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United Nations

# Coastal Fisheries Initiative

Promoting sustainable  
fisheries in coastal areas

## Global Partnership Project (CFI-GPP)

Report on the third annual Global Partnership Consultation

March 21-25, 2022

Report



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## List of acronyms

<b>CERCD</b>	-	Centre for Ecosystem Restoration and Coastal Development
<b>CET</b>	-	Central European Time
<b>CFA</b>	-	Central African Franc
<b>CFI</b>	-	Coastal Fisheries Initiative
<b>CFI-CF</b>	-	Coastal Fisheries Initiative - Challenge Fund
<b>CFI-LA</b>	-	Coastal Fisheries Initiative in Latin America
<b>CFI-GPP</b>		Coastal Fisheries Initiative Global Partnership Project
<b>CI</b>	-	Conservation International
<b>EAF</b>	-	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries
<b>EAFM</b>	-	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management
<b>FAO</b>	-	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>FELOGIE</b>	-	Local Federation of Economic Interest Groups
<b>FIP</b>	-	Fisheries Improvement Project
<b>FPAT</b>	-	Fisheries Performance Assessment Toolkit
<b>FTT</b>	-	FAO-Thiaroye Processing Technique
<b>GEF</b>	-	Global Environment Facility
<b>GIE</b>	-	Economic Interest Group
<b>GKC</b>	-	Global Knowledge Competition
<b>GPC</b>	-	Global Partnership Consultation
<b>IYAFA</b>	-	International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture
<b>MMAF</b>	-	Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia
<b>MPA</b>	-	Marine Protected Area
<b>SSF</b>	-	Small-scale fisheries
<b>UNDP</b>	-	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNEP</b>	-	United Nations Environment Programme
<b>UNICA</b>	-	Credit and Savings Union
<b>USAID</b>	-	United States Agency for International Development
<b>WB</b>	-	World Bank
<b>WWF</b>	-	World Wide Fund for Nature

## Executive summary

The Coastal Fisheries Initiative Global Partnership Project (CFI-GPP) held its annual Global Partnership Consultation in a virtual format from 21-25 March 2022. It was attended virtually by more than 80 participants, including, partner organisations: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Conservation International (CI), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank (WB) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF); the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which is the donor; the relevant ministries of the Governments of Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Indonesia, Peru and Senegal; and representatives of fisher and fish worker organizations, fisheries entrepreneurs and civil society from participating countries.

As well as providing an update on progress of the CFI Child Projects, the Global Partnership Consultation focussed on key learning and experience and identified good practices to be showcased in knowledge products to be put together over the remaining two years of project activity.

The Consultation was organised around four thematic areas that will provide a focus for these knowledge products. The overall agenda was as follows:

- Day 1: Inaugural session and status of CFI Child Projects;
- Day 2: Thematic Area – Women in fisheries value chains, led by CFI West Africa;
- Day 3: Thematic Area – Sustainable mangrove management, led by CFI Latin America;
- Day 4: Thematic Area – Engaging the private sector, business and finance in sustainable fisheries, led by the CFI Challenge Fund;
- Day 5: Thematic Area – The Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM), led by CFI Indonesia.

### **Day 1 - Inaugural session and status of CFI Child Projects**

Some of the key features that emerged from the progress reports provided on Day 1 included:

- Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, all the Child Projects made noteworthy progress over the past year;
- The CFI-GPP is now far better equipped in terms of capacity to fulfil its role of coordinating learning and generating knowledge products from CFI experience;
- All the Child Projects have been generating knowledge and communication products over the last year, including infographics, manuals, videos and reports;
- Collaboration between Child Projects has been limited by pandemic-related travel restrictions, but planning for greater interaction between geographies is underway and it is hoped that there will be many opportunities to meet face to face in the coming year;
- The importance of communication and collaboration between the CFI Challenge Fund and the rest of the Child Projects was emphasised. There is valuable learning to be exchanged and much work to be done on enhancing fishers' and fish workers' access to finance mechanisms;
- Capturing key learning will be increasingly important over the next two years and this will require a significant effort by the CFI-GPP and the other Child Projects;
- The process of capturing key learning will be challenging due to the various stages of implementation of the Child Projects: CFI Latin America is about to close, while CFI Indonesia has only recently started its activities.

## **Day 2 - Women in fisheries value chains**

Some of the key learning about women in fisheries value chains emerging from CFI experience is as follows:

- The post-capture sector is largely made up of women, but their contributions are consistently unrecognised, undervalued and underpaid compared to those of their male counterparts;
- While some efforts have been made to give greater visibility and recognition to women there is still an enormous amount of work to be done to change attitudes and to ensure that women fishmongers and seafood processors receive equal treatment, achieve genuine economic empowerment, and participate fully in decision and policymaking;
- Access to credit and financing is especially challenging for women. Experience with community-based credit and savings unions (UNICAs) in Latin America has shown that access to such mechanisms can help women to become economically independent;
- Capacity building for women to improve their entrepreneurial skills plays a significant role in enhancing their livelihoods;
- It is important that women in the sector organize themselves. Wherever women come together in cooperatives or other types of groups, they have strengthened capacity to take control of their livelihoods, to ensure that their interests are better represented, and to interact with decisionmakers as well as other organisations that can provide them with appropriate forms of support.

## **Day 3 – Sustainable mangrove management**

To improve and enable sustainable management of mangrove forests, the following points were identified as important:

- Decentralised decision-making that facilitates the participation of communities and local governments in mangrove management and restoration;
- An enabling policy and legal framework to foster this participation;
- The capacity of local government to support communities in managing mangroves;
- Proper collaboration and coordination between different government agencies (such as fisheries, forestry, and tourism) and between central and local government agencies;
- Awareness-raising campaigns to educate the public about the vital role of mangrove ecosystems;
- Accurate knowledge, data and information about mangrove ecosystems must underpin decision-making;
- Local communities need appropriate incentives to support and engage in long-term sustainable mangrove management;
- These incentives include access and tenure rights, and can include the development of environmentally friendly fisheries, aquaculture and ecotourism;
- Mangrove recovery requires time. Alternative livelihoods need to be in place to support local communities until the benefits of sustainable mangrove use become apparent;
- Securing long-term funding for mangrove restoration and management is a challenge.

## **Day 4 – Engaging the private sector, business and finance in sustainable fisheries**

The CFI Challenge Fund focuses on bringing together multiple stakeholders – fishers and fish workers, private sector entrepreneurs, governments and investors – to come up with strategies to make and keep coastal fisheries sustainable. Key activities include:

- Thorough analysis of the challenges and opportunities in the sector to support increased investment;
- Improving understanding of the sector among potential investors, given that formal credit institutions tend to view it as high-risk;
- Capacity-building among fishers, seafood processors and fisheries entrepreneurs to help them make their businesses more investment-worthy;
- The development of tools for screening and assessing the readiness of fisheries businesses for investment;
- Identifying solutions to overfishing through a Global Knowledge Competition.

Some of the key learning from the CFI Challenge Fund experience so far has included:

- The importance of government ownership of processes that support fisheries management, side-by-side with the private sector and investors;
- Working within an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) that equips the private sector with the means to address social, environmental and financial risks;
- Enhancing communication between the private sector, civil society and the wider public;
- Making use of information and knowledge to improve fisheries businesses and improve investors' understanding of the sector;
- Investing in capacity-building in the sector;
- Enhancing the roles of women and youth in fisheries value chains;
- Bearing in mind and accommodating the potential impacts of climate change on fisheries resources and activities;
- The process of enhancing private sector activity and investment must be rooted in the concrete needs of coastal communities and the entrepreneurs operating there.

### **Day 5 – The Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)**

Some of the key learning highlighted during the discussions of EAFM during the day have included:

- Fishing communities must be the starting point for the EAFM process and must be kept at the centre throughout. The EAFM cannot be implemented without community buy-in;
- Institutional and legal frameworks must enable community participation and local level decision-making, and establishing such frameworks takes time;
- The time scales involved in different aspects of EAFM can be difficult to synchronise. Bringing about change in institutional attitudes, legislation and awareness of sustainability issues may require more time, while other aspects of the process may move more quickly;
- While specific initiatives may operate on a relatively short, project-based time scale, maintaining a long-term perspective is vital. The movement from unmanaged fisheries to effective EAFM may require several project cycles;
- While plenty of tools are available to support the implementation of EAFM, efforts are required to make them available and accessible more widely;
- It is vital to establish incentives for responsible fishing, and women in the post-harvest sector can play a critical role in communicating those incentives to the fishers.



## **Recommendations from discussions held during the 2022 Global Partnership Consultation**

Discussions identified several key issues and recommendations regarding the development of CFI knowledge products from early 2022 to end-of-project in late 2023:

- CFI partners were reminded that the key justification for the development of the CFI as a global initiative was the opportunity to generate learning that would have global relevance. All the Child Projects have documented their activities, generating a growing body of knowledge products. However, the importance of using the remaining period of work for CFI to focus on generating globally relevant knowledge products was emphasised. The Child Projects will need dedicated support to produce global knowledge products;
- CFI partners were asked throughout the Consultation to suggest ideas for knowledge products. Proposals included the development of educational materials about mangrove ecosystems to raise awareness and understanding among school children;
- Partners observed that considerable care is required before recommending any particular action or approach as a good practice. Confidence regarding the replicability of practices will need to be based on wider comparisons and testing in a range of situations. In some cases, it will be possible to validate experience and practices from CFI Child Projects with wider documented experience to enable the tentative identification of good practices that should be more widely applicable;
- The involvement of experts from outside the CFI in the Global Partnership Consultation highlighted the importance of CFI being open to sharing experience with other programmes. For example, the invitation extended to experts from Mangroves for the Future generated several contacts that are being pursued after the Consultation, and also highlighted how much guidance on sustainable mangrove management has already been developed worldwide. This will ensure that the knowledge outputs from CFI do not duplicate materials already available;
- Over the coming months, the CFI-GPP will engage with the knowledge management teams in each of the CFI Child Projects to discuss knowledge products under the four key thematic areas, focussing on:
  - Identifying content and key messages for each thematic area;
  - Identifying the format of the products – whether printed, digital, or a mix of both. Where this involves engagement with other agencies or programmes, collaborations will be developed and pursued.

