addition, the participants were encouraged to review their existing co-management plans for each fishing zone, and the areas which needed to be developed, revised and modified were mapped out. On the second day of the workshop, a revised co-management plan was developed by taking account of the issues and actions discussed on the previous day, which included the roles of the project and the FDAs to implement a more effective fishery co-management strategy.

In December 2019, the FDA's Co-management Plan was reviewed again through the EAFM training, and provided to fisher leaders and FDA members. By reviewing the ongoing co-management plan, fisher leaders would be able to prepare for a better management system for the upcoming Inn and Tender Season.

"Inn" (leasable) fisheries are almost exclusively key fishing grounds on floodplains, primarily fished erecting barrage fences around the lease area with fish collected in various collection pens or traps. The peak season involves capturing fish migrating off the floodplain at the beginning of river draw-down. Lease holders enjoy exclusive rights to fish in their lease area, including preventing access by others and a certain degree of environmental management and control. Open (tender) fisheries are the fishing in all other areas except Inn areas. The right to fish under open fisheries is licensed out by the department of Fisheries. All fishing gears require a licence, against a fixed fee. Some of the larger gears, particularly "bag nets" set in rivers are also allocated by a tender system.

Activity 2.1 – Capacity Needs Assessments of Existing FDAs

The first day of the co-management plan review workshop (22nd December 2018) also focused on a Capacity Needs Assessment, which was intended to understand the gaps in the current capacity of the FDAs to implement fishery resource management effectively and efficiently. This exercise, undertaken with the active participation of representatives of the FDAs, indicated that the FDA members had good indigenous knowledge of how to manage and conserve local fishery resources. The existing customary practices were also supportive in solving the local-level fishery related issues. However, in order to follow the new fishery co-management plans more effectively, they still face a lot of challenges which need to be addressed, such as the need for better coordination with government agencies, more efficient financial management and organizational development, and documenting the process.

The Capacity Needs Assessment showed that the following areas need to be supported:

- fishery ecology and mangrove habitats
- co-management and resource governance
- value chain and post-harvest fisheries
- SME and business planning
- small-scale aquaculture

- patrolling and bio-monitoring
- leadership and organizational management
- documenting and reporting
- advocacy training
- financial management

Activity 2.2 – Capacity Building Training for FDAs

Based on the results of the Capacity Need Assessment, NAG undertook co-management training which included bio-monitoring aspects of select members of the FDAs on 24th December 2018 at the NAG sub-office in Pyapon, providing information on relevant issues such as types of resources, trends in climate change, root causes of resource decline, impacts of the decline in fishery resources for human well-being, and the appropriate systems and approaches to address resource depletion. In addition, Ecosystem Approach of Fishery Management (EAFM) training was provided to fisher leaders of the targeted area—FDAs and ARFM members—from 24th to 26th December for three days in Pathein township. The total number of participants for this training was 26 (18 were male, and eight were female).

The co-management and EAFM training activities were instrumental in making fisher communities better aware of the key themes of resource management, in understanding the respective roles and responsibilities of the fishing communities and the government agencies in managing the fishery resources, and in developing the crucial step-by-step actions required to implement the fishery co-management plan at different levels. As their interest in resource conservation improved, fishing communities of the targeted area prepared a proposal for mangrove conservation and submitted it to the project team in December 2019.

Activity 2.3 – Support for Community to Develop a Fisheries Management Plan, Awareness-raising and Enforcement for Improving Co-management Arrangement and Species Conservation

In order for fishery communities to clearly understand the concepts and strategies of co-management and to implement co-management activities more effectively at the community level, regular cluster meetings were conducted. Cluster management committee members, community fishers, township-level FDA members, ARFN representatives from Pyapon and village administrators participated in the meeting. The meeting was aimed to explain the implementation of management plans to all community fishers and members, to draw up the community base co-management plan, and to foster a close relationship and collaboration between members of the cluster committee and those from FDA and ARFN.

In addition, the SSF Guidelines implementation project facilitated FDAs and ARFNs to undertake a participatory review of their existing co-management by organizing training which had strong participation from the fisheries representatives of targeted co-management zones. The training was organized at KMSS Center, Pathein township from 16th to 18th June

2019 for three days, including one day for a field visit, with 32 participants (27 males, five female) largely from the FDAs and cluster leaders of the co-management zone.

By organizing the Co-management Cluster Meeting, committee leaders presented the challenges and difficulties in implementing the co-management system. The cluster co-management plans and monthly work plans developed from the meetings were submitted to the Department of Fisheries. Moreover, the existing duties and responsibilities of committee members were reviewed and updated for further implementation.

At the end of a participatory review of their existing co-management, the Training of Trainers (ToT) received participants and developed a trip plan and agenda for a mobile awareness raising programme in their respective areas in collaboration with Capacity Building Coordinators. At the meeting, TOTs shared their gained knowledge of resources management, including the root cause of resource decline, impact on their socio-economic condition, and the importance of fishery co-management to the fishing communities, reviewing their existing management plan.

Activity 3 – Study on Working Conditions of Fishers and Fishworkers in Kyar Phong fishery

A study of Kyar Phong Fishery was conducted at the end of the Kyar Phong season during 7th-10th May 2019 in the Pyapon township of the Ayeyarwaddy region and 14th-15th May 2019 in the Yay township of Mon state. The study aimed to: (1) understand Kyar Phong fishery in Pyapon and Yay townships; (2) propose how the environmental, social and economic dimensions of this fishery could be enhanced to optimise benefits, including the well-being of migrant fishers and fish workers; and (3) suggest a co-management framework in relation to fisheries, informal work and safety at sea, in a coordinated and coherent manner, drawing upon international instruments such as the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, FAO's Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGT), and ILO instruments in relation to decent work.

The key findings from Kyar Phong fishery survey are: Firstly, Kyar Phong workers cannot overcome the influences of owners and agents because they are mainly dependent on the advance income and bonus from owners. As the education level of Kyar phong workers are significantly low, they are primarily depending on their traditional livelihood by investing their lives, blood and sweat, and this is one of the reasons for their exploitation by owners. Secondly, labour shortage (especially in terms of skilled labour) has been an important problem facing Kyar Phong owners, and the main supply chain was to rely on agents in order to get labour in time before starting the fishing season. Finally, both Kyar Phong workers and owners are aware of the problems facing the work place that Kyar Phong fishers suffer from dangerous working conditions (both in terms of the workplace and natural disasters) and that these conditions threaten the future of Kyar Phong fishery.

More associations are required in Kyar Phong fishery towards improving dialogue between employers and workers and to solve their problems. Moreover, related government departments are to support the formation of these associations.

Activity 4 – Media Engagement and Awareness Activities Related to Working Conditions of Fishworkers

A session of media training was conducted by an external consultant and journalist for three days, from 10th to 13th June 2019 in Patheingyi township, Myanmar. The total number of participants was 19 (17 were male, two female) from ARFN and FDA. The participants learned that the role of media is mainly to inform the public, convey information from the government to the public and vice versa, to seek the truth and report it accurately, and be the voice of the voiceless.

The NAG team also organized the Research Results Sharing workshop on 23rd December at the same venue. Fisher leaders from the targeted project area, FDAs and ARFN members were invited and there were 29 participants (25 were male, and four female).

The media training improved the understanding of fisher leaders. The training was supportive of fisher communities by collecting the real stories of the fishing sector, covering socio-economic conditions and environmental issues, and creating reliable articles for the local newspaper.

Through the sharing of the research results, the fishing communities improved their understanding of the working conditions of Kyar Phong fishermen and the impact of the new fishery policies in the Ayeyarwady region. It increased their interest in working in resource management and encouraged them to follow fishery laws.

Activity 5 – Strengthen the Capacity of the FDA and ARFN for Handling the Issues related to Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change training focusing on safety and security at sea was provided to fisher leaders of the targeted area. The training was provided at the NAG Headquarters from 29th to 30th April 2019 with the purpose of: (1) enhancing their knowledge of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction; (2) building technical capacity and skills; (3) catalyzing the implementation of village plans of action for disaster risk reduction and management at the community level; and (4) understanding the concepts of security and safety in fishing at sea.

An advocacy Training was provided to fishery leaders of the targeted project area and FDA members by an external consultant at the FDA office of Pyawbwe township from 16th to 18th December 2019. Participants were encouraged to identify key issues facing fishery sectors, including Kyar Phong fishworker conditions, poor law enforcement, and IUU fishing. There was a total of 25 participants (16 were male, nine female).

Through the advocacy training, the proper strategies to address each issue at different levels were supported through different types of sharing approaches such as brainstorming and PowerPoint presentations. The participants improved their understanding of how to use advocacy to access their rights and campaign for better law enforcement systems.

1.1.6. THE PHILIPPINES: Tambuyog Development Center

Since the 1990s, some strides have been made to improve the fisheries sector, such as community-based coastal resource management programmes implemented by civil society organizations that work in partnership with fishing communities. This strategy was deployed to address one of the major issues during this period: the declining catches due to overfishing and degradation of coastal and marine resources. At the national level, revision of the Fisheries Code was lobbied. The proposed Fisheries Code looks at fisheries as resource that needs to be managed in a sustainable manner.

The Philippines was one of many countries consulted in the development of SSF Guidelines. During this consultation, several relevant issues were raised: small-scale fisherfolk in the country have been the “poorest of the poor” and use sustainable technologies, but have no security of tenure and are vulnerable to resource use conflict.

With the introduction of the SSF Guidelines, some notable and positive changes are taking place. The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), the main agency mandated to provide assistance to the fisheries sector, has been implementing programmes that contribute to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. Among them are national registration programmes such as FishR, developed for municipal fisherfolk and BoatR, for fishing vessels and fishing gear. These registrations are important in enabling the environment and supporting SSF Guidelines implementation.

BFAR also allocated funds for the establishment of Community Fish Landing Centers (CFLCs), which are hubs for fish landing and auction; venues for skill development and training in post-harvest resource management and value-addition; and economic growth centers for marketing. However, the programme is experiencing a setback with the lack of available lands where CFLCs can be constructed. BFAR aims to address this problem by allocating a budget for land purchase.

Tambuyog Development Center (TDC) was established in 1984, with the goal of integration of fishery resource governance and social enterprise development to increase bargaining power and reduce poverty among small fishers towards the sustainable development of the fishing industry. It keeps a healthy and dynamic engagement with BFAR and other agencies, including like-minded civil society groups, to pursue the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. At the community level, Tambuyog’s commitment continues to be a conduit for implementing SSF Guidelines and its partner fisherfolk organizations and network.

Activity 1. Compilation and Review of Major Policies and Laws Governing the Small-scale Fisheries Sub-sector in the Philippines

A review of all major policies and laws was conducted by Mario Maderazo, a former board member of TDC. As a lawyer, he is well-versed with the Philippines' laws and policies. He reviewed legal provisions such as those outlined in the Fisheries Code, Water Code, Local Government Code, and, finally, the Philippine Constitution. The latter provides the overall framework on the use of water and fishery resources, giving preference to small-scale fishworkers.

Activity 2. Benchmarking of the Philippines' Policies and Laws Governing Small-scale Fisheries as per the SSF Guidelines

Maderazo started by tabulating all laws, policies and programmes. Mindful of the SSF Guidelines, he also researched literature and reading materials in the Philippines and outside the country, regarding the dynamics of sustainable fisheries linked to what resources are used. In his presentations, he focused on the Philippines' context and zoomed in on laws of municipal fishing and other activities and work in the coastal areas.

Participants were able to discuss SSF Guidelines and decide whether or not these laws and policies are aligned with them; if not, participants were able to recommend steps or actions that can be taken.

Activity 3: Consultation with Major Stakeholders on Identifying Challenges to Participation in Food Security and Poverty Eradication

Three cluster consultations were held in a) Mindanao, September 2018; b) Luzon, March 2019; and c) Visayas, May 2019. Issues or challenges were aired by stakeholders.

One of the issues with the CFLCs, is that they were envisioned to reduce post-harvest losses as well as create venues for training in disaster-resilient, fisheries-based livelihoods and resource management such as monitoring fish catch and stock assessment. However, CFLCs are not yet fully implemented to benefit the fisherfolk and help improve their social and economic situation.

The consultation workshops with stakeholders for Luzon and Visayas came up with the following common strategies; on governance of tenure and resource management – enforcement of the amended Fisheries Code, or RA 10654, i.e., fisherfolk settlement; on social development and decent work—organization and professionalization of small-scale fisherfolk and fishworkers; on value chains, post-harvest and trade – ensure women are represented; and on disaster risks and climate change—ensure the law recognizes and implements climate change provisions. For Mindanao, the specific issues of the tuna industry and tuna handliners are related to the SSF Guidelines. One of the resolutions is the representation of handliners to the National Tuna Industry Council. Developing strategies is an ongoing task, as it does take time to lobby and make changes to existing systems and

practices, especially if it involves full implementation of the laws. However, with the devolution of power, changing how things work can begin at the local level through Local Government Units (LGUs).

Activity 4: Consultation Workshops with Government Agencies on Mainstreaming of the SSF Guidelines Towards Greater Participation of Small-scale Fisherfolk in Food Security and Poverty Eradication

The Sagip Saka Act of 2019—to institute the farmers and fisherfolk enterprise development programme—has a comprehensive set of objectives and targets, and a holistic approach in promoting the establishment of enterprise for agricultural and fishery products. NAPC-AFSC Resolution No 7 called on the BFAR and DA to provide support to the development and implementation of social/conservation enterprises on November 19th, 2019. This was the product of a series of dialogues between the NGO network and BFAR-DA on issues related to the SSF Guidelines. Enterprises will help small-scale fisherfolk off-season or when natural disasters strike.

Activity 5: Capacity Building for National and Local Implementers of the SSF Guidelines

One of BFAR's contribution to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines is through the provision of training on guidelines at the national level, to agencies within and outside its ranks. This training is then echoed at the regional and local level. TDC also continues to echo the SSF Guidelines to its partner fisherfolk organizations located in the major fishing grounds of Tayabas Bay, Visayan Sea, Tañon Strait, Lagonoy Gulf and Mindoro Strait.

Activity 6: Identify Strategies for Advocacy and Implementation of the SSF Guidelines at the National Level

There should be continuing dialogues on the adoption of the SSF Guidelines, within the CBCRM framework by all agencies for policy and programmes. Likewise, there should be lobbying for policy coherence and collaboration between government agencies and within each agency from national to local levels.

Both stakeholders and government agencies agreed that the SSF Guidelines are recognized and supported by existing laws, policies and programmes, but these are either not fully enforced, or not uniformly implemented. This is also a continuing process that requires regular and concurrent monitoring.

TDC applies the SSF Guidelines at its project sites through its support of partner fisherfolk organizations in their engagement with government agencies; in the work they do to protect and conserve natural resources; in ensuring women's roles are recognized and that women leaders are represented in co-management bodies, helping them demand their tenurial rights. Printed materials were distributed to key government agencies and fisherfolk organizations, including slide presentations on the SSF Guidelines.

Tambuyog's partners, through this project, are better equipped to actively participate and engage in local processes, so as to contribute to securing sustainable small-scale fisheries. However, Tambuyog's guidance—through mentoring and capacity-building—is still required. Building their capacity and confidence as well as developing their mindset, so as to extend beyond their stock knowledge and practices, is a continuing task. TDC has undertaken another review of partners' capacities towards improving their organizational strength to become fully functional, not only as an association but also as an enterprise to improve their livelihood through sustainable fishing. Engagement with government agencies and achieving desired result/s cannot be hurried, but TDC noted that it had seen that it should keep the dialogue open and active.

