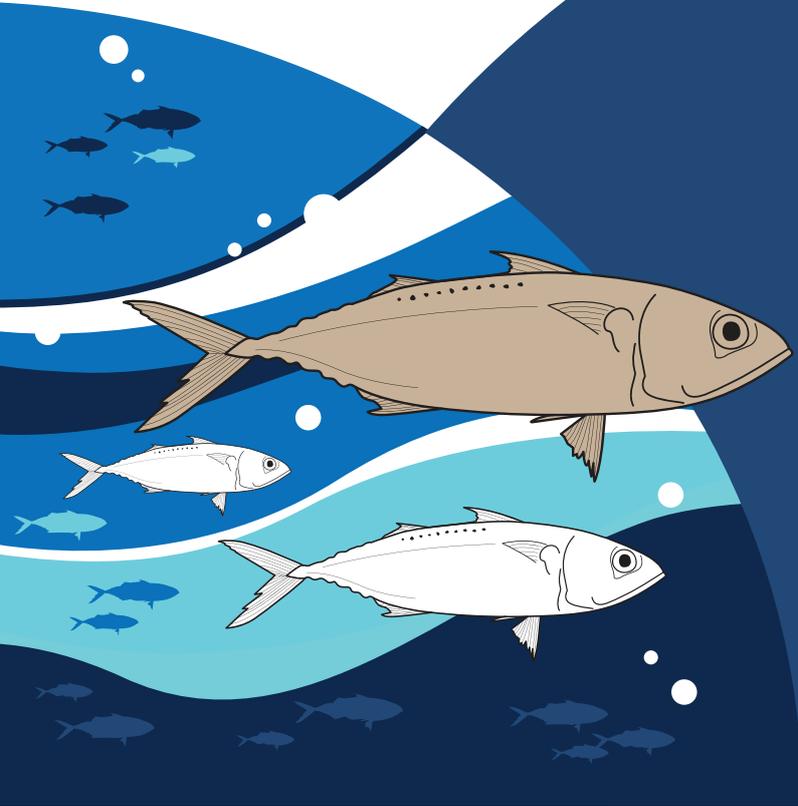




Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



REPORT OF THE ASIA REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON SDG 14.b AND ITS ASSOCIATED INDICATOR 14.b.1

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP, 6–8 JULY 2021



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The Asia Regional Workshop on SDG 14.b and Its Associated Indicator 14.b.1 was organized by INFOFISH under a Letter of Agreement with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). This report of the regional workshop was also prepared by INFOFISH.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

APFIC

Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission

ESCAP

United Nations Economic and Social
Commission for Asia and the Pacific

BOBLME

Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem project

FAO

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

CCRF

Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

FAORAP

FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

CFLC

community fish landing centre

FARMC

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Management Council (the Philippines)

COFI

Committee on Fisheries

FMA

fisheries management area (the Philippines)

CSO

civil society organization

FRD

Fisherfolk Regional Director (the Philippines)

DA-BFAR

Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries
and Aquatic Resources (Philippines)

GAP

Global Action of Plan

DOF

Department of Fisheries (Thailand)

GT

gross tonnage

EEZ

exclusive economic zone

ICSF

International Collective in Support of Fishworkers

IHH

Illuminating Hidden Harvests

SDG

Sustainable Development Goal

ILO

International Labour Organization

SEAFDEC

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

INFOFISH

Intergovernmental Organisation for Marketing Information and Technical Advisory Services for Fishery Products in the Asia and Pacific Region

UN DESA

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

IOM

International Organization for Migration

UNHCR

The UN Refugee Agency

IUU

illegal, unreported and unregulated (fishing)

VMS

vessel monitoring system

IYAFA

International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture

VNR

Voluntary National Review

MCS

monitoring, control and surveillance

NGO

non-governmental organization

RAG

Regional Advisory Group



INTRODUCTION

On 25 September 2015, the 193 Member States of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 169 targets and 230 indicators. Defined and fully owned by countries, the 2030 Agenda is a global vision for people, for the planet and for long-term prosperity. It charts a plan for the future, shifting the world onto a sustainable and resilient course towards transformation in living standards.

SDG target 14.b is specific to small-scale fisheries: “Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets.” SDG indicator 14.b.1 measures the “Progress by countries in adopting and implementing a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries.”

Small-scale fisheries contribute significantly to food security, nutrition, employment and trade in the areas where they are located and beyond. However, many countries do not collect sector-specific data for small-scale fisheries, so it is difficult to estimate their contribution. For this reason, their contribution is often underestimated and undervalued. This has contributed to their low priority in socio-economic development policy, programmes and initiatives.

Countries signing up to the SDGs are requested to report their progress in achieving them. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is the custodian agency for monitoring four of the ten SDG 14 indicators, including 14.b.1, and cooperates with countries in collating associated data in this context. The close linkage between SDG target 14.b and its associated indicator 14.b.1 and the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) is not widely known within fisheries sector institutions as well as those national units and offices responsible for monitoring SDG implementation at the country level.

In 2018, Asia accounted for the highest number of fishers and aquaculture farmers in the world (50.385 million or 85 percent).¹ In addition to the primary sector, millions more are engaged in the secondary sector such as postharvest operations and marketing, where women predominate. It is estimated that 50 percent of those engaged in the fish supply chain are women.

To date, no regional activity had been undertaken in Asia to discuss and explore SDG target 14.b and its associated indicator 14.b.1. Therefore, in response to the request from Member States of the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC) to support national-level efforts to achieve and report on SDG target 14.b, the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAORAP) in collaboration with INFOFISH convened a virtual workshop on SDG target 14.b and its associated indicator 14.b.1 from 6 to 8 July 2021. The workshop shared experiences between reporting and non-reporting countries, contributing towards the goal of increasing the number of countries reporting on and validating the indicator.

¹ FAO. 2020. *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2020. Sustainability in action*. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/ca9229en>

1.1 WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The Asia Regional Workshop on SDG 14.b and Its Associated Indicator 14.b.1 was organized to:

Raise awareness about SDG target 14.b and the proposed indicator 14.b.1.



Explore the indicator methodology and related issues on data and information sources, analysis, reporting and validation; this included the use of the e-learning platform specifically created for this proposed indicator.



Share experiences and lessons learned regarding the reporting and validation process and identify reasons for non-reporting and non-validation.



Identify capacity development needs in relation to reporting and validation on SDG 14.b.

Annex 1 presents the agenda of the workshop.

1.2 WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

The workshop was attended by approximately 60 participants from countries in South and Southeast Asia, invited panellists and FAO officers from Bangkok and Rome. Participating countries constituted Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. There was one observer from the International Ocean Institute – Southern Africa.

Each participating country was requested to nominate a maximum of three participants: the small-scale fisheries focal point; the officer responsible for responses to the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) submitted to FAO every two years; and a representative of a fishers' organization or civil society organization (CSO) or non-government organization (NGO) involved or interested in the implementation of the small-scale fisheries guidelines in the country. Representatives from three countries which reported on and validated the SDG target indicator 14.b in 2018 and 2020 were requested to share their experiences and lessons in reporting on and validating SDG indicator 14.b.1. These countries were Maldives, the Philippines and Thailand.

Annex 2 provides the list of participants.

2

OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP

In his opening remarks, Mr Simon Funge-Smith, Senior Fishery Officer, FAORAP, indicated that SDG target 14.b, with its specific focus on small-scale fisheries, is particularly important for Asia which houses most of these fisheries that are essential for food security, nutrition, livelihoods and trade. Therefore, there is a need to note how well the reporting process works in the region with regard to SDG target 14.b and its associated indicator 14.b.1. He welcomed the participation of representatives from 11 countries as well as others present who were following the event.

Ms Susana Siar (FAORAP) introduced the workshop objectives, agenda and background. She said that the workshop aimed to raise awareness about SDG target 14.b and its associated indicator 14.b.1 and explore indicator methodology and related issues on data and information sources, analysis, reporting and validation, including the use of the e-learning course. Participants were also expected to share experiences on their reporting and validation processes, identify reasons for non-reporting and elaborate on capacity development needs in relation to reporting and validation of SDG indicator 14.b.1.



