



Towards the implementation of the SSF Guidelines

Proceedings of the Workshop on the Development of a Global Assistance Programme
in Support of the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable
Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication

8–11 December 2014
Rome, Italy



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**8–11 December 2014
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Preparation of this document

These proceedings summarize the presentations and discussions of the Workshop on the Development of a Global Assistance Programme in Support of the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication. The workshop was hosted by FAO in Rome, Italy, from 8 to 11 December 2014. Nicole Franz, Carlos Fuentevilla and Lena Westlund prepared these proceedings. The generous financial support to this workshop provided by the Government of Brazil and the Government of Norway is gratefully acknowledged.

These proceedings, together with the outcomes of other related relevant meetings, provide important elements for the further development of the Global Assistance Programme to support the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication through FAO in close collaboration with partners.

The material in the appendixes is reproduced as submitted.

Abstract

Following the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) by the Thirty-first Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in June 2014, FAO is now engaging in implementation planning through a participatory process and in accordance with COFI recommendations. The Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth Sessions of COFI proposed the establishment of an SSF Guidelines Global Assistance Programme (GAP) and an outline of this GAP, prepared by FAO, was presented to the Thirty-first Session of COFI together with the SSF Guidelines themselves. COFI welcomed the proposal and recommended its further development.

In a follow-up to this COFI recommendation, the Workshop on the Development of a Global Assistance Programme in Support of the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication was convened by FAO on 8–11 December 2014. Some 60 individual experts from governments, regional organizations, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, resource partners, intergovernmental organizations and academia attended the workshop.

The workshop was an important step in terms of guidance for consolidating the overall implementation approach for the SSF Guidelines. It is evident that there is an overall willingness to work towards a coherent, coordinated implementation by all stakeholders, based on the guiding principles of the SSF Guidelines. It was confirmed that FAO has an important role to play in terms of supporting and facilitating the implementation, and also in providing technical support and project implementation, based on demand. FAO is looking forward to continuing working on the development of the GAP framework, based on commitment and professionalism and in close collaboration with partners and stakeholders. Small-scale fisheries are at the heart of FAO's goals of food security, poverty alleviation and natural resources management.

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Abbreviations and acronyms

ADG	Assistant Director-General
BOBLME	Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem
CFS	Committee on World Food Security
CFI	Coastal Fisheries Initiative
Code	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
COFI	Committee on Fisheries (FAO)
CNFO	Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CSO	civil society organization
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
EDF	Environmental Defense Fund
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FLC	Fisheries Law Centre
FSN	food security and nutrition
G7	Group of 7
G20	Group of 20
GAP	Global Assistance Programme
GCFI	Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute
GDP	gross domestic product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
ICSF	International Collective in Support of Fishworkers
ICT	information and communications technology
IDS	Institute of Development Studies
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO)
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LME	Large Marine Ecosystem
LVFO	Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization
MCS	monitoring control and surveillance
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MMAF	Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (Indonesia)
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
NGO	non-governmental organization
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
OSPESCA	Organización del Sector Pesquero y Acuícola del Istmo Centroamericana
RFB	regional fishery body
Right to Food	Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the

Guidelines	Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security
Rio+20	United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEAFDEC	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SO	FAO Strategic Objective
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SSF Guidelines	Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication
TBTI	Too Big To Ignore
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VG Tenure	Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WFF	World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers
WFFP	World Forum of Fisher Peoples
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature / World Wildlife Fund

Context and background

In June 2014, the Thirty-first Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) endorsed the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines),¹ the first-ever international instrument specifically dedicated to small-scale fisheries. This endorsement marked the conclusion of several years of work developing the SSF Guidelines through consultations and negotiations. The preparatory work on the instrument was carried out in close collaboration with governments, civil society organizations (CSOs) representing fishers and fish workers, academia, regional fishery bodies (RFBs), and other organizations and stakeholders.

While the finalization and endorsement of the instrument itself were of critical importance, the real challenge lies in its implementation. The SSF Guidelines will only become effective if their provisions are put into practice. During the consultation process underpinning their drafting, implementation was already considered and the two processes have been seen as parallel and overlapping. Nonetheless, concerted efforts are now needed to ensure implementation of the SSF Guidelines at all levels. For this purpose, the Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth Sessions of COFI recommended the establishment and implementation of an SSF Guidelines Global Assistance Programme (GAP). Accordingly, FAO prepared an outline of this GAP, which was presented to the Thirty-first Session of COFI. COFI welcomed the proposal and recommended its further development

In a follow-up to this COFI recommendation, the Workshop on the Development of a Global Assistance Programme in Support of the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication was convened by FAO on 8–11 December 2014. Some 60 individual experts from governments, regional organizations, CSOs, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), resource partners, intergovernmental organizations and academia attended the workshop (see list of participants in Appendix 1).

¹ The full text of the SSF Guidelines is available at www.fao.org/3/a-i4356e.pdf

Workshop introduction

OPENING OF THE MEETING

Árni M. Mathiesen, Assistant Director-General (ADG) of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, delivered the opening remarks (see Appendix 2). He expressed his appreciation of the support received from the Republic of Korea Yeosu Project, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Governments of Brazil, Germany and the United States of America, as well as the Government of Finland through the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), which all supported the SSF Guidelines development process and continued to express their interest in their implementation. He congratulated all COFI Members and other participants in the Technical Consultation as well as all FAO Member States on the endorsement of the SSF Guidelines by COFI. Their willingness and disposition to negotiate fairly and agree on this necessary instrument had been fundamental to its successful finalization. He also stressed the critical contribution, participation and ownership shown by the CSO community representing the interests of fishers, fish workers and their communities, as well as the commitment shown by other NGOs, regional organizations and research to the development and now imminent implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

He pointed out that the SSF Guidelines were the first international negotiated instrument to deal specifically with small-scale fisheries. In addition, it was also the first negotiated instrument that fully explores the social and economic aspects of fisheries governance. It represented a global consensus on the need for holistic and integrated approaches to improve the livelihoods of more than 500 million people. He invited participant to consider three issues during the workshop discussions: (i) process and participation; (ii) expectations; and (iii) ownership and country-level implementation.

In relation to **process**, he recalled that the participatory model followed during the SSF Guidelines development was already showing a positive impact. Even if government representatives negotiated the final draft of the text, there was a strong notion that fishers, fish workers and their communities effectively influenced and had a direct impact on the final content of the instrument. In a sense, the SSF Guidelines were developed following the same principles that they promoted.

With regard to **expectations**, he pointed out that as a result of the consultative and open process a high level of expectations had been created around the SSF Guidelines. These expectations were based both on the content of the SSF Guidelines and its recommendations on how to change the processes governing small-scale fisheries. These expectations needed to be harnessed to develop an implementation programme that would be able to bring them in line with the principles established in the SSF Guidelines and the model and spirit guiding their development. This entailed a commitment by all actors to review governance processes and bring them in line with international consensus standards.

Last, he stressed the need for **ownership and country-level implementation** and clarified that the SSF Guidelines did not belong to FAO. They belonged to the actors that seek to work in partnership to ensure the sector's long-term social, economic and environmental development, following the three pillars of sustainability. He pointed out that ultimate responsibility for implementing the SSF Guidelines lay with States, with the support and collaboration of fisher and fish worker organizations and other

related CSOs, NGOs, academics and researchers, regional organizations, international organizations and other fisheries actors. In this regard, non-state actors should continue to play an important role in promoting implementation of the SSF Guidelines, in particular at the national and local level. FAO had committed to providing technical support and expertise and to continuing its engagement in major policy processes to support full implementation.

He concluded that the collective knowledge in the room would help to shape the necessary theory of change and a clear path to achieving the expected results in relation to implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

On the invitation of Lahsen Ababouch, Director, Policy and Economics Division, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, who chaired the opening session, all participants briefly introduced themselves before the workshop agenda was introduced.

OVERVIEW OF WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND *MODUS OPERANDI*

Carlos Fuentevilla, FAO Fishery Officer, explained that the objectives of the workshop were to discuss key aspects of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, focusing on an overall strategic framework for action for implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the further development of the GAP. The expected outputs to achieve this objective were:

- The identification of the crucial elements of the overall strategic framework for action for implementation of the SSF Guidelines, including partnerships and synergies, and monitoring mechanisms.
- The development of the details of the GAP in the form of outputs and activities as well as the programme governance structure.

In order to achieve the workshop objectives, the proposed *modus operandi* for the workshop included a combination of plenary presentations and parallel working groups. The workshop agenda is given in Appendix 3.

PRESENTATION OF BACKGROUND PAPER

Lena Westlund, FAO consultant, introduced the background paper for the workshop (see Appendix 4). The document is structured in two main parts. Part I provides background information on the development process of the SSF Guidelines, their contents and events relevant to their implementation that took place between the conclusion of the SSF Guidelines consultations at the end of 2013, through to their endorsement by COFI in June 2014 and until the time of the current workshop for which this document was prepared. Part II provides guidance for the workshop discussions, including strategic considerations and the GAP outline as proposed to and welcomed by COFI in June 2014. Accordingly, Part II relates closely to the workshop agenda.

EXPERIENCES FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

The SSF Guidelines complement the 1995 Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code), but there are also two other international instruments that are of particular importance to the SSF Guidelines:

- Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security (the Right to Food Guidelines);
- Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (the VG Tenure).

As the SSF Guidelines, both of these instruments are based on human rights, and the three instruments are closely linked, considering their relevance for food security and poverty eradication, giving special attention to vulnerable and marginalized groups. To learn about the implementation strategies of these two instruments, experiences on their use were presented to the workshop.

Mauricio Rosales, FAO Right to Food Team, provided insights on the last ten years of experience with the Right to Food Guidelines, which were adopted in 2004 by the FAO Council. These guidelines represent a practical tool to implement human rights obligations and to support the development of an enabling environment, provide assistance and promote accountability. The guidelines identify what do to, with and by whom, when and where, but they provide little guidance on the “how”.

Since the adoption of the Right to Food Guidelines, FAO and its partners have produced a wealth of tools, strengthened capacity, and facilitated multi-stakeholder dialogues worldwide. But the goal of realizing the right to food for everyone has not yet been accomplished. Therefore, an FAO unit to create capacity and instruments to implement the right to adequate food was created with the following four immediate objectives:

- The right to food is institutionalized into FAO’s work.
- Methods and instruments to assist the implementation of the right to food at the national level are developed (normative activities).
- The concept and practical value of the right to food is understood and supported by rights holders, duty bearers and society at large (communication, education and awareness raising).
- Capacity at the national level to implement the right to food is strengthened (support to national implementation).

To achieve these objectives, FAO’s efforts have included:

- **Mainstreaming:** Mainstreaming or integrating the right to food into development policies and practices is essential for better targeting, efficient programming and implementation and sustainable results. FAO has been using the right to adequate food as a normative and analytical framework for its work to eliminate hunger. The Right to Food team supports the mainstreaming of the right to food into FAO’s work.
- **Formulation and implementation of policies and programmes:** Policy support is provided to enable countries to design and make adjustments to their national food security and nutrition strategies, with a particular focus on good governance and the incorporation of the human right to food.
- **Legal processes:** Support to the development of legal frameworks for the right to food and for the inclusion of this right at constitutional level is key.
- **Institution building and capacity development:** Capacity development includes not only the introduction of the human right to food into training activities and education, but also the strengthening of the capacity of the national institutions to improve service delivery at subnational level and strengthen formulation and implementation of district development plans.
- **Global and regional food security and nutrition (FSN) governance:** Endowing global and regional organizations with the capacity to be effective is fundamental to their ability to contribute at the national level with the formulation, planning, implementation and monitoring of food security and nutrition policies, legislation, strategies, programmes and projects that incorporate right-to-food principles and apply good governance practices in accordance with the guidance provided by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS).

- Partnering with civil society: Civil society encompasses a wide range of actors – universities, media, NGOs, social movements and the private sector. They are all important actors in the realization of human rights, through a variety of activities that empower rights holders and hold duty bearers to account.
- Assessment and monitoring: Achieving overall economic growth and development goals does not necessarily mean that the human rights of everyone are respected, protected or fulfilled. For this reason, progress towards the realization of the right to food must be assessed and monitored, to track whether performance results and the processes that brought them about are consistent with the rights-based approach, and whether programmes successfully target those in need.

A ten-year retrospective on the Right to Food Guidelines has revealed an increasing readiness of States to advocate for the right to food at the global level and to use diverse tools for the advancement of this right. The political commitment has become more prominent at the regional and national levels where an increasing number of organizations and countries have moved to use the right to food as a framework for the design and implementation of laws, policies and programmes. Today, at least 28 States explicitly protect the right to food in their constitutions, and about 40 countries implicitly recognize the right to food. Since 2004, food security and nutrition policies have often had a strong “right to food” element as policy dialogues have benefited from civil society participation, and the Right to Food is an objective in the CFS and the Post-2015 development agendas. The Right to Food Guidelines also helped to pave the way for the VG Tenure and the SSF Guidelines.

Many important lessons have been learned in the last ten years: (i) legal work usually takes a long time and much effort but is eventually extremely rewarding, resulting in constitutions and legal frameworks supporting food security and the right to food; (ii) working with parliamentarians is strategic for linking policy, legal and budget work; (iii) the creation of FSN councils at the national level with a wide participation of all sectors of the government, civil society, social movements and the private sector is key; (iv) the involvement and participation of the civil society has been crucial and decisive, but also government support at country level is fundamental; (v) it would appear that policy work is more effective when initiated at the regional level; (vi) work to include the right to food into the CFS and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) has proved critical to moving the global agenda; (vii) extra-budgetary funding has proved fundamental for the implementation of the right to food; and (viii) FAO is a neutral partner and has limited capacity for implementation; in the most successful cases, the processes have been led by other national stakeholders.

Paul Munro Faure, FAO VG Tenure Team, provided an update on the FAO Global Programme for the implementation of the VG Tenure. The VG Tenure are an unprecedented international agreement on tenure governance. They were endorsed by the CFS in 2012 and their implementation has been encouraged by the G8, G20, Rio+20, Francophone Parliamentary Assembly, UN General Assembly and Berlin Agriculture Ministers’ Summit. There are multiple partner and other stakeholder initiatives ongoing and thousands of references and news items keep appearing worldwide. Importantly, there is also significant private sector recognition and take-up. Within FAO, the VG Tenure are a priority, and a Task Force and Global Programme have been established to support their implementation. Building on the consensus, FAO promoted the move from principles to actions through an FAO global implementation programme funded through its Regular Programme as well as through a programme for 2012–16 as an umbrella for various projects.

This programme is based on five pillars:

1. Awareness raising: A number of regional and national workshops were carried out to promote the VG Tenure. These activities have been complemented with conferences, meetings, briefings, a dedicated website, a newsletter, technical journals, television and radio interviews, promotional videos, etc.
2. Capacity development: In order to support implementation, a series of technical implementation guides has been made available in different languages (e.g. on gender, on agricultural investments, on the governance of forest tenure). Other capacity-development materials include an e-learning programme in three languages, a manual specifically for CSOs, and thematic training materials.
3. Support to countries: At the country level, FAO provides direct support to the implementation of the VG Tenure in partnership with resource partners and other organizations. This support includes, for example, legal framework assessments, land administration reforms and capacity and procedure strengthening.
4. Partnerships: Partnerships are key. FAO is collaborating with other UN Organizations such as IFAD and the UN Economic Commission for Africa, but also with resource partners and with producer organization networks. These partnerships with civil society, the private sector, academia, etc. are developed and strengthened through the FAO Office for Partnerships.
5. Monitoring: Support materials for the assessment and monitoring of the VG Tenure implementation have been developed. The CFS is directly monitoring implementation through reports during its sessions.

Throughout the development and implementation process, FAO has operated as a forum for discussion and neutrality. An important lesson learned is the need for flexibility to capture opportunities as they arise. It is also important to realize that implementation takes time and that it is important to manage expectations. Support work at the global work for example may not always show immediate results but has important impacts on global processes. The planning for Phase 2 of the implementation programme will focus on global and regional processes, continue and intensify country-level interventions, and promote resource mobilization.

UPDATE ON OTHER ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN SUPPORT OF SSF GUIDELINES IMPLEMENTATION²

During this session, workshop participants had a first opportunity to provide information on relevant initiatives and processes in relation to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The chair also invited participants to bring the knowledge and experiences shared into the forthcoming working group discussion.

- Sebastian Mathews, International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), summarized the main outcome of the workshop on implementing the SSF Guidelines, which was organized by ICSF in Puducherry, India, on 21–24 July 2014 and dedicated to Chandrika Sharma. This workshop represented the first CSO-led meeting to address the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. Seventy representatives from CSOs, NGOs, international organizations, fish worker organizations, fishing community and indigenous peoples' organizations from 22 countries participated. The main objective of the workshop was to exchange views and experiences on how the SSF Guidelines could benefit small-scale fisheries communities worldwide. In addition, the workshop aimed to identify and prioritize the elements of the SSF Guidelines for implementation, to discuss the roles and responsibilities of different organizations at various levels, and to

² Some interventions made during this session are reflected in the final section on Discussion on funding needs and opportunities for the Global Assistance Programme, as they also came up during that session.

develop a plan to monitor implementation. During a field trip, participants were able to see how the SSF Guidelines applied to local problems. The following provides a summary of the key messages of the workshop:

Gender issues

- Social analysis of gender relations is an important tool to support implementation of the SSF Guidelines.
- Cultural value systems that promote and legitimize oppression, exploitation and violence against women need to be reformed and budgets need to be made gender-responsive.

Partnerships

- There is a need to broaden alliances and develop criteria for these new alliances.
- Partnerships with other social movements need to be deepened and strengthened.
- The guiding principles of the SSF Guidelines should not be diluted in the implementation process.

Action by CSOs

- CSOs have to develop a common strategy for implementation; identifying and mapping actors to determine what roles they would play in implementation. To do this, it is crucial to identify key issues and apply the SSF Guidelines to help solve them.
- There are different priorities for different regions. Among the key priorities identified by the workshop participants were: human rights-based approach, protecting existing tenure rights, preferential access to fishery resources; according importance to customary and traditional rights; equitable balance between conservation and fishers' livelihoods; eliminating child labour; introduction of social security; implementation of the Work in Fishing Convention (2007); and provision of safe drinking-water and sanitation.
- CSOs should seek support from FAO for the implementation process.

Recommendations for partners

- The focus should move back from the global to the local level, and communities have to be informed about the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. Regional and national workshops should be held to favour this process.
- Existing legal and policy structures need to be analysed to examine how they could integrate the SSF Guidelines, and guaranteeing that women have full access to legal protection and social security is an important task.
- Donors should agree on a policy for implementation.
- Communities should be empowered to effectively utilize the SSF Guidelines and draw upon the youth in fishing communities in implementation.
- Efforts should be made to have a resolution in the UN General Assembly in support of the SSF Guidelines, recognizing their intersectoral attributes, to bring greater recognition to the contribution of small-scale fisheries to food security and poverty eradication, especially in remote rural areas.

The ICSF workshop participants also identified key vulnerable and marginalized groups, including wage labourers in fishing, share labourers in fishing, gleaners, migrant fishers, single women, indigenous groups, shore-based fishers and fish workers, older people, and children.

- Naseegh Jaffer, World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP), reported on the main outcomes of the third general assembly of the WFFP held in September in Cape Town, South Africa. The event was attended by about 100 people from about

40 countries, and half of the agenda was dedicated specifically to implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The participants confirmed a high sense of co-ownership of the SSF Guidelines and optimism, not only in relation to fishing rights for small-scale fisheries but in a broader sense of human rights. The final text of the SSF Guidelines does not include all the preferred formulations by the CSOs, but it does still provide all the key principles, and implementation will be key to bringing these to life. The participants also recalled that the development process of the SSF Guidelines had involved many fishers and fish workers directly and that this level of direct involvement of fishing communities needed to be respected by any future implementation mechanism. Among the priorities for action identified at the local level feature information and capacity development as crucial ingredients to properly understand the SSF Guidelines and enable communities as well as local authorities to participate actively in their implementation. Participants agreed that the integrity of the principles of the SSF Guidelines needed to be maintained and should not be affected by the involvement of new partners in the implementation process. A common agreement on the content and the interpretation of the principles of the SSF Guidelines is therefore imperative. In relation to monitoring, there was a strong agreement that fisher and fish worker organizations had to be part of monitoring systems and that established mechanism might need to be revised accordingly.

