



International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)

**Reporting Period:
09 October, 2019 to 31 May, 2021**

Abbreviations

APRC	Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
CAOPA	African Confederation of Artisanal Fisheries Professional Organisations
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCRF	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
CECAF	Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic
CFS	Committee on World Food Security
COFI	Committee on Fisheries
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
EAFM	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDA	Fisheries Development Association
FWOs	Fishworkers' organizations
GFCM	General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean
GSF	Global Strategic Framework
ICSF	International Collective in Support of Fishworkers
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGO	Intergovernmental organization
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMBL	International Maritime Boundary Line
IPC	International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty
IYAFA	International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture
KIARA	Koalisi Rakyat Untuk Keadilan Perikanan
MCD	Centre for Marinelife Conservation and Community Development
NAFSO	National Fisheries Solidarity Organization
NAG	Network Action Group
NIFAP	National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health
OPAN	Operação Amazônia Nativa
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
SDF	Sustainable Development Foundation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SFZs	Small-scale Artisanal non-towed Fishing gear Zones
SLFSSF	Sri Lanka Forum for Small-scale Fisheries
SSF	Small-scale Fisheries
SSNC	Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
TBTI	Too Big To Ignore
TESCOD	Technical Services for Community Development
UN	United Nations
UNDF	UN Decade of Family Farming

UNFIP	United Nations Fund for International Partnerships
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNHRC	United Nations Human Rights Council
WFF	World Forum of Fish Harvesters & Fish Workers
WFFP	World Forum of Fisher Peoples
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

Introduction

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) was established in 1986 in India following the International Conference of Fishworkers and their Supporters in Rome, Italy in 1984. ICSF has played a supporting role to fishworker movements worldwide, endorsing the rights of small-scale fishers and other small-scale fisheries (SSF) actors. ICSF was re-registered in 2017 in The Netherlands (KvK number 69248761), following which the General Assembly meeting was held in Amsterdam on 7-8 December, 2017. ICSF is managed by an elected Board and the secretariat is based in India, which is hosted by the ICSF Trust, a registered entity in India. The elected Board of 2017 was re-elected in December 2020 for a new triennial term: 2021 to 2023.

After its relaunch in December 2017, ICSF work has been working sub-nationally, nationally and globally, adopting a human rights-based approach, on issues related to the marine and inland fisheries and fishing communities. ICSF recognizes the empowering role of information to benefit fishing communities. The SAMUDRA Report, SAMUDRA News Alerts, Yemaya Newsletter, South Asia News Alerts, and ICSF Website continue to share and disseminate information and analyses. Efforts undertaken during the reporting period have aimed at enhancing an understanding among a wide range of stakeholders and decision-makers, about the importance of SSF and issues of concern to fishing communities.

ICSF Organizational Structure

General Assembly	Secretariat	ICSF Trust
<p>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)</p>	<p>Executive Director: Sebastian Mathew</p> <p>Programme Programme Manager: N. Venugopalan</p> <p>Programme Officer: Manas Roshan</p> <p>Programme Associate: Vishakha Gupta (resigned on 01 April, 2021)</p> <p>Junior Information Officer: M. Jeevarajan</p> <p>Finance Manager, Accounts: S. Ganga Devi</p> <p>Administration Junior Office Secretary: Manjula R.</p> <p>Housekeeping Staff: Anjammal T.</p> <p>Consultants SAMUDRA Report and SAMUDRA and South Asia News Alerts Editor: K.G. Kumar Copy Editor: Sopan Joshi</p> <p>Yemaya Newsletter</p>	<p>John Kurien, Trustee</p> <p>Nalini Nayak Trustee</p> <p>V. Vivekanandan Trustee</p> <p>Sebastian Mathew Executive Trustee</p>
ICSF Board		
<p>Maarten Bavinck, Chairperson Leopoldo Cavaleri Gerhardinger, Secretary Ravadee Prasertcharoensuk, Treasurer Peter Linford Adjei, Member Vivienne Solis Rivera, Member Sebastian Mathew, Member (ex officio)</p>		

	<p>Editor: Nilanjana Biswas</p> <p>Proof Reader: Deeyali Nayar</p>	
	<p>South Asia News alert: S.Sangeetha</p>	
	<p>Cartoonist: Surendranath Reddy</p>	
	<p>Layout Designer: Vasanth Christopher</p>	

ICSF Board Meetings 2019-2021

The Third Meeting of ICSF Board—held at SC Park Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, from 8-10 December 2019—provided a framework for ICSF campaigns, to review the audit report for the year 2018-19 and to discuss governance and administrative matters. The Board meeting was combined with a one-day field trip to visit an estuarine fishing area to meet with men and women harvesting and farming mollusc species.

In the backdrop of COVID-19 pandemic, three meetings of the Board, were held in virtual mode during the latter half of 2020. The first in this series was the Fourth Meeting of the ICSF Board, which was held on the 14th of September 2020, via Zoom. The Board decided to create a committee to deliberate and define ICSF’s position and work around the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) 2022 (for which ICSF is also a member of the Steering Committee) in this meeting. The Board further discussed the importance of capturing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the SSF community as well as human rights violations taking place under the guise of pandemic measures. The Fifth Meeting of the ICSF Board was held on the 19th of October 2020, via Zoom.

The Sixth Meeting of the ICSF Board, also over Zoom, was held on the 23rd of November 2020. The Board discussed the challenges that fishworkers and civil society organizations face in participating in international processes such as the 42nd session of the Committee on World Food Security of FAO (CFS) and the 34th session of the Committee on Fisheries of FAO (COFI) which are being held online due to the pandemic. The Board also discussed strategies to adequately respond to a number of requests for ICSF partnership, endorsement, acknowledgment and knowledge sharing.

The Seventh meeting of the ICSF Board was held on the 4th of January 2021 via Zoom. The Board decided to create groups within the membership on the basis of areas of interest, expertise and region. These thematic groups could discuss and formulate ICSF positions and participate in regional and international processes. The Secretariat would create and maintain a calendar with the details of relevant regional and international forums and meetings. The

Board decided to organize 1-2 General Assembly Meetings every year and to try to organize a physical meeting by the end of 2021. Meetings of the membership around thematic areas would be organised more frequently. The Board decided to have the next general assembly meeting in March, 2021 to discuss the ICSF workplan, budget, governance and membership.

The Eighth meeting of the ICSF Board was held on the 22nd of February 2021 via Zoom. The appointment of Elyse Mills was approved by the Board. The Board decided to discuss the concept note on food sovereignty and small-scale fisheries prepared by Elyse during the next general assembly meeting. ICSF's proposal to FAO for the project to implement the SSF guidelines (phase II) in Brazil, Ghana, Nigeria and India was discussed within the framework of ICSF workplan 2021-24. Leopoldo shared a summary of the ICSF study on Blue Economy in ten countries in Latin America and the group discussed ICSF and its partners proposal for a panel on Blue Economy and SSF for the upcoming MARE Conference in June 2021.

During the reporting period, efforts of the organization have mainly been directed towards activities at the sub-national and national levels for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, and in 2020, also to look at the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on fishing communities. ICSF's information services –the SAMUDRA Report, Yemaya Newsletter, SAMUDRA News Alerts, South Asia News Alerts and ICSF's website and COVID-19 Website (<https://covid.icsf.net/>)–provide the main vehicles for realizing the organization's commitment to the sharing and dissemination of information.