## Introduction

The Coastal Fisheries Initiative Global Partnership Project (CFI-GPP) held its annual Global Partnership Consultation in a virtual format from 21-25 March 2022. It was attended by partner organisations – the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Conservation International (CI), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank (WB) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) - the relevant ministries of the Governments of Cabo Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Ecuador, Indonesia, Peru and Senegal, and fishers, fish workers, representatives of fisheries organizations, fisheries entrepreneurs and civil society from participating countries.

During the first day of the Consultation the five CFI Child Projects provided updates on their status and achievements over the last year. Each of the remaining days was devoted to presentations and discussions around four thematic areas, which will be the focus of the CFI global knowledge products to be developed by the end-of-project. Discussions during the Consultation provided critical inputs.

The overall agenda for the Global Partnership Consultation was as follows:

- Day 1: Inaugural session and status of CFI Child Projects;
- Day 2: Thematic Area – Women in fisheries value chains, led by CFI West Africa;
- Day 3: Thematic Area – Sustainable mangrove management, led by CFI Latin America;
- Day 4: Thematic Area – Engaging the private sector, business and finance in sustainable fisheries, led by the CFI Challenge Fund;
- Day 5: Thematic Area – the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM), led by CFI Indonesia.

The present report provides a record of the deliberations of the Consultation including highlights of the discussions and exchanges of ideas that took place and the key suggestions made by participants over the five days of the meeting.

The official opening was provided by the Ministry of the Environment of the Government of Peru, which co-hosted the Consultation with FAO and the World Bank.

## Day 1: Monday, March 21, 2022

### Inaugural session and status of the Child Projects

Day 1 started at 13:00 (CET) with CFI-GPP facilitator Philip Townsley introducing Gustavo Fonseca, Program Director for the GEF Global Programming Unit, who welcomed participants and reviewed some of the key features of the Coastal Fisheries Initiative. Mr Fonseca emphasised that the CFI works on solutions to coastal fisheries issues that are customized to local conditions while at the same time generating learning that will have wider applicability. He mentioned current negotiations underway for the eighth GEF funding cycle, and the hope at the GEF to use CFI experience to encourage the use of programmatic approaches for other fisheries-related interventions in the future.

In his opening remarks, Christian Peter, Acting Global Director for Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy Global Practice at the World Bank mentioned some of the major challenges facing coastal fisheries: overexploitation, environmental degradation, marine

pollution including plastics and discarded fishing nets, and pollution from rivers and upstream catchment areas.

The World Bank supports about 80 initiatives in over 70 countries and is expanding its portfolio of technical assistance and Blue Economy investments. CFI experience has provided important new learning by approaching coastal fisheries issues from the perspective of private business and finance. Mr Peter emphasised the importance of deploying multiple approaches to the problems of coastal fisheries as typified by the Global Knowledge Competition (GKC) launched by the CFI Challenge Fund, which encourages coalitions of stakeholders to combine their efforts to identify solutions to overfishing.

Audun Lem, Deputy Director, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division on behalf of Manuel Barange, Director of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division also emphasised the CFI's programmatic approach in developing synergies between different organisations and projects. He singled out the importance of the participation of representatives of fishing communities, fisheries organisations and local government officials in the Global Partnership Consultations to share their experience and suggestions. He expressed FAO's appreciation for the commitment, dedication and participation by all international, national and local organisations participating in CFI. He went on to highlight the synergies between CFI and the UN International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022).

The official opening of the meeting, kindly provided by José Alvarez Alonso, General Director for Biological Diversity on behalf of Alfredo Mamani, Vice Minister of Strategic Natural Resources, Ministry of Environment, Peru, took place after some delays due to problems with the internet connection.

Nathaniel Hishamunda, CFI Budget Holder at FAO introduced the Global Partnership Consultation, thanking the partner organisations for their contributions to the programme. He reviewed the key objectives and expected outcomes of the meeting, highlighting the importance of using this opportunity to share experience and develop knowledge and communication materials around the four thematic areas of women in fisheries value chains, sustainable mangrove management, private sector engagement in sustainable fisheries and the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF).

After an icebreaker facilitated by Pierre Dupenor, CFI-GPP Knowledge Management Specialist, the presentations by the CFI Child Projects commenced and occupied the rest of the first day.

### CFI Global Partnership Project

Mr Dupenor presented a progress report on the CFI-GPP. The project has continued to conduct coordination activities including three steering committee meetings and meetings with each of the Child Projects. The development of knowledge products and communications materials have received progressively greater emphasis. This has included the establishment of national stakeholder platforms in all of the countries where CFI is working, with five meetings held already, and the setting up of a Coastal Fisheries Global Network linking these stakeholder platforms, the finalization of the mid-term evaluation, and support to the development of thematic knowledge products across all the geographies of the Initiative. Over the next year, coordination and development of knowledge products will be reinforced to ensure that key outputs are produced before the end of the CFI-GPP in July 2023.

Helven Naranjo (University of Washington) provided an update on ongoing work on the Fisheries Performance Assessment Toolkit (FPAT). The past year has seen a manual produced,

technical materials developed, a series of webinars delivered and continuing data collection in Latin America and West Africa. Over the next year, data will be systematized on a series of key fisheries in these two geographies, building to a series of FPAT workshops for fisheries evaluation and management. An application for FPAT will also be developed.

## CFI Indonesia

The review of the state of play and next steps for CFI Indonesia was provided by Ridwan Mulyana, Director for Fisheries Resources Management, Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF).

The Indonesia Child Project started in late 2021 due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. However, work is gathering pace at three pilot sites in the East Seram and Southeast Maluku districts (both in Maluku Province) and the Wondama Bay District in West Papua Province. Work began with preliminary activities and capacity-building for Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) assessments, which were conducted at pilot fisheries management areas in Southeast Maluku. An EAFM review of the management plan for the flying fish fishery was completed. Work will continue on EAFM capacity building, with a particular emphasis on its implementation by local communities.

Incentives to local communities include a Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) mechanism and a labelling scheme for seafood products made with sustainably caught fish from traditional *Sasi* management areas. CFI Indonesia will provide support for government programmes including its Quota-Based Capture Fisheries Policy and Advanced Fishermen Villages and conduct reviews of further fisheries management plans.

Knowledge products on EAFM implementation by local communities and EAFM-based fisheries management plans are being developed, including videos.

## Conservation International/Blue Abadi Fund Indonesia

Christopher Stone from Conservation International gave an overview of the Blue Abadi Fund (BAF), a trust focussed on conservation of the Bird's Head Seascape in West Papua, Indonesia through the management of marine protected area (MPA) networks and the empowerment of civil society. The Blue Abadi Fund works closely with the Government of Indonesia, the MMAF and local government in West Papua Province. It has a 10-person governance committee, and its day-to-day management is conducted by an Indonesian NGO, Kahati.

The BAF has issued three cycles of grants totalling around USD 3.86 million and emergency COVID-19 grants of USD 1.2 million. Contributors have included CI, a group of US-based foundations, the Nature Conservancy and USAID. The aim is to achieve a total endowment of USD 32 million. Endowment funds are invested in international markets with a portion of the financial returns then invested each year in BAF activities. BAF also has sinking funds in the form of project-based grants. Its grants support effective co-management of marine areas in the Bird's Head Seascape and aim to mobilise civil society participation in conservation through education, capacity building and monitoring programmes.

## CFI Latin America

Miguel Maldonado, Binational Coordinator of CFI-LA from UNDP drew attention to the fact that this Child Project commenced and will complete its activities before the other CFI Child Projects, in late 2022.

CFI-LA has worked on three key areas: fisheries governance, knowledge management and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) in Ecuador and Peru.

CFI-LA has supported the implementation of 24 priority actions in fisheries governance across the two countries, has involved 1 334 key actors in a community of practice on governance systems, and supported the protection of 50 136 hectares of marine and coastal habitats.

In Peru, a community-based management system has been promoted for black ark clams (*Anadara tuberculosa*) along with improved traceability and sanitation. Support has been provided to the Northeast Peru Mangroves Consortium, which is made up of local fisher and fish worker organizations and which co-manages the Tumbes National Mangrove Sanctuary, in the form of capacity-building in business skills and helping them to develop a sustainable tourism plan. Participatory monitoring of artisanal fishing activities has been strengthened in the Tumbes and Piura areas.

In Ecuador, the Ministry of Fisheries has been supported to produce five fisheries management action plans, to implement systems of participatory monitoring of fisheries, to develop and pilot participatory governance arrangements, and to develop a complete traceability system using appropriate technology.

In the sphere of MSP, 751 000 hectares of marine and coastal areas have been covered by spatial planning approaches, with 396 key actors involved in the process and 119 902 hectares protected because of these planning efforts. Marine and coastal spatial plans have been prepared for the Gulf of Guayaquil in Ecuador and Sechura Bay in Peru. In addition, the Ocean Health Index has been used to assess conditions in Santa Elena and Manabí in Ecuador and Sechura in Peru.

The project has produced a range of knowledge products, including materials for communication and environmental education campaigns, organising exchange visits, and developing databases for the learning and information generated.

A particular effort has been made to support gender awareness and reduce gender inequalities in the sector. This has included capacity-building within key institutions, including the establishment of gender focal points, supporting improved access to collective finance for women and capacity-building for women entrepreneurs in the fisheries sector in Peru.

