



# Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Blue Economy



# Sustainable Blue Economy Conference

Harnessing the potential of the blue economy to create jobs and combat poverty and hunger

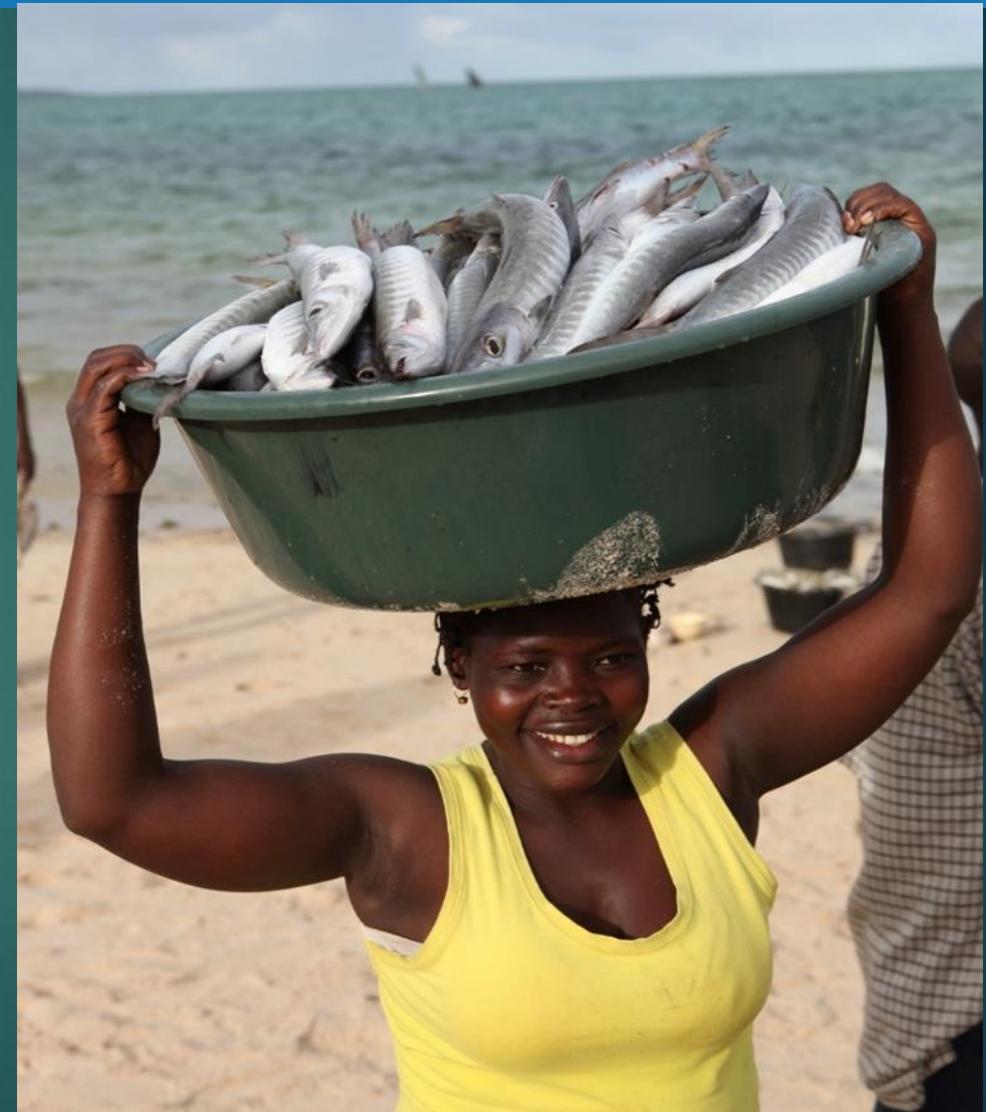
- ▶ And emphasize the need to develop our waters in an inclusive and sustainable manner for the benefit of all

We hope this dialogue will inform commitments and practical actions coming out of the conference



# Small Scale Fisheries (SSF)

- ▶ Critical to food security, nutrition, livelihoods and local and national economies
- ▶ Employs 90 percent of fishers and fish workers
- ▶ 50 percent of these individuals are women
- ▶ Responsible for 50 percent of catch destined for human consumption or 30 million tons/year
- ▶ Politically marginalized, and as a result are ignored in decision making processes



# Blue Economy – the beginning

'Blue Economy' emerged at the  
United Nations Rio +20 conference  
(2012)

- ▶ SIDS highlighted a need for a development framework similar to 'Green Economy' focused on marine and aquatic resources



