



Workshop on International Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries

FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy - 7-10 February 2012

Information Note

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INTRODUCTION

Background

Taking account of the increased recognition of the important role played by small-scale fisheries – particularly for developing countries in the context of food security and poverty alleviation – the 29th Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI)¹ recommended that an international instrument for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries be developed. This instrument should complement the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and take the form of guidelines that draw on existing relevant international instruments. These *SSF Guidelines* should address both inland and marine small-scale fisheries and focus on the needs of developing countries.

The SSF Guidelines will complement the principles and provisions of the CCRF. This fundamental document for fisheries governance and development should be taken into consideration throughout and be strengthened by the SSF Guidelines.

Small-scale fisheries have been given special attention by COFI and been a standalone item on its agenda since 2003. Considerable work – including several global and regional conferences and workshops organised by FAO and partner organisations – has taken place during recent years that has furthered the small-scale fisheries agenda. The current *SSF Guidelines* development process builds on the accumulated knowledge and experiences and stakeholder involvement continues to be a fundamental consideration. An important number of national and regional consultation meetings with an explicit purpose to provide inputs into the *SSF Guidelines* have taken place or are planned. The *Workshop on International Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries*, organised by the FAO Secretariat on 7-10 February 2012, is an important event for taking account of the consultations taken place so far, discussing key considerations, principles and guidelines contents, and contributing to a first preliminary draft of the instrument. The workshop is also expected to provide advice with regard to additional activities needed to support the *SSF Guidelines* development process and their implementation. It will bring together some 30 people from around the world, from different backgrounds and disciplines, all with knowledge on and a keen interest in small-scale fisheries.

This paper has been prepared to serve as background information for the participants in the *SSF Guidelines Workshop*. It recalls the main features of the ongoing consultative process and outlines identified key considerations to take into account when developing the *SSF Guidelines*. The document also provides guidance to the working groups that will take place during the workshop.

The information note is complementary to the Discussion Document, *Towards Voluntary Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries*², that was prepared by the FAO Secretariat summarising proposed principles and themes for the guidelines, and identifying relevant existing instruments. It should also be considered together with the presentations that

¹ Held in Rome, Italy, on 31 January – 4 February 2011.

² Available at www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en. This webpage also contains links to many other key FAO small-scale fisheries documents including the reports of the meetings referred to in the next section.

will be made in the workshop itself on the outcomes of the more recent national and regional consultations (which are hence not reported on this document).

THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

Before COFI 2011

The increasing recognition of small-scale fisheries and their importance has been an ongoing process that has intensified during the last decade. Hence, the events leading up to the decision by the 29th Session of COFI to recommend the development of an international small-scale fisheries instrument are many.



Some key FAO activities during the last few years include:

The *Global Conference on Small-Scale Fisheries – Securing sustainable small-scale Fisheries: Bringing together responsible fisheries and social development*, held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 13–17 October 2008³, was probably the first international event at this scale dedicated to small-scale fisheries. It brought together a wide range of stakeholders and was preceded by a preparatory workshop by civil society organisations (CSO) and fishworkers representatives⁴ who produced a comprehensive statement presented to the conference. The conference itself did not produce a unanimous declaration but it recognised the need to integrate social, cultural and economic development, to address resource access and use rights issues guided by human rights principles, and to recognize the rights of indigenous peoples.

The *Inception Workshop of the FAO Extrabudgetary Programme on Fisheries and Aquaculture for Poverty Alleviation and Food Security* (Rome, 27–30 October 2009) was held to generate inputs and guidance to the contents and process of developing an assistance programme for fisheries and aquaculture encompassing both normative activities and country-level support. One of the three themes, or outcome areas, of the programme is increased contribution of small-scale fisheries to poverty alleviation and food security. The small-scale fisheries sector is also strongly represented in the other two programmatic

³ The conference was co-organized by FAO and the Royal Government of Thailand and convened in collaboration with the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and The WorldFish Center.

⁴ The preparatory workshop was organised by the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP), Sustainable Development Foundation of Thailand (SDF), Southern Fisherfolk Federation of Thailand, and the International NGO/CSO Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC).

themes: implementation and development of ecosystem approaches to fisheries (EAF) (and aquaculture – EAA) and reduced vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change. While EAF does not focus solely on the small-scale sector, the approach may be particularly relevant and useful for small-scale fisheries as it is holistic and participatory, taking both bio-ecological and human dimensions into account. Vulnerability is a fundamental dimension of poverty and small-scale fishing communities because of their exposure to a range of threats, including – but not limited to – natural disasters and climate change consequences.

With the support of the above programme and following the recommendations made by the 28th Session of COFI in 2009 to explore the need and possible contents of an international small-scale fisheries instrument, *three regional small-scale fisheries consultation workshops* were held in October 2010: in Bangkok, Thailand, for the Asia-Pacific region, in Maputo, Mozambique, for Africa, and in San José, Costa Rica, for Latin America and the Caribbean. The workshops followed the structure of the programme inception workshop and discussed issues and best practices according to three themes: small-scale fisheries governance, EAF for small-scale fisheries, and disaster risk management and climate change adaptation relevant to small-scale fishing communities. The workshops recommended the creation of an instrument for small-scale fisheries, complementing the CCRF and other already existing relevant instruments and drawing on the available good governance practices in small-scale fisheries sector.