There were no major changes in the implementation except that it took a little longer than planned. Meetings, consultations and FGDs continued beyond the project term. The Mindanao cluster consultation was handled differently from the consultation in Luzon and Visayas. You will note that instead of voting on whether or not the SSF Guidelines are reflected in existing laws and policies, Mindanao, which was attended mostly by tuna handline fishers, came out directly with resolutions like compliance review and implementation of the Handline Law to exempt tuna handliners from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), as per Department Administration Order (DAO) 156-16. Through the review and benchmarking of Philippine laws, policies and programmes against the SSF Guidelines, Tambuyog, government and partner fishers' groups have identified areas of convergence and divergence. The consultations and FGDs resulted in the common conclusion that the SSF sector is recognized and supported by existing laws, policies and programmes. Specific provisions and a broad policy framework capture the peculiarities of SSF that can be found in the following: the 1987 Constitution, the Fisheries Code as amended and the Local Government Code of 1991.

However, a holistic approach to fisheries management is difficult at the local level due to the following factors: (1) overlapping roles of agencies hamper effective and coherent resource management. For example, mangrove forests, sea-grass beds and coral reefs (fish habitat) are under the DENR jurisdiction while fish stocks are under the DA-BFAR jurisdiction. (2) DA-BFAR and DENR, the two agencies with major roles in small scale fisheries, are both devolved to the LGUs. Within the Municipal LGU, the representative of DA-BFAR is the Fisheries Technician, while the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer is the DENR's representative. Unfortunately, not all MLGUs have these two technicians on their personnel rosters; and (3) there is a lack of consolidation of local development plans, specifically the Municipal Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs), Barangay Development Plans (BDPs) and Provincial Development Plans (PDPs) as well as the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plans (ADSDPP). Fisheries Management Plans are currently missing in most Local Development Plans.

Identification of the above difficulties is an achievement as it is an opportunity to map out what can be done to eliminate or decrease these hindrances. Therefore, this is a step forward for mainstreaming the SSF Guidelines.

1.1.7. SRI LANKA: Sri Lanka Forum for Small-Scale Fisheries (SLFSSF)

Small-scale fisheries (SSF) in Sri Lanka, and elsewhere, deserve attention not only because the sector is confronted with issues such as poverty, food insecurity, resource over-exploitation, etc., but also for the opportunities it provides in terms of addressing important economic, social and environmental concerns that exist beyond the sector; such as providing safe and nutritious food, employment, strengthening the economy while maintaining the health of the ecosystem. It is now well-known that SSF is not just about catching and selling fish. It represents a cultural heritage, a way of life, with its own values, customs and traditions, giving meaning and identity to the lives of those who are engaged in it. However, the sector has come under an array of threats in the recent past; increased fishing pressure, use of environmentally unfriendly gear, resource degradation, multi-stakeholder issues in the coastal zone, poor enforcement of laws, ineffective governance and management, and, more recently, the adverse impacts of climate change. All these have had varying impacts on both the ecosystem and human system, finally threatening the sustainability of the resources and the wellbeing of the people who are dependent on SSF.

The SSF Guidelines capture the inherent features of small-scale fisheries by addressing the most compelling issues in SSF Guidelines, especially the need to recognize the rights of fishing people and to make the process of fisheries management participatory, inclusive, integrated and holistic with special concern regarding women and marginalized populations. Yet, efforts made towards sustainable small-scale fisheries, especially by adopting the relevant SSF Guidelines, would be futile unless they are incorporated into a country's policy making and planning process.

The policy making process has made some headway in Sri Lanka, where, with assistance provided by the Norwegian Government, the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development (MFARD) in 2018 prepared a white paper on the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy (NFAP), which was approved by the Cabinet. The 2018 policy has incorporated some areas of the SSF Guidelines, although the policy still appears to be quite deficient in addressing a number of compelling needs of the small-scale fisheries sector.

1.1.7.1 A sensitization workshop for state actors

The Workshop participants included key officials of the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Ceylon Fisheries Corporation, Ceylon Fisheries Harbour Corporation, National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA), National Aquaculture Development Authority, Coast Conservation Department, Coast Guard, Department of Forest Conservation, Department of Wildlife, Department of Agriculture, Central Environmental Authority and Tourism Development Authority. The SSF Guidelines were presented in this workshop, discussed and major areas of concern were identified.

1.1.7.2 Development of communication tools for community stakeholders

A number of documents were prepared in local languages (Sinhalese and Tamil) to be distributed among fishing communities, which included the following SSF Guidelines document translated to Sinhalese and Tamil: a) a simplified version of the SSF Guidelines in the local languages, b) twelve fact sheets, giving the key messages of the SSF Guidelines; and c) posters to be displayed in community halls, etc., giving key messages.

1.1.7.3 Stakeholder meetings held in various parts of the country

The stakeholder meetings were held with the participation of fisheries community members and state actors from twelve coastal districts of the country: Galle, Matara, Hambantota, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Mullativu, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Puttlam, Chilaw, and Negombo. Discussions were held on the relevance of the Guidelines, priority areas of concern and issues associated with implementing them. There was also an assessment of current policy to identify changes required in the context of implementing the SSF Guidelines, through a group of policy experts. The policy implications emerging from stakeholder meetings and discussions formed the basis of a final workshop to finalize policy statements and propose changes to National Policy.

The focus group discussions (FGDs) at stakeholder workshops included detailed discussions of a selected topic. The major themes had been selected earlier but the discussants had a great degree of freedom in expressing their views. Since all FGDs had the same themes, a generalization of results could be managed with a good degree of precision. Fisher stakeholders (both men and women) were selected with the help of the Assistant Directors of Fisheries in respective districts and with the help of National Fisheries Solidarity Organization (NAFSO), a CSO which is also a member of the SLFSSF. Each FGD had about 28 men, 18 women and 10-12 state actors participating, representing diverse institutions with interests in the coastal zone. Several key areas of the SSF Guidelines were selected for discussions based on a number of past studies, discussions and deliberations held with experts (SLFSSF), and the State Actor workshop held on 28th September 2019. In fact, the key areas so identified included almost all the key principles of the SSF Guidelines. From the initial sensitization workshop, it was quite evident that all participants agreed on the relevance of the SSF Guidelines for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries in Sri Lanka. Discussions were held around the following themes, which were found to be the most relevant in the Sri Lankan context: tenure rights; sustainable resource management; fish value chain; food security, food safety and nutrition; social development; occupational health and safety; social protection and fisheries insurance; disaster risk and climate change; capacity development; gender in fisheries; and empowering community organizations.

Additionally, the process of stakeholder consultations around the country revealed a number of important areas which had evaded their attention during the earlier consultation process or which had not received the sufficient attention of policymakers in preparing the 2018 policy. The following sections present a summary of such ‘missing links’ in the policy, proposed for

incorporation into the national policy towards addressing the issues of the small-scale fisheries sector of Sri Lanka.

1.1.7.4 Tenure Rights

Tenure rights of small-scale fisheries have been addressed in Section 4.5 of the NFAP by stating ‘Respect the tenure rights of the traditional, migrant, subsistence and artisanal fishing communities to land, water and fish resources. While this is in line with section 5.3 of the SSF Guidelines, it was revealed in the discussions that there is a diversity of tenure ‘rights’ as perceived by fishers: rights that they hold and enjoy, rights that they think they have but do not enjoy and rights that they do not have and want to have and enjoy. Of the three, the former two were of importance because they were the rights the fishers thought that they had and were quite clear about them. While fishers were of the view that they enjoyed the rights to the beach, the waters (inland and marine) and the fish resources, they complained that these rights are violated by other stakeholders, especially by powerful tourism interests. The widespread acquisition of beach areas by tourism stakeholders have resulted in loss of anchorage sites, beach seining sites, space available for craft and gear repair and fish processing, etc. It was also revealed that the rights of small-scale fishers to coastal fish resources have been violated as well; by large-scale mechanized craft and gear which took away resources which were traditionally exploited by the small-scale and artisanal fishers. There were also concerns about rights that fishers do not possess at present, but want to possess and enjoy. These included access to and use of mangrove forest, land adjoining beaches (forest and for craft anchorage), right to construct more permanent huts on the beach, to keep/store fishing gear, etc. These resources were under the control of non-fisheries institutions such as the Department of Forest Conservation, Department of Wildlife, etc., which did not really coordinate their activities with the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

It was suggested during FGDs to respect the legitimate, especially ‘traditional and customary rights of small-scale fishers’ (section 5.4 of the SSF Guidelines). Moreover, it was also revealed that rights cannot be defined unless boundaries are known (beach, lagoon, fish resources, etc.). Thus, the need for zonation of the coastal zone was also noted (5.6 and 5.7 of the SSF Guidelines).

1.1.7.5 Sustainable Resource Management

A number of quite important policy strategies with respect to resource management are laid down in the NFAP, with major emphasis on the adoption of precautionary and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, prevention of overcapacity and IUU fishing, promotion of co-governance, and compliance with international treaties, etc.

What received concern at the FGDs were some of the missing links on management and control. It was revealed that although an array of laws and regulations govern the process of coastal zone management including fisheries, a proper monitoring, control and surveillance

mechanism was absent. Moreover, the need to decentralize management decisions to district level with the involvement of local government actors was also highlighted.

Another quite interesting fact that emerged from the discussions was the need to treat the coastal zone as one ecosystem used by multiple stakeholders and to ensure that all relevant stakeholders are involved in the process of management decision making at all levels; including youth, women, differently abled and marginalized groups. The need for cross-sectoral collaboration and institutional coordination in managing the coastal zone resource use was also an important concern in this regard. It was agreed that management approaches will have to be holistic, integrated, inclusive, and participatory. However, for such efforts to succeed it was agreed that discrepancies among mandates of different institutions need to be minimized. Therefore, it was proposed that the State should intervene to minimize overlapping policies and mandates among institutions responsible for coastal resources development conservation and management. Discussions also revealed the need to promote demarcation of boundaries of ecosystems in the coastal zone when boundaries of diverse subsystems are not clear: lagoons, mangroves, reserves, forests, etc. and, difficulties encountered in managing coastal resources.

1.1.7.6 Value Chains, Post-Harvest and Trade

The NFAP has taken into consideration the relevant aspects of the pre-harvest, harvest and post-harvest sectors of the fish value chain to a significant extent. One of the important missing links in the pre-harvest sector or ‘preparatory phase’ was the absence of provisions for spatial planning to allow for allocation of space for different fisheries-related activities on the coast: craft anchorage, equipment storage, fish drying, etc. and shore facilities to engage in such activities. The issue of post-harvest losses was discussed at length and the need for provision of facilities for scientific fish handling and storage at landing sites towards reducing post-harvest losses at the landing site level was highlighted. Moreover, promotion of the development of technology for post-harvest value addition and minimizing post-harvest losses were also proposed to be incorporated into the present policy. Economic and political power wielded by fish merchants and their oligopsonistic fish buying practices (where producer prices are pushed down through collusion among merchants) was highlighted as a deterrent to achieve fair producer prices.

Thus, intervention in fish marketing and increasing the competition among fish merchants towards ensuring a fair price to fish producers were proposed. As a further means of increased competition in the market, the promotion of the entry of community organizations into fish marketing was also suggested. To profit from emerging opportunities in the export market, it was also proposed to provide fishing communities with access to information on fish export market and also to establish export market links.

It was pointed out that unregulated trade has resulted in the export of even small fish varieties which were important for the nutrition of poorer groups in the rural and estate sector. Therefore, a policy statement was suggested towards incorporation by the government;

stating that the government would regulate foreign trade to ensure that food security and nutrition of the people are not threatened by international trade in fish and fish products.

1.1.7.7 Occupational Health and Safety

The focus of the NFAP regarding occupational safety and health has mainly been on ensuring safe, healthy and fair working conditions at sea and on land, in accordance with international standards and promotion of the establishment of insurance schemes concerning safety at sea and occupational safety.

Discussions revealed fishers' lack of concern for safety at sea. It was agreed that there is a need to build awareness among fishers on the importance of adopting sea safety measures. Concerns were also expressed about the lack of economic access to safety equipment due to their high prices. It was therefore decided that a policy statement would be incorporated saying that the government would assist fishers with the acquisition of safety equipment.

Apart from on-board safety equipment, concerns were expressed regarding the need to make landing sites and equipment safe for navigation.

1.1.8 THAILAND: Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF)

The SSF Guidelines implementation project aimed at strengthening the capacity of small fisherfolk in Thailand in managing marine and coastal resources in a sustainable manner. It was conducted between July 2018 and April 2019.

Activity 1: A National Workshop of Fisherfolk in Thailand Conducted on 17th-18th December 2018, to Strengthen the Capacity of Local Organizations to Implement the SSF Guidelines

The Workshop enabled participants to share their experiences and issues in SSF pertaining to: (i) the rights and roles of small-scale fisherfolk in laws and policies; (ii) the blue economy, large-scale projects and public space on the coast; (iii) the problems concerning coastal residence and infrastructure in SSF communities; (iv) conservation of juveniles and breeders; (v) recovery and conservation of marine living resources by small-scale fisherfolk communities; (vi) management of high-quality post-harvest fisheries products and food safety standards; (vii) use of renewable energy in small-scale fisherfolk communities; (viii) adaptation of coastal communities to climate change; (ix) the role of small-scale women fisherfolk. A side event at the Workshop for boat registration and fishing registration was organized. Importantly, the registration process helped with the participatory mapping of data on Thai small-scale fisherfolk from 19 provinces.

The Workshop was attended by 337 participants, including 267 small-scale fishers (178 men and 89 women from 19 provinces), and representatives from the Fisheries Department, the Irrigation Department, and NGO and media groups.

Activity 2: Preparation of Advocacy Materials on a Human Rights-based Approach and Rights Violation in Phetchaburi and Trat Provinces, with a Special Emphasis on Women

The second activity was to facilitate the participation of coastal fisherfolk in ecosystem-based fisheries management in the provinces of Phetchaburi and Trat. This was managed through lobbying at the government-level to address problems of small-scale fisherfolk in relation to the violation of their rights and the fishery working group of the National Farmers' Council. With reference to the confiscated boats, most of them have been released except those using illegal fishing gear. Of four families in Trat that participated in the alternative livelihoods project, three have moved to more sustainable fishing methods and one has changed its livelihood. Those who had been using illegal gear are slowly moving towards alternative livelihoods. Advocacy work included 3000 books on the SSF Guidelines that were printed and distributed in Phetchaburi in Trat.

Activity 3: Developing an ecosystem-based fisheries management plan in Bang Taboon Bay, Phetchaburi and Trat

An ecosystem-based plan was formulated through a multi-stakeholder participatory process involving capacity building, awareness raising, knowledge management and networking in Bang Taboon Bay. The field-level project facilitated the participation of coastal fisherfolk in ecosystem-based fisheries management in Phetchaburi and Trat provinces. This helped community leaders in using the information to address problems. In Trat, capacity building helped women in Lam Klad, Cham Rak, Mai Rood and Nong Kan Song sub-districts to learn and voice opinions on natural resource management at various levels. Four women representatives from Mai Rood sub-district and one from Hard Leksub-district were given the opportunity to advocate for small-scale fisherfolk rights. A study on debts involving 20 women fisherfolk helped in developing a clear approach to working with women to address economic issues. Progress reports and natural resource management plans for the two areas (in Thai), as well as progress report on gender mainstreaming were prepared.

1.1.9 VIETNAM: Centre for Marinelife Conservation and Community Development (MCD)

The National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam passed the Fisheries Law on November 21st, 2017, and the Decree No 26/2019/ND-CP dated March 8th, 2019 has been in effect since April 25th, 2019. With the help of these legislation, Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) has been promoting co-management and an ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM) to strengthen and protect Vietnam's fishery resources and reduce illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities throughout the country. Article 10 in Section 1, Chapter II of the Decree, has regulations for co-management in the protection of fishery resources.

IUU fishing is detrimental to Vietnam’s small-scale fishers as well as the health of marine environment for reasons such as destructive fishing methods (i.e., trawling) and overfishing which depletes fish stocks or destroys other coastal marine resources such as coral reefs. While these activities are prohibited by law, IUU fishing is still prevalent. Co-management is a strategic solution that will reduce the decline in coastal marine resources, promote sustainable development, protect the interests and rights of communities, through the sharing of governing power and responsibilities of a specified geographical area between the State and community. It would, in the process, help Vietnam to be moved out of the European Commission’s list of “yellow-card” countries.