ICSF Activities: 8 November 2019 to 1 June 2021

1. ICSF-FAO Project on the Implementation of the SSF Guidelines (July, 2018 to February, 2020)

The countries involved in this project were: Brazil, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. The aim of the project was 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 under this project were: 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 (see below for more details).

ICSF's main partners in the project were: 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; Sri Lanka Forum for

Small Scale Fisheries (SLFSSF), Sri Lanka; Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF), Thailand; and Centre for Marinelife Conservation and Community Development (MCD), Vietnam.

National workshops have been organized in Brazil, Ghana, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. Reports of these workshops have been published in SAMUDRA Report No. 81 (June 2019). To share the findings of the national workshops and projects, videos were also prepared for Brazil, Ghana and India, and shared on social media. Case studies and plans have been prepared for Myanmar and Philippines

Four workshops were conducted 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 (18-20 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/>

SSF Guidelines 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. The videos illustrate four chapters: 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). The videos 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 for users to adapt it to their national and local contexts.

ICSF organized several events in nine countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America in partnership with several NGOs. In Ghana, together with TESCOOD, ICSF translated a summary of the SSF Guidelines into Nzema, Fanti, Ga and Ewe— four of the 11 recognized indigenous languages of Ghana. The subnational workshops raised awareness of several stakeholders across the fisheries value chain at the regional level. The participants agreed to use the SSF Guidelines to strengthen community participation in policymaking, and to improve traditional fishing regulations and security of tenure of inland and coastal fishing communities.

In Brazil, the workshop in Manaus, in partnership with OPAN and others, on 27 and 28 March 2019, raised awareness about the SSF Guidelines among the Indigenous Peoples of the Amazonas state. The workshop was attended by leaders of 16 ethnic groups from the

Amazon river basin. It was their first exposure to the SSF Guidelines. Within the framework of social, economic and cultural importance of inland fisheries for food security, the Workshop helped inform the Indigenous Peoples about their rights as small-scale fishers, and to integrate them into coastal and riverine fishers and fishing communities.

In Vietnam, in partnership with MCD, ICSF raised awareness of small-scale fishing communities about the role of co-management and community-based monitoring, control and surveillance systems to deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in Binh Dinh and Binh Thuan provinces of Vietnam through workshops in September 2018 and May 2019 respectively. Relevant sections of the SSF Guidelines were highlighted to comply with the 2017 Fisheries Law of Vietnam.

In Myanmar, ICSF, together with NAG, at a workshop held in Pyapon Township, in December 2018, reviewed fisheries management in two townships of the Ayeyarwaddy Region and proposed integrating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM) into the co-management mechanisms of local fishing communities. The workshop was followed up by training leaders of the local Fisheries Development Association (FDA) to build their capacity to identify issues related to overfishing and co-management within the framework of EAFM.

Under the project, ICSF and NAG also undertook a study on improving conditions of work of migrant fishers and fishworkers in *kyar phoeng*, the stow net fishery in the Gulf of Mottoma, Myanmar, in September 2018. The study identified key problems facing migrant stow net fishers and fishworkers, proposed strict enforcement of contracts between employers and workers within the framework of relevant ILO instruments, abolition of making advance payments to workers, reducing overcapacity in stow net fisheries and establishing fishworker associations to improve their working and living conditions.

In the Philippines, in collaboration with Tambuyog Development Center, ICSF undertook benchmarking of the Philippine legislation and policies—Fisheries Code, Water Code, Local Government Code, Climate Change Act, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, and the Philippine Constitution— against the SSF Guidelines. The findings were shared with municipal fishers as well as tuna hand-liners through cluster consultations in Luzon and Visayas provinces during the period March-May 2019. Three sets of recommendations were made: First, to protect the customary rights of Indigenous Peoples to ancestral waters, and to improve the participation of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making processes. Second, to protect the security of tenure of fishing communities to their settlements by developing appropriate rules and regulations. And third, to develop policies to ensure decent working conditions and fair compensation to fishworkers along the fisheries value chain.

In Sri Lanka, ICSF, in collaboration with SLFSSF, undertook several activities during July 2018 to May 2019 to incorporate the SSF Guidelines into fisheries policy making and planning processes. A national workshop was held in September 2018 to sensitise various stakeholders about the SSF Guidelines. Copies of the summary of the SSF Guidelines, translated into Sinhala and Tamil by National Fisheries Solidarity Organization (NAFSO)

was distributed among small-scale fishing communities. Factsheets were printed containing key messages of the SSF Guidelines. Printed posters were circulated in Sinhala and Tamil on the role of women in fisheries and on co-management. Stakeholder meetings were held across Sri Lanka to reach fishing community and the district fisheries administrations. The Sri Lankan National Fisheries Policy, 2018 was reviewed by a group of policy experts in light of stakeholder meetings, and proposals were made to bring changes to this policy by integrating key elements of the SSF Guidelines, especially those dealing with securing tenure rights of fishers to land, water and fishery resources, social development and social protection.

ICSF's partners in Indonesia prepared two short papers: one, on how two new legislation in the country, Law No. 1/2014 and Law No. 7/2016, can secure the tenure rights to conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources of customary, local and traditional fishing communities, in line with the SSF Guidelines; and the other on how women's rights can be strengthened to enhance fisheries governance, food security and poverty reduction.

FAO Evaluation Report 2021

An FAO evaluation of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, under “enhancing the contribution of small-scale fisheries to food security and sustainable livelihoods through better policies, strategies and initiatives” (Project code: GCP/GLO/645/NOR, dated 2021) observed that CSOs including ICSF, comprehensively covered the wide range of issues dealt within the SSF Guidelines (e.g. human rights, gender equality, decent work, value chains, etc.) and leveraged expertise at national level, especially through its members and partners. The report further observed that the FAO project generated an impressive volume and range of information products related to project activities and SSF, and recognized the role of ICSF website in this context. It observed that ICSF and the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF), the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and the WorldFish have demonstrated a real appreciation of the SSF Guidelines and have become SSF “beacon bearers”.

2. Small-scale Fisheries and Everything ‘Blue’

FAO, ICSF and SwedBio organized two international webinars on “Small-scale fisheries and everything ‘blue’” in March and May 2020. The meetings aimed to discuss trends in the development of the ocean (‘blue’) economy, in order to place small-scale fisheries (SSF) and human rights at the center of marine (and inland water) governance and policy. The workshop concept note was co-developed by SwedBio, the Ocean Nexus Programme, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC), Too Big To Ignore (TBTI) - Global Partnership for Small-scale Fisheries Research, the World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP) and ICSF.

In the two webinars, over 30 participants from 18 civil society organizations, fishworker and indigenous people's social movements, research institutions and partnerships, and

development aid agencies, discussed prominent ‘blue’ agendas and discourses. These were examined for their inclusion of fisheries, and the implications of increasing investments and industrial activity in coastal and marine areas on SSF livelihoods and human rights.

Participants presented the research and advocacy programmes of their organizations, to identify knowledge and policy gaps in various ‘blue economy’/‘blue growth’ discourses. The exchange of knowledge helped develop common approaches and strategies for promoting the interests of SSF in these discourses and planning processes. They also highlighted alternative marine and aquatic resource governance models–informed by the human rights-based approach and the principles of the SSF Guidelines.