A total of 71 institutions have participated in capacity-building and knowledge transfer activities, 11 fisheries organisations have designated gender focal points, and 112 women in the fisheries sector have had their economic independence improved and their capacity strengthened.

CFI-LA will end in late 2022. During the remaining period, work will focus on ensuring the sustainability of its interventions and undertaking a final evaluation.

## CFI West Africa

Amadou Touré, National Project Officer, Senegal - CFI West Africa, provided an update on the project, which is implemented jointly by FAO and UNEP in Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire and

Senegal. Work is being conducted at pilot sites across the three countries: the islands of Maio, S. Vicente and S. Luzia in Cabo Verde; the coastal towns of Locodjro and Sassandra in Côte-d'Ivoire; and the Siné Saloum Delta in Senegal.

In the area of fisheries governance, CFI-WA has tested and supported the development of the [Policy and Legal Diagnostic Tool for Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries](#), which supports the implementation of the [Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication](#) (SSF Guidelines).

The project has also developed an action plan for the management of the white shrimp fishery in the Siné Saloum Delta and support for participatory monitoring, experimenting territorial use rights for fisheries and the establishment of professional registration for fish monitors and artisanal seafood processors. Management of molluscs is also being promoted.

Studies have been completed on the coherence of national legislations with the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF), the SSF Guidelines, gender equity and equality and other instruments, on institutional capacity in the fisheries sector, on co-management measures and good practices, and on the ecosystem functions of mangrove forests in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal. Studies have also been carried out on seafood value chains in Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal, on the working conditions for women fish processors, costs and benefits for different market strategies and good practices in quality control and access to finance in fisheries value chains.

CFI West Africa has worked with Afrique Vert Environnement NGO in Côte d'Ivoire and the Fatick Regional Development Agency in Senegal on mangrove protection, restoration and replanting. As well, the project has offered capacity-building workshops for women seafood processors on topics including workplace hygiene and market access, and has involved local communities in participatory research contributing to the Fisheries Performance Assessment Toolkit (FPAT).

In terms of knowledge management, CFI West Africa has organized national exchange visits in each country, produced brochures on good practices and established national platforms for exchange of good practices and lessons learned. Further exchange visits and publications are in development.

Next steps will include the adoption of grouper and coastal lobster co-management plans at sites in Cabo Verde and the development of a management plan for sardinella in Sassandra, Côte d'Ivoire.

## CFI Challenge Fund

Mimako Kubayashi, Senior Environmental Economist at the World Bank and head of the CFI Challenge Fund, introduced the project and passed the mike to Jorge Barbosa and Gabriela Encelada who reviewed CFI-CF work in Ecuador and Peru.

In Ecuador, the project prepared six investment readiness assessments of coastal fisheries enterprises in the Galàpagos Islands, along with a report on supply and demand for finance in coastal fisheries in the archipelago. A Sustainable Seafood Vision Report, including a set of sustainable investment criteria, was prepared along with a Public-Private Partnership Framework to support this vision. Fisheries performance assessment reports were completed for 10 coastal fisheries including sea cucumber, spiny lobster, yellowfin tuna and other demersal and pelagic species.

In Peru, recommendations were made for an action plan to improve public infrastructure and services in fisheries, an analysis was carried out on the role and contribution of women in coastal fisheries, training provided for fisheries businesses and a case study developed on strengthening value chains.

In both countries, linkages with parallel analysis on the Ecuadorian and Peruvian Blue Economy are being established and final validation of knowledge products is underway. Final workshops for dissemination of results to stakeholders in the fisheries sectors will be held in May 2022.

Aki Baihaki, CFI-CF Indonesia team, illustrated key achievements including an Investment Landscape Report identifying barriers and opportunities in Indonesian sustainable fisheries. A report on snapper fisheries has also been completed and five sustainable fisheries business cases are being worked on. These include seaweed farming, seafood canning, solar-powered icemakers and sustainable tuna fisheries. Several business investment forums have been organised. Next steps may include extending technical assistance to more of the 60 firms who submitted applications to the Challenge Fund and the organisation of a business investment event to bring fisheries startups and businesses together with impact investors, venture capitalists, commercial banks and government credit institutions. Knowledge products are in preparation and possibilities for the Government of Indonesia to take over the CFI business support concept are being explored.

Antonio Baptista, CFI-CF Cabo Verde team, outlined four selected investment packages: the development of a deep-sea shrimp fishing fleet; an artisanal fleet reconversion program; a detailed design for fisheries and tourism value chain integration around the Sal Island pier; and a pilot program for a fishery auction system in Praia. For the next steps, the possibility of developing one or two further investment packages is being explored possibly looking at the integration of tourism and fisheries value chains. A communication outreach campaign is also in preparation.

At the global level, Herbert Curry, CFI-CF global team, described the Global Knowledge Competition launched in Cabo Verde, Ecuador, Indonesia and Peru. Its aim was to foster coalition-building to develop innovative solutions to overfishing in coastal fisheries. The selection of winning applications will take place in the near future.

## Summary of Day 1

During a brief discussion of these presentations, the importance of ensuring adequate coordination between the different Child Projects to identify synergies and shared learning was emphasised. A significant amount of important experience on coastal fisheries governance and management has been generated and this will now need to be distilled into a coherent set of good practices and lessons for the future.

Some of the key features that emerged from the progress reports provided on Day 1 included:

- Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the last year has seen very significant progress by all the CFI Child Projects;
- The CFI-GPP is now far better equipped in terms of capacity to fulfil its role in coordinating learning and generating knowledge products from CFI experience;
- All the Child Projects have been producing knowledge and communication products over the last year including brochures, videos and study reports;

- Collaboration between Child Projects has been limited by travel restrictions but planning for greater interaction between geographies and Child Projects is ongoing and it is hoped that there will be many opportunities to meet face to face over the coming year;
- The importance of communication and collaboration between the CFI-CF and the other Child Projects was emphasised. There is valuable learning to be exchanged and much work to be done on enhancing fishers' and fish workers' access to finance mechanisms.
- Capturing key learning will be increasingly important over the next two years of CFI activities and will require a significant effort from the CFI-GPP as well as the other Child Projects;
- The different stage of implementation of different Child Projects – CFI Latin America is about to end while CFI Indonesia has only recently started its activities – will make this process of capturing key learning particularly challenging.

## Day 2: Tuesday, March 22, 2022

The second day of the Global Partnership Consultation focussed on empowering women in fisheries value chains, with CFI West Africa taking the lead.

After the welcome for the participants and a brief review of the agenda for Day 2, Fatou Sock, CFI-GPP Coordinator and FAO Fishery Officer introduced the theme of the day. She highlighted the critical role of women in coastal fisheries value chains, most of whom are active in the post-capture sector as fishmongers, seafood processors and entrepreneurs while also juggling childcare and household management responsibilities. On top of their multiple workloads, these women's work is often unrecognized and underpaid, and they lack access to resources, services and decision-making venues.

A video about women in small-scale coastal fisheries produced by the CFI-GPP communications team was screened.

### Presentations of context for women in fisheries value chains

The subsequent presentations from the three CFI geographies on the status of women in fisheries value chains confirmed these initial points. Bina Fofana, Director of Fisheries, Ministry of Animal and Fisheries Resources, Côte d'Ivoire, said that women are active all along the fisheries value chain, making up one third of those employed, as well as playing key roles in their households and communities. According to Diana Valdospinos, Knowledge Management Coordinator, CFI Latin America, data from Ecuador and Peru indicates that when women are engaged in economic activities, they work longer hours and are paid less than men on average. Analysis carried out by CFI has also showed that their access to services, including financial services and credit, is also more limited than that of men. Fery Sutyawan from the Directorate General for Capture Fisheries, MMAF, Indonesia, pointed out that the participation of women versus men in the fisheries sector in Indonesia is almost equal. The Indonesian government is undertaking training of women to improve their access to credit, seafood processing facilities and infrastructure.

He then introduced a video produced by the MMAF on women in fisheries in Indonesia.



## Experience and good practices from CFI West Africa

Kone Aboubakar, National Project Officer, CFI Côte d'Ivoire, presented CFI West Africa's work with women in small-scale fisheries value chains, with support from Ms Sock. CFI West Africa has worked to strengthen women's organisations as well as women's capacity to add value to their seafood products, to access markets and savings and credit mechanisms, and to diversify their sources of revenue.

Initial studies were conducted at the pilot sites in the three countries to understand and analyse gender, health and safety issues in the value chains, market opportunities, and the finance needs of artisanal seafood processors. These studies showed that 91.5 percent of the women involved in fisheries across the five pilot sites in the three countries are engaged in seafood processing and marketing.

The organisations promoted under CFI have taken several different forms. In Côte d'Ivoire, four cooperatives have been supported at Locodjro and one at Sassandra, with a total of 143 female and seven male members. Another 115 women organised in associations in Sassandra have also benefited from the project. In Senegal, 2 000 women organised into 151 Economic Interest Groups (GIEs, in their French acronym) have been supported on the Saloum Islands with another 25 GIEs with 650 female members supported at Niodior. In Cabo Verde, five associations have been supported, some which include both women and men and others which have only female or only male membership.

Several benefits from increased organisation among women in fisheries value chains were noted: it creates mechanisms for mutual aid and the pooling of resources, and encourages partnerships that can improve access to resources, equipment, capacity building and exchange with sister organisations. The individual activities of organisation members also benefit through better access to raw materials, equipment and options for pre-financing.

These associations have been involved in a range of value-added and marketing activities. In Côte d'Ivoire, three of the cooperatives in Locodjro have processed and sold smoked tuna for a value of USD 100 350. They used FAO-Thiaroye Processing Technique (FTT) ovens, which significantly reduce the women's exposure to harmful heat, burns and smoke while also reducing the amount of wood — often from endangered mangroves — used as fuel.