EAFM strengthens the co-management approach by integrating management of ecological wellbeing, human wellbeing, and good governance into decision-making processes to promote conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. As a result, human development activities can continue in a way that ensures the protection of ecosystem stability and integrity. By protecting fishery resources with co-management and EAFM, these resources will be able to remain productive, rather than deplete from overexploitation. The objective of these project activities was to ensure that small-scale fishing communities are better informed about co-managing local aquatic and coastal ecosystems and the benefits of community-based management control systems (MCS) to deter, prevent, and eliminate IUU fishing practices.

Activity 1: Awareness-Raising Workshop in the Central Coastal region for Local Government and Small-scale Fishing Communities on Co-management and Combating IUU Fishing in Light of the Amended Fisheries Law of Vietnam

This awareness-raising workshop took place in Quy Nhon City, Binh Dinh Province on September 28th, 2018, co-organized by MCD and Sub-Department of Fisheries in Binh Dinh. It was an opportunity for the local government and small-scale fishing communities to learn about and discuss co-management and combating IUU fishing in light of the amended Fisheries Law, as well as propose recommendations for improvements. A group of 47 participants (39 men and 8 women); two national speakers/policy makers from D-Fish; and four local speakers from Binh Dinh, Thua Thien Hue, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai provinces, were all engaged in workshop discussions. These discussions produced four recommendations to combat IUU and strengthen co-management in protection of fisheries resources in small-scale fisheries in Binh Dinh.

The recommendations are: (i) awareness raising about IUU reduction, (ii) livelihood development and alternative employment for fishers, (iii) enforcement of co-management regulations, strengthening capacity of community groups in sustainable fishery practices, and (iv) monitoring improvements by strengthening the surveillance system, traceability, and certification of products—all in accordance with regulations.

Activity 2: National Policy Workshop to Develop an Action Plan for Combating IUU Fishing in Small-scale Fisheries through Co-management

The National Consultation on the Development of an Action Plan for the Co-Management and Protection of Fishery Resources and Reduction of Illegal Fishing, organized by the Vietnam Directorate of Fisheries (D-Fish) and MCD, took place on May 31st, 2019.

Representatives from stakeholder groups gathered to create a draft action plan to promote the protection of fishery resources and reduce IUU fishing in small-scale fisheries through co-management.

A change in the project timeline of the national workshop on the co-management action plan took place to accommodate updates to Decree No. 26 made in April 2019. The national policy workshop was thus moved to the end of May 2019, in the partnership with D-fish. A group of 57 representatives (31 men and 26 women) from the national government (D-Fish), MARD, Departments of Fisheries from 12 provinces throughout the country, fisheries associations, national and international organizations, research institutes, and fisheries experts all participated in the workshop. Additionally, two national fisheries managers, one professional expert, and three stakeholders from areas including Binh Dinh, Binh Thuan, and Cu Lao Cham MPA/Quang Nam provinces shared their technical expertise and/or experience with co-management.

Participants collaborated to draft the Co-Management Action Plan for the Protection of Fishery Resources and Reduction of Illegal Fishing with the general objectives to strengthen management capacity, mobilize participation of stakeholders in fisheries management and the protection of fishery resources. The draft also outlines specific objectives before the year 2030 such as 70 percent of the coastal fishing communities having access to information about fishery resource co-management and 50 percent of coastal provinces having plans for fishery resources that include co-management programmes. Participants at the workshops proposed many recommendations for the continued improvement of co-management efforts and the Co-Management Action Plan. These recommendations included: mobilization of human resources (increase participation and develop capacity of community members); provision of viable livelihood alternatives for fishers; specific, actionable objectives with timelines and budgets; comprehensive solutions that focus on fisheries science and technology; implementing policies that encourage fishers to use selective, environment-friendly fishing techniques; encouraging private companies and businesses to join in co-management; strengthening national and international collaboration; improved monitoring and investigations; and development of localized action plans by fishing community organizations.

1.2 GLOBAL AWARENESS-RAISING PRODUCTS: ANIMATION VIDEOS

Global awareness-raising products in the form of four animation videos illustrating chapters of the SSF Guidelines were scripted, story-boarded, illustrated and finalized during the

reporting period. ICSF contracted TWO Design, based in Pune, India, to conceptualize and produce the videos.

Produced through consultation with fishworkers and ICSF members, the videos illustrate four SSF Guidelines chapters: governance of tenure in small-scale fisheries and resource management (Chapter 5); social development, employment and decent work (Chapter 6); value chains, post-harvest and trade (Chapter 7); and disaster risks and climate change (Chapter 9). They are aimed at a range of stakeholders – fishworkers and their organizations, governments, fisheries managers, civil society and researchers – to raise awareness about the SSF Guidelines and to enable users to adapt them to their national and local contexts.

1.2.1 Governance of Tenure and Resource Management

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uOQ8F4LVyh0&feature=youtu.be>

The term ‘tenure’ refers to how rights to natural resources such as land, lakes, rivers, coasts and forests are assigned within societies. For a fishery to be sustainable, it is important to ensure that the fish and the ecosystem are kept healthy and resilient. All who depend on fish for food and livelihood have a responsibility. Small-scale fishers are important stewards of the resource. They need secure and stable access to fishing grounds. They also need access to land so they can bring fish ashore, have a place to process fish, and have a place to live. The SSF Guidelines give recommendations on responsible governance of tenure and sustainable resource management. This short, animated video gives insights into governance of tenure and resource management in small-scale fisheries in the context of developing countries.

1.2.2 Social Development, Employment and Decent Work

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2kditb6-y4&feature=youtu.be>

Many small-scale fishing communities around the world lack access to basic services such as drinking water and housing, but also to education and health services. Most jobs in this sector are informal, the earnings are often unstable, and the workplace can be unsafe. For the rights of fishers and fish workers to be recognized, it is key that fishers and fish workers are consulted in decision affecting them. Everyone should be able to work under decent and gainful conditions. This includes migrant workers. Forced labour, violence and debt bondage must end. The SSF Guidelines call for social and economic development of small-scale fishing communities. This video gives insights into issues of social development, employment and decent work in small-scale fisheries.

1.2.3 Value Chains, Post-Harvest and Trade: Animated Video on SSF Guidelines

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYZJAVTJC7o>

Small-scale fisheries value chains include all activities from catch to plate: to make fishing gear, catch fish, sort, clean and process fish, transport, market, sell, buy and consume fish (and seafood). The importance of small-scale fisheries value chains – and the women and men engaged in them – are often not fully recognized in policies and decision-making. The SSF Guidelines call for all parts of the value chain to be recognized and for the people working in the value chains to be involved in making decisions concerning them. They call for fish trade to be fair, and for investments to be made so that safe, good quality fish products reach consumers. This short, animated video gives insights into value chains, post-harvest and trade in small-scale fisheries.

1.2.4 Disaster Risk and Climate Change

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYZJAVTJC7o>

<https://vimeo.com/39214507356>

Small-scale fishing communities are often some of the most vulnerable communities in terms of disaster risks and climate change. This short, animated video shows the impact of this on small-scale fisheries – and what can be done. One of the goals of the SSF Guidelines is to call on states and other actors to take urgent and ambitious action to mitigate disaster risks and climate change impacting small-scale fisheries.

1.2.5 CYCLONE OCKHI STUDY, WORKSHOP REPORT AND FILM (2017-2018)

In the aftermath of Cyclone Ockhi, which killed over 350 fishers in southern India in November 2017, ICSF Trust, supported by 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, consistent with the SSF Guidelines. The report was authored by Manas Roshan. 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.

1.2.5.1 Cyclone Ockhi Study: Disaster Risk Management and Sea Safety in the Indian Marine Fisheries Sector

<http://www.fao.org/3/ca2904en/CA2904EN.pdf>

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. 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.

1.2.5.2 Workshop on Cyclone Ockhi

<https://www.icsf.net/en/proceedings.html>

A National Workshop on “Small-Scale Fisheries, Cyclone Ockhi and Disaster Risk Management” was held on 28 and 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.

Report of the National Workshop on Small-scale Fisheries, Cyclone Ockhi and Disaster Risk Management 29 to 30 May, 2018, Kerala, India Report

is available at:

<http://www.fao.org/3/ca3205en/CA3205EN.pdf>

1.2.5.3 Film: In Ockhi's Wake: Disaster Preparedness at Sea

https://www.icsf.net/images/videos/ockhis_wake.mp4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=URs65mrbzxU>

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.)

The need for early warning systems to mitigate local level impacts caused by natural disasters like Cyclone Ockhi and for effective risk reduction strategies that take into accounts the vulnerability of fishing communities was highlighted by ICSF's work during the year that followed. The project on 'Cyclone Ockhi, Disaster Risk Management and Sea Safety' produced a study on the cyclone's impacts on fisheries in south India along with a report of the national workshop on disaster risk management in Trivandrum, India, and a documentary film. These are made available on the ICSF website and shared on ICSF's social media channels and news alerts.

VI. UN WOMEN PROJECT (2018-2019)

In October, 2018, the UN Women commissioned ICSF to undertake a study in the form of a survey of existing data and research, and a research paper on women's economic empowerment and the blue economy in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) region. The study objective was to expand the evidence and knowledge base on women's economic empowerment, with a focus on fisheries, tourism and trade in the 22 IORA member countries. The project was completed by July 2019. The report, Women's Economic Empowerment in Fisheries in the Blue Economy of the Indian Ocean Rim: A Baseline Study is available at:

https://www.icsf.net/images/occasionalpapers/pdf/english/issue_167/167_IORA-WEE-FISHERIES-20-July-2019.pdf

This report, prepared by Nilanjana Biswas and Ramya Rajagopalan, urges states to recognize the importance of the traditional and small-scale fisheries and aquaculture sector for sustainable and equitable development, and to formally recognize the central role played by women. It recommends coherence within government policy to ensure that the fisheries sector and women's activities therein are prioritized. It urges State agencies, the private sector and civil society organizations to ensure that programmes for the sector, including technology development, research and data collection, mainstream gender into their priorities and outcomes.

VII. DIGITIZATION (2017-2018)

ICSF Documentation has a special collection of grey publications related to fishing communities, fishworker organizations, fisheries policy, fisheries trade, etc., of relevance to small-scale fisheries. The collection consists of rare publications, many no longer in print or available elsewhere, useful to researchers, policy makers, students, activists and journalists. The collection is variously stored as soft copies and in print. ICSF actively disseminates information available in soft copies to users. But the print copies of documents are vulnerable to damage.

During the reporting period, 2,819 soft copies of journal articles (available only in print copy in-house) were added to the collection. Moreover, 252 documents out of total 5,582 hard copy documents/books relating to fishing communities/fishworker organizations/ILO documents on labour issues in fisheries/anthropology, social issues of fishing communities, community development, fishermen cooperatives, living conditions, fishworker movements, social movements, social and political issues, traditional knowledge, classics on social issues, fisheries trade and anthropological issues, etc., were all digitized.

The goal is to digitize the remaining 4,394 documents (non-copyrighted) by 2022 and make them accessible online through a cloud-server, using open access repositories like E-prints or D-space.

VIII. CAMPAIGNS (2019-2022)

With the endorsement of the SSF Guidelines by FAO Member States in 2014, ICSF's work of supporting fishers and fishworker communities and organizations entered a new phase. The focus of our work now straddles both advocacy at the global and regional levels, and the national and sub-national implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

At its meeting in Bangkok in 2019, the ICSF Board decided to initiate a set of thematic campaigns to complement ongoing activities. Anchored by the expertise of its members in fisheries research, policy and activism, the campaigns are aimed at raising the profile of small-scale fisheries in international processes for food security, climate change and the global maritime (blue) economy. The campaigns will cover the following themes: SSF contributions and rights to food security and nutrition; SSF contributions and justice in a blue economy perspective; scenarios and prospects for SSF under the impacts of climate change; SSF and the protection of tenure over water, land and resources.

The United Nations General Assembly's Resolution proclaiming the year 2022 as the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture is an opportunity for ICSF to highlight these issues and explore collaboration and linkages with diverse organizations and processes.

1. Campaign to enforce/create small-scale artisanal non-towed fishing gear zones

ICSF will undertake the Making the Small-scale Artisanal Fishing Zones Work! Campaign to enforce/create small-scale artisanal non-towed fishing gear zones (SFZs) to benefit fishing communities using these gears and practices in a sustainable manner. The campaign will seek coherence between equitable development of fishing communities and conservation and

sustainable use of fisheries resources in at least three countries during the triennium 2020-2022.

Although SFZs or similar area designations exist at the informal level in many coastal nations, the formal creation of SFZs at the national and subnational levels in South and Southeast Asia has a history dating back to the 1970s. In India, for example, SFZs have been created at the subnational level since the 1980s. However, there are no recognized tenure rights to the SFZs. The enforcement of the formal SFZs leaves a lot to be desired in meeting their stated objectives. Tenure right to these SFZs need to be granted. The informal SFZs, on the other hand, although effective in meeting their unwritten social goals, are not sufficiently geared to upholding conservation of fisheries resources.

The emphasis on non-towed fishing gear stems from the fact that the current SFZs for small-scale artisanal fisheries at the formal and informal levels do not universally permit towed gear on or off seabed within these zones in Asia, including India. Although in existence for at least a generation, these zones do not, however, enjoy sufficient protection and are often violated by towed gear groups, to the disadvantage of non-towed fishing gear groups. Also, active towed fishing in other waters under national jurisdiction (OWNJ) prevents several traditionally-caught fish species from migrating into the SFZs and becoming accessible to the non-towed fishing gear and practices. The tenure right to fishery resources of non-towed gear groups, therefore, need to go far beyond the territorial sea.

Towards creating a strong incentive for inter-generational equity within the coastal and marine fishing communities, ICSF will start making the small-scale artisanal fishing zones work! Campaign in India in 2020 at the subnational and national level towards reversing the shrinking share of non-towed small-scale artisanal fisheries in annual marine fish landings of India, taking into account that India's 2017 National Policy on Marine Fisheries proposes to enhance the area currently available to small-scale artisanal fishers in the territorial sea and India's National Fisheries Policy 2020 (draft) propose reserved areas for traditional fishers where mechanized fishing is not permitted. The campaign will look at how to enforce SFZs to improve conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources, and how to secure tenure rights of coastal fishing communities to SFZs and to traditional fisheries resources within and beyond SFZs, to promote equitable development,

Currently, based on distance or depth from the low tide line, or length of the vessel or engine ratings, India has a three-tier zoning arrangement for non-towed fishing gear units countrywide, within the internal waters and the territorial sea. These are: (i) traditional non-mechanized fishing areas; (ii) motorized fishing areas; or (iii) mechanized fishing areas, employing fishing gear other than the towed gear. There are also informal designated areas for encircling gear like the shore seine (sometimes, also within the low tide line), stationary gear like stake-nets, and sedentary species like molluscs. The configuration of these notified as well as traditional zones can vary from coastal state to coastal state, and in some cases, from coastal panchayat to coastal panchayat. The traditional arrangements, at the local level, although rarely recognized in law, enjoy wider legitimacy amongst fishing communities. The

campaign will draw attention of local self-governments, to the extent possible, to assist in legitimizing these informal, local arrangements and their embedded traditional and local knowledge that are strong on equity, but often weak on conservation.

What does the campaign intend to achieve?

The campaign within the framework of sustainable fisheries, adopting a ground-up, human rights-based approach, and applying the principle of scale subsidiarity, through consultation with and participation of the coastal fishing communities, especially the vulnerable and marginalized groups, will raise the visibility of the SFZs in all coastal states, in a sequential manner starting with the most disadvantaged, paying special attention to the SFZs that are adjacent to, or straddling, the low tide line and earmarked for small-scale artisanal fishing communities, both at the formal and informal level. The campaign will document the livelihood needs and will propose how the threats facing fishers and fishworkers, both men and women, including gleaners and seiners, could be effectively addressed through better enforcement and improved performance of existing SFZs, or through the creation of new ones, and by securing tenure rights to these areas and fisheries resources.