- Ratana Chuenpagdee, Memorial University, St Johns, Canada, informed the workshop about the 2nd World Congress on Small-Scale Fisheries, held in Merida, Mexico, in October 2014. More than 400 people from more than 50 countries, mostly from the research community, but also from international organizations and from fishing communities gathered for this event, which was co-organized by Too Big To Ignore (TBTI), a research network on small-scale fisheries with more than 200 members from about 50 countries. During the congress, the SSF Guidelines were discussed at a dedicated plenary session as well as during a field trip. This provided an important opportunity to familiarize those participants who had not been directly involved in the SSF Guidelines development process with the content of this instrument. Participants showed great interest and provided some suggestions about implementation. The congress was an opportunity to extend the ownership of the instrument. The next congress will take place in 2018. In the meantime, the TBTI will continue its work and is currently re-organizing in clusters, one of which is dedicated specifically to the SSF Guidelines.
- Cherif Touelib, Fishery Officer, FAO Subregional Office, Tunisia, informed participants about efforts started in 2012 to support fishers organizations and establish a regional platform of fishers organizations for the Maghreb region. Activities have included: capacity-development workshops, during which the SSF Guidelines were discussed; the preparation of a guide on how to improve the involvement of organizations in fisheries management; and the development of an e-learning tool. Canada has provided funding support and there is collaboration with the Arab Maghreb Union, which has a particular interest in supporting issues related to food security.
- Vivienne Solis Rivera, Coopesolidar, Costa Rica, provided a summary of the World Park Congress organized by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in November 2014 in Australia. The programme included a stream on marine issues, and the SSF Guidelines were mentioned in various side events. However, the overall recommendations of the congress focused on conservation, and the socio-economic dimensions did not receive the envisaged attention, which confirms the need to find a balance between the environmental,

social and economic dimensions of sustainability. The workshop was also informed that Costa Rica was in the process of integrating the SSF Guidelines into its policy framework and that they had been officially included in the national development plan for 2015–18.

- Nedwa Nech, Mauritania 2000, reported that the NGO had organized three workshops on the SSF Guidelines at the national level. The principles of the SSF Guidelines were simplified for those occasions. The translation of the SSF Guidelines into local languages is planned in order to facilitate consultation and implementation at the local level. Oxfam has supported the activities in the past, and discussions for follow-up work are ongoing.
- Mitchell Lay, Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations (CNFO), informed the workshop about a number of meetings in the Caribbean region during which the SSF Guidelines had been mentioned. These events included the 67th Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) Conference in November 2014 in Barbados, and the Investing in Blue Economic Growth workshop held in Grenada in November 2014. The CNFO stands ready to further support implementation of the SSF Guidelines. There is a strong feeling in the CNFO that awareness raising should be led by fisher and fish-worker organizations, including through educational programmes and media coverage to sensitize on the issues facing small-scale fishers and their communities. These organizations need support, demand-driven capacity development and involvement in research to be able to take on this task.
- Michele Mesmain, Slow Fish, reported about a full-day workshop on the SSF Guidelines held in 2012 on the occasion of the Slow Food / Terra Madre event in Turin, Italy, and discussions organized during Slow Fish events in the Republic of Korea and in Italy in 2014. During those events, the role of communities in resource conservation was stressed. Slow Fish remains committed to supporting the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, in particular through awareness raising at various levels.

INTRODUCTION TO WORKING GROUPS

Nicole Franz, FAO Fishery Policy Analyst, briefly explained the structure and purpose of the working groups. In order to achieve the overall workshop outputs – i.e.: (i) **to identify the crucial elements of the overall strategic framework for action for implementation of the SSF Guidelines**; and (ii) **to develop the details of the GAP** – the workshop agenda was designed to ensure that all participants would be able to provide feedback on the outcomes of each working group session in the plenary. Each group was invited to choose a chair, a rapporteur and a presenter from among its members, while FAO staff would be available to provide support. The specific guidance provided for each working group session is presented in the next section on working group outcomes.

Working group outcomes

SESSION 1: STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

The first working group sessions were intended to set the scene and allow for a discussion on the key elements of a comprehensive strategic implementation framework that ensures that the spirit and principles of the SSF Guidelines are maintained no matter who is implementing them.

To achieve this, participants were divided into four regional groups and were tasked to discuss the transformational process and changes that will be needed in order to realize the objectives of the SSF Guidelines, considering all core thematic areas, i.e.:

- Governance of tenure in small-scale fisheries and resource management;
- Social development, employment and decent work;
- Value chains, post-harvest and trade;
- Gender equality;
- Disaster risks and climate change.

At the same time, the groups were invited to also take into account part 3 of the SSF Guidelines, which deals with ensuring an enabling environment and supporting implementation. More specifically, the groups were encouraged to consider the following questions:

- Theory of change: what long-term outcomes will be required at the local, national and regional levels to achieve the SSF Guidelines objectives, i.e. what are the necessary changes in policies, processes, practices and attitudes?
- For what institutions and actors are these changes most critical?
- Who are the agents/stakeholders that can make these changes happen?
- What types of processes are required to secure the desired changes?
- Are there critical milestones for change (in the short and medium/long term)?

The main outcomes of each group discussion, including the comments received during the plenary discussions chaired by Svein Jentoft, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, are summarized below.

Group 1: Africa

Chair: Christophe Béné, Institute of Development Studies (IDS); presenter: Yahya Mgawe, Fisheries Education and Training Agency, the United Republic of Tanzania; rapporteur: Gunilla Greig, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management; FAO support: Florence Poulain, Helga Josupeit.

The group started by brainstorming challenges facing by small-scale fisheries. There are many interacting factors in small-scale fisheries, including multispecies fisheries, changing climatic and oceanographic conditions, as well as environmental degradation. Similarly, there are impacts on small-scale fisheries generated by other industrial activities, by social, political and economic pressures as well as by market dynamics. Often, policy-makers ignore these challenges, and this can be largely attributed to a lack of knowledge or misinterpretation and misperception of the importance of small-scale fisheries. The group therefore proposed the following problem statement to inform the theory of change: the lack of knowledge or misinterpretation of the importance of small-scale fisheries, including the “silo syndrome”, prevents the sector from receiving sufficient resources to generate the information required to demonstrate its importance. The SSF Guidelines are trying to address this.

The group recognized that the only way to break this vicious circle is to collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate appropriate data, capturing the importance of fisheries for food and nutrition security, livelihoods and how small-scale fisheries affects – positively and negatively – aquatic ecosystems. While data are necessary, they are not sufficient. There is also a need to change the way data are used and presented. This will help to provide the necessary messages to increase awareness and political will and to inform appropriate decision-making. Most notably, emphasis has often been too limited. For example, focusing only on the contribution of (small-scale) fisheries to gross domestic product (GDP) is not sufficient as the impact of small-scale fisheries is often greatest at the local level, which is not sufficiently captured at the aggregated GDP level. Appropriate additional indicators to demonstrate the role of small-scale fisheries can include income and employment multipliers and nutrition-related indicators, which better capture the contribution of the sector, in particular to the local economy. Other aspects to value more in order to change the narrative for small-scale fisheries include traditional and local knowledge.

Group 2: Asia and Pacific

Chair: Chris O'Brian, Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) project; presenter: Jessica Landman, Environmental Defense Fund (EDF); rapporteur: John Kurien, independent expert; FAO support: Lena Westlund.

The Asia and Pacific region is home to more fishers and fish workers and seafood consumers than any other region in the world. It accounts for the highest volumes of seafood exports and imports as well as of fishmeal consumption. Its biodiversity is extremely rich, and also on human side, there is a wealth of religious and cultural diversity.

With regard to small-scale fisheries, it was agreed that fishers and fish workers are usually not “attention grabbers”. Therefore, there is a need to link the sector with specific issues to be able to attract attention and achieve the necessary changes in policies, processes, practices and attitudes. Relevant issues identified by the group in this context included tenure, food security, labour, certification, climate change, and gender and human rights.

It is particularly important to achieve change in governments, ministries and legislators that influence institutions, laws and rules. Other entities in which change will be crucial include existing RFBs, trade organizations, donors and other financial players, and consumer-related arrangements (e.g. certification schemes). With regard to agents of changes, the group identified the following key players: local politicians, customary leaders (including spiritual leaders), fishing association leaders, consumers and regional organizations. The group stressed the need to seek change agents with high visibility also outside the fisheries sector, among non-fishery officials (e.g. in Ministries of Labour/Commerce/Finance), human rights lawyers and activists, consumer activists and journalists.

Among the most important processes required for securing the desired change, legal processes at all levels are included. Existing constitutions, laws and local rules may need to be revised to allow full implementation of the SSF Guidelines, in particular with regard to tenure rights, gender equity, and devolution of responsibility to appropriate governance levels. This also relates to the processes at the UN General Assembly, in other UN agencies and of Special Rapporteurs, which should embrace and publicize the SSF Guidelines. The full implementation and enforcement of other existing legal measures (e.g. Port State Measures Agreement, labour laws) would also greatly support the achievement of the objectives of the SSF Guidelines.

The group noted the importance of communication. In order to ensure a better awareness and understanding of small-scale fisheries, data to support reform need to be collected, analysed and publicized. Sharing success stories plays an important role

in this regard as they can encourage replication and inspire change. The group also identified capacity development at all levels (e.g. enabling local small-scale fisheries organizations to lead co-management) as another crucial process to drive change.

The group identified a number of critical milestones for change:

Short term milestones (5 years)

- Public commitment to change by governments (including funding allocations).
- SSF Guidelines promoted in discussions on food security, poverty eradication, decent work, climate change, human rights, child/forced labour, gender, declarations, etc. at the regional and national levels.
- Toolbox of awareness-raising material, legal and budgetary tools in local language versions available (adapted to different audiences).
- Platform created for small-scale fisheries interaction across global, regional, national, local scales (following the VG Tenure example).
- Social media communications in use.
- Model legislation, performance indicators, etc. shared.

Medium term (10 years)

- National policies on small-scale fisheries adopted.
- A certain percentage of countries (or fisheries) has introduced co-management at the appropriate level of governance.

Group 3: Near East, North Africa and Europe

Chair: Gamal El Naggar, WorldFish Center Africa; presenter/rapporteur: Nedwa Nech, Mauritania 2000; FAO support: Nicole Franz, Daniela Kalikoski.

The group concurred that change is happening all the time, at different levels and simultaneously. The critical question is how this change is affecting small-scale fisheries. Increased levels of responsibility of the direct stakeholders – fishers and fish workers – should be a key element in the desired theory of change. In order to achieve this, constitutional changes may be required in some countries. In any case, changes are required from both government and small-scale fisheries actors. Given the broad scope of the SSF Guidelines, the understanding of government in the implementation needs to go beyond the fisheries administrations. A broader involvement of public institutions would also encourage linkages between the SSF Guidelines and relevant national policies and processes, which are important in light of the voluntary nature of the SSF Guidelines. Currently, public administrations and policies are often rather fragmented and lack coherence. Moving towards a new, more holistic approach may be challenging and the establishment of a focal unit coordinating the SSF Guidelines implementation should be envisaged.

Change is particularly important for COFI, RFBs and States. In relation to drivers of change, political will is a crucial factor for lasting change through the empowerment of small-scale fisheries actors and the establishment of an enabling environment. Regional organizations were also identified as instrumental for driving change (e.g. the endorsement of recommendations by certain regional bodies can become binding for their members). Overall, it is crucial to improve capacity development for local, regional and international organizations and networks to influence policy-makers. Bottom-up approaches and participation are at the heart of the SSF Guidelines and need to be maintained as a guiding principle also during their implementation. Changes in small-scale fisheries governance system should be grounded in the community rather than based on a top-down approach. On the other hand, the SSF Guidelines also emphasize the role of the State. Governments have resources, capacities and the mandate to institute law and drive related changes. In order to be relevant, implementation of the SSF Guidelines needs to be contextualized and regionalized.

There may be opposition from large-scale fisheries with strong lobbies and political power during the implementation. There are examples in which fleet segmentation based on the principles of subsidiarity and food sovereignty have been established, but these concepts proved challenging in the negotiation process of the SSF Guidelines.

In relation to milestones, it was proposed to envisage that within five years small-scale fisher and fish-worker organizations are enabled to advise policy. Regional networks and other organizations can play a role in developing capacities of fisher and fish-worker organizations to do so. This would encourage truly representative structures representing small-scale producers and recognizing different types of knowledge and culture. Examples exist in which management plans proposed by communities themselves have achieved a high level of compliance with rules, a better distribution of resources and better-quality products. These achievements require long time frames, the building of trust and the development and exchange of knowledge.

Group 4: Latin America and the Caribbean

Chair: Mitchell Lay, CNFO; rapporteur: Vivienne Solis Rivera, Coopesolidar, Costa Rica, Reinaldo Morales Rodriguez, Organización del Sector Pesquero y Acuicola del Istmo Centroamerica (OSPESCA); Presenter: Vivienne Solis Rivera, Coopesolidar, Costa Rica; FAO support: Carlos Fuentesvilla, Helga Josupeit.

The group had an intense debate about partnership and alliances and the need for all sectors to work together as clearly stated in the SSF Guidelines. There was a strong call for partnerships with balanced and equitable representation in meetings and negotiations. Fisher and fish-worker organizations will have to be clearly differentiated from other actors within civil society, and capacity development for these groups should be a key issue within the implementation strategy in order to promote their equitable participation at all levels. However, implementation of the SSF Guidelines also needs to include the most vulnerable and marginalized, for example indigenous people, women and youth. Inland fisheries should be considered and present in all relevant implementation activities. Other important emerging partners include human rights organizations, educators and children. Another important task for implementation is to find ways to strengthen engagement with the private sector and with sustainable-use initiatives and interests in order to bridge with the conservation sector and explore opportunities for collaboration. Partnerships for implementations should therefore build on the principles of the SSF Guidelines and on common interests, complementary offers, mutual benefits and mutual respect. The discussions also emphasized the need to enhance the visibility of the sector and its importance in different areas, building on available information in order to reach a change in the public perception of small-scale fisheries and trigger related action. Another important point of discussion in relation to partnerships was how to ensure the participation of fisherfolk in decision-making in relation to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. This would certainly require capacity development for these organizations to enable them to negotiate in equitable conditions with other sectors and actors as it is not enough only to be present.

Fishers themselves were identified as the drivers of change needed to realize the objectives of the SSF Guidelines. At the same time, national and regional policies related to the SSF Guidelines need to be put in place and provide guidance for concrete actions for implementation. Education and awareness raising remain important elements in the process to change attitudes. Identified vulnerabilities of the small-scale sector can become important entry points for implementation, for example, climate change.

In relation to monitoring mechanisms, there was a strong call for participatory reporting mechanisms with the participation of governments and fisherfolk organizations, and a recommendation to present an update on the GAP and the governance system to the next COFI meeting, based on a set of process indicators

rather than product indicators that will show progress. This should be done with the participation of a multilevel network system with fishers organizations represented in the Steering Committee. The GAP is but one mechanism to implement and there are other efforts that would need to be recognized and presented to COFI. It could also be envisaged to have a fisher-led global committee presenting a parallel report on implementation.

Proposed critical milestones for change:

- 2015: A communication strategy and awareness campaign has been implemented and people are fully informed about the SSF Guidelines (e.g. “On most fishing beaches you can ask someone and they will know about the SSF Guidelines”).
- 2016: By the next COFI meeting, a multilevel network system that is connected fully to the GAP is in place, with the caveat that the GAP is but one mechanism to implement the SSF Guidelines and there are other efforts that need to be incorporated into the reporting mechanisms.
- 2020: Effective action to put in practice the will to strengthen fisher and fish-worker organizations to implement the SSF Guidelines; enabling environment is established and examples of policy, legislation and key institutions working together with fishing authorities, fisherfolk organizations and other stakeholders are available. The latter ones will be informed by pilot study design and sharing and learning from initiatives sensitive to particular local conditions.

Additional plenary observations

- The need to change the narrative in relation to small-scale fisheries and to look for innovative solutions, also outside the sector, was stressed repeatedly, as the causes of unsustainable small-scale fisheries are in fact often rooted in other domains. The power of the human-rights-based approach as an approach that strives to enable people to support their own development is important in this regard.
- The crucial importance of action at the local level was also emphasized throughout the session. Acknowledging that the context varies from place to place, the SSF Guidelines provide a framework for identifying and prioritizing main challenges for each context and how to address them. The GAP should focus on facilitating these types of activities.
- Another aspect to be addressed more in the future relates to market dynamics and the role of the private sector, given their influence on small-scale fisheries.

SESSIONS 2 AND 3: THE GLOBAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

In 2012, COFI agreed on the need to develop implementation strategies for the SSF Guidelines at various levels including related policy reforms and recalled that the Twenty-ninth Session of COFI had agreed to the establishment and implementation of a GAP that would support this process. Paragraph 13.6 of the SSF Guidelines also calls for this: “FAO should promote and support the development of a Global Assistance Programme, with regional plans of action to support the implementation of these guidelines”. The purpose of the GAP is to contribute to the full recognition and implementation of the SSF Guidelines at local, national, regional and international levels. Within this context, it should be noted that the SSF Guidelines themselves provide the objectives to be achieved. A GAP proposal – based on external consultations and inputs and internal (FAO) discussions – structured around four interlinked components was welcomed by the Thirty-first Session of COFI and the further development of this framework was the basis for this working group session.

Each of the four GAP components is described in more detail in the following sections, which also summarize the working group discussions:

- Component 1: Raising awareness and policy support: knowledge products and outreach
- Component 2: Strengthening the science–policy interface: sharing of knowledge and supporting policy reform
- Component 3: Empowering stakeholders: capacity development and institutional strengthening
- Component 4: Supporting implementation: programme management, collaboration and monitoring

The groups were asked to discuss the four GAP components, taking into account the outcomes of working group Session 1 and ensuring that the discussions and the identified recommended elements (outputs and activities) were firmly grounded in the principles of the SSF Guidelines. The working groups were also asked to specify whether the elements they suggested refer to the contents of an FAO-led programme or to initiatives by others.

In order to achieve this, the groups were encouraged to consider the following questions:

1. What are the critical outputs and types of activities required in order to achieve the defined desired outcomes and changes?
2. What best practices, experiences, ongoing initiatives, available methods, tools, etc. exist that these outputs and activities can build on?
3. Where should the outputs and activities take place (at the local, national, regional, international level, specific geographic focus)?
4. Who should produce or contribute to these outputs and activities, i.e. what should be included in the FAO-led GAP and what should be done by others? What partnerships are required?

The outcomes of Session 2 were presented to the plenary for comments. In Session 3, the groups consolidated their conclusions and recommendations, taking into account the plenary observations. Ratana Chuenpagdee chaired the plenary discussions of Session 2, and Chris O’Brian chaired the discussion of Session 3. The following sections provide a brief introduction to each of the GAP components and a summary of the main outcomes of the working group discussions (in both Sessions 2 and 3).

Group 1: GAP Component 1 – Raising awareness and providing policy support: knowledge products and outreach

Increased awareness is crucial: the SSF Guidelines can only be implemented if parties with the possibility to make a difference are aware of their existence and of how they relate to their area of interest and responsibility. This concerns a wide range of actors including small-scale fisheries actors and their CSOs, RFBs, government fisheries departments, politicians, development partners, environmental/welfare NGOs, regional economic organizations, agencies in other related sectors, academia and research institutions. Awareness is fundamental for action and will provide a basis for other implementation support.

Recommended activities for this component that emerged during the SSF Guidelines development process include for example:

- development of implementation guides (e.g. on specific topics, for different countries, regions);
- translation of the SSF Guidelines into local languages;
- preparation of simplified/graphic novel versions of the SSF Guidelines;
- promotion via social media; blogs and discussion groups;
- regional awareness raising and implementation workshops;
- providing assistance and information to relevant meetings and conferences.

The *expected output* from these activities would be increased awareness and improved understanding of the SSF Guidelines, across regions and countries as well as among different stakeholder groups.

Chair: Mitchell Lay; rapporteur and presenter: Michele Mesmain, Slow Fish; FAO support: Florence Poulain, Carlos Fuentesvilla, Helga Josupeit.

Raising awareness and providing policy is a crucial component of the SSF Guidelines implementation process and has to be seen as a continuous activity. The SSF Guidelines themselves are a tool for capacity building, awareness raising and advocacy efforts to draw attention to the small-scale fisheries sector. Any activity under this component should therefore aim at improving knowledge, perceptions and attitudes in relation to small-scale fisheries. Ideally, a result of activities under this component should be increased awareness and improved knowledge and understanding of small-scale fisheries and how the implementation of the SSF Guidelines can be of interest, across regions and countries as well as among different stakeholder groups.

Different types of awareness raising need to be considered: general awareness, purposive awareness and demand-driven awareness raising. Messages and awareness-raising processes must be designed so that they reflect values and principles of the SSF Guidelines, and in particular fairness, inclusiveness and transparency. This requires also tailoring specifically for different contexts and audiences, including the informal sector, the vulnerable and the marginalized (e.g. migrants, women, indigenous peoples and others). All of this emphasizes the need for a comprehensive communication plan that identifies specific awareness-raising activities at the global, regional and national level. A table summarizing the discussions of the group is available in Appendix 5, and specific outputs and activities identified under this component are summarized below:

- **Profile raising**

This requires tools or policies that help promote the importance of small-scale fisheries and address critical and urgent challenges. It requires changing the narrative of fisheries, focusing on small-scale fisheries contribution to employment, poverty eradication, nutrition and health, on a local and global level, through the formal and informal sector, as well as its dependence on the resources. Human-rights advocates can be an important asset in this regard. More and better consumer information, including through specific labelling, that supports the protection of small-scale fisheries products as a cultural heritage can be powerful awareness-raising tools. However, changing the narrative also requires stronger linkages with other related topics, for example, public health.