3

SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES GUIDELINES AND LINKAGES TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In the first presentation, Ms Nicole Franz, Equitable Livelihoods Team, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO, observed that the small-scale fisheries guidelines were developed according to global consensus and are based on the principles and guidance for small-scale fisheries governance and development. Moreover, this instrument extends beyond fisheries into the domains of sustainable livelihoods, food security and sustainable development, complements other international instruments and is grounded in human rights-based principles – especially good governance and participation. She delivered an expert explanation of the linkages between small-scale fisheries guidelines and the SDGs, describing the main thematic areas for achieving the SDGs. For example, Chapter 5 of the small-scale fisheries guidelines deals with ‘Governance of tenure in small-scale fisheries and resource management’, which particularly relates to SDG 14 (Life below water); Chapter 6 addresses ‘Social development, employment and decent work’, which corresponds with SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth); Chapter 7 covers ‘Value chains, post-harvest and trade’ in relation to SDG 12 (Responsible consumption and production); Chapter 8 concerns ‘Gender equality’, synonymous with SDG 5 (Gender equality); and Chapter 9 encompasses ‘Disaster risks and climate change’, which are components of SDG 13 (Climate action). She then spoke on several initiatives which have been taken to encourage implementation of the small-scale fisheries guidelines in the Asia region, including two regional consultations in 2015 by the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and 2016 by the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem project (BOBLME); four workshops on the regional approach, gender and human rights, trade and gender-sensitive value chain analysis; several national activities in India, Myanmar and the Philippines; as well as working with different development partners to provide thematic support on information and communication technology, access to micro-credit, insurance and co-management. She also highlighted the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022) which will be celebrated in 2022 with FAO as the lead agency, in collaboration with other UN entities. Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand are members of the IYAFA 2022 International Steering Committee. The Global Action Plan and visual identity for IYAFA 2022 are available on the dedicated website. www.fao.org/artisanal-fisheries-aquaculture-2022/home/en

3.1 THE ROLE OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL PROGRESS MONITORING

Ms Sangita Dubey, Senior Statistician, FAORAP, explained FAO’s role as the custodian agency for the 21 SDG indicators related to food and agriculture, the role of national governments for each SDG indicator and how to monitor the relevant SDGs. She emphasized FAO’s role in SDG progress monitoring by saying that FAO has been mandated to: (1) lead methodology development; (2) build the statistical capacity of collaborating countries; (3) collect indicators from national authorities and report globally to the SDG indicator secretariat (UN Statistics Division); and (4) contribute to monitoring progress at global, regional and national levels (e.g. The Asia and Pacific SDG Progress Report 2020 – lead taken by Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), supported by other agencies, and the flagship publication The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020). She also gave an update on the status of SDG indicators under FAO

custodianship and the methodology for compiling variables of SDG indicator 14.b.1 with some examples. She then described the reporting and validation process for indicator 14.b.1 and the key tools and initiatives for technical support at the regional level, e.g. the FAO e-learning course, the Asia Pacific SDG Gateway (developed and managed by UN ESCAP) and the Global SDG Indicator Database (managed by the UN Statistics Division and United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs or UN DESA).

3.2 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESPONSIBLE FISHERIES REPORTING

Mr Giuliano Carrara, Fishery Officer, FAO Rome, gave a Web site demonstration on how to use the CCRF questionnaire tool to facilitate the reporting process. The assessment of the indicator for SDG target 14.b is based on three questions included in the FAO biennial questionnaire sent to Member States as part of the monitoring of the implementation of the CCRF, prior to the meeting of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) and reported at the meeting.

These questions comprise: (1) Are there any laws, regulations, policies or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector? (2) The Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) were endorsed by the COFI in June 2014. Does your country have a specific initiative to implement the small-scale fisheries guidelines? and (3) Does your country have mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fishworkers contribute to decision-making processes?

3.3 INTRODUCTION TO THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION'S E-LEARNING COURSE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 14.b.1 INDICATOR METHODOLOGY

Ms Stefania Savore, Fisheries Information Officer, Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, Rome, gave a presentation on the FAO e-learning course and SDG 14.b.1 indicator methodology, explaining how to measure SDG target 14.b, and the detailed methodology and related variables for scoring. She particularly underscored SDG indicator 14.b.1 which focuses on progress by collaborating countries in the degree of application of a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries. An enabling environment, which recognizes and protects small-scale fisheries rights, has three features: a regulatory framework, actions, and empowerment and rights. She also explained FAO's e-learning course² that provides tools, methods and processes to support collaborating countries in monitoring and reporting on SDG indicator 14.b.1 for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries. The reporting status in RAP FAO Member States in 2018 and 2020 regarding SDG indicator 14.b.1 was then shown.

At the end of all presentations, there was a question-and-answer session and the floor was opened to the participants. Day-wise, the questions and replies are detailed in Annex 3.

3.4 SHARING OF EXPERIENCES WITH REPORTING AND VALIDATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL INDICATOR 14.b.1

The representative from Maldives explained that the New Fisheries Act of the Maldives, 2019 prohibits the use of harmful gear and practices in all fisheries, and lays out the framework for monitoring, managing and

² Available at <https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=348>

controlling fisheries operations; it also stipulates administrative action and penalties should the Act, and any regulations made pursuant to it, be violated. Several initiatives (although there are no direct initiatives focusing on the small-scale fisheries guidelines) have been implemented, harmonized and coordinated including management efforts across the sector through training and establishment of monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) measures; providing support for the establishment of cooperatives within fishing communities and facilitating market access; mandatory logbook reporting for non-tuna fisheries; improving the existing catch certification mechanism; and incorporation of small-scale fisheries data (other than tuna) into the fisheries information system to harmonize information flow among stakeholders. In addition, the country established a dedicated department for national coordination of SDG progress in 2017 under the Ministry of National Planning, Housing and Infrastructure. Relevant data are reported to the National Bureau of Statistics, which then compiles the data for national reporting purposes.

The representative from the Philippines shared some initiatives of the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) relevant to small-scale fisheries. A total of 2.1 million fishers and 267 000 boats (as of February 2021) has been registered through FishR and BoatR respectively. The BoatR and FishR projects are designed to enhance, fast track and complete the registration of municipal fishers and boats; protect the preferential rights of subsistence fishers; provide reliable information relevant to their welfare and to fisheries and coastal conservation; and deliver government services and benefits to small-scale fishers efficiently. Community fish landing centres (CFLCs) is a targeted intervention to spur ‘inclusive growth’ in coastal areas with high poverty incidence and large populations of registered fishers under BFAR's FishR project. Moreover, CFLCs have been established as economic growth centres for marketing, promotion of value-added products and as training sites for skills development in postharvest, value-adding and fishery conservation and resource management. Currently 725 CFLCs have been established nationwide to reduce poverty among poor fishing communities and to promote ‘inclusive growth’. Livelihood Assistance Programs have also been introduced through which fishers can contribute to decision-making processes and participate through the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (FARMC). In addition, fisheries management areas (FMAs) have been established for the conservation and management of fisheries in national waters and there is now a Fisherfolk Regional Director (FRD). The FRD is a local fishers’ representative to participate in the DA-BFAR’s regional programmes and activities. The position immerses them to acquire a better grasp of the DA-BFAR’s inner workings and participate in the protection and improvement of the nation’s aquatic resources. The Philippine Statistics Authority is the government agency responsible for monitoring the SDGs.

The representative from Thailand indicated that the Department of Fisheries (DOF) had organized a workshop in cooperation with the Federation of Thai Fisherfolk and several CSOs on the implementation of the small-scale fisheries guidelines. The DOF also established a working group comprising representatives of small-scale fishers, commercial fishers, CSOs, academics and government officers to develop policy which will be proposed to the National Fisheries Committee for consideration and approval. The approved policy will then be applied throughout the country. Other DOF initiatives have aimed at raising awareness among fishers, encouraging their participation in decision-making and setting up provincial fisheries committees. The SDG indicator 14.b.1 reporting process has the following sequence: (1) the DOF submits the CCRF questionnaire directly through the FAO Web-based reporting system, including the small-scale fisheries section of the biannual questionnaire; (2) the DOF collects the implementation data under SDG indicator 14.b.1 and submits the data to the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, as the Secretariat of the Committee for SDG 14. The data are then sent to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment as the SDG country focal point; and (3) the Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents the Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

4

BREAKOUT SESSION

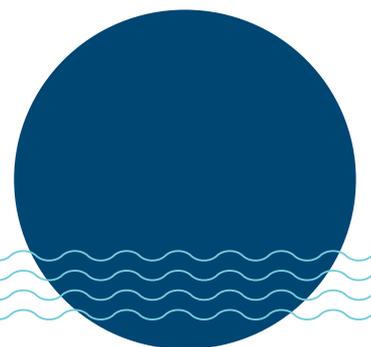
After the presentations on country experiences, the participants were randomly divided into three break-out groups to discuss the following questions:



What information/data sources currently exist (and what data/information would be useful to collect) to support reporting against SDG indicator 14.b.1?



How do we achieve SDG target 14.b?