The meetings highlighted the need to increase awareness of the contributions of SSF to global food security and livelihoods, particularly through FAO and other UN agencies. Participants also noted that the effective implementation of the SSF Guidelines would protect the tenure rights of SSF and contribute to sustainable development. Civil society should be supported to participate in and monitor implementation. Towards this, the group identified several international processes and events for collaborative advocacy to benefit SSF, including the 34th Session of COFI; the 2nd UN Ocean Conference (which now stands postponed to 2022, i.e., if public health conditions allow) and other processes for the sustainable development goals (SDGs); human rights monitoring mechanisms of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC); and IYAFSA. Participants will continue to engage by sharing information and knowledge, highlighting good practices and developing strategies to support civil society participation at the national, regional and international levels.

3. ICSF Study: Addressing the blue economy impacts on small-scale fisheries in Latin America

Between October 2020 and February 2021, ICSF undertook a desk study on the implications of the 'blue economy' for SSF in ten major fish producing countries with large SSF populations in Latin America: Brazil, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala. Aimed at generating critical knowledge to support SSF organizations’ advocacy in ‘blue economy’ or ‘blue growth’ agendas, the study's objective is to assess investment and policies relevant to the ‘blue economy’ paradigm, with a focus on their implications for SSF. The study has evaluated competing definitions of blue economy to support the development of inclusive and sustainable ocean agendas developed in consultation with fishworkers’ organizations (FWO). To this end, the study incorporated the perspectives of CSOs based on interviews with key CSO stakeholders in the; above countries. On finalization of the study, ICSF will engage with national, regional and international FWOs in a webinar, most likely in June 2021, to share the findings and to develop advocacy strategies to address the challenges and opportunities to SSF arising from blue economy agendas in Latin America.

This preliminary assessment, based on a review of literature, online databases and interviews with key CSO informants, presented several challenges and opportunities for small-scale fisheries in the blue economy. An evaluation of 'blue' investments (since 2012) and older resource conflicts revealed an inequitable distribution of economic benefits from development projects; the exclusion of fishing communities from decision-making and governance; and increasing vulnerability to environmental degradation and reduction of ecosystem services. On the other hand, the blue paradigm can positively benefit SSF through the development of inclusive and participatory planning and governance processes for the development and management of coastal and marine areas; investment in developing capacities of fishworkers and their organizations; and building resilience of coastal communities to climate change and disasters.

4. Women in fisheries platform, India

In 2019, ICSF Trust organized a national workshop to mainstream gender into fisheries policies and legislation in India, in the context of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. Women fishery stakeholders from the states of Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal attended the workshop and decided to develop a national platform for women in fisheries and to address the social development needs of women in the fisheries sector. The Platform was envisaged as a communication space to share ideas and experiences of women in fisheries and to develop plans and strategies from women fishworkers' perspectives, thereby advancing women's agency in their own organizations.

During the reporting period, which coincided with a nationwide lockdown and other pandemic control measures in India, ICSF facilitated two virtual meetings of the Platform, in September and December, 2020. In the first meeting, participants from the four states shared the experiences of women fishworkers during the pandemic. Faced with markets closures and limited public transportation for their fish, the livelihoods of women vendors, processors and other fishworkers were severely curtailed. The women discussed government-, community- and civil-society-led initiatives for social assistance to coastal communities, including the distribution of dry food ration kits, youth-led community kitchens and other support. In the second meeting of the Platform, the participants discussed global developments relevant to small-scale fisheries, particularly around the discourse of the 'blue economy'. The Platform discussed the potential and real impacts of 'blue' policies and competition over coastal and marine resources between diverse economic sectors; it also explored alternative ideas for the sustainability and well-being of the oceans and coastal communities.

One of the recommendations of the Platform to analyse budget allocations and schemes in support of women's social development and livelihood enhancement in fishing communities, especially in regard to those allocations made for women and girls in support of their livelihoods, health, education, housing, sanitation and other human development needs, will be undertaken as part of ICSF's partnership with FAO to implement the SSF Guidelines in

India in 2021.

5. SAMUDRA Report

Started in March 1988, SAMUDRA Report (triannual) provides snapshots of developments taking place in global small-scale fisheries from engaged stakeholders. All issues of SAMUDRA Report issue No. 1- to 84 (in English) are available on ICSF's website. During the period 2019-21, ICSF published three issues. Articles in SAMUDRA Report are made available on the ICSF website in a searchable format, as well as in other academic repositories online.

Total Views: 19,73,245

Total Downloads: 3,37,589

SAMUDRA Report No.82, February 2020

SAMUDRA Report No. 82, February 2020 had articles from Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Seychelles, Brazil, Chile and France. This issue had extensive analysis and commentary on the blue economy/blue growth in the backdrop of the SSF Guidelines.

The article from Seychelles analysed the several contradictions in the conservation initiative of the country's Blue Bond scheme, while the one from Sri Lanka pointed out that the National Fisheries Policy needed to be remodelled to incorporate the SSF Guidelines. Yet another article pointed out how women in fisheries can utilize the SSF Guidelines to advance their interests and to build a common vision. The biggest-ever oil spill disaster in Brazil's history pointed to the need for State-sponsored disaster management, observed another article. The article on Chile argued 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) was analysed. The issue also carried an obituary on Sidney Holt, a scientist who contributed the concept of maximum sustainable yield to fisheries, who died late last year.

SAMUDRA Report No.83, September,2020

SAMUDRA Report No.83 was designed as a special edition to complement ICSF's campaign celebrating the contributions of small-scale fisheries to nutrition and food security within a human-rights-based framework. As the SAMUDRA Report comment noted, the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the connection between food, health systems, sustainable development and human rights, and offered an opportunity to build back and build forward better. The articles reflected on the pandemic's impacts on fisheries, and situates the components of food security in the lives and livelihoods of SSF in several countries. The

Indonesia article argued that while small-scale fishers have not been hit by COVID-19, the lockdown measures and economic policies have left them more vulnerable. The article from United States showed how relief measures during the COVID-19 favoured industrial operators, more than small-scale fishers. The Brazilian article focused on the dual impact of pandemic on vulnerable indigenous fishing communities in Amazon region. The article from Malawi showed how fish and fish products make a significant contribution to the nutrition and food security of people in southern Africa. The article from Ghana explored how access to affordable small fish is key to achieving zero hunger and improved nutrition in poor urban households. This issue was also translated into French and Spanish (See: SAMUDRA Revue, No.83, Septembre 2020 and SAMUDRA Revista Núm. 83, Septiembre 2020)

SAMUDRA Report No.84 December, 2020

The SAMUDRA Report No. 84, December 2020, featured a range of articles from countries around the world like Peru, Kiribati, Belize, France, the Philippines, Brazil, Ghana, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. The issue also carried articles that discuss SSF and the SSF Guidelines, the ocean economy, tourism and labour rights, among other topics. The editorial Comment in SAMUDRA Report No. 84 discussed the FAO-SSF Umbrella Programme that offered a platform to provide direction for the formulation of small-scale fisheries policies, strategies and legislation in many developing countries. The article from India reported on a first-of-its-kind survey in coastal Andhra Pradesh that revealed the peculiar vulnerabilities and demands of migrant fishworkers. Small-scale fishworkers faced many challenges in Peru, observed another article. The Kiribati article pointed out that vulnerability to climate change had forced the Pacific islands to build resilience through community approaches to fisheries management. A study of three fishing communities in Belize, according to another report, showed that only with empowerment can women occupy positions of power in fisheries cooperatives. The article from France reported that confronted with plans for an offshore wind farm, the fishers of the Bay of Saint Brieuc have been clamouring for their rights to be respected and guaranteed. Another article announced the creation of a new virtual platform for knowledge sharing and engagement that collates experiences and stories from small-scale fishery actors around the world. An article from the Philippines argued that coastal communities cannot transition from fishing to tourism when land tenure rights were weak. The plight of fishworkers on board vessels engaged in commercial fishing operations in the Philippines called for regulating their conditions of work and providing protection benefits, said another article.

