

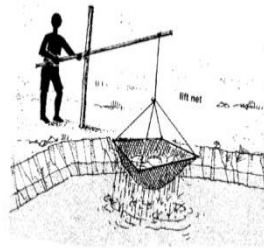


# Limited Access in "Fisheries as Last Resort"

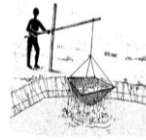
Tenure and user Rights in Fisheries, Yeosu 2018  
Setting the Scene  
Johán H Williams, NORWAY



# Too Small to Matter ?



# Too Many and too Loud to not Matter



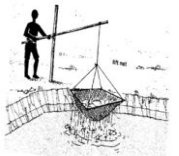


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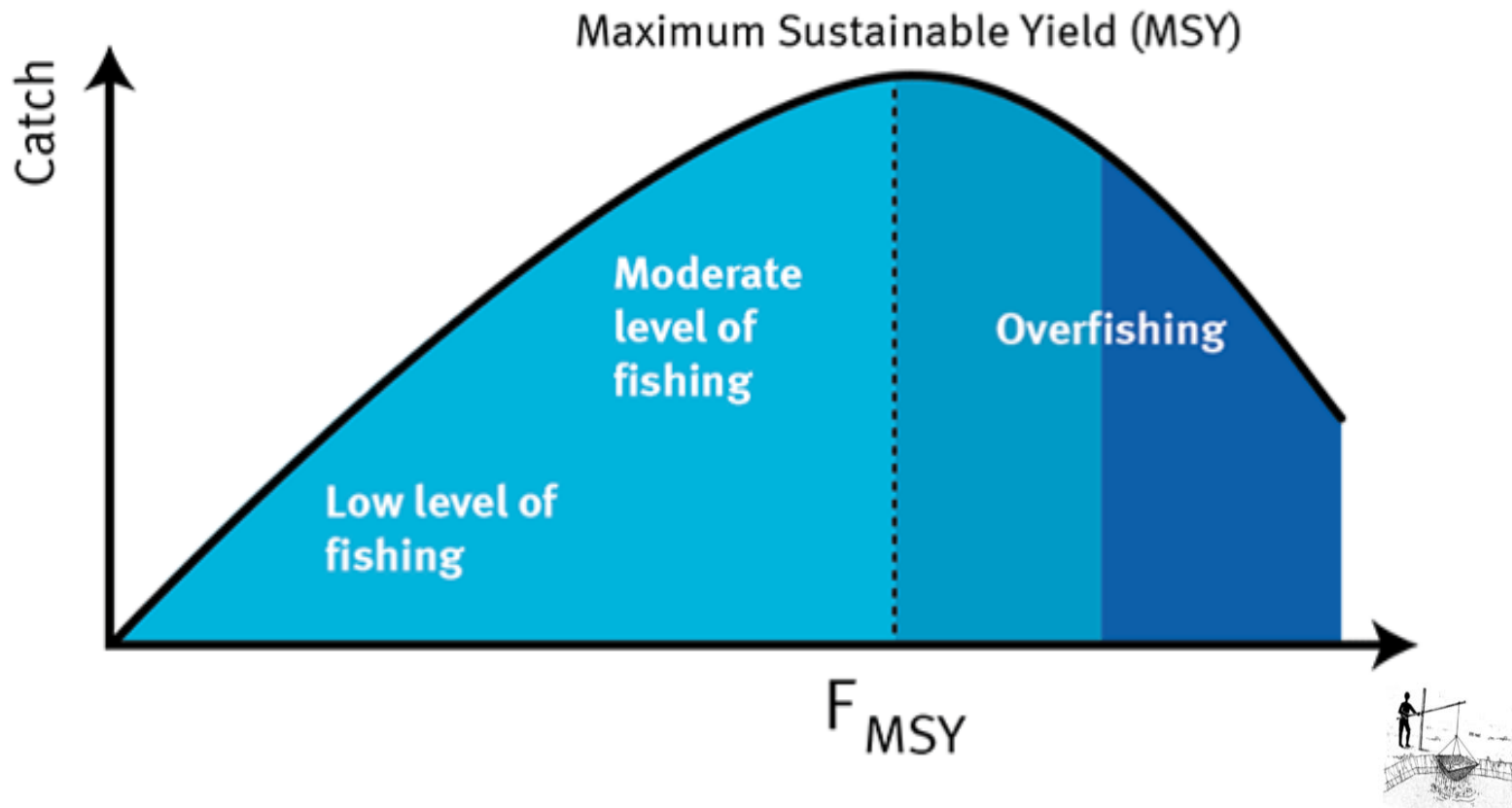
# Too BIG To IGNORE

