



Towards the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in Eastern Africa

Proceedings of the East Africa Consultation Workshop on Improving Small-Scale
Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication

15–18 September 2015
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Caption: Fish vendor, Uganda ; credit: ©FAO/Isaac Kasamani

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Preparation of this document

This document provides a summary of the presentations, discussions, conclusions and recommendations of the East Africa Consultation Workshop on Improving Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 15 to 18 September 2015. The report was prepared by the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa, the organizers of the workshop.

The contribution of Ms Lena Westlund, consultant, is greatly acknowledged. FAO staff, Ms Nicole Franz, Mr Felix Marttin and Ms Ana Maria Menezes, contributed to the preparation of this report.

The presentations given by the speakers are reproduced as submitted, as is the material included in the annexes.

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 FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in June 2014, and in line with paragraph 13.6 of the document itself, which promotes the development of regional plans of action for their implementation, a regional workshop was held in Eastern Africa to discuss the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

The East Africa Consultation Workshop on Improving Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 15 to 18 September 2015. It was hosted by the FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa (FAO-SFE). The workshop was attended by 40 participants from Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, The United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, including representatives of governments, regional organizations, regional fishery bodies (RFBs), civil society organizations (CSOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), research institutions, academia, other relevant non-state actors and FAO staff and resource persons.

The workshop noted that small-scale fisheries employ the majority of fishers and fish workers in the East African region and contribute substantially to food security and livelihoods through their role in providing nutritious food and generating local and national incomes. Inland fisheries are particularly important in many countries of the region. There are many aquatic resources, including freshwater and marine resources, that are shared by two or several countries and consequently, the regional aspects of small-scale fisheries are important.

The overall objective of the workshop was to facilitate an understanding of the principles of the SSF Guidelines and their application in order to support sustainable small-scale fisheries and Blue Growth.¹ During the three-and-a-half day workshop, participants examined the current status of small-scale fisheries in the region and shared experiences through country and topical presentations, and discussed priorities and actions for implementing the SSF Guidelines at regional and national levels.

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¹ See www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/newsroom/docs/BlueGrowth_LR.pdf

Contents

Preparation of this document	iii
Abstract	v
Acknowledgements	viii
Abbreviations and acronyms	ix
Executive summary	xi
OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP	1
BACKGROUND TO THE WORKSHOP, OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND MODUS OPERANDI	3
INTRODUCTION TO THE SSF GUIDELINES	5
DISCUSSION OF AGENDA	7
KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS	9
Small-scale fisheries in the AU/NEPAD Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa	9
Implementing the SSF Guidelines: A CSO perspective	10
Introduction to the human rights-based approach	11
COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS	15
Burundi	15
Djibouti	16
Ethiopia	17
Kenya	18
Rwanda	19
Somalia	20
South Sudan	23
The United Republic of Tanzania	25
Uganda	26
BRIEF OVERVIEW OF OUTCOME OF WEB-BASED SURVEY	29
SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS OF DAY ONE	31
ADDITIONAL THEMATIC PRESENTATIONS BY REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND ACADEMIA	33
Inland fisheries and the SSF Guidelines – a perspective from Lake Tanganyika	33
Inland fisheries and the SSF Guidelines – a perspective from Lake Victoria	34
Research and the SSF Guidelines implementation: the example of the Too Big To Ignore network	34

ADDITIONAL THEMATIC PRESENTATIONS BY FAO, PROJECTS AND NGOS	37
Strengthening land governance for inclusive and sustainable agriculture transformation in Africa	37
Gender equality in small-scale fisheries: policy and legal perspective	39
Sharing of relevant experiences from the SmartFish project	41
WORKING GROUP SESSIONS	45
SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AND THE WAY FORWARD	51
CLOSING SESSION	55
ANNEX 1 – OPENING STATEMENTS	57
ANNEX 2 – LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	61
ANNEX 3 – WORKSHOP AGENDA	65
ANNEX 4 – COUNTRY PRESENTATION OUTLINE	67
ANNEX 5 – WORKING GROUP COMPOSITION	71
ANNEX 6 – WORKING GROUP RESULTS	73
ANNEX 7 – JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ	79

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The organizers are particularly grateful to the chairpersons of the workshop sessions and to all participants for their active engagement during the workshop discussions.

Abbreviations and acronyms

ACNR	Association pour la conservation de la nature au Rwanda
AFRM	African fisheries reform mechanism
AU	African Union
AU-IBAR	African Union – Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
BMU	Beach management unit
EAC	East African Community
EAF	Ecosystem approach to fisheries
EEZ	Exclusive economic zone
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CAMFA	Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture
CBO	Community-based organization
CCRF	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
COFI	Committee on Fisheries (of FAO)
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CSO	Civil society organization
FIRMS	Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FishGov	AU-IBAR project Strengthening Institutional Capacity to Enhance Governance of the Fisheries Sector in Africa
F&G	Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa
GDP	Gross domestic product
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (system)
HRBA	Human rights-based approach
HP	Horsepower
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICEIDA	Icelandic International Development Agency
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICSF	International Collective in Support of Fishworkers
ISSF	Information system on small-scale fisheries
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
IPC	International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC)
IUU	Illegal, unreported and unregulated (fishing)
LTA	Lake Tanganyika Authority
LVFO	Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization
MCS	Monitoring, control and surveillance
MP	Member of Parliament

M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NPCA	NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
OSH	Occupational safety and health
PFRS	AU/NEPAD Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa
REC	Regional economic commission
RFB	Regional fishery body
RFMO	Regional fisheries management organization
SFE	FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa
SSF	Small-scale fisheries
SSF Guidelines	Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication
SWIOFC	South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission
SWIOfish	South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Project
TBTI	Too Big To Ignore (global partnership for small-scale fisheries research)
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN	United Nations
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNECA/LPI	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa/Land Policy Initiative
UNFSA	United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement
VGGT	Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security
WFF	World Forum of Fish Harvesters & Fish Workers
WFFP	World Forum of Fisher Peoples
WWF	World Wide Fund For Nature

Executive summary

The East Africa Consultation Workshop on Improving Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 15 to 18 September 2015. It was hosted by the FAO–SFE. The workshop was attended by 40 participants from Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, and included representatives of governments, regional organizations, RFBs, CSOs, NGOs, research institutions, academia, other relevant non-state actors and FAO staff and resource persons.

The overall objective of the workshop was to facilitate an understanding of the principles of the SSF Guidelines and their application in order to support sustainable small-scale fisheries and Blue Growth. During the three-and-a-half day workshop, participants examined the current status of small-scale fisheries in the region, shared experiences through country and topical presentations, and discussed priorities and actions for implementing the SSF Guidelines at regional and national levels.

The workshop noted that small-scale fisheries employ the majority of fishers and fish workers in the region and contribute substantially to food security and livelihoods through their role in providing nutritious food and generating local and national incomes. Inland fisheries are particularly important in many countries of the region. There are many aquatic resources, including freshwater and marine resources, that are shared by two or several countries and consequently, the regional aspects of small-scale fisheries are important.

The workshop noted the many initiatives already underway and the good practices and opportunities for supporting small-scale fisheries in the region. Some important activities have already taken place, e.g. consultation meetings in United Republic of Tanzania and Somalia, and a regional meeting for non-state actor organizations convened by the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA). However, there are many challenges and constraints to address before secure and sustainable small-scale fisheries become a reality in the East African region. Accordingly, the workshop called upon all stakeholders to promote the application of the principles of the SSF Guidelines at all levels. The role of CSOs was particularly emphasized and the need to collaborate with governments stressed.

The workshop acknowledged the comprehensiveness of the SSF Guidelines and the need to take a holistic and human rights-based approach to small-scale fisheries governance and development. The links between the SSF Guidelines and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) were also acknowledged and their relevance to fisheries noted.

The workshop recognized that the implementation of the SSF Guidelines should be anchored at the local and national levels, but regional attention and support would also be required to address transboundary fisheries related issues. The role of the African Union (AU) and the work done by the AU-IBAR/NPCA on developing an African Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture (PFRS) was appreciated. This strategy includes a thematic area on sustainable small-scale fisheries development with specific reference to the SSF Guidelines. The importance of the Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA) and the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) was acknowledged and the need for improved collaboration between the countries concerned, as well as with respect to other shared resources, was noted.

OUTCOMES OF WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS

The workshop proposed the following key priority areas of actions to be considered in national and regional implementation planning processes:

GOVERNANCE OF TENURE IN SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (CHAPTER 5 OF THE SSF GUIDELINES)

- Secure tenure for small-scale fishing communities with regard to fishery resources and land needs to be ensured. Land use legislation needs to contain provisions for consultations with all stakeholders, specifically including small-scale fisheries actors, and land use plans should be developed with the involvement of small-scale fishers and fish workers.
- Existing zones and preferential access arrangements for small-scale fisheries need to be protected. Participatory enforcement mechanisms should be developed, building on existing good practices in the region.
- The capacity and organization of small-scale fisheries actors need to be strengthened so that they can effectively participate in decision-making processes relating to small-scale fisheries governance. Also, structures for co-management and shared decision-making need to be established or strengthened at all levels.
- There is a need for the harmonization of policy frameworks and fishery regulations for shared water bodies and for shared fishery resources. Management plans should be developed accordingly and experiences from other parts of Africa shared.
- Interministerial collaboration – as well as coordination with other actors – on small-scale fisheries governance and development is needed. A first practical step towards establishing a structure for such collaboration and coordination at the national level could be for the fisheries authority to request an interministerial technical consultative meeting.
- The application of the ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) as a model for developing small-scale fisheries management should be promoted.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK, AND GENDER EQUALITY (CHAPTERS 6 AND 8 OF THE SSF GUIDELINES)

- Access to amenities, facilities and services for small-scale fishing communities should be improved as part of fulfilling basic human and social needs. Existing regional information should be analysed to inform such improvement. Linkages with relevant government agencies, mobilization of community action and lobbying by CSOs in this respect will be required.
- The current focus of fisheries management is on the resources and this should shift to a more people-focused approach to small-scale fisheries governance. Small-scale fisheries actors should be part of relevant processes, fisheries management structures should allow for their effective participation, and small-scale fisheries organizations should be strengthened to ensure true representation at all levels.
- The availability of financial services and insurance schemes for small-scale fisheries actors should be enhanced and based on the assessed needs of small-scale fisheries, the strengthening of fisher groups, and by facilitating communication about the use and need for financial instruments between fisheries actors and banks. Relevant good practices, including the development of small to medium enterprises, should be shared across the region.
- The often poor standard of living, lack of decent working conditions and discriminatory policies need to be addressed through the professionalization of small-scale fisheries, compliance with existing labour instruments and guidance – such as safety at sea and occupational safety and health (OSH) regulations – and the development of fishers' capacity. At the regional level, harmonized

operationalization of safety at sea/security instruments, including the adoption of the ILO and IMO² standard for training, should be promoted.

- Efforts should be made to build entrepreneurial capacity for alternative and complementary livelihood opportunities to help reduce the vulnerability of small-scale fisheries actors and mitigate their reliance on fisheries as a main source of income.
- Compliance with, and implementation of, existing gender instruments need to be strengthened, including through empowerment of and affirmative action for women.

VALUE CHAINS, POST-HARVEST AND TRADE (CHAPTER 7 OF THE SSF GUIDELINES)

- Improved landing, processing and marketing infrastructure (including access roads) and enhanced data collection and information systems need to be established for promoting equal market access for small-scale fisheries actors. Fishery related trade laws need to be reviewed and harmonized in the region.
- Fish value chain actors should be actively involved in decision-making processes and representative fora that include all small-scale fisheries value chain actors, need to be established.
- Women, vulnerable and marginalized groups should be fully engaged in a dignified and respected manner and their contribution to small-scale fisheries recognized. Access to market information and amenities, capacity building – including on technical skills and social awareness – should be provided to these groups.
- Appropriate infrastructure for small-scale fisheries needs to be developed, post-harvest losses reduced to a minimum and value addition enhanced. Bottlenecks and opportunities should be identified and capacity building with respect to fish handling, processing, value addition and marketing promoted.
- Enabling regulations, guidelines and harmonized fish product quality standards should be promoted to provide an enabling environment.

DISASTER RISKS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (CHAPTER 9 OF THE SSF GUIDELINES)

Small-scale fisheries actors need to leverage existing climate change strategies within their countries to gain access to funds and insurance for climate change adaptation, and their needs should be integrated in disaster risk and climate change studies, policies and action plans.

NEXT STEPS

To realize the proposed actions, broad collaboration and support are needed from governments and national and regional organizations, including RFBs and other actors.

This will require awareness raising and political will. The workshop identified the following next steps to promote collaboration and make progress with the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at the national and regional levels:

Immediate follow-up in 2015:

- *Workshop participants* should share the workshop results with their colleagues and respective organizations upon their return. They should also report on the workshop outcomes, raise awareness and disseminate the SSF Guidelines at ministerial meetings, report to ministers, have targeted meetings with Members of Parliament (MPs) and identify other opportunities for putting small-scale fisheries on meeting and event agendas.

² International Labour Organization (ILO) and International Maritime Organization (IMO)

- The workshop results should be presented at the forthcoming *AU-IBAR/NPCA* “Think Tank meeting on Governance and Management of African Small-Scale Fisheries and its Contribution to the Accelerated Agricultural Transformation Goals of Africa” to take place in October 2015.³
- *RFBs* should submit the SSF Guidelines to their statutory bodies for consideration, adoption and monitoring of implementation.
- *Governments, with the support of research institutions, FAO and relevant stakeholders*, should translate the SSF Guidelines into national or local languages and develop popular, or simplified versions and communication materials appropriate for small-scale fisheries actors and other stakeholders.
- *CSOs* should share the SSF Guidelines with their members.
- *CSOs, governments, RFBs and other stakeholders* should organize celebrations of World Fisheries Day on 21 November to promote the principles of the SSF Guidelines.

In 2016 (and beyond):

- *Workshop participants* should organize, in collaboration with partners and small-scale fisheries actors, national workshops to raise awareness of the SSF Guidelines and to initiate the establishment of national level multi-stakeholder platforms.
- The *AU-IBAR/NPCA* should report on the workshop results and follow-up actions at national level to the next Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA) meeting in 2016.
- *The AU-IBAR/NPCA in collaboration with FAO* should organize consultative workshops in other African regions along the lines of this Eastern African workshop. The *AU-IBAR/NPCA* should also continue to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at the continental level, including regional activities identified by the workshop as appropriate and required, and continue engagement with the non-state actor platform.
- *RFBs* should support the celebrations of World Fisheries Day at the regional level by organizing a follow-up event with a view to evaluating progress and further disseminating information on small-scale fisheries.
- *RFBs* should support experience sharing and communication between stakeholders and actors in the region.
- *Governments, RFBs and CSOs* should investigate potential partnerships and develop proposals for funding by development partners.
- *Governments and RFBs* should report on progress with regard to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines to the COFI and the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade.
- *Governments* should initiate or continue the alignment of policies with the principles of the SSF Guidelines and develop national plans of action to ensure their implementation.
- *CSOs* should support the strengthening of small-scale fisheries actor organizations at local and national levels across the region.
- *The Too Big To Ignore (TBTI)* research network should engage with small-scale fisheries stakeholders in the region. Governments and other stakeholders are advised to communicate research needs to the TBTI.
- Ongoing and planned regional and national projects (e.g. SmartFish) should be encouraged to integrate or continue their efforts to promote the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in their work plans.

³ The Think Tank meeting was held in January 2016. A summary of the meeting objectives and outcomes is available at: www.au-ibar.org/home/415-en/media/press-releases/fish/891-think-tank-meeting-on-governance-and-management-of-african-small-scale-fisheries-and-its-contribution-to-the-accelerated-agricultural-transformation-goals-of-africa

- FAO should continue to provide technical support, including with regard to awareness raising and implementation planning processes, and the development and dissemination of information and communication materials.

Opening of the workshop

The opening session was chaired by Ms Ana Menezes, Fishery and Aquaculture Officer, FAO–SFE. The workshop was opened with welcome statements by Mr Amadou Allahoury, FAO Representative in Ethiopia, on behalf of the FAO Subregional Coordinator for Eastern Africa. Mr Hussein Abegaz, Head of the Aquaculture Department, delivered opening remarks on behalf of the Honourable Dr Gereegziabher G/Yohans, State Minister of the Livestock Sector, Minister of Agriculture of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

Both statements highlighted the importance of small-scale fisheries to the East African region and their contribution to economies, livelihoods and food security.

In Ethiopia, the small-scale fisheries sector tends to be firmly rooted in local communities, traditions and values. Many small-scale fishers are self-employed and usually provide fish for direct consumption within their households or communities. Women are significant participants in the sector, particularly in post-harvest and processing activities. It is estimated that almost all people who are directly dependent on capture fisheries work in the small-scale fisheries sector. As such, small-scale fisheries serve as an economic and social engine, providing food security and nutrition, employment and other multiplier effects to local economies while underpinning the livelihoods of riparian communities, even in a landlocked country like Ethiopia.

It was stressed that the SSF Guidelines provide a tool and a unique opportunity to improve the governance and development of the small-scale fisheries.

The opening statements are presented in Annex 1.



Regional consultation participants; credit: ©FAO

Background to the workshop, objectives, expected outputs and modus operandi

BACKGROUND TO THE WORKSHOP

The year 2015 marked the 20th anniversary of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF). Since then, the CCRF has become the universal reference tool to guide the governance and development of sustainable and responsible fisheries. It serves as a reference point to achieve responsible fisheries. The application of the elements of the CCRF, and the alignment of national laws, policies, programmes and strategies with its principles, is the first basic step towards improved governance of fisheries.

In order to complement the provisions of the CCRF, specifically in relation to small-scale fisheries, the COFI endorsed the SSF Guidelines in June 2014. The SSF Guidelines are the first ever international instrument specifically dedicated to small-scale fisheries and provide a comprehensive framework for states and other stakeholders to support the small-scale fisheries sector in realizing its true contribution to global and national efforts towards food security and poverty eradication.

The SSF Guidelines were developed through a global participatory process that included consultations with more than 4 000 stakeholders from over 120 countries. In this context, in 2010 FAO organized the Africa Regional Consultative Meeting on Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries: Bringing Together Responsible Fisheries and Social Development, in Maputo, Mozambique, on 12 to 14 October 2010.⁴ In addition, in 2012 CSOs organized two national consultations in the East African region, one in United Republic of Tanzania and one in Kenya.⁵ The East Africa Consultation Workshop on Improving Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication continued this participatory process, with the aim to discuss the SSF Guidelines as a meaningful tool to advance small-scale fisheries in the region. This is also in line with the NEPAD/AU IBAR PFRS,⁶ which was adopted in 2014 at ministerial level and includes the SSF Guidelines among its expected outcomes in relation to small-scale fisheries development.

In response to direct demand from the region, and within the overall effort to support the promotion and application of the SSF Guidelines as demanded by COFI, FAO therefore organized the East Africa Consultation Workshop on Improving Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication.

OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS

Ana Menezes, Fishery and Aquaculture Officer, FAO–SFE, presented the objective and expected outputs of the East Africa Consultation Workshop on Improving

⁴ Report available at www.fao.org/docrep/015/i2083b/i2083b00.htm

⁵ Reports available at <https://sites.google.com/site/smallscalefisheries/tanzania-1> and <https://sites.google.com/site/smallscalefisheries/events/kenya>

⁶ See <http://rea.au.int/en/sites/default/files/AU-IBAR%20-%20Fisheries%20Policy%20Framework%20and%20Reform%20Strategy.pdf>

Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication. The overall objective of the workshop was to facilitate an understanding of the principles of the SSF Guidelines and their application in order to support sustainable small-scale fisheries in the region.