- **Empowerment of fishers and fisherfolk organizations and capacity development**

Related activities include the participation of fishers in governmental capacity development and training and orientation programs (e.g. on monitoring), as well as in co-management. A national registration or identification process for small-scale fisheries would help the sector to be accounted for and to be able to communicate and contribute actively. The implementation of the SSF Guidelines needs to take place in the participatory and transparent manner promoted through the principles of the SSF Guidelines. The proper engagement of fisher and fisherfolk organizations that played a key role in the development of the SSF Guidelines in the implementation is crucial to ensuring the proper interpretation of the principles of the SSF Guidelines. These organizations also have considerable capacity to support implementation and they should be enabled to develop strategies autonomously, take action and responsibility, and self-organize, rather than only being a target of capacity-development initiatives. Fisher and fisherfolk organizations are concerned that the involvement of new players in the implementation process may dilute the messages. The recognition and use of small-scale fisheries knowledge in fisheries management is another important way to empower communities. In order to fully ensure participation, representatives of fishing communities should also be involved in the development of legal frameworks.

- **Policy support and advocacy tools**

Active participation in relevant processes, e.g. on global conventions or the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), provides important opportunities for advocacy work. Moreover, CSOs should be fully involved in these processes and it is important to inform all stakeholders about progress in these processes in relation to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. In relation to policy support, accompanying governments in their legal and policy processes, including through policy reviews, as well as the documentation and sharing of lessons learned of these processes are crucial. A stronger engagement with policy-makers is needed, not only in the fisheries domain but also in relation to climate change, the economy, health and education, highlighting the holistic and human-rights-based approach in which the SSF Guidelines are grounded. The Director-General of FAO could support policy reform processes by calling on FAO members to implement the SSF Guidelines. Governments and fisheries administrations that often face human, technical and financial constraints need incentives to embrace implementation of the SSF Guidelines. For example, the identification of relevant elements of governance mechanisms that foster resource stewardship is important to bring the SSF Guidelines to their attention for adaptation and implementation of relevant sections.
- **Building the knowledge base of fishers and self-value**

Specific technical skills of fishers and fish workers need to be improved at the local and community level through awareness raising and capacity development, for example, through sharing of best practices about management and product handling but also in issues such as human rights. With regard to their own organizations, fostering democratic approaches to leadership is crucial for fair representation of interests. Specific training for leaders is needed. Investing in education on small-scale fisheries was also discussed, and could include introducing small-scale fisheries in school curricula, which would also require the production of related didactic material. Examples for these types of materials and initiatives already exist and should be built on.
- **Identifying and capitalizing on past and current experiences**

It is important to use known best practices and not to “reinvent the wheel”. The sharing of case studies is important in promoting them. This should include the documentation of changes in legislation that use or reflect the principles of the SSF Guidelines. A scoping process to identify these best practices and existing legislation, projects and initiatives is an important initial activity to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. It is equally important to link existing initiatives to the SSF Guidelines, which will facilitate to “materialize” the SSF Guidelines by profiling and highlighting existing initiatives and projects that incarnate their principles. In some countries for example, extension services address issues raised by the SSF Guidelines and these practices should be strengthened and replicated.
- **Identifying champions for change**

The SSF Guidelines are an important instrument of change at the local level. Workshops for fisherfolk leaders need to be developed so that they can champion the SSF Guidelines and change. Other leaders at the local, national and global level, and in different fields, should also be identified and trained. The engagement with high-profile personalities could also have an important impact on increasing the sector’s visibility.
- **Reaching the informal sector and migrants**

Small-scale fisheries are often informal and go unobserved. A national registration or identification process for small-scale fisheries could enable the most marginalized

to participate in relevant fora and communicate about their issues. It is important to ensure that policy changes address their needs and do not marginalize them even more.

- **Communication strategy and tools**

It is key to develop a communications plan addressing global, regional, national and legal aspects. Communication tools should include summarized and simplified versions of the SSF Guidelines addressing different contexts and illustrating how the use of the SSF Guidelines can be applied in practical terms. The development of a communication toolkit needs to take the important challenges of rurality and orality into account, providing also materials for community radios, elevator pitches and short video animations. The use of social media and information and communications technology (ICT) tools for communication is also becoming increasingly important. The organization of media training could greatly enhance the reach of awareness raising campaigns. Awareness raising events should at the same time be engagement processes with the target audience. Relevant major events should be targeted to raise awareness about the SSF Guidelines and promote their implementation. It is equally important to link the SSF Guidelines implementation to current issues.

Important actors to be involved in awareness raising and policy support activities include government, fishers organizations, media, women's organizations, regional fisheries organizations, community development organizations, indigenous peoples organizations, regional economic organizations, UN regional bodies and other UN organizations, youth organizations, aquariums, social movements dealing with common resources, food justice movements, retailers/distributors/trade associations (which are often an important driving force with considerable power), consumers and other actors involved in relevant issues such as climate change, social protection, disasters.

Group 2: GAP Component 2 – Strengthening the science–policy interface: sharing of knowledge and supporting policy reform

This component addresses the need for a strengthened knowledge base that informs a policy reform leading to increased integration of sustainable resource management with social and economic development. Accurate data and information are also needed in order to elevate the sector in national and regional policy agendas. The promotion of knowledge generation and information sharing is crucial, and requires support from various partners. The improved knowledge base should be translated into guidance that can be widely disseminated and utilized to ensure that the SSF Guidelines are mainstreamed in fisheries and other relevant policies and strategies at the national and regional levels.

Recommended activities for this component that emerged during the SSF Guidelines development process include for example:

- Identification, analysis and documentation of good practices and lessons learned (e.g. with respect to participatory management systems and holistic approaches integrating resource management and a livelihood perspective within a human rights context).
- Case studies providing practical examples supporting implementation of the SSF Guidelines (e.g. on human-rights-based approaches to fisheries management and local development; issues in relation to the thematic areas).
- Improved collaboration and exchange of experiences between relevant research initiatives, as well as increased interaction between researchers and fishing communities.
- Technical support and assistance for reviews and revisions of policy and legal frameworks creating an enabling environment for implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

The *expected output* from this component is improved policy development and implementation through an increased understanding of the issues, challenges, opportunities and approaches relevant to achieving the sustainable use of aquatic resources and secure livelihoods.

Chair: Susan Lieberman, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS); presenter: Vera Agostini; rapporteur: Jessica Landman; FAO support: Jessica Sanders, Merete Tandstad.

The group started the discussion by looking at the meaning of the science–policy interface. The importance of establishing and strengthening cost-effective ways to generate and exchange knowledge, with feedback loops between science and local communities, was emphasized, as was the importance of valuing traditional knowledge and evidence. Relevant good practices of collaborative research between scientists and communities should be documented and contribute to building confidence in communities to share their knowledge and to promote collaborative initiatives. The importance of applying a human-rights-based approach in the context of the science–policy interface was stressed. This includes the issue of who owns information and data and the rights to those, but also the broader need to document the current level of recognition of human rights in small-scale fisheries. It was also stressed that data and information (e.g. quantitative, narrative, synthesis) need to cover the entire value chain and have to be relevant for policy, including the formulation of indicators, which may require more creativity. In this context, it is also important to understand what influences politicians and to ensure that any activity is demand-driven. The documentation for the implementation process of the SSF Guidelines will therefore be relevant, and there is already an existing stream of research on implementation issues. It is important to assess what is already available and to build on existing knowledge and initiatives, also in order to avoid duplication of efforts and a waste of resources.

The group identified a number of key problems in relation to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, and proposed related outputs and activities to address these. A summary of the discussions, detailing a number of problems, activities and outputs is presented in Appendix 6.

Recommendations for key actors to be involved in activities under this component of the GAP include: fishers, processors and fishing communities, fisher and fish-worker organizations, academia/universities (e.g. University of the West Indies, University of British Columbia, University of Bergen) and national and international university-based projects (e.g. TBTI), international research organizations (e.g. WorldFish Center, World Academy of Sciences), national research organizations (e.g. National Agricultural Research Systems), legal research organizations (e.g. Fisheries Law Centre [FLC]), FAO and FAO programmes (e.g. Fish Info Network), other UN organizations (e.g. International Labour Organization [ILO], United Nations Industrial Development Organization [UNIDO], United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP], International Organization for Migration [IOM], International Maritime Organization [IMO], etc.), NGOs (including in particular international NGOs working on small-scale fisheries in multiple countries, e.g. EDF, The Nature Conservancy [TNC], WCS, World Wide Fund for Nature [WWF]), CSOs, think tanks (e.g. development policy think tanks; IDS), government aid agencies (e.g. United States Agency for International Development [USAID], NORAD, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation [SDC], Danish International Development Agency [DANIDA], UK aid), international financial institutions or mechanisms (e.g. the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank [IADB], Global Environment Facility [GEF], IFAD), national governments (various ministries and agencies), regional programmes (e.g. SmartFish), regional bodies (e.g. OSPESCA, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission [IOC], regional economic communities, RFBs), industry across the value chain (harvest and post-harvest, product development and marketing, institutes funded by industry), and private foundations (e.g. Moore, Packard, Oak, Clinton, Rockefeller).

Group 3: GAP Component 3 – Empowering stakeholders: capacity development and institutional strengthening

Small-scale fishing communities and their organizations should be effective partners at all stages of implementation of the SSF Guidelines. Governments and fishing communities should be able to work jointly, and together with other stakeholder groups, to ensure sustainable and secure small-scale fisheries. This requires attention to organizational structures as well as to fair representation in local, national and regional processes. Accordingly, capacity development should be the backbone of implementation of the SSF Guidelines and will be required at different levels, for different stakeholders, and with respect to different abilities (e.g. technical skills, organizations skills, business development). This will help create the key building blocks for a long-term process of continuous improvement towards secure and sustainable small-scale fisheries governance and development.

Selected recommended activities for this component that emerged during the SSF Guidelines development process include for example:

- Identification of needs for organizational development and strengthening at different levels and provision of support to address these needs.
- Assistance to communities to establish cross-sectoral linkages, partnerships and dialogue with government agencies, research institutions and other development partners.
- Sensitization and training of government officials and development partners in issues related to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, in particular with regard to the human-rights-based approach to development and participatory management of natural resources.

The *expected output* of this component are in the form of strengthened capacities and institutions to enable targeted actors to work towards ensuring secure and sustainable small-scale fisheries for the benefit of small-scale fishers, fish workers and their communities as well as for society at large.

Chair: Helena Motta, WWF; presenter: Adam Soliman; rapporteurs / FAO support: Daniela Kalikoski, Susana Siar.

The group agreed that the main target group for empowerment activities in relation to implementation of the SSF Guidelines are grassroots organizations representing small-scale fishers and fish workers, as these are the ultimate beneficiaries of the SSF Guidelines. It was noted that activities should have a focus at the local level, but need to be complemented by national- and regional-level activities. There is already a well-developed body of knowledge in terms of strengthening organizations and institutions and this should be built on. It is important to acknowledge the role of issues beyond fisheries (e.g. health, education, basic needs) that have an impact on the livelihood situation in small-scale fisheries. Enabling small-scale fisheries to organize and to participate actively in decision-making at all levels, including in broader policy process is therefore key. Within the sector, resource management and allocation (e.g. co-management, tenure rights, self-governance, community-based monitoring systems) and markets (e.g. meaningful participation, collective action, balanced negotiation, development of local markets) were identified as particularly important thematic areas in relation to empowerment. The application of a value chain approach was proposed in order to address issues in relation to markets. It was stressed that gender issues have to be taken fully into account for any stakeholder empowerment activities. Taking stock of the reality on the ground in terms of existing (formal and informal, fisheries/multipurpose) organizations and their strengths and needs is important. This will allow tailored supported to be provided to enable those organizations to make a full contribution to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The responsibility of fisher and fish-worker organization members' to share the benefits of capacity development with co-members and other organizations was highlighted. Existing organizations have many capacities and can play an important role in implementation,

for example, by identifying, documenting and sharing success stories that illustrate the application of the principles of the SSF Guidelines. This type of engagement requires an enabling environment with democratic, legitimate and representative processes, adequate institutional mechanisms and policy coherence, and hence support to public institutions to ensure this environment. The group identified five main outputs and related activities that are summarized below. The full table can be found in Appendix 7.

- **Situational analysis**

This includes the identification of major challenges and problems in a given context as well as a stocktaking exercise of organizations and institutions and their capacities to deal with those issues. This will help to identify capacity needs and to provide the necessary trainings and transfer of skills, paying special attention to the needs of women. In terms of institutional analysis, a better understanding of the existing legal and regulatory framework and authorities at various levels, their responsibilities and their interactions will help to identify entry points for improved partnership among government agencies as well as for multistakeholder engagement.

- **Participatory and interactive governance**

Activities in this context include the development of integrated communities and the empowerment of fisher and fish-worker organizations. More specifically, community and fisher and fish-worker organizations should be enabled to better identify and understand the nature, drivers and consequences of change that is happening and to develop solutions. Collaboration and partnership with science, for example, through participatory research can be an important tool in this context, including for developing and carrying out impact assessments and to capture and transfer of local knowledge. Capacity should be developed not only at the local level but also at the network level to strengthen the ability and opportunities to engage directly in relevant decision-making processes. Legal empowerment of communities and their organizations is important to enable them to defend their rights and to access legal support and institutions.

- **Empowering small-scale fisheries stakeholders to better participate in the value chain**

Key activities in this context include the identification of existing markets, trends and value chains to take advantage of opportunities for small-scale fisheries products. Equally important is the development of increased awareness of market requirements for those small-scale operators that target, in particular, export markets. Through collective bargaining, the negotiation power of small-scale fishers and fish workers should be increased at all levels of the value chain. This requires, among other things, access to enhanced market information, and should ultimately lead to better (gender) equity in the value chain and better market access. Small-scale fisheries operators need to be enabled to assess the business environment, including the identification of existing marketing bottlenecks and gaps in marketing mixes (product, price, promotion, replacement, trade). The opportunity to develop value-added products remains an important area for stakeholder empowerment, especially women. Certification and fair trade schemes can be challenging for small-scale producers, but could also present an opportunity, primarily in export markets. Improved product handling to reduce post-harvest losses is another area for activities that also contribute to improved food security.

- **Participation in resource management (e.g. co-management)**

Fishing communities can take important responsibilities in sustainable resource management. The collection of data by community members themselves and the incorporation of fishers' knowledge in management systems can contribute to the establishment of cost-effective and more efficient management systems. In order

to enable small-scale fisheries communities to become stewards of the resources, training in management activities is required. Experience-based learning based on partnerships and peer learning are among the methods that could be envisaged for this. More importantly, small-scale fisheries representatives need to participate actively in the definition of access and user rights as well as in management plans. This calls for a participatory framework for decision-making in which all stakeholders are involved and which is legitimized by legislation. It also calls for institutions, both public and private, that are legitimate, representative and gender-sensitive. The direct involvement of fishing community organizations in monitoring control and surveillance (MCS) is likely to increase compliance with management regulations.

- **Strengthening and fostering an enabling environment**

In order to be sustainable and achieve results in the long run, stakeholder empowerment activities need to be coordinated at various levels (local, national, regional and international). Networks can play an important role in this. At the regional and national level, the policy, legal and institutional framework is extremely important as it will provide the key elements of the enabling environment for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. For example, the mainstreaming of gender equity at all levels and the access to legal support centres for small-scale fisheries are important to allow the application of the principles of the SSF Guidelines. The strengthening of capacities (human, technical, financial) of supporting institutions (including public sector, civil society, industry organizations) is essential to achieving positive change in small-scale fisheries policies and strategies.

Key stakeholders identified by the group include fisher and fisherfolk organizations, government/parliamentarians, national public institutions (including local authorities and extension workers), regional organizations and network, academia, customary organizations, multipurpose organizations, community organizations, women and youth groups and organizations, NGOs, environmental organizations, law centres/clinics and legal-aid centres, value chain players (fishers, processors, vendors, traders, suppliers, intermediaries, retailers, exporters, consumers, etc.)

Group 4: GAP Component 4 – Supporting implementation: programme management, collaboration and monitoring

Component 4 is intended to be an overarching part of the GAP that supports programme management, facilitates collaboration and experience sharing with partners, and seeks to monitor progress on the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

Recommended activities for this component that emerged during the SSF Guidelines development process include for example:

- Support for the development of a comprehensive monitoring system for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, including reporting on the progress of implementation to FAO Members and other stakeholders. This monitoring system would be more comprehensive and in addition to the standard project monitoring system that will also be needed for the implementation of the GAP.
- Promotion of implementation experiences and best practices in relation to implementation of the SSF Guidelines with a view to accelerate learning across regions and collaborative planning.

The *expected outputs* of this component are the establishment of a transparent and efficient monitoring system, and strengthened partnerships and collaboration, leading to overall more effective implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

Chairs / rapporteurs / FAO support: Lena Westlund, Nicole Franz; presenters: Christophe Béné, Chris O'Brian

As component 4 of the GAP has a different nature compared with components 1–3, the expected outcome of this working group was to propose a monitoring framework, including types of indicators, advise on a GAP governance structure and make suggestions for mechanisms for collaboration. The task of this group was therefore rather broad and challenging and a lot of questions remained open, but important points were made which are summarized below.

Overall context

To be applied in a comprehensive manner, the implementation of the principles of the SSF Guidelines will need continued support. There is a need to keep re-educating different audiences and to have an ongoing dialogue among stakeholders. However, while progress made on small-scale fisheries governance and development may seem limited, there has been progress. The inclusion of human rights as the underlying approach in an international fisheries instrument, negotiated word by word by COFI members, is one example of this, together with the inclusion of non-traditional issues such as social development, decent work and gender as full chapters. While the endorsement of the SSF Guidelines can be seen as a major milestone, the real challenge of implementation that transfers the change achieved on paper to the community level still lies ahead. The multidimensional nature of small-scale fisheries calls for normative changes to allow for this. It was pointed out that although the SSF Guidelines are voluntary in nature, there are mechanisms for anchoring them more strongly at the regional and national levels, for example by formal adoption. COFI members have a political responsibility for implementing the instrument that they have endorsed, and the policy pressure to act on this must be maintained. In 2014, COFI acknowledged FAO's role in the development and implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the need for a monitoring process through COFI. On that occasion, COFI also emphasized the role of governments in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, as well as that of regional and local fisheries organizations to ensure ownership of the SSF Guidelines. It also recommended building on existing experiences and institutional structures and processes.

Workshop participants had a long debate on the specific role of different stakeholders in implementation, but there was overall agreement that the participatory approach adopted in the development of the SSF Guidelines should be maintained also in the implementation. Implementation has to happen primarily at the local level to achieve the ultimate objectives of the SSF Guidelines, and governments as well as CSOs will play a key role in driving processes at that level, based on context-specific priorities and needs. At the same time, as also emerged from the discussions of the other GAP components, action at the regional and international level also has to continue, and FAO has certainly a role to play in facilitating the implementation.

Monitoring

The working group was asked to discuss the role of the GAP in monitoring overall progress of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, including reporting mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels. Paragraph 13.4 of the SSF Guidelines reads: "States and all parties should elaborate participatory assessment methodologies that allow a better understanding and documentation of the true contribution of small-scale fisheries to sustainable resource management for food security and poverty eradication including both men and women." Key elements of a monitoring system include the learning and sharing of experiences – and documenting change – leading to an understanding of what is happening and why, and how this can be used to further promote implementation. This documentation can happen at the local, national, regional and international levels, and the direct involvement of fishing communities in the processes needs to be ensured. Paragraph 13.5 of the SSF Guidelines reads:

“States should facilitate the formation of national-level platforms, with cross-sectoral representation and with strong representation of CSOs, to oversee implementation of the Guidelines, as appropriate. Legitimate representatives of small-scale fishing communities should be involved both in the development and application of implementation strategies for the Guidelines and in monitoring.” Accordingly, FAO could provide a clearing mechanism for the documentation and its dissemination to help create the baseline and to capture lessons learned in order to inform better implementation. Ultimately, monitoring should not be limited to the GAP or how the SSF Guidelines are implemented, but rather capture the different dimensions of change in the well-being of small-scale fisheries. Ideally, this should be based on a coherence and comparable set of indicators that serve the interests of different audiences. The inclusion of a monitoring system within the GAP should be considered fundamental progress in terms of how programmes are designed.