4.1 SUMMARY OF GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Q1. *What information/data sources currently exist to support reporting against Sustainable Development Goal indicator 14.b.1?*

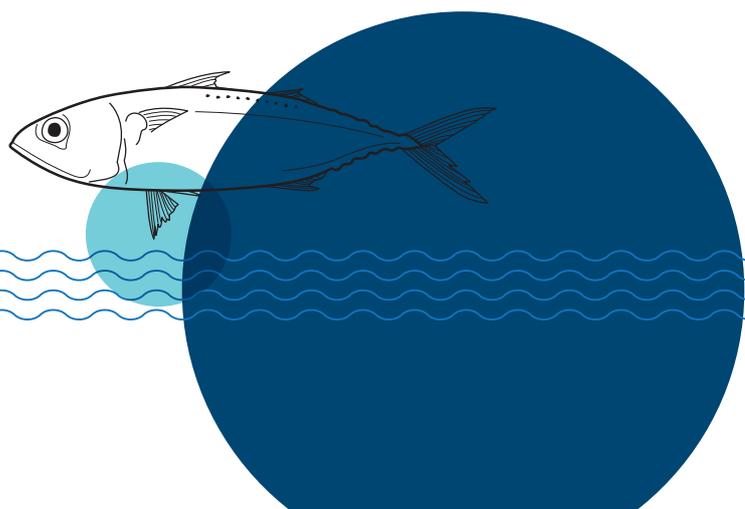
- Data from national statistics offices/agencies are the main sources of data.
- Data from fisheries agencies and programmes.
- Data available at different levels, i.e. municipal, provincial, district and ministry levels and including numbers of fishers and fishing vessels, foreign and local crew (Malaysia).
- Data on social aspects from local councils, NGOs and cooperatives, e.g. data for insurance programmes: ministry collaboration with the private sector and data regarding credit programmes from local banks.
- Numbers of small-scale fishers, collected through fisheries registration databases; in some countries (Malaysia), all small-scale fishers are required to be registered, ensuring few data gaps.
- It was noted that the definition of small-scale fishers differs from country to country.
- Numbers of small-scale fishing boats, collected through fishing boat registration systems.
- Fish catch data for small-scale fisheries collected through local governments and consolidated through national governments/offices (for registered fishers only, so some gaps remain).
- It was also noted that fish catch data were collected from fishing logbooks and observers (from ports and on vessels).
- Landings reported from ports by fisheries rangers in key fishing regions (some gaps because not all ports were covered).
- Data collection programmes coordinated through district offices.
- Observer reports and other data from CSOs/NGOs.
- Data on the fisheries value chain and stakeholders engaged therein, including data on products produced in the small-scale fish processing industry, collected through registration mechanisms.

Q1.1 *What data/information would be useful to collect to support reporting against Sustainable Development Goal indicator 14.b.1?*

- The way we consider data sources needs to be broadened to ensure that no marginalized groups are excluded (e.g. sea gypsies, migrant fishworkers/fishers). In some countries like Thailand, there is also effort to try and include those who are not covered by the regulations, e.g. sea gypsies. However, this can be an issue for some countries (e.g. in Malaysia) especially if the fishers are not nationals of the countries and the jurisdiction lies with another agency.
- Freshwater fisheries not being covered under SDG target 14.b – such as Cambodia where freshwater fisheries account for a major share of the fisheries sector; this affects reporting.
- Several countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives and the Philippines noted that they do not allow foreigners to engage in small-scale fisheries – hence reporting on this is not possible.

Q2. *How do we achieve Sustainable Development Goal target 14.b?*

- Establish a mechanism to collect information on fishers who lost land, income and fishing areas owing to the blue economy paradigm.
- Establishment of fishery community management committees to facilitate marketing of catches, loans for fuel and so forth; in the future, they could provide microfinance services (e.g. in the Lao People's Democratic Republic).
- Develop more capacities in technology support and build more resilience to climate change.
- Longstanding fisheries policy directives are required.
- Awareness-raising is important among fishers/fisheries cooperatives.
- Awareness-raising and empowerment of fishing communities are important, e.g. on the small-scale fisheries guidelines, processes.
- Including small-scale fisheries in management and policy processes, acknowledgement of local practices and traditional processes; small-scale fisheries are important actors in FMAs (Indonesia).
- Alternative livelihoods focusing on women during seasonal bans and area closures (Indonesia).
- Use of local knowledge for seasonal fishing bans and area closures.
- Increase the contributions of small-scale fisheries and fishworkers in decision-making processes.
- More focus on providing access to markets and access to credit.
- Questions on whether there is sufficient access to loan schemes and support for cooperatives were raised.
- Countries have more than one way of reporting data, hence proper coordination among agencies is important.
- Training programmes and capacity development for building awareness are warranted.
- Regular monitoring to ensure reported data are reliable.
- Databases for small-scale fisheries are important; include data on women/children/small processors and so on.
- There is a need to identify indicators for linkage to progress – some scale is required so countries can report on how they have progressed.
- Adopt an ecosystem-based approach in SDG linkage.



4.2 THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN REPORTING ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 14.b

Mr Sebastian Mathew, Executive Director, International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) spoke on ‘Reporting on SDG 14.b: Role of Civil Society’. He said that in most cases, VNRs are prepared in consultation with CSOs. Some of the key roles of CSOs in reporting on SDG 14.b are: (1) raising awareness about SDG 14.b, including information on legislation, policies and strategies at various levels for protecting the rights/opportunities of access to fishing grounds and resources, access to markets and to benefit from such protection; (2) ensuring that review processes at the national and subnational levels are inclusive, participatory, transparent, people-centred and gender-sensitive; (3) raising awareness about traditional systems dealing with equitable access to traditional fishing grounds and resources, and seeking protection through the VNR process; (4) CSO capacity development on current legislation, policies, schemes and evolving strategies, in light of the small-scale fisheries guidelines; this will be instrumental in enhancing the adoption of a human rights-based approach by institutions, mechanisms and processes at various levels (vertical, horizontal and cross-cutting); and (5) establishing clear priorities and seeking synergy with the VNR process to bring greater political visibility to a sustainable, responsible and equitable small-scale fisheries sector.

4.3 MARKETS AND MARKET ACCESS

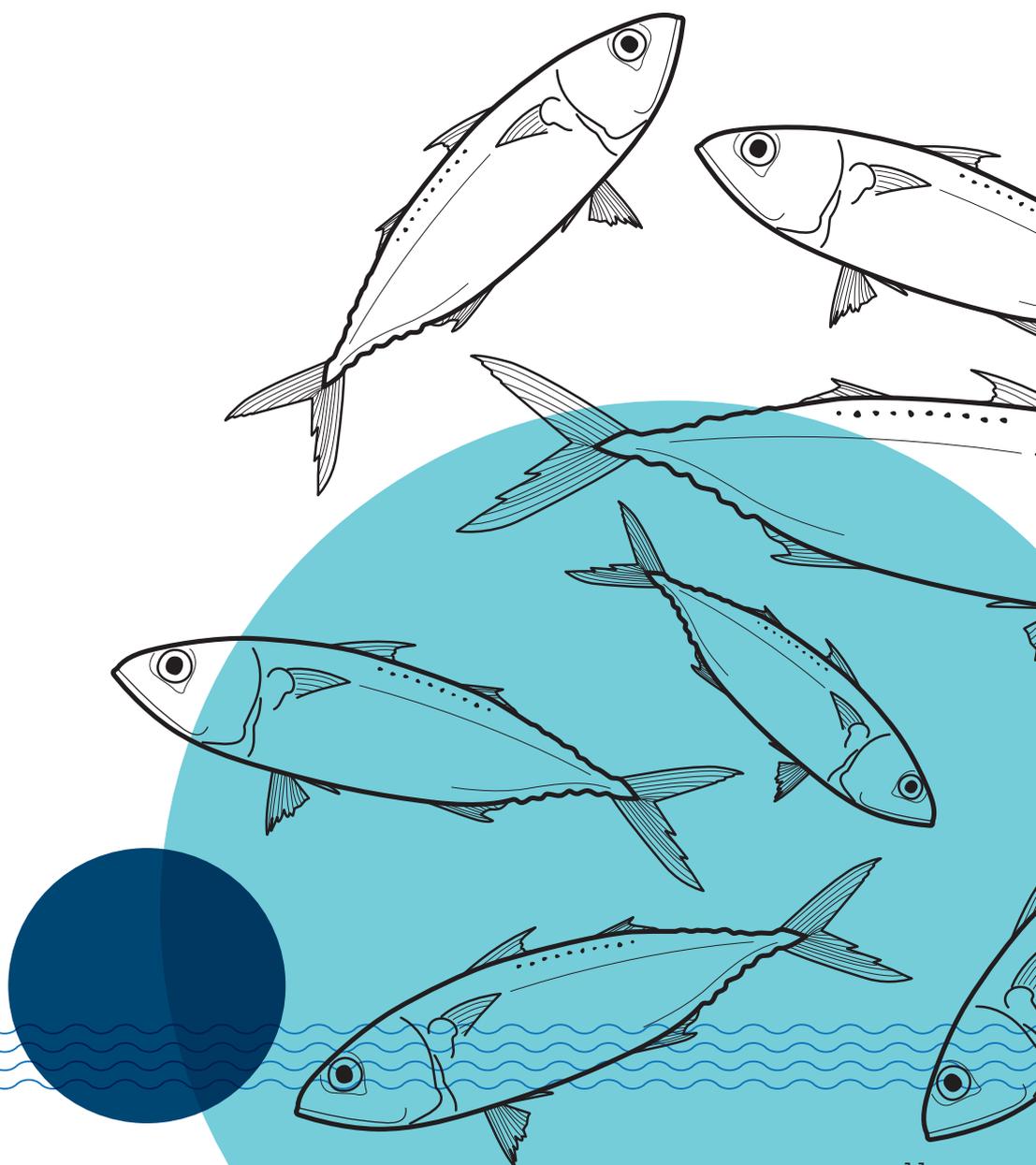
During his presentation ‘Markets and Market Access’, Mr Apimeleki Cokanasiga, Trade Promotion Officer, INFOFISH, said that fish are a highly traded commodity so the SDG indicator on market access is very important. If we look at most regions that export or supply fish to the international markets, we can see that the Asia region or countries dominate the top ten fishery exporters. Asia is very important in the supply of fish and fishery products globally. To meet the challenges of market access, competent authorities and entrepreneurs need training on internationally recognized health, phytosanitary and hazard analysis and critical control points policies, standards, good management practices and certification. He also reiterated that while the COVID-19 pandemic will remain the game changer for seafood retailing in Asia, global food demand and per capita consumption will increase over the next decade, especially for food that is healthy and convenient. Moreover, domestic markets will inevitably become stronger in developing countries.