In light of potential threats and perceived opportunities, the campaign, employing studies, workshops, communication and awareness-raising tools will look at how the SFZs and fisheries resources within and beyond can benefit the least destructive, most equitable and the most conservation-oriented vessel- and shore-based fishing operations in India.

A concept note for a field study and campaign in India was developed in March 2020. The study design had to be modified due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the consequent lockdown, to focus in the first stage on literature review, desk-based data collection and research, and a preliminary exercise to select sites in three coastal states, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala in India, based on the government census reports. The campaign will employ studies, workshops, communication and awareness-raising tools, will later include other South and Southeast Asia.

2. SSF contributions and justice in a blue growth/blue economy perspective

ICSF, along with agencies like FAO, SwedBio and the IPC Fisheries Working Group, organized two international webinars on “Small-scale fisheries and everything ‘blue’” in March and May, 2020. Initially planned as an in-person workshop hosted by the FAO but re-scheduled due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the webinars discussed emerging ‘blue’ agendas and explored how to place SSF and human rights at the centre of the future ocean (and inland water) economy, governance and development. Over 25 participants from diverse civil society and fishworker organizations, donor agencies and FAO attended these webinars. ICSF is in discussion with its partners to formulate collaborative actions in forthcoming international meetings of the FAO, CBD and other UN bodies.

3. Small-scale fisheries: Enhancing the contributions to food security and nutrition

Small-scale fisheries (SSF) play a unique role in assuring nutrition and food security in today's world, in which two billion people are still considered food insecure and 'zero hunger' is an important Sustainable Development Goal. Provided with adequate support, SSF will likely continue to play this part in the future too. Aiming to highlight the contribution of SSF to nutrition and food security, ICSF in collaboration with its partners, is launching a special campaign. In this campaign, special attention will be paid to how SSF adds to the four dimensions of food security, namely: (1) the availability of food, (2) its accessibility (with a focus on price and income), (3) its quality, and (4) the stability of supply over time. In doing so, ICSF notes that these contributions, like many other aspects of SSF economies, are largely undocumented and therefore are still in the process of being understood.

The contemporary policy scene recognizes marine and inland waters for their important role in food-provisioning, with special attention given to the nutritional qualities of aquatic foods. The High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy points out that in addition to protein, food from the sea "provides essential vitamins, minerals, long-chain omega-3 fatty acids and other nutrients not found in plant-source foods or other animal proteins." These nutrients are particularly important for the sustenance of pregnant and nursing women, as well as for children. The need for healthy food is most pronounced in the countries of the Global South, where most, but not all, of the world's poor are concentrated.

SSF are estimated to include 90 percent, or 36.3 million, of all people – men and women – directly involved in the world's capture fisheries today and contribute to half of global fish catches. This small-scale fishing population is spread out along coasts and inland waters across Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania, Europe and North America, meeting local, national and international demand for aquatic food. The food provisioning role of inland fisheries is also pronounced. Over 90 percent of small-scale catches are estimated to be directly consumed by humans.

SSF plays a dual role in nutrition and food security. First, it ensures that the approximately 200 million people who are involved in the SSF economy – fishers, processors, traders, transporters, and many others – are able to sustain themselves and thereby enjoy their human right to a better standard of living. It does so in three ways. First, SSF provides those contributing to the SSF economy with a direct supply of nutritious food. Second, it provides them with purchasing power with which to obtain other foods, goods and services. Finally, it enhances the economic status of women participating in the SSF economy, and supports the nutrition and food security of their families.

The second role played by SSF is in supplying aquatic foods for large rural and urban populations. Most small-scale fishers sell a major portion of their produce to traders, who transport it to markets both adjacent to coasts and inland. In inland contexts, both wild-

caught native fish and sustainably farmed herbivorous species provide bioavailable protein, vitamins and minerals for local communities, including Indigenous Peoples.

SSF communities face many challenges in maintaining their livelihoods and their food provisioning capacities – particularly, inequitable access to resources and markets. To address this, fishers’ and farmers’ movements have articulated food sovereignty as an alternative vision for democratizing food systems and markets. While SSF trade networks serve diverse domestic and international markets, their major contribution is in providing low-income populations with a variety of aquatic foods that are not only affordable, but also cater to local tastes. In this context, this campaign will address the multiple dimensions of food security in fisheries and raise the profile of SSF in related international processes.

ICSF invited international fishworker movements, particularly the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF) and World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP), to collaborate on this campaign. With renewed attention to fisheries and oceans leading up to the 2020 UN Ocean Conference (Note; now postponed to 2021) and the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022), the campaign connects with the initiatives of FAO and of research networks (e.g. Too Big To Ignore; Illuminating Hidden Harvests). ICSF also invited local and national fisheries organizations to document and highlight the ways in which marine and inland SSF are contributing to nutrition and food security, linking their work with the international campaign. The forthcoming issue of SAMUDRA Report and Yemaya will be focusing on this campaign. The perspectives gathered through these publications and the interest of our national partners will determine the themes and locations chosen for the case studies.

4. Collaboration with organizations: IPC Working Group on Fisheries

ICSF, along with other like-minded NGOs, supports the global fishworker organizations – WFF and WFFP in the IPC Working Group on Fisheries. These organizations, together with ICSF coordinated the ground-up consultative process of civil society participation in the development and endorsement of the SSF Guidelines. Since then, the groups collaborate on furthering the interests of SSF in the FAO and other UN processes, particularly the work of the Committee on Fisheries and Committee (COFI) on World Food Security (CFS).

In 2016, the COFI welcomed the FAO SSF Umbrella Programme and agreed to support the development of an SSF Guidelines Global Strategic Framework (SSF-GSF) mechanism with the participation of all small-scale fisheries stakeholders. The fishworker organizations among these constitute the Advisory Group to the GSF. Since March 2018, ICSF has engaged with other IPC constituents to develop work plan for the Advisory Group and to share knowledge and discuss common priorities for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. These organizations met again in September 2019 to discuss the constitution and priorities of the Knowledge Sharing Platform, another pillar in the GSF structure, which will gather inputs from civil society and the scientific community.

ICSF also collaborates with the IPC Working Group on Fisheries in other processes, such as the CBD negotiations and ICSF campaign activities. Based on the priorities identified by its constituents and the agenda for the FAO COFI, the IPC is currently reconstituting its membership and inviting the support NGOs to provide support in terms of knowledge, capacity building and collaboration in advocacy.

IX. AQUACULTURE

A study on Sustainable Development and Human Rights-based Approach in Aquaculture: A Case Study of Indian Aquaculture Systems

The SOFIA 2020 states that the fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels decreased from 90% in 1974 to 65.8% in 2017. Since 2016, aquaculture has become the main global source of fish for human consumption. In 2018, its share was 52% and it is expected to continue to increase in the long term. This has led to increased investments in aquaculture in many fish producing nations. Employment in aquaculture has indicated a jump in proportion to the total employment in fisheries and aquaculture from 17% in 1990 to 34.5% in 2018 (20.5 million), worldwide (SOFIA 2020).

About 580 aquatic species are currently farmed all over the world, representing a wealth of genetic diversity both within and among species. Aquaculture is further practiced by some of the most marginalized farmers in low-income countries and by multinational companies in high-income countries, such as the U.S and Norway. Eating fish is part of the cultural tradition of many people and in terms of health benefits, it has an excellent nutritional profile, i.e. rich in protein, fatty acids, vitamins, minerals and essential micronutrients. However, despite being promoted as a sustainable alternative to fisheries and important source of nutrition, aquaculture systems from around the world have been the cause of much debate. Common criticisms have mainly been related to nutrient and effluent build-up, the impact of fish farms on local wild fisheries with respect to disease and escaping (e.g. salmon farming in Norway), environmental degradation due to the site's location (e.g. clearing of mangroves for shrimp aquaculture), the use of wild fish as feed (e.g. the increase in fish meal factories in West Africa with effects on both fish stocks and local food security), and the displacement of coastal people and violations of human rights.

Although some of the above issues are dealt with, and new forms of aquaculture are being developed (such as land-based recirculation systems (RAS) and farming of species further down the food chain), many issues still remain unsolved. Given the increasing focus on aquaculture at national, EU (as part of EUs Blue growth strategy) and global level, there is a need to evaluate different aquaculture systems, their social and environmental impacts, so as to promote a more sustainable path for all, guided by the human rights principles and standards.

From the past experience of blue revolution, commercialization of aquaculture is synonymous with intensification in India. In any intensification seeking supernormal profits, monoculture of the most sought-after species is adopted. The draft National Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy of India (2019) states that it supports intensification and expansion of shrimp/prawn farming in saline and freshwater areas. This could be seen as a push for monoculture of the so-called hardy, disease-resistant shrimp, and fresh water-tolerant shrimp, the exotic white legged *L. Vannamei*.

Currently freshwater aquaculture is dominated by Indian Major Carps. Due to its affordable price, it feeds the domestic and local markets providing the much-needed protein and nutritional security to the fish-consuming domestic population. A prized commodity that contributes well to foreign exchange earnings may replace the Indian major carps, automatically feed into the cold chain and be lost to the local population whereby their nutritional security takes a direct hit. Adopting cage culture in inland waters (another objective of the NIFAP) is another aspect that could turn problematic if not regulated and monitored.

Cage culture could easily spell disaster if practiced at a greater intensity and scale (as seen in the example of Laguna de Bay in the Philippines) in comparison to the shrimp industry collapse of the 1990s, if regulations and thought-through policies are not put in place. Drafting hasty policies without delving deep into the areas such as ecosystem processes can cause irreversible damage to the sector and the ecosystem. The increased emphasis on doubling fish production by 2030 and heavy reliance on aquaculture for the same can lead to dependence on antibiotics for disease-free crop. Antibiotics, although banned in India, is still used in areas of high intensity aquaculture. This could have health impacts not only on workers in the farm but also on the health of the riverine ecosystem. Effluent from farms with antibiotic use will invariably be dumped into nearby river in the absence of a robust surveillance and monitoring system in place which, till now, has been elusive in the Indian context.

Premised on the above, the current study is looking into aspects of new blue revolution from an aquaculture lens in general and human development in particular, especially in view of SDG 1, 2, 5, 8, 14 and 16. Specifically, the study purports to:

- a) identify areas where new trends are being adopted such as cage fisheries in reservoirs, mariculture in coastal waters, and make case studies on the same;
- b) work on a gender- and age-disaggregated status for a block in a selected state in different aquaculture production systems;
- c) examine if aquaculture offers alternative livelihoods to fishers;
- d) assess threats facing fishing communities from aquaculture operations, including from new tenure arrangements; and
- e) identify occupational safety and health issues in aquaculture systems.

The case studies look at fishmeal/oil-fed and non-fed, extensive, semi-intensive and intensive forms of aquaculture, especially in sensitive biodiversity areas, for subsistence, domestic and the export market within and outside the region and if they undertake any ex ante environmental and social risk analyses prior to making investment. The case studies further look at the use of chemicals in aquaculture operations, and also document the consequences for small aquaculture farms from large-scale farming operations. Specifically, the case study will:

- a) probe whether the learnings from earlier experiences are being considered and addressed, especially the impact on communities and ecosystems;
- b) document marine, coastal and inland biodiversity losses arising from aquaculture practices;
- c) propose how aquaculture development in India can be made consistent with a human rights-based approach towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, sustainable development and good governance;
- d) help ICSF propose to FAO COFI 33rd Session (July 2020, now postponed to early-2021) the need to develop guidelines for small-scale aquaculture consistent with the principles of the SSF Guidelines;
- e) contribute to the ILO Technical Meeting on the future of work in aquaculture in the context of the rural economy (23-27 November 2020) (Note: will be postponed to 2021 due to Covid-19 disruptions); and
- f) provide inputs to relevant FAO processes in relation to the observation of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture in 2022.

Study Period

The study that commenced in March 2020 will complete in October 2020. The study is undertaking interviews and in-depth surveys in selected areas with farm owners, workers, local residents, as well as with relevant government agencies (note: in-person interviews were not possible due to Covid-19).

Expected Outcome

The case study from India will look at how aquaculture can contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, by analyzing social and environmental impacts of different aquaculture systems.

X. Covid-19 website and Emergency Response

During Covid -19 pandemic period ICSF has extended its contribution to emergency assistance to small-scale fishing communities in the marine and inland subsectors in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal in India through civil society

organizations. The emergency assistance was to help the most vulnerable and marginalized fishers and fishworkers to procure food and other essentials such as medicine. ICSF is publishing a newsletter in September 2020 with details about modalities and reflections from civil society organizations. Alongside these relief measures, ICSF also collected information on some of the vulnerable fishworker groups, including migrant workers, to inform advocacy for social protection of fishing communities and other policy interventions.

ICSF has tracked the impacts of the Covid-19 outbreak on fisheries through its daily news alerts. Since May, ICSF has gathered this information, along with news and perspectives on specific sectoral issues at national, regional and international levels on a dedicated website. (<https://covid.icsf.net/>) This information, presented on maps and in the form of blog articles, and repositories of international and national policy measures, cover three parameters – impact, relief and recovery. The website also gathers presentations by ICSF Secretariat and its membership in virtual meetings and workshops addressing the impacts of the pandemic on SSF and recommended actions to support SSF livelihoods.

XI. ADVOCACY

a. Advocacy: selected meetings and webinars

During this period, ICSF Members and Staff participated in several sub-national, national and international level meetings and webinars, processes and multi-stakeholder dialogues. A short summary of selected ICSF's statements and interventions is below:

1. COFI: 33rd Session (9-13 July 2018)

<https://www.icsf.net/images/what%20is%20new%20page/Agenda%20Item%205%20ICSF.pdf>

<https://www.icsf.net/images/what%20is%20new%20page/ICSF%20Agenda%20Item%208.2-1.pdf>

ICSF participated in the 33rd Session of COFI, held in Rome during 9-13 July 2018, to review the status of the world's fisheries and aquaculture and establish global agreements for effective fisheries management. It was noted that small-scale fisheries issues were integrated into almost all agenda items of the 33rd Session. ICSF stated this position in an intervention on agenda item 8.2 (Small-Scale and Artisanal Fisheries Governance) of COFI 33. Welcoming the agenda item COFI/2018/7 and the complementary and additional information provided in COFI/2018/Inf. 17, 18 and 19, ICSF appreciated the clear and concise information provided in these agenda items and information papers on a diverse range of

activities undertaken in relation to the SSF Guidelines in various parts of the world in meaningful partnership with different actors in the realms of awareness raising, strengthening the science-policy interface, empowerment of stakeholders, and supporting implementation. ICSF also welcomed the SSF Guidelines-Global Strategic Framework, being developed in consultation with CSOs.

2. UN Biodiversity Conference (17-29 November, 2018, Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt)

Marine biodiversity was high on the agenda of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD-COP14) held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. Supported by FAO, ICSF's participation at COP14 was aimed at emphasizing the central role of indigenous people and local fishing communities in the sustainable use and management of marine and coastal natural resources. In discussions on spatial planning, protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, ICSF joined other prominent NGOs in submitting a statement to the CBD Secretariat. The statement stressed the need to strengthen self-determined resource governance authorities, secure collective tenure, respecting the rights and roles of women and ensuring their protection from threats.

ICSF was invited by the CBD Secretariat to co-host its Sustainable Ocean Initiative side event during the conference. In the segment on 'Ocean People,' led by ICSF and CoopeSoliDar R.L., participants included Tafo Mihaavo and Fifimpaya Fishers Federation of Yalanalearatra, Madagascar; Oceans North and WWF Canada; Global Island Partnership (GLISPA); and the Global Youth Biodiversity Network.