*Global Partnership for Small-Scale Fisheries Research*

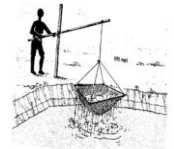
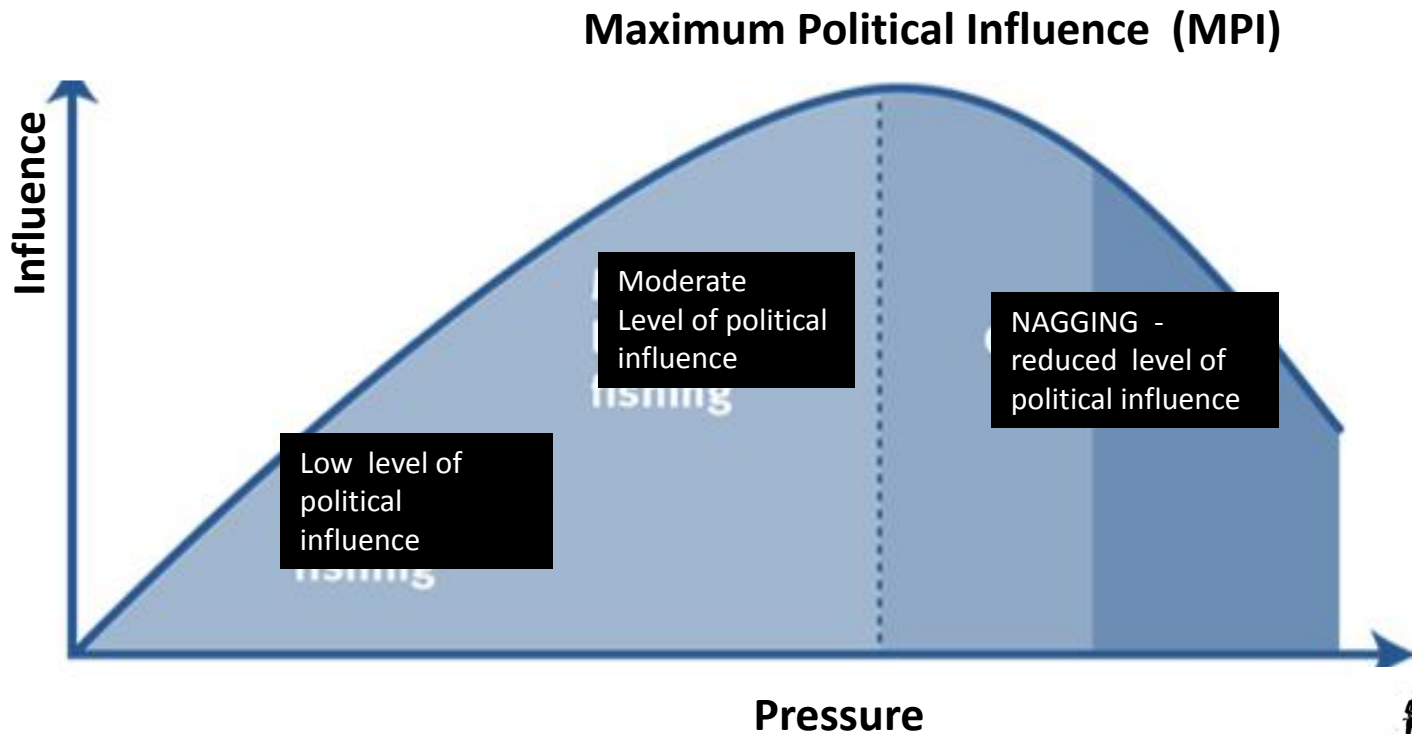