4.4 SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES ORGANIZATIONS, THEIR ROLE IN IMPLEMENTING THE SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES GUIDELINES AND IN ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 14.b

Mr Herman Kumara, Asia Regional Advisory Group (RAG) on small-scale fisheries guidelines implementation, explained the role of the RAG and the concept for small-scale fisheries guidelines implementation monitoring. He proposed the following methodology for local monitoring: (1) liaise with national governments (also local-level governments, fisheries departments) to advocate for the implementation of the small-scale fisheries guidelines; (2) advocate for policy change/policy implementation; (3) follow and complement national monitoring processes (if any); (4) use the findings as core messages in the run up to the IYAF 2022; and (5) small-scale fisheries advocacy at COFI 35. He proposed several areas which could be explored: the role and responsibilities of the International Planning Committee’s Fisheries Working Group; policy processes in some countries that need to be tapped; and how to link the RAGs in regional monitoring, among others.

4.5 IMPROVING REPORTING AND MONITORING ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET 14.b THROUGH THE ILLUMINATING HIDDEN HARVESTS (IHH) STUDY

In her presentation ‘Illuminating Hidden Harvests: The Contribution of Small-scale Fisheries to Sustainable Development’, Ms Lena Westland, International Fisheries Analyst, FAO Rome, accentuated the effective participation and engagement of fishers and fishworkers in monitoring small-scale fisheries guidelines implementation and data/information on small-scale fisheries. She said that the IHH study reflected the lack of small-scale fisheries data and information and that marginalization of small-scale fisheries still remains. The study also provides methods to improve harmonized and multidisciplinary small-scale fisheries data collection possibilities for capacity development and the rolling out of these methods.



5

CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

Ms Susana Siar led the final plenary session that focused on the issue ‘How to effectively develop capacity for reporting on and monitoring of SDG target 14.b and its associated indicator 14.b.1 and next steps’.

Observations from participants regarding the next steps to improve reporting and monitoring are summarized hereunder:



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5.1 REPORTING

- Gather data on small collectors/small traders who influence the marketing flow in the value chain.
- SDG country focal points should communicate more efficiently to ensure accurate SDG 14 reporting.
- Implement regular/periodic monitoring, evaluation and reporting, citing the Indonesia example:
 - *Periodic monitoring at any time deemed necessary, or according to a schedule such as every six months.*
 - *Periodic evaluation once a year or at any time deemed necessary.*
 - *Monitoring reporting: January to June /July to December.*
 - *Evaluation report on the implementation of SDG achievement: once a month after the current year.*
- Improve reporting and validation of SDG indicator 14.b.1 in the CCRF questionnaire:
 - *SDG country focal points, CCRF country focal points and fisheries officers should consult with each other on SDG target 14.b and SDG indicator 14.b.1.*
 - *The CCRF questionnaire should include a checklist or some other method to reflect the degree to which there has been progress towards reporting capacity.*
- Include subvariables dealing with access to markets.
- Include and collect data on access to resources and markets by migrant fishers and fishworkers. This can be done in collaboration with other actors such as the National Human Rights Commission, with the support of organizations such as FAO/International Organization for Migration (IOM)/International Labour Organization (ILO), so there is equity in reporting on the 'No One is Left Behind' slogan of the SDGs, consistent with the human rights-based approach of the small-scale fisheries guidelines.
- Develop good data on small-scale fisheries beyond those registered with governments.
- Look more systematically at social protection measures which can lead to an enabling environment to guarantee secure access to resources and markets in a more sustainable manner.
- Clarify coherence between SDG target 14.b on access to resources and markets of small-scale fishers, with SDG target 14.6 on prohibiting subsidies which exacerbate overfishing, overcapacity and illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.
- Contribute to the development of subindicators to recognize, secure and restore access to resources by men and women at the local, subnational and national levels on the one hand; and to improve market access at the local, subnational, national, regional and international levels on the other hand.
- Establish clear priorities and seek synergy with the VNR process to bring greater political visibility to a sustainable, responsible and equitable small-scale fisheries sector.

5.2 MONITORING

- Develop an SDG roadmap with rigorous exercises involving multistakeholder participation, ensuring that the contents of this roadmap reflect all stakeholders' aspirations. The roadmap should define issues and the establishment of minimum SDG indicators in each goal, including its forward-looking policies to achieve the set targets.
- Develop a data-sharing mechanism with the Sustainable Development Council to streamline with relevant institutions. Establish better data-sharing mechanisms with key local market players (such as tourist resorts in the case of Maldives). This will ensure that data sources are heterogeneous and do not target fishers exclusively, and that information such as catch estimates can be cross-verified across major stakeholders. Citing the example of Maldives, integrate the SDGs into a strategic action plan, which is a

national planning document revised every five years. This will help to keep track of which actions contribute to which SDGs, the implementing organizations involved and the timeline we can expect for each activity. It also promotes better management of budgets allocated nationally for each activity (and therefore SDGs).

- Share legislation and policies on small-scale fisheries among collaborating countries.

5.3 TRAINING AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

- Develop on-the-job training for responsible persons to equip them with the necessary reporting skills.
- Develop a diagnostic tool to assess the regulatory framework against the small-scale fisheries guidelines. FAO can provide regional training and collaborating countries can then apply that diagnostic tool.
- Enhance CSO capacity to develop subindicators for realizing SDG target 14.b.
- Present the IHH study at the regional level and develop capacity accordingly.

5.4 AWARENESS-RAISING BY CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

- Raise awareness about SDG target 14.b including information on legislation, policies and strategies at various levels towards securing the rights/opportunities of access to fishing grounds and resources, access to markets and to benefit from such protection.
- Raise awareness about traditional systems dealing with equitable access to traditional fishing grounds and resources, and seek protection through the VNR process.
- Raise awareness among states about informal marketing arrangements for addressing grievances of women fish vendors.
- Develop a mechanism to create awareness on the importance of the small-scale fisheries guidelines among fishers.

5.5 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF ARTISANAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE 2022

- Initiate formation of a regional group on IYAFA 2022.
- Use IYAFA 2022 to share progress on implementing the small-scale fisheries guidelines.
- Use the IYAFA Global Action Plan as a source of inspiration to organize activities at local, national, regional and international levels.
- Budget reallocation due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the new normal situation is likely to result in a more cost-efficient virtual IYAFA celebration.
- DOF Thailand is already actively working with CSOs, with many activities being implemented. IYAFA-related activities will be suggested to the committee.

6

CLOSING

In closing, Ms Susana Siar thanked all participants and country representatives for sharing their experiences, FAO colleagues from Rome and Bangkok for their contributions, and INFOFISH for actively participating and contributing to the learning and sharing event. Ms Shirlene Anthonysamy also thanked everyone for their active participation and hoped that there would be opportunities for further discussions.



