

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Smart Fisheries Co-Management (SFC)

Smart Fisheries Co-Management (SFC)

Aquatic products play a crucial role in many countries' economies and livelihoods. Global fisheries and aquaculture production (excluding algae) reached a record 182 Mt in 2021, with 161 Mt dedicated to direct human consumption. The sector directly employs 58 million people, with over 90 percent working in small-scale fisheries. Fisheries and aquaculture continue to make a significant contribution to local economies, especially in developing countries. The total first-sale value of the sector was estimated at 428 billion USD in 2021.

However, the sustainability of fishery resources is threatened by a growing global population, climate change, and increased demand for fish products, impacting social aspects, economies, livelihoods, food security, and nutrition levels. Fisheries co-management emerges as a sustainable solution, addressing issues such as resource overexploitation, conflicts, and food insecurity.

The Smart Fisheries Co-Management project (SFC) promotes effective and efficient co-management strategies and frameworks for sustainable governance of fisheries at the national and local levels, with a concurrent focus on improving the communities' livelihoods and wellbeing.

Our tools

At a global level, the SFC project developed a set of tools specifically tailored to establish and execute fisheries co-management (FCM) initiatives on-the-ground. These tools are intended to facilitate the effective implementation of co-management programme in fisheries.



Guidebook for evaluating fisheries co-management effectiveness



E-Learning course: Evaluating fisheries co-management effectiveness



Guidebook for evaluating fisheries co-management effectiveness – How it works



Tools for the Guidebook for evaluating fisheries comanagement effectiveness

Trainings on the ground

SFC organizes trainings to:

- Strengthen the participants' capacity for establishing and implementing fisheries co-management and evaluating the performance of a fisheries co-management system. This provides a structured approach to understand successful and unsuccessful attempts and reasons for co-management practices adoption.
- Empower livelihoods and sustainable practices. By involving and engaging the local communities, the project aims to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility, ensuring that the local communities needs are met.



Our objectives

The project aims to assist all stakeholders in fisheries, including decision-makers, in developing and implementing effective and efficient co-management strategies and frameworks for sustainable fisheries governance at both the national and local levels. As emphasized in the Small Scale Fisheries (SSF) Guidelines, co-management is crucial as it empowers small-scale fishing communities to express their needs and claims, and provide valuable knowledge, including traditional knowledge, to shape policies and regulations.

Additionally, SFC supports livelihoods by empowering local communities and stakeholders through capacity-building programs, training initiatives, and knowledge sharing. This collaborative approach ensures that livelihoods are sustained through sustainable practices that protect the environment and enhance economic opportunities.

Target countries



* Supported over the period 2020-2021

SFC is implemented since 2020 through the Korea FAO Sustainable and Innovative Fisheries and Aquaculture Programme (KOFAP) programme.

Learn more



KOFAP



SFC

Contact

Fisheries-Co-Management@fao.org

SFC contributes to several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda.



The project is supported by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries on the Republic of Korea and the Korea Maritime Institute.



Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries



KOREA MARITIME INSTITUTE



Some rights reserved. This work is available under a CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence

© FAO, 2024 CC9732EN/1/03.24