6. Yemaya

Yemaya, ICSF's gender in fisheries newsletter was started in April, 1999. Yemaya seeks to disseminate information about gender issues in fisheries, in particular, the perspectives and concerns of women fishworkers and their organizations. Through the years, Yemaya articles have been devoted to grassroots organizational processes and on women leaders in countries

around the world. All 62 issues of Yemaya Newsletter are available on the ICSF website. Three issues of Yemaya were published during 2019-21.

Total Views: 11,91,334

Total Downloads: 2,09,736

Yemaya Newsletter No.60, April 2020

Yemaya No. 60, dated April 2020, features articles from India, Costa Rica, Japan, European Union, and a special supplement, Turning Points: A decade of change for women in fisheries.

The article from India detailed the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on women fishworkers in Mumbai. The Costa Rican article showed how the women fishers, shrimp peelers and mollusc workers identify their priority areas for the recognition and formalization of work. The article from Japan looked at the challenge 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 talked about how the organization made gender issues as a priority area in their advocacy work. The article on Southeast Asia narrated the story of how declining incomes and ageing villages 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 3 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, looked at 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 looked at how the book is designed to support the SSF Guidelines.

The Yemaya Supplement, Turning Points: A decade of change for women in fisheries, focused on a change that has happened over a decade: a truthful appreciation of women's role in fisheries. Their involvement in the sector followed a similar arc the world over, despite wide differences in society, culture, politics and economics. This supplement was 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 Milestones column featured a recently published report of the WHO Global Health Workforce. The report called for gender-transformative policies and measures to be put in place if global targets for better health and gender outcomes were to be followed.

Yemaya Newsletter No.61, August 2020

The Yemaya No.61, dated August 2020, featured articles and interviews from Brazil, Costa Rica, France, India, Indonesia, Mexico and Senegal. The lead article was on small-scale fisheries and food security and the issue also carried a photo essay on the practice of Aratu fishing in the mangrove forests of Brazil. The Costa Rica article looked at how the harsh economic impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic-related lockdown has spurred

fisherwomen to return to their traditional sources of livelihood. Another article looked at the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on small-scale fishing in Lorient, France, and how it was captured in the pages of a diary maintained by a gillnetter skipper's spouse. An article from Indonesia pointed out how income from both harvest and post-harvest activities have dried up, leaving fishers in the lurch, adding to the anxieties of women who must make arrangements to survive from one day to the next. An article on Mexico, argued that, as in other countries, the experience of sheltering at home had led to increased domestic violence against women. Women in the small-scale fishing sector in Mexico are key drivers ensuring food security and community wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Another article from Indonesia, looked at how the changing land-use patterns threatened the livelihood of female crab collectors in Merauke, Papua, Indonesia. Another article from France portrayed a resolute mussel farmer who has challenged gender stereotypes to become a successful mussel entrepreneur. Another article provided a brief overview of relevant international legal instruments and processes on small-scale fisheries contributions to rights to nutrition and food security, with a focus on FAO. Another article looked into the challenges that indigenous communities face due to COVID-19.

Yemaya Newsletter No.62, December 2020

Yemaya No. 62, dated December 2020, featured articles from Bangladesh, Myanmar, Ghana, Mexico. An article from Bangladesh showed that women in Bangladesh's coastal fishing continue to remain largely unrecognized and that urgent steps were needed to rectify this situation. An article from Myanmar looked at the challenge of FAO's FishAdapt project in strengthening the adaptive capacity and resilience of fisheries -and aquaculture dependent livelihoods and limited opportunity to work as wage labourers in the commercial fishing business. An article from Ghana looked at the gradual transformation of the ahotor oven which represented an improvement on the widely used chorkor smoke. The conversation highlighted the under recognition and underreporting of women's work. An article on Mexico, argued that, as in other countries, fishing communities are grappling with the challenge of maintaining sustainable practices during the pandemic. An article on gender sensitive biodiversity framework argued that global biodiversity goals must recognize the vital contributions made by women and girls, particularly from indigenous and local communities. The Milestones column looked at the significant developments in support of gender equity and equality in 2020 and observed that many fisheries standards and certification systems pay only perfunctory attention to gender equality.

Information services

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 fishers and fishworkers, particularly in the South and to enhance their support organizations to access information to protect their right to life and livelihood.

SAMUDRA News alert (English)

SAMUDRA News Alerts, launched in January 2005, have been sending out news on fisheries and fishworkers on a daily basis, and in the form of weekly digest on Saturdays. SAMUDRA News alerts carried news items focusing on fisheries, biodiversity and livelihood related issues of concern, interest and consequence to small-scale fishers and their communities across the world.

Total Views: 38,98,506

Subscribers: 2021

South Asia Daily News Alerts (in English)

The South Asia News Alerts, initiated in October 2011, carry news articles on India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Myanmar Nepal, Bhutan and Afghanistan

Total Views: 23,08,247

Subscribers: 2020

Dissemination of Publications and Films Alert

ICSF Publications and Films are periodically disseminated to its subscription base of persons/institutions through email alerts. The number of subscribers has increased during this period.

Total subscribers: 4395

7. ICSF Website

The website is updated on a regular basis with information on ICSF programme, including projects and publications, ICSF statements made at international and regional meetings (UN, FAO, CBD, etc.), statements from ICSF-organized workshops, presentations made by ICSF; important fisheries events, and other online resources.

Total Views: 1,28,74,157

Total Downloads: 7,72,135

Website redesign

ICSF has started the process of redesigning its website, in order to better align with its new programme and to achieve its vision, mission and goals. The new design will make several improvements over the current ICSF site, in terms of responsiveness, a faster and more flexible interface and prominence on search engines. The new website prototype is developed with a view to make the categorization of content on the website mirror the core thematic areas of ICSF's work, making it simple to navigate, search and access content. The fresher,

brighter mobile-phone-friendly look with photo and video cues will enhance ICSF's engagement with readers on social media. The migration of data to the new website is expected to be completed by 30 June 2021.

View the prototype:

https://www.figma.com/proto/raXRcevCH7TinDoouWABrF/ICSF?node-id=5%3A0&viewport=119%2C232%2C0.13105009496212006&scaling=min-zoom_or_demo.icsf.net

COVID-19 website of ICSF

In response to Covid-19, governments worldwide imposed severe restrictions on the movement of people, goods and services. These measures have impacted the fisheries value chain through disrupted trade routes, restrictions on fishing or allied industries, closure of markets or retail businesses and falling consumer demand. ICSF has been tracking the impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak on fisheries through its daily news alerts. Launched in May, 2020, ICSF developed a website <https://covid.icsf.net/> drawing on these news alerts and as well as information from ICSF's networks of members and partners to map the effects of lockdown restrictions, closure of markets and restaurants, and changes in demand/supply of fish and fish products around the world. The website presents information on specific sectoral issues, guidelines and best practices at national, regional and international levels, especially on two parameters: impacts on fishing communities and the provision of relief measures by governments and multilateral bodies. The website also disseminates new information on adaptation and recovery in the fisheries sector.