WORKSHOP AGENDA

Day 1 (Tuesday, 6 July 2021)

| Time (Bangkok) | Topic | Resource person |
|----------------|---|---|
| 12.30 | Log in | |
| | | Moderator: Shirlene Anthonysamy, Director, INFOFISH |
| 13.00–13.40 | Welcome and introduction of participants | Opening of the workshop by Simon Funge-Smith, FAORAP Senior Fishery Officer Each participant introduces himself or herself |
| 13.40–13.55 | Introduction to the purpose of the workshop, background and objectives | Susana Siar, Fishery and Aquaculture Officer, FAORAP |
| 13.55–14.15 | Presentation and discussion: The SSF Guidelines and linkages to SDGs | Nicole Franz, Fishery Planning Officer, FAO Rome |
| 14.15–14.25 | Break | |
| 14.25–14.45 | Presentation and discussion: FAO's role in SDG progress monitoring | Sangita Dubey, Senior Statistician, FAORAP |
| 14.45–15.00 | Presentation: Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) reporting | Giuliano Carrara, Fishery Officer, FAO Rome |
| 15.00–15.15 | Presentation: Introduction to the FAO e-learning course and SDG 14.b.1 indicator methodology | Stefania Savore, Fishery Information Officer, FAO Rome |
| 15.15 | Q&A | |
| 15.45 | End of Day 1 | |

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Day 2 (Wednesday, 7 July 2021)

| Time (Bangkok) | Topic | Resource person |
|--|---|--|
| 12.30 | Log in starts | |
| Presentation and discussion: Presentations from three countries on their experiences with reporting and validation of SDG target 14.b | | |
| | | Moderator: Susana Siar |
| 13.00–13.15 | Maldives | |
| 13.15–13.30 | Philippines (the) | |
| 13.30–13.45 | Thailand | |
| 13.45–13.55 | General discussion | |
| 13.55–14.00 | Preparation for breakout session | |
| 14.00–14.10 | Break | |
| 14.10–14.50 | Breakout session Three discussion groups Questions for discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What information/data sources currently exist (<i>and what data/information would be useful to collect</i>) to support reporting against SDG 14.b.1? • How do we achieve SDG target 14.b? | |
| 14.50–15.10 | Reporting back to plenary from the breakout session and discussion | Three groups, maximum 5 minutes for each group Moderator: Shirlene Anthonysamy |
| 15.10–15.30 | Presentation and discussion: Role of civil society in reporting on SDG 14.b | Sebastian Mathew, Executive Director, International Collective in Support of Fishworkers |
| 15.30 | End of Day 2 | |

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Day 3 (Thursday, 8 July 2021)

| Time (Bangkok) | Topic | Resource person |
|----------------|---|--|
| 12.30 | Log in starts | |
| | | Moderator: Susana Siar |
| 13.00–13.20 | Presentation and discussion: Markets and market access | Api Cokanasiga, Trade Promotion Officer, INFOFISH |
| 13.20–13.40 | Presentation and discussion: Small-scale fisheries organizations, their role in implementing the small-scale fisheries guidelines and in achieving SDG 14.b | Herman Kumara, Asia Regional Advisory Group on small-scale fisheries guidelines implementation |
| 13.40–14.00 | Improving reporting and monitoring on SDG 14.b through the Illuminating Hidden Harvest study | Lena Westlund, International Fisheries Analyst, FAO Rome |
| 14.00–14.10 | Poll on how to effectively develop capacity for reporting on and monitoring SDG indicator 14.b.1 | INFOFISH |
| 14.10–14.20 | Break | |
| 14.20–14.40 | Plenary discussion: How to effectively develop capacity for reporting on and monitoring SDG 14.b and its associated indicator 14.b.1 and next steps | Susana Siar/Shirlene Anthonysamy |
| 14.40–14.55 | Evaluation and closing of the workshop | FAORAP and INFOFISH |

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ASIA REGIONAL WORKSHOP : SDG 14.b AND ITS ASSOCIATED INDICATOR 14.b

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP
6 - 8 July 2021



BANGLADESH

Dr Muhammad Tanvir Hossain Chowdhury
Deputy Chief (Marine)
Department of Fisheries, Matshya Bhaban, Dhaka

Mr Mohammad Nazim Uddin
Assistant Director
Marine Fisheries Office, Agrabad, Chattogram

CAMBODIA

Ms Kaing Khim
Deputy Director General of Fisheries
Administration
FiA

INDIA

Dr Sanjay Pandey
Assistant Commissioner (Fisheries)
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry
& Dairying

Ms Poonam Rani
Fisheries Research and Investigation Officer
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry
& Dairying

INDONESIA

Mr Andreas Mahardika
Cooperation Analyst for the UN
Public Relations and Foreign Cooperation
Bureau, MMAF

Mr Gunawan Dwi Nughoro
Sub-Coordinator for Funding Fisherman
Business Coordinator
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries

Sitti Hamdiyah

Coordinator for Regional and Multilateral Cooperation
Public Relations and Foreign Cooperation Bureau,
MMAF

Muhamad Lukman Hakim

Officer
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Indonesia

THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Mr Akhane Phomsouvanh
Director - Division of Fisheries
Department of Livestock and Fisheries

Mr Thongkhoun Khonglaliene
Director - Fisheries Development Centre
Department of Livestock and Fisheries

MALAYSIA

Mr Mohd Fairuz Anwar bin Roslan
Senior Fisheries Officer, Capture Fisheries
and Licensing Division
Department of Fisheries

Ms Nur Fadhlina Chan binti Mahadie Chan
Senior Fisheries Officer, Planning
and Development Division
Department of Fisheries

Ms Hemalatha Raja Sekaran
Senior Fisheries Officer, Planning
and Development Division
Department of Fisheries

MALDIVES

Ms Aminath Lubna

Director
Ministry of Fisheries Marine Resources
and Agriculture

Ms Maleeha Haleem

Senior Fisheries Officer
Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources
and Agriculture

Hawwa Raufath Nizar

Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources
and Agriculture

THE PHILIPPINES

Mr Teodoro A. Bacolod Jr.

Regional Director
BFAR

Mr Joeren S. Yleana

Senior Aquaculturist
BFAR

Mr Dennis Calvan

Senior Manager
RARE Philippines

SRI LANKA

Mr B.A.P. Kapila Bamunuarachchi

Deputy Director (Monitoring)
Ministry of Fisheries

Mrs Imaya Uggaldeniya

Deputy Director (Planning)
Ministry of Fisheries

Mrs Sadamali Herath

Deputy Director
Ministry of Fisheries

Mrs Sripani Herath

Deputy Director (Planning)
Ministry of Fisheries

THAILAND

Dr Wantana Chenkitkosol

Head of Fishing Ground Development
and Rehabilitation Group Marine Fisheries
Research and Development Division
Department of Fisheries, Thailand

Ms Maneewan Sriyanon

Plan and Policy Analyst, Practitioner Level
Fisheries Development Policy
and Planning Division
Department of Fisheries, Thailand

Mrs Ravadee Prasertcharoensuk

Director of Sustainable Development Foundation
Thailand

Mr Nopparud Winyuwimol

Navigator Officer, Practitioner Level, Fisheries
Control and Surveillance Division
Department of Fisheries, Thailand

Mr Woramate Chatnakrob

Legal Officer, Practitioner Level,
Legal Affairs Division
Department of Fisheries, Thailand

Mr Wasan Homfung

Fishery Biologist, Fisheries Foreign Affairs Division
Department of Fisheries, Thailand

VIET NAM

Ms Chau Thi Tuyet Han

Senior Official of Department of Aquaculture
Department of Capture Fisheries, Department
of Aquaculture and Department of Science
Technology and International Cooperation

Ms Nguyen Mai Huong

Official of Department of Aquaculture
and Department of Science Technology
Department of Capture Fisheries, Department
of Aquaculture and Department of Science
Technology and International Cooperation

Mr Nguyen Dang Kien

Official of Department of Fisheries
Department of Capture Fisheries, Department
of Aquaculture and Department of Science
Technology and International Cooperation

Nguyen Dzung

Director
Department of Science Technology and
International Cooperation, Directorate of Fisheries

**REPRESENTATIVES FROM
REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS**

INDIA

International Collective in Support
of Fishworkers (ICSF), India

Sebastian Mathew

Executive Director

SRI LANKA

Asia Regional Advisory Group – Global
Strategic Framework, SSF Guidelines

Herman Kumara

National Convener – National Fisheries
Solidarity Sri Lanka

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS, ROME**

Giuliano Carrara

Fishery Officer

Nicole Franz

Fishery Planning Officer

Stefania Savore

Fishery Information Officer

Lena Westlund

International Fisheries Analyst

**FAO REGIONAL OFFICE
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

Sangita Dubey

Senior Statistician

Simon Funge-Smith

Senior Fishery Officer

Susana Siar

Fishery and Aquaculture Officer

Tipparat Pongthanapanich

Aquaculture Officer

Ratthanin Sangsayan

Consultant to support APFIC and FAORAP
fisheries and aquaculture programmes

Chanphen Bhawangkananth

Office Assistant

INFOFISH, MALAYSIA

Apimeleki Cokanasiga

Trade Promotion Officer

Firoza Buranudeen

Editor, INFOFISH International

Mohd Aftar Aris

IT Administrator

Mohd Syahir Zahardin

Advertising Officer cum Designer

Nurshamin Famirah Johari

Executive Secretary to the Director

Shirlene Maria Anthonysamy

Director

Sujit Das

Technical Officer

OBSERVER

SOUTH AFRICA

Kashiefa Parker

Project Coordinator

International Ocean Institute – Southern Africa

WORKSHOP CHAT BOX DIALOGUES

Day 1 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Herman
Kumara

Nicole, how do we initiate the formation of a regional IYAFA group in Asia?

Mohd
Fairuz Anwar

Could you share information on the programme, particularly on small-scale fisheries in conjunction with IYAFA 2022?