# Too high Fishing Pressure



# Too high Political Pressure ?





# Last Resort

The only remaining, often least-desirable,  
option when all others have been excluded





# Small-Scale $\neq$ Last Resort

(last resort = small-scale)

## Abstract

Small-scale fisheries have been conceptualized as a “safety valve” – the last reliable livelihood when no other exists for fishers, who are considered poor. This perception appears to be the grounds upon which poverty alleviation and resource management policies are defined. This chapter looks at this notion and questions whether small-scale fisheries are really an “occupation of last resort.” Based on an ethnographic study on a Lake Victoria fishing community in Tanzania, data indicate that regardless of their poverty status, small-scale fisheries are perceived as offering a rich way of life that fishers join by choice. By discussing what fishers consider as the underlying issues in their choices, this chapter argues that fisheries management (in technical terms) should shift to governance that supports opportunities and processes for fishers to pursue the kind of life they want, and create an environment in which they can pursue that life, respectively. Such a shift would also benefit from a set of management-relevant social variables and indicators that focus on peoples’ judgments of their well-being, capabilities, and satisfaction to aim toward sustainable fisheries management and poverty reduction. The chapter therefore emphasizes that if managers and policy makers/governors do not understand the full meaning and satisfaction that small-scale fishers attach to their occupation, policies instituted to curb overfishing risk not only misfire but also backfire.



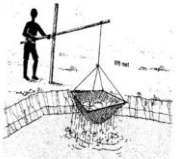




# Small-Scale Fisheries in Inland, Coastal and Small Island Areas are Challenged

- Population densities high
  - Relatively high dependence on fisheries
  - Coastal, inland SSF
  - Coping, last resort, food security, opportunity, open access
- Resource declines
  - Fishing effort continues to increase
  - Overcapacity in fisheries
- Politically difficult to address
  - Centralized management failed
- Local government lacks capacity/will
- Conflicts
  - Competition, threats from other sectors

[Simon Funge-Smith](#)  
Senior Fishery Officer at  
FAO Fishery & Aquaculture  
Department





# Small-Scale Fisheries as Last Resort

## The SSF perspective

Small-scale fisheries in many developing countries are functioning as the 'social security system' – A common good!

Serves as the 'last resort' when everything else fail. But this requires open access.

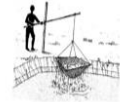
How should they be managed?

How can they be managed?