The SSF Guidelines will only become an effective tool for change if their principles are applied. The overall strategic approach for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines builds on the inclusive and consensus-seeking spirit and environment that characterized their development. Accordingly, participation and partnerships will be key and the implementation has to be anchored at the national and local levels within a framework of regional and international collaboration, awareness raising, policy support and capacity development to achieve Blue Growth. This strategic approach aims to have the principles of the SSF Guidelines mainstreamed in policies, strategies and actions at the international, regional, national and local levels. This requires support and collaboration between a diverse group of actors, including governments, CSOs, development partners, NGOs, academia, regional organizations and the private sector.

Accordingly, the expected outputs of the workshop were:

- stock taking of the current status of small-scale fisheries in the East African region;
- input and advice on priorities for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries in the East African region;
- identification of elements of an East Africa Regional Plan of Action for improved small-scale fisheries and to identify potential resources and modalities for its implementation.

PARTICIPATION AND MODUS OPERANDI

The East Africa Consultation Workshop convened governments, civil society representatives, researchers, regional organizations and project representatives, NGOs and donors from the countries covered by the FAO–SFE⁷ and from United Republic of Tanzania.

A total of 40 participants attended the workshop (see list of participants in Annex 2).

The workshop was conducted in English and held over a total of three-and-a-half days.

It featured thematic plenary presentations, plenary discussions and working group sessions. Whisper translation was provided for French speakers and working group 1 was conducted in French.

⁷ Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda

Introduction to the SSF Guidelines

Ms Nicole Franz , FAO

The presentation provided an introduction to the SSF Guidelines, the first ever negotiated international instrument entirely dedicated to SSF and representing a global consensus on principles and guidance for small-scale fisheries governance and development. The SSF Guidelines go beyond what is traditionally dealt with by fisheries administrations and bring together social development and responsible fisheries.

The SSF Guidelines complement other international instruments, in particular the CCRF; the Right to Food Guidelines and the VGGT, which have a common grounding in human rights principles.

The objectives of the SSF Guidelines refer to food security and nutrition; equitable development and poverty eradication; responsible management of fisheries resources; economic, social and environmental sustainability; ecosystem friendly and participatory policies; and public awareness and advancement of knowledge. 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.

Key milestones in the development of the SSF Guidelines include the following:

- 2008: First Global Conference on Small-Scale Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand, for which the CSOs prepared a statement. The recommendations from the conference include a call for an international instrument on small-scale fisheries.
- 2009: the 28th Session of COFI expresses a need for an international instrument on SSF.
- 2010: FAO facilitates three regional consultations on bringing together responsible fisheries and social development, including one for Asia and the Pacific.
- 2011: the 29th Session of COFI recommends the development of an international instrument on small-scale fisheries.
- 2011–2013: national, regional, international consultations, workshops, events involving over 4 000 stakeholders directly. The national consultations were organized primarily by CSOs which therefore played a major role in shaping the structure and content of the SSF Guidelines.
- May 2013–February 2014: a technical consultation held at FAO negotiates the text of the SSF Guidelines with regional organizations, CSOs and other observers, in addition to the country delegations.
- 2014: the 31st Session of COFI endorses the SSF Guidelines.

The SSF Guidelines are divided into three main parts. The introduction sets out the objectives, nature and scope, the guiding principles and the relationship with other international instruments. The guiding principles of the SSF Guidelines include non-discrimination; respect of cultures; social and economic viability; gender equality and equity; equity and equality; transparency; rule of law; consultation and

participation; accountability; economic, social and environmental sustainability; holistic and integrated approaches; and social responsibility and feasibility.

Part 2 of the SSF Guidelines is entitled “Responsible fisheries and sustainable development” and represents the thematic heart of the SSF Guidelines. It contains the following chapters dealing with:

- sustainable resource utilization/stewardship and secure rights to fishery resources and land and the ability of SSF communities to benefit from them;
- social development dimension of SSF livelihoods (e.g. access to social services, need for equality and equity), employment and incomes, and fair and decent working conditions;
- the post-harvest sector and trade, and consideration of the whole value chain;
- importance of gender and the need to promote equality and equity;
- vulnerabilities of small-scale fishing communities in the context of disaster risks and climate change.

Part 3 of the SSF Guidelines focuses on “Ensuring an enabling environment and supporting implementation” because the small-scale fisheries sector cannot be looked at in isolation.

It is embedded in a wider policy and institutional context. The SSF Guidelines therefore call for better integration of the sector into broader development processes, policies, strategies and plans. This requires improved institutional coordination and collaboration at various levels to ensure policy coherence. In this context, fisher and fish workers organizations are also encouraged to collaborate among themselves to facilitate their involvement in policy- and decision-making processes.

The SSF Guidelines also emphasize that bio-ecological, social, cultural and economic information, and its related research and communication, are crucial to better understand the sector, to support decision-making and action, and to ensure transparency and accountability. This includes traditional knowledge available in fishing communities. The SSF Guidelines also acknowledge the often-encountered lack of capabilities and capacities in both government administrations and communities. They therefore provide guidance for specific capacity development measures, stressing the need to develop appropriate representative structures for small-scale fisheries actors and to develop the skills of government authorities and agencies, in particular at decentralized and local level. Finally, the SSF Guidelines provide guidance on awareness raising processes and promote the development of monitoring and assessment measures that allow feedback into policy- making processes.

The next steps for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in the East African region will depend on the follow-up to the regional consultation, including through regional bodies like AU/NEPAD or LVFO and LTA, supported by international development, for example through the discussions at the next session of the COFI. The developments at the regional level, however, will need to be complemented by efforts to promote the implementation at the national level.

Discussion of agenda

Chair: Mr Lalaina Ravelomanantsoa, Legal Officer, FAO-SFE

The chair introduced the agenda (Annex 3) and informed participants about the inclusion of one additional presentation on human rights. He then invited participants to choose chairs for the following days. The group identified the following persons:

- Wednesday 16 September: Godfrey V. Monor
- Thursday 17 September: Winfried Venant Haule
- Friday 18 September: Susan Wairimu Imende Ungadi

He then presented a proposal for the division of the participants into three parallel working groups (see Annex 4). The proposal was accepted. He asked that each group identify a rapporteur and a presenter for each of the three working group sessions.

The chair then invited the speakers to deliver the keynote and country presentations which are summarized in the following sections.

Keynote presentations

SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES IN THE AU/NEPAD POLICY FRAMEWORK AND REFORM STRATEGY FOR FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN AFRICA

Mr Sidibé Aboubacar, African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)

The speaker introduced the AU/NEPAD Policy Framework and Reform Strategy of Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector in Africa⁸ (PFRS). The PFRS was adopted by resolutions of the AU Joint Conference of Ministers of Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries and Aquaculture on 1 to 2 May 2014 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. It was endorsed by African heads of state and governments as the Decision on the Report of the AU Joint Conference of Ministers of Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries and Aquaculture (Doc. EX.CL/842(XXV), in its Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session, 20–24 June 2014, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. Among the seven main policy arenas of the PFRS is the sustainable development of small-scale fisheries, with the objective of improving and strengthening the contribution of small-scale fisheries to poverty alleviation, food and nutrition security and socio-economic benefits of fishing communities. The strategic actions in this context are summarized as follows:

- enhance effective bilateral and regional cooperation in the management of shared resources;
- promote, support and coordinate sustainable pro-poor development;
- improve fisheries governance through participatory management;
- build on traditional fisheries management systems, promotion of selective and location-specific fishing gear.

Small-scale fisheries account for more than 60 percent of Africa's fisheries production and almost all the catches from the sector are destined for human consumption. However, information on small-scale fisheries for the formulation of management decisions is often not available or is inadequate. The centralized approach to managing fisheries resources has proven unsuccessful in preventing stock depletion, and the low level of organization of small-scale fisheries actors and communities in most countries in Africa has hindered their effective participation in fisheries governance. The expected outcomes from the small-scale fisheries reform through the PFRS include, among others, that the provisions of the SSF Guidelines and other international instruments for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries are widely applied across AU member states.

A number of strategic actions to achieve the reform of small-scale fisheries have been identified, and include:

- promote, support and coordinate sustainable development for small-scale fisheries communities;
- improve governance of small-scale fisheries through effective participatory management for inclusive decision-making;
- enhance effective bilateral and regional cooperation in management of shared resources.

A number of steps have been taken towards operationalizing this reform strategy for small-scale fisheries, including the establishment of a specific Working Group

⁸ Available at www.au.int/en/sites/default/files/documents/30266-doc-au-ibar_-_fisheries_policy_framework_and_reform_strategy.pdf

on Sustainable Development of Small-Scale Fisheries in the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism (AFRM). Another opportunity to advance was the participation of AU members in the global forum on rights-based approaches for fisheries, “UserRights 2015” which was held in March 2015 in Cambodia. AU members presented “African voice developed: yes for fishing rights, but with participatory rights of fishing communities in the fisheries management process (co-management)”. In addition, a guide for the implementation of the PFRS has been developed (an elaboration and validation of the criteria for alignment of national and regional policies and strategies of small-scale fisheries sustainable development to the Pan African PFRS (May 2015, Kampala; June 2015, Nairobi; July 2015, Abidjan). A coordination meeting of regional non-state actor organizations in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Africa was organized in August 2015 in Nairobi, Kenya.

Next steps include the formulation of the terms of reference (mandates) and rules of procedure for a continental platform of non-state actors in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Africa, planned for October 2015, as well as a continental Think Tank meeting on Governance and Management of African Small-Scale Fisheries and its Contribution to the Accelerated Agricultural Transformation Goals of Africa, also planned for October 2015.⁹

IMPLEMENTING THE SSF GUIDELINES: A CSO PERSPECTIVE

Ms Editrudith Lukanga, Executive Director EMEDO, Co-President – World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF)

Speaking on behalf of World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP), World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF), International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) and the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), the speaker stressed that the CSO community has been closely involved in the development of the SSF Guidelines. This process can be seen in three stages, starting with the First Global Conference on Small-Scale Fisheries held in Bangkok, Thailand, in 2008.

In the period 2009 to 2012, a number of consultations to inform the development of the SSF Guidelines were held and the CSO community organized 21 consultations during this period. In the East Africa region, meetings were held in Uganda (2011), United Republic of Tanzania (2012)¹⁰ and Kenya (2012). These meetings attracted participants from many different stakeholder groups, including CSOs, NGOs, governments, academia and research institutes. These consultations informed a draft of the SSF Guidelines which formed the basis for international negotiations. The final text of the SSF Guidelines was endorsed in June 2014.

Now it is time for implementation. The SSF Guidelines are global but implementation needs to be anchored at the local and national levels and should be integrated into policies, laws, regulations and agreements. There is a need to conduct awareness raising workshops to share with those that provided inputs on the development of the instrument. Plans of action need to be developed for implementation so that this may also take place in a consultative manner. CSO platforms and regional and national fisherfolk organizations need to be strengthened to be able to contribute in a meaningful way.

At the national level, these plans need to be accompanied by funding through public budgets. Collaboration will be needed, in particular collaboration with CSOs is important. CSOs should be involved in the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at all levels.

⁹ The Think Tank meeting was held in January 2016. A summary of the meeting objectives and outcomes is available at: www.au-ibar.org/home/415-en/media/press-releases/fish/891-think-tank-meeting-on-governance-and-management-of-african-small-scale-fisheries-and-its-contribution-to-the-accelerated-agricultural-transformation-goals-of-africa

¹⁰ Reports are available on the following website: <https://sites.google.com/site/smallscalefisheries/events>

It is understood that FAO is ready to support SSF Guidelines implementation. The CSOs would like to see governments consult with them when engaging in and requesting implementation support from FAO.

INTRODUCTION TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH

Ms Misrak Tekle, Ethiopian Human Rights Commission

The presentation started with an explanation of human rights. Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, whatever their nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status. Every person is equally entitled to human rights without discrimination. These rights are all interrelated, interdependent and indivisible. Universal human rights are often expressed and guaranteed by law, in the forms of treaties, customary international law, general principles and other sources of international law. International human rights law lays down obligations of states to act in certain ways, or to refrain from certain acts, in order to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was drawn up by the United Nations (UN) in 1948 following the devastation of the Second World War. The declaration outlines a series of basic principles that were designed and agreed upon in an effort to foster peace and respect for human dignity. A series of legally binding covenants was also drawn up in response to the declaration, obliging states to commit to and enforce these principles. Two major covenants were drawn up to reflect the different political emphasis of the then communist and democratic countries. These were the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). The covenants consist of a list of articles that outline clear rights to which everyone is entitled, so long as the covenant has been signed and ratified by that state.

Together, the UDHR, ICCPR and ICESCR are referred to as “The International Bill of Rights”.

The basic principles set out in The International Bill of Rights are: universality and inalienability; indivisibility; interdependence and interrelatedness; equality and non-discrimination; participation and inclusion; accountability; and the rule of law.

In addition to the International Bill of Rights, the UN has formulated various treaties, declarations and international conventions to protect the civil, political, economic and social rights of people. These are then ratified by individual nation states and incorporated into national law, or not, as the case may be.

Some key examples of such international instruments include:

- UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War
- Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War
- Declaration on the Right to Development.

There are different generations of rights: the first generation of civil and political rights, the second generation of socio, economic and cultural rights, and the third generation of group rights (solidarity rights), referring to the right of people to self-determination, the right to peace, the right to development, the right to humanitarian assistance, but also aspects of environmental law. The human rights-based approach (HRBA) has a direct link with the right to development, which is an emerging right.

A HRBA to development projects situates human rights at the very centre of its processes and focuses attention on how the realization of all human rights to all people all of the time is essential to combating issues of poverty, injustice, conflict, marginalization, etc. The HRBA is a UN-driven approach to link development initiatives to rights legislation. It has been created to unify the approach and draw attention to rights. It answers critics of development by considering political context. Many development initiatives have trialed the approach and there is a growing body of research, tools and methods for using the approach. It is a deliberate and mindful move away from giving charity based upon peoples' needs. Instead, it is a move towards rights, responsibilities and obligations by shifting the focus of development from servicing needs to building the capacity of individuals and communities to understand, claim and fulfil their rights.

Furthermore, the HRBA aims to strengthen the ability of states to fulfil their obligations as duty-bearers, and increase opportunities for constructive dialogue with rights-holders.

A HRBA is a conceptual framework for the process of human development that is normatively based on international human rights standards and operationally directed to promoting and protecting human rights. It seeks to analyze inequalities that lie at the heart of development problems and redress discriminatory practices and unjust distributions of power that impede development progress. Mere charity is not enough from a human rights perspective. Under a HRBA, the plans, policies and processes of development are anchored in a system of rights and corresponding obligations established by international law. This helps to promote the sustainability of development work, empowering people themselves – especially the most marginalized – to participate in policy formulation and hold accountable those who have a duty to act. Quite simply, a HRBA recognizes that the cause of poverty, suffering and injustice lies with violations of peoples' human rights, and that those to whom the basic human rights are denied have a legally enforceable position from which to advocate for change.

The paradigm is transformed from one where people are in need to one where people are being denied what is fundamentally and legally their right. Hence, the role of anyone adopting a HRBA to development is to determine how the issues identified by a community correspond with the basic human rights, and to explore how best to realize these rights within the local, national or international scenario.

The HRBA promotes a conscious and systematic integration of rights and principles into development work, emphasizing and deepening participation. It aims for the empowerment of marginalized communities and encourages local ownership of development programmes, leading to greater accountability from all actors, at all levels. The HRBA also provides tools for dialogue and engagement with duty-bearers.

The speaker concluded with the information that in Ethiopia, the Constitution provides an enabling environment for small-scale fisheries through a HRBA. It recognizes the right to development (Art. 43) and the right to the environment (Art. 44). The Proclamation 147/1998 for the establishment of cooperatives in Article 1 on cooperative societies includes fisheries cooperative societies. There is also a proclamation to establish small-scale enterprises.

PLENARY DISCUSSION

Participants commented on the presentations and a discussion followed focusing in particular on the respective roles of governments and CSOs in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the opportunities and challenges for effective collaboration. The key points of this discussion are summarized here.

- Government representatives appreciated the presence of CSOs and confirmed that it was important to learn about their active engagement in the development of the SSF Guidelines and to think about implementation in a collaborative

manner. The importance of physical meetings between governments and CSOs was emphasized. However, there are also challenges in pursuing collaboration, e.g. there may be cost implications for inviting CSO representatives to meetings which are not necessarily considered in current government budgets. It may also be difficult for governments to identify and involve CSOs. CSOs therefore need to present themselves to governments and governments to get involved.

- Governments should support the development and strengthening of the organizational capacities of CSOs. On the other hand, CSOs are taking action themselves and the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) Fisheries Working Group has succeeded in mobilizing resources for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines through the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Participating CSOs showed interest in learning about how to join this global CSO network supporting the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.
- In the past, CSOs were often considered as troublemakers and there is sometimes still competition and hesitance to speak out. There is therefore a need for CSOs to demonstrate to governments the value they can add. Governments must see CSOs as partners and CSOs need to show how they contribute to government objectives.
- The important role of CSOs as policy advocates that can trigger policy and legislative change was recognized and the SSF Guidelines development process represents an important example in this context.
- Political will is imperative for change. In order to foster this political will, information about small-scale fisheries is needed and CSOs are well positioned to promote the SSF Guidelines and encourage the engagement of policy-makers. CSOs have an important role to play as policy advocates and can trigger policy and legislative change.
- The SSF Guidelines development process represents an important example in this context.

Country presentations

BURUNDI

Ms Leonie Nzeyimana

In Burundi, small-scale fishing, or customary fishing, provides income for small-scale fishers who do not have the financial means to buy improved equipment. Small-scale fishing is characterized by the use of traditional, low-value fishing equipment with low-energy requirements, operations at short distances from the shore, and production for local consumption. Small-scale fishers use canoes and various types of gill nets, encircling gear, passive gear, monofilaments and beach seines, as well as other gear.

The fishery consists of two types: artisanal fishing and customary or traditional fishing.

The first type consists of a fleet of motorized and non-motorized catamarans and operates at night. It produces about 15 000 tonnes per year. The second type consists of a canoe fleet that operates during the day using the above-mentioned gear. The annual production is about 3 tonnes.

Overall, the artisanal fisheries segment provides about 85 percent of the commercial landings (15 000 tonnes in 2014), in particular perches and clupeids. According to a frame survey carried out in 2013, 8 623 fishers operate in an area of 23 000 km². About 15 000 are engaged in secondary activities, including 531 women. The contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) is about 1 percent. Export destinations are limited to neighbouring Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Culturally, artisanal fishing is usually passed down from father to son among riparian inhabitants. The sector provides employment for several categories of people (fishers, processors, fish traders, transporters, stove makers, repairers and boat manufacturers). Women are involved in processing, fish trade, the preparation of food for fishers and beach cleaning activities. There is traditionally no involvement of women in actual fishing activities.

No specific actions have been taken to address climate change issues in small-scale fisheries. Frequent rainstorms cause erosion of hills overlooking the lakes, and water temperatures in the lakes are rising. There is currently no data on the change of parameters or pollutants in these waters.

In terms of key strengths and opportunities to implement the SSF Guidelines the following strengths were identified:

- A draft of a revised law for fisheries and aquaculture has been developed to replace the law dating back to 1937. Promulgation by Parliament is pending.
- Institutional setting: there is a national federation of fishers and fish suppliers. In addition there are fisheries committees, including women, which in the draft law are empowered to participate in decision-making meetings.
- Management plans, the Regional Biodiversity Management Strategy, the CCRF and the Water Code provide related instruments which may be an entry point for action.
- Field personnel are available to collect data and data entry software (ARTFISH) is available to the sector. This could be strengthened and up scaled.
- At regional level, LVFO and LTA are opportunities for coordinated action.