# Blue Economy – why all the fuss?

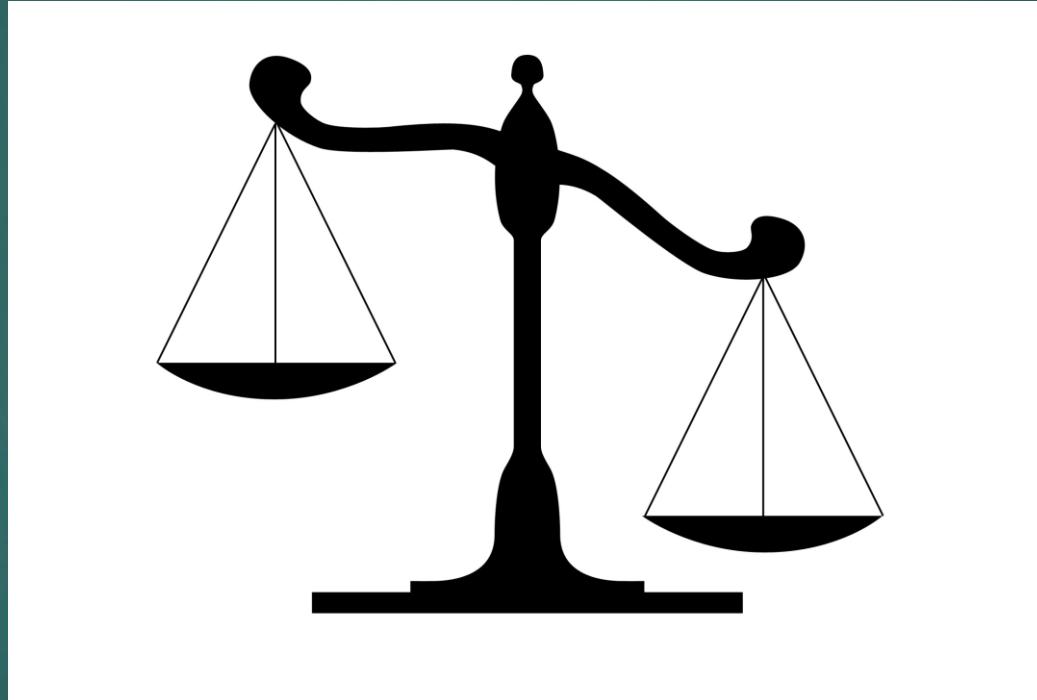
- ▶ Oceans support millions of jobs through a variety of sectors, adding \$1.5 trillion USD to the global economy annually (OECD 2016)
- ▶ The global Ocean Economy is projected to double in size by 2030 (OECD,2016)



# Blue Economy – balance of power

Fundamental power imbalances present inherent challenges to effectively balance social, environmental and economic objectives in Blue Economy agenda

Economically powerful and political influential interests



Politically marginalized groups ignored in decision making

These imbalances present a threat to SSF. This is nothing new, but the question is what is going to be done to ensure that Blue Economy breaks this cycle?

# Blue Economy – a fork in the road...

Inclusive  
and  
sustainable  
growth for  
the benefit  
of all

Emphasis  
on growth  
and  
increasing  
private  
sector  
investment

Danger that “blue  
economy” becomes  
business as usual.

Focused on economic  
growth, emphasizing the  
need to increase private  
sector profits and be  
attractive to foreign  
investments that  
benefit only a few.

At expense of all.

# Blue Economy – a way forward

- ▶ The SSF Guidelines are the tool to ensure that blue economy delivers in an inclusive and sustainable manner for the benefit of all
- ▶ And that small-scale fishing communities participate in, and benefit from any plan, strategy or initiative to grow the blue economy



# SSF Guidelines are Blue Economy

- ✓ International Policy Instrument dedicated to sustainable SSF
- ✓ Adopted in 2014
- ✓ Broader in Scope than Fisheries
- ✓ Uniquely placed to support Blue Economy agenda