## Two approaches

**The dominant position:** They are poor because they are fishers !

**Solution :** Limit access, thereby increase income to the bona fide fishers. Sector Oriented.

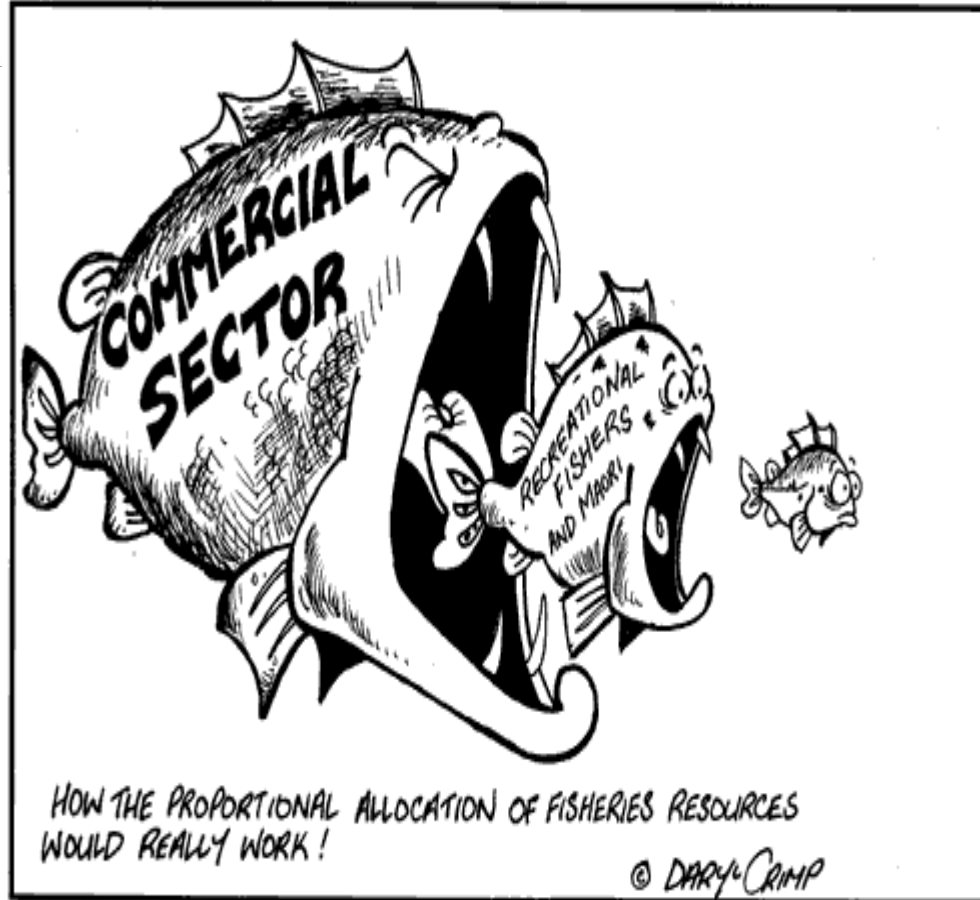


**Alternative position:** They are fishers because they are poor (fishing as employer of last resort)

**Solution:** Alternative employment, keep the common resource access open. Multi-sectoral (community) oriented.

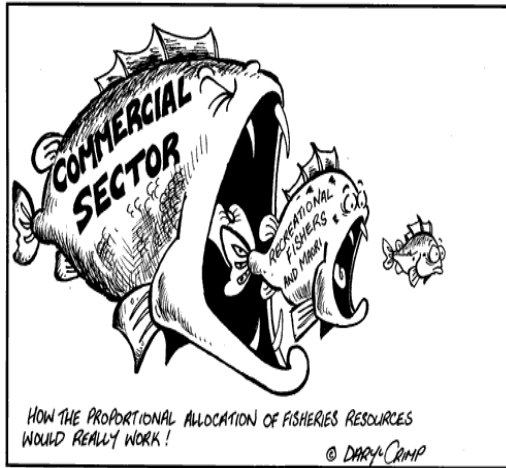


# Allocation – “Rights” or “Wrongs”





# Another Perspective



# Is it a Human Right to be a Fisherman ?



## II.3.1 Livelihood and Human Rights

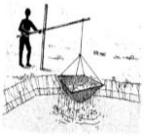
- Guarantee the rights of fishing communities to basic services such as safe drinking water, education, sanitation, health and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment services
- Protect cultural identities, dignity and traditional rights of fishing communities and indigenous peoples
- Integrate an understanding of gender that shapes fisheries policies at various levels towards sustaining life and livelihoods in fishing communities



# Can the Marginalized afford a Marginal Cut



# Can You apply limitative Regulations upon Last Resort Fisherfolk ?



illegal gear ?!  
Illegal fish ?!  
illegal boat ?!  
illegal time ?!  
Illegal size ?!