Total visits: 839

8. Social Media

ICSF is active on social media such as Facebook and Twitter. The ICSF pages have seen an upward growth in terms of engagement and certain trends have emerged as to what seem to work better than the others: Presentations, publications and reports by ICSF seemed to do well in terms of engagement (likes, replies and retweets). The viewers seemed to respond more to visual content (images and videos) and tagging relevant organizations in ICSF's posts further increased our reach.

Facebook: Followers: The number of followers has increased from 1,492 to 1603 during the period and Post frequency: Flexible. 2-5 per day; 40 per month increased to 80 per month on average. Usually between 11am - 4pm IST.

Twitter: Followers: The number of followers has increased from 1128 to 2,361 during the period and Post frequency: Flexible. 5- 8 per day; 100 per month on average. Usually between 11am - 4pm IST.

Other Repositories

All articles of ICSF publications, including SAMUDRA Report and Yemaya Newsletter are deposited in repositories such as Aquatic Commons (temporarily suspended due to migration of data to the new repository viz, *AquaDocs*), and FAO Family Farming Knowledge Platform and Academia.edu.

9. E-prints@icsf.net

ICSF has a special collection of grey publications related to fishing communities, fishworkers organizations, fisheries policy, fisheries trade, etc., of relevance to small-scale fisheries. The collection at the ICSF Documentation Centre consists of rare publications, many not available in print or elsewhere and they are useful for researchers, policy makers, students, activists and journalists. The collection is variously stored as soft copies and in print. It actively disseminates information available in soft copies to users. Since the print copies of documents are vulnerable to damage they are in the process of being digitized.

ICSF has added 2,819 soft copies of journal articles (available only in print copy in-house) to the collection, which currently houses approximately 6,362 documents in soft copies. The goal to digitize the remaining 4,138 documents during 2020-2022 is ongoing and they will be made accessible online through cloud-server platforms. During the second half of 2021, ICSF is planning to make available online non-copyrighted documents, books and journal articles using open access repositories like E-prints with appropriate search options by topic and region.

View the prototype:

<https://www.figma.com/proto/HBJulGk8AtAQmJKo0jyBtk/ICSF-1.3?node-id=3822%3A2716&viewport=-997%2C4033%2C1.4443132877349854&scaling=min-zoom>

10. ICSF Thematic 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 its work now straddles both advocacy at the global and regional levels, and the national and sub-national implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

The UNGA proclamation of 2022 as the IYFA is an opportunity for ICSF to highlight small-scale fisheries issues and explore collaboration and linkages with diverse organizations and processes.

10.1 Campaign to enhance the contributions of small-scale fisheries to nutrition and food Security

Aiming to highlight the contribution of SSF to nutrition and food security, ICSF, in collaboration with its partners, launched a special campaign where attention is paid to how SSF strengthens the four pillars of food security in the context of fisheries, namely: (1) the availability of fish; (2) the access to fish and fisheries resources; (3) the stability of fish supply; and (4) the utilization of fish.

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 LIFDCs, 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. 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. According to FAO almost every fish caught in marine and inland small-scale fisheries is destined for direct human consumption. This stands in contrast to industrial fisheries, in which a large percentage of catches is destined for fishmeal and other non-food uses.

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 employment and income 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 and 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.

A webpage, infographics, videos interviews and audio podcasts with fishworker organizations and scientists on the contribution of small-scale fisheries to food and nutrition security are in the pipeline.

10.2 Food security and the impact of COVID-19: Cambodia, Indonesia and Sri Lanka

ICSF undertook three case studies during the period in Cambodia, Indonesia and Sri Lanka respectively on the impact of COVID-19 on food security of fishing communities. They were completed and a shorter version of each of this case study is to be published in SAMUDRA Report No.85 (June 2021). The case studies document the impacts of COVID-19 on the lives and livelihoods of vulnerable small-scale fishing communities, particularly along the marine and inland capture fisheries value chain, and how fishing communities adapt to these conditions. They examine the contributions of small-scale fisheries to domestic food security and to determine if the pandemic preparedness measures have reduced access to fish, and if fish is made less affordable to low-income, vulnerable populations.

The studies threw up mixed results. Small-scale fisheries played an important role in meeting the food security needs of the poor during the pandemic. They were a buffer against unemployment and poverty, absorbing laid-off workers from other sectors, such as garment export and tourism workers in Cambodia. Despite social security assistance, loan deferment and other assistance in several countries, the coverage of fishworker households was often inadequate and indebtedness increased among some fishing households, as reported in Sri Lanka. While some national governments were slow to react to the spread of the virus—leading to an increase in cases—local governments and fishing communities enforced voluntary lockdowns, as in Indonesia. These measures saved lives but the restrictions on the movement of fishers and traders increased transportation costs and disrupted the fisheries value chain.

The case studies recommended improving safety, hygiene and sanitation in the fish landing centres and markets, and to make hygiene products more widely available to the community. It was also recommended that the fishing ban period—which coincided with a return of economic activity in Mozambique—should be reduced, particularly for small-scale artisanal fishing operations to offset fishing days lost due to the lockdown. Finally, in the context of the re-emergence of COVID-19 in successive waves, it was recommended that fisheries activities be exempted from restrictions, and fishworker families receive fishery, agricultural and aquaculture inputs, to enable diversification of their livelihoods.

10.3 Social Development and Sustainable Fishing Communities

ICSF looked into social development of fishing communities, and sustainable fisheries in nine countries, viz., Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ghana, Senegal, The Philippines, Thailand and India (focusing on West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala

states) during October-December 2020. These studies reviewed schemes, legislation and policies addressing the social development and protection of human rights of small-scale fishers and fishworkers (including women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants and other vulnerable groups), and examined measures related to occupational health and safety, and safety at sea of fishers and fishworkers. The studies also analysed the access of fishing communities to COVID-19 relief and recovery measures. The country reports are nearly complete and will be made available online by mid-2021. They were completed and a summary version of each of this case study is to be published in SAMUDRA Report No.85 (June 2021). The results of these studies will support ICSF in the preparation of a guide on the chapter on social development, employment and decent work in the SSF Guidelines (Chapter 6) for FAO.

10.4 Non-towed fishing gear zones campaign

In light of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (the Tenure Guidelines), the SSF Guidelines and the SDGs, ICSF has initiated 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 seeks coherence between equitable development of fishing communities and conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in at least three countries before 2024.

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 SSF Guidelines are aware that creating exclusive zones alone are meaningless unless secure tenure rights to the fishing grounds, to land and other resources that form the basis for their social and cultural wellbeing are also granted. The enforcement of the formal SFZs also need to uphold conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources. Governments, fishworker organizations and informal institutions such as traditional *panchayats* (village councils) in India need to recognize the importance of these elements.

In India, ICSF has initiated the campaign in the state of Andhra Pradesh, starting first with the most disadvantaged (fisher and fishworkers engaged in harvest of fish using no craft or non-motorized traditional craft), paying special attention to the SFZs that are adjacent to the low tide line and earmarked for small-scale artisanal fishing communities. In 2020, ICSF completed the survey of literature and data on fishing practices in marine capture fisheries in India and the social development of coastal fishing communities. Through virtual consultations with its local partner in Andhra Pradesh, ICSF completed the design of the study questionnaire and its translation into Telugu, the local language. The survey documents the various characteristics of the fishery (viz., craft and gear combinations, fishing grounds,

species, seasons, conflicts between competing user groups and traditional tenure arrangements and systems of resource management); the social development of non-towed fishers and their families; and their perception in relation to securing rights of relevance to these arrangements, especially to defend their access to marine living resources. (ICSF and its study partners carried out an in-person training of survey enumerators in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh in February 2021, and completed the surveys in Telugu of 60 respondents in March 2021. These will be translated, analysed before launching campaign and awareness raising activities in the second half of 2021.

