Sea through the eyes of a small scale Fisher

Mitchell Lay
Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations

Rome, 18-21 November 2019

Session 4
Panel 4.2

International Symposium on Fisheries Sustainability: Strengthening the Policy-Science Nexus
FLOW AND KEY MESSAGES

THREAT TO SSF LIVELIHOODS:
NEGATIVE PERCEPTIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES, DRIVEN BY CONSERVATION RHETORIC.

• Responsible advocacy is critical to SSF.
• Collaboration for SSF capacity in responsible stewardship
• Enabling environment for SSF actors’ participation.
PREVAILING RHETORIC IN THE PUBLIC SPACE

FISHERS ARE NO GOOD AND THEY DESTROY THE RESOURCES

Shaping a repressive environment for SSF

Killing SSF
Fisheries analysis (global, utilized stocks, no potential)

Blue Economy discussions

- Limited discussion on SSF contribution or potential.
- SSF and SDGs – poor correlation.
- Conservation NGO lobby.

*Decreased SSF livelihoods (1995-2014 13,000 Norway {Sofia 2016})
A Focus on Societal benefits and responsible use:

**Marine Fisheries**
160-180 million livelihoods engaged in primary and secondary fisheries

**Societal Benefits**
- Food sovereignty
- Poverty eradication
- Public Health
- Human dignity
- Economic gains
- Ecological viability

**Inland Fisheries**
72-81 million livelihoods engaged in primary and secondary fisheries
RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP — LOCAL TO GLOBAL

- Sustainable practices
- Equitable value chains
- Shared effective management
- Gender sensitivity
- Respect and equitable representation
Facilitating livelihood defense by SSF:

1. Global policy – Interpretation issues drive questionable implementation

2. Navigating national and local roadblocks
   - Insensitive development initiatives now driven by Blue Economy focus
   - Reluctance (behalf of governments) to collaborate on platforms and legal systems

3. Suite of resources to support SSF full and effective participation
   - Organizational
   - Administrative
   - Financial
   - Networks and partnerships

4. Stakeholder collaboration driven by SSF
Thank you

Email: cnfo_cu@yahoo.com
Website: http://cnfo.fish
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CNFO17
Twitter: @fisherfolknetwork Instagram: CNFO17
Yahoo Group: fisherfolk_network-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
Partnering with FAO to make fisheries sustainable