Points for future consideration in relation to the monitoring system are summarized as follows:

- Economy of scale: Monitoring results should serve various audiences, spanning from COFI to local communities, but including potentially also the UN General Assembly, CFS, ministries (e.g. fisheries, finance) and other partners. The definition of the target audiences will determine the type of change indicators needed (including at aggregate level), the desired reporting frequency and pathways for accessing the required information. FAO can play a role in compiling this information and in documenting how it was generated.
- The development of global and targeted studies (e.g. policy reviews, scientific research) as well as best practices and their exchange (e.g. model legislation, interdisciplinary approaches; customary–formal system integration) should be included among reporting activities.
- Existing FAO monitoring mechanisms can be one way to assess progress (e.g. through an addendum to the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries [the Code] implementation report presented to COFI), but this should not be the only one. CSOs should be given the possibility to submit their own reports and to analyse and interpret progress results. Experiences from the Code implementation should be taken into account.
- Indicators should capture the contribution of small-scale fisheries to a broad range of issues, e.g. food security, nutrition, economic growth, and environmental sustainability.
- Monitoring of process is at least as important as output monitoring, in particular in the beginning. To capture behavioural change, various methods should be explored (e.g. outcome mapping).
- An expert group could be tasked to develop the monitoring system, including the definition of the roles of different stakeholders in this. The legitimacy to monitor implementation has to be considered in this context.
- The stakeholder advisory group (see below) could play an important role in progress monitoring.
- A baseline is needed to understand the starting point.
- Feedback mechanisms need to be an integral part of the monitoring system to ensure transparency and accountability.

Governance structure and mechanisms for collaboration

The implementation of the SSF Guidelines will be an undertaking requiring the initiative and involvement of a wide range of actors. The GAP aims to provide a framework to facilitate a coordinated and coherent approach to implementation. To facilitate the discussion on the GAP governance mechanism, the group was asked to comment on a proposed governance structure (draft graph included in the Background

paper in Appendix 4). There was agreement that FAO as well as COFI are key players within the governance structure of the GAP. At the same time, stakeholders who were involved in the development process have expectations to take part in the coordination. Already, CSOs are formulating projects, governments are moving ahead with policy processes, and regional organizations are taking action. The question is therefore whether there is some mechanism by which this can be communicated and collaborative action be developed or strengthened to foster implementation and create synergies with existing and new initiatives.

Recommendations with regard to governance structure and mechanisms for collaboration included:

- A communication strategy is needed and should include awareness-raising workshops and training at the regional and national level, and educational training (in particular for women and youth). It should use information from global and targeted studies to change the narrative for small-scale fisheries and promote good practices.
- The GAP should ensure liaison with UN processes and other relevant international initiatives.
- A mapping of relevant initiatives and stakeholders and a related SWOT analysis could help to identify areas where the GAP could make an important contribution as well as opportunities for synergies.
- Other activities under component 4 should be: campaigns and engagement; fund raising; advocacy/lobbying (in particular at higher levels); country support; and project management.

Discussion on a GAP advisory group:

- The members of this group should report to their own constituencies on the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.
- The purpose of the group should be to advise on funding priorities of the GAP and on strategies for implementation of the SSF Guidelines. It should also engage in advocacy and lobbying, including linking with other partners (such as outreach to and engagement with non-fisheries audiences).
- The group could meet on the occasion of COFI to assess progress, acting as a coordination mechanism between COFI members and the broader stakeholder group.
- The composition of the group needs to be balanced (e.g. taking gender and age composition into account and covering various thematic areas). The role of fisher and fisherfolk organizations in such a body would need to be prominent, given that the SSF Guidelines are specifically aimed at them and the fact that they played an active role in their development. Governments should also be included (possibly through the COFI bureau), as should non-fisheries stakeholders (e.g. the CFS, other UN agencies) and independent experts. Criteria for membership would need to be developed, but there may be a need for flexibility of membership to allowing for bringing people in on certain issues (rather than a permanent structure).
- The FAO SSF Guidelines Secretariat could service this group.

The results of the component 4 working group are also summarized in Appendix 8.

DISCUSSION ON FUNDING NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE GLOBAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

Chris O'Brian chaired the session. He invited participants to share information and views on opportunities for funding for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines within the framework of the GAP.

- Lahsen Ababouch, FAO, informed the session about the FAO Blue Growth Initiative (BGI) under FAO's new strategic framework that is based on five strategic objectives. COFI and the FAO Council have both endorsed the BGI as a mechanism for resource mobilization, advocacy and umbrella for the work of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department. A world summit on Blue Growth was held in Abu Dhabi in 2013, a global action summit took place in The Hague in 2013, the 2014 UN Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in Samoa had a Blue Growth side event, and a workshop was organized in the same year in Jakarta. In 2015, there will be the Grenada summit on the BGI to promote an action network. A number of countries have already requested support, and some initial funding has been mobilized. The BGI is based on four streams of work, namely: capture fisheries, aquaculture, ecosystem services, and livelihoods and food systems. FAO's work on the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, including the GAP, is part of the BGI. Dr Ababouch also mentioned the GEF Coastal Fisheries Initiative, which will be led by FAO in partnership with other GEF agencies and will include small-scale fisheries activities (to be determined based on context-specific needs).
- Adam Soliman, Fisheries Law Centre (FLC), presented the contents of a legal training workshop to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines that could be organized in different countries and regions as a two-way learning process involving lawyers, small-scale fisheries organizations, human rights activists, academics, law students, judges and parliamentarians. The outcomes of these workshops would be a local network of informed, trained and empowered stakeholders that will facilitate the identification of legal needs (e.g. legal representations, materials, research and further training) as well as an enhanced profile of small-scale fisheries within the legal community.
- Michel Blanc, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), introduced a number of available tool kits, teacher information sheets and other resources developed by the SPC's Coastal Fisheries Programme that can be used and adapted to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The Head of Fisheries meeting in March 2015, which will also be attended by donors, was identified as a good opportunity for FAO to formally present the SSF Guidelines and the GAP to the region.
- Margaret Nakato, World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF), reported on civil society efforts in implementing the SSF Guidelines. The WFF and the WFFP in cooperation with the ICSF and the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) are exploring a partnership with IFAD to take the SSF Guidelines back to the community level. IFAD supported the participation of small-scale fisheries representatives in the intergovernmental negotiation process in Rome in 2013–14.

The objectives of the proposed partnership would be:

1. To report back to the small-scale fisheries communities and organizations on the results of the negotiations.
2. To empower CSOs as valid stakeholders in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.
3. To develop a monitoring framework for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines including indicators.

In addition, WFF and WFP are exploring links with various partners to engage with their members in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, both at the international level and in the member countries. Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, together with academia, RFBs (the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization [LVFO]) and the members of WFF, are exploring a partnership

for implementation of the SSF Guidelines in the region. These initiatives are still at explorative stages, and the CSO group coordination committee welcomes support and collaboration.

- Sebastian Matthews, ICSF, informed the session that the ICSF was collaborating with the BOBLME to undertake workshops on SSF Guidelines implementation in India, Myanmar and Thailand and to translate the SSF Guidelines into local languages.
- Suharyanto, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia, reported that Indonesia had prepared a Bahasa Indonesia – English version of the SSF Guidelines to promote awareness and make the content more accessible at the national level. He informed the session that the Ministry was also planning a simplified version that would facilitate the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, in particular at the local level. More tools like this are needed to support implementation at all levels and to ensure that all stakeholders are enabled to take an active part in these efforts. The Ministry is also planning to organize a regional workshop on the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in 2015. Suharyanto also encouraged implementers of the SSF Guidelines to explore the potential role of certification – although recognizing that such schemes are not promoted by the SSF Guidelines – and how this could be used as an agent of change.
- Yemi Oloruntuyi, Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), reported on its Developing World Programme, which supports data-poor fisheries in achieving certification. The MSC is putting in place a capacity-development programme to provide training to build capacity of stakeholders involved in small-scale fisheries that are interested in working towards certification, in line with some of the provisions of chapter 12 of the SSF Guidelines. She recalled the importance of markets also for small-scale fisheries and expressed interest in collaboration.
- Ludovic Bernaudat, UNIDO, informed the session about the UNIDO-led Gulf of Mexico Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) programme. The preparation of the second phase specifically refers to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in relation to small-scale fisheries activities. The second phase will start in early 2016.
- Svein Jentoft and Ratana Chuengpadee informed the session about the TBTI research network, which was among the organizers of the 2nd World Congress on Small-Scale Fisheries, held in Merida, Mexico, in 2014. The TBTI is embarking on a new cluster-based approach that focuses on many areas of relevance to implementation of the SSF Guidelines. However, for academia, it has always been a challenge to receive funding support for research on small-scale fisheries and the implementation strategy should include awareness raising in this respect with a view to achieving commitment by research funding agencies at various levels. The SSF Guidelines provide an important tool to frame research projects, empowering the research community to generate funds.
- Vera Agostini, TNC, and Jessica Landman, EDF, confirmed the willingness to become partners in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and to seek opportunities to mobilize funding. They offered to share more detailed information about relevant initiatives with FAO to facilitate implementation coordination.
- Michele Mesmain explained that Slow Food, a large network providing a platform for dialogue and promotion of good, clean and fair food for all, would use the SSF Guidelines in its work. FAO has been invited to several events to talk about the SSF Guidelines, and there are more possibilities to build ownership and involve more people at the global level.

- Kirsten Bjøru explained that the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is in the process of designing a “Fish for development” programme, which may also include small-scale fisheries and implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The initial funding for this project is likely to be limited, but expected to grow over time. It has not yet been decided, but Norway is looking into supporting FAO’s Strategic Objectives (SOs) through a multidonor mechanism. In that case, it will be the task of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department to ensure that fisheries are prioritized.
- Gunilla Greig, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, referred primarily to the Swedish support to the FAO Medium Term Plan (2014–17), softly earmarked for: (i) building resilience through sustainable production, climate-smart agriculture and climate-change adaptation (within the framework of FAO SO2); (ii) enhancement of FAO gender work, particularly at the country level (FAO SO4); and (iii) rural employment, particularly for youth (FAO SO3). She also mentioned ongoing Swedish support to specific regional organizations and arrangements, including the BOBLME project and Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), which, in turn, may channel funding to initiatives supporting the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.
- Mitchell Lay, CNFO, gave the example of the CNFO showing that there is a need to technically and financially support and strengthen initial campaigns to empower fishers and fish workers to influence policy structures, for example by developing specific protocols in the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM). These organizations have the ability to identify priorities and to proactively propose projects, for example, in relation to better use of information and communication tools to support small-scale fisheries development.
- Reinaldo Morales Rodriquez, OSPESCA, illustrated the experience of his organization with the dissemination of the SSF Guidelines, even before their official launching. The organization is willing to collaborate with FAO in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in OSPESCA countries. It is planning to integrate the SSF Guidelines as an orientation reference for the regional fisheries and aquaculture policy, and recommend its inclusion into the planning process related to small-scale fisheries in its member countries.
- Charlotte Gobin, GEF Secretariat, mentioned the Coastal Fisheries Initiative (CFI) that is currently under development. This is a collaborative initiative involving six different GEF agencies, led by FAO, which aims to address governance weaknesses in coastal fisheries (i.e. all fisheries in exclusive economic zones EEZs). She also explained that CFI was not the only opportunity for funding marine/coastal/fisheries projects; GEF-eligible countries may make requests to the GEF for funding of activities that are in line with the GEF-6 strategy.

SUMMING UP OF WORKSHOP RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WORK PLAN

John Kurien chaired the concluding session of the workshop. He reminded participants that the discussions on implementation were the start of a new process with many open questions, but with equally many possibilities. A few final remarks were made:

- Wantana Chenkitkosol, Thailand, reported that, at the national level, there was a specific committee for small-scale fisheries in which also processors and NGOs participated. She expressed concern about the potential lack of political will to support small-scale fisheries and stressed the importance of directly involving the responsible minister in such types of committees. Each government should develop a vision for small-scale fisheries, which should build on the principles and components of the SSF Guidelines and identify priorities. Addressing

those priorities will require long-term planning, including investment in human resources and data and information, in particular socio-economic data, as well as efforts to ensure participation in decision-making processes. Regional bodies can play an important role in supporting national initiatives in this regard.

- Godfrey Monor, LVFO, recalled the importance of opportunities such as the workshop for stakeholders to engage in the development and implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The SSF Guidelines provide a new approach to make small-scale fisheries more feasible and sustainable. All participants have a responsibility to report on these developments back to their partners, both at the national and regional level and through their networks. There is a risk that the GAP could be used to convey messages different to the ones contained in the SSF Guidelines, and it is therefore important to maintain a strong engagement with those partners that have participated in and driven the entire process.
- Vera Agostini, TNC, felt that the participatory and inclusive nature of the development process of the SSF Guidelines was remarkable. There is a great willingness from NGOs to join forces and to break out of silos. FAO has had, and continues to have, an important role as facilitator in this. Balanced participation has to be a key principle of the implementation, and this requires coming to the table with an open mind. The onus is on the NGOs to demonstrate their commitment to sustainable small-scale fisheries in these fora and this will require education of NGO colleagues on the SSF Guidelines, their principles and true spirit, recalling that “who we are serving in the end are the people”.
- Svein Jentoft, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway, pointed out that the SSF Guidelines were part of an educational process, in so far as they contributed to creating awareness about what small-scale fisheries are about and to support improved decision-making. The development process was at times a struggle in terms of agreeing on key messages. He stressed the important role of CSOs in making the SSF Guidelines what they are. He felt proud to have witnessed the process and to have been part of the government delegation at the Technical Consultation. He also recalled that while the focus of the SSF Guidelines was on developing countries, there was also a need to recognize small-scale fisheries in the North. These latter ones have been drastically reduced owing to unfavourable policies, and the SSF Guidelines are very important also for the people affected. The explicit recognition of this fact, through a statement by the COFI chair included in the appendix of the COFI report that emphasizes the understanding that the SSF Guidelines apply worldwide, is encouraging in this respect.
- Naseegh Jaffer, WFFP, honoured the memory of Chandrika Sharma, recalling that the Guidelines were dedicated to her. He also recalled that the development process of the SSF Guidelines had started early in the CSO community and expressed that it felt good to be part of the fight to restore a sense of unity and dignity for small-scale fisheries communities. Fishing communities have a very strong relation with the environment as their way of life and culture is closely related to it. The SSF Guidelines can play an important role in strengthening this relationship. It is important to remember that the SSF Guidelines also speak to indigenous communities in the North, and this will need to be included and considered in the implementation. In some of these communities, food security is a problem. He also emphasized the need to be equally participatory when discussing and agreeing on the implementation plan for the SSF Guidelines, even if this might be challenging.

In summing up the workshop, the following main points were noted:

- It is very encouraging to see the wealth of activities initiated or planned by partners in relation to implementation of the SSF Guidelines. It will be important to build on existing campaigns, initiatives and processes, and to strengthen existing partnerships to influence policy and raise awareness while also supporting new proposals.
- A balanced and equitable partnership approach and cross-sectoral collaboration will be fundamental for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. There are clearly different roles for different partners and the implementation of the SSF Guidelines will need to follow a dual strategy of “top-down” and “bottom-up”:
 - Governments have a key responsibility to make implementation happen at the national and local level, and to incorporate the SSF Guidelines (principles) in relevant policies, strategies, etc. – not only for fisheries but for overall socio-economic development. Political engagement at high level together with investments in capacity and participatory decision-making processes will be required in order to realize the new vision for small-scale fisheries.
 - Fishers and fish workers, through their organizations, are main drivers of change and play a major role in the “bottom-up” processes. The SSF Guidelines need to empower collective action to ensure that small-scale fisheries are mainstreamed into relevant policies, strategies and actions at the local, national and regional level, and to ensure the implementation of these policies, strategies and actions.
 - Other players, in particular academia and research, but also regional organizations, NGOs and others, should be at the interface of this dual strategy, with a function to connect, to supplement, to document and to strengthen the above-mentioned efforts.

Governments, CSOs, academia and others should be able to call on FAO for support of various types. Encouraging, facilitating and monitoring the implementation process emerge as important tasks for FAO. This requires that FAO primarily play a role at the international, regional and normative level. FAO should also continue to engage strategically with actors and partners to influence their policies and funding priorities towards supporting implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

- All actors involved in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines have a responsibility to report on their developments to their partners, both at the national and regional levels and through their networks. This would be facilitated by having a global information-sharing mechanism about all ongoing and planned initiatives in relation to implementation of the SSF Guidelines (e.g. through a dedicated website, newsletter/distribution list).
- The reflection on an improved narrative for small-scale fisheries has to continue, including on how better indicators and metrics can support a strong and clearer argumentation that speaks to the character of small-scale fisheries and reaches important audiences (e.g. ministries of finance). Accordingly, there is a need for a global multistakeholder partnership to promote and monitor the development of small-scale fisheries, including the development of baselines and indicators. This would also facilitate linking small-scale fisheries with broader issues such as food security, nutrition and poverty eradication.
- The GAP provides a framework for both FAO’s direct support to implementation of the SSF Guidelines as well as for the global multistakeholder partnership. The GAP will therefore be a demand-driven evolving programme, developing according to requests for support and to funding and collaboration

opportunities. In the further development of the GAP, advantage should be taken of the possibility to learn from the experiences of the implementation of the VG Tenure and the Right to Food Guidelines, also in terms of resource mobilization.

In conclusion, the workshop has been an important step in terms of guidance for consolidating the overall implementation approach for the SSF Guidelines. It is evident that there is an overall willingness to work towards a coherent, coordinated implementation by all stakeholders, based on the guiding principles of the SSF Guidelines. It is confirmed that FAO has an important role to play in terms of supporting and facilitating the implementation, but also in providing technical support and project implementation, based on demand.

Accordingly, from FAO's side, the next steps will include:

- The workshop proceedings will be made available as soon as possible to all participants as well as to a broader audience.
- As a priority, a proposal for support to implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the continued development of the GAP will be developed based on the outcomes of the workshop and other relevant events. This proposal will be shared with resource partners as a basis for a continued dialogue on funding of the GAP and implementation of the SSF Guidelines.
- Subject to adequate financial support and building on the detailed guidance received through the workshop, as well as on other relevant inputs, the GAP framework will be further developed, including consideration of the need for monitoring and governance mechanisms for implementation of the SSF Guidelines.
- In the meantime and as part of FAO's ongoing and continued support to small-scale fisheries, special consideration will be given to the proposed immediate actions: awareness-raising campaigns; development of support material; and strategic workshops, in particular for the development of regional action plans as called for in the SSF Guidelines.
- New partnerships and synergies to further facilitate implementation at all levels will be explored, in particular considering requests from countries for support in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

Closing of the workshop

Lahsen Ababouch delivered the closing remarks on behalf of Árni Mathiesen, ADG, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department. He thanked all for coming from different places to start the journey to develop the GAP. He stressed the role of FAO as a knowledge organization, not through carrying out research directly, but by playing a catalytic role in bringing together experts to work towards common objectives. He also re-emphasised the need to live up to the expectations raised during the development process of the SSF Guidelines. He noted that the spirit of partnership was the cement of the entire process and praised the willingness to keep this spirit also during the implementation process. FAO is therefore looking forward to this process, based on commitment and professionalism to work towards the GAP. He confirmed that small-scale fisheries are at the heart of FAO's goals of food security, poverty alleviation and natural resource management.

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Appendix 2 – Opening remarks

Árni M. Mathiesen

Assistant Director-General, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all this morning and I am delighted that you have agreed to participate in the Workshop on the Development of a Global Assistance Programme in Support of the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication and I look forward to four days of open and lively debate and a successful resolution. I would like to extend my appreciation to our resource partners the Republic of Korea Yeosu Project, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Governments of Brazil, Germany and the United States, as well as the Government of Finland through IFAD who supported the development process of the SSF Guidelines and continue to express support for their implementation. I would also like to congratulate all COFI Members and other participants of the Technical Consultation and COFI on the endorsement of the SSF Guidelines and appreciate their willingness and disposition to fairly negotiate and agree on this necessary instrument.

Looking around the room, I would also be remiss not to highlight the critical contribution, participation and ownership shown by civil society organizations representing the interests of fishers, fishworkers and their communities, as well as the commitment shown by other non-governmental organizations, regional organizations and research to the development and now imminent implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

As you may know, the SSF Guidelines are the first international negotiated instrument that deals specifically with small-scale fisheries. In addition, this is also the first negotiated instrument that fully explores the social and economic aspects of fisheries governance. It represents a global consensus on the need for holistic and integrated approaches to improve the livelihoods of more than 500 million people.

Dear colleagues,

I address you this morning intent on conveying three main messages, and I ask you to consider them during your discussions. These messages are: process and participation, expectations and ownership and country level implementation.

First, I would like to talk to you about process. While the Committee on Fisheries endorsed the SSF Guidelines this past June, the participatory model followed during their development is already showing a positive impact.

The extensive consultative development process not only encouraged COFI Members to positively negotiate the SSF Guidelines, but also involved a diverse and numerous group of stakeholders. Even if countries negotiated the final draft there is a true perception that fishers, fishworkers, their communities and their representatives effectively influenced and had direct impact on the final content of the instrument. In a sense, the SSF Guidelines were developed following the same principles they establish. The expectations raised by this process and the ownership it has precipitated, makes it a responsibility of all actors to ensure that implementation follows the same model.