This survey is to be undertaken in two more provinces but is delayed due to the COVID-19 situation and will resume as soon as the public health conditions allow to do so. It will then be extended to Sri Lanka and Indonesia in partnership with relevant fishworker organizations or NGOs.

11. ICSF COVID-19 Related Activities

ICSF's Survey of Migrant Fishers and Fishworkers during COVID-19, India

<https://www.icsf.net/images/what%20is%20new%20page/India%20Migrant%20fishworkers%20survey.pdf>

ICSF survey, conducted in July 2020, in the backdrop of COVID-19, was to look at the vulnerabilities and demands of fishworkers from Andhra Pradesh, India who periodically migrate to other Indian provinces like Odisha, Karnataka and Gujarat. The major demands of migrant fishworkers that came out during the survey are: a demand for written contractual agreement and accountability, provision of toilets on board fishing vessels, issue of identity document, reduction in the duration of fishing trips from 29 days to 15 days, minimum rest period of 5 days in between fishing trips, instructions to captains not to cross international maritime boundary line (IMBL), insurance cover against occupational injuries and fatalities, improved wages, early weather warnings in their local languages, monsoon fishing ban holiday travel allowance, and emergency support system in place to follow COVID-19 protocols.

12. International advocacy: selected meetings

During this period, ICSF participated in several international meetings and processes (see Table below). A short summary of selected ICSF's statements and interventions is below:

12.1 Ocean Conferences

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 related 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 Oslo in October 2019.

12.2 Virtual Dialogues on the Road to the 34th Committee on Fisheries: Impacts of COVID-19 on fisheries and aquaculture: Effects, Good Practices and Recommendations (13-17 July 2020)

ICSF was invited to provide a small-scale artisanal fisheries perspective on the impacts of COVID-19 on fisheries and aquaculture. Based on a survey among ICSF members and partners, ICSF summarized how COVID-19 and the pandemic-control measures have been impacting the small-scale fishers and fishworkers (both marine and inland) from both the supply- and demand-side factors and consequent livelihood and food security losses. ICSF gave examples of good practices in the context of SARS-CoV-2 followed by some FAO members, industry and CSOs. ICSF recommended: (i) strengthening the social protection measures to deal with the pandemic; (ii) improving access to health infrastructure and healthcare, and (iii) promoting alternative employment opportunities as important steps required to adapt to COVID-19.

ICSF further sought FAO to advise its members to create COVID-19 social protection fund, equivalent to 1% of the average landed/farm gate value of fish production, and requested FAO and IFAD to create a special social protection fund to support SSF in low income, food deficit countries. ICSF further suggested: (i) ranking fishing craft and gear, consistent with the pandemic control protocols and standards, to effectively meet local nutrition and food security requirements; (ii) strengthening trade unions, cooperatives and associations of fishers to improve the effectiveness of economic and social protection measures during the pandemic; (iii) promoting joint mechanisms of fisheries and health authorities to adopt pandemic control measures, maintaining a judicious balance between COVID-19 control measures and human rights; and (iv) promoting FAO/OIE/WHO tripartite collaboration towards developing joint protocols and standards toward emerging and re-emerging zoonotic diseases and persistent pandemics, especially in the context of fisheries and agriculture. Read the full presentation [here](#).

12.3 International Symposium on Fisheries Sustainability: Strengthening the Science-Policy Nexus (18-21 November, 2019, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Rome, Italy)

In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the objective of this [symposium](#) was to identify pathways to strengthen the science and policy interplay in fisheries production,

management and trade, based on solid sustainability principles for improved global outcomes on the ground.

ICSF participated in the panel session 4 on Enabling Environment for securing sustainable fisheries-based livelihoods, including their social, cultural and equity dimensions. The presentation highlighted the contribution of inland and marine capture fisheries to employment, income and food security of both men and women in marginalized communities, including the Indigenous Peoples, with special emphasis on small-scale fisheries. The presentation focused, among other things, on threats facing sustainable fisheries-based livelihoods: pollution, reclamation, oil and gas exploration and exploitation, shipping lanes, multiple uses of inland water bodies, etc.; natural disasters (sea surges, floods, cyclones, tsunamis, etc.); destructive fishing gear and practices; climate change impacts; multiple uses of coastal and ocean space; and lack of basic amenities; precarious conditions of work, etc.

12.4 35th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific: Building resilience of small-scale fisheries to ensure food security and nutrition in the Pacific (1-4 September, 2020, Virtual)

The Thirty-fifth Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC 35) was virtually held 1-4 September, 2020. ICSF prepared a statement on the importance of small-scale fisheries in the Pacific region. The move to a virtual format, however, did not afford ICSF an opportunity to make the statement. Read the full statement [here](#).

12.5 First Meeting of the IYAFA 2022 International Steering Committee (02 November, 2020, Virtual)

ICSF participated in the first meeting of the steering committee of IYAFA 2022 on 02 November, 2020 in virtual mode. The Vice Minister of Fisheries, Peru, was made the chair of the steering committee. The partnerships and UN collaboration stream and the fisheries division of FAO spoke on the development of IYAFA 2022 and made a special reference to the effort of Peru at GRULEC in proposing IYAFA. Berlant Qabeel of FAO communications spoke on the communication strategy and mentioned the creation of the IYAFA website: <http://www.fao.org/artisanal-fisheries-aquaculture-2022/en/>. Nicole Franz made a presentation on the global action plan for IYAFA, which would include four areas: (i) advocacy and awareness raising; (ii) knowledge creation and dissemination; (iii) policy making (COFI, CFS, and UNFIP); and (iv) capacity building. Under advocacy and awareness raising, Nov 21--currently celebrated fishing communities as World Fisheries Day—would be proposed to be declared as the United Nations World Fisheries Day. (There was a suggestion that it be declared: World Fisheries and Aquaculture Day.) The Global Action Plan IYAFA 2022 would envisage engaging with the UN Decade of Family Farming (2019-28) (UNDF) as well as the UN Food Systems Summit in September/October 2021 (date to be declared). A trust fund would be established at the FAO towards IYAFA

2022. The steering committee met in reasonable strength with representatives of several states, CSOs such as Slow Food, IPC, IGOs such as IFAD and FAO and other non-state actors such as Global Aquaculture Alliance, World Aquaculture Society, World Fish.

Kindly see **Annex** to see all meetings/conferences attended by ICSF during the reporting period.

13. Support to other international meetings

During the period, 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' for the UN Ocean Conference, with a view to seeking coherence between the environmental and social dimensions of sustainable development and to strengthen the reciprocal relationship between conservation and sustainable of marine living resources (the UN treaties), and social development and human rights (the SSF Guidelines).

ICSF has been engaging with CSOs and some governments and offering advice on issues related to fisheries subsidies negotiations at the WTO from the perspective of small-scale fisheries, especially in regard to the special and differential treatment of developing countries.