Dennis
Calvan

Do we have any estimates or studies on how much we would need to finance monitoring of the SDGs, particularly SDG 14? Were there any commitments for sustainably financing SDG 14?

Sebastian
Mathew

Are there cases of countries disputing the SDG rank as assigned? Is there a dispute settlement body under the United Nations?

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

A suggestion is to approach the representative of the Asian region in the international steering committee, which is Indonesia, and propose an event to achieve this.

FAO can help by providing a contact and the terms of reference for the steering committee.

Nicole
Franz

The whole of 2022 will focus on small-scale fisheries. It will be launched on 18 November 2021 but there are no fixed dates yet for events, including the small-scale fisheries regional conference.

Nicole
Franz

I don't know the cost estimates for specific SDGs but from now to 2030, there is an estimate of USD 5 trillion to USD 7 trillion a year to attain all the SDG goals. It is assumed that most of that will be private sector funding.

Sangita
Dubey

FAO as the custodian agency has developed the methodology, done in consultation with the COFI and also with countries. After the methodology was approved by the COFI Bureau it was sent to the interagency and expert group on SDG indicators. It is a fully approved methodology by Member States. With regard to the scoring of particular Member States, so far there have not been any questions.

Giuliano
Carrara

I am not aware of a dispute settlement body on SDG indicators nor of instances where countries

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Sangita
Dubey

Day 1 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Stefania, could you please show the subvariables dealing with access to markets?

Sebastian Mathew

What is the process of submitting small-scale fisheries data to FAO, for example, and once it has been conveyed, what is the process if we want to change the data? This is because we need to make sure that they are the same data that we submit to all international organizations like FAO, regional fisheries management organizations etc that are also working on and having the same issues related to small-scale fisheries. We have experienced that some international organizations do not accept the data we provide, either because they do not believe in our calculation method or for political reasons. So does FAO also provide the methodology needed to generate the data required? Perhaps further capacity development on this will be needed.

Sitti Hamdiyah

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

dispute a ranking, but there are situations when countries have been reluctant to implement a particular indicator because some indicators can be very political, e.g. food insecurity experience gaps. The custodian agencies usually work with the countries through their relevant ministries, highlighting the methodology and the reasons for the indicator. Member States are also reminded that this is something the international community has adopted.

Sangita Dubey

Variable 1 is related to regulation and processes, Variable 2 is related to implementation of the guidelines and Variable 3 is more about the decision-making process. Access to markets would fall under subvariable 2, i.e. enhancing small-scale fisheries value chains, postharvest operations and trade in accordance with the small-scale fisheries guidelines.

Stefania Savore

When you compare the progress of countries, you are using the same format for all but for the small-scale fisheries sector, this may not reflect the reality because characteristics differ in each country. At least the definition used by each country in identifying what small-scale fisheries constitute might be needed somewhere. Otherwise, it is very difficult to compare the relative progress of countries. How are we going to address this? And the second thing is in terms of capacity development and the role of FAO. This is really back to basics, i.e. there needs to be a database system for small-scale fisheries otherwise it becomes difficult to link it to the SDG goals. It would be good to see FAO working with different countries on their database systems for small-scale fishers.

Ravadee

Day 1 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

Thank you Ravadee. I would like to start with capacity development first. There are several capacity development programmes within FAO, especially in the fisheries division. So, for example, I work for the statistics information team. Once a country requests support for capacity development, we work with the country to understand what its needs are. These may be socio-economic guidelines or how to improve fleet and employment data collection. I urge those who would like some support to reach out. On the issue of small-scale fisheries definition, I think if we start to discuss it here, we will probably never finish. But I do see your point that different countries have different definitions. Even if there were a definition of small-scale fisheries for that country, we would still need to look at the comparison among many potentially different levels of what makes up a national small-scale fisheries sector. In a way, for an exercise like reporting, we have to almost take it for granted that the country is accurately reporting on its small-scale fisheries. We have to keep working on this issue.

Stefania Savore

I wanted to follow up on two of the interventions. Related to Stefania's comment, the same issue came up with farmers. How do we define small farmers? This took quite a bit of discussion on indicators such as measuring the productivity and the income of subsistence farmers or small farmers; at the end of the day, what's small in Australia could be larger in India. So, a relative approach was used that looked at the bottom 40 percent of income, the bottom 40 percent of livestock

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Sangita Dubey

Day 1 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

ownership and the bottom 40 percent of land area and taking the intersection of that to identify the threshold for what it means to be small in a specific country. A producer farmer who fits these criteria is then defined as being small. This process took quite a bit of time, so Stefania's point that this isn't something that can be resolved quickly is a very good one. But this is really important and we should make sure that we raise it with our fisheries statistics division or official fisheries statistician. It is the demand by countries over time that leads to this kind of discussion. So, the first step is that we pass on your request, and if there is sufficient demand from other countries, I am sure that at some point, it will be taken up.

The other intervention that I wanted to go back to is the question on desegregation, especially access to markets. Now, this is one indicator but as you have seen, there are three subvariables and 15 additional subquestions that need to be asked to compile the data. This is one of the simpler indicators to compile because it deals with yes/no questions. We have other indicators that are very complex, that require long surveys just to compile all the subindicators to get the final indicators. So, I think for any indicator that has subcomponents, there's a decision that needs to be made, i.e. at what point do you not add burden. A reporting agency is not just looking at one particular indicator – there are 231 unique indicators for the entire UN system and all the subindicators that come with them. That probably explains why

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Sangita
Dubey

Day 1 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

subvariables related to access to markets have not been determined. If this is something that Member States feel strongly about having, there is always the opportunity every five years to do revisions. The UN Statistics Commission is concerned about expanding the response burden, which may explain why this specific aspect of interest may not have been emphasized as much when the methodology was developed.

Sangita
Dubey

Thank you Sangita for clarifying the access to market issue. It's very important considering that developing countries are now contributing more than 55 percent, if not more, of fish entering the international market. So therefore, both from the international market and domestic markets access point of view, and especially taking into consideration the fact that the small-scale fisheries sector contributes to both international and domestic markets, we need to have more subindicators to capture measurement of access. For example, are small-scale fishers forming a cooperative? Are they able to phase out intermediaries? Are they able to receive a competitive price for fish? Are there any non-tariff measures exempting small-scale fisheries products in comparison with industrial fisheries products? There are so many concrete subindicators that can be proposed related to the access to market of small-scale fishers. We can better balance their access to resources with access to markets. So, I would strongly encourage the statistics department to look into expanding this indicator, even though it adds

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Sebastian
Mathew

Day 1 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

to the workload of ministries and departments. And also, we have to remember that the fisheries indicators are responded to by the fisheries administration, not by the agriculture department. Therefore, it is not really adding to the workload to report on fishers accessing resources and accessing markets. It would definitely contribute to better insight into what small-scale fisheries constitute, for example. Thank you.

Sebastian Mathew

If I can propose one thing that may be useful: As I mentioned in my presentation, one of the challenges is mainstreaming the global SDG indicators into national frameworks. So, for any country which feels it is really important to expand an existing SDG indicator in addition to presenting it to FAO, that country can work on expanding its own data collection range. By demonstrating the value of this exercise and showing how the results can be used, the international community may then say, "OK, this makes sense". And I do understand your point that this burden falls on the Ministry of Fisheries, that the overall coordination of the burden of the data collection falls on the government. Sometimes the resistance is not because of a particular ministry saying no, but it could be the government itself that is saying that we are asking for too much data. You know, any data collection exercise is expensive. So, having a business case where you can show the value of the additional questions and that the burden is actually minimal because these may be yes/no questions, I think this could influence the way forward. I have to admit that I am sympathetic towards your argument.

Sangita Dubey

Day 1 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

If I can propose one thing that may be useful: As I mentioned in my presentation, one of the challenges is mainstreaming the global SDG indicators into national frameworks. So, for any country which feels it is really important to expand an existing SDG indicator in addition to presenting it to FAO, that country can work on expanding its own data collection range. By demonstrating the value of this exercise and showing how the results can be used, the international community may then say, "OK, this makes sense". And I do understand your point that this burden falls on the Ministry of Fisheries, that the overall coordination of the burden of the data collection falls on the government. Sometimes the resistance is not because of a particular ministry saying no, but it could be the government itself that is saying that we are asking for too much data. You know, any data collection exercise is expensive. So, having a business case where you can show the value of the additional questions and that the burden is actually minimal because these may be yes/no questions, I think this could influence the way forward. I have to admit that I am sympathetic towards your argument.

Sangita Dubey

Women's participation in postharvest activities is very significant, therefore if we really want to value women, we have to also pay attention to the subindicators dealing with market access.

Giuliano Carrara: I fully agree with you that the indicator isn't currently that specific to market

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Sebastian Mathew

Day 1 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Referring to the presentation by Mr Giuliano who stated that Malaysia did not submit the CCRFQ, we would like to seek further clarification since we did receive the submission notification from CCRF FAO which clearly stated that FAO had received response from Malaysia for 2020.