Additionally, the SSF Guidelines can effectively impact other policy processes by demonstrating the success of this model. I ask you to carefully consider the need to continue an effective participatory approach as you discuss the implementation and global assistance programme and incorporate it into your recommendations.

Secondly, I would like to talk to you about expectations. As a result of the consultative and open process that I have just mentioned and owing to the advances in small-scale fisheries that this consensus document proposes, a high level of expectation has been created around the SSF Guidelines. These expectations are based both on the content of the Guidelines and its recommendations on how to change the processes by which small-scale fisheries are governed. Our goal, as FAO and the goal of the group gathered here this week, is to harness these expectations and, propose an implementation programme that is able to meet them in line with the principles established in the SSF Guidelines and the model created by their development process. This entails a commitment by all actors to review governance processes and bring them in line with international consensus standards.

What the SSF Guidelines propose is no small feat, nor will it change the status quo overnight. However, this workshop is tasked with laying the groundwork to ensure that any activities or policies associated with this instrument do not digress from the spirit of their development.

Finally, I would like to quickly refer to ownership and country-level implementation and clarify that the SSF Guidelines do not belong to FAO. They belong to the actors that seek to work in partnership to ensure the sector's long-term social, economic and environmental development, following the three pillars of sustainability. However, we must be emphatic that the ultimate responsibility to implement the SSF Guidelines lies with States, with the support and collaboration of fisher and fish worker organizations and other related civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, academics and researchers, regional organizations, international organizations and other fisheries actors. In this regard, non-state actors should continue to play an important role in promoting the SSF Guidelines implementation, in particular at national and local level. FAO commits to provide technical support and expertise and to continue its engagement in major policy processes to support the full implementation.

Lastly I would like to convey that we are encountering a significant level of ownership over the SSF Guidelines, particularly by civil society organizations. We must persist in our efforts for this to continue, since fishers, fishworkers and their organizations and communities should be the direct beneficiaries and participants of this process.

In conclusion, I wish to highlight that the results of this workshop will not necessarily break new ground. The room is filled with several lifetimes of experience in the sector. Much like the SSF Guidelines, our goal is to harness the collective knowledge in the room, of what has worked, and what hasn't, on what must change and what must be prioritized. Discussed under the framework of the SSF Guidelines, this knowledge will contribute to shape the necessary theory of change and a clear path for implementation that allows us to achieve the results we expect. I hope you enter this workshop with an open mind and that you are ready for four days of intense discussion. A good start to this process will go a long way to ensure that the SSF Guidelines do not only remain an encouraging piece of paper, but actually have an impact at the ground level, particularly for the most vulnerable and marginalized.

At this point I would like pass the microphone to Dr Lahsen Ababouch, Director of the Policy and Economics Division, who will chair this morning's session. I thank you once again for your participation and hope that with the accumulated experience

in the room, we can set a clear and productive direction for the implementation of this important instrument.

I wish you a fruitful workshop and a pleasant stay in Rome.

Thank you for your attention.

Appendix 3 – Agenda

Monday, 8 December 2014

Chair: Lahsen Ababouch, FAO, Director Fisheries and Aquaculture, Policy and Economics Division, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department (FI)

Welcome remarks and self-introduction

Árni Mathiesen, FAO FI ADG

Self-introduction of participants

Overview of workshop objectives, expected outputs and *modus operandi*

Carlos Fuentevilla, FAO

Presentation of background paper

Lena Westlund, FAO consultant

Experiences from the implementation of the

- Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security
Mauricio Rosales, FAO Right to Food Team
- Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of Food Security
Paul MunroFaure, FAO, VG Tenure Team

Update on other activities undertaken in support of SSF Guidelines implementation

Participants

Introduction to working groups (TORs, expected results, groups, etc.)

Nicole Franz, FAO

Working groups – Session 1: Strategic framework for action

Tuesday, 9 December 2014

Chair: Svein Jentoft, UiT - The Arctic University of Norway

Reporting back from Working groups - Session 1 and brief discussion

Participants

Working groups – Session 2: The Global Assistance Programme

- Group 1: Component 1 - Raising awareness: knowledge products and outreach;
 - Group 2: Component 2 – Strengthening the science-policy interface: sharing of knowledge and supporting policy reform;
 - Group 3: Component 3 – Empowering stakeholders: capacity development and institutional strengthening.
 - Group 4: Component 4 – Supporting implementation: programme management, collaboration and monitoring.
-

Wednesday, 10 December 2014

Chair: Ratana Chuenpagdee, Memorial University, Canada, and Too Big To Ignore (TBTI) Research Partnership

Reporting back from Working groups - Session 2 and discussion

Working groups – Session 3: Working group conclusions

Thursday, 11 December 2014

Chairs: Chris O’Brian, FAO Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) project John Kurien, Azim Premji University, India

Reporting back from Working groups - Session 3

Discussion on funding needs and opportunities for the Global Assistance Programme

Summing up of workshop results and recommendations for work plan

Closure

Lahsen Ababouch, FAO

Appendix 4 – Background paper

**WORKSHOP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME
IN SUPPORT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES FOR
SECURING SUSTAINABLE SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES IN THE CONTEXT OF FOOD
SECURITY AND POVERTY ERADICATION**

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Introduction

CONTEXT

In June 2014, the 31st Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) endorsed the *Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication* (SSF Guidelines), the first ever international instrument specifically dedicated to small-scale fisheries. This endorsement marked the conclusion of several years of work developing the SSF Guidelines through consultations and negotiations. This preparatory work on the instrument was carried out in close collaboration with civil society organisations (CSOs) representing fishers and fishworkers, governments, academia, regional and other organizations and stakeholders.

However, while the finalization and endorsement of the instrument itself were of critical importance, the real challenge lies in its implementation: the SSF Guidelines will only become effective if their provisions are put into practice. During the consultation process underpinning their drafting, implementation was already considered and the two processes have been seen as parallel and overlapping. The consultations have led to increased awareness of small-scale fisheries and, in some instances, appear to have influenced policy and contributed to better involvement of small-scale fishing community representatives and CSOs in policy processes.

The SSF Guidelines in policy

The SSF Guidelines are referred to in several ongoing policy processes, e.g. the report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food presented at the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly in 2012, the African Union 'Policy framework and reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa' agreed at the 2nd Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA II) in 2014, the special session at the Farmers' Forum of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in 2014, the resolution WECAFC/15/2014/8 of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC), the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems endorsed by the 41st Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), and the 38th Session of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) agreeing to a regional cooperative programme for the promotion of sustainable small-scale fisheries.

Still, concerted efforts are now needed to ensure their implementation at all levels. For this purpose, the 29th and 30th Sessions of COFI recommended the establishment and implementation of a Global Assistance Programme (GAP) in relation to the SSF Guidelines. Accordingly, the FAO SSF Guidelines Secretariat prepared an outline of a GAP which was also presented to the 31st Session of COFI. COFI welcomed this proposal and recommend its further development.

As part of this process, a workshop on the *Development of a Global Assistance Programme in Support of the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication* is being convened by FAO on 8-11 December 2014.

OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP AND PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The objective of the workshop is to discuss key aspects of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines focusing on an overall strategic framework for action for the SSF Guidelines implementation and the development of an FAO-led Global Assistance Programme (GAP). The expected outputs are:

- Identification of the crucial elements of the overall strategic framework for action for the SSF Guidelines implementation, including partnerships and synergies, and monitoring mechanisms.
- Development of the details of the FAO-led umbrella programme – the GAP – in the form of outputs and activities as well as the programme governance structure.

This document has been prepared as a background paper for the workshop and intends to provide some information and guidance for the workshop discussions. It is hence structured in two parts:

- Part I provides background information on the SSF Guidelines and relevant recent meetings.
- Part II provides guidance for workshop discussions, including strategic considerations and the current GAP outline. Accordingly, Part II relates closely to the workshop agenda.

References and further suggested reading can be found in Annex 1.

Part 1 – Background information

THE SSF GUIDELINES

The consultation process

Already before the COFI recommendation to develop an international instrument on small-scale fisheries in 2011, several consultations and meetings had been held involving governments, CSOs and other institutions and stakeholders to outline what would be needed to secure sustainable small-scale fisheries and safeguard their social, economic and environmental role. Events led by FAO included the **Global Conference on Small-Scale Fisheries** co-organized with the Government of Thailand, World Fish Centre and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) in Bangkok, Thailand, in 2008 and three regional consultations on bringing together responsible fisheries and social development in **Africa, Asia and Pacific**, and **Latin America and Caribbean**. These were organized in 2010 in collaboration with local and regional partners: in Mozambique with the Institute for Small-scale Fisheries Development (IDPPE), in Thailand with the Asia-Pacific Fisheries Commission (APFIC) and in Costa Rica with the Central America Fisheries and Aquaculture Organization (OSPESCA).

In 2011, the 29th Session of COFI approved the development of an international instrument in the form of international guidelines to support small-scale fisheries. This voluntary instrument would complement the **Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF)** with the understanding that although the CCRF covers small-scale fisheries, there is a need to address the subsector more comprehensively. Following this COFI decision, the consultation process intensified and from 2011 until early 2013 when the draft text of the SSF Guidelines was submitted for formal negotiation, a wide range of meetings were held at national and regional levels to provide contents to the drafting process. A total of over 4 000 stakeholders from over 120 countries were directly involved in this process. Most of the consultations were organized directly by CSOs: through a platform established for this purpose by WFF, WFFP, ICSF and IPC¹, some 20 national workshops across Latin America, Africa and Asia, two regional workshops in Africa and some discussions in Europe were organized². FAO-led regional consultations were organized in 2012 in collaboration with the Government of Oman for **North Africa and the Near-East**, with the Secretariat for the Pacific Community (SPC) for the **Pacific**, and with the Caribbean Regional Fishery Mechanism (CRFM) and Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) for the **Caribbean** region.

The entire consultation process was made possible through generous extra-budgetary funding by partners, namely from the governments of Brazil, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Korea, Sweden and funds from the government of Finland channeled through IFAD.

The consultations clearly indicated the importance of applying a human rights-based approach to the governance and development of the small-scale fisheries subsector and to take all three pillars of sustainability - environmental, economic and social –

¹ World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP), the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fishworkers (WFF), the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), and the International Planning Committee on Food Sovereignty (IPC).

² Visit <https://sites.google.com/site/smallscalefisheries/> for reports of these events.

into account. Accordingly, the consultations recommended that the SSF Guidelines should refer to social and economic development alongside resource management concerns. The consultations pointed to the importance of empowering small-scale fishing communities to take part in decision-making processes and allow them to be responsible for their own development. The need for secure access to key resources – in particular to fishery resources and land – and hence ensuring tenure rights was also emphasized.

Understanding the use of the term 'rights' in fisheries

The use of the term **rights** in a fisheries context has tended to imply fishing rights as part of rights based fisheries management. Especially in the context of small-scale fisheries, more recent discussions have evolved to include a human rights perspective and the right to secure and just livelihoods, including social and economic rights as well as rights to related resources (such as land). Linking fishing rights and human rights reflects a move towards an approach more in line with the reality of the diverse livelihoods of small-scale fishing communities and the complexity of poverty. Within this concept of a broader rights approach, the importance of secure access to resources and tenure rights should be stressed.

Other key considerations included the importance of taking the whole fisheries system into account, i.e. not only harvesting but also up and down-stream activities and in particular the postharvest subsector. Also, gender and climate change and disaster risks management would be treated as cross-cutting themes throughout the SSF Guidelines but also given specific emphasis as they are critical issues to address in order to achieve sustainable and equitable development.

The SSF Guidelines contents

The SSF Guidelines are intended “to support the visibility, recognition and enhancement of the already important role of small-scale fisheries and to contribute to global and national efforts towards the eradication of hunger and poverty” (from SSF Guidelines preface). They apply to small-scale fisheries in all contexts, to all actors – men and women – throughout the value chain, are global in scope but with a specific focus on the needs of developing countries.

The SSF Guidelines are based on international human rights standards, responsible fisheries governance and sustainable development in line with the Rio+20 outcome document ‘The future we want’. On this basis, the SSF Guidelines contain an important number of key guiding principles that should underpin their implementation: i.e. human rights and dignity; respect of cultures; non-discrimination; gender equality and equity; equity and equality; consultation and participation; rule of law; transparency; accountability; economic, social and environmental sustainability; holistic and integrated approaches; social responsibility; feasibility and social and economic viability.

With regard to subject matter contents, the SSF Guidelines address:

- Five main thematic areas:
 - Governance of tenure in small-scale fisheries and resource management
 - Social development, employment and decent work
 - Value chains, postharvest and trade
 - Gender equality
 - Disaster risks and climate change
- Four areas related to creating an enabling environment and supporting implementation:
 - Policy coherence, institutional coordination and collaboration
 - Information, research and communication

- Capacity development
- Implementation support and monitoring

The SSF Guidelines and other related information are available at <http://www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en>.

Relation to other instruments

As already mentioned above, the SSF Guidelines complement the CCRF and support its overall principles and provisions³. The SSF Guidelines take the outcomes of the Conference on Sustainable Development “Rio+20” into account and hence promote environmental, economic and social sustainability. Given their basis in the human rights based approach to development, all human rights instruments⁴ are of relevance to the SSF Guidelines.

The SSF Guidelines are closely linked to the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (the Tenure Guidelines)⁵, endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012. Like the SSF Guidelines, the Tenure Guidelines are anchored in human rights principles and recognise the importance of secure and equitable access to natural resources for food and nutrition security and sustainable livelihoods, in particular for vulnerable and marginalised groups.

The Voluntary Guidelines on the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security (the Right to Food Guidelines)⁶ is another key international instrument. It was adopted by FAO member states in 2004 and considers economic, cultural and social rights as an integral part of the work of food and agriculture agencies.

The UN Special Rapporteur supports the SSF Guidelines

In his **October 2012 report to the General Assembly**, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Olivier De Schutter, called upon States to discharge their duties to respect, protect and fulfill the right to food in the fisheries sector by moving towards sustainable resource use while ensuring that the rights and livelihoods of small-scale fishers and coastal communities are respected and that the food security of all groups depending on fish is improved. In his report he welcomed the development of the SSF guidelines and noted that it is essential to link their contents to the norms and standards of international human rights law, including the right to food.

TOWARDS SSF GUIDELINES IMPLEMENTATION: RELEVANT EVENTS

Most of the consultations and workshops that were carried out to develop the draft version of the SSF Guidelines took place at a regional or national level and focused on the contents of the SSF Guidelines themselves. There were, also some events that started to look into future implementation more explicitly in line with the intention that the two processes – drafting the SSF Guidelines text and their implementation – should be overlapping. Recently, more activities have been carried out that focus specifically on implementation. An e-consultation was held in November 2013 and FAO also participated in a number of meetings organized by partners where specific

³ The CCRF is available at <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/005/v9878e/v9878e00.pdf>.

⁴ See www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/UniversalHumanRightsInstruments.aspx for a complete list of instruments.

⁵ The Tenure Guidelines are available at www.fao.org/nr/tenure/voluntary-guidelines/en/.

⁶ The Right to Food Guidelines are available at www.fao.org/righttofood/right-to-food-home/en/

sessions of side events were included to discuss SSF Guidelines implementation. Key meetings, workshops and initiatives and their outcomes include:

Workshop on International Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries

This workshop, held in February 2012, noted the need for an integrated approach and recommended that the preparation and implementation of the SSF Guidelines should not be seen as separate events but as an integral part of other initiatives. The workshop agreed that there is a need to build bridges between different stakeholder visions – within the fisheries sector as well as outside – to ensure coherence. Partnerships will be essential in this context and implementation will require concerted efforts and organizational development and strengthening of capacities at all levels.

Initiatives on Strengthening Organizations and Collective Action in Fisheries: a way forward in implementing the International Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries

Two workshops have been held (in FAO, Rome, in March 2013 and in Christ Church, Barbados, in November 2014) and a number of case studies carried out to explore the roles of different types of fisheries collective action and cooperative organisations and propose elements for a capacity development strategy to strengthen organizations and collective action in small-scale fisheries. Collective action provides an important platform through which small-scale fisheries stakeholders exercise their right to organize, participate in the development and decision-making processes and influence the fisheries management outcomes. The importance of supporting knowledge mobilization, leadership capabilities (of men and women), research partnerships, use of effective communication tools (making use of new technologies and social media), and platforms and networks for experience sharing and collaboration was identified in the context of ensuring that the necessary institutional structures and capacity are in place to secure sustainable small-scale fisheries.

Sub-regional workshops to Strengthen the Capacity of Artisanal Fisheries Professional Organizations in the Countries of North Africa

In September 2013, a meeting was organised in Bizerte, Tunisia, by the FAO Sub-regional office in collaboration with local partners to discuss the strengthening of small-scale fisheries organizations in North African countries. The meeting was attended by participants from Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia and it showed the interest of stakeholders to develop capacity to be able to position themselves at the national, regional and international levels and to identify common regional objectives. The meeting agreed to establish a regional platform for small-scale fisher associations in North Africa. This platform – the Maghreb Platform on Small-scale Fisheries – was formally established at a follow-up meeting held in Rabat, Morocco, on 23-25 October 2014.

Moreover, five workshops were organized with support from the FAO project TCP/SNE/3403 at the national and sub-regional levels in Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria to strengthen the capacity of fisheries associations and fishers with a strong focus on the SSF Guidelines. A technical guide is currently in preparation to support small-scale fishers and fishworkers to increase their benefit from fisheries sector and to strengthen their participation and involvement in the conception and implementation of fisheries strategies in their respective countries using a sustainable approach.

E-consultation on Implementing the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication

The e-consultation was held from 11 November to 2 December 2013 and was hosted by the discussion facility of the Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition (FSN). The consultation was structured around three related topics: (i) Partnering for implementation – roles of different actors and stakeholders; (ii) Information and communication – promoting experience sharing and collaboration, and (iii) Challenges and opportunities – needs for support and interventions.

A total of 71 contributions were received from participants from all regions of the world, representing governments, academia and research institutions, CSOs and NGOs, cooperatives and associations, technical cooperation agencies, UN and international organizations, the private sector as well as independent experts. A wide range of lessons learnt were referred to and several suggestions made:

- There is a need for engaging in and promoting **partnerships for the implementation** of the SSF Guidelines. The special responsibility of governments was pointed out, in particular with regard to giving priority to the small-scale fisheries sector, but it was noted that there is often a need to clarify the different roles of different government departments. A suggestion was made that governments should designate specific focal points that are responsible for small-scale fisheries. At the same time, it was pointed out that small-scale actors should take ownership of the implementation process and that they should be supported to do so through empowerment, leadership training and organisational development (building on existing structures) are needed. International organisations and the UN bodies also have important roles to play in supporting and monitoring the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.
- With regard to **information and communication**, aspects highlighted included the need for awareness raising and increased use of various forms of media - respecting cultures and languages - and dissemination of facts and figures to improve the knowledge on and visibility of small-scale fisheries. The SSF Guidelines need to be made accessible to all and communication and media products should be developed accordingly.
- Some of the **challenges** cited include absence of policy frameworks that reflect the reality of the small-scale fisheries sector, a lack of funding and also the incidence of corruption. Looking at the brighter side, there are of course also important **opportunities**, for example by seeking increased engagement by youth and support from consumers, including through fair trade initiatives.

The importance of monitoring progress on the implementation of the SSF Guidelines was raised. One part of this would be to put in place a systematic and periodic process of reporting at the national, regional and international levels. Moreover, meaningful fora (at regional and national levels) to discuss progress reports, share good experiences and discuss ways to improve implementation should be organized. Participatory monitoring and evaluation will be very important especially at the local and national levels.

First Regional Symposium on Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

This symposium was organized by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) in Malta on 27-30 November 2013. The meeting acknowledged the important role of small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean and proposed to:

- Launch a regional programme in the GFCM area fostering a domain-by-domain knowledge of all the components linked to small-scale fisheries with involving all interested stakeholders. The work plan and outputs of this programme are expected to be defined by the co-organizers, and any other interested partner,

in connection with a preparatory meeting to be held during the first quarter of 2014.

- Establish, under the auspices of FAO–GFCM, a task force aimed at supporting Mediterranean and Black Sea countries in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the creation, support or extension of platforms of small-scale fishers and fishworkers;
- Foster a strategy underpinning the valorization of opportunities and products of small-scale fisheries for the benefit of local communities and stakeholders.

Accordingly, a first Regional Programme on Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea (2014–2018) was endorsed by the GFCM at its 38th Session (19–24 May 2014). This regional programme builds on the outcomes of the first symposium to develop specific projects aimed at promoting a successful management of small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, delivering on the ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) while improving livelihoods, economies and food security of coastal communities. A second conference is planned to take place in Algeria on 4–6 May 2015. This meeting will in particular provide an opportunity to discuss the way forward for the implementation of the regional programme.