In Senegal the focus has been on the production and marketing of fresh, dried, and semi-conserved products for a value of around USD 1 140 000.

Studies of market access for the fish products involved have helped to understand the markets being targeted, including local and sub-regional markets and, in the case of Cabo Verde, some more direct links to hotels and restaurants and consumers.

Some of the constraints being faced were also highlighted, such as irregular supply of raw materials and the poor condition of processing and landing sites.

Key benefits from these activities have included increased earnings, reduced post-capture losses, improved product quality, savings in time spent on processing activities creating opportunities for alternative activities, and contribution to environmental protection by more efficient use of resources and reduction of losses and wastage.

Studies of savings and microfinance mechanisms revealed important variations among the different sites. Traditional forms of savings, notably *tontines* or evolving funds are widespread, along with mechanisms for securing working capital. In Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal solidarity

funds to enable members of associations to access microfinance were also observed. Across all three countries, formal and microfinance credit is clearly playing an increasingly important role: 70 percent of women in the communities studied in Senegal have made use of financing provided through special lines of credit or microfinance institutions.

A range of livelihood diversification activities were also supported, including the sale of salt and packaging in Côte d'Ivoire, the production of drinks from wild fruits in Senegal, and the sale of biscuits and agricultural produce in Cabo Verde.

Mr Aboubakar also looked forward to opportunities to learn from CFI Latin America experience in the organisation of community-based Saving and Credit Unions (UNICAs, in their Spanish acronym), which have been very successful at the pilot sites in Peru.

### Experience and good practices from CFI Latin America

Miguel Maldonado, CFI Latin America Coordinator, focussed on UNICAs, which the project helped set up in partnership with the Development Bank of Peru (COFIDE) in small-scale fishing communities in the Tumbes region of Peru.

Each UNICA is made up of 10 to 30 members, who buy shares of a common fund on a regular basis. Members can request loans from the fund to invest in boat repair, pay for children's school fees, or to set up alternative small businesses.

Important elements of capacity building that are key for these organisations are trust-building, gender awareness, organisational and administrative skills, and financial education. At higher, corporate levels, where the UNICAs come together into apex groups, tools for sustainable business development are also crucial.

CFI Latin America and COFIDE helped set up 12 UNICAs over 18 months, with a membership of 207 people of whom 55 percent were women while 67 percent of the management units of these organisations were made up of women. These 12 UNICAs mobilised USD 253 000 over the period, and 58 percent of loan recipients were women.

The UNICAs provided the women with credit access without complicated procedures and requirements and at lower interest rates compared with formal credit mechanisms. Loans are available locally and do not require a trip to nearby urban centres. Confidence, trust and cooperation within the community were strengthened, while women achieved economic independence and developed their leadership capacities.

### Experience and good practices from CFI Indonesia

Jahdi Marahabessy from the Fisheries Extension Service, East Ceram District, Maluku Province, Indonesia said that in this part of Indonesia, women represent 32 percent of the workforce in the fisheries sector and contribute as collectors of shellfish, seafood processors and fishmongers. They play an important role in processing parts of the fish catch that might otherwise be discarded, therefore helping to eliminate post-capture losses. They contribute to household food security, nutrition, and health in an area where stunting is common among children.

The women involved in CFI activities face challenges including lack of access to capital and markets for their products. The work conducted by CFI has focussed on supporting women's organisations to undertake the production and marketing of smoked, salted and shredded

fish, with capacity building to improve product quality and skills in management and information technology. Work under CFI will continue to improve the quality of the products produced by women and their access to markets.

### Panel discussion with representatives of communities and partner organisations

Following a short break, a panel discussion was introduced with members of some of the communities where CFI is working worldwide and partner organisations commenting on the presentations so far and responding to questions from the floor. The panellists were:

- Djentie Pou Benie Laurentine: fish processor from Sassandra, Côte d'Ivoire;
- Maria del Carmen Lupu: UNICA, Peru;
- Jahdi Marahabessy: Fisheries Extension Service, East Ceram District, Maluku Province, Indonesia.

The facilitator, Philip Townsley, started off by asking participants some opening questions. Djentie Pou Benie Laurentine from Côte d'Ivoire described some of the changes she has seen since starting to work with CFI. She highlighted the improved awareness of the need for protective equipment and better work organisation. Her organisation is currently negotiating with national authorities regarding the provision of funding for cold storage, FTT ovens and transportation. She looks forward to future opportunities to exchange experience and learning with other communities and groups working with CFI.

Maria del Carmen Lupu from Peru described the process of seeking financing prior to the organisation of the UNICAs. For women such as herself there were consistent difficulties in having title to property, which was generally requested by finance institutions as a loan guarantee. Repayment periods were also limited to a year, which is not long enough for most people in her community. The UNICAs solved these problems by providing easily accessible credit under flexible conditions.

From Indonesia, Jahdi Marahabessy thought that a key message for government administrators, particularly in relation to women's access to financing, would be for them to encourage the local availability of banking services as these are currently lacking in many of the areas where he works, and their presence would support both fishing enterprises and the development of other small and micro-level businesses.

Gabriela Encalada and Jorge Ramirez from the CFI Challenge Fund in Latin America outlined some of the gender-related interventions the project has promoted in Ecuador and Peru. On the Galapagos Islands in Ecuador, a series of studies highlighted the crucial role played by women in the fisheries value chain and seminars were organised for women entrepreneurs. The important role played by women's organisations in decision-making, for both pre- and post-harvest issues, was also highlighted. In Peru, a gender analysis of the role of women in fisheries was carried out in eight communities and the importance of improving information on the roles of men and women in the sector was highlighted. A virtual training programme is being undertaken for vessel owners to improve the sustainability of fishing operations and to build the capacity of women and men in managing their fisheries enterprises.

Miguel Maldonado (UNDP/CFI Latin America) responded to questions regarding the form of the UNICAs in Peru and their similarities with other micro-credit organisations. He emphasised that the UNICAs are run by their members, who decide jointly on the amount of the interest

rates on loans. The UNICAs also provide an important avenue for capacity building to help women plan their investments.

The discussion of women's access to the UNICA model in Peru was particularly animated. Participants from Côte d'Ivoire emphasised how an effective microcredit model for fishing communities could be important for women fishmongers and seafood processors. Maria da Costa Muniz Carvalho (CFI Cabo Verde) and Fatou Sock (CFI-GPP) both reiterated how formal credit institutions tend to view the fisheries sector as high risk and the fact that fishing communities, and particularly women, often lack title to property, constitutes an important obstacle. The importance of linking experience from the Child Projects with the work being carried out by the CFI Challenge Fund which is exploring innovative channels for finance for sustainable fisheries was emphasised.

Jean Koukou from Côte d'Ivoire highlighted the importance of appropriate legislation and policy support to ensure that women's rights are fully recognised. This aspect was also mentioned in relation to Cabo Verde and Indonesia and the need to approach the issues facing women in fisheries from a multi-dimensional perspective was recognised.

Leah Kerrer (GEF) reminded participants of the importance of identifying those themes for knowledge products about women in fisheries value chains that would be valuable for dissemination beyond CFI and its immediate partners. She suggested that improving access to credit seems to represent an important theme along with better access to technologies, such as FTT ovens, and the empowerment of women to take a greater role in decision-making.

## Summary of Day 2

In summarising the discussions from Day 2, the facilitator, Philip Townsley, emphasised the importance of a multidimensional understanding of gender-related issues, and a corresponding multi-dimensional approach to addressing them. While capacity building, enhanced business skills, improved technology for fish processing, and better organisation all have critical roles to play, these need to be backed up with legislation and policies that can bring about transformation of how gender roles are perceived and create the conditions for greater equality in power and decision-making between women and men. It was emphasised that while the rhetoric of equal rights and gender equality is widespread, real changes in gender power relations are yet limited and there is still much to be done.

CFI activities across three geographies have provided useful examples of different approaches to empowering women in fisheries value chains, which can be used as the basis for knowledge products for wider dissemination.

Key learning emerging from CFI experience includes:

- Women in small-scale fisheries work largely in seafood processing and marketing, and their contributions are consistently unrecognised, undervalued and underpaid compared to those of their male counterparts;
- Much remains to be done to change attitudes and to ensure that women achieve genuine economic empowerment and full participation in decision and policymaking about the sector;
- Access to credit and financing is especially challenging for women. Experience with UNICAs in Peru has shown that such community-based, self-sustaining mechanisms can help empower women to become economically independent;

- Capacity building for women to improve their entrepreneurial skills plays a significant role in enhancing their livelihoods;
- It is important that women in the sector organize themselves. Wherever women come together in cooperatives or other types of groups, they have strengthened capacity to take control of their livelihoods, to ensure that their interests are better represented, and to interact with decisionmakers as well as other organisations that can provide them with appropriate forms of support;
- Formal credit institutions continue to view small-scale fisheries as high risk, so the process of improving understanding of the sector among potential investors is important.

### Day 3: Wednesday, March 23, 2022

The third day of the Global Partnership Consultation focussed on sustainable mangrove management, with CFI Latin America leading the discussion.

Diana Valdospinos, Knowledge Management Coordinator for CFI Latin America, reviewed the critical role of mangrove forests in coastal fisheries and ecosystems, including as refuges and nurseries for fauna and flora, protection against erosion, and carbon sequestration. They also play an important role in the livelihoods of the estimated 100 million people worldwide who live in their proximity. Each of the countries where CFI is working has approached the issues of sustainable mangrove management in different ways although there are important similarities and common lessons to be learned.

This was followed by the projection of a short video about a CFI Latin America initiative to support communities living in mangrove forests in San Pedro de Vice in Peru.