In terms of opportunities the following was noted:

- There is a wealth of fish species in the lakes (over 300 species, including endemic species like *Luciolates stappersii*, *Stolotrisa tanganyicae* and ornamental fish) and the species are appreciated by local and international consumers.
- Lake Tanganyika is the second deepest lake in the world, after Lake Baikal in Siberia, and consequently it is ideal for growing fish in cages.

The main risks in relation to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in Burundi include:

- The lack of a framework for collaboration between stakeholders in fisheries.
- The lack of financial support for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.
- The delay in the enactment of the revised legislation and in the implementation of strategies, plans and harmonized institutional planning.
- The lack of monitoring and involvement of resource users.

Relevant initiatives in the context of the SSF Guidelines implementation were identified as follows:

- Structures for setting up collaborative fisheries management institutions are in place.
- Monitoring and surveillance of fisheries production.
- Fisheries management infrastructure, financial management and conflict management.
- A co-management plan exists.
- Laws are being promulgated.

The future goals and vision for the small-scale fisheries sector include the establishment of a specific structure for the small-scale fishers; the granting of licenses (under the new Act); effective participation in the activities of co-management, monitoring and decision-making; the inclusion in fisheries training seminars; adaptation to climate change; and improved respect for the environment. All this requires the integration of users so that they might express their rights to manage the resource sustainably, while respecting the environment and its resilience to climate change, and contribute to improving food and nutritional security and eradicating poverty by increasing the incomes of fishers and fish traders. In conclusion, the SSF Guidelines are of great importance as they small-scale fisheries products.

DJIBOUTI

Mr Sai Ahmed Djama

According to available statistics, Djibouti has important fishery resources with an estimated fishery production potential of 48 000 tonnes per year, of which 5 000 tonnes are considered high value species. The current average annual production amounts to about 2 300 tonnes. National fish consumption is relatively low at 1.5 kg per person, per year and the fisheries sector's contribution to GDP is approximately 1 percent.

The whole fishing fleet, consisting of a total of 400 fiberglass boats, is considered to be small-scale. In fact, the Fisheries Act of 2002 gives a total privilege to small-scale fisheries; all industrial and trawl fishing is forbidden.

Ninety percent of the boats are 7 to 9 m in length, with engines of 25 to 40 horsepower (HP) and three person crews. They undertake one to two-day fishing trips. The remaining 10 percent of the boats are somewhat larger at 9 to 12 m in length. Fishing gear and methods used include hand lines, drift gillnets, cast nets, as well as diving (for harvesting lobster).

All fishing equipment is imported. There are about 2 000 people employed in the fisheries sector and 600 are fishers. Most fishers own their boats and are organized in associations. There is no aquaculture in Djibouti.

Constraints to the development of the fisheries sector include: low local consumption and limited exports, including lack of appropriate legislation for exports; weak distribution and marketing systems; lack of facilities for maintenance of boats and equipment; lack of credit facilities; lack of data (on resources, production and socio-economics).

The government's overall objective for the fisheries sector is to have it contribute to poverty alleviation. Specific strategic objectives include:

- Generate foreign exchange and contribute to economic growth.
- Increase the income of the poorest people through better fishing yields and other income generating activities.
- Contribute to urban and rural food security through improved processing and distribution channels.

The main strategic areas of action include:

- Development and implementation of a sector development plan.
- Support to local communities and promotion of organizational development.
- Support to economic activities and technological innovations.
- Improvement of the supply of services with regard to processing, marketing and distribution.
- Strengthening of the institutions responsible for the sector.
- Sustainable management of resources through co-management.

ETHIOPIA

Mr Hussein Abegaz Isa

In Ethiopia, the fisheries sector is relatively small compared to other agriculture sectors. However, fisheries are very important for food security and nutrition because they provide high quality protein and a source of income. The estimated potential annual production is 94 000 tonnes, with a current production of about 50 000 tonnes valued at US\$ 44 million. Eighty percent of this production comes from lakes. The per capita fish consumption is estimated to be 0.5 kg per year.

Fishing is dominated by artisanal practices and can be defined as small-scale; there are no industrial fisheries in the country. There are an estimated total of almost 45 000 fishers, with some 14 000 being fulltime fishers and 26 700 part-time fishers. Women are mainly involved in processing, net making and retail trading.

There is no specific policy targeting small-scale fisheries. The relevant legislation is the Fish Resource Development and Utilization Proclamation 315/2003. There is also a national aquaculture development strategy and fish product quality standards and fish quality assurance regulations are in place.

The strategy for the next five years includes the expansion of fish production from unexploited reservoirs and rivers; the implementation of proper fishery management systems for major lakes where there is now mainly open access; promotion of aquaculture; and improvement of fish processing and marketing to reduce spoilage and post-harvest losses.

Strengths and opportunities in relation to the SSF Guidelines include the availability of fisher cooperatives and groups, and a political will to eradicate poverty. There are also supportive agricultural policies, strategies and legislation in place for resource management and strengthening. Most fishers are young and can fight for their rights and there are new large dams for developing fisheries and hence improving income generation opportunities.

Risks and constraints include weak extension services; lack of technical knowledge; weak institutions, insufficient planning and monitoring capacity; weak fishery cooperatives and fisher organizations; the complexity of fishing communities; a lack of awareness of small-scale fisheries; and a lack of a fishery master plan with long-term goals.

In conclusion, it can be noted that:

- Small-scale fisheries need to be given attention because the sector is not properly considered for social development.
- Awareness should be created among policy-makers about the importance of small-scale fisheries communities and their role in contributing to food and nutrition security.
- Small-scale fisheries should be supported through appropriate infrastructure and credit schemes.
- Fisher organizations should be given a role and activities are needed for community empowerment to enable them to make decisions on resource management.
- Community rights need to be legally recognized in a way that does not interfere with local authorities.
- Women play an important role in fish processing and marketing and sustaining communities and fishery policies must consider them and ensure their legitimate space in the sector.

KENYA

Ms Susan Wairimu Imende Ungadi

In Kenya, the State Department of Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries is responsible for the Fisheries and Aquaculture sector. Stakeholders in the sector are represented through stakeholder associations and intergovernmental committees.

The goal for the State Department of Fisheries in Kenya is to ensure that the fisheries of Kenya sustainably enhance their contribution to Kenya's economy in terms of food security and nutrition, employment and income generation, and rural development.

Eighty four percent of Kenya's total fish production of 170 000 tonnes comes from artisanal fisheries. This production is realized by Kenya's 61 252 artisanal fishers. Small-scale fisheries are referred to as "traditional fisheries" in the Fisheries Act, and "artisanal fisheries" in the Fisheries Management and Development Bill, currently being considered by Parliament.

Artisanal fisheries are small-scale traditional fisheries that may be carried out for subsistence or commercial purposes, in which the owner is directly involved in the day to day running of the enterprise and relatively small amounts of capital are used. Ninety percent of all processed fish for export comes from artisanal fisheries. Furthermore, the sector is important because it generates income and employment in rural areas, and it provides for food security and nutrition.

In Kenya, fisheries in inland waters are considered to be artisanal fisheries, whereas for marine fisheries the definition covers coastal fishers who do not go beyond 5 nautical miles from the coast, using small crafts. Other categories of fishers are the semi-industrial fishers, who target prawns along the northern coastline, and industrial fisheries, mainly foreign vessels, using purse seines and longlines. Fishing is conducted mostly by men, only 5 percent of the fishing population is female. Ninety percent of small-scale fisheries processing is done by women, especially smoking and sun drying, and 70 percent of small-scale fisheries trade is controlled by women and youth. According to the law, at least 30 percent of representatives in fisher organizations must be female.

Kenya has designated landing sites, where fish is being landed. Most of these landing sites have basic infrastructure, including cold chain facilities. To improve market access Kenya has introduced the Enhanced Fish Market Information Service (EFMIS), providing fishers and others with real-time access to fish market information and enhancing fish trade and income of the fishing communities.

Currently, the domestic demand for fish is around 400 000 tonnes, while new regional markets are emerging (e.g. in DRC, South Sudan, Burundi and Zambia). On the international market, Nile perch and tuna loins, lobster and octopus are the dominant products. The main markets for Nile perch are 47 percent European Union, 40 percent Israel.

Communities located close to a natural resource are obliged to be involved in the management of that resource. Fisher communities are involved through beach management units (BMUs) and participate in the development and implementation of management plans. The BMUs are also involved in awarding fishing licenses. The processing industries and trader organizations are also involved in these processes.

Climate change has an impact on the fisheries sector through increased frequency of droughts and flooding incidents. Climate smart agriculture¹¹ is considered to be a way to reduce fishers' vulnerability with respect to these changes.

Strengths and opportunities of the Kenyan small-scale fisheries sector include the established participation of fisher organizations in decision-making processes (required by law), the high education level of fishers, the involvement of CSOs in the capacity building of fishers, and political will to support the small-scale fisheries sector.

Risks and constraints for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in Kenya include difficulties in understanding the complex text of the SSF Guidelines; inadequate funding for the sector; insufficient coordination and linkages between stakeholders, government and research; weak capacity for search and rescue operations and lack of fishing safety guidelines; lack of financial and insurance packages for fishers to mitigate against climate change related events; tenure rights implementation and related political interference; and inadequate health facilities in fishing villages.

To ensure sustainable small-scale fisheries in Kenya, fisher associations will be strengthened, information flows will increase and the SSF Guidelines will be translated into a popular version. In the medium- and long-term monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) will be strengthened, production and productivity will be increased, and market linkages and fisheries governance will be improved.

RWANDA

Mr Théophile Nyandwi

There is a general lack of information about small-scale fisheries in Rwanda but it is estimated that the country has about 8 700 small-scale fishers. Small-scale fisheries take place in inland waters and have an important function in terms of providing employment, food security and livelihoods. The sector has a strategic role to play in terms of reducing dependence on imports. Fish from Rwanda is exported to the DRC and Burundi.

As an activity, fishing is often handed on over generations. Two percent of the women in the sector belong to cooperatives and 98 percent to marketing organizations. It should be noted that 30 percent of cooperative membership is reserved for women.

The regulatory framework is based on the fisheries law of 2008. It is legislated that every fisher has to belong to a cooperative. Fishers are members of a Union of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock and Environmental Workers. All are covered by insurance against the risk of accidents at the workplace. There are contract arrangements between boat owners and crew members and it is common practice for boat owners to pay their crew partly in fish. There is, however, a move towards using bank accounts

¹¹ Climate-smart agriculture (CSA) is an approach that helps to guide actions needed to transform and reorient agricultural systems to effectively support development and ensure food security in a changing climate

to enable savings. Fishers are also enabled to participate in decision-making through cooperatives or union representatives. No specific disaster risk management or climate change measures for small-scale fisheries are in place.

In terms of strengths and challenges to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in Rwanda, the following were identified.

Strengths:

- existence of cooperatives from local to national level;
- existence of a law for the sector;
- strong political/administrative will to develop fisheries, in particular small-scale fisheries;
- quick repopulation of fisheries resources in the lakes;
- introduction of new species in the lakes;
- aquaculture knowledge already available at a certain level.

Challenges:

- existence of illegal fisheries;
- challenges with management of shared water bodies, e.g. Lake Kivu bordering the DRC;
- reduction of fisheries resources owing to illegal gear and illegal fishing;
- difficult access to appropriate gear;
- limited financial means of small-scale fishers and possibilities to generate profit.

Interesting ongoing initiatives that can be explored in the context of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines include the identification of aquaculture production sites; existing cage culture; pilot systems for aquaculture; support for cooperatives by experts from the Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB); and the organization of study tours within and outside the country. There is also a fish marketing system under development at sector and district level, and the strengthening of capacities and support to cooperatives – including aquaculture cooperatives – for example through the establishment of a feed industry and the identification of financing opportunities for stocking lakes.

SOMALIA

Mr Mohamud Hassan Ali

With a coastline of over 5 364 km (3 333 miles), Somalia has one of the largest maritime zones in the western Indian Ocean: the Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem. A well-known aspect of this ecosystem is a seasonal upwelling which gives rise to high levels of biological productivity, which in turn sustains rich fisheries resources. The fishing resources in Somali waters are among the richest in Africa according to commercial scientific surveys and missions carried out by various organizations to assess stocks. The sustainable potential catch in Somali waters has been estimated to be 200 000 tonnes per year. It is further estimated that about 4 500 people engage in fisheries on a fulltime basis and 5 000 on a part-time basis. Fisheries indirectly employ an additional 30 000 persons fulltime and 6 000 part-time.

The fishing season in Somali waters is from 15 September to 15 May of the following year. Small-scale fishers frequently face competition for rich fishing areas from large- and medium-sized fishing vessels.

Fisheries development in Somalia faces significant challenges, including a lack of infrastructure, especially ice and cold storage facilities. Furthermore, the Somali fisheries sector has not yet developed the necessary technical and logistical capabilities to exploit the wide range of abundant inshore and offshore resources.

The artisanal fisheries can be classified into three components on the basis of the target stocks: a pelagic fishery, a shark fishery and a lobster fishery. Other species that are occasionally targeted include sea cucumbers, cuttlefish and oysters.

Small-scale fisheries may demonstrate significant comparative advantages over

industrial fisheries in economic, social, environmental and cultural terms. They can be extremely profitable in some circumstances and their actual and potential capacity to contribute to national economic growth and poverty alleviation are therefore important. The contribution of small-scale fisheries to economic growth at the national level has three main pathways :

(i) multiplier/GDP effect; (ii) generation of tax revenues; and (iii) generation of foreign exchange.

Fisheries have economic, social, cultural, technical, political, biological and ecological components, and the presence of such an array can often lead to conflicts in policy. Issues of policy conflicts can take the form of (i) conflicts between objectives (environmental/sustainability, economic, social and equity); (ii) conflicts within sectors (e.g. large- and small-scale fishers); or (iii) conflicts between sectors (e.g. between fisheries and other economic activities).

The many small-scale fishing communities are poor and vulnerable, despite the fact that it is now widely acknowledged that small-scale fisheries can generate significant profits, prove resilient to shocks and crises, and make meaningful contributions to poverty alleviation and food security, in particular for:

- those involved directly with fishing (fishers and fish workers in both pre- and post-harvest activities);
- dependents of those involved directly with fishing (fishing-related households and communities);
- those who buy fish for human consumption (consumers);
- those who benefit from related income and employment through multiplier effects;
- national societies in general and those who benefit indirectly as a result of national export revenues from fisheries, re-distributive taxation and other macro-level mechanisms;
- laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies specifically targeting or addressing the small-scale fisheries sector, including the description of tenure rights and resource access rights for small-scale fisheries.

In Somalia, women are not very involved in the fisheries sector, but some contribute by cleaning fish and trading fish products from small-scale fisheries. Women in other parts of Africa, however, are often involved in the pre-financing and preparation of fishery campaigns (e.g. provision of fuel, ice, food and medicine). Women are also involved in related activities like net-mending. There is potential to strengthen the role of women by organizing them into interest groups.

After decades of limited fisheries management, several important steps have been taken recently. In April 2014, the Somalia federal representatives agreed to cooperate on fisheries management through federal licensing schemes. In May 2014, Somalia joined the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and engaged with the international community in the shared management of tuna and tuna-like species. In June 2014, Somalia officially claimed its exclusive economic zone (EEZ), strengthening its legal foundation for fisheries management, especially with respect to foreign vessels in Somali waters. In October 2014, the Parliament adopted an updated draft fisheries legislation – the Somalia Fisheries Law (law number 29) – which was signed by President Hassan Mohamud in November 2014. This legislation prioritizes sustainability, promotes cooperation between federal and regional administrations, recognizes the importance of including fishers' perspectives in fisheries management and takes a strong stand against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

Somali waters contain abundant fish stocks which attract artisanal fishers and offshore foreign fishing vessels. Eastern Africa's fish stocks are declining as a result of overfishing and unsustainable fishing practices, compounded by climate change. It is estimated that ocean acidification will reorganize global marine species and

reduce marine biodiversity, particularly in tropical areas, where yields are projected to decrease by up to 40 percent by 2050.

These climate-related stressors will complicate the Somali government's efforts to re-establish legitimacy, assert territorial control and mount an effective response against the militant group, Al-Shabaab. Without functioning institutions, Somalia will be far less able to implement climate adaptation measures. These factors will significantly increase its exposure to both climate risks and fragility.

The main strengths and opportunities for implementing the SSF Guidelines in Somalia include:

- creation of a collection centre for small-scale fisheries products, controlled by a recognized cooperative under the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, in line with relevant international instruments;
- small-scale fisheries boat licenses;
- improved resource management;
- MPA establishment where species are in decline;
- improved hygiene and fish phytosanitary measures;
- research and raising awareness through participatory approaches with communities.

Main risks and constraints to implementing the SSF Guidelines in Somalia include:

- weak extension workers;
- weak institutional frameworks;
- weak fishing management;
- lack of funding, both loans and grants.

Important ongoing and planned activities in relation to the SSF Guidelines implementation include that the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Bank prepared a course outline for a Training Programme on Poverty Reduction in August 2015 in Mogadishu. Also, the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources of the Federal Republic of Somalia prepared a federal fishery law and fishing license system to protect resources from illegal fishing. The Somalia Fisheries Law and related regulations were approved by Parliament in 2014. The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources has a plan to conduct a forum for national fisheries investments with the support of international partners, with the aim of bringing together chambers of commerce with regional state representatives, and other businesses. There is also a plan to establish one fishing cooperative for each federal state region. The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources will create a national platform for fisheries management and an institutional framework for improved coordination of fisheries programmes through MCS in Somalia.

The vision for the small-scale fisheries sector in Somalia is that the contribution of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development is fully-realized; small-scale fisheries and fish workers are not marginalized; and the importance of small-scale fisheries to the national economy and food security is recognized, valued and enhanced. To achieve this vision, a range of key issues must be addressed, including a focus on people and the community; the consideration of the supply chain from catch to markets; looking at opportunity and risks, policy, legislation, governance and institutional arrangements; and improved learning and knowledge resources.

Currently, small-scale fisheries are mostly open access. There is progress in terms of legislation (e.g. a new conservation law, more diverse types of conservation areas) but more is needed, including a combination of management and conservation mechanisms for marine resources and work at a landscape level, e.g. through licenses, fully protected areas managed by government with no-take zones, community managed areas, delegation of powers, etc. It is acknowledged that no one single mechanism can bring success.

A responsible artisanal fishery, considered as a key element of sustainable socio-economic development strategies, should consider the following issues:

- protection of the artisanal fishers' access to the resources and sustainable management of the fisheries sector;
- transparency and participation of the stakeholders in fisheries governance;
- acknowledgement and promotion of women's role in fisheries;
- improvement of access to markets for small-scale fisheries products;
- financing and access to credit for small-scale fisheries;
- improvement of the contribution by small-scale fisheries to food security;
- resilience strengthening of small-scale fishing communities facing climate change.

SOUTH SUDAN

Mr Sarafino Aloma Francis and Edward Billy Lau

South Sudan obtained its independence from Sudan on 9 July 2011. South Sudan is a landlocked country bordering six countries, namely Sudan in the north, Ethiopia in the east, Uganda in the south, Kenya in the southeast, DRC in the southwest and the Central African Republic in the west.

Fisheries comprise inland fisheries only and aquaculture production is still very small, even though there are large low-lying wetlands in the green belt of the Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Western Equatoria, Northern Bahr Al Ghazal and Western Bahr Al Ghazal States respectively.