Towards socially just and sustainable fisheries: Workshop on implementing the FAO SSF Guidelines, Pondicherry, India

A first international CSO workshop after the finalization and endorsement of the SSF Guidelines was organized by ICSF on 21–24 July 2014 in Pondicherry, India. The workshop noted that CSOs should take a lead role in the implementation, ensuring that it is community-centered and community-driven. For the SSF Guidelines implementation to be successful, existing social and power relationships have to be acknowledged and the transformative agenda built on this understanding. Moreover, the integration of the SSF Guidelines into national and regional policy and legislation will be crucial. The basis on which the SSF Guidelines are built is the recognition of the interdependence and interlinking of human rights and social development. This needs to be applied throughout the value chain and through a multi-sectoral approach. Alliances with new actors and CSO leadership and capacity development will be important building blocks for SSF Guidelines implementation. Awareness building about the SSF Guidelines should include the larger public so that the importance and need for proper implementation is understood, and there is public scrutiny and pressure on the State to ensure implementation.

The 6th General Assembly of World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP)

The General Assembly took place on 1–5 September 2014 in Cape Town, South Africa, hosted by Masifundise. The meeting discussed the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and decisions taken by the meeting included:

- Collaboration between CSOs and FAO should be strengthened and WFFP should engage with the FAO civil society mechanism (CMS) and the CFS. CSOs should also continue working together and expand their alliances.
- CSOs should continue to play a strong role in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. For this purpose, a gender balanced SSF Guidelines steering committee consisting of CSOs only, or together with FAO, will be needed. Side events should be organized at COFI and in conjunction with relevant regional and national meetings to discuss implementation status. WFFP should also establish its own parallel monitoring mechanism.
- The SSF Guidelines need to be brought back to the communities through suitable communication processes and products. ‘Empowerment workshops’ should be organized along the lines of the earlier consultation events.

- Advocacy campaigns need to be carried out at the national level and pressure put on national governments for implementation.
- CSOs should be closely involved in monitoring SSF Guidelines implementation, including in determining the criteria for this monitoring. FAO should facilitate meetings with the CSOs involved in the Tenure Guidelines to allow for experience sharing.
- Funding will be required and should be administered by FAO and allocated in line with the principles of the SSF Guidelines.

The Assembly also noted that ocean grabbing is a threat to small-scale fisheries and that human rights are often violated in the context of cross-border fishing when accessing traditional fishing grounds.

2nd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress

The second world small-scale fisheries congress was organized by the Too Big To Ignore (TBTI) network in Mérida, México, on 21-24 September 2014. Several parts of this meeting were dedicated to the SSF Guidelines, which were welcomed by the conference participants as a good tool to address issues in the small-scale fisheries context. Calls were made for FAO to ensure that small-scale fisheries organizations continue to be part of the implementation process especially with regard to the Global Assistance Programme. The event also offered an extensive venue to raise awareness of the SSF Guidelines, particularly for professionals in the academic and non-governmental sector. Additionally, FAO organized a discussion session that provided an opportunity for small-scale fisheries professionals to brainstorm and deliver inputs to FAO on their recommendations for the GAP. Given the amount of expertise in the meeting, the participants provided FAO with an extensive list of recommendations. These recommendations were made along the three thematic components of the GAP and may be found in the document “Compilation of ideas from the TBTI-FAO Session on the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF Guidelines)” that may be found on link provided at the bottom of Annex 1.

MPAs and small-scale fisheries – World Parks Congress

At the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney, Australia, FAO together with the Fisheries Expert Group of the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (IUCN/CEM/FEG), the IUCN Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group (SULi) and the CSO platform (ICSF, WFF, WFFP and IPC) organized a side event on 13 November 2014. The event was entitled ‘Connecting the dots: Marine protected areas (MPAs) and sustainable small-scale fisheries’ and included presentations on MPA governance in the context of small-scale fisheries and on relevant international instruments and why they are important to MPA governance. Special emphasis was given to the SSF Guidelines but the importance of the Tenure Guidelines and the Right to Food Guidelines was also highlighted.

After these introductory presentations, participants discussed the following questions in smaller groups:

- How do MPAs fit with human rights based approach as articulated in the SSF guidelines, and with responsible governance of tenure, resource management and social and economic development in small-scale fisheries?
- How can equity- between different stakeholder groups and including gender equality- be improved in MPA planning and implementation, and in fisheries governance, while ensuring both ecosystem and human well-being in accordance with the SSF guidelines?
- How do we best use different types of knowledge (scientific and traditional), approaches and tool and ensure sustainable use, learning and experience sharing

in order to strengthen the ways MPAs can be used in fisheries management for food security and sustainable livelihoods as promoted by the SSF guidelines?

The discussions were very rich and it was noted, among other things, that MPAs can be a tool for creating equity and rights to access but the effects of MPAs on small-scale fisheries have to be understood and considered in order to achieve equity. Making communities part of the process, including traditional knowledge, is key. Moreover, it is important to see the human-rights based approach as the starting point. If this is the starting point, MPAs can be a tool (if a community decides so) to achieve conservation rather than the other around.

Other events

Other relevant meetings include (see links for more information):

- Expert Forum: European Fisheries Development Advisors Network (EFDAN) – Annual Meeting 2014, held in Berlin, Germany on 21-22 May 2014.
- The African Confederation of Professional Small scale Fishing Organisations (CAOPA) has organized several meetings and submitted contributions to the implementation planning process – see CAOPA Implementation of the FAO guidelines for sustainable small-scale fisheries.
- Slow Food and Slow Fish: Salone del Gusto and Terra Madre in Turin, Italy, on 23-27 October 2014 and Slow Food meeting in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on 14 October 2014.
- The 2014 Korea Ocean Week (Korea-Africa Fisheries Forum – KORAFF) organized by the Korean Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF), the Korea Maritime Institute (KMI) and the Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, held on 16-17 July in Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, Spain. Slowfood 2014 (Seoul and Turin).

THE SSF GUIDELINES AND FAO

FAO's strategic objectives

The implementation of the SSF Guidelines will be primarily the responsibility of governments in collaboration with other stakeholders, in particular fishing communities and their organizations. Nevertheless, FAO will continue to play a supporting role with regard to facilitation and monitoring (see also Part II). In order for the Organization to do so, the SSF Guidelines implementation process has been integrated into FAO's work planning and anchored within the organisation's strategic framework. These strategic objectives were formulated in a cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary way and focus on sustainability, rights in a broader sense, and in particular on food insecure and poor people. FAO's five strategic objectives (SOs) read as follows:

1. Contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition
2. Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner
3. Reduce rural poverty
4. Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems at local, national and international levels
5. Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises

The SSF Guidelines implementation is relevant to all SOs but will be specifically covered in SO 1, SO 2 and SO 3.

Related experiences and lessons learnt

Within FAO, there are other implementation processes that are of particular importance to the SSF Guidelines and from which lessons learnt on various aspects can be drawn: the support provided to the implementation of the CCRF and the implementation of the Tenure Guidelines.

The CCRF

FAO played a key role in developing and negotiating the CCRF, which was adopted by FAO member states in 1995. Article 4 of the CCRF gives FAO and COFI special responsibilities for its implementation, monitoring and updating. Implementation of the CCRF transcends all work by the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department and the CCRF is considered the key guiding document for the department. Monitoring of the implementation at the national level is being done through self-assessment questionnaires sent to FAO member states biannually and reported on in COFI.

An evaluation of FAO's work in support of the implementation of the CCRF was carried out in 2011⁷. The evaluation team found that FAO could broaden its implementation support and also that the implementation monitoring procedure needed reviewing. Recommendations made are summarized in the box below.

Overarching framework for the implementation of the Code (CCRF)

A. Strategic and operational planning for Code development, dissemination and monitoring

Working with COFI to develop strategic priorities and programmes for Code products;

- i. Developing and establishing the policies, procedures and practices for producing the products;
- ii. Planning for and producing new normative Code products;
- iii. Disseminating Code products;
- iv. Monitoring the Code implementation as per Article 4 of the Code;

B. Advocacy for Code implementation

- v. Promoting, recognizing, demonstrating and piloting approaches to have the Code developed and adapted for local adoption and incorporated in all education and training programs for aquaculture and fisheries;
- vi. Influencing key agencies to support Code implementation: engage strategically with all development assistance partners, philanthropic foundations, countries and regional bodies to influence their aquaculture and fisheries funding priorities to be directed towards supporting the Code implementation. Likewise, engage with environmental, welfare and other NGOs, and aquaculture and fishing industry bodies to help implement the Code;

C. Embedding elements of Code implementation in all FAO aquaculture and fisheries projects

- vii. Designing and implementing projects that demonstrate and develop approaches to Code implementation and ensuring that the project results are sustainable in the long term through their uptake by others. Projects will need to focus on human capacity development, the needs for which the projects will identify at individual, institutional and enabling environment levels;
- viii. Feeding back through dialogue and analysis of lessons learned from projects, to further develop and adjust Code products.

Source: page xii, Evaluation of FAO's support to the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, FAO Office of Evaluation, 2012.

The Tenure Guidelines

The implementation of the Tenure Guidelines that were endorsed by the CFS in 2012 is receiving considerable support from FAO and other organisations and stakeholders. A multi-donor support project is under implementation by FAO aiming at creating improved frameworks for regulating the tenure of land, fisheries and forests based on wide participation, non-discrimination, transparency and mutual accountability. The project components are:

⁷ The final report of the evaluation is available at www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/me173e.pdf

- *Awareness raising and dissemination of the Tenure Guidelines:* The endorsement by CFS resulted in much publicity for the Tenure Guidelines but an awareness campaign was required as many people did not know about them.
- *Preparation of tools and programmes to support capacity development:* People need to have sufficient capacities to start applying and leveraging the Tenure Guidelines.
- *Targeted support to countries to start to implement the Tenure Guidelines:* Each country has its own priorities and conditions and so each requires its own approach and level of support.
- *Developing and strengthening partnerships:* Improving governance of tenure requires contributions by all, including ensuring synergies with similar initiatives as different actors and stakeholder groups can make their own specific contributions.
- *Monitoring of the governance of tenure:* Sharing information on progress made and lessons learned, and benchmarking against the Tenure Guidelines are valuable benefits of collaboration.

During the first years following the endorsement, the main focus has been on the first four components. The Tenure Guidelines have been widely disseminated in published and electronic formats. Communication tools such as the FAO tenure website, newsletters, brochures and social media have been used to raise awareness of the Tenure Guidelines, as have regional and national workshops where participants gain an understanding of the Tenure Guidelines and how they could be used to improve tenure governance in their countries. Some national workshops have led to the creation of multi-stakeholder platforms to promote the use of the Tenure Guidelines. In addition, FAO is supporting requests from countries for targeted assistance, including through the Technical Cooperation Programme as well as through voluntary contributions. Partnerships are a key component, and work in Africa on the Tenure Guidelines is aligned with the Africa Land Policy Initiative, through a Memorandum of Understanding with UNECA. Other partnerships have been strengthened with civil society, the private sector, and professional associations, including those of surveyors and of notaries. Fewer activities have focused on monitoring but support has been provided to the CFS Open-Ended Working Group on Monitoring, which has now developed a methodological approach, which includes voluntary country assessments, as a step to developing a framework of monitoring CFS decisions and recommendations. Civil society has also been supported in an initiative to assess monitoring from its perspective.

A Phase 2 is now being planned with a focus on “Mainstreaming for country support”. It is intended to build on the foundation laid during the current period of work.

The Right to Food Guidelines

The right to adequate food as a human right was first formally recognized by the United Nations in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) of 1948 as a part of the right to a decent standard of living. It has subsequently been restated in a number of instruments since, including in the Right to Food Guidelines endorsed by the FAO Council in 2004.

The report *A Ten-Year Retrospective on the Right to Food Guidelines – The Right to Food: Past commitment, current obligation, further action for the future* –notes that the goal of realizing the right to food for everyone is far from being accomplished. The foundation of any food security and nutrition action is a good understanding of the underlying and root causes of hunger: why people are not able to realize their right to food. The chances for successful action in achieving food security and nutrition

are highest if (i) the government is fully committed to the eradication of hunger and malnutrition; (ii) enough human and financial resources are invested; (iii) all actors share experiences and information, participate in the design and implementation of policies and programmes and coordinate their actions; and (iv) there is a solid and common understanding by all actors of the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition. The Right to Food Guidelines refer to these general conditions as the “enabling environment” for food security and nutrition. As long as these general conditions to unleash actions are paired with strong bottom-up support to the right to food, rapid and sustainable change can occur.

The 41st Session of the CFS in 2014, provided the opportunity for CFS Member Countries to reaffirm their commitment to implement the Right to Food Guidelines and strive for the realization of the right to adequate food of all in the years to come.

Part 2 – Workshop discussions: elements for a strategic framework for action and a global assistance programme

CONTEXT AND PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

The need for considerable efforts with regard to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines was recognized early on in their development process, i.e. before they were finalized and formally endorsed. In the FAO context, already the 29th and 30th Sessions of COFI recommended the establishment and implementation of a Global Assistance Programme (GAP). Accordingly, the FAO Secretariat developed a draft outline for such a programme that was presented to the 31st Session of COFI together with the final draft text of the SSF Guidelines themselves. COFI welcomed this proposal noting the need “to further develop the GAP in a participatory manner and to define the roles of different partners in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines” (see Annex 2).

Implementation is an undertaking that requires engagement by actors and stakeholders at large, including governments, regional organisations, NGOs, academia as well as small-scale fisheries actors themselves and their CSOs. Based on its involvement in the SSF Guidelines development process and the mandate given to the FAO Secretariat by COFI to further develop the GAP proposal, FAO will continue to play a key role with regard to the SSF Guidelines and their implementation. The current workshop on the *Development of a Global Assistance Programme in Support of the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication* intends to address both the need for broad collaboration and the role of FAO by:

- Identifying the **crucial elements of the overall strategic framework for action for the SSF Guidelines implementation**, including partnerships and synergies, and monitoring mechanisms.
- Developing the **details of the FAO-led umbrella programme – the GAP – in the form of outputs and activities** as well as the programme governance structure.

The challenge in the four-day workshop will be to tease out an effective strategic framework for action and to also develop detailed enough activities that can form the basis for the development of the GAP. In relation to this, the workshop should also discuss a monitoring framework for how overall SSF Guidelines implementation progress can be assessed as well as the GAP governance structure. Elements of these aspects already exist; an outline of the GAP was presented to COFI and is available in the document [COFI/2014/3](#). This outline consists of thoughts with regard to the strategic approach, which is based on the guiding principles of the SSF Guidelines, and a proposal for four GAP components including one on programme management, collaboration and monitoring.

In this Part 2 of the background document, the existing outline and ideas of the strategic framework for action and the GAP – as presented to COFI and as currently perceived by the FAO Secretariat – are presented. The intention is that the workshop will critically examine these elements and further develop the outline to become a draft

proposal for SSF Guidelines implementation, consisting hence of two interrelated parts: a broader strategic framework for action and the FAO-led GAP. These workshop outcomes will provide a solid foundation for SSF Guidelines implementation and for the collaboration that will be required.

SSF GUIDELINES IMPLEMENTATION OBJECTIVES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

What do the SSF Guidelines say?

The implementation of the SSF Guidelines is a commitment to change at many different levels and across a broad spectrum of dimensions. An ultimate aim is to have the SSF Guidelines and their principles mainstreamed throughout fisheries and development policies and actions at local, national, regional and international levels in a similar way that the CCRF constitutes a globally accepted reference document for fisheries (although still not fully implemented).

The SSF Guidelines themselves provide the **objectives** that are to be achieved:

- to enhance the contribution of small-scale fisheries to global food security and nutrition and to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food,
- to contribute to the equitable development of small-scale fishing communities and poverty eradication and to improve the socio-economic situation of fishers and fish workers within the context of sustainable fisheries management,
- to achieve the sustainable utilization, prudent and responsible management and conservation of fisheries resources consistent with the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code) and related instruments,
- to promote the contribution of small-scale fisheries to an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable future for the planet and its people,
- to provide guidance that could be considered by States and stakeholders for the development and implementation of ecosystem friendly and participatory policies, strategies and legal frameworks for the enhancement of responsible and sustainable small-scale fisheries, and
- to enhance public awareness and promote the advancement of knowledge on the culture, role, contribution and potential of small-scale fisheries, considering ancestral and traditional knowledge, and their related constraints and opportunities.

The SSF Guidelines state that “These objectives should be achieved through the promotion of a human rights-based approach, by empowering small-scale fishing communities, including both men and women, to participate in decision-making processes, and to assume responsibilities for sustainable use of fishery resources, and placing emphasis on the needs of developing countries and for the benefit of vulnerable and marginalized groups.” (paragraph 1.2). In this sense, the SSF Guidelines establish a new cross-sectoral approach that combines sustainable resource utilization with social and economic development based on respect for human rights.

The SSF Guidelines also spell out the **guiding principles** for implementation and hence for the strategic approach (paragraph 3.1). These were also mentioned in Part 1 and include: human rights and dignity; respect of cultures; non-discrimination; gender equality and equity; equity and equality; consultation and participation; rule of law; transparency; accountability; economic, social and environmental sustainability; holistic and integrated approaches; social responsibility; feasibility and social and economic viability.

The human rights based approach (HRBA) provides the basis for the application of these guiding principles.

Implementing a human rights based approach

The UN Practitioners' Portal on HRBA notes that the approach requires good programming practices. Accordingly, the following elements should be considered⁸:

- Assessment and analysis in order to identify the human rights claims of rights-holders and the corresponding human rights obligations of duty-bearers as well as the immediate, underlying, and structural causes of the non-realization of rights.
- Assessment of the capacity of rights-holders to claim their rights, and of duty-bearers to fulfill their obligations, and development and implementation of strategies to build these capacities.
- M&E system covering both outcomes and processes and guided by human rights standards and principles.

Accordingly, the SSF Guidelines strategic framework for action and the GAP need to incorporate policy analysis, advocacy and capacity building at all levels and in an inter-disciplinary manner. As will be explained below, these aspects are reflected in the GAP structure but more emphasis may be required on the human rights based approach. It should be noted that the SSF Guidelines text states that they are to be “interpreted and applied in accordance with national legal systems and their institutions” (paragraph 2.5). At the same time, the SSF Guidelines call for legal reform and they refer to international human rights law. As the full spectrum of human rights are not yet reflected in the laws of all countries, the implementation process will need to deal with “the implications of justiciable and non-justiciable human rights, and the distinction between the right of the citizen and the right of an individual”⁹. There will also be a need to clarify the concrete meaning of concepts and norms and how they apply in different situations¹⁰.

There are several publications available giving guidance on the application of HRBA and some of these references are included in the list in Annex 1.

THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION AND THE GAP PROPOSAL

The strategic framework for action

The strategic framework for action provides the comprehensive picture of the implementation strategy of the SSF Guidelines. The strategic framework for action for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines should be inclusive and consensus-seeking in the same way that characterized the development process of the SSF Guidelines. Accordingly, future implementation of the SSF Guidelines should be based on participation and partnerships, with implementation anchored at the national and local levels within a framework of regional and international collaboration, awareness raising, policy support and capacity development. Interdisciplinary partnerships will be required to ensure that the holistic approach promoted in the SSF Guidelines is implemented, i.e. considering all three pillars of sustainability (environmental, social and economic), involving men and women in the whole fisheries value chain and accruing benefits both within and outside fishing communities that contribute to food security and poverty eradication within a human rights based context.

This multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral perspective needs to be reflected in the national level processes of multi-stakeholder platforms and the development of national and subnational implementation strategies. This will require support to and collaboration with many different actors including governments, development agencies

⁸ For more information, see the UN HBRA website.

⁹ Samudra Report No 68, 2014.

¹⁰ See Jentoft, J. Walking the talk: implementing the international voluntary guidelines for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries. *Maritime Studies* 2014, 13:16 (www.maritimestudiesjournal.com/content/13/1/16).

and international financing institutions, NGOs, academia, civil society and the private sector.

As already mentioned above, the aim of the strategic framework for action should be to have the principles of the SSF Guidelines mainstreamed in policies, strategies and actions at international, regional, national and local levels.

As recommended by COFI, existing organizational structures and experiences should constitute the building blocks for implementation and collaboration. Exchanges of implementation experiences and lessons learned will be important to optimize implementation effectiveness. Adaptive management should be applied to activities and initiatives in support of the SSF Guidelines. Within this context, the role of governments in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines will be fundamental and political support at the highest level will be required. At the same time, it will be important that governments allow local small-scale fishers and fish workers and their organizations to take ownership of the SSF Guidelines and the implementation process.

The Global Assistance Programme (GAP)

The GAP is expected to play an important role in facilitating these processes and to serve as an umbrella programme for SSF Guidelines implementation. It will however also contain concrete activities of implementation and support to pilot activities and implementation at country and regional level on request from key stakeholders. It will thus support the building of an enabling environment of SSF Guidelines implementation and promote effective implementation processes combined with actions contributing directly to the SSF Guidelines objectives. Under this umbrella programme, FAO will encourage all stakeholders involved in small-scale fisheries as well as those supporting them to make use of the SSF Guidelines to improve the sector governance globally. It is also expected that progress monitoring and reporting functions of overall SSF Guidelines implementation will be supported by the GAP.