### Presentations of context for sustainable mangrove management

Edgardo Marthans from the Ministry of the Environment, Peru outlined the country's National Strategy for Wetland Management, some of the key legislation to enable sustainable mangrove management and the importance of the guiding principles for this legislation, notably the decentralization of decision-making and the recognition of the rights of local communities to earn a living from ecosystem use. A participatory approach to mangrove management is seen as essential to sustainability, with full community involvement in the development and implementation of coastal area management plans, including those for mangrove areas.

Diene Faye, Director of Maritime Fisheries, Senegal, described the extensive mangrove forests in the Saloum Delta in Senegal and the important role they play for coastal communities and the environment. There are also several critical threats to the health of these ecosystems, including declining rainfall, increased salinity, illegal logging and the expansion of agriculture and aquaculture. The government and NGOs are making significant efforts to rehabilitate and restore the Saloum Delta mangroves, which have seen an increase in forest cover as a result. The vital role that healthy mangroves play in supporting small-scale fisheries was also highlighted.

Hery Gunawan on behalf of Muhammad Yusuf, Director for Coast and Small Island Utilization, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia, said that mangrove forests in his country cover 3 364 076 hectares, although significant areas need restoration and reforestation.

Ministries of both fisheries and forestry are involved in cooperative efforts at improved management, with community-based approaches playing a vital role and considerable emphasis given to the development of alternative livelihoods for local communities. These have included aquaculture, tourism and the production of local specialities. An important role is played by the Centre for Ecosystem Restoration and Coastal Development (CERCD), which is acting as a laboratory for mangrove research. Synergies between central and local government, as well as between the government and the private sector, help promote mangrove ecotourism and its ancillary activities.

### Experience and good practices from Peru

Niria Fiestas, from the Municipality of Vice, Peru, described the mechanisms for implementing participatory mangrove management at the San Pedro de Vice RAMSAR site. The participatory management committee meets three times a year and has developed a management plan which includes tourism, natural resource use and governance arrangements. The site has different zones that allow for different levels of use. Considerable emphasis is given to outreach activities to raise awareness among local communities, including through an annual mangrove festival, and, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, a series educational activities, exhibitions and waste collection drives. On the site itself, lookout points and an information centre have been developed.

### Experience and good practices from Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal

Yacoub Issola from UNEP/Abidjan Convention described some of the key outputs of studies carried out by CFI West Africa on the ecosystem services provided by mangroves in the region. These studies have also been used to characterise different use patterns and the political, institutional and legislative frameworks for their governance. They included detailed mapping of mangrove forests in the Sassandra-Dagbégo area of Côte d'Ivoire, where about 10 percent of mangrove cover has been lost over the last 20 years, and the Biosphere Reserve of the Saloum Delta in Senegal, where there has been a 3 percent increase in mangrove cover since the year 2000. Comparisons between these two areas seem to indicate that establishing protected areas leads to mangrove preservation. In both countries the CFI has been involved in the restoration of 10 hectares of mangroves, along with a further 50 hectares of assisted natural regeneration and the placing under protection of another 290 hectares of existing forest in each location. About 360 local people in each site have been involved in awareness-raising and mangrove replanting activities.

Several lessons have been learned from these experiences: when local communities are made aware of the direct relationship between mangrove health and that of their fisheries, they are more likely to take an active part in sustainable mangrove management. Dedicated awareness raising activities can contribute to changes in local behaviour regarding mangrove use. Full engagement with local communities and authorities is essential for sustainable management. Women can play a central role in mangrove protection and conservation if they are involved fully from the start. Careful selection of sites for activities, including protected areas, with the full involvement and consensus of local communities is important for successful ecosystem protection.

Apart from the videos, articles and handouts already produced for the dissemination of findings from CFI activities in West Africa, the importance of creating opportunities for knowledge and experience exchange were highlighted.

### Experience and good practices from Indonesia

Nicodemus Ubro, Head of the Fisheries Service, South-Eastern Maluku District, Maluku Province, Indonesia, supported by Jimmy Kalthar (CFI Indonesia) described some of the mangrove management initiatives undertaken in his area of responsibility and the lessons learned from their experience so far. Mangrove ecosystems in South-Eastern Maluku are under pressure from clearance for road and housing construction, logging for firewood and building materials, and the lack of a strong perception of the importance of mangroves among local communities. To overcome these challenges the local Fisheries Service, with CFI support, has undertaken activities such as the development of mangrove ecotourism with guided tours, birdwatching, a gazebo, a café and walkways.

### Panel discussion with representatives of communities and partner organisations

Following a short break, a panel discussion was organised with the following participants:

- Darwin Eca Alvarez, member of the local mangrove management committee, Vice, Peru;
- Fatou Ndong Sarr, president of the Local Federation of Economic Interest Groups (FELOGIE), Senegal;
- Birame Diouf, shrimp fisherman, Senegal;
- Kone Bakayoko Alima, Permanent Secretary of the National Commission for GEF, Côte d'Ivoire;
- Nicodemus Ubro, Head of the Fisheries Service, South-East Maluku District, Maluku Province, Indonesia;
- Maeve Nightingale, Mangroves for the Future, IUCN, Bangkok, Thailand;
- Kenichi Shono, Forestry Division, FAO, Rome, Italy.

The facilitator extended a warm welcome to the community level participants who had made a special effort to participate in the online meeting and to Maeve Nightingale from the Mangroves for the Future Programme at IUCN, Bangkok as well as Kenichi Shono from the Forestry Division of the FAO, both of whom brought to the meeting many years of experience in promoting sustainable mangrove management worldwide.

The facilitator posed an initial question to the panellists from local communities asking what was being done in their communities to improve the sustainability of their mangrove resources.

Kone Bakayoko Alima from Côte d'Ivoire described a project being undertaken in her country for the restoration of mangroves used by women. She also mentioned the importance of forging linkages with microfinance mechanisms so that women can develop activities that can be linked with mangrove conservation action.

Fatou Ndong Sarr from Senegal emphasised the importance of awareness raising and educational activities so that community members understand where protected areas are located and how to access forestry products that can serve as alternatives to using mangrove

wood and branches. Birame Diouf, also from Senegal mentioned how the establishment of local surveillance committees was also important for monitoring the implementation of management measures.

Darwin Alveres from Peru was asked about his experience in working with local government. He mentioned that time was required to ensure that communities fully understand the importance of mangroves. Engaging with government is key but they often have limited funds available to invest in mangrove management.

Similarly, Nicodemus Ubro from Indonesia emphasised how this awareness raising process was critical so that communities understand the need for local regulations and locally-led monitoring of management measures. Communities need to understand the value of mangroves so that they can take the lead in their management.

Maeve Nightingale from IUCN was asked to respond to what she had heard so far. Mangroves for the Future is a multi-agency programme managed by IUCN that has been working on promoting better mangrove management in Asia since 2006. Its institutional partners include several CFI partners – FAO, UNDP and UNEP, as well as Wetlands International and bilateral agencies such as NORAD, SIDA and DANIDA. She noted the common features of many of the experiences recounted by participants: decentralization of management responsibility, livelihood diversification, and the importance of awareness raising. She mentioned ecological restoration and planting a diversity of mangrove species to build resilience as successful approaches. She also mentioned currently available sources of information on sustainable mangrove management. These include:

- Best practice guidelines by Wetlands International that are available online;
- Maps and cost-benefit analyses on the potential effects of mangrove restoration;
- A mangrove restoration tracking tool that feeds into a global database (<https://www.iucn.org/theme/forests/our-work/forest-landscape-restoration/mangrove-restoration/mangrove-restoration-potential-mapping-tool>) ;
- Carbon capture assessments of mangroves to help understand where efforts can be made for carbon sequestration and how communities can benefit from this.

She went on to emphasise the importance of ensuring coherence between the policies of different sectors with impact on mangrove forests, such as agriculture, fisheries, tourism, industry, and upstream or inland activities such as mining and forestry. Tourism has shown considerable potential as a means of enhancing understanding of mangroves and their value as well as generating benefits from mangrove protection for local communities.

Kenichi Shono from the FAO Forestry Division also reiterated the importance of intersectoral coordination and coherence in policy and legal frameworks for mangroves, which are areas of overlapping interests between fisheries, forestry, environment and agriculture. Each of these is represented by a different institution with its own set of rules and regulations, and they need to be harmonised if mangroves are to be managed effectively. Clarifying and ensuring tenure rights can constitute an important incentive for communities to take an active role in sustainable management. Promoting the exchange of knowledge among communities and institutions is key to supporting the spread of initiatives for sustainable mangrove management.

During the plenary discussion, participants listed what they regarded as the most important interventions that governments can make to support sustainable mangrove management.



These were: raising awareness of the importance of mangrove protection; providing training to women and youth; and enabling local communities to diversify their economic activities.

During discussion of possible CFI knowledge products, it was suggested that educational materials for young people could be particularly useful as a means of increasing understanding and awareness of the importance of mangrove ecosystems.

### Summary of Day 3

The facilitator summarised the points discussed on Day 3. The importance of mangroves as a critical part of coastal ecosystems had been highlighted. Mangroves support livelihoods, protect flora and fauna, act as nurseries for fisheries resources and sequester carbon. Communities in different countries face some similar issues and challenges, and there are significant opportunities for regional cross-learning.

The following points were identified as leading to sustainable mangrove management:

- Decentralised decision-making that facilitates the participation of communities and local governments;
- An enabling policy and legal framework to enable the participation of local communities;
- The capacity of local government to support communities in managing mangroves;
- Proper collaboration and coordination between different government agencies (such as fisheries, forestry, and tourism) and between central and local government agencies;
- Awareness-raising and education about the vital role of mangrove ecosystems;
- Incentives for local communities to make a long-term commitment to sustainable mangrove management and restoration: for example, developing ecotourism or environmentally friendly fishing and aquaculture businesses;
- Access and tenure rights for users in mangrove areas need to be addressed to create greater incentives for responsible behaviours and decisions;
- Mangrove recovery and its benefits take time to mature, and this needs to be considered when people's livelihoods are at stake. Communities must be provided with viable alternative livelihoods while their ecosystems are given time to recover;
- Securing appropriate long-term funding for mangrove restoration and management is a challenge;
- Decision-making must be based on accurate knowledge and information about mangrove ecosystems and the specific conditions of their different resources.