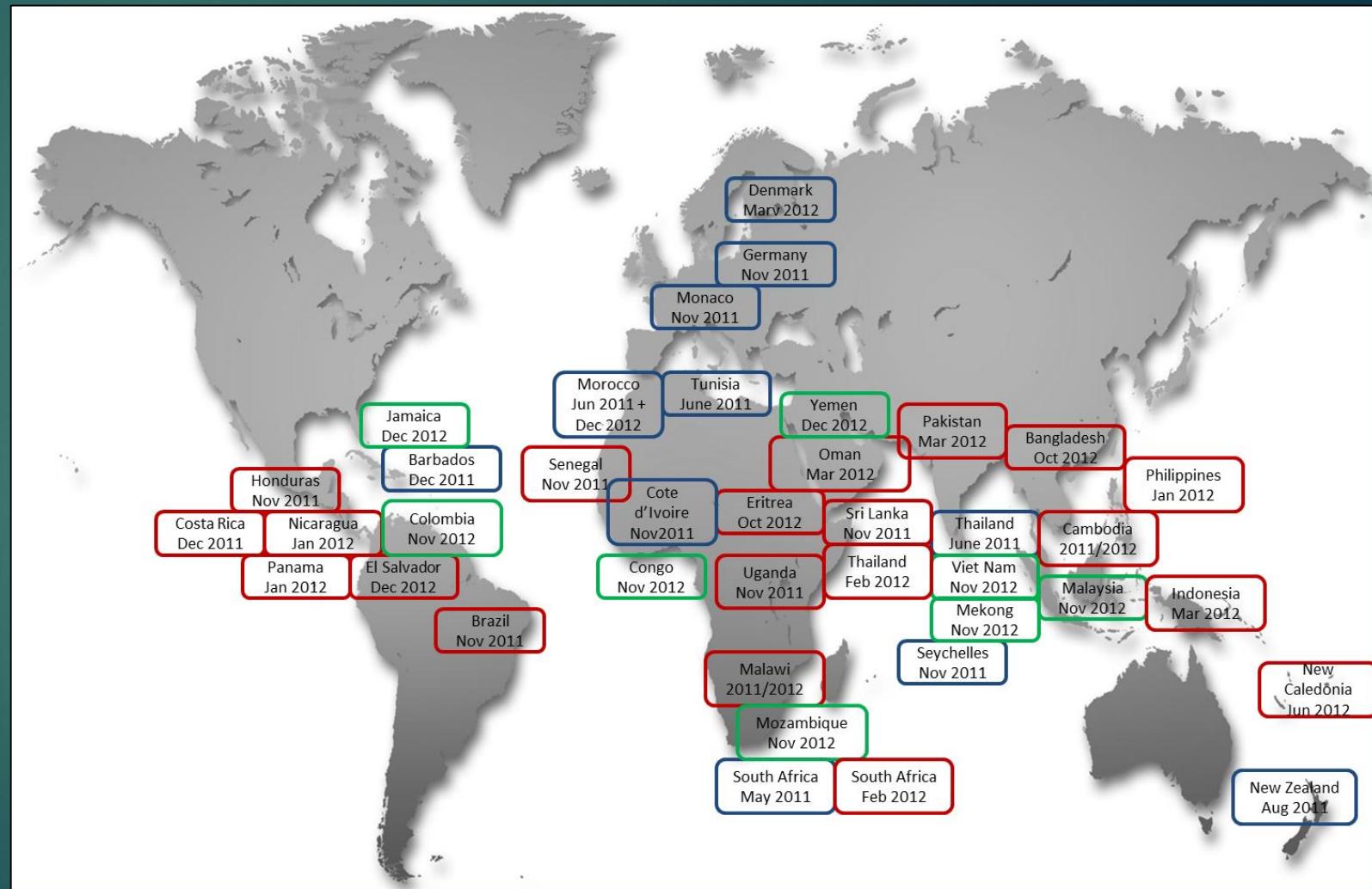


# SSF Guidelines - Guiding Principles



# SSF Guidelines - Consultations 2011-2013

- ✓ National and Regional Consultations
- ✓ Bottom up and participatory process
- ✓ 4000+ fishers and fish workers
- ✓ Only Fisheries instrument developed this way



# SSF Guidelines

## Complements other international instruments

- ▶ Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries; Right to Food Guidelines; Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests



# SSF Guidelines - Themes



# SSF in Global and Regional Policy Processes

- ▶ FAO Committee on Fisheries
- ▶ Committee on World Food Security
- ▶ Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food
- ▶ SDG 2030 Agenda – 14.b



2014

Policy Framework and Reform  
Strategy for Fisheries and  
Aquaculture in Africa  
African Union



2015

Revised TORS for Artisanal  
Fisheries Working Group  
**Fishery Committee for the  
Central Eastern Atlantic**

New song for coastal fisheries  
Secretariat of the Pacific  
Community

Regional approaches for  
securing sustainable small-  
scale fisheries -  
Southeast Asia Fisheries  
Development Centre

Central American Fisheries and  
Aquaculture Integration Policy  
Central American Fisheries and  
Aquaculture Organization

2018

Protocol on Securing  
Sustainable Small-Scale  
Fisheries  
**Caribbean Regional Fisheries  
Mechanism**

Regional Plan of Action for  
Small-Scale Fisheries in the  
Mediterranean and the Black  
Sea  
**General Fisheries Commission  
for the Mediterranean**

# Conclusions

- ▶ SSF Guidelines are needed tool for Blue Economy
- ▶ Blue Economy initiatives should prioritize SSF
- ▶ And build on and promote SSF in existing processes
- ▶ SSF actors need to engage in Blue Economy dialogue





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Asante  
Thank You