The GAP will hence form a central and fundamental part of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines but will not be able to ensure SSF Guidelines implementation on its own.

Accordingly, the GAP is suggested to cover four main streams of activities, which can be translated into interrelated programme components:

1. Raising awareness and providing policy support: knowledge products and outreach;
2. Strengthening the science-policy interface: sharing of knowledge and supporting policy reform;
3. Empowering stakeholders: capacity development and institutional strengthening.
4. Supporting implementation: programme management, collaboration and monitoring.

In line with what has been said above under SSF GUIDELINES IMPLEMENTATION OBJECTIVES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES, the overall goal of the GAP is proposed to be:

Contribute to the full recognition and implementation of the SSF Guidelines at local, national, regional and international levels

The GAP will be integrated into the FAO work programme and build on collaboration across FAO divisions and departments, also outside the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department. As was noted by the 31st Session of COFI, the GAP will require extra-budgetary funding to be able to play the role it is expected to. Under the GAP umbrella programme, different sub-projects within the GAP may have different priorities/objectives within the framework of contributing to the overall goal.

More details on the proposed GAP components

The following descriptions of the proposed GAP components build on the document presented to the 31st Session of COFI (COFI/2014/3) and are suggested as the starting point for the workshop working group discussions (see below).



GAP Component 1: Raising awareness and providing policy support: Knowledge and outreach

Increased awareness is crucial: the SSF Guidelines can only be implemented if parties with the possibility to make a difference are aware of their existence and of how they relate to their area of interest and responsibility. This concerns a wide range of actors including small-scale fisheries actors and their civil society organizations, regional fishery bodies, government fisheries departments, politicians, development partners, environmental/welfare NGOs, regional economic organizations, agencies in other related sectors, academia and research institutions. Awareness is fundamental for action and will provide a basis for other implementation support.

Recommended activities for this component that emerged during the SSF Guidelines development process include for example:

- Development of implementation guides (e.g. on specific topics, for different countries, regions)
- Translation of the SSF Guidelines into local languages
- Preparation of simplified/graphic novel versions of the SSF Guidelines
- Promotion via social media; blogs and discussion groups
- Regional awareness raising and implementation workshops
- Providing assistance and information to relevant meetings and conferences.

The *expected output* from these activities would be increased awareness and improved understanding of the SSF Guidelines, across regions and countries as well as among different stakeholder groups.

GAP Component 2: Strengthening the science-policy interface: Knowledge sharing and supporting policy reform

This component addresses the need for a strengthened knowledge base that informs a policy reform leading to increased integration of sustainable resource management with social and economic development. Accurate data and information are also needed to elevate the sector in national and regional policy agendas. The promotion of knowledge generation and information sharing is crucial, and requires support from various partners. The improved knowledge base should be translated into guidance that can be widely disseminated and utilized to ensure that the SSF Guidelines are mainstreamed in fisheries and other relevant policies and strategies at national and regional levels.

Recommended activities for this component that emerged during the SSF Guidelines development process include for example:

- Identification, analysis and documentation of good practices and lessons learnt (e.g. with respect to participatory management systems and holistic approaches integrating resource management and a livelihood perspective within a human rights context)
- Case studies providing practical examples supporting the SSF Guidelines implementation (e.g. on of human rights based approaches to fisheries management and local development; issues in relation to the thematic areas)
- Improved collaboration and exchange of experiences between relevant research initiatives as well as increased interaction between researchers and fishing communities
- Technical support and assistance for reviews and revisions of policy and legal frameworks creating enabling environment for SSF Guidelines implementation.

The *expected output* from this component is improved policy development and implementation through an increased understanding of the issues, challenges, opportunities and approaches relevant to achieving the sustainable use of aquatic resources and secure livelihood.

GAP Component 3: Empowering stakeholders: capacity development and institutional strengthening

Small-scale fishing communities and their organizations should be effective partners at all stages of implementation of the SSF Guidelines. Governments and fishing communities should be able to work jointly, and together with other stakeholder groups, to ensure sustainable and secure small-scale fisheries. This requires attention to organizational structures as well as to fair representation in local, national and regional processes. Accordingly, capacity development should be the backbone of the SSF Guidelines implementation and will be required at different levels, for different stakeholders, and with respect to different abilities (e.g. technical skills, organizations skills, business development etc.). This will help create the key building blocks for a long-term process of continuous improvement towards secure and sustainable small-scale fisheries governance and development.

Selected recommended activities for this component that emerged during the SSF Guidelines development process include for example:

- Identification of needs for organizational development and strengthening at different levels and provision of support to address these needs
- Assistance to communities to establish cross-sectoral linkages, partnerships and dialogue with government agencies, research institutions and other development partners
- Sensitization and training of government officials and development partners in issues related to the SSF Guidelines implementation, in particular with regards to the human-rights based approach to development and participatory management of natural resources.

The *expected outputs* of this component are in the form of strengthened capacities and institutions to enable targeted actors to work towards ensuring secure and sustainable small-scale fisheries for the benefit of small-scale fishers, fish workers and their communities as well as for society at large.

GAP Component 4: Supporting implementation: Programme management, collaboration and monitoring

Component 4 is intended to be an overarching part of the GAP that supports programme management, facilitates collaboration and experience sharing with partners, and seeks to monitor SSF Guidelines implementation progress.

Recommended activities for this component that emerged during the SSF Guidelines development process include for example:

- Support for the development of a comprehensive SSF Guidelines implementation monitoring system including reporting on the progress of implementation to FAO Member States and other stakeholders. This monitoring system would be more comprehensive and in addition to the standard project monitoring system that will also be needed for the implementation of the GAP itself (see also Annex 3).
- Promotion of implementation experiences and best practices in relation to the SSF Guidelines implementation with a view to accelerate learning across regions and collaborative planning

The *expected output* of this component are the establishment of a transparent and efficient monitoring system and strengthened partnerships and collaboration leading to overall more effective implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

GUIDANCE TO WORKING GROUPS

There will be three working group sessions during the workshop. Session 1 will discuss elements of the strategic framework for action. Session 2 and 3 will discuss the components of the GAP.

The groups will address and work in a step-by-step approach with reporting back to plenary after each session allowing for comments and feedback from other workshop participants.

Working group session 1 – Strategic framework for action

The expected outcome of working group Session 1 is the identification of key elements of the strategic framework for action of the SSF Guidelines. To achieve this outcome, four parallel working groups will discuss the changes that are needed in order to achieve the desired impact, considering all core thematic areas of the SSF Guidelines (see the SSF Guidelines contents in Part 1 above):

- Governance of tenure in small-scale fisheries and resource management
- Social development, employment and decent work
- Value chains, postharvest and trade
- Gender equality
- Disaster risks and climate change

The groups should attempt to reply to the following questions:

- Theory of change: what long-term outcomes will be required at local, national and regional levels to achieve the SSF Guidelines objectives, i.e. what are the necessary changes in policies, processes, practices and attitudes?
- Who/what needs to change and how? For what institutions and actors are these changes most critical?
- Who are the agents/stakeholders that can make these changes happen?
- What types of processes are required to secure the desired changes?
- Are there critical milestones for change (in the short and medium/long-term)?

Each group should also take into account part 3 of the SSF Guidelines which deals with ensuring an enabling environment and supporting implementation.

Working group session 2 – the Global Assistance Programme

Taking into account what has been identified as critical desired achievements during the first working group session (described above) and the subsequent plenary discussion, the working groups will in session 2 be asked to develop the required outputs and activities within the framework of the proposed GAP components:

- Group 1: Component 1 - Raising awareness and providing policy support: knowledge products and outreach

- Group 2: Component 2 – Strengthening the science-policy interface: sharing of knowledge and supporting policy reform
- Group 3: Component 3 – Empowering stakeholders: capacity development and institutional strengthening
- Group 4: Component 4 – Supporting implementation: programme management, collaboration and monitoring.

As Component 4 is of somewhat different type from components 1-3, the guidance for the groups will be different.

Working groups for GAP components 1-3

For the three working groups dealing with the GAP components 1-3, the following guiding questions are suggested:

- What are the critical outputs and types of activities required to achieve the defined desired outcomes and changes?
- What best practices, experiences, ongoing initiatives, available methods, tools etc. exist that these outputs and activities can build on?
- Where should the outputs and activities take place (at the local, national, regional, international level? specific geographic focus?)?
- Who should produce or contribute to these outputs and activities, i.e. what should be included in the FAO-led GAP and what should be done by others? What partnerships are required?

It will be important that the groups ensure that the discussions and the identified recommended elements (outputs and activities) are firmly grounded in the principles of the SSF Guidelines, including in particular the human rights based approach. Recommendations made in earlier relevant events (including those outlined in Part 1 of this document) should also be considered.

As the questions indicate, the working groups will specify whether the elements they suggested refer to the contents of the FAO-led GAP or to initiatives by others.

Working group for GAP component 4

As component 4 is an overarching part of the GAP to support programme management, facilitate collaboration and experience sharing with partners, and monitor SSF Guidelines implementation progress, the working group discussing this component will address its design somewhat differently from the other three groups.

The group will be asked to discuss the following questions:

- How can overall SSF Guidelines implementation be monitored in a transparent and efficient manner and what indicators and targets are required?

It is proposed that there will be two levels of monitoring mechanisms (see also Component 4 outline description and Annex 3):

- Monitoring of **overall progress of SSF Guidelines implementation** including reporting mechanisms at national, regional and international levels.
- Monitoring of GAP implementation in accordance with standard results-based methods and referring to GAP indicators and targets developed for Components 1-3 by working groups.

It is hence here proposed that this working group define indicators and targets for the first part – the overall monitoring of SSF Guidelines implementation – and discuss the monitoring mechanism (by whom and how – see also next question).

- How should the GAP governance mechanism be designed? *See draft proposal in Annex 3 for comments and further elaboration.*

- How can collaborative action be developed or strengthened to foster implementation and create synergies with existing and new initiatives?

Working group session 3

The last working group session will allow the groups to consolidate their conclusions and recommendations taking into account the plenary discussions after working group session 2. Hence, summarizing the earlier sessions, the working group conclusions would include the following:

- Recommendations for key elements of the strategic framework for action
- Consolidated recommendations for each GAP component, including key impact indicators and targets

Annex 1 – References and suggested reading

- FAO. 1995. Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. Available at <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/005/v9878e/v9878e00.pdf>.
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- FAO. 2014. Advance copy: Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication. More information on SSF Guidelines available at <http://www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en>.

- Jentoft, J.** 2014. Walking the talk: implementing the international voluntary guidelines for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries. *Maritime Studies* 2014, 13:16 Available at www.maritimestudiesjournal.com/content/13/1/16.
- Kirkemann Boesen, J. & Martin, T.** 2007. Applying a rights-based approach: An inspirational guide for civil society. The Danish Institute for Human Rights. 47p. Available at <http://www.acfid.asn.au/aid-issues/files/applying-a-rights-based-approach-2013-an-inspirational-guide-for-civil-society>.
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- Samudra** Report No 68, 2014. Available at <http://www.icsf.net/en/samudra>.
- UN.** The UN and HRBA. Website: <http://hrbaportal.org>.

See ftp://ext-ftp.fao.org/FI/Data/FIPI/Workshop_SSF_Guidelines_Implementation for downloading copies of relevant documents.

Annex 2 – Recommendations by the 31st Session of COFI in relation to the SSF Guidelines implementation

23. The Committee welcomed FAO's proposal for a GAP to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines without delay.

24. The Committee agreed on the inclusive and consensus-seeking overall strategic approach and the structure of the GAP around four components: raising awareness; strengthening the science-policy interface; empowering stakeholders and supporting implementation. It also confirmed that the principles of the SSF Guidelines should be mainstreamed in policies and actions at all levels.

25. Some Members, while supporting the SSF Guidelines, expressed their disappointment with the endorsement process of the Guidelines.

26. The Committee recommended to further develop the GAP in a participatory manner and to define the roles of different partners in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

27. The Committee acknowledged FAO's role in the development and implementation of the SSF Guidelines including a monitoring process through COFI.

28. The Committee emphasized the role of governments in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, as well as regional and local fisheries organizations to ensure ownership of the SSF Guidelines. It also recommended building on existing experiences and institutional structures and processes.

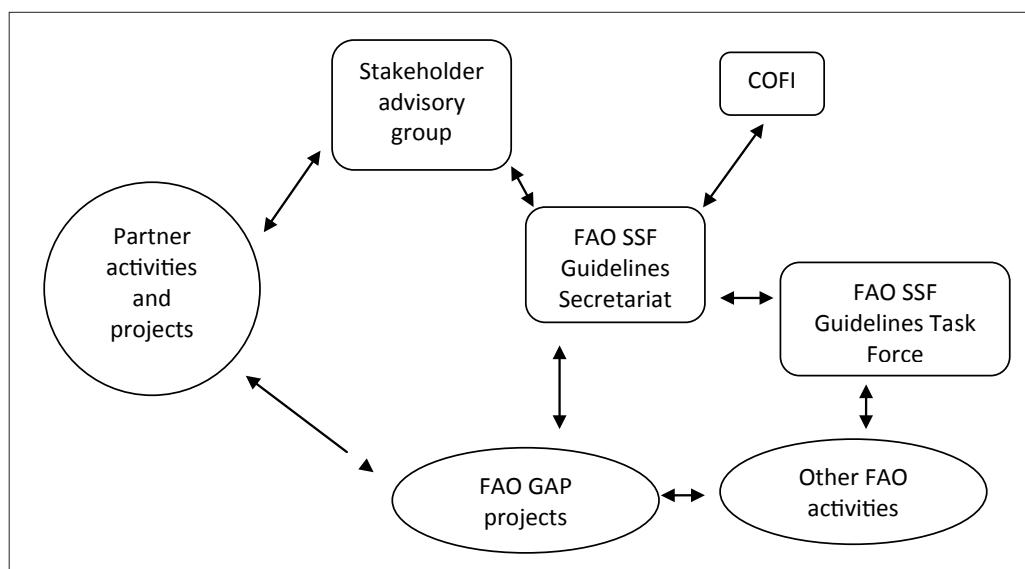
29. The Committee noted the urgent need for extra-budgetary funding for the implementation.

Annex 3 – Proposed governance structure of the Global Assistance Programme (GAP)

INTRODUCTION

While the implementation of the SSF Guidelines will be an undertaking requiring the initiative and involvement of a wide range of actors, the GAP will be an FAO-led umbrella programme for facilitating implementation. The GAP will hence contain both activities that are directly supporting implementation and activities that are striving to facilitate implementation by others. The GAP will also play a role in coordination and in progress monitoring of the SSF Guidelines implementation.

SUGGESTED GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



SSF GUIDELINES STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP

The role of the SSF Guidelines stakeholder advisory group is to share with the FAO SSF Guidelines Secretariat the expertise and knowledge of the broad range of stakeholders it represents, contributing substantive work and advice.

It will support the FAO SSF Guidelines Secretariat in implementing the GAP and play a role in overall coordination, monitoring and reporting on the SSF Guidelines implementation. Specific tasks of the SSF Guidelines stakeholder advisory group could include:

- Assist the FAO SSF Guidelines Secretariat to nurture and maintain linkages with different actors at international, regional, national and local levels to enable an on-going, two-way exchange of information on implementation among these stakeholders.
- Foster ownership by all stakeholders on implementation strategies and actions.

- Review SSF Guidelines implementation progress monitoring reports as a complement to countries' individual reporting to COFI.

Procedures and methods of work

In order to fulfill its role, the SSF Guidelines stakeholder advisory group will convene stakeholder meetings (for example in connection with COFI) to discuss SSF Guidelines implementation with partners.

Structure

- Governments
- CSOs and NGOs
- UN Organizations and bodies
- Research and academia
- Regional organizations, IGOs
- Private sector, philanthropic organizations

The FAO SSF Guidelines Secretariat in consultation with the COFI Bureau will identify entities for each of these categories. The identified entities will choose their own representatives. Each participant of the SSF Guidelines stakeholder advisory group can change its representative(s) to match changing priorities and needs. The COFI Bureau reviews the composition of the SSF Guidelines stakeholder advisory group every two years.

Individual projects under the GAP may require the establishment of standard project steering committees.

THE FAO SSF GUIDELINES SECRETARIAT

The FAO SSF Guidelines Secretariat will be responsible for implementation of the activities specified in the GAP and day-to-day management of the GAP, including:

- Provide oversight and ensure all operational aspects and overall implementation of the FAO-led GAP.
- Manage the monitoring systems and track output and outcome indicators as established in (i) individual project results frameworks and (ii) the overall indicators established for SSF Guidelines implementation progress monitoring.
- Promote partner coordination and liaise with donors and other projects, programmes and organizations.
- Convene regular FAO SSF Task Force meetings.
- Coordinate/collaborate with the FAO SSF Guidelines stakeholder advisory group.

THE FAO SSF GUIDELINES TASK FORCE

The FAO SSF Guidelines Task Force has been providing guidance to the FAO SSF Guidelines Secretariat throughout the SSF Guidelines development process. This task force function will be maintained and the composition of the task force assessed to ensure that it contains the right participation across FAO services and departments. The task force will in particular provide advice on:

- Priority activities and work planning.
- Scope for links and synergies with other FAO initiatives.
- TORs for consultants and contractors and their selection.

Appendix 5 – Results working group sessions 2-3: Component 1

Outputs and activities	Target group	By whom / responsibility	Potential synergies and partnerships	Remarks (indicate if fully or partly under FAO-led GAP)
OUTPUT 1.1: Profile raising Tools or policies that help promote the importance of SSF and address critical and urgent challenges. SSF are fast becoming the most endangered species				
Assemble and evaluate new and existing information and develop a range of information products that focus on SSF's contribution to employment, poverty eradication, nutrition and health, on a local and global level, as well as its dependency on the resources	Those stakeholders that are driving the process.	Research/Academia to conduct the research FAO/IGO's/regional organizations to use and package CSO's NGOs	Fishers, fishworkers and their communities (TBTI) CFS Other similar groups and organizations	
Develop strategic messages that explain small-scale fisheries contribution to employment, poverty eradication, nutrition and health (including public health), on a local and global level, as well as dependency on the resources	Example of targeted needs: General public and all stakeholders Media Fishers, fishworkers and communities Policy makers Law makers (legislature/ parliamentarians) Consumers	Those stakeholders that are driving the process	Communication specialists/ media / NGOs /	GAP, (in association with other partners/ initiatives) Global / Regional/ National
Training human rights advocates in fisheries	Human rights groups and leaders	FAO Regional organizations CSO/NGO/FFO and other non-state actors	OHCHR Women's groups and orgs (UNIFEM)	
Promote the cultural heritage of SSF	Communities Government (particularly heritage/culture agencies) UNESCO and other similar organizations/agencies	Support NGOs Social Movements Other CSO's	Fish and fishworker organizations GIAHS/ E.g. Slowfood	Non-FAO/gap National (maybe regional), also Global / regional

OUTPUT 1.2: Empowerment of fisher and fisherfolk organizations and capacity development				
Increase participation of fishers, fish workers and their communities in governmental programs, promote capacity development through governmental program, co-management	Government at appropriate level	Government at appropriate level National fisheries training institutions Outreach agencies		

Outputs and activities	Target group	By whom / responsibility	Potential synergies and partnerships	Remarks (indicate if fully or partly under FAO-led GAP)
<p>Prepare a national registration or identification process for SSF to be accounted for, and able to communicate and contribute</p> <p>Use of SSF knowledge in fish management</p> <p>Fishers working in control programs as training in action.</p> <p>Participation of fisheries (representative) in the development of legal frameworks</p> <p>Promote at the governmental level the creation of a training and orientation program</p>				

OUTPUT 1.3: Policy support and advocacy tools				
<p>Inform and participate in global processes (ex. SDG's, Secretariats of Global Conventions, etc.) concerning areas related to SSF Guidelines, inform and request sharing about the SSF Guidelines</p>	<p>Global conventions/ secretariats (CBD, UNFCC)</p> <p>Global processes (WTO, CITES, CMS,)</p>	<p>FAO</p> <p>NGO, CSO, Fisher, fishworkers organizations</p> <p>Governments</p>	<p>Other FAO processes, CFS</p> <p>Indigenous groups</p> <p>Other actors of these global processes</p>	Both
<p>Accompany governments in their legal and policy processes following up to learn and share lessons</p>	<p>Government</p> <p>IGO</p>	<p>Fishers fish workers and their communities and organizations</p> <p>FAO</p> <p>Regional organizations</p>	<p>Legal consultants (ex. Fisheries law center)</p>	
<p>Carry out a review of existing policies in relation to SSF Guidelines (ex. Food security, poverty, employment, fisheries, biodiversity, environment, etc.)</p>	<p>Stakeholders</p>	<p>FAO</p> <p>Regional Organizations</p>	<p>Governments at appropriate level</p> <p>NGOs</p> <p>Fisher orgs</p> <p>Think tanks</p>	
<p>Raise awareness and encourage law makers and policy makers to implement the SSF Guidelines in policy or law</p>	<p>Law makers and policy makers</p>	<p>Fisher orgs/ support NGOs.</p>	<p>FAO</p> <p>Regional organizations</p> <p>NGOs</p> <p>Consumer groups</p> <p>Social movements</p> <p>Media</p>	<p>GAP (through FAO)</p> <p>Non-GAP (when independent)</p>
<p>Promote the SSF Guidelines through governance structures so that they adapt and implement relevant sections of the SSF Guidelines</p>	<p>Governance structures (ex. Regional councils, community councils, local authorities, regional, associations cooperatives etc.</p>	<p>Fishers , fishworkers and their organizations</p> <p>CSOs</p> <p>NGOs</p>	<p>FAO</p> <p>Researcher</p> <p>Academics</p>	<p>GAP and non GAP</p>