### Day 4: Thursday, March 24, 2022

The thematic area for Day 4 of the CFI Global Partnership Consultation was engaging the private sector in sustainable fisheries and was led by the CFI Challenge Fund.

## Presentations of context for engaging the private sector, business and finance in sustainable fisheries

Mimako Kobayashi (CFI Challenge Fund) said that involving the private sector is key to making and keeping coastal fisheries sustainable after the end of project interventions. The CFI Challenge Fund has been exploring market-based mechanisms to ensure funding for sustainability. The key questions that the CFI Challenge Fund is seeking to answer are:

- How can we make sustainable coastal fisheries interesting to entrepreneurs as a business?
- How can we make sustainable coastal fisheries interesting to investors as an investment opportunity?

She introduced the CFI Challenge Fund team, whose members provided updates on how engagement with the private sector has been approached in the different geographies where the project is working.

Gabriela Encalada and Jorge Barbosa described the context in Ecuador and Peru, where small-scale coastal fisheries are a key part of the economy and an important source of employment, but where investments are generally limited. Fisheries entrepreneurs such as small-scale fishers, seafood processors and vessel owners have limited capacity and opportunities to develop and present business plans to either private or public sources of investment. At the same time investors have limited information about the sector, which they perceive as high-risk.

To address these issues, the CFI Challenge Fund has explored the information required to provide appropriate information to potential investors about the social, environmental and financial risks involved in fisheries and how they can be mitigated. The initiative has worked with public and private financial institutions to develop investment criteria and assessment on investment readiness to be used for different fisheries ventures and finance streams.

The project has also been providing capacity-building for fishers and fish workers to enhance their capacity to develop viable business plans, as well as in marketing, sales and administration. Particular attention has been paid to the involvement of women in these activities and in addressing gender and environmental aspects of fisheries in the capacity-building activities.

Two videos prepared by the CFI Challenge Fund Latin America team were screened, once on capacity development and one on gender in fisheries.

Ahmad Baihaki illustrated the barriers facing fisheries business development in Indonesia. These included the small size of many of the businesses that seem to satisfy key viability and sustainability criteria, representing an issue of scale for investors. Certification and assessments required as proof of sustainability can also be relatively costly for small-scale fisheries businesses.

The CFI Challenge Fund has developed a screening tool to help entrepreneurs and potential investors assess the viability and sustainability of fisheries businesses. The project will also be helping fisheries entrepreneurs develop business cases for submission to potential investors and broader investment landscape reports. Mr Baihaki drew attention to the importance of

collaborating closely with government and building their capacity to support private businesses in fisheries as well.

For Cabo Verde, Antonio Baptista described how entrepreneurial development in fisheries has been a chronic challenge, in part due to the lack of an enabling regulatory and licensing framework. There is also a lack of integrated strategies that look at activities along the fisheries value chain, from production to demand, such as tourism. As a result, incentives are often misaligned along these value chains.

The CFI Challenge Fund has been helping fisheries businesses develop innovative proof of concept ideas, such as the targeting new local species (for example deep-water shrimp), the conversion of fleets to improve sustainable fishing capacity, encouraging better market access and enabling the EAF. Creating opportunities for more structured communication between the public and private sectors and between different value chain actors is important.

Herbert Curry described how the Global Knowledge Competition component of the CFI Challenge Fund is offering incentives for stakeholders in the fisheries value chains across the three CFI geographies to create coalitions to develop and implement innovative solutions to overfishing. Harnessing the power of coalitions to tackle complex problems that no one link on the value chain can solve the promotion of partnerships to address these issues is central to the initiative.

### Panel discussion 1: impacts of CFI-CF and its Global Knowledge Competition

The CFI Challenge Fund and the Global Knowledge Competition team constituted a panel where the key impacts of their work were discussed.

From the work in Ecuador and Peru, the understanding and awareness of the importance of coastal fisheries has been raised, helping both potential investors understand fisheries as a potential area of investment and fisheries entrepreneurs improve their businesses to help them to attract investment. During the period of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CFI Challenge Fund was also able to help recovery activities, particularly in the Galapagos Archipelago.

In Cabo Verde and Indonesia, the profile of fishing communities has been raised and a roadmap for fishing entrepreneurs to develop better business and investment plans has been developed.

For the Global Knowledge Competition, while the interest in forming coalitions around specific innovations seems to be strong, means of sustaining impetus beyond the end of the competition and project need to be explored.

### Panel discussion 2: lessons learned from CFI-CF and its Global Knowledge Competition

The Global Partnership Consultation was privileged to welcome the members of a second panel to lead a more in-depth discussion. This panel was made up of fisheries entrepreneurs from Cabo Verde and Peru and representatives of investor organisations involved in coastal conservation and fisheries development. The panel members were:

- Ms Yesenia Condori, head of the Mujeres del Mar del Puerto de Quilca fishing and fish processing enterprise from Peru;
- Susano Vicente, head of the Fisheries Shipowners Association, Cabo Verde;

- Anibal Medina, a fisheries entrepreneur from Cabo Verde;
- Veronica Yow, Manager ESG and Impact at the Meloy Fund which supports small and medium enterprises by providing technical assistance and connecting fishers, government agencies and NGOs to show how fisheries businesses can be sustainable;
- Gita Gemilang from the Blue Abadi Fund, Indonesia, a trust programme focused on conservation of the Bird's Head Seascape in eastern Indonesia through the management of Marine Protected Area (MPA) networks and the empowerment of civil society.

To open the discussion the facilitator asked the panel members about the benefits they have seen from their involvement with the CFI Challenge Fund and how their businesses have changed during the period of their involvement.

Ms Condori highlighted the opportunities for training and exchanging experience that involvement in the CFI has offered. Among the key benefits for her and her colleagues in her organisation has been the capacity building to help them handle their business better and develop proper business plans to help them access funding. As she described it the capacity to “express our dreams and ideas in a format that can be submitted for funding” was particularly valuable. Involvement in the project has also enabled them to network and interact with a wider range of people in the fisheries sector and so learn about many opportunities and different ways of working. The opportunity to share experience on the role of women in the fishing business has been particularly important.

She also described how support from CFI was helping them to operate more sustainably by enabling them to do more with less, producing better quality products that fetch higher prices and therefore reduce the need to fish.

She looked forward to obtaining financing in the future to improve the refrigeration chain to enable better storage of products and to help them contact new customers and markets.

Mr Medina also felt that capacity-building under the CFI programme to help their fishing businesses become more viable had been particularly valuable. Small fishing businesses in Cabo Verde need to work towards important upgrades such as on-board refrigeration and fish finding equipment, all of which require financing that would enable them to make the sector as a whole more viable.

Questions were also asked from the floor about the balance between investing in fisheries businesses, and therefore developing fisheries as a sector, and the need for sustainable governance of the resource. The CFI Challenge Fund team were asked how they ensured that this balance is maintained and how women and youth have been embraced within their work.

Jorge Barbosa (CFI-CF Latin America) said that this balance is essential and needs to be maintained and is the emphasis of many current Blue Economy initiatives. Maintaining this balance does not necessarily mean de-growing the fisheries sector but ensuring that fisheries development takes place within the context of a careful consideration of the state of specific fisheries and within regulated access arrangements (regulation being generally within the purview of government).

Ahmad Baihaki (CFI-CF Indonesia) emphasised the importance for sustainability in fisheries of increasing efficiency in fishing operations and improving the quality of fish handling so as to eliminate waste and save energy. Given the importance of women in the post-harvest sector, their role in this is essential. Youth can also play a key role as champions of new technology in the fisheries sector.

In response to a question from Côte d'Ivoire about supporting income-generating activities for communities involved in mangrove management, Jimmy Kalther (CFI Indonesia) described the development of mud-crab farming in mangrove forests. The important element was to involve both business (in this case, mud-crab buyers and sellers) and local government in the development of new activities, but that the ideas for new activities should come from local communities so that they reflect people's capacities and skills.

Miguel Maldonado (CFI Latin America) mentioned how community involvement in monitoring and surveillance of fisheries activities was important, along with developing access to new markets such as those for fair trade and sustainable-produced fish.

Building on this discussion, a series of questions came from the floor regarding the processes by which entrepreneurs can be linked with investors.

Ms Yow emphasised that the Meloy Fund is not a venture capital outfit but were looking for certain levels of existing revenues in the enterprises they targeted so that they could link them with potential investors. In response to a question regarding the typical scale of enterprises that the Meloy Fund support, she mentioned that the typical ticket size would be USD 1-4 million and that this meant that most of the enterprises targeted were at the seafood processor level. However, with more technology companies involved in producing enabling technology this might vary in the future.

Regarding the sort of indicators that her investment fund would be looking for in a fisheries enterprise that might be a candidate for investment, she mentioned that, for enterprises involved in capture fisheries, engagement in a Fisheries Improvement Project (FIP) that was working towards harvest strategies and controls based on a strong stock assessment would usually be necessary. For aquaculture-related enterprises, the Meloy Fund looks for zero mangrove deforestation, effective effluent management systems and reduced reliance on wild-caught resources for fish feed.

Discussion then turned to the importance of improved financial management in fisheries enterprises to allow them to access new investment. The CFI Challenge Fund has been active in supporting capacity-building to improve the financial management of fishing and fisheries-related enterprises and this has been important to help them to set up proper balance sheets and other management tools and move away from their normal management practices that tend to be based on the management of cash flow. Ms Yow pointed out that the lack of proper financial reporting in fisheries businesses is often a constraint for investors.