3. INFOFISH Governing Council, 33rd Session (17-20 December, 2018, Langkawi, Malaysia)

ICSF was invited to participate in the Governing Council meeting of INFOFISH – an intergovernmental organization for fisheries market information and technical advisories for Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Iran, Maldives, Malaysia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka and Thailand. ICSF argued that implementing the SSF Guidelines can be a vehicle for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals in the context of sustainable inland and marine fisheries as well as the wellbeing of fishing communities, especially women and vulnerable groups, including migrants and indigenous peoples.

the contribution of small-scale fisheries to fish production, employment and food security is well known, there is little information about the share of small-scale fisheries in fish and fishery products, traded at the national, regional and international levels. There is also little information on trade in species originating from small-scale freshwater and brackish water fisheries. Such information is vital from the point of view of meeting the SDG 14.b to monitor if access to market of small-scale fishers and fishworkers is indeed improving over

time. This information is useful to understand how small-scale fisheries, resonating SDG 12, contribute to sustainable production and consumption. ICSF requested the Council to consider providing country-level information separately for species related to fish, crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates, caught by small-scale subsector as well as others at national and regional levels. The distributional implications of fish and fish products exports originating from small-scale fisheries along the value chain are important to see if better human development of men and women fishers and fishworkers, in fact, results from access to export markets. ICSF statement is available at: <https://www.icsf.net/en/statements.html?radio=I>

4. United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement: Fourteenth Round of Informal Consultations of States Parties to the Agreement (2 May 2019)

On the role of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO) in dealing with the vulnerabilities of developing countries, ICSF stressed in its statement that fisheries conservation and management measures should avoid adverse impacts on small-scale artisanal fishworkers, including women and indigenous people. Reminding Parties of their commitments under Sustainable Development Goal 14 (target b) that seeks to provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets, the statement urged States and regional bodies to work together to ensure that the tenure rights of small-scale fishing communities are protected; and that small-scale activities and operators, and vulnerable and marginalized groups dependent on highly migratory fish stocks, are recognized by each RFMO in its area of jurisdiction.

5. CBD's Open-Ended Working Group to develop the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, Nairobi, Kenya in August, 2019.

ICSF participated in the first meeting of the CBD's Open-Ended Working Group to develop the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, Nairobi, Kenya in August, 2019. A joint statement by ICSF, Masifundise, South Africa and the Kesatuan Nelayan Tradisional Indonesia urged Parties to the Convention to consider the importance of marine and coastal biodiversity to the food security, livelihoods and cultures of indigenous people and local communities (IPLC), and to ensure that the next round of biodiversity targets be linked to the Sustainable Development Goals and guided by a human rights-based approach (Read the full statement [here](#).)

A joint statement by ICSF, Masifundise, South Africa and the Kesatuan Nelayan Tradisional Indonesia urged Parties to the Convention to consider the importance of marine and coastal biodiversity to the food security, livelihoods and cultures of indigenous people and local communities (IPLC), and to ensure that the next round of biodiversity targets be linked to the Sustainable Development Goals and guided by a human rights-based approach.

6. Ocean Conference, Oslo, Norway, October 2019

Leading up to 2020, when the international community will meet the deadline for targets under Sustainable Development Goal 14 (Life Below Water), the period between 2017 and now have seen several ocean conferences organized by governments, inter-governmental organizations and UN agencies, and the private sector. After participating in the UN Ocean Conference in 2017, ICSF has been engaged with several processes, with its interventions focused on securing the rights, livelihoods and ways of life of small-scale fishing communities, in the context of sustainable use of marine and coastal resources. ICSF was invited to participate in a panel discussion on livelihoods and nutrition at the Our Ocean conference, hosted by the Government of Norway in October 2019.

ICSF has also been engaged with a group of philanthropic organizations, ocean conservationists and fishworker and civil society groups, in drafting a ‘Blue Call to Action’ in time for the UN Ocean Conference, to be held in June 2020 in Portugal.

7. List of meetings attended

<https://www.icsf.net/en/paper-presentation.html>

S.No.	Timeline	Meeting	Country	Activity and attended by
1	16 November 2017	Knowledge-Sharing Seminar on Fisheries Subsidies, organized by ICTSD, Geneva, Switzerland	Switzerland	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
2	15-21 November 2017	The World Forum of Fisher People’s (WFFP) 7 th 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 Guidelines) in South Asia’ at the 11 th Indian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum, Kochi, Kerala, India	India	Three presentations (ICSF organized the session) India from a gender perspective by Ujwala Patil, NFF, and Herman Kumara, NAFSO, Sri Lanka and SSF Guidelines by Sebastian Mathew,

				ICSF
4	28 November 2017	The Dialogue on Mainstreaming Biodiversity into inland Fisheries sector, at the National Academy for Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad, India	India	N. Venugolapalan
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, Member, ICSF
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, Member, ICSF
8	21-22 March 2018	Regional Technical Seminar: Joining forces in the fisheries sector; Promoting safety, decent work and the fight against IUU fishing	The Philippines	Sebastian Mathew Presentation

9	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
10	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
11	7 to 9 May 2018	The 7 th APFIC Regional Consultative Forum Meeting “Sustainable Development for Blue Growth of Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific, Bohol, the Philippines	Philippines	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
12	10-13 June 2018	The Fifth International Fishing Industry Safety & Health Conference, St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada	Canada	Nilanjana Biswas, Editor, Yemaya Presentation
13	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
14	28 – 29 June 2018	The Workshop on ‘Fisheries and Law Enforcement Issues,’ Indian Coast Guard, Chennai, India	India	Sebastian Mathew

15	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
16	9-13 July 2018	Committee on Fisheries, Thirty-third Session, Rome, Italy	Italy	Maarten Bavinck, ICSF Member and Sebastian Mathew Intervention on Small-scale and Artisanal Fisheries Governance Intervention on climate change and other environment related matters Intervention on the CCRF questionnaire
17	10 August 2018	2 nd Techsurge Technologies and Innovation for Sustainable Fisheries, Chennai, India by National Institute of Ocean Technology	India	N.Venugopalan and Manas Roshan
18	18 August 2018	Skill Development Training Programmes for fishermen/fisherwomen, Chennai, Tamil Nadu Department of Fisheries, Government of Tamil Nadu	India	N.Venugopalan
19	27August 2018	International Workshop on Exploring the Social, Economic, Ecological, and Political Dimensions of the Blue Economy, Kolkata	India	Sebastian Mathew Presentation

20	10 -14 September 2018	Tenure and User Rights in Fisheries 2018, Yeosu, Republic of Korea by FAO	Korea	Sebastian Mathew Presentation Manas Roshan
21	02 October 2018	Vigo Dialogue on Decent Work in Fisheries and Aquaculture, 02 October 2018, Vigo, Spain	Spain	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
22	3-4 October 2018	Second Regional Workshop on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance in the Bay of Bengal Region, Chennai, India,	India	N.Venugopalan
23	10-11 October 2018	National Workshop on Fish Marketing Chains and the Urban Poor, Chennai, India	India	N.Venugopalan and Manas Roshan
24	12 October 2018	Workshop on Knowledge Management in Marine Fisheries in India, Chennai	India	Manas Roshan
25	15 October 2018	Fisheries Subsidies meeting, New Delhi by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India	India	Sebastian Mathew
26	18-20 October 2018	GAF7 – the 7 th Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand	Thailand	Nalini Nayak, Trustee, ICSF Trust and Cornelie Quist, Member, ICSF
27	22-26 October 2018	The 3 rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress (3WSFC), Chiang Mai, Thailand	Thailand	Sebastian Mathew, N. Venugopalan and Manas Roshan
28	19-21 November, 2018	Celebration of World Fisheries Day 2018	Gambia	Sebastian Mathew Presentation

29	19-24 November 2018	Fourteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt	Egypt	Vivienne Solis Rivera, Member, ICSF and Manas Roshan Joint- statement
30	3 December 2018	Stakeholders meeting to discuss about the Draft National Mariculture Policy, Kovalam, organized by Central Marine fisheries Research Institute, Government of India	India	N.Venugopalan
31	17-20 December 2018	The 33 rd INFOFISH Governing Council Meeting Langkawi Island, Malaysia	Malaysia	Sebastian Mathew ICSF Statement
32	29-30 January 2019	General Body meeting of the National Fishworkers Forum, India Veraval, Gujarat, India	India	N. Venugopalan and Manas Roshan Presentation
33	11-14 February 2019	Friends of User Rights 2019 Meeting (FoUR19) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Fiumicino, Italy	Italy	Sebastian Mathew
34	22 February 2019	The First Stakeholder Consultation for The Project Preparation Grant (PPG) work for the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP-IGO) Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India	India	N. Venugopalan
35	22 February 2019	BOBLME state-level consultations for Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	India	Manas Roshan

		Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India		
36	25 February 2019	BOBLME state-level consultations for Andaman & Nicobar Islands Port Blair, A&N Islands, India	India	Manas Roshan
37	04 March 2019	BOBLME state-level consultations for Odisha and West Bengal Barrackpore, West Bengal, India	India	Manas Roshan
38	06 March 2019	Summer Field Internship: Consultative Workshop Azim Premji University Bangalore, Karnataka, India	India	N. Venugopalan
39	12 March 2019	Migration of Fishworkers in India FishMARC YWCA International Guest House, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India	India	Manas Roshan
40	18-21 March 2019	Global Strategic Framework for the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines (GSF-SSF) Advisory Group: Consolidation Meeting, International Planning Committee on Food Sovereignty (IPC) Fisheries Working Group and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Rome, Italy	Italy	Sebastian Mathew and Manas Roshan
41	02-03 May 2019	Fourteenth round of Informal Consultations of States Parties to the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (ICSP/14) New York City, US	US	Sebastian Mathew ICSF Statement

42	02-04 May 2019	Capacity Building Workshop for Women in CAOPA Conakry, Republic of Guinea	Guinea	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
43	19-20 June 2019	Blue Call to Action Meeting 1, Oceano Azul Foundation and Oak Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal	Portugal	Vivienne Solis Rivera and Manas Roshan
44	25-28 June 2019	MARE 'People and the Sea' Conference Amsterdam, The Netherlands	The Netherlands	Maarten Bavinck and Manas Roshan
45	3-4 July 2019	Shanghai Dialogue on Socially Responsible Fisheries Value Chains, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Shanghai Ocean University (SHOU), Shanghai, China	China	V. Vivekanandan
46	24-25 August 2019	Pre-CBD Working Group Meeting on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, SwedBio and Natural Justice, Nairobi, Kenya	Kenya	Manas Roshan
47	27-30 August 2019	First Meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, UN Convention on Biological Diversity, Nairobi, Kenya	Kenya	Manas Roshan ICSF Statement
48	3-5 September 2019	Towards Resilient and Equitable Small-Scale Fisheries, WorldFish and Oak Foundation, Penang, Malaysia	Malaysia	Manas Roshan

49	11-12 October 2019	Brainstorming Workshop on ‘Restoration, Rehabilitation and Resumption of Wetland Ecosystem Services for Food, Nutrition and Livelihood Security of local Fishing communities’, Assam Fisheries Development Corporation (AFDC), Guwahati, Assam	India	N. Venugopalan
50	12-18 October 2019	46 th Session of the Committee on Food Security (CFS46) Side Event: ‘Treasures of the oceans and inland waters: Ensuring food security and nourishing nations’, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, Italy	Italy	Manas Roshan Presentation
51	22 October 2019	Stakeholder consultation on Fisheries Subsidies, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Kochi, Kerala, India	India	N. Venugopalan
52	23-24 October 2019	Sixth Our Ocean conference, Government of Norway, Oslo, Norway	Norway	Sebastian Mathew Panel Discussion
53	18-21 November 2019	International Symposium on Fisheries Sustainability: Strengthening the Science-Policy Nexus, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, Italy	Italy	Maarten Bavinck, Ravadee Prasertcharoensuk Serge Raemaekers, Vivienne Solis Rivera, Sebastian Mathew
54	18-19 November 2019	Regional NHRI Seminar on Human Rights and Fisheries, Danish Institute	Thailand	Manas Roshan Presentations 1, 2, 3

		for Human Rights Bangkok, Thailand		
55	24-29 November 2019	Workshop on Human Rights and Biodiversity: Essential Ingredients for a Successful Post 2020 Framework, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC), Nanyuki, Kenya	Kenya	Manas Roshan Presentations
56	7-10 January 2020	International Symposium MECOS3 Marine Ecosystems Challenges and Opportunities, 7-10 January 2020, Kochin, India	India	Venugopalan Presentation
57	24 -25 February 2020	Regional Meeting for Validation of RPOA-IUU; 24 – 25 February 2020, Chennai, INDIA	India	N. Venugopalan

8. List of webinars:

List of Webinars attended from April 2020 onwards				
S.No	Date	Details	Attended by	Presentation
1	14-Apr-20	SSF World Oceans Day events	Manas Roshan	
2	29-Apr-20	Dakshin Foundation: How are India's fishworkers coping with the lockdown?	Manas Roshan Vishakha Gupta	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NEgJ5vGB6zk&feature=emb_title
3	30-Apr-20	Covid-19: Impact on small-scale fisheries in South Africa	Vishakha Gupta	https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_co

		and beyond		ntinue=8&v=LyK_pMPcl8A&feature=emb_title
4	18 to 19 May 2020	Second webinar on SSF and everything 'blue'	Manas Roshan Leopoldo Gerhardinger Vishakha Gupta	
5	30-May	Small fisher-folk of North Africa and Palestine in times of COVID19	Vishakha Gupta	
6	1-8 June 2020	Small is bountiful: Webinar series on Small-scale fisheries for the World Oceans Day	Manas Roshan Vishakha Gupta	http://toobigtoignore.net/opportunity/join-us-for-world-ocean-day-2020/
7	02-Jun-20	Fishing for ways to survive in a Covid-19 ocean: International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC)	Vivienne Solis	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3JneE2ribk
8	06-Jun-20	Webinar Series on Fisheries in the Context of COVID 19, 09 June 2020	Sebastian Mathew	https://www.icsf.net/images/resources/papers_presentations/ICSF%20Global%20Impact%20Covid-19%20Fisheries_09June2020.pdf_139.pdf
9	08-Jun-20	Launch of The State of the World Fisheries and Aquaculture	Vishakha Gupta	
10	19-Jun-20	Webinar on Draft National Fisheries Policy 2020 - A Critical Outlook - 19th June 2020	Manas Roshan Sebastian Mathew Vishakha Gupta	

9. Too Big to Ignore webinar series on SSF

Due to the rapid spread of the Coronavirus, countries the world over imposed lockdowns and travel restrictions. Several international agencies, including UN bodies, postponed meetings, several of which were linked to the UN Ocean Conference coinciding with World Ocean Day on 8 June. As a result of these measures, almost all forms of communication and engagement have gone online as virtual dialogues or webinars. ICSF co-organized and participated in several discussions as a part of the Too Big to Ignore-led series of webinars on small-scale fisheries and their contribution to ocean sustainability and innovation. The series culminated on the World Oceans day 2020, with a 24-hour around the world event including panel discussions and a virtual small-scale fisheries arts festival. Several of these focused on small-scale fisheries and Covid-19, but also discussed the SSF Guidelines, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Blue Economy. The series can be watched at: [: https://tbtiglobal.net/small-is-bountiful-world-oceans-day-2020/](https://tbtiglobal.net/small-is-bountiful-world-oceans-day-2020/)"

10. Organization and support to other international meetings

Nalini Nayak (ICSF Trust) and Cornelia Quist (ICSF Member) articulated feminist visions of fisheries by sharing stories from women involved with ICSF, during GAF meeting at Bangkok in October 2018. In November 2017, ICSF organized the “Special Workshop on Challenges in the Implementation of the SSF Guidelines in South Asia” at the 11th Global Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (GAF), Kochi, Kerala, India, with support from FWOs. The workshop looked at women’s issues in fisheries in India and Sri Lanka through a human-rights framework. The workshop underlined the importance of an integrated supply-chain approach to fisheries. The meeting called for shift in policy orientation from an exclusive production focus to gender and social development of the communities.