The role of the Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development is the formulation of policies, laws and regulations, and standards for the development of the fisheries resources of South Sudan. It also provides policy guidance and monitors the performance of fisheries activities in South Sudan. In addition, it contributes to the identification and promotion of investment opportunities in fisheries and aquaculture, to human resource development and to the promotion of fishing and fish processing technologies to improve the quality and quantity of fish catches.

It is estimated that between 1 500 to 300 000 tonnes of fish can be harvested annually on a sustainable basis across all the water bodies. Current production is estimated to be 40 000 tonnes annually. Most potential fishing sites are in the three states of Upper Nile State, Unity and Jonglei. Small-scale fisheries are largely undocumented, owing to a lack of catch statistics caused by a long period of instability before the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005. Despite the uncertainty about catch statistics, it is possible to conclude that the capture fisheries of South Sudan are almost certainly underexploited.

Small-scale or artisanal fisheries are described as encompassing all activities along the value chain, including pre-harvest, harvest and post-harvest, undertaken by men and women. In South Sudan, small-scale fisheries are mainly referred to as "subsistence fishing" because fisheries mainly provide for home consumption and income generation. Small-scale fisheries employ more than 40 percent of all capture fishers, about half of whom are women engaged as full or part-time workers through self-employment. Small-scale fisheries contribute to domestic food security and nutrition and to the eradication of poverty. The sector also plays an important role in equitable development and sustainable resource utilization, as well as the generation of foreign exchange.

A number of social and cultural aspects pertain to small-scale fisheries. Socially, fishers are regarded as low class, poor people. There is a high prevalence of ill health, including HIV/AIDS, youth unemployment, unhealthy and unsafe working conditions and forced labour within small-scale fishing communities.

The role of women in small-scale fisheries is linked to the market through trade and processing activities, as well to the provision of food in the household. Women also contribute to associated services, including net mending. To a certain extent,

women participate and are included in decision-making processes and assume responsibilities for the sustainable use of fishery resources. They also play a role in ensuring accountability and the rule of law. There is, however, a need to ensure that gender issues are incorporated into all programmes and activities.

The fisheries policy for South Sudan was developed in 2011 and takes into consideration small-scale fisheries. A strategic plan for 2012 to 2017 has been developed and is operational. Regulations have been drafted and are currently validated by stakeholders. The Comprehensive Agriculture Master Plan developed for 25 years is at its final stages of approval in Parliament. This Master Plan includes a fisheries development/investment plan including an aquaculture development strategy.

In relation to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, the following challenges were identified:

- financial constraints to roll out and disseminate the policy;
- open access nature of the fisheries;
- lack of law enforcement;
- low levels of technology and skills transfer;
- marginalization of small-scale fishers in decision-making;
- no dedicated research centres;
- insecurity in some fishing areas;
- gender sensitivity.

Fishers and fish workers participate in the decision-making process in some co-management arrangements and fisher organizations and cooperatives are established as an avenue for fishers to raise their concerns. The establishment of CSOs and community-based organizations (CBOs) should support small-scale fishing communities in addressing challenges and assist them to know and claim their rights.

In terms of climate change, South Sudan needs to develop strategies for adaptation and mitigation, as well as for building resilience, in full and effective consultation with fishing communities. Floods occur and special support should be given to small-scale fishing communities living on small islands where climate change may have particular implications for food security, nutrition, housing and livelihoods.

Strengths and opportunities for implementing the SSF Guidelines include:

- involvement of all actors at different levels;
- small-scale fisheries are included in the fisheries policy document;
- strong political will from leaders
- organizations, CBOs, partners and small-scale fisheries actors (fishers, fish workers and their communities) are strengthened;
- elements of co-management;
- research and academic institutions, the private sector and NGOs are in support of small-scale fisheries operations;
- participatory, consultative processes in decision-making in place;
- membership of regional and international bodies and adherence to international instruments, as well as standards development.

The main risks and constraints for implementing the SSF Guidelines in South Sudan include:

- pollution from oil exploration;
- occurrence of floods;
- natural and human-induced disasters add to threats (waste management, environmental management bill not enacted yet);
- weak institutions (infrastructure, equipment);
- insecurity in some fishing areas;
- weak extension services.

Ongoing and planned initiatives to implement the SSF Guidelines include:

- fisheries policy for South Sudan was developed taking into consideration small-scale fisheries;
- identification and promotion of investment opportunities in small-scale fisheries in South Sudan;
- fisheries development strategic plan (2012 to 2017) in place;
- promotion and development of small-scale aquaculture production;
- promotion of effective community-based extension programmes in fisheries;
- dissemination of SSF Guidelines to fishing communities and sensitization of decision-makers ongoing;
- harmonized fish and fish products standards validation and adoption.

The vision of the Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development is to be a regional leader in facilitating and delivering efficient and effective services for a sustainable and prosperous fisheries industry. For sector growth, the national and states' governments will create the enabling environment and the private sector will be the engine for growth. Enhancement of the already important role of small-scale fisheries to contribute to global and national efforts towards the eradication of hunger and poverty is envisaged. The management of fisheries resources of the country should be conducted in a participatory and sustainable manner.

The presentation concluded with a call that government authorities and agencies at all levels should work to develop knowledge and skills to support sustainable small-scale fisheries development. A dynamic private sector, operating in a properly functioning, competitive market system, creates jobs and income, generates wealth and helps ensure that resources are used efficiently. It was recalled that the SSF Guidelines are voluntary, global in scope and with a focus on the needs of developing countries like South Sudan.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Ms Baraka S. M. Mngulwi

The United Republic of Tanzania is endowed with substantial water resources. These include Lake Victoria (shared with Kenya and Uganda), Lake Tanganyika (shared with Zambia, DRC and Burundi), Lake Nyasa (shared with Malawi and Mozambique) and the EEZ (approximately 223 000 km², with a 1 424 km coastline). Fisheries management activities are delivered separately by the two members of the United Republic of Tanzania, namely the governments of Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. However, the resources in the EEZ are a matter of joint concern. Fisheries resources are managed through different policies and policy instruments.

Small-scale fisheries operators produce 80 percent of annual fish catches. These operators use artisanal equipment and gears. In total there are 183 800 fishers registered who use 57 291 fishing crafts. Management of small-scale fisheries is based on co-management principles, where fishing communities collaborate with local and central government. At the local level, BMUs share some management responsibilities. Management decisions are taken with the participation of an array of stakeholders; from researchers, the marine parks and reserves unit, to fishers through their associations.

With respect to the SSF Guidelines, the United Republic of Tanzania has organized a workshop focused on the marine environment with the participation of the regional administration and local government through the President's office; the central government (Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development); training institutions, e.g. University of Dar es Salaam; the Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute; NGOs (WWF, Mwambao Network); and BMU members.

Challenges identified with respect to the SSF guidelines are: inadequate information

and knowledge regarding the guidelines; fisher folk often work in remote places and are therefore difficult to reach; inadequate resources (human and financial); appreciation of fisher folk rights; a lack of appreciation of fisher folk's rights; and a need to accept and implement associated roles and.

UGANDA

Mr Lovelock Dealtry Jackson Wadanya

Uganda is a land-locked country in the centre of Africa. Twenty percent of the country is covered by water, which may be the reason for the importance of fisheries to the country. There are five major lakes (Victoria, Albert, Kyoga, Edward and George) and over 165 small water bodies, river systems and swamps in the country. Capture fisheries production is approximately 570 000 tonnes per year, while the annual aquaculture production is around 100 00 tonnes. The main commercial species are: *Lates niloticus* (Nile perch), *Oreochromis niloticus* (Nile tilapia), *Clarias gariepinus* (African catfish) and *Rastrineobola argentea* (mukene/dagaa/omena). Five million people are involved in the fisheries sector.

In Uganda, small-scale fisheries are defined as a fishery (either subsistence or commercial) providing for local nutrition and food security, whose multiplier effect is enhanced through fish trade, marketing and export. The cultural importance of fish is demonstrated by the fact that some of the 52 tribes have totems named after fish types. The restoration of kingdoms in Uganda in 1986 has revived cultural interest in all fisheries.

The Department of Fisheries Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries is the competent authority for all fish and aquaculture products. Several laws and regulations cover the sector, the principle law being the Fish Act, Cap 197 (2000), supported by subsidiary legislation: Fish (Quality Assurance) Rules, 2008; Beach Management Unit (BMU) statute 2003; Aquaculture rules, 2003; and the Fish (Fishing) Rules, 2010. The Directorate of Fisheries Resources is the competent authority responsible for the statutory inspection, certification and control of fish and fishery products. Inspectors conduct official controls. They inspect fish processing plants, transport means, landing sites, cold stores, ice plants and exit points; take samples to verify product quality and safety; certify fish and fishery products; assess and verify Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) systems; verify compliance with hygiene and sanitary conditions for upstream operations; and monitor residues and contaminants in fish and aquaculture products. Uganda has 20 approved and certified processing plants (certified for export to the EU), of which only 14 are operational. Products produced by the plants are chilled and frozen fillets, fish maws (swim bladders), fats and red meat, skins, heads and flanks, and frames.

Uganda has two types of fish landing sites, private landing sites which are owned mainly by fish processing establishments, and public landing sites owned by local authorities. Only 20 landing sites are permitted to handle fish for export to the EU. Since 2006, the Government of Uganda, with the support of development partners, has been investing in the establishment of landing sites: together with the African Development Bank, 30 landing sites, eight ice machines, 20 fish markets and 12 storage facilities were developed. The EU has supported the development of five landing sites around Lake Victoria, while the Icelandic International Development Agency (ICEIDA) has supported the development of ten landing sites around the Lakes Kyoga and Albert.

Challenges for small-scale fisheries in Uganda include population growth; increasing fishing pressures because of market demand; climate change (e.g. water level reduction, the reversal of river flow direction, falling productivity, limited

policy instruments, species migration); illegal fishing gear usage; absence of a regional cooperation framework (Lake Albert); budget constraints; invasive weeds; and a lack of quality aquaculture inputs.

Opportunities identified for the Ugandan small-scale fisheries sector include a favourable political environment; access to international and regional markets; capacity to ensure quality and safety of fish; processing capacity; technology for catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*) and ningu (*Labeo victorinus*) production; and aquaculture potential on land and in water.

To address the challenges of the small-scale fisheries sector in Uganda it is proposed to develop a fisheries management plan that follows an EAF.

Brief overview of outcome of web-based survey

Mr Felix Marttin, FAO

The presentation reviewed the results of the web-based pre-workshop survey that had been carried out with a view to guiding workshop planning, by giving a preliminary idea of priorities for SSF Guidelines implementation. Sixteen participants responded to the survey, representing government officials, academics, CSOs, NGOs and regional/international organizations and projects. Almost half of the respondents work nationally (7 = 44 percent).

Respondents were asked to rank options (1 being the most important one) provided for the following questions:

- Thematic areas of the SSF Guidelines: please rank the options in order of your priorities.
- What do you consider being the most important constraints for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries in line with the SSF Guidelines objectives in the East Africa Region?
- What do you consider being the most important opportunities for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries in line with the SSF Guidelines objectives in the East Africa region?
- In the FAO Africa regional consultative workshop on “Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries: Bringing Together Responsible Fisheries and Social Development”¹² held in October 2010 in Maputo, Mozambique, a number of actions were identified for the Africa region. Please rank the actions of the regional workshop mentioned above, according to your view on their importance for the SSF Guidelines implementation in the East Africa region.

The survey results are provided below.

SSF GUIDELINES THEMATIC AREAS (AND RELATED CHAPTERS IN BRACKETS)

- Supporting small-scale fisheries actors to take an active part in sustainable resource management (5a).
- Enhancing small-scale fisheries value chains, post-harvest operations and trade (7).
- Implementing capacity development of fisheries organizations and other stakeholders (12).
- Promoting social development, employment and decent work in small-scale fisheries (6).
- Strengthening institutions in support of small-scale fisheries and promote policy coherence, coordination and collaboration (10).
- Ensuring gender equality in small-scale fisheries (8).
- Improving information, research and communication on the contribution of small-scale fisheries to food security and poverty eradication (11).
- Establishing or improving monitoring mechanisms and promoting SSF Guidelines implementation (13).

¹² Report available at www.fao.org/docrep/014/i2083b/i2083b00.pdf

- Addressing disaster risks and climate change in small-scale fisheries (9).
- Improving tenure security for small-scale fishers and fish workers (5a).

CONSTRAINTS

- Lack of appropriate financial resources.
- Insufficient coordination with other related administrations (e.g. tourism, industry, finance, labour, health, education, social development).
- Lack of organizational structures among small-scale fishers and fish workers.
- Limited public awareness of the importance of small-scale fisheries.
- Lack of appropriate technical skills (in public and private sector).
- Lack of appropriate human resources.
- Conflicting priorities in relation to other sectors (including large-scale fisheries).
- Inappropriate or lack of a legal, regulatory and policy framework.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Existing enabling legal, regulatory and policy framework.
- Involvement of small-scale fishers and fish workers in decision-making processes.
- Involvement of small-scale fishers in fisheries management.
- Available technical skills (in public and private sector).
- On-going/planned projects, programmes, initiatives.
- Public awareness of the importance of small-scale fisheries.
- Political (executive and legislative) will to develop small-scale fisheries.
- Well-established institutional coordination and collaboration mechanisms.
- Existing small-scale fisheries organizational structures.
- Adequate access for small-scale fishers and fish workers to financial services.

ACTIONS

- Promote livelihoods improvement in small-scale fisheries.
- Facilitate access to education, food, water and sanitation for small-scale fishers.
- Improve safety and working conditions of small-scale fishers.
- Facilitate capacity development.
- Improve data and statistics on small-scale fisheries for valuation and monitoring.
- Support management of small-scale fisheries.
- Take action to support knowledge and decision-making.
- Promote collaboration and strengthen partnerships.
- Support technology development for responsible fishing at sea and in post-harvesting practices.
- Promote information and communication.
- Contribute to social protection and reduce vulnerability.
- Enhance access to local and other trade.
- Integrate gender concerns.

Summary of presentations and discussions of day one

Ms Lena Westlund, FAO

The summary synthesized the presentations and the discussions of the first day of the workshop. Some common characteristics and themes that emerged from the country presentations included:

- The bulk of fish production in the region comes from small-scale fisheries (80 to 100 percent, depending on the country). All inland fisheries are considered small-scale.
- The majority of fishers and fish workers in the region are employed in small-scale fisheries. Women are more involved in the post-harvest subsector and in other auxiliary activities, e.g. net-making, than in fishing.
- Small-scale fisheries contribute significantly to livelihoods, food and nutrition security, poverty alleviation and national economies. However, while some countries reported on perceived underutilized resources, there is a general concern that poor governance and weak management are leading to overfishing and the use of destructive gear. Most fisheries are de facto open access.

The country presentations reviewed on-going initiatives in support of the small-scale fisheries sub-sector. These initiatives ranged across:

- Policy processes and legal reforms – at national and regional levels. The latter includes the African Union PFRS for fisheries and aquaculture, which makes specific reference to the SSF Guidelines, and a regional meeting for non-state actor organizations convened by the AU-IBAR/NPCA.
- Awareness raising and development of simplified and national language versions of the SSF Guidelines, e.g. consultation meetings in the United Republic of Tanzania and Somalia.
- Promotion of alternative livelihoods.
- Involvement of different stakeholders in management decisions, e.g. through co-management arrangements and BMUs.
- Initiatives to improve fisheries management.
- Activities for strengthening the post-harvest subsector (market access, processing, etc.).

There is apparent political will among governments in the region to support small-scale fisheries. Several countries reported on existing supportive legal and policy frameworks and that fishers and fish workers often are organized into groups and associations. It was felt that regional and international markets constitute opportunities for increasing incomes for small-scale fisheries actors, although at the same time the sector is important for supplying local and national markets. However, several challenges were also reported on:

- The existing institutional structures are still weak, including at the community and fisher levels.
- The coordination and the linkages between stakeholders, different government levels and research need to be strengthened.
- There is a lack of financial and human resources (e.g. weak extension services).
- Awareness of the importance of small-scale fisheries is limited.
- There is insufficient regional cooperation and frameworks for addressing governance of shared water and fishery resources are needed.

- The complexity of small-scale fisheries livelihoods requires holistic approaches, as spelled out in the SSF Guidelines, but this complexity is often difficult to understand.

It was noted that the HRBA – which underpins the SSF Guidelines – is a holistic approach that puts people at the centre of development (see Box 1). It now needs to be translated into practical action. This will require activities for capacity development, empowerment, strengthening participation, promotion of local ownership of development, and ensuring accountability, dialogue and engagement. The current momentum towards increasing understanding of the importance of the small-scale fisheries sector and the endorsement of the SSF Guidelines should be capitalized on. The workshop constituted an important opportunity for planning the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and for further enhancing the awareness of, and commitment to, the actions that are required to make progress towards secure small-scale fisheries in the Eastern Africa region.

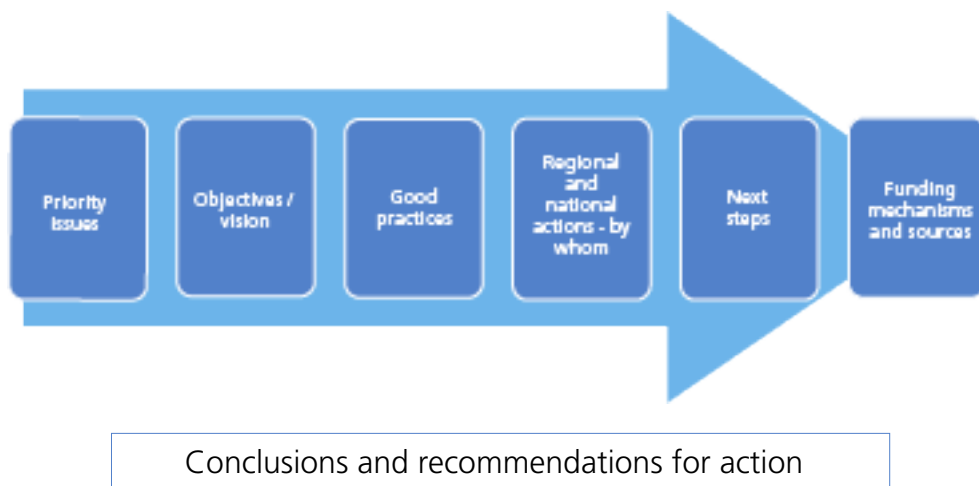
Box 1: Human rights based approach considerations



- Capacity for claiming rights
- Empowerment
- Participation
- Local ownership of development
- Accountability
- Dialogue and engagement of duty bearers

Ms Westlund went on to explain the expected nature and scope of the working group sessions. The main purpose of the sessions was to create awareness and better knowledge of the contents of the SSF Guidelines, to produce elements of and identify actions for regional and national implementation. The process of the working group sessions is illustrated in Box 2.

Box 2: Working group session process



Additional thematic presentations by regional organizations and academia

INLAND FISHERIES AND THE SSF GUIDELINES – A PERSPECTIVE FROM LAKE TANGANYIKA

Mr Kaitira Katonga, Lake Tanganyika Authority

Lake Tanganyika, shared by Burundi, DRC, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia is a source of food, transport and drinking water for millions of people in the basin and beyond. The lake is the second largest and the deepest lake on the African continent. There are many endemic species found only in the lake (600 of a total of 2 000 species).

There are two fisheries in the lake: the near shore (littoral zone) and off shore (pelagic zone) fisheries. The largest biomass can be found in the pelagic zone, and this is dominated by six species (clupeids: *Stolothrissa tanganicae* and *Limnothrissa miodon*; lates: *Lates stappersii*, *Lates mariae*, *Lates angustifrons* and *Lates microlepis*). Three of the lates species (*L. mariae*, *L. angustifrons* and *L. microlepis*) were important for the fisheries sector, but catches have declined after years of exploitation. The most important commercial species in the pelagic fishery in Lake Tanganyika are *Lates stappersii* and *Stolothrissa tanganicae*.

The Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA) is an intergovernmental organization established by the four Lake Tanganyika riparian countries, with a duty “to co-ordinate the implementation of the Convention by the Contracting States and, to advance and represent the common interests of the Contracting States in matters concerning the management of Lake Tanganyika and its Basin”. Under Article 7 of the Convention, the LTA contracting states are required to co-operate to promote sustainable fisheries management on Lake Tanganyika and take appropriate measures to prevent and reduce as far as possible adverse impacts from fishing activities under their jurisdiction or control. Under article 7 of the Convention on the Sustainable Management of Lake Tanganyika, the contracting states (Burundi, DRC, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia) are required to cooperate to promote sustainable fisheries management on Lake Tanganyika and take appropriate measures to prevent and reduce as far as possible adverse impacts from fishing activities under their jurisdiction or control.

The LTA has supported regional activities to promote good governance of lake fisheries through:

- lake wide fisheries frame survey;
- harmonized catch and effort assessment survey;
- harmonization of fisheries policies and legislation;
- improvement of co-management systems;
- development of a MCS system;
- updating of the Framework Fisheries Management Plan;
- regional plan of action for managing fishing capacity;
- development of an aquaculture protocol.
- In future, to enable the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, the LTA proposes to:
 - translate of the SSF Guidelines into languages used by fishers (Kiswahili);

- raise awareness of stakeholders (fishery managers, politicians, resource users and others) with respect to the SSF Guidelines;
- incorporate principles of the SSF Guidelines into national fisheries policies and fisheries acts.

INLAND FISHERIES AND THE SSF GUIDELINES – A PERSPECTIVE FROM LAKE VICTORIA

Mr Godfrey Monor, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization

Lake Victoria is the largest tropical lake in the world with a surface area of 68 800 km². Current fish production is estimated at 1 million metric tons, valued at US\$ 840 million, and generating foreign exchange earnings of US\$ 300 million. The fisheries of Lake Victoria contribute greatly to the GDP of riparian countries.

Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) is a specialized institution of the East African Community (EAC) with the mandate to coordinate the management of the fisheries resources of Lake Victoria for sustainable development and utilization, and to spearhead aquaculture development in the Basin. The Organization was established by a Convention signed on

30 June 1994 by the Republic of Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Uganda, the countries that share Lake Victoria. The LVFO is registered under Article 102 of the United Nations Charter and recognized as a Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO).

The objectives of the LVFO are to foster cooperation between the contracting parties, harmonize national measures for the sustainable utilization of the living resources of the lake and to develop and adopt conservation and management measures. The organization aims to support and promote policy coherence and enhanced linkages between small-scale fisheries, overarching fisheries sectoral policies and strategies and national planning processes for poverty reduction and development in the respective partner states to effectively manage the very vital sector of small-scale fisheries.

The LVFO supports its member countries by implementing the following activities to improve fisheries management in the lake: frame surveys, catch and effort assessment surveys, stock assessments, hydro-acoustic surveys, regional working group meetings on fishery policy, and review and standardization of operating procedures.

Major challenges identified by the LVFO in Lake Victoria are: the declining fish stocks, rampant use of illegal gear, the decline of water quality in the Lake, the open access nature of the fishery and the limited control on fishing capacity.

RESEARCH AND THE SSF GUIDELINES IMPLEMENTATION: THE EXAMPLE OF THE TOO BIG TO IGNORE NETWORK

Mr Paul Onyango, University of Dar es Salaam

Mr Onyango acknowledged the contribution of Ratana Chuenpagdee to the preparation of the presentation.

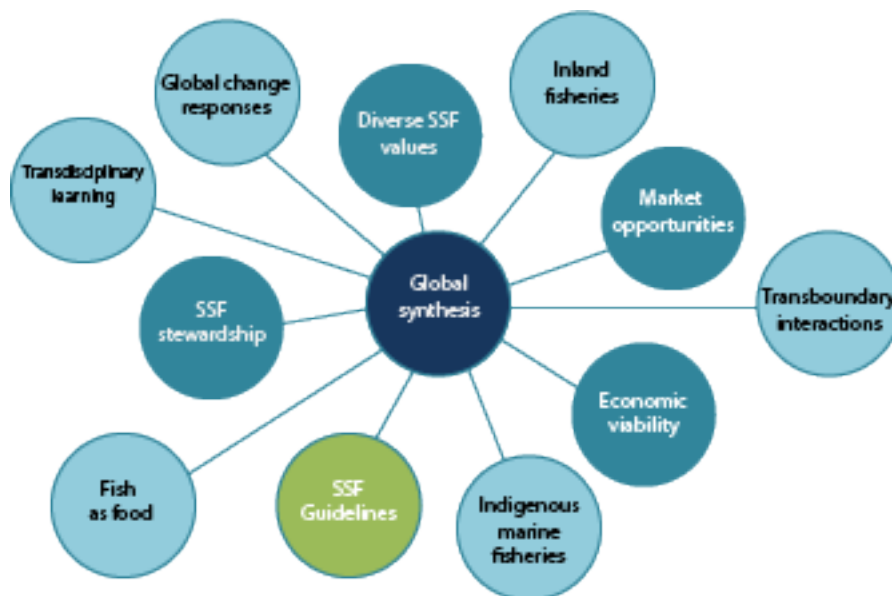
The SSF Guidelines represent a new governance instrument with principles and guidance for the governance and development of small-scale fisheries. They are quite broad in scope, which means that their implementation requires the collaboration of several actors, including government agencies, non-state actors and small-scale fisheries stakeholders themselves, from harvest to markets. Understanding the fisheries, the actors/stakeholders and their interactions in the context of the SSF Guidelines is a governance issue.

The majority of the people involved in capture fisheries operate in the small-scale sector, contributing to food security, poverty alleviation and livelihoods. Small-scale fisheries are also of cultural and traditional importance to millions of people.

TBTI is a research network and knowledge mobilization partnership with a mission to elevate the profile of small-scale fisheries, to argue against their marginalization in national and international policies, and to develop research and governance capacity to address global fisheries challenges.

TBTI unites more than 70 researchers, students and 15 organizations from 30 countries, partnering to do research and capacity building in small-scale fisheries. TBTI is organized around research clusters (see Box 3).

Box 3: TBTI research clusters



TBTI is developing an information system on small-scale fisheries (ISSF) which aims to capture key aspects of small-scale fisheries for a given place (e.g. community, country). These aspects include, among other characteristics (e.g. number of fishers/boats, gear, species, economics, cultural values) available studies, research, reports, information about small-scale fisheries organizations and researchers. The ISSF interface and data layers include (i) who is who in small-scale fisheries research; (ii) state of the art; (iii) small-scale fisheries profile; (iv) small-scale fisheries organizations; (v) SSF Guidelines; and (vi) small-scale fisheries capacity needs. The SSF Guidelines layer aims at supporting the documentation of implementation progress.

The SSF Guidelines cluster aims to illustrate how implementation processes are conducted, where, and by whom, and whether governments around the world are ready to implement them and, if not, why not. Key questions addressed by the cluster are:

- To what extent national fishery policies correspond to the principles and guidance provided by the SSF Guidelines.
- What is the gap between the legal and policy frameworks of the states and the SSF Guidelines' proposed lines of action?
- How can the SSF Guidelines be inserted within national regulatory, legal and policy frameworks, considering the current situation for small-scale fisheries?

There are several ways to engage with TBTI and with the SSF Guidelines cluster in particular: signing up to the cluster at www.toobigtoignore.net; helping document and monitor the implementation of SSF Guidelines in a country and submitting information to ISSF (TBTI website); and contributing case studies to help understand challenges and opportunities for the SSF Guidelines implementation.

Additional thematic presentations by FAO, projects and NGOs

During day two and day three of the workshop a number of additional thematic presentations informed the working groups and plenary discussions. For ease of reference they are all presented in this section.

STRENGTHENING LAND GOVERNANCE FOR INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION IN AFRICA

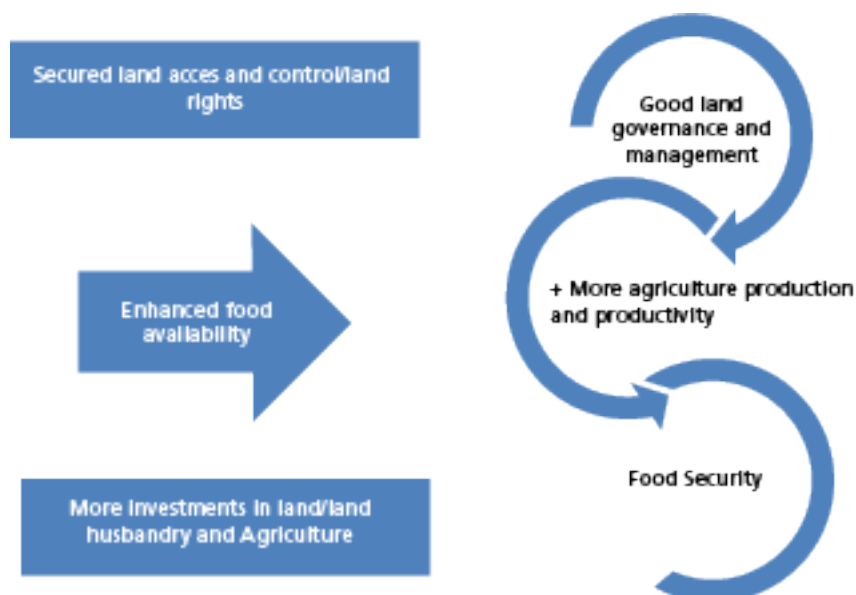
Mr Eugene Rurangwa, Land Tenure Officer, FAO

The food security of billions of people in the world depends on their tenure security. In Africa, agriculture remains a key component of the economy and prosperity. Insecure land tenure and resource use rights have negative impacts on investment and productivity.

Land governance is within the scope of FAO's Strategic Objective 1: "Contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition" and improving land governance is key to encourage investments in sustainable agriculture. Major commitments and initiatives of the AU include reference to tenure security (e.g. the NEPAD Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), Malabo Declaration, AU Declaration on Land issues in Africa, Agenda 2063).

Fisheries in general, and small-scale fisheries in particular, are key components of African agricultural transformation, food security and poverty eradication. Land rights and tenure security with equitable access to land and other natural resources are fundamental to food security and a foundation of sustainable agriculture transformation, economic development and the elimination of hunger, malnutrition and poverty (see Box 4).

Box 4: The linkages between the tenure rights and food security



The VGGT and the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa (F&G) are key tools to support actions towards improving governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forestry.

There are a number of joint efforts to improve land governance:

- FAO and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa/Land Policy Initiative (UNECA/LPI) are working closely and collaboratively to improve land governance in Africa through the promotion of the principles of the VGGT and F&G as internationally concerted and endorsed guiding tools.
- Land governance is mainstreamed into strategies and programmes of the pan-African and regional institutions (e.g. NEPAD/CAADP; the Pan African Parliament; and Regional Economic Commissions [RECs]).
- Joint implementation through awareness raising and advocacy, capacity development, knowledge generation and technical assistance to institutions and countries and through monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

The Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods is a particularly important pan-African framework, providing an African vision for agriculture transformation. For small-scale fisheries, particularly relevant sections of the Malabo Declaration include:

- Recommitment to enhance investment finance in agriculture, including upholding a 10 percent public spending target and the operationalization of the Africa Investment Bank.
- Commitment to zero hunger and ending hunger in Africa by 2025 which requires at least a doubling of productivity, with access to quality and affordable inputs (for crops, livestock, fisheries, among others) and reliable and affordable mechanization and energy supplies; efficient and effective water management systems, notably through irrigation; and supply of appropriate knowledge, information and skills to users.
- Commitment to halving poverty by 2025, through inclusive agricultural growth and transformation with a sustained annual sector growth in agricultural GDP of at least 6 percent. This also requires the establishment and/or strengthening of inclusive public-private partnerships for at least five priority agricultural commodity value chains, with strong linkage to smallholder agriculture, to create job opportunities for at least 30 percent of the youth in agricultural value chains and to provide preferential entry and participation by women and youth in gainful and attractive agribusiness.

All of the above require strengthening the AU Commission to support delivery on these commitments. The Malabo Declaration also includes a call for action by various partners, including the AU Commission and the NEPAD NPCA, to develop an implementation strategy and roadmap that facilitates the translation of the 2025 vision and goals of Africa Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation into concrete results and impacts; to the AU Commission to fast-track the operationalization of the African Investment Bank; to the AU Commission and RECs to facilitate the acceleration of economic integration to boost intra-Africa trade in food and agriculture; and to conduct a biennial agricultural review process through the CAADP result framework.

The linkages between the VGGT and the SSF Guidelines have been highlighted by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food in his “Fisheries and the Right to Food” report, presented at the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly which stresses the negative impact of insecure land tenure on small-scale fisheries and calls for the implementation of the VGGT. The VGGT and other existing international instruments, like the CCRF and the SSF Guidelines are complementary instruments.

The VGGT and the SSF Guidelines stress that governance of tenure in fisheries should be:

- based on human rights and good governance principles;
- objective driven, with fair and secured tenure rights; equity in access and control; cultural, economic, environmental and livelihoods approaches;
- recognize the need for dual rights (fishery resources and land).

There is consequently a strong need for coherence between fisheries and land use and the use of integrated spatial planning and management systems in coastal areas is key.

There are different types of tenure rights:

- Customary tenure rights: often based on spatial access or use rights, generally combined with land tenure rights. Customary rights include the collective rights of community members to the natural commons.
- Informal tenure rights: lack legal recognition and official protection by the state but can still be legitimate, as suggested by the VGGT.
- Formal tenure rights: a relatively new concept, combining the concept of rights-based fisheries management (RBFM) and a HRBA to development.

Many formal tenure systems are based on rights that were initially customary.

As for land tenure security, establishing good governance arrangements, providing secure tenure rights to land and fishery resources, formalizing customary and informal tenures and making meaningful investments in fisheries management is a strong foundation to generate more benefits and improve the lives and livelihoods of millions of women and men in the land and fishery sectors, and significantly succeed in the positive transformation of the African economy that is mainly reliant on natural resources.

GENDER EQUALITY IN SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES: POLICY AND LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

Mr Lalaina Ravelomanantsoa, Legal Officer, FAO

The presenter acknowledged the support of Pio Manoa of the FAO Legal Office in the preparation of his presentation.

The presentation started with some considerations about the terms “small-scale fisheries” and “gender equality”. There is no single, agreed definition (also none in the SSF Guidelines) for the term small-scale fisheries, owing to the diversity of the sector around the world. In some parts of the world the term coastal fisheries includes small-scale fisheries and other related terms are subsistence fisheries, artisanal fisheries and near-shore fisheries.

The term “gender equality” may be defined as the equal enjoyment by women, men, boys and girls, of rights, opportunities, services and resources. “Gender” is a concept that deals with the roles and relationships between women and men that are determined by social, political and economic contexts, not by biology.

The importance of gender equality in small-scale fisheries emerges when looking at the currently prevailing policy discourse. Development policies have traditionally targeted women as fish processors, while fisheries-related development activities have engaged men as exploiting, and sometimes managing, resources. Women have traditionally been excluded from planning “mainstream” fisheries activities. Unequal power relations between women and men in many cultures mean that women are disadvantaged in terms of their control over resources, access to services, as well as in their ability to take advantage of new opportunities and deal with ongoing changes that affect their lives. Gender policies are needed to address these issues because policies that do not recognize gender equality may have important social and economic repercussions.

Gender equality and equity is fundamental to any development. Recognizing the vital role of women in small-scale fisheries, equal rights and opportunities should be promoted, as stressed in Guiding Principle 4 of the SSF Guidelines.

A review of gender in international fisheries Instruments shows that the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) does not explicitly reference, but perhaps indirectly supports, gender in recognition of the special requirements of developing states. The 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA) has a requirement to take into account interests of artisanal and subsistence fishers [Art. 5(i)]. It also includes the obligation to take into account the special requirements of developing states including: “the need to avoid adverse impacts on, and ensure access to fisheries by, subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fishers and women fishworkers, as well as indigenous people in developing States, particularly small island developing States” [Art. 24.2(b)]. The 1995 CCRF does not refer explicitly to gender. Its provisions refer generally to the rights of fishers and fish workers, in particular those engaged in subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisheries. The UNFSA, an implementing treaty of the 1982 UNCLOS, at least refers to women fish workers. The CCRF recognizes the important contributions of artisanal and small-scale fisheries to employment, income and food security. It calls on states to appropriately protect the rights of fishers and fish workers, particularly those engaged in subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisheries, to a secure and just livelihood, as well as preferential access, where appropriate, to traditional fishing grounds and resources in the waters under their national jurisdiction (General Principles, 6.18).

International instruments that promote gender equality include the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). It calls on state parties to take “all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on a basis of equality with men.” (Art. 3.) The SSF Guidelines specifically refer to CEDAW in para. 8.2.

The VGGT, which are closely related to chapter 5a of the SSF Guidelines “seek to improve governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests [...] for the benefit of all, with an emphasis on vulnerable and marginalized people, with the goals of food security and progressive realization of the right to adequate food, poverty eradication [and] sustainable livelihoods” (paragraph 1.1). The principles of implementation of the VGGT Principles include under 3B: Gender equality: ensure the equal right of women and men to the enjoyment of all human rights, while acknowledging differences between women and men and taking specific measures aimed at accelerating de facto equality when necessary. States should ensure that women and girls have equal tenure rights and access to land, fisheries and forests independent of their civil and marital status.

In relation to the trends in international fisheries instruments it can be noted that, prior to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, there was a traditional focus on the exploitation of resources. Since then, a gradual shift towards long-term sustainability, recognition of the effects of fishing on the ecosystem, and responsibility in fisheries has emerged (1982 UNCLOS, but elaborated in UNFSA and CCRF), with a growing recognition of the special requirements of developing states (already in the 1982 UNCLOS) as well as a recognition of the interests of artisanal and subsistence fishers. The emerging recognition of gender equality and human rights considerations is spelled out for the first time in the SSF Guidelines. Guiding principle 4 reads “Gender equality and equity is fundamental to any development. Recognizing the vital role of women in small-scale fisheries, equal rights and opportunities should be promoted.” In addition, there is a specific chapter dedicated to gender equality (chapter 8) which calls on states to, among other things, establish policies and legislation to realize gender equality and, as appropriate, adapt legislation, policies and measures that are not compatible with gender equality, taking into account social, economic and cultural aspects (para.8.3).

Key points in relation to gender in the SSF Guidelines include:

- Gender equality should be mainstreamed in all policies and laws relevant to fisheries, in particular small-scale fisheries. It should be noted that in the FAO

Policy on Gender Equality, gender mainstreaming is defined as “the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action (including legislation, policies and programmes, in all areas and at all levels). It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality”.

- States should collaborate to develop functional evaluation systems to assess the impact of legislation, policies and actions for improving women’s status and achieving gender equality.
- Policies and laws should be in line with international instruments to address discrimination against women.
- Policies and laws should require women to have a formal role in decision-making processes for small-scale fisheries policy development, or are encouraged to participate.
- Policies and laws should require women to have a formal role in the management of small-scale fisheries, or are encouraged to participate.
- Policies and laws should set out clear implementation mechanisms to achieve gender equality.
- Labour policies and laws should set out equal requirements for the recruitment of men and women.

In conclusion, gender equality promotes the equal enjoyment by all persons, of rights, opportunities, services and resources and there is an emerging recognition of gender equality and human rights in international fisheries instruments. The SSF Guidelines call on states to enact or, where appropriate, adapt legislation to recognize gender equality.