**Fine? Imprison? Confiscate ?**



# Can You apply limitative Regulations upon Last Resort Fisherfolk ?

**YES !**

***- but with  
considerable  
social costs -***







# How can Tenure/User Rights be established in Last Resort Fisheries ?

## Tenure and Fishing Rights 2015

A global forum on rights-based approaches for fisheries  
23 – 27 March 2015, Siem Reap, Cambodia



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Who we are

Programme

Resources

Stories from the field

Speakers

Partners

## Tenure and User Rights in Fisheries 2018

Achieving Sustainable Development Goals by 2030

10-14 September 2018, Yeosu, Republic of Korea





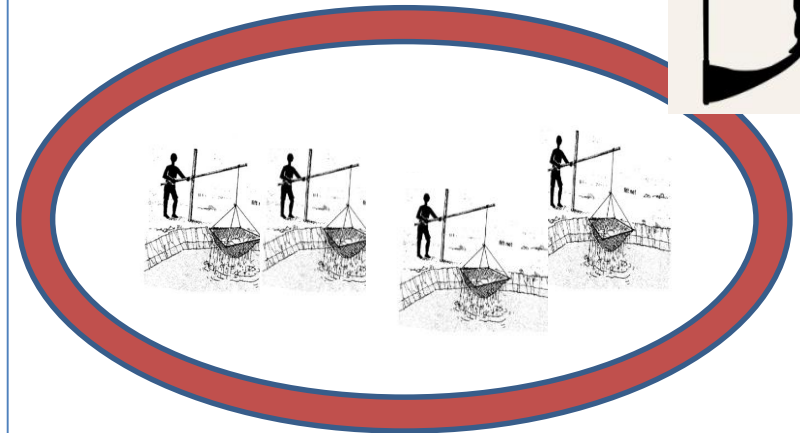
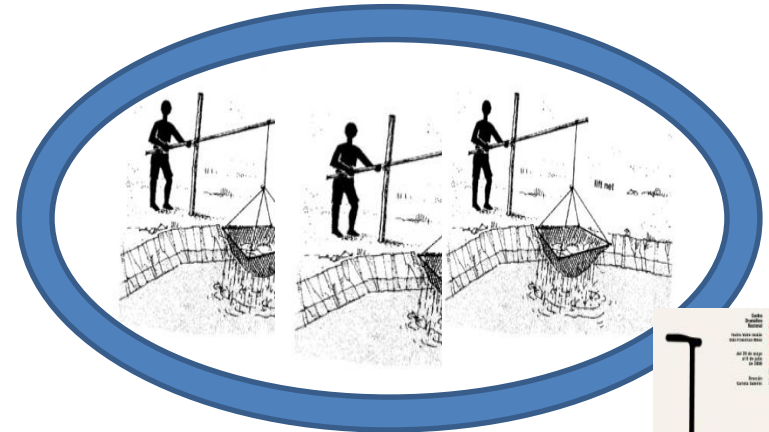
Waters  
THE SCIENCE OF  
WHAT'S POSSIBLE.®

"JUST NOT POSSIBLE"

# One Perspective : Keep on Fishing

TRADITIONAL AND SMALL SCALE FISHERS ARE MORE MARGINALIZED DUE TO INDUSTRIALIZATION OF FISHERY SECTOR (MECHANIZATION OF CAPTURE FISHERIES; EXPANSION OF CULTURE FISHERIES) AND OTHER SECTORS TAKING OVER COASTAL LAND, EXPLOITING MARINE AND COASTAL RESOURCES, AND DUMPING VARIOUS WASTES.

- Unfair multi-gears conflicts;
- Expansion of aquaculture;
- Expansion of other industrialization and development (factories, mining, water front cities);
- Promoting of marine tourism;
- Centralized conservation programs; etc.





# Another Perspective : New Opportunities

TRADITIONAL AND SMALL SCALE FISHERS ARE MORE MARGINALIZED DUE TO INDUSTRIALIZATION OF FISHERY SECTOR (MECHANIZATION OF CAPTURE FISHERIES; EXPANSION OF CULTURE FISHERIES) AND OTHER SECTORS TAKING OVER COASTAL LAND, EXPLOITING MARINE AND COASTAL RESOURCES, AND DUMPING VARIOUS WASTES.