XII. COMMUNICATION

Publications and films

A. SAMUDRA Report (TRIENNIAL)

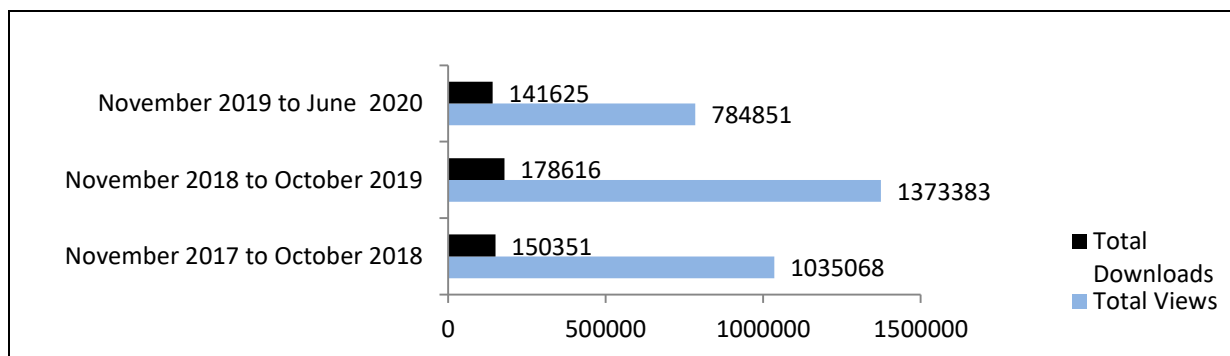
<https://www.icsf.net/en/75ocusin.html>.

SAMUDRA Report started in March 1988. It has continued to disseminate information on important developments in fisheries from a small-scale fisheries perspective, and to create greater awareness on issues that concern the small-scale sector. All issues of SAMUDRA Report issue No. 1- to 82 (in English) are available on ICSF’s website. During the reporting period we have not published French and Spanish language versions of SAMUDRA Report.

TABLE 1: SAMUDRA REPORTS PUBLISHED

Year	Number of issues published	Report emailed to people/organizations	Views	Downloads
Nov 2017 to Oct 2018	2	3540	1035068	150351
Nov 2018 to Oct 2019	2	3899	1373383	178616
Nov 2019 to June 2020	1	4071	784851	141625

FIGURE 1: RESPONSE TO SAMUDRA REPORT



1. SAMUDRA Report N0. 78, January, 2018

SAMUDRA Report No. 78, dated January 2018, features articles on fisheries from around the world, with a special focus on natural hazards, specifically Cyclone Ockhi, which, between 30 November and 2 December 2017, took the lives of hundreds of fishers in India, injured many others and destroyed numerous fishing vessels at sea. As the editorial Comment in the issue points out, Ockhi stands out for the disproportionate damage it caused at sea than on land. The dead included not only fishers from the south Indian states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala who were on short- and long-haul fishing trips, but also undocumented migrant fishers from faraway places. Other articles in this issue of SAMUDRA Report stress the need for at-sea cyclone preparedness and risk-management skills for communities vulnerable to such

natural disasters. One focuses on Hurricane Maria, which caused ugly, immense and immediate impacts along the northern coasts of Puerto Rico in late September 2017—not long after Hurricane Irma had swept by. However, the ecological intervention of traditional fishermen, plus the effect of conflicting forces of nature, helped mitigate the destruction.

An analysis on decent work in marine fisheries points out that only shared interest and mutual will—nationally, regionally, locally—among fishers and social partners can help achieve sustainable fisheries. Another piece analyses the Norwegian experience to show that learning about sustainable small-scale fisheries development should not be a one-way traffic from the North to the South.

Using Southeast Asia as the background, one article argues that formal recognition of marine tenure provides an incentive for small-scale fishers to form and support the overarching structure for responsible governance. Africa is the focus of two other articles. One shows how fisherfolk use their social networks to navigate formal and informal rules in accessing the fisheries of Lake Victoria. Another explains how for West African artisanal fishing communities, the fishmeal boom may be a bonanza for a few, but is a curse for most. The piece from Belize tells us that the country, a pioneer in fisheries conservation, has become the first to adopt a national, multispecies territorial user rights programme.

Brazil is again the subject of three other articles. One shows how tourism-based boat trips in Caixa d’Aço Bay in Paraty highlight the problems of livelihoods in restricted-use protected areas. The other points out that tenure rights in the country’s small-scale fisheries are fading in the face of irrational, poorly designed, and socially and environmentally unjust ‘blue planning’ processes. A third piece explains how the access of Brazil’s fishers to coastal land and sea resources has, in recent years, been hampered by increased urbanization, tourism and construction of harbours.

The piece from Cambodia profiles the Preynub II Community Fishery, whose members have set an example by uniting to fight land grab by business interests. Another, on the Philippines, states that despite good policies and programmes, the country struggles with illegal, destructive and unsustainable practices and use of coastal resources and fisheries. An article on Indonesia argues for a fisheries and coastal resources policy with a specific operational and regulatory framework to ensure the protection of traditional small-scale fishers. The piece on Vietnam shows how the government is seeking to empower the country’s fishers through the landmark passage of an amended fisheries law. A report on a workshop in Africa that focused on creating awareness about the SSF Guidelines stresses the need for lobbying for their implementation, and aligning them with national fisheries policies. SAMUDRA Report No. 78 also features a review of a handbook titled “Towards Gender-equitable Small-scale Fisheries Governance and Development”, as well as the regular Roundup section that carries news snippets, analysis and tidbits on fisheries from around the world. The issue can be accessed at :

<https://www.icsf.net/en/samudra/article/EN/78.html?limitstart=0>

2. SAMUDRA Report No. 79, August 2018

This issue of SAMUDRA Report features articles on fisheries from around the world that focus on a diverse range of issues, from the labour and human rights of indigenous communities, to natural disasters and occupational safety and health, and weather forecasting through the involvement of both scientists and fishermen. The opening editorial Comment in the current issue argues that as the implementation of the SSF Guidelines gets under way, it is imperative to lobby for policies and processes that will empower small-scale fishing communities. How the Guaranis, indigenous people of Morro dos Cavalos in Brazil, are being displaced from their lands to satisfy the interests of politicians and businesses is analyzed in one article, while another details how the Seafood Slavery Risk Tool tracks abuses of labour and human rights in seafood supply chains. The current issue also features a report on the Danish Institute for Human Rights' meeting on the contribution of human rights to the sustainable development of fisheries.

Continuing on the theme of livelihood rights, the article from Indonesia delineates the causes for the poor nutritional intake in Indonesia's coastal communities. On-the-ground reports of two meetings – one on the largest conference on occupational safety and health in the fishing industry, held in Canada, and the other, on the 33rd Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) – provide insights into issues that plague the fisheries sector in different ways. Another article explains how fishermen and scientists are being brought together to track wind and waves, and save lives, through new innovative weather forecasting technology. A report on the Pêcheurs du Monde film festival, held in Lorient, France, and which turns 10 this year, as well as a review of a book on the global implementation of the SSF Guidelines, swings the spotlight to the problems that small-scale fishing communities face around the world. This issue can be accessed at:

<https://www.icsf.net/en/samudra/article/EN/79.html?limitstart=0>

3. SAMUDRA Report No. 80, December 2018

This issue of SAMUDRA Report features articles on fisheries from around the world that focus on a diverse range of issues, from small-scale fisheries and community fisheries to illegal fishing, the SSF Guidelines, conservation of manta rays and fisheries governance, among other topics. The editorial Comment in this issue discusses how the Regional Plan of Action for Small-scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea is a model for other regional fisheries management organizations.

The tide of fortune for small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea is turning, says the opening article. The article from Cambodia shows how extensive and well-developed is the nation's system of community fisheries. Sri Lanka's SSF communities can be strengthened in the context of the SSF Guidelines, argues another article, while a report from Vietnam on a recent consultation workshop discusses illegal fishing and co-management in the central coastal region.

The piece from Indonesia discusses how Lamakera village has initiated a programme for the conservation of manta rays. From Pakistan comes a report on a Peoples Long March against dams on the Indus River. Effective fisheries governance has led to democratization and decentralization in Myanmar, according to another article. The social contexts and lives of fishing communities are analyzed in another article, while the last article in the current issue points out that only collective action in SSF can overcome the problems of poverty and marginalization. This issue can be accessed at:

<https://www.icsf.net/en/samudra/article/EN/80.html?limitstart=0>

4. **SAMUDRA Report No.81, June, 2019**

This issue features articles on fisheries from around the world, with a special focus on implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The editorial Comment that opens the issue focuses on subsistence fisheries in the Western and Central Pacific region and their importance as a source of nutrition, culture and welfare for the communities living there. It notes that the course of action for the region is outlined in the SSF Guidelines, which need to be integrated into regional strategies and processes. An article from Cuba reports on a Fisheries Forum that brought together stakeholders from coastal communities to examine opportunities and challenges to make fisheries more sustainable, considering how vital fishing is for Cuba's economy and the livelihoods of its coastal communities. The geography, histories and cultures of the Pacific island region, and its 14 small island developing states, represent unique challenges and opportunities, argues another article. It notes that the introduction of the SSF Guidelines is an ambitious global-level policy pledge designed to provide overarching guidance towards improving the governance of small-scale fisheries around the world. The piece from Nigeria shows how waterfront communities, whose livelihoods are predominantly dependent on fishing and related activities, live under constant fear of eviction.

A report on the Pêcheurs du Monde film festival, where over 40 films from 16 countries were screened, reminds us that despite the severity of various crises facing fishers, there are still signs of hope. A review of the Pacific Handbook for Gender Equity and Social Inclusion in Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture points out that women are now receiving more attention in the fisheries policy of the Secretariat for the Pacific Community (SPC), after only intermittent efforts starting from about 1989.

An obituary pays tribute to Rambhau Patil, an Indian fisher leader whose energy and commitment for the cause of fishers made him stand out as a distinguished fighter for the rights of fishworkers worldwide. Other reports from Malaysia, Brazil and India (on the ambitious but limited Draft National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy), as well as an article on how environmental NGOs can partner fishers to secure vibrant fishing communities and thriving marine ecosystems, also refer to the SSF Guidelines. A report on the 3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress reveals that the voices of small-scale fishers and civil society organizations were heard loud and clear. Another report reflects on the 7th Global Conference on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF7), held in Bangkok during 18-21 October

2018. A third report offers thoughts on the ‘Towards an Inclusive Blue Economy’ conference organized by the International Institute for Environment and Development in London in February 2019. The cyclonic winds that swept through the shores of the Indian state of Odisha in the wake of Cyclone Fani have razed the livelihoods of many fisherfolk, says a report. Another article from India reports on a World Bank-funded loan project in the state of Jharkhand, which aims to enhance and diversify household incomes for targeted beneficiaries through fish culture. From Chile comes an article which warns that the hellish expansion of salmon farming in the Patagonia region could threaten a hundred years of Chile-Norway relations. A report on the UN Biodiversity Conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, says that sustainable development of fishing communities and participatory conservation of marine biodiversity are compatible. The Roundup section of SAMUDRA Report carries news stories, briefings, announcements of events, as well as a profile of a fisher organization. This issue can be accessed at:

<https://www.icsf.net/en/samudra/article/EN/81.html?limitstart=0>

5. SAMUDRA Report No. 82, February 2020

This issue features articles on fisheries from around the world, notably Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Seychelles, Brazil, Chile and France. The current issue has extensive analysis and commentary on the Blue Economy and Blue Growth against the backdrop of the SSF Guidelines.

The article from Seychelles analyzes the several contradictions in the conservation initiative of the country’s Blue Bond scheme, while the one from Sri Lanka points out that the National Fisheries Policy needs to be remodelled to incorporate the SSF Guidelines. Yet another says that women in fisheries can utilize the SSF Guidelines to advance their interests and build a common vision.

The biggest-ever oil spill disaster in Brazil’s history points to the need for State-sponsored disaster management, says another report. From neighbouring Chile comes a piece that argues for a new type of autonomous social movement to create a democratic and representative Constitution.

India’s draft National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy (NIFAP) is analyzed in one article, while another explains how artisanal fishers’ experiential knowledge can help address many problems, including climate change. This issue also carries an obituary tribute to Sidney Holt, a scientist who contributed the concept maximum sustainable yield, who died late last year. This issue can be accessed at:

https://www.icsf.net/images/samudra/pdf/english/issue_82/276_ICSF_Samudra%2082_February_2020.pdf

B. YEMAYA (NEWSLETTER ON GENDER AND FISHERIES, TRIANNUAL)

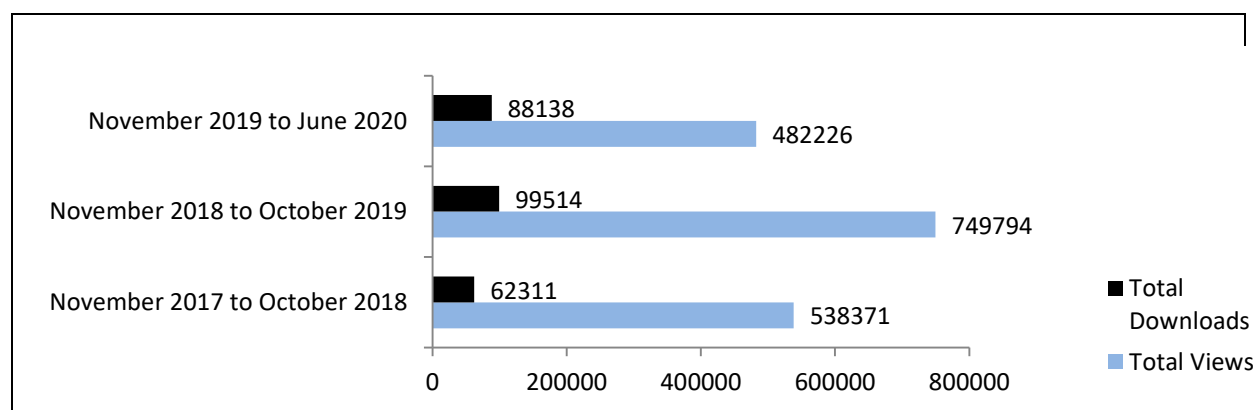
<https://www.icsf.net/en/yemaya.html>

Yemaya Newsletter of women in fisheries started in April 1999. 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 grassroot organizational processes and on women leaders in different countries. All issues of Yemaya newsletter issue No. 1-60 are available on ICSF' website.

TABLE 2: YEMAYA NEWLETTER PUBLISHED

Year	Number of Issues published	Newsletter emailed to people /organizations	Views	Downloads
Nov 2017 to Oct 2018	2	3540	538371	62311
Nov 2018 to Oct 2019	2	3899	749794	99514
Nov 2019 to June 2020	1	4071	482226	88138
Total	5	-	1770391	249963

FIGURE 2: RESPONSE TO YEMAYA NEWLETTER



1. Yemaya No. 57, July 2018

This issue of Yemaya features articles from Sri Lanka, India, and an analytical article on sex-segregated employment data in the the State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture, 2018 (SOFIA, 2018). The editorial comment stresses the lack of recognition barring women from policies and programmes supporting livelihood development. The article on Sri Lanka shows that declining levels of women's employment in the fisheries indicate the growing invisibility of women's work in the sector. The Trincomalee women fishers lack the financial and physical support required to improve their livelihood opportunities. The article on innovative boat clinics, 'Ships of hope', demonstrates how the floating clinics of the Brahmaputra basin in India fulfil the mission to 2.5 mn people inhabiting the islands of the river, who are, poor and vulnerable. From Sadiya to Dhubri, children, women, and the elderly crowd the boat Clinics with health queries and for general check-ups.