## Summary of Day 4

In summary, the facilitator reviewed how engaging the private sector, business and finance is an important aspect of sustainable fisheries as it plays a key role in ensuring that results are sustained after a project has finished. It was emphasized how fisheries worldwide has always been dominated by the private sector, whether at the very small-scale artisanal level that is dominant in coastal areas or at the larger industrial scale that may fish less in coastal waters but will nevertheless affect coastal fisheries. Environmentally, socially and economically sustainable fisheries are possible but there are barriers that need to be overcome, including how to ensure effective communications, collaboration and partnerships, and how to ensure that sustainable behaviours is incentivized.

An important part of the CFI Challenge Fund activities has focussed on bringing together the different stakeholders involved in coastal fisheries – fisheries, private sector entrepreneurs, governments and investors – to address these issues. Key activities have included:

- Thorough analysis of the challenges and opportunities in the sector to support increased investment;
- Capacity building for fishers, seafood processors and fisheries entrepreneurs to help them make their businesses more effective and successful;
- The development of tools for screening and assessing the readiness of fisheries businesses for investment;
- Identifying new ways (through the Global Knowledge Competition) of addressing unsustainable fisheries.

Some of the key learning from the CFI Challenge Fund experience so far has included:

- The importance of government ownership of processes that support fisheries management, side-by-side with the private sector and investors;
- Working within an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) that equips the private sector with the means to address social, environmental and financial risks;
- Enhancing communication between the private sector, civil society and the wider public;
- Making use of information and knowledge to improve fisheries businesses and improve investors' understanding of the sector;
- Investing in capacity building in the sector;
- Enhancing the roles of women and youth in fisheries value chains;
- Bearing in mind and accommodating the potential impacts of climate change on fisheries resources and activities;
- The process of enhancing private sector activity and investment must be rooted in the concrete needs of coastal communities and the entrepreneurs operating there.

## Day 5: Friday, March 25, 2022

The final day of the Global Partnership Consultation focussed on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM<sup>1</sup>) with the CFI Indonesia team taking the lead. After the welcome for the day by the facilitator, a CFI video on EAFM was screened for participants.

Jimmy Kalthar (CFI Indonesia) gave an overview of issues that are common to efforts to implement the EAFM worldwide. EAFM implementation involves addressing a wide range of issues in different spheres relating to fisheries, including the development of appropriate regulatory and legal frameworks, the application of appropriate tools to support EAFM adoption, accessing finance, sharing knowledge on EAFM practice and developing an appropriate knowledge base on both the biological characteristics of fisheries areas, the social and economic characteristics of communities of resource users and the characteristics of resource exploitation. While the CFI is using a broad and inclusive approach to EAFM that takes account of all of these factors, several priority issues have been identified:

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1. The Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) and the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) are essentially the same thing. They both refer to a holistic approach to fisheries that takes account of biological, ecological, social, institutional and economic factors in order to achieve better management of fisheries resources.

- The identification of appropriate incentives for more sustainable fishing behaviour.
- The development of supportive policies for EAFM;
- Understanding the role of alternative livelihoods and livelihood diversification in enabling EAFM and exploring how these can be more effective;
- Engaging with traditional institutions in the implementation of EAFM;
- Understanding the role and limitations of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) as part of the EAFM;
- Developing traceability and labelling mechanisms for seafood products from EAFM areas as an incentive for sustainable management.

## Presentations of context for EAFM

This introduction of the theme of EAFM was followed by a series of presentations that explained key features of the national and regional context in which CFI's work on EAFM is taking place.

Fery Sutyawan, Director-General of Capture Fisheries, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia provided an overview of fisheries management provisions in Indonesia, including the designated Fisheries Management Areas, the work of the National Stock Assessment commission, and the key laws, policies and regulations that support EAFM in the country. He also identified some of the key challenges facing EAFM implementation in Indonesia, including the high diversity of species in Indonesian waters which poses a challenge for the development of effective baseline data for fish stocks, widespread conflicts between users of different types of fishing gear, jurisdictions and communities, and the need for regular communication and coordination to create synergies between all the stakeholders involved in the implementation of EAFM.

Alberto Martins, National Director for Fisheries and Aquaculture, Cabo Verde, talked the participants through some of the key features of EAFM implementation in his country. He emphasised the importance of fish for food security in the country and the regulations and laws introduced by the government to ensure sustainability in fisheries in national waters. He highlighted the challenges involved in harmonising the need to manage fisheries effectively with the development needs of the country but emphasised that the implementation of the EAFM would offer a means of achieving this harmonisation over time.

Isidro Andrade, Under-Secretary for Fisheries Resources, Ecuador, focused on efforts to introduce an effective management plan for mahi-mahi (*Coryphaena hippurus*) with the goal of achieving MSC Certification. This high value fishery targets fresh and frozen exports to the United States and involves about 25 000 fishers, operating generally small craft. About 15 processing plants are involved in processing the mahi-mahi catch, employing some 1 500 people directly or indirectly during the high season. The four pillars of these management efforts are: developing enabling legislation; participatory monitoring with fishers to collect catch data; the introduction of pilot schemes to enhance traceability; and participatory governance anchored in mechanisms such as the Forum for Dialogue and Technical Committee, which involve representatives of all the key stakeholders in the fishery.

## EAFM experience and good practices from Indonesia

The CFI Indonesia team presented some of their key learning and potential best practice. Michael Wayoi from the Fisheries Service of Wondama Bay District, West Papua Province, said work in Wondama Bay has focussed on developing fisheries management plans that are anchored in traditional *Sasi* arrangements. *Sasi* refers to a set of customary practices, rules and regulations that govern access to, use of and distribution of benefits from natural resources in many areas of eastern Indonesia.

*Sasi* can govern both terrestrial and marine resources and both animals and plants, and generally consist of a decision, arrived at through a consultative process involving village members, to restrict the exploitation of resources in a particular area for a given period. The association of these resource protection measures with *Sasi* can lead to high levels of compliance even in the absence of enforcement mechanisms. The end of restrictions on resource use, or the opening of *Sasi*, are often associated with communal harvesting events and the distribution of the results of these harvests among community members.

Jimmy Kalther (CFI Indonesia) added that the studies that have accompanied the work on *Sasi* in Wondama Bay have clearly demonstrated its positive impacts on local biodiversity and fish resources, coupled with high levels of community satisfaction. To create incentives for fishers who comply with *Sasi* management regulations, CFI Indonesia is working to create market access for their products through a *Sasi* labelling scheme, and also exploring ways to add value to fish caught under *Sasi* rules.

A video prepared by CFI Indonesia about *Sasi* was then shown.

## EAFM experience and good practices from West Africa

Some key learning and best practices from CFI experience in Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal was presented by Maria Edelmira Carvahlo (CFI West Africa).

Critical to CFI's work in the region have been a series of studies evaluating legislation and policies relating to coastal fisheries, EAF, the SSF Guidelines, gender aspects of fisheries and food safety in fisheries value chains. These studies generated a set of specific recommendations for each of the CFI countries regarding the development and ratification of key fisheries legislation.

Among the key issues identified were:

- The need to promote a more holistic understanding of the fisheries sector, considering cross-sectoral issues such as climate change and developments in the energy, water and environmental sectors;
- Greater attention to the implementation of international commitments relative to fisheries, including those relating to EAFM and gender;
- The need to harmonise and align regional and national fisheries legislation and regulations with international commitments.

The presentation then looked at more specific issues relating to each of the CFI countries in the region.

For Cabo Verde, the national Management Plan for Fisheries Resources incorporates EAFM and the SSF Guidelines, but implementation is still weak. Closer harmonisation with concerns regarding climate change, human rights and the precautionary approach to fisheries management is also required. More explicit recognition of the EAFM as the guiding principle



behind fisheries policy and management is required, along with a greater emphasis on EAFM in research programmes and agendas and capacity building of fisheries stakeholders to promote a better understanding of EAFM.

In Côte d'Ivoire, a plan for the management of sardinella fisheries in Sassandra is currently under development and efforts are being made to ensure that EAFM is fully incorporated into this plan.

Likewise in Senegal, the management plan for coastal shrimp does not adequately incorporate EAFM. There is a need to conduct more research on the impacts of the fishery and to introduce incentives for its conservation and sustainable use. Formal agreements to allow scientific observers onto fishing boats and studies to reduce by-catch in industrial fisheries areas are needed.

Coordination between CFI West Africa and other initiatives in the region has also been important, notably with the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem project in Cabo Verde and Senegal and with the EAF-Nansen Programme in West Africa.

Matthieu Bernardon from FAO provided more detail on the EAF-Nansen Programme and how it promotes the EAFM. This includes a comprehensive set of e-learning materials, and training workshops held in Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal in the use of the [Diagnostic Tool for Implementing the EAF through Policy and Legal Frameworks](#) and the use of the EAF Implementation Monitoring (Tracking) Tool. EAF-Nansen has worked closely with CFI and FAO regionally on the development and application of these tools. It has also worked with CFI to build capacity regionally for the implementation of EAFM.

### EAFM experience and good practices from Latin America

Experience from Ecuador and Peru was presented by Fernando Rey (CFI Latin America). In Ecuador, the CFI helped review the management plan for mahi-mahi (*Coryphaena hippurus*) and built capacity for the implementation of EAF in managing this fishery. This included lengthy and inclusive consultations with a wide range of stakeholders, including national researchers and representatives of fisher associations. Training for 38 technical staff on monitoring fisheries resources has been carried out. Ecuador is also taking the lead in promoting regional management of mahi-mahi, given its highly migratory nature.