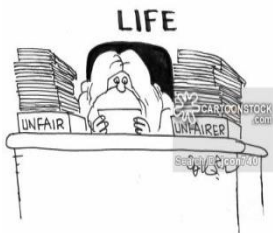
- Unfair multi-gears conflicts;
- Expansion of aquaculture;
- Expansion of other industrialization and development (factories, mining, water front cities);
- Promoting of marine tourism;
- Centralized conservation programs; etc.

Otherwise called  
Development.  
Blue Growth etc.



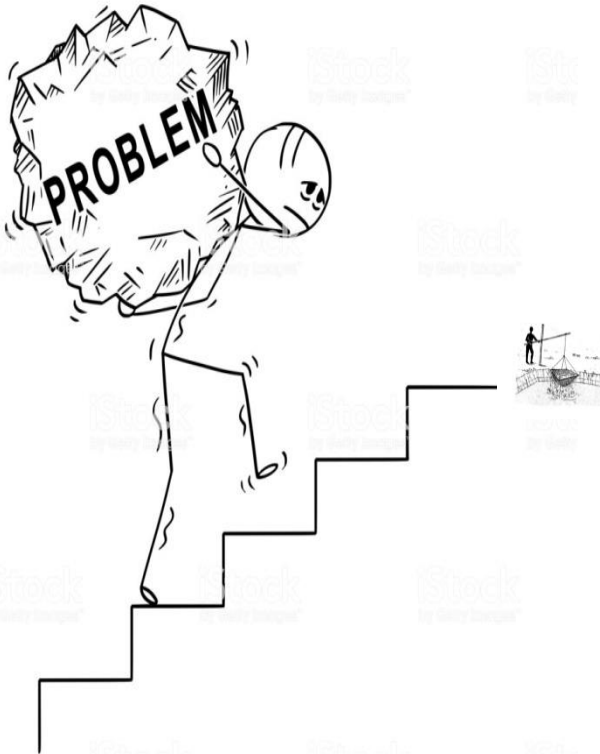
-  
"unfair"

- Opportunities
- Opportunities
- Opportunities
- Opportunities



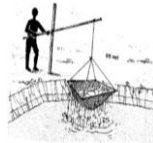


# You have a Problem ?



**Not My Problem**

# The "Others" cannot/will not solve your Problem



Phil Collins  
Too Many Fish In The Sea





**WRONG!**

Phil Collins  
Too Many Fish In The Sea





# Solution:

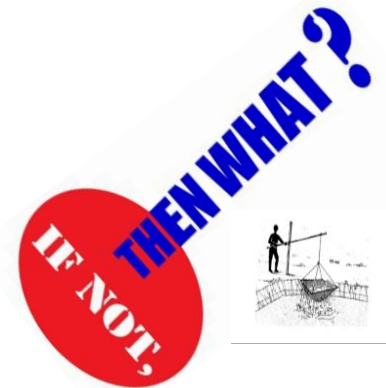
Alternative employment, keep the common resource access open. Multi-sectoral (community) oriented.



Professor Bjørn Hersoug,  
Norwegian College of Fisheries

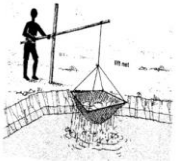
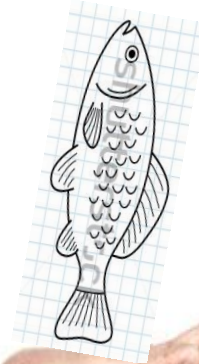


# Precondition !!!





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The reasonable man adapts himself to the world:  
the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt  
the world to himself. Therefore all progress  
depends on the unreasonable man.

(George Bernard Shaw)



**당신의 따뜻한  
관심에  
감사드립니다**