Thank you so much Mr Giuliano. Perhaps the information can be rectified before it is circulated to the participants of this workshop. Thank you so much for your cooperation in this matter.

Nur
Fadhlina Chan
Mahadie Chan

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

access. The focus is a bit more on the resources element, but I would highlight that if you look at variables 1 and 3, these deal with the policy, regulations and legislations in place that are applicable to the whole small-scale fisheries sector which would also be relevant to all aspects of the decision-making process.

Sebastian
Mathew

I fully agree with you that the indicator isn't currently that specific to market access. The focus is a bit more on the resources element, but I would highlight that if you look at variables 1 and 3, these deal with the policy, regulations and legislations in place that are applicable to the whole small-scale fisheries sector which would also be relevant to all aspects of the decision-making process.

Giuliano
Carrara

Thank you for raising this point, I will revert back soon after checking again.

Dear Nur Fadhlina, please accept my apologies, it was an oversight on my part when compiling the table, I confirm that Malaysia submitted the questionnaire in 2020.

Giuliano
Carrara

End of Day 1 Chat box

Day 2 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

I noticed that one of the initiatives under a new regulation is the prohibition of using commercial gear for capture fisheries. Has it been implemented? How have industries/stakeholders reacted to the new regulation?

Mohd Fairuz Anwar

Have you a mechanism to increase awareness of the importance of the small-scale fisheries guidelines among fishers? If yes, how did it happen and what is the response from the fishers/fishers' organizations?

Herman Kumara

Hi, Hawwa, very nice presentation, could you tell us the kind of permitted gear other than longlines and pole and line? How are ornamental fish harvested?

Sebastian Mathew

Maldives is implementing more advanced MCS measures including VMS and Electronic Observer Systems. Has COVID-19 impacted reporting against SDG indicator 14.b.1?

Sujit Das

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

We have banned these forms of net fishing (purse seine etc) for many years. They are not being practised by the Maldivian fishers as they are aware that some of these methods are harmful. Fishing is now only one-by-one (pole and line, handline etc). The fishers are very much against these kinds of fisheries as well.

Hawwa

Not directly pertaining to the small-scale fisheries guidelines. However, we have just published the management plans and we are having online meetings where we discuss conservation management measures. We are also rolling out best practices guidelines that are not purely focused on small-scale fisheries. So far, we have met some resistance, especially in the banning of scuba gear etc. We are maintaining the measures at the moment.

Hawwa

Aside from the gear that I have listed as banned, other gear are in fact permitted in the Maldivian EEZ depending on the type of fisheries. They include weighted handlines and trawling. For ornamental fish, we have large and small scoop handheld nets which divers use for harvesting. This is not gear that is discarded.

Hawwa

Our goal is to equip all licensed tuna fishing vessels over 15 metres in length with a VMS (so far, 132 units have been installed, out of 621 vessels). We also plan to monitor 5 percent of all fishing trips by licensed tuna fishing vessels through the establishment of an e-observer system.

Hawwa

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Day 2 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

As you mentioned, BFAR has a livelihood assistance programme including credit loans. Does BFAR offer loan assistance for income generation to small-scale fishers during the fishing ban periods, especially for women?

Sujit Das

Thank you Joeren for the clear and very interesting presentation. It is good to see that local NGOs are representing the fisheries management body. How are representatives to the management body selected? Are there any criteria for selection?

Herman Kumara

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

Unfortunately, only 15 units have been installed so far. Installation has come to a standstill due to the travel restrictions for the past year and a half, and we have only been installing them when vessels have come into port in the Greater Malé area. And as you have noted, we expect COVID-19 to have some impact on reporting progress.

Hawwa

During the fishing ban periods, the local government units offer alternative livelihood programmes for small-scale fishers while BFAR also helps, especially women, through the provision of postharvest facilities. That is why the community fish landing centre was established so that during the fishing ban season, women can be trained in postharvest activities. With regard to credit loans, BFAR only facilitates and provides technical assistance to the fishers because the funds come from the Land Bank of the Philippines (one of the government funding institutions in the Philippines).

Joeren

There are minimum requirements pertaining to NGOs being represented in the management body of FMAs. The NGOs should be locally based and conducting fisheries-related programmes in that area. This is to ensure that the NGO representative is knowledgeable and can contribute to the policies and programmes that will be implemented by the FMA Management Body or MB. Aside from that, NGOs are also encouraged to become members of science advisory groups and technical working groups that help the FMA MB.

Joeren

Day 2 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Thank you Joeren, very interesting presentation. Some questions from me: Is there a national regulation that clearly states the definition of small-scale fishers and if the size of fishing vessel included in the definition is a vessel of less than 3 GT? How does the Philippines protect its small-scale fishers from various other activities such as large fishing businesses? Is there a fishing area arrangement between small-scale fisheries and large-scale fisheries? What are the criteria for grouping or dividing fishery management areas?

Sitti Hamdiyah

For all three country presentations or anyone else in the meeting, I would like to know if there is any definition to identify small-scale fisheries? This is very important for us to claim the rights accorded to the small-scale fisheries sector. Thank you.

Herman Kumara

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

To achieve SDG target 14.b we provided fibreglass boats with complete gear, seaweed propagules for planting and other fisheries-related interventions for our small-scale fishers to enhance their livelihoods. Also, to help our small-scale fishers in the marketing of their products, we launched the programme KADIWA ni Ani at Kita wherein we supply the fishery products right to the doorstep of the consumers. In that way we help our fishers to sell their products and at the same time we also help customers to obtain fresh products. Secondly, we facilitate the participation of our small-scale fishers, especially women, in the Agri-Aqua Fair where they can market their products in one location. We also conduct market matching for them, for example introducing them to specific restaurants to sell their products.

Joeren

For Thailand, we define artisanal fisheries in the Royal Ordinance as having a certain vessel size (less than 10 GT). The Ordinance also specifies the engine horsepower of the small-scale vessel. At the moment we do not have a definition that covers all those involved in the small-scale fisheries value chain such as small-scale traders or workers in the processing sectors.

Wantana Chenkitkosol

Day 2 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

We do not have a formalized or official definition for small-scale fisheries. For management purposes, we consider any fisheries that operate for the local market and not for the export market to be small-scale fisheries because we are a very small country with a very small population. So, this is the scale we use. In this regard, except for the current licensed fleet, all tuna fishing and all fisheries like the reef fishery are considered local, and so forth. Thank you.

Hawwa

End of Day 2 Chat box

Day 3 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

It would be good to clarify how to seek coherence between SDG target 14.b on access to resources and markets of small-scale fishers, with SDG target 14.6 on prohibiting subsidies which contribute to overfishing and overcapacity, and IUU fishing.

Sebastian Mathew

The data that are available from countries on small-scale fisheries are really lacking in the analysis. From what was discussed yesterday, most data from countries are more on the fishing operations perspective and less on market access.

Api

Very interesting presentation. I would like to know if INFOFISH has conducted any programme involving women on the utilization of by-products or other fisheries products.

Sitti Hamdiyah

Yes, we have conducted programmes in the past in relation to by-products but that was many years ago. Some of those programmes involved women in the Pacific region. We have not had the opportunity to execute similar initiatives in recent years.

Shirlene

What exactly is the scope of monitoring of the implementation of the small-scale fisheries guidelines?

Sebastian Mathew

The proposal we are working on aims at implementation at the national level.

Nicole Franz

Day 3 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Herman, in some countries, the government has limited data/low political will to monitor and implement small-scale fisheries guidelines at the local/national level. How can CSOs effectively play their role in that case?

Sujit Das

Hi Lena, since the definition of small-scale fisheries is problematic, how can we address the IHH case studies; for instance, whom to exclude at the national level?

Sebastian Mathew

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

This is the major challenge in most Asian countries. It is really difficult to engage with state actors and to convince them of the importance of CSO/small-scale fisheries organizations involvement in monitoring the process. Unlike CCRF, there is no reporting mechanism in the COFI or any other platform relevant to reporting by states. That is why there is a need to have parallel processes/mechanisms to compile the voices of the CSOs/small-scale fisheries organizations. At least there should be a mechanism for CSOs to report country situations to a Web site set up by COFI/FAO/UNHRC or any other platform through SDG monitoring mechanisms.

Herman Kumara

The definition is something that will always trigger a lot of discussion. Most fisheries guidelines do not provide a definition but it is something that needs to be done in the national context and through a participatory process. And the definition may vary in different countries. Some work that has been done within the IHH studies may be of help. I am not trying to say that it is going to give a definition, but it does characterize fisheries, including small-scale fisheries. Generally, countries that do have a definition of small-scale fisheries tend to look at the length of the boat and the engine power, but IHH additionally puts together a whole range of different characteristics including where the catch goes, if the boats are owner-operated or not, integration into local economies and so forth. In this way, we can have a more comprehensive view of small-scale fisheries, more in line

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Lena Westlund

Day 3 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Thank you very much for the presentation on the IHH. I'm just wondering if the work included looking at the status of small-scale fisheries for each participating country, whether they are highly exploited, overfished or declining. What was reported is on the fish catch, which I think is also relevant.