The article, 'Where have all the women gone?' looks at the challenges in improving the data collection and reporting and for the use of more methodologies across data sets in the light of the recently published SOFIA 2018. Nalini Nayak, in her review article on, 'Women's Participation and Leadership in Fisherfolk Organizations and Collective Action in Fisheries', argues that it is a fine overview of what is written and documented about women in fisheries. This desk study by Enrique Alonso-Poblacion and Susana V. Siar identifies opportunities where women have successfully participated in organizations and how such examples could be scaled up in other situations where constraints are high.'

In 'Ockhi's Wake' (the title of the documentary film, made by ICSF), Shibani Chaudhury describes the challenges women face in the aftermath of Cyclone Ockhi and the multiple dimensions of disaster preparedness that still need attention. A profile of Suman Singh narrates the story of how inland fisherwomen in Madhubani, India, under her leadership have gained greater control of their lives. The Milestones column presents the strong gender dimension of the new Costa Rica bill, 'General Law for the Sustainability of Small-scale, Artisanal Fisheries in the Context of Food Security, Poverty Eradication and Shared Governance'. This bill highlights the role of women played in the fisheries sector and the enduring value of local traditional knowledge. The bill recognizes that measures governing the small-scale, artisanal fisheries sector must be in harmony with human rights regarding women and based on the specific women's needs of each community.

'What's New, Webby?' column presents the findings of a recent report titled, 'Putting Gender Equality on the Seafood Industry's Agenda: Results of a Global Survey of Women in the Seafood Industry' by WSI. The 18-question survey covers the personal occupation and position of the respondent, his/her perception that women occupy in the seafood industry and specifically in the company. The survey pays attention to positive initiatives as well. The 'Yemaya Recommends' section talks about how the video 'Animation on Gender Equity and Equality' attempts to capture the main issues related to gender equality in small-scale fisheries. The Spanish and French versions of the animation are under preparation and will be

released shortly. Issue no. 57 of Yemaya also carries the ever-popular cartoon strip, Yemaya Mama, ‘From dream to reality...’. This issue can be accessed at:

<https://www.icsf.net/en/yemaya/article/EN/57.html?limitstart=0>

2. Yemaya No. 58, December 2018

Issue no. 58 of Yemaya features articles from Kenya, Mexico, India, and an analytical article on gender inequalities in the seafood industry. The editorial comment calls for gender mainstreaming throughout the fisheries sector. The article on Kenya by Irene Ojuok and Philemon Bwanaway throws light on the new initiatives developing in the context of declining resources in Kenya. Women are entering in new roles along the value chain and they no longer have to engage in jabooya, thanks to new income-generating projects.

Carmen Pedroza Gutierrez, in her article, narrates the experience of Alejandra and Maria Elena from Mexico’s Lake Chapala and examines how women fishers are excluded from the support net of social security measures or benefits and how vulnerable their life is without any legal recognition.

The article from India by Holly Hapke looks at how the mechanization in fishing and retrieving catch using mechanical means of propulsion led to greater centralization of fish landings and the impact on women fish traders. The centralization of landings has created competition from men fish traders too.

Marie Christine Monfort, in her article on a survey among male and female seafood professionals to elicit their view about the situation of women in the fishing industry, argue that situations of inequality have been reported from all parts of the world, with the exception of Scandinavia. The seafood professionals from this region rank Denmark, Iceland and Norway as the top countries closest to gender equality.

In her review of the Cambodian film, “Give Woman a Fish”, Kyoko Kusakabe describes the challenges women fishers face in Cambodia’s Tonle Sap Lake. The lake provides 60% of Cambodia’s annual fish catch and is the source of livelihood for 1.5 mn people. The film describes how a successful project supported by a women’s group to upgrade their fish processing techniques, introduced savings and helped to diversify livelihoods.

A profile of Sonia Medina Matarrita, a fisherwoman from Isla Venado, Costa Rica, by Vivienne Solis Rivera narrates the story of how under Sonia’s leadership, the Venado Island fishers’ association got involved in the implementation of responsible fishing in the Marine Responsible Fishing Area of the island.

The Milestones column features a declaration on the urgent need to guarantee the social protection and safety of workers (women and men) in the sector. The declaration calls our attention to provide professional dignity to fishers’ activity so that it can be considered “decent work”, according to the International Labour Organization (ILO). The declaration

states that it is necessary to improve the working conditions of women within the sector, to fight against the informality and precariousness of women's work being segregated horizontally and vertically, and to address the wage gap and barriers that hinder the reconciliation of work, family and personal life. 'What's New, Webby?' column presents the details of a new women-in-fisheries project which examines how women contribute to the survival of both fishing families and the fishing industry.

<https://www.icsf.net/en/yemaya/article/EN/58.html?limitstart=0>

3. Yemaya No. 59, June 2019

Issue No. 59 of Yemaya features articles from Fiji and India and an article on the 7th Global conference on gender in aquaculture and fisheries (GAF7), as well as an article on the recently-held roundtable in India on women. The editorial comment calls for urgent need to look at levels of exclusion women are facing, despite the attention received at the international level. The article on Fiji shows the lack of sex-disaggregated data available for any meaningful analysis. Nikita Gopal, in her article on GAF7, highlights the intersectionalities of power relations existing in the fisheries sector. The Roundtable highlighted the tremendous gains that women make when they collectively raise their voices to demand their rights.

The issue also celebrates the Slow Fish event held in Genoa, Italy. The Slow Fish Forum promotes small-scale fishing and responsible fish consumption and provides a unique space, particularly for women in the small-scale fisheries sector. The Milestones calls for understanding the seafood industry through a gender equality lens. There is need for regular efforts to raise awareness on gender issues. Shilpa Nandy in her profile column writes about Tapasi Dolui, a fisherwoman from West Bengal, India, leading the struggle of fisherwomen in Tangrachar. Indu M.G. in Yemaya recommends a short video, 'Fished: The Fisher Women of Mumbai', directed by Daya Gupta and narrate the story of the lives of Koli women, a traditional fishing community from Mumbai, India. This issue can be accessed at:

<https://www.icsf.net/en/yemaya/article/EN/59.html?limitstart=0>

4. Yemaya No. 60, April 2020

This issue features articles from India, Costa Rica, Japan, European Union, and a special supplement, Turning Points: A decade of change for women in fisheries, moderated by Nikita Gopal and N. Venugopalan., The article from India details the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on women fishworkers in Mumbai. The Costa Rican article shows how the women fishers, shrimp peelers and mollusc workers identify their priority areas for the recognition and formalization of work.

The article from Japan looks at the challenges of excluding women from fishery cooperative associations. The article from Africa looks at the gradual transformation of the African

Confederation of Artisanal Fishing Organization (CAOPA) from 2010 onwards. The article talks about how the organization made gender issues a priority area in their advocacy work. The article on Southeast Asia narrates the story of how declining incomes and ageing populations mean that women are likely to be the mainstay of families and communities in the small-scale fisheries. The article on small-scale fisheries and the contribution of women highlights that part-time fishing and gleaning activities globally may contribute nearly three million tonnes of seafood, with a landed value of around US\$5.6 bn. The article on AKTEA, The European Network of Women in Fisheries and Aquaculture, looks at what are the challenges and the way forward for the network. In her review of the recently published book, “Practical Guide for Gender Analysis in Small-scale Fisheries and Aquaculture in Southeast Asia”, Susana Siar looks at how the book is designed to support the SSF Guidelines.

The Yemaya Supplement, *Turning Points: A decade of change for women in fisheries*, focuses on a change that has happened over a decade: a truthful appreciation of women’s role in fisheries. Their involvement in the sector follows a similar arc the world over, despite wide differences in society, culture, politics and economics. This supplement is an effort to understand and identify the main factors affecting this over the decade – the causes that have shaped their role, both positively and negatively. The invited contributors tried to answer the following questions from their areas of work:

1. Could we say that our discourse explicitly recognizes women’s human rights, labour rights including occupational safety and health, environmental (participation in resource management, climate change coping mechanisms, differential impact of disasters on women) and social impacts (role played in community, ownership rights in near shore fisheries)?
2. Are women organized better now? How many organizations are there and how attentive are they at national level or at international level to gender and women’s issues?
3. What are the effects of increase in mobility and participation in multiple activities as fisher, trader, wage labourer in processing industry, farmer in aqua farms, migrant worker, women employed in seafood industry, care giver etc.?
4. What is the major change in developing coping mechanisms in your country or the fisheries you are familiar with? Is there a marked change at the occupational level?
5. What are the legislative or policy supports at national or International level? Are there data available about women’s employment and participation in fisheries?
6. Empowerment and agency of women are important for community development. What progress have we made? What are the major factors of negative impacts?

The Profile column looks at how a fishing village in India mourns the death of an Italian nurse, Laretta Farina of Bergamo. The Milestones column features a recently published report of the WHO Global Health Workforce. The report calls for gender-transformative

policies and measures to be put in place if global targets for better health and gender outcomes are to be followed.

‘The What’s New, Webby?’ column presents the details of a new gender initiative via a mobile app and an online platform. The app tracks the gender-specific progress in each country. This issue of the Yemaya also carries the ever-popular cartoon strip, Yemaya Mama, Locked economies, empty stomachs...’This issue can be accessed at:

https://www.icsf.net/images/yemaya/pdf/english/issue_60/355_Yemaya%2060_ICSF_May2020.pdf

C. VIDEO INTERVIEWS WITH PARTICIPANTS OF FAO TENURE CONFERENCE AT YEOSU, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, 2018

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, Republic of Korea. These interviews, which capture a diverse perspective 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 maintaining greater coherence across tenure rights and SDGs will ensure 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>

1. Margaret Nakato – Tenure rights and gender in small-scale fisheries

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITSvdZXTeX4>

ICSF interviewed Margaret Nakato, Coordinator of the Katosi Women Development Trust (KWDT), Uganda, and Executive Director, World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF)

2. Editrudith Lukanga – Tenure rights and the Sustainable Development Goals

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVtCtPfhJRI>

ICSF interviewed Editrudith Lukanga, Convener of the Tanzania Women Fish Workers Association (TAWFA), and Co-President of the World Forum of Fish Harvesters & Fish Workers (WFF).

3. Rebecca Metzner – The way forward on tenure and user rights in fisheries

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8iVzsUv-KM>

ICSF interviewed Rebecca Metzner, Head of the Policy, Economics and Institutions Branch, Fisheries and Aquaculture Department of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

4. Hugh Govan – Tenure rights and local fisheries management

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpA2Gpx7V5E>

ICSF interviewed Hugh Govan, Technical Adviser to the Locally-Managed Marine Areas (LMMA) Network at “Tenure and User Rights in Fisheries 2018,”.

5. Dedi Adhuri – Tenure rights and small-scale fisheries in Indonesia

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zww4ayRxWfU>

ICSF interviewed Dedi Supriadi Adhuri, Senior Researcher at the Research Center for Society and Culture, Indonesian Institute of Sciences, Jakarta.

D. INFORMATION SERVICES

ICSF employs various media channels to disseminate information and foster awareness about developments of relevance to artisanal and small-scale fishworkers globally, with a special focus on the developing world. The aim of these services is to enhance access of fishworkers and support organizations to information needed to protect and further their rights and livelihoods.

ICSF’s News Alerts, website, social media channels and other information services seek 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.

1. SAMUDRA Daily News Alerts

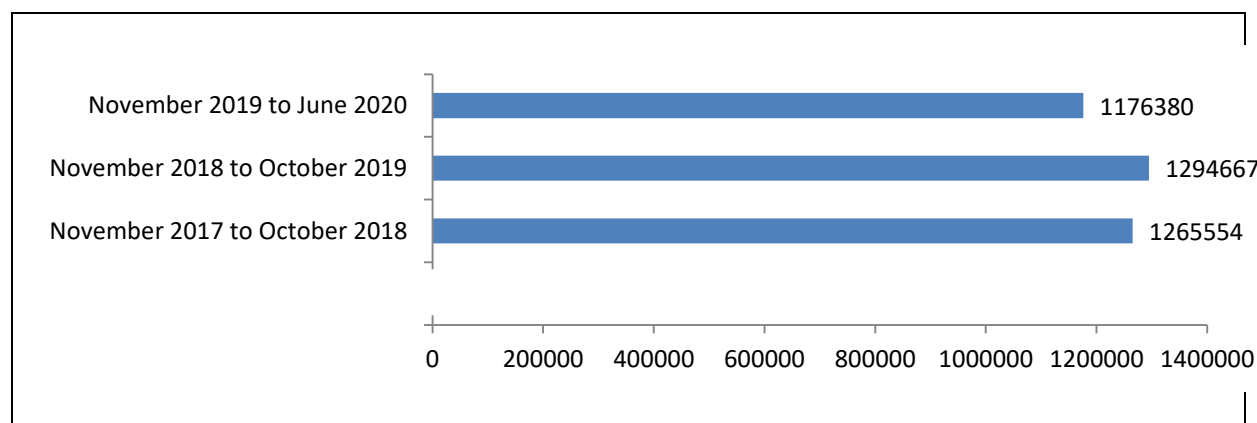
<https://www.icsf.net/en/88ocusin-news-alert.html?language=EN>

Outreach: Worldwide. SAMUDRA News Alerts, launched in January 2005, has been sending out news on fisheries and fishworkers on a daily basis, and in the form of a weekly digest on Saturdays. SAMUDRA News alerts with, 1875 subscribers, carried 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. In the reporting period, 490 alerts with 4,428 news items were disseminated.

TABLE 3 SAMUDRA NEWS and ALERTS

Period	Number of Subscribers	Number of News items added	Number of Alerts sent	Total views
Nov 2017 to Oct 2018	1790	1473	180	1265554
Nov 2018 to Oct 2019	1811	1388	140	1294667
Nov 2019 to June 2020	1860	1567	170	1176380
Total	-	4428	490	3736601

FIGURE 3 TOTAL VIEWS FOR SAMUDRA ALERTS



2. South Asia News Alerts

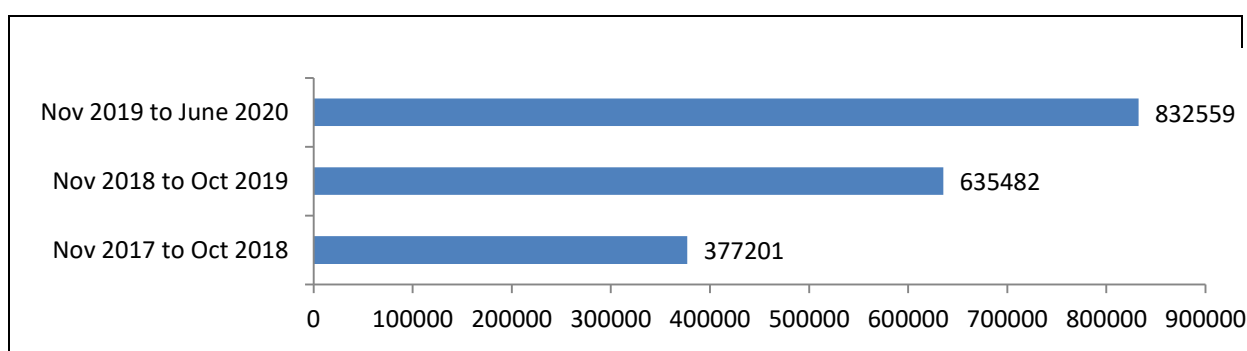
<https://dc.icsf.net/en/component/dcnews/>

The South Asia News Alert, initiated in October 2011, presently has 1771 subscribers. South Asia News Alerts with 1769 subscribers carried news items on fisheries policy issues, issues of fisheries management and governance, press releases, petitions and other reports from fish worker organizations and civil society organizations. In the reporting period 698 alerts with 6925 news items were disseminated.