The implementation in national policies, plans and processes is critical.

SHARING OF RELEVANT EXPERIENCES FROM THE SMARTFISH PROJECT

Ms Florence Wallemacq, SmartFish project

The programme for the implementation of a regional fisheries strategy for the Eastern and Southern African Indian Ocean region (called SmartFish) is managed by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), funded by the European Union and jointly implemented by FAO. SmartFish operates in 20 countries and focuses on five goals: (i) fisheries management, (ii) governance, (iii) MCS, (iv) trade, and (v) food security. Project partners including the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the EAC, the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the IOTC, the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC), the LVFO and the LTA. The first phase of the programme was implemented from March 2011 to March 2014, with a total budget of €21 million. The second phase is implemented from May 2014 to May 2017, with a budget of €16 million.

Small-scale fisheries are dominant in the region covered by the programme and the SSF Guidelines are highly relevant to the programme objectives and specific results.

The programme is actively contributing to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. Examples of programme activities were provided and include the following:

- The “Flavouring Fish into Food Security” initiative which in 2013 cross-analysed development measures, social factors and national/regional policy in relation to how fisheries and aquaculture can improve food and nutrition security. The initiative included national surveys to better understand and identify fish consumption and supply gaps; the formulation of consumer awareness raising campaigns in synergy with the national authorities, with the double aim of building their knowledge and capacity; and outreach events/

campaigns to build the capacity of vulnerable groups by promoting greater consumption of fish. First results are available for Malawi, Zambia and Rwanda, and the initiative will be extended to Mauritius, Djibouti and Kenya.

- Data collection and information systems, including mapping and the use of mobile technology, are being developed and will be open to the public in the future to support sustainable resource use. The information system “Chimaera portal”¹³ which is the western fisheries regional portal, provides a unique and coherent access point to data and information available in three different information systems: WIOFish, FIRMS and StatBase.
- IOC-SmartFish trade events, including the Third Edition of the SmartFish Trade Event held in Entebbe 2015 with 140 participants from 23 countries, facilitated networking and business connections, allowing growth from local to regional level. Trade events with a marine focus were planned for early 2016 in the Seychelles, and a trade event with IGAD for Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia and others was planned for January 2016, in Ethiopia.

In addition, a large number of specific activities at country level were outlined, including among others:

- Burundi: awareness raising to deter most detrimental practices in the communities of Lake Tanganyika (e.g. on co-management, hygiene, IUU, alternative livelihoods) in collaboration with the Federation of Burundi Fishermen; reduction of fish losses and improvement of quality standards from lake shores to market (e.g. racks, rehabilitation of fish market, training of fishers, processors and market operators); support to operational actions: planning, training and application; support provided to the four Lake Tanganyika countries for improved transboundary cooperation in MCS; co-management to improve compliance with fisheries regulations; defining voluntary processing standards on freshwater small-scale pelagic fish; Bujumbura fish market development.
- Djibouti: consumer awareness raising to increase the recognition of fish products for food and nutritional security; award to improve access to quality fish.
- Ethiopia: value-chain support activities planned, including landing site upgrades and processing and handling upgrades.
- Kenya: Lake Victoria “Clean Fish Better Life” campaign with special emphasis on pregnant women; national survey on fish consumption and fish supply gaps; TV and radio campaign to promote safe fish consumption; public sector (fisheries and health) empowerment and awareness raising about nutritional benefits of fish; transboundary MCS plans developed for Nile perch.
- Rwanda: national survey on fish consumption and fish supply gaps; campaigns for increased fish consumption and reduced supply gaps.
- Somalia: on board guide for identification of pelagic sharks and rays in the southwest Indian Ocean and related training for observers.
- South Sudan: value chain support activities planned, including new fish market to be built in Juba to provide improved food safety and hygiene.
- The United Republic of Tanzania: Lake Victoria “Clean Fish Better Life” campaign; co-management interventions (multi-agency task team) to combat destructive fishing gear and blast-fishing in Lake Victoria; support to co-management pilot project on the octopus fishery in Pemba; small pelagics value chain analysis and set up of racks for sun-drying small pelagics for improved processed products (Mafia Island); support to operational actions

¹³ <http://chimaera.d4science.org>

on Lake Victoria – 1 200 m³ of illegal gears seized since 2011; MCS practical support – methods to improve licensing and registration of fishing vessels, fisheries governance strategy finalized, Zanzibar fisheries policy prepared.

- Uganda: Lake Victoria “Clean Fish Better Life” campaign; small pelagics value chain women processors supported; decreased fish losses and setting of standards for quality sun-dried Mukene production; compliance with management measures on Nile perch fishery improved through support to public/private initiative; MCS practical support – methods to improve licensing and registration of fishing vessels, reducing the burden on government through, inter alia, community-based enforcement initiatives, reducing IUU through livelihood improvement, support to IUU operational actions within transboundary inland waters. Five operations in Uganda – 500 vessels destroyed, 20 tons of IUU fish seized, 20 vehicles impounded since 2011.

Full information about the SmartFish programme is available at www.smartfish-coi.org

Working group sessions

Three working group sessions discussed a sequence of topics contributing towards the development of a regional plan of action for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The groups considered all thematic areas included in the SSF Guidelines, but focused their discussions on the thematic areas/issues that have been identified as priorities through the pre-workshop survey and discussions in plenary during day one of the workshop. The composition of the working groups remained the same throughout the three sessions in order to ensure continuity of the group discussions.

Participants were divided into three groups, each of which focused on one or more of the chapters in Part 2 of the SSF Guidelines (see Annex 5).

- Group 1: Governance of tenure in small-scale fisheries and resources management (chapter 5 of SSF Guidelines). Facilitator: Lena Westlund, in French.
- Group 2: Social development, employment and decent work and gender equality (chapter 6 and 8 of SSF Guidelines). Facilitator: Nicole Franz, in English.
- Group 3: Value chains, post-harvest and trade (chapter 7 of the SSF Guidelines). Facilitator: Felix Marttin, in English.

It was emphasized that climate change and disaster risks (chapter 9 of the SSF Guidelines) and gender should be considered as cross-cutting issues throughout the discussions.

Each group was supported by two facilitators and a rapporteur to record the discussions. Each group also designated a presenter from within the group who reported the results of the working group to the plenary.

The specific tasks for each of the three working group sessions are outlined below.

SESSION 1: AGREEING ON PRIORITIES

The objective of the first working group session was to familiarize working group participants with the relevant chapters of the SSF Guidelines, to create a common understanding and to discuss priority issues and related visions and/or objectives for the region. The working group facilitators summarized the content of the respective relevant chapter(s) of the SSF Guidelines before proposing the following guiding questions to the group:

- *Which of the issues included in the relevant chapters of the SSF Guidelines are particularly relevant to the region? Identify a maximum of five issues.*
- *Where do you want to be in the future? Define a vision or objective for each issue*

SESSION 2: SHARING GOOD PRACTICES

The objective of this working group session was to review existing good practices and ongoing initiatives in order to share experiences and identify opportunities for future action. The working group was tasked to reply to the following guiding question:

- *What good practices/ongoing initiatives exist in relation to the issues/objectives identified in Session 1?*

SESSION 3: ACTION PLANNING

The objective of the last working group session was to provide elements for a regional action plan, considering also the elements contained in Part 3 of the SSF Guidelines, on Ensuring an enabling environment and supporting implementation. The content of the chapters in Part 3 was briefly summarized for the participants by each group facilitator.

The working group was then tasked to:

- Identify key actions at regional and national levels, including responsibilities, based on the outcomes of the previous working group sessions.
- Formulate recommendations for follow-up to the regional workshop:
 - *What are the key next steps for moving towards a regional plan of action?*
- Discuss funding:
 - *What are possible mechanisms for funding?*
 - *What are possible sources of funding or support for the region?*

The summary results of the working group sessions are presented in the next section.

REPORTING BACK FROM WORKING GROUPS

Priority actions to be considered further in national and regional implementation planning processes proposed by the workshop included:

Governance of tenure in small-scale fisheries and resources management (chapter 5 of the SSF Guidelines)

- Secure tenure for small-scale fishing communities with regard to fishery resources and land needs to be ensured. Land use legislation needs to contain provisions for consultations with all stakeholders, specifically including small-scale fisheries actors, and land use plans should be developed with the involvement of small-scale fishers and fish workers.
- Existing zones and preferential access arrangements for small-scale fisheries need to be protected. Participatory enforcement mechanisms should be developed, building on existing good practices in the region.
- The capacity and organization of small-scale fisheries actors need to be strengthened so that they can effectively participate in decision-making processes relating to small-scale fisheries governance. Also, structures for co-management and shared decision-making need to be established/strengthened at all levels.
- There is a need for harmonization of policy frameworks and fishery regulations on shared water bodies and for shared fishery resources. Management plans should be developed accordingly and experiences from other parts of Africa shared.
- Interministerial collaboration – as well as coordination with other actors – on small-scale fisheries governance and development is needed. A first practical step towards establishing a structure for such collaboration and coordination at the national level could be for the fisheries authority to request an interministerial technical consultative meeting.
- The application of the EAF as a model for developing small-scale fisheries management should be promoted.

Social development, employment and decent work, and gender equality (chapter 6 and 8 of the SSF Guidelines)

- Access to amenities, facilities and services for small-scale fishing communities should be improved as part of fulfilling basic human and social needs. Existing regional information should be analysed to inform this. Linkages with relevant government agencies, mobilization of community action and lobbying by CSOs in this respect will be required.
- The current focus of fisheries management is on the resources and this should shift to a more people-focused approach to small-scale fisheries governance. Small-scale fisheries actors should be part of relevant processes, fisheries management structures should allow for their effective participation and small-scale fisheries organizations should be strengthened to ensure true representation at all levels.

- The availability of financial services and insurance schemes for small-scale fisheries actors should be enhanced, based on assessed needs of small-scale fisheries, strengthening fisher groups, and facilitating communication regarding the use and need for financial instruments between fisheries actors and banks. Relevant good practices, including the development of small to medium enterprises, should be shared across the region.
- The often poor standard of living, lack of decent working conditions and discriminatory policies need to be addressed, including through the professionalization of small-scale fisheries, compliance with existing labour instruments and guidance, such as on safety at sea and OSH regulations, and capacity development of fishers. At the regional level, harmonized operationalization of safety at sea/security instruments, including adoption of ILO and IMO¹⁴ standards for training, should be promoted.
- Efforts should be made to build entrepreneurial capacity for alternative and complementary livelihood opportunities, to help reduce the vulnerability of small-scale fisheries actors and mitigate their reliance on fisheries as the main source of income.
- Compliance with, and implementation of, existing gender instruments need to be strengthened, including through empowerment of and affirmative action for women.

Value chains, post-harvest and trade (chapter 7 of the SSF Guidelines)

- Improved landing, processing and marketing infrastructure (including access roads) and enhanced data collection and information systems need to be established for promoting equal market access for small-scale fisheries actors. Fishery related trade laws need to be reviewed and harmonized in the region.
- Fish value chain actors should be actively involved in decision-making processes and representative fora, inclusive of all small-scale fisheries value chain actors, need to be established.
- Women, vulnerable and marginalized groups should be fully engaged in a dignified and respected manner and their contribution to small-scale fisheries recognized. Access to market information and amenities, capacity building – including on technical skills and social awareness – should be provided to these groups.
- Appropriate infrastructure for small-scale fisheries needs to be developed, post-harvest losses reduced to a minimum and value addition enhanced. Bottlenecks and opportunities should be identified and capacity building with respect to fish handling, processing, value addition and marketing promoted.
- Enabling regulations, guidelines and harmonized fish product quality standards should be promoted to provide an enabling environment.

Disaster risks and climate change (chapter 9 of the SSF Guidelines)

- Small-scale fisheries actors need to leverage existing climate change strategies within their countries to gain access to funds and insurance for climate change adaptation, and their needs should be integrated in disaster risk and climate change studies, policies and action plans.

The results of the discussions of the working groups were presented by a representative of each working group, dealing respectively with (i) governance of tenure in small-scale fisheries and resource management; (ii) social development, employment and decent work, and gender equality; and (iii) value chains, post-harvest and trade, considering disaster risk and climate change as cross-cutting issues.

¹⁴ International Labour Organization (ILO) and International Maritime Organization (IMO).

The final results of each working group in terms of issue identification, related vision and identified recommended actions at national and regional level are presented in Annex 6.

During working group session 3, participants were also asked to identify specific actions for follow-up to the regional workshop at regional and national level. The full results of these discussions are listed below for each of the three working groups:

Group 1:

- Workshop participants should share the recommendations of the workshop with those responsible for fisheries in the government.
- Government, in collaboration with other actors, should organize national workshops to raise awareness of the SSF Guidelines.
- The workshop results should be presented at the AU-IBAR small-scale fisheries Think Tank meeting in October 2015.¹⁵
- The SSF Guidelines should be translated, simplified/popularized and disseminated to make them accessible to small-scale fisheries actors.

Group 2:

- A joint communiqué from the workshop participants should be agreed upon.
- Participants to become champions of the SSF Guidelines: need to understand them and build ownership.
- A coordination committee meeting to be organized by workshop participants to follow-up at national level (government, CSOs, research) to initiate establishment of national level multi-stakeholder platforms as per para. 13.4 of the SSF Guidelines – also tasked to find new sources of funding.

At national level:

- Presentations at ministerial meetings on consultation outcomes and SSF Guidelines (e.g. CSOs invited in the United Republic of Tanzania).
- Report to ministers on the consultation outcomes so they can be discussed by national cabinets.
- Target MPs to raise awareness on small-scale fisheries and SSF Guidelines (e.g. Ugandan Parliamentarian Forum on Fisheries) at national level and also at regional level (platform exists).
- Identify other opportunities to put small-scale fisheries on meeting and event agendas.

It was highlighted that these national actions have few cost implications, but require considerable proactive initiative.

- World Fisheries Day on 21 November to sensitize stakeholders during national celebrations: preparations with the communities to build awareness; identify theme for celebration in relation to small-scale fisheries; evaluate event on experiences with small-scale fisheries improvement (at least three months afterwards) by RFMOs.

To fund such events a proposal would need to be prepared by the coordination group for the private sector, government and development partners.

- Preparation of support materials, including a summary of the SSF Guidelines to be produced by FAO, translation of the SSF Guidelines into local languages and shipment of hard copies by FAO to East African countries.
- Create synergies with other existing initiatives, like the AU non-state actor platform. Funding for this should come from CSOs, government, RFMOs,

¹⁵ The Think Tank meeting was held in January 2016. A summary of the meeting objectives and outcomes is available at: www.au-ibar.org/home/415-en/media/press-releases/fish/891-think-tank-meeting-on-governance-and-management-of-african-small-scale-fisheries-and-its-contribution-to-the-accelerated-agricultural-transformation-goals-of-africa

projects like SmartFish, and there is a need to identify other potential sources/mechanisms (embassies, development partners) through proposals and agreements.

Group 3:

- RFBs will submit the SSF Guidelines to their statutory bodies for consideration.
- Governments will raise awareness, align SSF Guidelines with their policies and ensure their implementation by developing national plans of action.
- Government officers will present the SSF Guidelines to their authorities and organize a meeting with stakeholders.
- CSOs will share the SSF Guidelines with their members.
- Researchers will assist governments to simplify the SSF Guidelines and translate them into relevant local languages.

In the plenary, participants discussed these proposed actions and agreed on a subset which is part of the summary conclusions and recommendations of the workshop (see Annex 7).

The working groups also discussed potential funding mechanisms and sources. The outcomes of these discussions within the groups are listed below.

Group 1:

- Foresee funding for dissemination and implementation of the SSF Guidelines when planning the budget of the ministry responsible for fisheries.
- Encourage ongoing projects to integrate SSF Guidelines implementation in their work plans (e.g. IFAD Programme to reduce vulnerability to climate change and poverty of coastal rural communities [PRAREV]/Djibouti; SmartFish; SWIOFish 1; Association pour la conservation de la nature au Rwanda [ACNR]/Rwanda; Strengthening Institutional Capacity to Enhance Governance of the Fisheries Sector in Africa (FishGov)/AU-IBAR; Biodiversity-IOC/Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania).
- Seek funding from bilateral and multilateral donors.

Group 2:

- Funding options identified directly in relation to proposed actions in the previous section.
- In addition, the group noted the need to demonstrate the impact of improved small-scale fisheries in terms of sustainability by communicating with facts, and optimistically about the sector, in order to facilitate access to funding.

Group 3:

- Government, RFBs and CSOs will investigate possible partnerships to develop proposals for funding by development partners.
- CSOs will review SSF Guidelines, and the actions identified during this workshop, for the development of project proposals.

Summary conclusions and recommendations and the way forward

Based on the outcomes of the working group discussions, the workshop agreed on summary conclusions and recommendations in the final plenary session. These were produced in the form of a joint communiqué. The joint communiqué includes background information on the workshop, the main findings from the three working groups in relation to (i) governance of tenure in small-scale fisheries and resource management; (ii) social development, employment and decent work, and gender equality; and (iii) value chains, post-harvest and trade, considering disaster risk and climate change as cross-cutting issues. It also identifies the next steps to be taken by various stakeholders in order to promote the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at regional and national level.

The workshop noted that small-scale fisheries employ the majority of fishers and fish workers in the region and contribute substantially to food security and livelihoods through their role in providing nutritious food and generating local and national incomes. Inland fisheries are particularly important in many countries of the region. There are many aquatic resources, including freshwater and marine resources, that are shared by two or several countries and consequently, the regional aspects of small-scale fisheries are important.

The workshop noted the many initiatives already underway and the good practices and opportunities for supporting small-scale fisheries in the region. Some important activities have already taken place, e.g. consultation meetings in the United Republic of Tanzania and Somalia, and a regional meeting for non-state actor organizations convened by the AU-IBAR/NPCA. However, there are many challenges and constraints to address before secure and sustainable small-scale fisheries become a reality in the East African region. Accordingly, the workshop called upon all stakeholders to promote the application of the principles of the SSF Guidelines at all levels. The role of CSOs was particularly emphasized and the need to collaborate with governments was stressed.

The workshop acknowledged the comprehensiveness of the SSF Guidelines and the need to take a holistic and HRBA to small-scale fisheries governance and development. The links between the SSF Guidelines and the VGGT were also acknowledged and their relevance to fisheries noted.

The workshop recognized that the implementation of the SSF Guidelines should be anchored at the local and national levels but that regional attention and support would also be required to address transboundary fisheries related issues. The role of the AU and the work done by the AU-IBAR/NPCA on developing a PFRS for fisheries and aquaculture was appreciated. This strategy includes a thematic area on sustainable small-scale fisheries development with specific reference to the SSF Guidelines. The importance of the LTA and the LVFO was acknowledged and the need for strengthened collaboration between countries concerned with other shared resources was noted.

Next steps

To realize the proposed actions, broad collaboration and support are needed from governments, and national and regional organizations, including RFBs, and other actors. This will require awareness raising and political will. The workshop

identified the following next steps to promote collaboration and make progress with the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at the national and regional levels:

Immediate follow-up in 2015:

- Workshop participants should share the workshop results with their colleagues and respective organizations upon their return. They should also report on the workshop outcomes, raise awareness and disseminate the SSF Guidelines at ministerial meetings, report to ministers, have targeted meetings with MPs and identify other opportunities for putting small-scale fisheries on meeting and event agendas.
- The workshop results should be presented at the forthcoming AU-IBAR/NPCA “Think Tank meeting on Governance and Management of African Small-Scale Fisheries its Contribution to the Accelerated Agricultural Transformation Goals of Africa” to take place in October 2015.¹⁶
- RFBs should submit the SSF Guidelines to their statutory bodies for consideration, adoption and monitoring of implementation.
- Governments, with the support of research institutions, FAO and relevant stakeholders, should translate the SSF Guidelines into national or local languages and develop popular, or simplified, versions and communication materials appropriate for small-scale fisheries actors and other stakeholders.
- CSOs should share the SSF Guidelines with their members.
- CSOs, governments, RFBs and other stakeholders should organize celebrations of World Fisheries Day on 21 November to promote the principles of the SSF Guidelines.