Outputs and activities	Target group	By whom / responsibility	Potential synergies and partnerships	Remarks (indicate if fully or partly under FAO-led GAP)
OUTPUT 1.4: Building the knowledge base of fishers and positive self-image				
Raise awareness and capacity development on best practices (e.g. about management and product handling)	Fisher, fish workers and associated activities	Appropriate government levels and programs Fisher organizations Regional organizations Training providers	FAO Technical agencies Resource partners Support NGOs and Academics/ Researchers	GAP
Promote democratic processes for leadership in organizations/institutions	Fisher organizations and leadership	Secondary and tertiary Global fisher organizations	FAO Other support agencies Government	GAP/non-GAP
Training for fisher and fishworker organizations on human rights	Fisher organizations (fishers, fishworkers and their communities)	Human Rights Groups Fisher organizations Support NGOs	Indigenous groups OHCHR and other human rights organisations NGOs Red Cross/Crescent Appropriate government institutions (social workers)	GAP
Workshops for fishers fish workers and their communities, particularly leader to strengthen self-organizing capacity and give tools to those who are going to champion the implementation	Fishers fish workers and their organizations	Fishers fishworkers and their organizations	Government NGOS FAO and others Regional Orgs Movements, etc. Academics/ Researchers.	GAP
OUTPUT 1.5: SSF in education				
Introduce small-scale fisheries into education system at all levels	Teachers/educators Students at all levels	FAO and other technical agencies Regional organizations Appropriate government agencies (education/ fisheries, etc.)	Resource partners Student	
Produce didactic material	See above	See above	See above	
Output 1.6: Identifying and capitalizing on past and current experiences				
Scoping process to identify these best practices and existing legislations, projects and initiatives	Government Regional Org FAO Fisher orgs NGOs/ CSOs Research and Academia	Government Regional Org FAO Fisher orgs NGOs/ CSOs	Research and Academia Fishers and fishworkers (and any other actors with experiences to share)	

Outputs and activities	Target group	By whom / responsibility	Potential synergies and partnerships	Remarks (indicate if fully or partly under FAO-led GAP)
Use the best practices in implementation of International instruments / case study sharing	Government Regional Org FAO Fisher orgs NGOs/ CSOs Research and Academia	Government Regional Org FAO Fisher orgs NGOs/ CSOs	Research and Academia Fishers and fishworkers (and any other actors with experiences to share)	GAP
Link existing initiatives to SSF Guidelines: "materialize" the guidelines by profiling and highlighting existing initiatives and projects that incarnate the SSF Guideline's principles	Government Regional Org FAO Fisher orgs NGOs/ CSOs Research and Academia	Government Regional Org FAO Fisher orgs NGOs/ CSOs	Research and Academia Fishers and fishworkers (and any other actors with experiences to share)	GAP
Follow up, documentation and sharing of legislation changes that use or reflect the guidelines	Government Regional Org FAO Fisher orgs NGOs/ CSOs Research and Academia	Government Regional Org FAO Fisher orgs NGOs/ CSOs	Research and Academia Fishers and fishworkers (and any other actors with experiences to share)	
Extension services are, in some countries, a practice that addresses issues raised by the guidelines. Build on them when it is the case (agents that could be used to distribute knowledge on the SSF Guidelines)				

OUTPUT 1.7: Identifying the champions for change

Engage suitable high profile personalities and other leaders at local, national and global level, and in different fields to raise awareness of the SSF sector	General Public	FAO or any partner CSO's	Networks FAO Regional organizations Local organizations.	All
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OUTPUT 1.8: Reach and successfully engage informal sector and migrant

Raising awareness of the SSF Guidelines amongst informal and migrant fishers (and most marginalized)	Informal/migrant fishers and other marginalized groups	CSOs Support NGOs	International Organization for Migration (and other related agencies) International Labor Organization Support NGO's	
When possible, national census or other processes to quantify and have knowledge of informal/migrant fishers, address their needs and not marginalize them in line with what is established in the SSF Guidelines				

Outputs and activities	Target group	By whom / responsibility	Potential synergies and partnerships	Remarks (indicate if fully or partly under FAO-led GAP)
OUTPUT 1.9: Communication strategy and tools				
Develop a communications plan addressing global, regional, national and legal aspects	Overall with flexibility to target specific groups			ALL in GAP
Summarized/ simplified versions of the guidelines addressing different contexts illustrating how the use of the guidelines can help	All target groups of SSF Guidelines.	FAO	CSOs, fisher orgs	
Develop tool kits, taking into account the importance/ challenges of rurality and orality. Material for community radios, elevator pitches, appropriate relevant material, short video animations	All target groups	FAO CSOs NGOs	CSOs	
Media training	Media (on small-scale fisheries) SSF Actors (on media)	FAO CSO		
Building campaigns that are also engagement processes				
Develop of social media and ICT tools to raise awareness concerning the SSF Guidelines.				
Use major events to launch the guidelines and keep the buzz going				
FAO to raise awareness with fisheries organizations at their meetings (e.g. Pacific region)				
Link the guidelines to current issues and develop advocacy plans that use them to defend stakeholders interests				

Appendix 6 – Results working group sessions 2-3: Component 2

Key problems and proposed activities and outputs for the GAP in relation to GAP component 2 on *strengthening the science-policy interface: sharing of knowledge and supporting policy reform*:

- *Problem: High uncertainty that sustainable livelihood programs can deliver*
Activity: Apply interdisciplinary science to determine conditions that favor success in design and delivery of programs
Output: Policy guidance on enabling environment (in and outside of fisheries) to offer livelihood programs that deliver
- *Problem: Tenure examples exist and could be a basis for tenure mechanisms in other regions but they are hard to access/locate*
Activity: Produce inventories and analyses and model legislation
Output: Accessible inventories and analyses of pros and cons of various tenure arrangements designed to assist communities and govt. to develop and refine their own arrangements exist
Output: Model legislation geared to different legislative systems exist
- *Problem: Lack of recognition of existing customary and formal community based management not sufficiently incorporated into ICZM*
Activity: Compile existing science/evidence that supports contribution that these mgt measures already make including their ecological, economic and social benefits
Output: Documentation of the above facilitates policies in support of decentralization, subsidiarity, of fisheries management which will favor small-scale fisheries
- *Problem: Challenges in data collection and management and lack of accessibility/availability of best practices and scientific research information*
Activity: Build tools (e.g. cell phone apps) mechanisms to help ensure that fisheries data are accurate and complete at all levels and to feedback knowledge to data provider (encourage a two way dialogue)
Activity: Develop and disseminate tools for decision-making in data-poor systems
Activity: Develop incentive schemes for data collection, including also small-scale fishing communities directly
Activity: Share best practices and grey literature to facilitate integration into science and knowledge development in small-scale fisheries enterprises
Output: Improved tools and sharing of information in multiple directions
- *Problem: Fisheries regulations (e.g. gear restrictions) are not always appropriate for local context; fishers do not always see relevance of fisheries regulations and legislations thus do not respect them*
Activity: Formulate science to demonstrate whether current fisheries regulations are appropriate; support two-way dialogues

- *Problem: In most cases enforcement and compliance are inadequate*
Activity: Social science research that analyze variables that generate compliance (e.g. incentives) and stewardship
Output: Restructured incentives and policy environment that favors compliance, tools and methods and knowledge to pick the right incentives in a given setting
- *Problem: Inadequate knowledge of impacts, risks and consequences (including labor issues) of other fisheries (e.g. semi-industrial or industrial fisheries) and of other services, sectoral and inter-sectoral activities (legal and illegal) and hazards on small-scale fisheries and their communities*
Activity: Improving catch reporting from small-scale fisheries and other fleets and incorporation into national reporting on spatial and sectoral attribution of catches
Activity: Social impact assessment of other fisheries and coastal developments
Output: Managers and policy makers have access to information on impact of industrial fleet and other sectors on small-scale fisheries to inform policy decisions
- *Problem: Need for information on governance structures that result in good governance for fisher folk organizations*
Activity: Apply social science to determine situation-specific governance structures to allow fisher folk organizations to actively take part in relevant decision making and policy process
Output: Guidance for enabling policy environment for effective representation and meaningful participation
- *Problem: Access to social security, microcredit and insurance (e.g. the mainstreaming of these services does not always function)*
Activity: Financial and socio-economic analyses to improve these services for small-scale fishers and communities, households and enterprises
Output: Tailoring of these services to small-scale fisheries specific circumstances and clients (e.g. development of criteria for better design)
- *Problem: Need for information on appropriate aquaculture or mariculture species and systems compatible with small-scale fisheries*
Activity: Research to identify appropriate systems and methodologies
Output: Readily accessible information on species, tools and system design for appropriate aquaculture/mariculture
- *Problem: Many communities are interested in interventions to improve value-added inputs but lack opportunities or information. Small-scale fisheries communities should be aware of importance of value-adding or improved quality to markets*
Activity: Develop value chain analysis tools (both socio-economic and governance)
Activity: Exploring alternative markets and market innovations
Activity: Analyzing barriers to trade, access to markets and trade routes for small-scale fisheries to influence policy
Output: Increased value-added opportunities, value chain interventions selected and implemented that improve equity in the value chain and increasing desirability of product to consumers

- *Problem: Significant waste and spoilage in post-harvest processes in small-scale fisheries and therefore reduction in potential income and food, combined with lack of access to transport to get products to markets*
Activity: New technology and capacity building, cold chain improvement and better market infrastructure
Output: Improved food security and more value per unit of production
- *Problem: Fish waste currently not feeding into value added products*
Activity: Innovative science and technology applied to produce value added products from current waste (e.g. fish leather, etc.)
Output: Increased earning per unit of catch
- *Problem: Need to recognize potential negative impact of competing uses or interests in fish on food security (e.g. impact of reducing access to lower value fish in local markets)*
Activity: Analyses of fish waste for use in local markets in relation to current uses or competing interests
Activity: Study of small fish's role in household nutrition, particularly for children and women
Output: Policy guidance that optimizes use of fish for human nutrition (e.g. related initiatives by Harvard Public Health School, WorldFish in Bangladesh; IDS Zambia report (2014), FAO, SmartFish project)
- *Problem: Lack of alignment of food security policy frameworks with evidence of contribution of fish to nutrition*
Activity: Policy analysis looking at mismatch or misalignment of fish, nutrition and food security (for small-scale fisheries communities or communities dependent on fish) coherence within government
Activity: Development of appropriate indicators to understand contribution of SSF to food security and nutrition
Output: Integration of fish and nutrition into government policies on food security across Ministries
- *Problem: Insufficient gender disaggregated data on investments or contributions of women in small-scale fisheries enterprises*
Activity: more comprehensive and accurate information generated on differences of contributions by men and women
Output: Improved policies that enable women's investment in small-scale fisheries with adequate returns (on par with men) and equity
- *Problem: Lack of science capacity, in particular in developing countries and particularly women and small-scale fisheries community members or people who will serve these communities. Need to equip scientists with relevant skills and knowledge. Need to create new generation of scientists through new mechanisms.*
Activity: Develop educational, financial and mentoring programs to support new generation of scientists
Activity: Create incentives for these newly trained scientists to return to small-scale fisheries communities
Output: More scientists that are better equipped to contribute to sustainable small-scale fisheries

- *Problem: Lack of adequate policies and plans to address climate change and disaster risks in small-scale fisheries*
Activity: Develop cost effective methods to assess vulnerability (ecological, social and economic)
Activity: Develop targeted, holistic solutions to help small-scale fisheries adapt and prepare in the face of potential climate change impacts, using participatory approaches
Activity: Science and management for disaster recovery that is sensitive to impacts (ecological, social and economic) on small-scale fisheries communities' recovery
Activity: Review and synthesize work to date on solutions to help small-scale fisheries adapt, prepare and recover in the face of climate change and natural disasters
Output: Targeted, holistic solutions developed and available and improved access to climate change adaptation and disaster risk management funds for small-scale fisheries
- *Problem: Need to strengthen the implementation of the SSF Guidelines by improving the ways in which the human-rights based approach is applicable*
Activity: Survey on and documentation of the current level of recognition of human rights, human-rights application (including the issue of access to justice) and violations in relation to the SSF Guidelines principles
Output: Specific policy research documenting cases of the application of the human-rights based approach

Appendix 7 – Results working group sessions 2-3: Component 3


Outputs and activities	Target Groups	By whom / responsibility
3.1 Situational Analysis		
3.1 (a) Problems and challenges in context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fisherfolks and organizations - Academia - Regional fisheries organizations and networks - Extensionists 	Regional (e.g. RFB) National (relevant national institutions)
3.1 (b) Organizational (internal) Inventory and analysis: Identify all fisher organizations and collect information on membership, objectives, history, and statuses Identify success stories and initiatives (building on available mappings) Capacity needs assessment (training & skills) Identify weakness in fisher organizations (representativeness, from the inside, / outside) Identify gender relations/issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fisherfolk organizations - CBOs - Customary organizations - Women groups and organizations - Cooperatives - Networks - Sector Organizations - Hybrid / multipurpose organizations 	Regional National Local
3.1 (c) Institutional (external) inventory & analysis: Country constitutional analysis Legal mapping Partnership with gvt agencies Activities at local level Map forums where F.O. should be represented Look for partnerships with other actors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voluntary Service Organizations - NGOs - Environmental Organizations - Networks - Law centers/clinics/legal aid centers 	Regional National Local
3.2 Participatory and interactive governance		
3.2 (a) Integrated Communities development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community organizations - Women groups - Local governments - Fisherfolks 	National Provincial Local
3.2 (b) Fisherfolk organization empowerment - help F.O to understand the nature, drivers, and consequences of change that's happening Partnership with science Impact assessment - Capture and transfer of local knowledge - Build capacity at local and network level - Participatory research - Enabling local knowledge to be directly (in person) represented in decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fisherfolk and their organizations - CBOs - Customary Organizations - Women and youth groups and organizations - Cooperatives - Networks - Sector Organizations - Hybrid / multipurpose organizations - Extension workers 	International (e.g. FAO) FAO representatives Regional (e.g. RFB) National Provincial Local Community
3.2 (c) Develop a plan to address the issues Tools Capacity to influence to decision making Defend rights / legal support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fisherfolk and their organizations - CBOs - Customary Organizations - Women and youth groups and organizations - Cooperatives - Networks - Sector Organizations - Hybrid / multipurpose organizations - Extension workers 	International (e.g. FAO) FAO representatives Regional (e.g. RFB) National Provincial Local Community

3.3 Empowering SSF stakeholders to better participate in the value chain		
Identify existing markets/trends/value chain Increased awareness of market requirements Increase negotiation power (price makers) Enhance market information and intelligence Equity in the value chain Facilitate access Assessing the business environment Identify existing marketing bottlenecks Gaps in marketing mixes (the product, the price, promotion, replacement, trade) Add value to the products (post harvest) Fair trade/fisheries certification opportunities Promote gender equity in the value chain Reduce post harvest losses	- Fisher-folk & their organizations - CBOs - Customary Organizations - Women and youth groups and organizations - Cooperatives - Networks - Sector organizations - Hybrid / multipurpose organizations - Extension workers - Academics - Value chain key players (fishers, processors, vendors, traders, suppliers, middlemen, retailers, exporters, consumers etc.)	International (e.g. FAO) FAO representatives Regional (e.g. RFB) National Provincial Local Community
3.4 Resource (co) Management participation		
- Data collection - Incorporate fisher's knowledge - Understating sustainability - Training in management activities - Develop the rules to access - Develop the management plan - Monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) - Develop participatory framework for decision making (all stakeholders involved) - Develop legislation - Experience based learning (use partnerships, training, learn from others) - Ensure that institutions are legitimate, representative and gender-sensitive	- Fisherfolk and their organizations - CBOs - Customary Organizations - Women and youth groups & organizations - Cooperatives - Networks - Sector Organizations - Hybrid / multipurpose organizations - Extension workers - Fisheries and relevant authorities / departments - Local authorities - Academia - CSOs	International (e.g. FAO) FAO representatives Regional (e.g. RFB) National Provincial Local Community
3.5 Strengthening and fostering an enabling environment		
Capacity building through networking on multi levels: local, national, international Policy, legal and institutional framework Mainstream gender equity in policies Legal support centres/clinics Infrastructures/logistical services Building capacity of supporting institutions (including public sector, civil societies, industry organizations) so they can give more importance to SSF Fisheries politics	- Extension centers - Parliament / Parliamentarians - Government agencies - Judiciary - Academic institutions	International (e.g. FAO) FAO representatives Regional (e.g. RFB) National Provincial Local

Appendix 8 – Results working group sessions 2-3: Component 4

Monitoring mechanisms

LEVEL	WHAT	BY	Reporting to
Global	E.g. indicators (tbd) (e.g. no. countries introducing SSF into legislation)	FAO GAP Secretariat	COFI and others
Regional	Regional success	Regional organizations	Regional organizations COFI
National	Overview of national activities	National platforms Governments (Ministry of Fisheries)	Wider governments Regional organizations COFI
Provincial	Aggregated information	CSO's	State government Community groups
Community	e.g. project perceptions	Donors CSOs Community leaders	Community groups



	What	Who	Indicator	Means of verification
Liaison and advocacy				
Liaison/advocacy with other UN processes etc.	e.g. post-2015, CFS, VG Tenure	FAO SSF Secretariat CSOs	e.g. inclusion of SSF	e.g. meeting reports, agendas
Liaison/advocacy with other international/global/regional initiatives	e.g. regional organizations	FAO SSF Secretariat Regional organizations/ projects CSOs	e.g. inclusion of SSF	e.g. meeting reports, agendas, resolutions
Liaison/advocacy with national and local initiatives	CSOs NGOs Producer organizations Governments Research/academia/ education institutions	e.g. financial allocation to SSF Guidelines implementation; inclusion policies; inclusion in curricula		
Monitoring, reporting, knowledge				
Knowledge: Global/targeted studies (e.g. policy reviews, scientific research), best practices and exchange (e.g. model legislation, interdisciplinary approaches, customary-formal system integration, scope: whole chain perspective)		Academia/research Projects		
Monitoring: knowledge base and management	e.g. regional and national knowledge bases	FAO SSF Secretariat Academia/research		

	What	Who	Indicator	Means of verification
Reporting: Generate indicators and aggregate indicators from different levels (link to data collection and management, gender-disaggregated data – also in terms of budgeting)		International: FAO SSF Secretariat, CSOs Regional: regional organizations National: governments, fisherfolk organizations, academia/ research Local: fisherfolk organizations		
Communication strategy				
Workshops and training on SSF Guidelines (regional and national)				
Educational training, in particular for women and youth				
Global/targeted studies (to change the narrative)				
Dedicated website				
Promotion of best practices, for example innovative ICT				
Campaigns and engagement				
Fund raising				
Country support				

Towards the implementation of the SSF Guidelines

Proceedings of the Workshop on the Development of a Global Assistance Programme in Support of the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication

**8–11 December 2014
Rome, Italy**

Following the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) by the Thirty-first Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in June 2014, FAO is now engaging in implementation planning through a participatory process and in accordance with COFI recommendations. The Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth Sessions of COFI proposed the establishment of an SSF Guidelines Global Assistance Programme (GAP) and an outline of this GAP, prepared by FAO, was presented to the Thirty-first Session of COFI together with the SSF Guidelines themselves. COFI welcomed the proposal and recommended its further development

In a follow-up to this COFI recommendation, the Workshop on the Development of a Global Assistance Programme in Support of the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication was convened by FAO on 8–11 December 2014. Some 60 individual experts from governments, regional organizations, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, resource partners, intergovernmental organizations and academia attended the workshop.

The workshop was an important step in terms of guidance for consolidating the overall implementation approach for the SSF Guidelines. It is evident that there is an overall willingness to work towards a coherent, coordinated implementation by all stakeholders, based on the guiding principles of the SSF Guidelines. It was confirmed that FAO has an important role to play in terms of supporting and facilitating the implementation, and also in providing technical support and project implementation, based on demand. FAO is looking forward to continuing working on the development of the GAP framework, based on commitment and professionalism and in close collaboration with partners and stakeholders. Small-scale fisheries are at the heart of FAO's goals of food security, poverty alleviation and natural resources management.

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