TABLE 4: DAILY SOUTH ASIA NEWS ALERTS

Period	Number of Subscribers	Number of News items added	Number of Alerts sent	Total views
Nov 2017 to Oct 2018	1913	2435	232	377201
Nov 2018 to Oct 2019	1996	2246	232	635482
Nov 2019 to June 2020	1915	2244	234	832559
Total		6925	698	1845242

FIGURE 4: TOTAL VIEWS FOR DAILY SOUTH ASIA NEWS ALERTS



3. Dissemination of Publications and Films Alert

ICSF's Publications and Films Email Alert has periodically disseminated SAMUDRA Report, Yemaya Newsletter and other publications and films to its subscription base of 4071 individuals/institutions. In the reporting period we have disseminated 12 alerts to subscribers.

3.1 Linking with other Networks and Dissemination of Information:

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

Aquatic Commons

http://aquaticcommons.org/view/issuing_agency/International_Collective_in_Support_of_Fishworkers.html

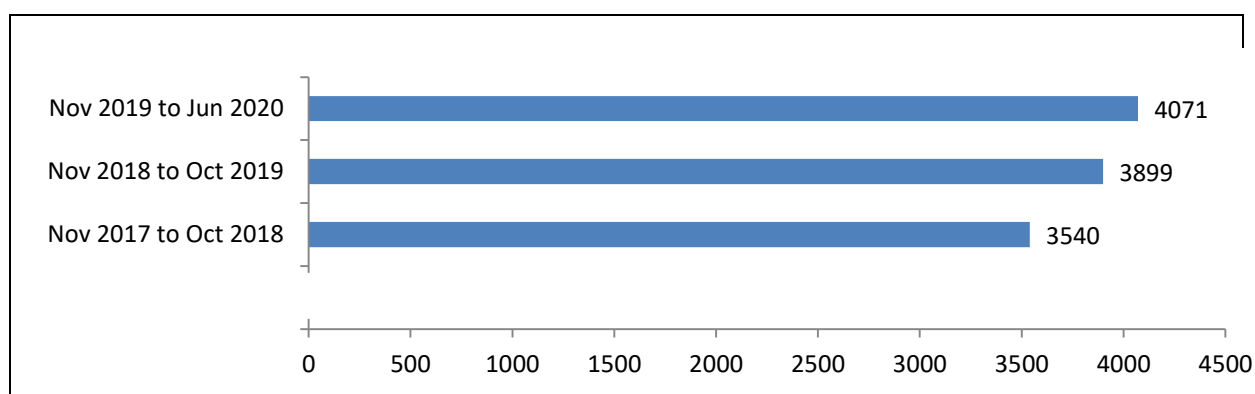
FAO Family Farming Knowledge Platform

<http://www.fao.org/family-farming/en/>

Academia

<https://independent.academia.edu/IcsfOffice>

FIGURE 5: NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS FOR PUBLICATIONS AND FILMS ALERTS

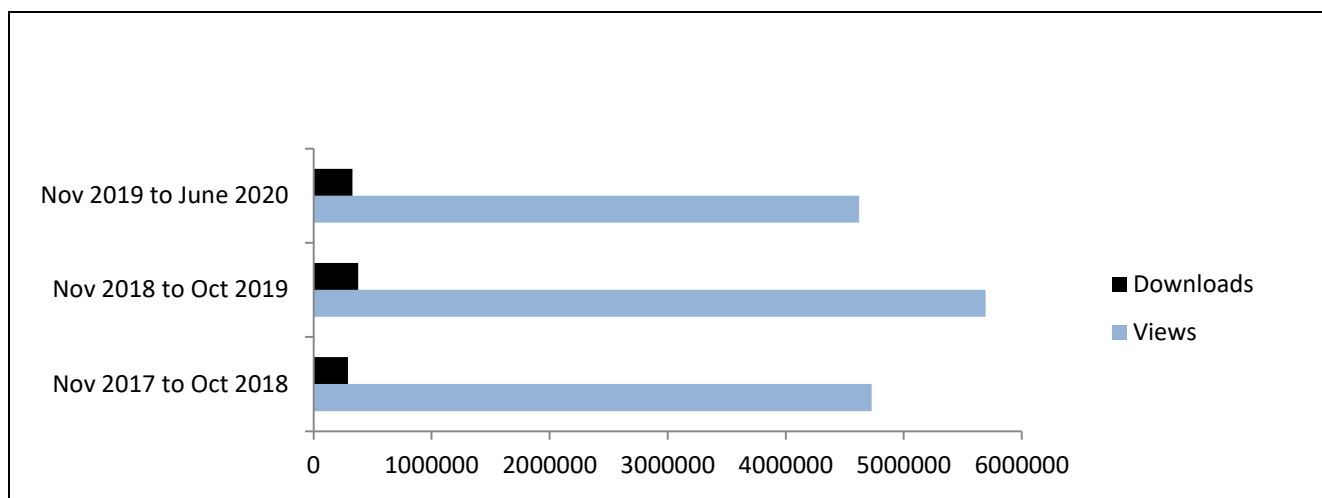


E. ICSF WEBSITES

ICSF Website - <https://www.icsf.net/>

ICSF Websites and subsites are updated with information on various publications and films; searchable databases for news alerts; statements made at international workshops and meetings including UN/FAO/ILO meetings and statements from ICSF organized workshops, papers and presentations made by ICSF, important fisheries events, and online resources.

FIGURE 6: TOTAL VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS FOR ICSF WEBSITE



Website redesign

ICSF has started the process of redesigning its website, in order to better align with its current work and to achieve its vision and mission goals. The new design will make several improvements on the current ICSF site, in terms of responsiveness, prominence on search engines, and a faster and more flexible interface. The new website prototype is developed with the view to make the categorization of content on the website mirror the core thematic areas of ICSF work, making it simple to navigate, search and access content. The fresher, brighter mobile-phone-friendly look with photo and video cues, will help ICSF TO engage with readers on social media. The new prototype needs the inputs of all ICSF members to create the best possible website for the organization.

View the prototype: <http://dev6.blazedream.in/ICSF>

F. SOCIAL MEDIA

ICSF is active on social media like Facebook and Twitter. Its posts generally follow the following topics: on ICSF’s work/ publications (5%), on UN,FAO, CBD, ILO, etc. fisheries-related publications /meetings (20%); international fisheries news including what impacts fishing communities, statements/petitions from FWOs (60%); global fisheries research / papers and conferences (15%).

1. ICSF Twitter

<https://twitter.com/icsf1?lang=en>

Post frequency: Flexible. 2-7 per day; 100 per month on average. Usually between 11am – 4pm IST.

TABLE 5: ACTIVITY AND RESPONSE

Period	Number of Followers	Number of twitter pages Following	Number of tweets
Nov 2017 to Oct 2018	671	286	806
Nov 2018 to Oct 2019	1014	1467	1595
Nov 2019 to Jun 2020	1383	2067	1669
Total	-	-	4070

2. Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/International-Collective-in-Support-of-Fishworkers-207693975914236/>

Facebook: Followers: 1,450 and Post frequency: Flexible. 2-7 per day; 140 per month on average. Usually between 11am – 4pm IST.

TABLE 6: FACEBOOK

Period	Number of Followers	Number of Posts
Nov 2017 to Oct 2018	1226	806
Nov 2018 to Oct 2019	1450	1595
Nov 2019 to Jun 2020	1519	1669
Total	-	4070

XIII. Conclusion

Adopting a project approach, ICSF, through its members and partners, undertook to implement the SSF Guidelines in Asia, Africa and Latin America towards protecting the human rights and tenure rights of small-scale fishing communities on the one hand, and to achieve conservation and sustainable use of aquatic living resources at the national and subnational levels, on the other.

Under the project, raising awareness about the SSF Guidelines broadened the audience to include the Indigenous Peoples of Amazonas as well as the local communities of Ghana, Myanmar, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Sri Lanka and India, and the local government bodies, especially in Asia.

There was considerable interest in integrating the SSF Guidelines into legislation and policies at various levels and in advocating greater decentralization and devolution of fisheries governance towards resolving intra- and inter-sectoral conflicts, protecting livelihoods and fetching social benefits to fishing communities.

Adopting a process approach, ICSF engaged with multilateral bodies such as FAO, CBD and the United Nations (Our Ocean Conference) towards implementing the SSF Guidelines to secure the rights of small-scale fishers and fishworkers and to meet relevant SDGs, especially to secure improved access to resources and markets (SDG 14.b).

Adopting a partnership approach, ICSF, together with CSOs/NGOs, contributed to improving the visibility of small-scale fisheries in relation to food security, ocean economy, climate change, gender, labour, decent work, tenure, social protection and the protection of human rights in multilateral bodies like FAO.

Last but not least, adopting a case study approach, ICSF has now begun work to look at aquaculture through a human rights lens.

The above approaches have been buttressed with ICSF communication activities such as publications, websites, animations and films, towards enhancing knowledge and improving the effectiveness of projects, processes and partnerships.

After the declaration of Covid-19 as a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) in March 2020, ICSF has been adopting a combination of process and partnership approaches to document the impact of the pandemic and to propose new coping mechanisms through effective economic instruments and social protection measures within a human rights framework.

The nine-country project has demonstrated the relevance of the SSF Guidelines in addressing problems faced by small-scale fishers and fishworkers, especially the vulnerable and marginalized groups. Securing tenure rights and protecting human rights have emerged as key areas of interest to marine and inland small-scale fishing communities. There are

expectations to see effective mechanisms, processes and institutions in place, including through the creation of national platforms and building alliances with like-minded CSOs.

Leveraged on conservation and sustainable use of living aquatic resources, the ongoing challenge is to sustain an active global interest in the elements of the SSF Guidelines—fisheries, biodiversity, food security, tenure, climate change, labour, gender, trade, disaster preparedness, migration, social development, social protection, human rights, etc.—and to employ these elements in transforming the lives and livelihoods of small-scale fishers, fishworkers and their dependent communities in a coherent, ground-up manner towards inclusive and equitable outcomes.

Conterminous with small-scale fisheries are ‘aquaculture’ and ‘blue economy’ activities, presumed to offer opportunities of alternative employment, income and food security, or on the contrary, posing threats of environmental externalities, denial of tenure rights, and abuse of human rights.

Consistent with its goal of strengthening fishing communities, fishers and others engaged in small-scale fisheries, ICSF has held on steadfast to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in various geographic contexts, and in engaging with different thematic areas. ICSF membership, in this context may be revamped, towards broadening and deepening its engagement with small-scale fisheries issues. Strengthening the partnership of ICSF with its traditional, as well as new partners, will stand ICSF in good stead in future.

XIV. ICSF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF/CIAPA)

Balance Sheet

Summarized
Accounts

as at three year ends up to 30th June 2020

	As at 30th June		
	2020	2019	2018
FUNDS & LIABILITIES			
Unrestricted Funds			
Income & Expenditure Account balance after adjustments		2,515	1,529
Restricted Funds			
Portions of grants received but not utilised till the year end		92,875	94,102
Other current liabilities			
Balances in short term accounts		13,449	1,000
Total		1,08,839	96,631
ASSETS			
Restricted Funds			
Portions of grants receivable		1,265	-
Other current assets			
Balances in short term accounts		14,333	11,301
Cash and Bank balances		93,241	85,330

Total

1,08,839

96,631

As per our report of even date attached herewith

for S.S & Co.,

Chartered Accountants

The complete versions of the annual statements are available on request

These statements have been signed for ICSF by its Executive Secretary and by its Auditors as per their attached

Report August 2020.

The annual statements were signed for ICSF by its Treasurer as well as Executive Secretary

International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF/CIAPA)

Income and Expenditure
Account

summarized
Accounts Page 2 of
6

as at three year ends up to 30th June

(Euros)

2020

	3 Yrs			
	ended	Year ended		
	30.06.20	30-Jun-20	30-Jun-19	30-Jun-18
INCOME				
Specific Grants Utilised				
Grants utilised for Activity Expenditure	5,51,280	1,94,891	2,92,771	63,618
Minor Income & Donations				
Other income & donations	2,740	707	550	1,483
Financial income	3,443	2961	436	46
Total	5,57,463	1,98,559	2,93,757	65,147

EXPENDITURE

Priority Areas, Coordination				
Campaigns & Action, Monitoring & Research, Exchange & Training and Communications				
SAMUDRA, Yemaya and Other Ongoing Projects			2,16,550	41,764
General Assembly, Board meetings and Coordination			76,221	21,854
Total				63,618

-	-	2,92,771
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Surplus/(Deficit)	986	1,529
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International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF/CIAPA)

Cash Flow Statement

as at three year ends up to 30th June 2020

(Euros)

3 Yrs

ended

Year ended

	30.06.20	30-Jun- 20	30-Jun-19	30-Jun-18
OPENING CASH				
Cash and bank balances at the beginning	1,78,571	93,241	85,330	-
	-			
INFLOWS				
	-			
Restricted Grants Received	8,18,879	3,70,880	2,90,279	1,57,720
	-			
Unrestricted Grants Received	-	-	-	-
	-			
Membership Fees, Minor Income and Donations	6,183	3,668	986	1,529
	-			
Total cash available	<u>10,03,633</u>	<u>4,67,789</u>	<u>3,76,595</u>	<u>1,59,249</u>
OUTFLOWS				
Activity Expenditure			2,92,771	63,618
Other Current Accounts				
Current assets-Net increase/(Decrease)			3,032	11,301

Current Liabilities-Net (increase)/Decrease	(12,449)	(1,000)
Total cash utilised	2,83,354	73,919
CLOSING CASH	93,241	85,330
Cash and bank balances at the end		

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Secretary

International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF/CIAPA)

Schedules forming part of the accounts	summarised Accounts Page 4 of 6
for the year ended 30th June 2019	(Euros)

Schedule A-Activity Expenditure	For the year ended
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	30-Jun-20	30-Jun-19	30-Jun-18
Salaries and Staff Cost	70897	46,250	6,007
Associate and Consultant fees	48853	1,55,052	26,552
Travel	33130	24,842	9,609
Communication	1981	25,305	8,425
Documentation	1418	22,873	655
Facilities	34104	14,122	11,033
Others	1067	1,471	337
Remuneration to Auditors	3441	2,856	1,000
Total	1,94,891	2,92,771	63,618

Project wise Activity Expenditure

Samudra, Yemaya and Ongoing Projects/Studies:

Samudra, Yemaya and DC Alerts	17,503	34,384
Empowerment activities for Small Scale Fishing Communities in nine Countries	1,52,868	-
Study on tenure rights and Study on rights of women	4,890	-

UN Women-Activities	17,510	-
Website	23,779	7,380
Total	2,16,550	41,764
Meetings and Coordination:		
General Assembly, Board meetings and Coordination	76,221	21,854
Total	76,221	21,854
Total	2,92,771	63,618

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International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF/CIAPA)

summarized
Accounts
Page 5 of 6

Schedules forming part of the accounts

for the year ended 30th June
2019

(Euros)

Schedule C - Grant Accounts

Grantor	Purpose	Receipt	Utilization	Balance as on 30.06.20
Oak Foundation	Towards the Implementation of the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines	1,89,454	1,12,150	77,304
SwedBio/Stockholm Resilience Centre	Towards the Implementation of the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines	3,32,453	1,61,045	1,71,408
Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Towards the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries	2,22,912	2,42,930	(20,018)
Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Study of the impact of Cyclone Ockhi on Marine fisheries sector, India	31,832	31,832	-

UN Women (United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women)	Women's Economic Empowerment and the Blue Economy	30,268	30,268	-
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation, Sweden (SSNC)	Sustainable development and Human Rights-based Approach in Aquaculture	18,793	4,823	13,970
Oak Foundation	Oak Covid-19 Emergency Assistance Fund	25,000	24,647	353
Total		8,50,711	6,07,695	2,43,016

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REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER 2017 TO JUNE 2020

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) is an international non-governmental organization that works towards the establishment of equitable, gender-just, self-reliant and sustainable fisheries, particularly in the small-scale, artisanal sector.



International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)

Website: www.icsf.net