Dennis Calvan

Nicole, will there be a piloting phase supported by FAO in selected countries?

Sebastian Mathew

I am curious to know what the meaning of Hidden Harvest is, if Lena could give some insight on this.

Herman Kumara

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

with the reality. As we know, there are many different aspects that come into play when we try to understand what small-scale fisheries constitute and what they do not.

Lena Westlund

For IHH, we have invited the country case study authors to identify small-scale fisheries and we have also collected information on whether there is a definition of small-scale fisheries at the country level.

Nicole Franz

Unfortunately, we could not gather sufficient data on fish status in small-scale fisheries. Working on data-limited fisheries to improve stock assessment methods is something we would work on more with countries in the future.

Nicole Franz

Sebastian, on piloting the monitoring framework – yes!

Nicole Franz

We feel that unfortunately the great importance of small-scale fisheries is still hidden. It is not visible. The catches, the employment and the nutrition related to the small-scale fisheries are real but when they are not reflected in any database or in numbers somewhere, many others who are a bit further away from this sector (maybe at the policy level or the Ministry of Finance) don't see them. So, for them it's hidden. So, what we are trying to do is to make this harvest, the contribution of small-scale fisheries, more visible. Hence the name 'Hidden Harvest'.

Lena Westlund

Day 3 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Dennis Calvan

This is a relevant report on small-scale fisheries that can be aligned to our celebration of IYAFA in 2022.

Nicole Franz

...

Thailand would like to propose the following improvements to SDG indicator 14.b.1 reporting and the next steps:

1. The FAO presentation on the CCRF questionnaire has three variables related to reporting: the laws, implementation status and empowering of small-scale fisheries. However, more details should be included, to the extent possible, to assess the degree of application or achievement. For example, we could say that we have implemented many beneficial actions for small-scale fisheries but we still cannot estimate the proportion or percentage of small-scale fisheries which should be given access to those benefits. Sometimes the information that we provide regarding an indicator does not change because it is static; for example, laws or regulations. We should also collect information that reflects the progress of the same story but in terms of quantity or coverage percentage of implementation.

Access to markets is a challenge because small-scale fisheries fishers usually practise simple

Wasan Homfung

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Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

The title also builds on a 2012 World Bank, FAO and WorldFish study – the Hidden Harvest. We hope to use the results in 2022, and also to prepare regional and country-level reports and follow up if there is interest.

Nicole Franz

For an information brief on trade and fishery, to inform the World Trade Organization negotiations visit www.fao.org/3/cb5410en/cb5410en.pdf

Nicole Franz

Good points from Thailand on increasing the opportunities to provide more detailed information on progress in relation to the indicator subvariables!

Nicole Franz

Day 3 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

activities. We have analysed the marketing channels of small-scale fisheries products and we have tried to increase them for more value. But we still need information or data on small collectors/small traders who influence the marketing flow in the value chain.

2. Fisheries agencies and SDG country focal points should communicate more efficiently to ensure appropriate SDG 14 reporting.

3. SDG country focal points, CCRF country focal points and fisheries officers should consult on SDG target 14.b and SDG indicator 14.b.1.

Wasan Homfung

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

For Indonesia, the mechanism is as follows:

- a) Monitoring is implemented every six months or at any time if necessary.
- b) Evaluation is implemented once a year or at any time if necessary.
- c) Monitoring report submission:
 - The first semester (January to June, reported on the 15th of July).
 - The second semester (July to December).
- d) The evaluation report on the implementation of SDG achievement is submitted one month after the current year ends.

Indonesia, through the Ministry of National Development Planning of the Republic of Indonesia, has developed a roadmap for SDGs involving a long process and discussion with multistakeholder participation, ensuring that the contents of this roadmap reflect

Sitti Hamdiyah

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Day 3 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

all stakeholders' aspirations through rigorous exercises. The roadmap defines issues and projection of main SDG indicators in each goal, including its forward-looking policies to achieve such targets. Indonesia has also developed guidelines for national development evaluation concerning coordination, planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting on the implementation of SDGs, using the mechanisms mentioned above.

Sitti Hamdiyah

Maldives' input on the recommendations:

We need to establish better data-sharing mechanisms with key local market players (such as tourist resorts in the case of Maldives) to establish data sources other than those from fishers, and which can be used to cross-verify the data from logbooks and other catch estimates.

Also, in Maldives we have integrated the SDGs into our Strategic Action Plan, which is a national planning document, revised every five years. This helps us keep track of which actions contribute to which SDGs, the implementing organizations involved and the timeline we can expect for each activity. In this way we can better manage the budget allocated nationally for each activity (and therefore SDGs), as well.

Hawwa Nizar

There is a need to create a data-sharing mechanism with the Sustainable Development Council in Sri Lanka for streamlining with relevant institutions.

B.A.P Kapila Bamunuarachchi

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

Day 3 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Food for thought: FAO is starting to collect relevant legislation on small-scale fisheries; maybe countries in the region could share such legislation and policies? There is also the forthcoming diagnostic tool to assess the regulatory framework against the small-scale fisheries guidelines. FAO can provide regional training and countries could then apply that diagnostic tool. Also, the IHH study could be presented at the regional level, and related methods could be shared and applied more widely, such as the IHH matrix mentioned by Lena. Related capacity can be developed.

Nicole Franz

If certain categories such as migrant fishers and fishworkers are excluded from the reporting framework of respective Member States, would it then be possible to request non-state actors to collect such data on access to resources and markets of migrant fishers and fishworkers, or contact the National Human Rights Commission, with the support of FAO/IOM/ILO, etc. so that there is equity in reporting on the 'No One is Left Behind' slogan of the SDGs, consistent with the human rights-based approach of the small-scale fisheries guidelines?

Sebastian Mathew

Indonesia also has a particular focus on human rights under the SDGs – is that right?

Sebastian Mathew

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

Yes Sebastian, we are very concerned about people working in the fisheries sector. We have ratified some international regulations related to decent work for fishworkers and we are still in the process of ratifying other regulations.

Sitti Hamdiyah

Day 3 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

Herman
Kumara

What sort of activities have already been proposed by the three countries?

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

Thailand: At the national level, the Thai Government and Department of Fisheries have been very actively working with CSOs and small-scale fisheries organizations to really try to focus on small-scale fishers. This will gradually evolve a specific policy on small-scale fisheries. And as was shared yesterday, the Thai DOF has organized a working group for responding to different issues and there's another working group for small-scale fisheries. Maybe this is too soon to say now, but the Thai representative and myself for the NGO sector, can raise the relevant issues for discussion. I really have a positive attitude in addressing this particular issue with the Thai Government. Further, in Thailand, SEAFDEC has also expressed interest to try to do something during IYAFA 2022. So, there will be opportunities to collaborate nationally, and then also link to regional and international networks.

Ravadee

The new normal situation does not seem to allow for a centralized IYAFA celebration, but rather, for a more cost-efficient virtual IYAFA celebration.

The Global Action Plan or GAP should aim to be a source of inspiration for IYAFA activities at the local, national, regional and international levels. The IYAFA GAP can also be applied according to the national context of each country. Regarding celebration of IYAFA 2022, there are several challenges that we face like how to monitor the implementation and achievement of the IYAFA as well as the issue of funding mobilization, considering that funding can only

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Sitti
Hamdiyah

Day 3 Chat box

Questions/Interventions

For providing an enabling environment to guarantee secure access, how do effective social protection measures contribute to easing or facilitating conditions of access?

Sebastian Mathew

Do these social protection measures facilitate easy access to resources for small-scale fisheries?

Susana

Responses/Comments/Recommendations/Links

rely on voluntary contributions and that the COVID-19 pandemic period has resulted in budget reallocations in every country.

We need intensive coordination among regions on how we can celebrate the year not only in Indonesia, but also regionally.

Sitti Hamdiyah

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Programme: Most of the coastal communities are the poorest of the poor and beneficiaries of this programme. Mostly it involves those with children in school. I am not sure how much is given monthly to each family as this depends on the region.

Joeren

They are focused more on putting children in school.

Joeren

There is also the Philippine Crop Insurance programme, specifically for fishers (boat and gear insurance); this was especially effective after Super Typhoon Haiyan.

Dennis

Conditional cash transfers for education can help fishers to ease some of their financial burdens but we need to look at them more systematically to see how social protection can also enhance access to resources and markets in a responsible manner.

Sebastian Mathew

End of Day 3 Chat box

RECOMMENDED READING

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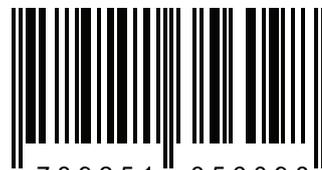
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FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
FAO-RAP@fao.org
www.fao.org/asiapacific/en/

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