14. Support to International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) Working Group on Fisheries

During the reporting period, ICSF has been active in its role as a support NGO to the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) Working Group on Fisheries. Regular virtual meetings of the coordination group have contributed to sharing of knowledge and perspectives between the global fishworker organizations—World Forum of Fish Harvesters & Fish Workers (WFF) and WFFP—and the support groups, on issues of human rights and tenure rights in small-scale fisheries, the impacts of COVID-19 on fishing communities, and modes of effective participation of the IPC in FAO processes, including COFI, CFS, SSF-GSF, and IYAFA 2022.

IPC cooperated in organizing the webinars on 'Small-scale fisheries and everything blue' in March and May 2020, where IPC constituents reiterated that the principles of the SSF Guidelines should inform all policies and investments for the sustainable development of coastal communities.

In preparation for the Thirty-fourth Session of COFI in February, 2021 and towards the development of a work plan for the Working Group, ICSF contributed knowledge and information on COFI agenda items relevant to small-scale fisheries and international processes linked small-scale fisheries and biodiversity, climate change, decent work and the SDGs, leading up to IYAFA 2022. ICSF formally partnered with IPC in developing tools for

communication and awareness raising of FWOs and CSOs about the SSF Guidelines and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

15. Concluding Remarks

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. 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.

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. Strengthening the partnership of ICSF with its traditional, as well as new partners, will stand ICSF in good stead in future.

COVID-19 and ICSF Activities

Before the outbreak of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the COVID-19 pandemic, fisheries and ocean sustainability was high on the global agenda, in the run up to the UN Ocean Conference in 2020 (now-postponed); the deadline for achieving several targets in the SDG14 (Life Below Water); and the United Nations General Assembly proclamation of the year 2022 as IYAFA. Small-scale fisheries subsector is at the heart of these global agendas, in recognition of which COFI decided to constitute a Global Strategic Framework of governments, civil society and other stakeholders to collaboratively implement the SSF Guidelines. Despite the disruptions caused by the pandemic and associated restrictions, action on these priorities has continued and has been kept up through virtual interactions, knowledge sharing and other activities at the local level. The pandemic has presented several challenges to ICSF programme and activities. Its legacy publications and news alerts have been minimally impacted; ICSF has published two special editions of its journals and its news services in this period have contributed to building an important repository of information on impacts and adaptation to COVID-19 in the fisheries sector. ICSF's advocacy in support of small-scale fisheries in the UN processes has adapted to the virtual mode in instances where civil society participation has been encouraged and facilitated by organizers. In others, ICSF continues to engage with its partners to insist on inclusive decision-making in multilateral processes.

Covid-19 and Fishing Communities

ICSF undertook relief work among marginalized marine and inland small-scale fishing communities in the Indian states of West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Maharashtra. ICSF worked through credible civil society organizations (CSOs) mainly in the form of providing sanitary masks, provisions for cooking and cash assistance in a targeted manner. These efforts followed a ground up approach whereby each CSO applied its own criteria to identify beneficiaries in consultation with local communities. The newsletter COVID 2020 response is available at:

https://www.icsf.net/images/what%20is%20new%20page/Covid19_Newsletter_ICSF_2020.pdf

A large part of ICSF programme and campaign activities were re-directed to the national level, engaging partners to generate case studies and analyses of legislation and policy in support of the social development of fishing communities; to report on the impacts of the pandemic on the food security and livelihoods of fishery dependent coastal and inland communities; and to examine 'blue' investments and resource conflicts pertinent to the lives, livelihoods and human rights of coastal fishing communities. The period under consideration has coincided with the launch of ICSF's campaigns to raise the visibility of small-scale fisheries, and to protect their tenure rights and contributions to food security, sustainable

development and climate action. While there has been considerable progress in several campaign activities—especially in the generation of knowledge through studies and virtual stakeholder consultations—their reach has been limited due to the restrictions caused by the pandemic. Despite these challenges, ICSF plays a crucial role as a knowledge partner and supporter to small-scale fishers, fishworkers and their organizations. Its activities need to be strengthened in preparation for IYAF 2022 and the development of a civil-society-led action plan to valorize the sector to progress on the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

ANNEXE: List of Meetings attended for 09 October 2019 to 31 May 2021

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

S.No.	Timeline	Meeting	Country	Attendance
1.	18-19 November- 2019	Regional NHRI Seminar on Human Rights and Fisheries Danish Institute for Human Rights Bangkok, Thailand	Thailand	Manas Roshan Presentation1 , Presentation2 , Presentation3 ,
2.	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, Member, ICSF, RavadeePrasertcharoensuk, Member, ICSF, Serge Raemaekers, Member, ICSF, Vivienne Solis, Member, ICSF, Sebastian Mathew John Kurien,Trustee, ICSF Trust, Keynote presentations
3.	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 Presentation

4.	8-10 December 2019	The Third Meeting of the Board of International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), 8-10 December 2019, SC Park Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand	Thailand	ICSF Board members Maarten Bavinck, Chairperson, Leopoldo Cavaleri Gerhardinger, Secretary RavadeePrasertcharoensuk, Treasurer Peter Linford Adjei, Member Vivienne Solis Rivera, Member Sebastian Mathew, ex officio Member Executive Director, ICSF ICSF Secretariat N. Venugopalan, Programme Manager, ICSF Manas Roshan, Programme Officer, ICSF
5.	7-10 January- 2020	International Symposium MECOS3 Marine Ecosystems Challenges and Opportunities, Kochi: Implementing the SSF Guidelines at the National and Subnational Levels: Challenges and Opportunities	India	N. Venugopalan Presentation
6.	24-25 February- 2020	Regional Meeting for Validation of RPOA-IUU; 24 - 25 February 2020, Chennai, INDIA	India	N. Venugopalan
7.	23-24 March- 2020	Webinar I on 'SSF and Everything Blue': FAO, ICSF and SwedBio	Virtual	Manas Roshan Vishakha Gupta
8.	30-April- 2020	COVID-19: Impact on small-scale fisheries in South Africa and beyond: Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS), University of the Western Cape	Virtual	Vishakha Gupta https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LyK_pMPcl8A
9.	18-19 May- 2020	Webinar II on SSF and everything 'blue': FAO, ICSF and SwedBio	Virtual	Manas Roshan Leopoldo Gerhardinger, Member, ICSF Vishakha Gupta

10.	30-May-2020	<u>Small fisher-folk of North Africa and Palestine in times of COVID19: Transnational Institute (TNI)</u>	Virtual	Vishakha Gupta
11.	1-8 June-2020	<u>Small is bountiful: Webinar series on Small-scale fisheries for the World Oceans Day: Too Big To Ignore (TBTI) research network</u>	Virtual	Manas Roshan: Panel discussion on SSF Guidelines Vishakha Gupta
12.	02-June-2020	<u>Fishing for ways to survive in a COVID-19 ocean: International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC)</u>	Virtual	Vivienne Solis, Member, ICSF
13.	08-June-2020	<u>Launch of The State of the World Fisheries and Aquaculture(FAO)</u>	Virtual	Vishakha Gupta
14.	19-June-2020	<u>Webinar on Draft National Fisheries Policy 2020 - A Critical Outlook: National Fishworkers' Forum and Delhi Forum</u>	Virtual	Manas Roshan Sebastian Mathew Vishakha Gupta
15.	09-July 2020	Protecting the Ocean's Most Important Places: Friends of Ocean Action and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	Virtual	Vivienne Solis, Member, ICSF
16.	17 July- 2020	<u>Impacts of COVID-19 on fisheries and aquaculture: Effects, good practices and recommendations: Virtual Dialogues on the Road to the 34th Committee on fisheries</u>	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew Vivienne Solis, Member, ICSF Vishakha Gupta Presentation
17.	07-August-2020	Webinar on Draft National Fisheries Policy 2020: National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (Inland)	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew

18.	30-August-2020	Women in fisheries platform, India	Virtual	Vishakha Gupta Manas Roshan Nalini Nayak, Trustee, ICSF Trust
19.	1-4 September-2020	<u>35th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific: Building resilience of small-scale fisheries to ensure food security and nutrition in the Pacific (Agenda Item 18)</u>	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew RavadeePrasertcharoensuk, Member, ICSF Statement
20.	8- 10 September-2020	<u>Webinar on “Small Scale Fisheries (SSF) in Inland open water: Status and opportunity”:</u> ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, India	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew
21.	10 September-2020	Coastal People's Assembly: How small-scale fisheries meet the world's food needs: a reflection of the COVID-19 crisis; Solidaritas Perempuan, Indonesia	Virtual	Manas Roshan Presentation
22.	23-September 2020	<u>Online Workshop: The Global Action Network Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition</u> : Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, Norway	Virtual	Manas Roshan
23.	25-September -2020	Women in fisheries platform, India	Virtual	Vishakha Gupta Manas Roshan Nalini Nayak
24.	28-September-2020	<u>Webinar on Women's Economic Empowerment in Fisheries: Implementing the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) in the Indian Ocean Rim: UN Women</u>	Virtual	Nilanjana Biswas and Ramya.R

25.	13-October-2020	IFAD assisted PTSLP – PCR team of PTSLP	Virtual	N Venugopalan
26.	16-October-2020	Small-scale artisanal fisheries on World Food Day		Statement
27.	21-October-2020	<u>The Impacts of COVID-19 on Fish Trade:FAO GLOBEFISH, EUROFISH, INFOFISH, INFOPECA, INFOSAMAK and Shanghai Ocean University (SHOU)</u>	Virtual	Manas Roshan
28.	22-October-2020	<u>Independent People's Tribunal on Impact of Blue Economy Implementation in Indonesia: SNEHA and KIARA</u>	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew
29.	26-29 October-2020	Webinars on the Regional Aquaculture Reviews and State of World Aquaculture 2020	Virtual	Neena Koshy
30.	27-October-2020	Small-scale fisheries for a sustainable world - Webinar on the SSF Guidelines: Regional Advisory Group for Asia and Pacific (RAG) of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC)	Virtual	Manas Roshan
31.	28-October - 2020	Draft National Fisheries Policy - Small Scale Fish Workers' Perspective: National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew
32.	02-November-2020	1st Meeting of the IYAFA 2022 International Steering Committee (IYAFA-ISC): FAO	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew

33.	11th November and 24th, November-2020	Knowledge sharing webinars: Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew
34.	11 - November 2020	WorldFish 2030 Research Strategy – Stakeholder Interviews	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew
35.	11- November-2020	WorldFish Global Research Strategy 2030 Consultation Meeting	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew
36.	19- 20- November-2020	<u>Webinar -The impacts of COVID-19 on fisheries and aquaculture in East Asia: FAO GLOBEFISH</u>	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew`
37.	30 November -2 December 2020	<u>Virtual workshop: Asian Regional Consultation on Development of Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture (GSA): FAO</u>	Virtual	Neena Koshy
38.	18 -21- January-2021	Second Meeting of the IYafa Steering Committee Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Fisheries Governance: Transboundary Cooperation between Bangladesh and India	Virtual Virtual	Sebastian Mathew Manas Roshan, Sebastian Mathew Presentation
39.	28-January-2021	Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission technical webinar Series 2021	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew
40.	1-5- February-2021	Thirty-fourth Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew, Elyse Mills and Manas Roshan Statement

41.	15-16-February-2021	Small Low-Cost Fish: From Bait to Plate	Virtual	Maarten Bavinck, Member, ICSF and V. Vivekanandan, Member, ICSF
42.	26-27-February-2021	NFF Annual General Body Meeting, Goa, 26-27 February, 2021	Goa, India	N. Venugopalan and Manas Roshan
43.	15 – 19-February-2021	Regional Small-scale Fisheries Governance Training Course for Africa: Creating an Enabling Environment for SSF Guidelines Implementation	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
44.	15-March-2021	Steering committee of the Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements (CFFA)	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew, Neena Koshy and Elyse Mills
45.	18 to 20-March-2021	webinar on Conservation of Life Below Water: Perspectives on Systematics, Sustainable Livelihoods and Citizen Science	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
46.	22-26-March-2021	Youth for the Coast training programme Delhi Forum and National Fishworkers Forum	Virtual	Manas Roshan, Presentation
47.	31-March-2021	3rd Meeting of the IYAFI International Steering Committee	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew
48.	06-April-2021	Blue Economy sharing meeting The Research Collective and Delhi Forum	Virtual	Manas Roshan
49.	08-April-2021	Characteristics and performance of co-management in Asia Pacific Fisheries Commission (APFIC)	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew Presentation
50.	12-16-April-2021	Online Workshop on ‘Using Transdisciplinarity for Fisheries Policies and the SSF Guidelines Implementation in India’,	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew
51.	19-April-2021	The IPC Working Group on Fisheries coordination group meeting - CFFA meeting	Virtual	Neena Koshy Presentation

52.	21-April-2021	IPC Virtual General Meeting	Virtual	Elyse Mills and Manas Roshan
53.	3-May to 13 June-2021	Twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation Convention on Biological Diversity	Virtual	Vivienne Solis, Member, ICSF and Manas Roshan
54.	04-May-2021	Integrating blue food into the UN Food Systems Summit agenda	Virtual	Manas Roshan
55.	05 to 07-May-2021	Thirty-Sixth Session of the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO))	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew and Manas Roshan Statement
56.	12-May-2021	Centering SSF Voices in Food & Nutrition Policy Environmental Defence Fund (EDF)	Virtual	Elyse Mills and Manas Roshan
57.	12-May-2021	Centering SSF Voices in Food & Nutrition Policy Environmental Defence Fund (EDF)	Virtual	Elyse Mills and Manas Roshan
58.	12-May-2021	Why the Small-scale Fisheries Guidelines? SSF-GSF Advisory Group, WorldFish and SwedBio	Virtual	Vivienne Solis, Member, ICSF, Elyse Mills and Manas Roshan
59.	19-May-2021	Ethical and inclusive communication on small-scale fisheries SCB Marine Lab and WorldFish	Virtual	Manas Roshan, Presentation by Vivienne Solis
60.	20-21-May-2021	European Maritime Day this year is going virtual from Den Helder, The Netherlands	Virtual	Maartin and Cornelia Quist, Member, ICSF
61.	27-May-2021	Unsustainable fishing and ocean protection Swedish Society for Nature Protection (SSNC)	Virtual	Manas Roshan

62.	17 May, 26 April, 19 April, 26 March, 15 March, 25 February, 18 January 2021	IPC Working Group on Fisheries coordination group meetings International Planning Committee on Food Sovereignty (IPC)	Virtual	Sebastian Mathew and Manas Roshan
-----	--	---	---------	--------------------------------------