A highly participatory mechanism for decision-making called the Forum for Dialogue and Technical Committee was set up and tasked with developing a sustainable management plan. This forum was open to all stakeholders in the fishery and was an extremely intensive process involving nine fisher associations, whose capacity to participate in dialogue and decision-making was strengthened. This mechanism is becoming established as a model of democratic governance of fisheries.

Participatory monitoring helps ensure that enough high-quality data is available to inform management decisions. A total of 173 fishers and 31 trainers have been trained so far, and there are plans to scale up these participatory monitoring efforts to the national level.

A pilot project on traceability making use of new technology and onboard observers has been implemented. Although this has been on a limited scale – 15 participants and four fishing vessels – it has had significant impact, and four further projects are planned to replicate the experience and eventually scale it up nationally.

It was emphasised that CFI activities in Ecuador are part of a decade-long continuum of activities to improve fisheries governance in the region. This has ensured a great degree of coherence with actions undertaken previously and will ensure that there is greater long-term sustainability after the end of the project. The Fisheries Improvement Project (FIP) in Ecuador to which CFI has contributed will continue for years to come.

Cynthia Cespedes (Conservation International Peru), Xavier Chalen (Conservation International Ecuador) and Sharon Dale (Ministry of Production, Peru) presented the use of the Ocean Health Index (OHI) in Ecuador and Peru.

The OHI is a science-to-policy tool designed to channel scientific information into marine policy. It does so by measuring the performance of 10 environmental, economic, and social goals — such as biodiversity, coastal livelihoods, and sense of place — on a quantitative scale of increasing health from 0 to 100. Together, these scores deliver a snapshot of ocean health, suggesting where countries have made progress and where there is a need for improvement. Policymakers and other stakeholders can then use this information to manage marine and coastal ecosystems sustainably. Over 65 scientists, economists and environmental managers worked together to develop the OHI.

Starting in 2012, this tool has been used to obtain scores for 221 coastal countries and territorial jurisdictions around the world. This widespread application has helped to highlight specific issues in different countries and regions, including carbon sequestration and interactions between oceans, coastal areas and land-based activities such as agriculture.

Experience in Ecuador and Peru has taught the importance of having a core group that can provide continuity in conducting regular OHI assessments, and of providing a home for the relevant database. Also, the data generated by the OHI is only useful if decision-makers use it to inform policies and strategies.

The quality of the data depends on the quality of the information available as inputs to the OHI tool, so transparency and access to information are critical. The outputs of the OHI also represent an opportunity to raise institutional and public awareness of the need to keep the ocean healthy, and its critical importance to our survival.

## Panel discussion

The facilitator initiated the discussion by asking Michael Wayoi (Fisheries Service of Wondama Bay, Indonesia) about which CFI Indonesia inputs they found most useful. He emphasised the importance of including local and traditional institutions, religious leaders and local government structures in developing holistic fisheries management plans.

In response to a question regarding the key challenges in establishing effective management in Cabo Verde, Luis Andrade, President of the New Generation Fishers of Sao Pedro and San Vicente, highlighted the importance of organisation and capacity building for fishers. This requires significant resources so that communities can be made familiar with management measures and their roles in implementing them.

Rishi Sharma, FAO Senior Fisheries Resources Officer, highlighted the importance of good communication between different stakeholder groups, communities, industry, and government. Working with key institutions and ensuring that they understand the basic concepts involved is also essential. He emphasised that the process is complex, but it has been shown that the EAFM can be implemented successfully in some locations.

The facilitator then encouraged participants to think about what sort of knowledge products can help with implementation of the EAFM as this will be particularly important over the remaining period of the project.

Rishi Sharma mentioned the need to better understand how fisheries can be managed in data poor environments, where accurate information is lacking. FAO is currently developing an approach that takes this lack of data into account and promotes a precautionary management approach based on the weight of evidence, including information from anecdotal, interview-based and secondary data gathering.

Kone Aboubakar (CFI West Africa) responded that colleagues from Côte d'Ivoire were struck by the experience described from other countries showing that EAFM can be implemented successfully. He noted that those considering adopting EAFM often see it as a rather abstract concept, but the experience shared in the Consultation has shown how it can be made more concrete. He encouraged national partners to clarify what sort of support they might need from the CFI in order to implement EAFM in the future.

Katrien Holvoert said she was interested in the experience in improving women's access to credit and capacity building on business practices. She mentioned the potential of using new forms of digital access as a means for improving women's access to finance and their ability to participate in EAFM processes.

## Summary of Day 5

The facilitator summarized the day's discussions. The EAFM is complex because it is holistic, and CFI experience to date has highlighted some of the challenges in its implementation. Some of the key learning that emerged during the discussions included:

- Fishing communities must be the starting point for the EAFM process and must be kept at the centre throughout. The EAFM cannot be implemented without community buy-in;
- Institutional and legal frameworks must enable community participation and local level decision-making, and establishing such frameworks takes time;
- The time scales involved in different aspects of EAFM can be difficult to synchronise. Bringing about change in institutional attitudes, legislation and awareness of sustainability issues may require more time, while other aspects of the process may move more quickly;
- While specific initiatives may operate on a relatively short, project-based time scale, maintaining a long-term perspective is vital. The movement from unmanaged fisheries to effective EAFM may require several project cycles;
- While plenty of tools are available to support the implementation of EAFM, efforts are required to make them available and accessible more widely;
- It is vital to establish incentives for responsible fishing, and women in the post-harvest sector can play a critical role in communicating those incentives to the fishers.

## Closing remarks

Fatou Sock (CFI-GPP Coordinator) asked the representatives of the other Child Projects to make their closing remarks.

Miguel Maldonado (CFI Latin America) offered his congratulations to colleagues from the other CFI Child Projects for progress made over the last year. He was particularly impressed by the thorough work being done in Indonesia and some of the interesting and valuable studies carried out in West Africa. He looked forward to the planned visits by colleagues from West Africa to Ecuador and Peru as an opportunity to further compare their experience. He also noted how the discussions emphasised the importance of the CFI's integrated approach, and the need to provide ongoing support to fishers and fish workers, governments, businesses and consumers in the drive to sustainable fisheries and ecosystems.

Jimmy Kalther (CFI Indonesia) noted that while the project started much later in Indonesia than in the other CFI geographies, the current meeting showed that CFI Indonesia can learn from the experience of the other Child Projects. He noted the emphasis on empowering women in fisheries value chains, and he appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the CFI Challenge Fund work in Indonesia and he looked forward to working closely with them in the near future. He also looked forward to opportunities for exchange visits to learn more about CFI experience in other countries.

Mimako Kobayashi, CFI Challenge Fund team leader and co-host of the Global Partnership Consultation offered her congratulations to all the CFI teams for the progress they made in their respective projects and the valuable experience they brought to the meeting and looked forward to closer interactions with the other CFI Child Projects over the coming year. She also thanked FAO for organising and facilitating the meeting.

Fatou Sock, CFI-GPP Coordinator at FAO and co-host for the Global Partnership Consultation, offered particular thanks to the members of the communities where CFI is working, who made the effort to participate in the sessions and provided valuable insights into the realities of their lives and livelihoods. She went on to thank the ministries with which CFI is working in the six beneficiary countries for their ongoing support and engagement. She also mentioned that 2022 is the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) and that efforts will be made during the coming year to coordinate CFI activities and initiatives with the IYAFA secretariat at FAO.

Nathaniel Hishamunda, FAO CFI Budget Holder, thanked participants for their presentations and for sharing their valuable experience and lessons learned. He felt that the Consultation had illustrated the strengthened coordination within CFI and that it had achieved its key objective of enabling the exchange of knowledge and experience to date. Attendance has been high, with between 83 and 110 participants each day and they all contributed to the deep and detailed discussions.

He thanked the women and men from fishing communities and their organisations, the representatives of fisheries businesses, local and national government agencies, the GEF Secretariat and other concerned organisations from the CFI beneficiary countries – Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Indonesia, Peru and Senegal – for their support and participation.

He also appreciated the contributions by the CFI partners – Conservation International, UNDP, UNEP, the World Bank, WWF – to making the meeting a success. He thanked the FAO interpretation and meeting support services for their excellent work. He congratulated everyone on their achievements, and declared the meeting closed.

## Recommendations based on the 2022 Global Partnership Consultation discussions

Several recommendations emerged on the development of CFI knowledge products over the period from early 2022 to the end of project operations in late 2023.

- CFI partners were reminded that the key justification for the development of the CFI as a global initiative was the opportunity to generate learning that would have global relevance. All the Child Projects have documented their activities, generating a growing body of knowledge products. However, the importance of using the remaining period of work for CFI to focus on generating globally relevant knowledge products was emphasised. The Child Projects will need dedicated support to produce global knowledge products;
- CFI partners were asked throughout the Consultation to suggest ideas for knowledge products. Proposals included the development of educational materials about mangrove ecosystems to raise awareness and understanding among school children;
- Partners observed that considerable care is required before recommending any particular action or approach as a good practice. Confidence regarding the replicability of practices will need to be based on wider comparisons and testing in a range of situations. In some cases, it will be possible to validate experience and practices from CFI Child Projects with wider documented experience to enable the tentative identification of good practices that should be more widely applicable;
- The involvement of experts from outside the CFI in the Global Partnership Consultation highlighted the importance of CFI being open to sharing experience with other programmes. For example, the invitation extended to experts from Mangroves for the Future generated several contacts that are being pursued subsequent to the Consultation, and also highlighted how much guidance on sustainable mangrove management has already been developed worldwide. This will ensure that the knowledge outputs from CFI do not duplicate materials already available;
- Over the coming months, the CFI-GPP will engage with the knowledge management teams in each of the CFI Child Projects to discuss knowledge products to be developed, focussing on:
  - Identifying content and key messages for each thematic area;
  - Identifying the format of the products – whether printed, digital, or a mix of both. Where this involves engagement with other agencies or programmes, collaborations will be developed and pursued.

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