In 2016 and beyond:

- Workshop participants should organize, in collaboration with partners and small-scale fisheries actors, national workshops to raise awareness of the SSF Guidelines and to initiate the establishment of national level multi-stakeholder platforms.
- The AU-IBAR/NPCA should report on the workshop results and follow-up actions at national level to the next CAMFA meeting in 2016.
- The AU-IBAR/NPCA in collaboration with FAO should organize consultative workshops in other African regions along the lines of this Eastern African workshop. The AU-IBAR/NPCA should also continue to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at the continental level, including regional activities identified by the workshop as appropriate and required, and continue engagement with the non-state actor platform.
- RFBs should support the celebrations of the World Fisheries Day at the regional level by organizing a follow-up event with a view to evaluating progress and further disseminating information on small-scale fisheries.
- RFBs should support experience sharing and communication between stakeholders and actors in the region.
- Governments, RFBs and CSOs should investigate potential partnerships and develop proposals for funding by development partners.
- Governments and RFBs should report on progress with regard to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines to the COFI and the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade.

¹⁶ The Think Tank meeting was held in January 2016. A summary of the meeting objectives and outcomes is available at: www.au-ibar.org/home/415-en/media/press-releases/fish/891-think-tank-meeting-on-governance-and-management-of-african-small-scale-fisheries-and-its-contribution-to-the-accelerated-agricultural-transformation-goals-of-africa

- Governments should initiate or continue the alignment of policies with the principles of the SSF Guidelines and develop national plans of action to ensure their implementation.
- CSOs should support the strengthening of small-scale fisheries actor organizations at local and national levels across the region.
- The TBTI research network should engage with small-scale fisheries stakeholders in the region. Governments and other stakeholders are advised to communicate research needs to the TBTI.
- Ongoing and planned regional and national projects (e.g. SmartFish) should be encouraged to integrate or continue their efforts to promote the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in their work plans.
- FAO should continue to provide technical support, including with regard to awareness raising and implementation planning processes, and the development and dissemination of information and communication materials.

The full text of the Joint Communiqué is reproduced in Annex 7.

Closing session

Mr Hussein Abegaz delivered the closing remarks on behalf of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. He congratulated participants on the achievement of the workshop's results and reiterated Ethiopia's commitment to small-scale fisheries.

Mr Patrick Kormawa and Ms Ana Menezes from the FAO-SFE closed the workshop by thanking participants for their active and constructive contributions to the success of the workshop on behalf of FAO.

Annex 1 – Opening statements

OPENING ADDRESS BY SUBREGIONAL COORDINATOR, FAO SUBREGIONAL OFFICE FOR EASTERN AFRICA

Delivered by Mr Amadou Allahoury, FAO Representative in Ethiopia

Honourable Dr Gebreegizabher G/Yohans

Participants from the East and Southern Africa Region, including country delegations and representatives from civil society, NGOs, research and regional organizations

Development partners

FAO colleagues from FAO Headquarters in Rome and the Subregional Office for East Africa

Colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, a warm welcome to Ethiopia! Many of you have travelled from afar and it is good to see you all here. It is a great pleasure to address you all today and welcome you on behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as host of this East Africa Regional Consultation Workshop.

We are here to discuss small-scale fisheries in the East Africa region and to develop practical recommendations for the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication, also known as the SSF Guidelines. This landmark instrument was endorsed by the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in Rome in June last year.

The SSF Guidelines are the first international instrument that deals specifically with small-scale fisheries. Furthermore, the SSF Guidelines are also the first negotiated instrument that fully explores the social and economic aspects of fisheries governance. They represent a global consensus on the need for more holistic and integrated approaches to improve the livelihoods of more than 500 million people, including those living in the East African region.

While the final text of the SSF Guidelines was negotiated by countries at the international level, it is important to recognize that the development process of the SSF Guidelines was a tremendous achievement, made possible thanks to the efforts and collaboration of more than 4 000 stakeholders, from fishers to ministers, including from this region. This three-year, wide-ranging consultation process is evidence that fishers, fish workers, their communities and their representatives have effectively influenced and had a direct impact on the final content of the Guidelines.

In a sense, the SSF Guidelines were developed following the same principles that they advocate – participation, collaboration and empowerment. The first call for such an international instrument was made during the Global Conference on Small-Scale Fisheries held in Bangkok in 2008, which called for the development of international guidelines of a voluntary nature to address both inland and marine small-scale fisheries, to focus on the needs of developing countries and to complement the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. This was followed in 2010 by three FAO-organized regional

consultative workshops, including one for Africa held in Mozambique, as well as a series of consultations led by civil society. All of these have provided critical inputs to the final SSF Guidelines drafting process.

I expect that some of those involved in this long process are present in this room today, and I congratulate you and your colleagues on a job well done. Thank you!

Still, more important work remains to be done, as we will now look into what it takes for the SSF Guidelines to be successfully implemented and have their desired impact; that is to enhance the contribution of small-scale fisheries to food security and nutrition and to support the progressive realization of the right to food.

Dear colleagues,

What is being advocated in the SSF Guidelines is not trivial and to achieve the impact and change they envisage is a major task, and we will not be able to achieve major changes needed overnight.

We will have to keep on furthering our collaboration, and it is the responsibility of all actors, all of us to ensure that the SSF Guidelines are implemented on the ground at community and household levels, and that whatever we do, secures or unlocks the benefits that sustainable small-scale fisheries have the potential to provide – for both small-scale fisheries communities, as well as society at large, in achieving the eradication of both food insecurity and poverty.

It is important that we all recognize that ownership of the SSF Guidelines is essential for their effective implementation at both country and regional levels. These SSF Guidelines do not “belong” to FAO, they belong to those who seek to work in partnership among all essential actors to ensure the small-scale fisheries sector’s long-term social, economic and environmental development; that is: along the three pillars of sustainability.

If the ultimate responsibility to implement the SSF Guidelines lies with the state, the government at all levels, the support and collaboration of fishers’ and fish workers’ organizations, along with civil society organizations, NGO’s, academics and researchers, regional organizations, international organizations and other fisheries actors remain of critical importance. Successful and effective level of implementation will be only achieved when non-state actors continue to play a pivotal role in promoting the SSF Guidelines implementation at all levels, ideally with strong policy support from national and local government.

For its part, FAO is strongly committed to provide technical support and expertise to make the SSF Guidelines objectives become reality and will pursue its engagement in major policy processes to support the full implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

I would also like to mention the important role that regional organizations will play in the implementation. The SSF Guidelines themselves provide that implementation needs to be supported at the regional level by regional plans of action, and it is encouraging to have a number of regional organizations participating in this event. This workshop has the potential to provide a solid foundation for such a plan in the East Africa region, and I am sure that all of you will be working hard during these three-and-a-half days to deliver the elements of a comprehensive, ambitious and tangible plan of action by the end of this workshop, to get us mobilized ourselves for the implementation of the guidelines.

Let me close these opening remarks in wishing you all a fruitful workshop that will help ensure that the SSF Guidelines do not only remain an encouraging piece of paper, but actually have an impact at the community level, particularly for the most vulnerable and marginalized, who are also among the poorest and most food insecure populations.

Thank you all for your attention – I wish you a successful workshop!

OPENING ADDRESS BY H.E DR. GEREEGZIABHER G/YOHANS, STATE MINISTER OF THE LIVESTOCK SECTOR, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, ETHIOPIA

Delivered by Mr Hussein Abegaz

H.E Dr Gebreegizabher G/Yohans, the State Minister of the Livestock Sector in the Ministry of Agriculture is engaged with an urgent commitment and could not attend this workshop.

Participants from the East and Southern Africa Region, country delegations,

Representatives from civil society, NGOs, research and regional organizations

Other distinguished guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning to you all.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everybody to Ethiopia and to wish you a successful meeting. Addis Ababa is a safe place and you can take off some time in the evening to explore different areas in the city.

First, I do thank the FAO/Sub Regional Office for Eastern Africa for selecting Ethiopia to host this meeting.

I understand that we are here to discuss the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines for the East Africa region and to develop practical recommendations for the implementation of these Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication.

I have also been made aware that the Guidelines are intended to support the visibility, recognition, 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.

I understand that these Guidelines are the first internationally agreed instrument dedicated entirely to the immensely important – but until now often neglected – small-scale fisheries sector. The Guidelines will guide dialogue, policy processes and actions at all levels and help the sector to realize its full contribution to food security and poverty eradication. In addition, they are global in scope and with a focus on the needs of developing countries.

Dear participants

Ethiopia is a landlocked country and therefore its fishery resource is exclusively fresh water. Sustainable development of this resource potential, therefore, includes lakes, rivers, reservoirs, small water bodies and aquaculture.

The small-scale fisheries sector tends to be firmly rooted in local communities, traditions and values. Many small-scale fishers are self-employed and usually provide fish for direct consumption within their households or communities. Women are significant participants in the sector, particularly in post-harvest and processing activities.

In Ethiopia, it is estimated that almost all fishery people directly dependent on capture fisheries work in the small-scale fisheries sector. As such, small-scale fisheries serve as an economic and social engine, providing food and nutrition security, employment and through other multiplier effects for local economies, while underpinning the livelihoods of riparian communities.

In our First Growth and Transformation Plan, fish production was increased on average by 20 percent and raised from 17 000 to 50 000 tons. This increment is mainly from newly built reservoirs. The numbers of fishers increased accordingly.

The government service provision to the fishery and aquaculture sector is high in the next planned Growth and Transformation Plan II, which will address the following challenges. These are: a general decline in fish catches in most lakes; there are problems of eliminating IUU; there is a challenge of meeting quality standards demanded by the regional markets; there are problems of promoting aquaculture to enable it to contribute significantly to fish production.

Ethiopia as a country looks forward to the implementation of these SSF Guidelines and we will participate fully to ensure that the Guidelines meet the intended purpose.

As I conclude, I would like to wish everybody a safe stay in Addis.

Happy Ethiopian New Year 2008.

Annex 2 – List of participants

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Annex 3 – Workshop agenda

Tuesday, 15 September	
8:00	Registration
Master of ceremony: Ana Menezes, Fishery and Aquaculture Officer, FAO Subregional Office	
9:00	<p>Opening remarks</p> <p>FAO Representative, Subregional Office</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia – Minister</p>
9:30	<p>Overview of workshop objectives, expected outputs and modus operandi</p> <p>FAO – Ana Menezes, Fishery and Aquaculture Officer, FAO Subregional Office</p>
9:45	<p>Introduction to the SSF Guidelines</p> <p>FAO – Nicole Franz</p>
10:00	Coffee break with group photo and press conference
Chair: Lalaina Ravelomanantsoa (Legal Officer, FAO-SFE)	
10:30	Discussion of agenda and assignment of chair, groups and rapporteurs
10:45	<p>Small-scale fisheries in the AU/NEPAD Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa</p> <p>Sidibé Aboubacar, African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)</p>
11:00	<p>A CSO perspective in relation to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines</p> <p>Editrudith Lukanga, Executive Director – EMEDO and Co President – World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF)</p>
11:15	<p>Country presentations, followed by questions, answers and discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burundi • Djibouti • Ethiopia • Kenya
13:00	Lunch
14:00	<p>Country presentations continued, followed by questions, answers and discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rwanda • Somalia • South Sudan • The United Republic of Tanzania • Uganda
15:45	Coffee break

16:15	Brief outcome of survey and introduction to working groups – Session 1: Agreeing on priorities FAO - Felix Marttin
15:45	Coffee break
16:15	Brief outcome of survey and introduction to working groups – Session 1: Agreeing on priorities FAO - Felix Marttin
17:00	Closure of the day and Refreshments
Wednesday, 16 September	
9:00	Summary of Day 1 FAO – Lena Westlund
9:15	Inland fisheries and the SSF Guidelines Kaitira Ibrahim Katonda, Director of Fisheries, Lake Tanganyika Authority Godfrey Monor, Executive Director, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization
9:45	Plenary discussion
10:00	Coffee break
10:30	Parallel working groups – Session 1
12:30	Lunch
14:00	Reporting back from working group session 1 and discussion
15:00	Research and the SSF Guidelines implementation – the example of the Too Big To Ignore Network Paul Onyango, University of Dar es Salaam
15:15	Introduction to working groups – Session 2: Sharing good practices FAO
15:30	Coffee break
15:45	Parallel working groups – Session 2
17:00	Closure of the working session
Thursday, 17 September	
9:00	Reporting back from working group Session 2 and discussion
10:30	Coffee break

11:00	Strengthening land governance for inclusive and sustainable agriculture transformation in Africa Eugene Rurangwa, Land Tenure Officer, FAO
11:15	Gender equality in small-scale fisheries: policy and legal perspectives Lalaina Ravelomanantsoa, Legal Officer, FAO
11:30	Sharing of relevant experiences from the SmartFish project Florence Wallemacq, SmartFish Outreach Consultant
11:45	Plenary discussion
12:15	Introduction to working groups – Session 3: Action planning FAO
12:30	Lunch
14:00	Parallel working groups – Session 3
15:30	Coffee break
15:45	Parallel working groups – Session 3 ctd.
17:00	Closure of the day
17:30	Refreshments & exchange with FAO colleagues from SFE and FAO Ethiopia
Friday, 18 September	
9:00	Reporting back from working groups - Session 3 and discussion
10:30	Coffee break
11:00	Conclusions and way forward
12:45	Closing remarks Ana Menezes, Fisheries Officer, FAO Subregional Office Hussein Abegaz, Director of Fisheries, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia – Director of Fisheries

Annex 4 – Country presentation outline

All government (fisheries administration) representatives will be kindly requested to:

Make a 10 to 15-minute presentation during the first day of the workshop.

These presentations should be focused on providing an overview of the existing conditions for SSF Guidelines implementation in their country (baseline) together with a perspective on goals and future plans. The following Power Point Presentation outline is proposed:

Slide No	Proposed contents
0	Title
1	Overview of the fisheries sector (including also the value chain, post-harvest and trade subsectors)
2	Definition of small-scale fisheries – if available (formal and/or informal)
3-4	Importance of small-scale fisheries: catches, employment, contribution to GDP, foreign exchange, etc.
5	Cultural and social importance of small-scale fisheries
6	Role of women in small-scale fisheries
7	Laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies specifically targeting or addressing the small-scale fisheries sector (if existing), including description of tenure rights and resource access rights for small-scale fisheries
8	Fishers and fish workers participation in decision-making: institutional structures, mechanisms and processes (including role of women)
9	Climate change and disaster risks – reflections 10 years after the tsunami and for the future
10	Main strengths and opportunities for implementing the SSF Guidelines
11	Main risks and constraints to implementing the SSF Guidelines
12	Ongoing or planned initiatives to implement SSF Guidelines and types of activities (if existing)
13	Future goals and vision for the small-scale fisheries sector
14	Concluding remarks

Annex 5 – Working group composition

Group 1 – Governance of tenure in SSF and resources management	Group 2 – Social development, employment and decent work, and gender equality	Group 3 – Value chains, post-harvest and trade
Facilitator: Lena Westlund	Facilitator: Nicole Franz	Facilitator: Felix Martin
Leonie Nzeyimana	Said Ahmed Djama	Hussein Abegaz Isa
Susan Wairimu Imende Ungadi	Mohamud Hassan Ali	Sarafino Aloma Francis Ojja
Edward Billy Lau Laya	Lovelock Dealtry Jackson Wadanya	Baraka S.M. Mngulwi
Zenebe Tadesse	Alayu Yalew	Theophile Nyandwi
Said Mohamed Jimale	Seremos Kamaturaki	Winfried Venant Haule
Editrudith Stephen Lukanga	George Owiti Osure	Julius Otieno Manyala
Yusuf Ahmed Hirabe	Anthony Munyaho Taabu	Paul O. Onyango
Yahya Ibrahim Mgawe	Godfrey V. Monor	Kaitira Ibrahim Katonda
Aboubacar Sidibé	Meskir Tesfaye	Sverker Jutvik
Sisay Nune	Misrak Tekle Yacob	Florence Wallemacq
Badria Khamis Ali Al-Harrasy		

Annex 6 – Working group results

GROUP 1 – GOVERNANCE OF TENURE AND SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT			
ISSUE	VISION/OBJECTIVE	GOOD PRACTICE	REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ACTIONS
Tenure rights legislation (land)	Protection of tenure rights of small-scale fisheries communities; Integrate tenure rights in legislation relevant to small-scale fisheries and/or integrate small-scale fisheries in tenure rights legislation	Coastal land-use plan for Lake Tanganyika (Burundi)	Develop or review and adapt the land-use management legislation and include an obligation to consult with stakeholders, in particular small-scale fisheries actors (the state/fisheries ministry; possible technical assistance from FAO) Develop/adopt and implement coastal land-use management plans (big lakes and marine coast) taking into consideration the needs of small-scale fisheries (the state/fisheries ministry; possible technical assistance from FAO)
Protection of zones and public resources for small-scale fisheries with preferential access to local communities	The totality of the small-scale fisheries zone and related resources are effectively protected; Ensure and control preferential access to zones and resources for small-scale fisheries	MCS committees in Burundi (and Tanzania and Uganda)	Evaluate and document the Burundi case with a view to sharing good practices with other countries in the region (co-management, MCS, etc.) (LFVO/LTA/AU-IBAR) Develop and/or strengthen mechanisms or frameworks for participatory control and protection of small-scale fisheries zones (the state; LFVO/LTA/AU-IBAR; FAO)
Strengthening of the capacities of small-scale fisheries community organizations in order to include them in decision-making and responsibilities related to o-management (including data collection, MCS, etc.)	Small-scale fisheries community organizations participate effectively in sustainable management of fishery resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the capacity of small-scale fisheries actors Ensure representation of fishing communities in decision-making 	Some training courses have been carried out (by SmartFish, ACP Fish, FAO) but further capacity development needed	Organize/strengthen the small-scale fisheries actors at local and national levels (the state; WFFP/WFF/ICSF) Strengthen the capacity of organizations and exchange experiences through south-south collaboration (WFFP/WFF/ICSF; AU-IBAR) Establish co-management committees including representation of all stakeholders (the state)

<p>Harmonization of regulatory systems among countries with shared resources (including conflict resolution and issues related to migrant fishers)</p>	<p>Harmonization of policies and regulations for shared resources: Establish and/or strengthen mechanisms for management of all shared resources (e.g. Lake Kivu, Nile perch, small pelagics)</p>	<p>Management mechanism for shared resources developed by the LVFO</p>	<p>Develop and/or strengthen the fisheries management plans for shared resources (LVFO/LTA FAO/AU-IBAR) Document and share similar experiences from other parts of Africa (FAO; AU-IBAR)</p>
<p>Interministerial or intersectoral coordination for all activities relating to sustainable management in small-scale fisheries</p>	<p>Effective coordination of actions in the small-scale fisheries sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and/or strengthen mechanisms (or frameworks) for interministerial collaboration with regard to governance of sustainable small-scale fisheries • Ensure coordination of actions by all stakeholders at all levels 	<p>Multi-agency task force to combat dynamite fishing in Tanzania Multi-sectoral technical consultative committee for coastal land-use management planning in Burundi</p>	<p>Identify the state actors involved in small-scale fisheries and organize a technical meeting for establishing an interministerial collaborative structure (Fisheries Ministry) Establish and/or strengthen national multi-sectoral frameworks for coordination of small-scale fisheries activities for their sustainable development (Fisheries Ministry; NGOs; CSOs)</p>
<p>Access to funds and technologies for climate change adaptation for small-scale fisheries</p>	<p>Small-scale fisheries actors are prepared and equipped to deal with climate change impacts Strengthen the resilience to climate change of small-scale fisheries sector and actors</p>		<p>Carry out small-scale fisheries climate change and disaster risk vulnerability assessments including socio-economic aspects (the state/Fisheries Ministry/Environment Ministry) Integrate the small-scale fisheries sector in national climate change policies (the state/ relevant ministries) Establish an emergency assistance fund for small-scale fisheries natural disaster victims (the state; RECs; SSF actors)</p>

GROUP 2 - SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK, AND GENDER EQUALITY		
ISSUE/OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED NATIONAL ACTION	PROPOSED REGIONAL ACTION
<p>Lack of/limited access to amenities, facilities and services serving the fulfillment of basic human/social needs (para 6.2)</p> <p>Improved social well-being of communities through access to basic services, etc.</p>	<p>Use available information (e.g. frame survey results) to identify gaps (by research) to make the case with responsible authorities to improve services (lower government levels)</p> <p>Identify and engage with the responsible counterparts: linkages between fisheries and Ministry of Health/Education/Infrastructure, etc. (Ministry of Fisheries e.g. through Interagency Platform in Kenya)</p> <p>Lobby for infrastructure development through CSOs/lower government (as appropriate), supported, for example, by case studies on engagement between CSOs and local government</p> <p>Organize communities and inform communities about rights through CSOs/lower government</p> <p>Mobilize community action with CSOs</p> <p>Participatory monitoring through CSOs, communities and government and reporting to all levels (e.g. scorecard)</p>	<p>Take stock of available data at regional level</p> <p>Identify gaps</p> <p>Harmonize actions at regional level</p> <p>(FAO Subregional Office, AU, RFMOs, IGAD)</p>
<p>Current focus of fisheries management on the resource, need for more people-focused approach to fisheries management (para 6.1)</p> <p><i>Enhanced collaborative and adaptive management arrangements which balance sustainable utilization and conservation and are monitored in a participatory manner</i></p>	<p>Profile fishers and workers in fish value chain to ensure proportional representation in meetings/processes (building on frame survey data) by government, communities and RFMOs</p> <p>Organize or strengthen fisheries interest groups, including criteria to ensure cohesion and true representation of fisheries stakeholders interest groups by CSOs and lower government</p> <p>Design management structures and measures for fishery stakeholder representation (e.g. Nile perch fishers/Dagaa) by CSOs and lower government, fishing communities</p> <p>Development/review fisheries management plans in collaboration with fisheries stakeholder interest groups (at all levels, by species or water body) by government and other actors (e.g. RFMOs, lower level government as appropriate)</p> <p>Design monitoring & evaluation (M&E) framework based on para 13.4 by government, fisheries stakeholders, CSOs</p>	<p>Develop guidelines for implementation of management plans (RFMOs, FAO Subregional Office, IGAD)</p>

<p>Lack of access to financial services, including insurance, for small-scale fisheries actors (para. 6.4)</p> <p><i>Enabled access to financial services, including through education of commercial banks and capacity development of fisher/fish worker organizations to provide guarantee and development of a savings culture, based on incentives, which require secure access and user rights</i></p>	<p>Situation analysis and needs assessment by government in collaboration with CSO</p> <p>Research on economic status of SSF</p> <p>Organization of fishers into small viable group through CSO</p> <p>Awareness creation with fishers (about use of financial instruments) and bankers (about the potential of the sector) by government/CSOs</p> <p>Banks to do capacity development for fishers</p> <p>Linking fishing organizations and commercial banks through CSOs</p>	<p>Regional overview of situation analysis and needs assessment</p> <p>Capture and disseminate best practices (e.g. on small–medium enterprises development) (RFMOs/AU/FAO Subregional Office/IGAD)</p>
<p>Poor standard of life, lack of decent working conditions and discriminatory policies (para. 6.7)</p> <p><i>Improved working conditions of small-scale fisheries actors supported by socially just and conducive policies</i></p>	<p>Review existing information about working conditions in small-scale fisheries (together with study under 1) by research, ILO</p> <p>Professionalize small-scale fisheries industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalize the employer–employee relationship by the government (Ministry of Labour, Fisheries), ILO, CSOs • Enable access for small-scale fisheries to social protection systems by government (example from Brazil, Kenya) • Promote compliance with OSH, in particular for women, through training and exposure to innovations by government, CSOs • Operationalize safety at sea instruments at national level through: • Lobby for engagement (e.g. establish search and rescue centres) by Ministry of Fisheries, CSOs, e.g. with maritime authorities, Ministry of Labour • Training/capacity development of fishers CSOs and communities 	<p>Harmonize operationalization of safety at sea/security instruments at regional level, including adoption of ILO/IMO standard for training (RFMOs/FAO Subregional Office)</p>
<p>Overdependence on fisheries as the only income-generating activity (para. 6.8)</p> <p><i>Complementary/alternative employment opportunities identified and made available</i></p>	<p>Identify and inventory possible alternative/complementary livelihoods by CSOs, lower level government, fishers</p> <p>Develop entrepreneur capacities to stimulate engagement in alternative/complementary livelihood opportunities by CSOs, lower level government</p> <p>Identify sources of financial support by CSOs</p> <p>Ensure extension services by extension support providers (private sector) under supervision from government</p>	<p>Regional level manuals for extension services (RFMOs)</p>
<p>Compliance and lack of implementation of relevant international gender instruments encouraging women participation (para. 8.2)</p> <p><i>Empowered women with the ability to participate and lead and with access to basic infrastructure/services and the ability to use financial services</i></p>	<p>Domestication and implementation of the international instruments through government and advocacy by Human Rights Commission</p> <p>Empowerment/affirmative action of women through capacity development, leadership training, establishment/strengthening of women's groups, confidence building, effective participation by CSOs, women's groups, lower level government</p> <p>Demystify cultural norms that discriminate against women by opinion/religious leaders</p>	<p>Monitoring national implementation (RFMOs)</p>

GROUP 3 – VALUE CHAINS, POST-HARVEST AND TRADE		
ISSUE	VISION/OBJECTIVE	ACTION (WHO)
Market access and Information (7.6, 7.7, 7.10)	All fish value chain actors have equal access to fish markets and readily available market information	Information: establish data gathering and information system (e.g. FMIS Kenya, AFIS South Sudan) (Government, Public Private Partnership, fisheries sector actors) Infrastructure: formation of fisheries sector associations (fishers, CSOs) Establish and improve landing, processing and marketing infrastructure, including access roads Review and harmonization of the fish-related trade laws (RECs, RFBs, government)
Participation in decision-making (7.1,7.4)	All fish value chain actors are actively involved in decision-making processes	Establish representative decision-making forum (national fisheries departments) Identify all fish value chain actor groups in SSF (CSOs, fisheries departments)
Role of women and vulnerable and marginalized groups (7.1, 7.2, 7.8)	Women, vulnerable and marginalized groups are fully engaged in a dignified and respected manner, their contribution to SSF is recognized and their issues, including market information and amenities, are addressed	Capacity building for women, vulnerable and marginalized groups in technical skills and social awareness (rights, credit and saving, business skills, etc.) (CSOs and government) Review legal documents of organizations related to SSF to ensure participation of women, vulnerable and marginalized groups (CSOs)

<p>Fisheries related infrastructure and post-harvests (7.3.7.5)</p>	<p>Appropriate infrastructure related to SSF developed, post-harvest losses reduced to minimum and value addition enhanced</p>	<p>Identify bottlenecks/opportunities related to SSF infrastructure, i.e. landing sites, processing facilities, cold chain, markets (government, RFBs) Establish and/or improve infrastructure for SSF (government, private sector) Capacity building with respect to fish handling, processing, value addition and marketing (CSOs and government)</p>
<p>Enabling policies with respect to value chain post-harvest and trade</p>	<p>Value chain optimized, post-harvest losses reduced to a minimum and trade enhanced</p>	<p>Develop enabling policies with respect to optimization of the SSF value chain, reduction of post-harvest losses and enhancement of trade in SSF products (government and RFBs) Develop regulations, guidelines and harmonized standards with respect to SSF product quality (government and RFBs)</p>

Annex 7 – Joint communiqué

CONCLUSIONS OF THE EAST AFRICA CONSULTATION WORKSHOP ON IMPROVING SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES IN THE CONTEXT OF FOOD SECURITY AND POVERTY ERADICATION

FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
15–18 September 2015

INTRODUCTION AND INITIAL FINDINGS

The East Africa Consultation Workshop on Improving Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 15 to 18 September 2015. It was hosted by the FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa. The workshop was attended by a total of 40 participants from Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, The United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, including representatives of governments, regional organizations/Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs), Civil Society Organization (CSOs)/non-state actors, NGOs, research institutions, academia, other relevant actors as well as FAO staff and resource persons.

The overall objective of the workshop was to facilitate an understanding of the principles of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) and their application in order to support sustainable small-scale fisheries and Blue Growth. During the three and a half days, participants examined the current status of Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF) in the region and shared experiences through country and topical presentations, and discussed priorities and actions for implementing the SSF Guidelines at regional and national levels.

The workshop noted that small-scale fisheries employ the bulk of fishers and fish workers in the region and contribute substantially to food security and livelihoods through their role in providing nutritious food and generating local and national incomes. Inland fisheries are particularly important in many countries of the region. There are many aquatic resources, including freshwater and marine resources, that are shared by two or several countries and the regional aspects of small-scale fisheries are hence important.

The workshop noted the many already on-going initiatives, good practices and opportunities for supporting small-scale fisheries in the region. Some important activities have already taken place, e.g. consultation meetings in the United Republic of Tanzania and Somalia, and a regional meeting for non-state actor organizations convened by the AU-IBAR/NPCA.¹⁷ Still, there are many challenges and constraints to address before secure and sustainable small-scale fisheries are a reality. Accordingly, the workshop called upon all stakeholders to promote the application of the principles of the SSF Guidelines at all levels. The role of CSOs was particularly emphasized and the need to collaborate with governments stressed.

¹⁷ African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and the New Partnership for Africa Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA)

The workshop acknowledged the comprehensiveness of the SSF Guidelines as well as the need to take a holistic and human rights-based approach to small-scale fisheries governance and development. The links between the SSF Guidelines and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security were also acknowledged and their relevance to fisheries noted.

The workshop recognized that the implementation of the SSF Guidelines should be anchored at the local and national levels but that regional attention and support would also be required to address transboundary fisheries related issues. The role of the African Union (AU) and the work done by the AU-IBAR/NPCA on developing an African Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for fisheries and aquaculture was appreciated. This strategy includes a thematic area on sustainable small-scale fisheries development with specific reference to the SSF Guidelines. The importance of the Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA) and the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) was acknowledged and the need for strengthened collaboration among concerned countries also with regard to other shared resources noted.

OUTCOMES OF WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Key priority areas of actions to be considered further in national and regional implementation planning processes proposed by the workshop included:

Governance of tenure in SSF and resources management (chapter 5 of the SSF Guidelines)

- Secure tenure for small-scale fishing communities with regard to fishery resources and land needs to be ensured. Land use legislation needs to contain provisions for consultations with all stakeholders, specifically including small-scale fisheries actors, and land use plans should be developed with the involvement of small-scale fishes and fish workers.
- Existing zones and preferential access arrangements for small-scale fisheries need to be protected. Participatory enforcement mechanisms should be developed, building on existing good practices in the region.
- The capacity and organization of small-scale fisheries actors need to be strengthened so that they can effectively participate in decision-making processes relating to small-scale fisheries governance. Also, structures for co-management and shared decision-making need to be established/strengthened at all levels.
- There is a need for harmonization of policy frameworks and fishery regulations on shared water bodies and for shared fishery resources. Management plans should be developed accordingly and experiences from other parts of Africa shared.
- Interministerial collaboration – as well as coordination with other actors – on small-scale fisheries governance and development is needed. A first practical step towards establishing a structure for such collaboration and coordination at the national level could be for the fisheries authority to request an interministerial technical consultative meeting.
- The application of the ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) as a model for developing small-scale fisheries management should be promoted.

Social development, employment and decent work, and gender equality (chapter 6 and 8 of the SSF Guidelines)

- Access to amenities, facilities and services for small-scale fishing communities should be improved as part of fulfilling basic human and social needs. Existing regional information should be analysed to inform this. Linkages with relevant government agencies, mobilization of community action and lobbying by CSOs in this respect will be required.

- The current focus of fisheries management on the resource should be shifted to a more people-focused approach to small-scale fisheries governance. Small-scale fisheries actors should be part of relevant processes, fisheries management structures should allow for their effective participation and small-scale fisheries organizations strengthened to ensure true representation at all levels.
- The availability of financial services and insurance schemes for small-scale fisheries actors should be enhanced, based on assessed needs of small-scale fisheries, strengthening fisher groups, and facilitating communication regarding the use and need for financial instruments between fisheries actors and banks. Relevant good practices, including the development of small-medium enterprises, should be shared across the region.
- The often poor standard of living, lack of decent working conditions and discriminatory policies need to be addressed, including through the professionalization of small-scale fisheries, compliance with existing labour instruments and guidance, such as on safety at sea and Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) regulations, and capacity development of fishers. At the regional level, harmonized operationalization of safety at sea/security instruments, including adoption of ILO and IMO standard for training, should be promoted.
- Efforts should be made to build entrepreneurial capacity for alternative and complementary livelihood opportunities to help reduce the vulnerability of small-scale fisheries actors and mitigate their reliance on fisheries as the main source of income.
- Compliance with and implementation of existing gender instruments need to be strengthened, including through empowerment of and affirmative action for women.

Value chains, post-harvest and trade (chapter 7 of the SSF Guidelines)

- Improved landing, processing and marketing infrastructure (including access roads) and enhanced data collection and information systems need to be established for promoting equal market access for small-scale fisheries actors. Fishery related trade laws need to be reviewed and harmonized in the region.
- Fish value chain actors should be actively involved in decision-making processes and representative fora, inclusive of all small-scale fisheries value chain actors, need to be established.
- Women, vulnerable and marginalized groups should be fully engaged in a dignified and respected manner and their contribution to small-scale fisheries recognized. Access to market information and amenities, capacity building – including on technical skills and social awareness – should be provided to these groups.
- Appropriate infrastructure for small-scale fisheries need to be developed, post-harvest losses reduced to a minimum and value addition enhanced. Bottlenecks and opportunities should be identified and capacity building with respect to fish handling, processing, value addition and marketing promoted.
- Enabling regulations, guidelines and harmonized fish product quality standards should be promoted to provide an enabling environment.

Disaster risks and climate change (chapter 9 of the SSF Guidelines)

- Small-scale fisheries actors need to leverage existing climate change strategies within their countries to have access to funds and insurance for climate change adaptation, and their needs should be integrated in disaster risk and climate change studies, policies and action plans.

NEXT STEPS

To realize the proposed actions, broad collaboration and support are needed from governments and national and regional organizations, including RFBs, and other actors. This will require awareness raising and political will. The workshop identified the following next steps to promote collaboration and make progress on SSF Guidelines implementation at the national and regional levels:

Immediate follow-up in 2015:

- *Workshop participants* should share the workshop results with their colleagues and respective organizations upon their return. They should also report on the workshop outcomes, raise awareness and disseminate the SSF Guidelines at ministerial meetings, report to ministers, have targeted meetings with Members of Parliament (MPs) and identify other opportunities for putting small-scale fisheries on meeting and event agendas.
- The workshop results should be presented at the forthcoming AU-IBAR/NPCA “Think Tank meeting on governance and management of small-scale fisheries in the African context and its contribution to the African agricultural transformation agenda” to take place in October 2015.
- *RFBs* should submit the SSF Guidelines to their statutory bodies for consideration, adoption and monitoring of implementation.
- *Governments, with the support of research institutions, FAO and relevant stakeholders*, should translate the SSF Guidelines into national/local languages and develop popular, or simplified, versions and communication materials appropriate for small-scale fisheries actors and other stakeholders.
- *CSOs* should share the SSF Guidelines with their members.
- *CSOs, governments, RFBs and other stakeholders* should organize celebrations of World Fisheries Day on 21 November to promote the principles of the SSF Guidelines.

In 2016 (and onwards):

- *Workshop participants* should organize, in collaboration with partners and small-scale fisheries actors, national workshops to raise awareness of the SSF Guidelines and to initiate the establishment of national level multi-stakeholder platforms.
- The *AU-IBAR/NPCA* should report on the workshop results and follow-up actions at national level to the next Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA) meeting in 2016.
- The *AU-IBAR/NPCA in collaboration with FAO* should organize consultative workshops in other African regions along the lines of this Eastern African workshop. The AU-IBAR/NPCA should also continue to support SSF Guidelines implementation at the continental level, including regional activities identified by the workshop, as appropriate and required, and continue engagement in the non-state actor platform.
- *RFBs* should support the celebrations of the World Fisheries Day at the regional level by organizing a follow-up event with a view to evaluate progress and further disseminate information on small-scale fisheries.
- *RFBs* should support experience sharing and communication among stakeholders and actors in the region.
- *Governments, RFBs and CSOs* should investigate possible partnerships and develop proposals for funding by development partners.
- *Governments and RFBs* should report on progress with regard to SSF Guidelines implementation to the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) and the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade.

- *Governments* should initiate or continue the alignment of policies with the principles of the SSF Guidelines and develop national plans of action to ensure their implementation.
- *CSOs* should support the strengthening of small-scale fisheries actor organizations at local and national levels across the region.
- *The Too Big To Ignore (TBTI) research network* should engage with small-scale fisheries stakeholders in the region. Governments and other stakeholders are advised to communicate research needs to the TBTI.
- Ongoing and planned regional and national projects (e.g. SmartFish) should be encouraged to integrate or continue their efforts to promote the SSF Guidelines implementation in their work plans.
- *FAO* should continue to provide technical support, including with regard to awareness raising and implementation planning processes, and the development and dissemination of information and communication materials.

Participants thanked the FAO Subregional Office for East Africa for hosting the workshop and expressed their appreciation for the hospitality of the people of Ethiopia.

Addis Ababa, 18 September 2015

Towards the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in Eastern Africa

Proceedings of the East Africa Consultation Workshop on Improving Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication

15–18 September 2015
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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 FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in June 2014 and in line with paragraph 13.6 of the document itself, promoting the development of regional plans of action for their implementation, a regional workshop was held in Eastern Africa to discuss implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The East Africa Consultation Workshop on Improving Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 15 to 18 September 2015. It was hosted by the FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa.

The workshop was attended by a total of 40 participants from Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, the Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, including representatives of governments, regional organizations, regional fishery bodies (RFBs), civil society organizations (CSOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), research institutions, academia, other relevant non-state actors, as well as FAO staff and resource persons.

The workshop noted that small-scale fisheries employ the majority of fishers and fish workers in the region and contribute substantially to food security and livelihoods through their role in providing nutritious food and generating local and national incomes. Inland fisheries are particularly important in many countries of the region. There are many aquatic resources, including freshwater and marine resources, that are shared by two or several countries and consequently, the regional aspects of small-scale fisheries are important.

The overall objective of the workshop was to facilitate an understanding of the principles of the SSF Guidelines and their application in order to support sustainable small-scale fisheries and Blue Growth. During the three-and-a-half day workshop, participants examined the current status of small-scale fisheries in the region and shared experiences through country and topical presentations, and discussed priorities and actions for implementing the SSF Guidelines at regional and national levels.

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