Another key event in 2010, partly supported by the above programme but organised by International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), was the gender conference in Chennai, India, on 7-10 July: *Recasting the net – Defining a Gender Agenda for Sustaining Life and Livelihood in Fishing Communities*. The workshop discussed the often precarious situation of women in fishing communities and a shared agenda was agreed. It was noted that women in fisheries are commonly invisible and that there is considerable gender discrimination. Yet women and men are both integral parts of the small-scale fisheries sector and need to work together to come to terms with the unsustainable extraction of natural resources that underpins the current “model of development” in which there unfortunately does not appear to be an obvious future for small-scale fisheries.⁵

All the above events confirmed the need for a change of direction and to start consider the people involved in small-scale fisheries more explicitly, including in the role as resource stewards. Fisheries governance needs to be reformed and a human rights perspective considered. To achieve this, considerable concerted efforts are required – at local, national, regional and international levels.

After COFI 2011

The recommendation by the 29th Session of COFI to develop an international instrument provides an important opportunity to create an international framework for the actions needed at local and national levels for small-scale fisheries governance reform. The instrument – the *SSF Guidelines* – will only be useful if implemented and implementation takes place locally and nationally. It is hence imperative that the guidelines contain provisions that are relevant to local and national actors and that these actors feel ownership of the instrument. At the same time, it is fundamental that the

⁵ See the ICSF website <http://icsf.net/icsf2006/jspFiles/wif/wifWorkshop/> for more information on the workshop.

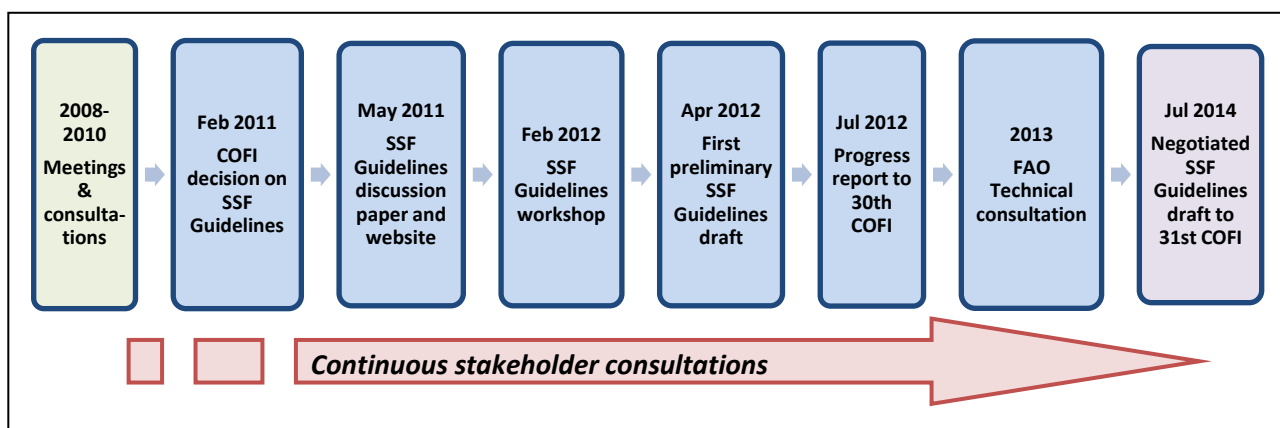
guidelines are agreed by policy and decision makers. Broad consultations and negotiations are required to get it right and a series of events and activities are taking place in this respect.

From the Report of the twenty-ninth session of the COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, Rome, 31 January–4 February 2011:

56. *Consistent with the conclusions and recommendations of the regional workshops, the Committee approved the development of a new international instrument on small-scale fisheries that would draw on relevant existing instruments, complementing the Code. The Committee agreed that the new instrument should be voluntary in nature, address both inland and marine fisheries and focus on the needs of developing countries. The Committee indicated some preliminary issues to be addressed in this instrument, recommending that all stakeholders should be associated, as appropriate, with its development.*

57. *The Committee agreed that the new instrument should take the form of international guidelines, rather than an international plan of action or a new Code article.*

The overall timeline for the *SSF Guidelines* development process spans over three years. The stakeholder consultations build on the work that has already taken place and represent a red thread throughout the process. The process is fully supported by fishers and fish workers worldwide who have pledged their engagement and commitment through their civil society organisations, ICSF, World Forum of Fishworkers and Fish Harvesters (WFF) and World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP), and with the support of the International Planning Committee on Food Sovereignty (IPC).



There are various forms of consultations being carried out, ranging from dedicated multi-day events at the national or regional level to briefer interventions in the form of presentations of the *SSF Guidelines* process in meetings and workshops that primarily deal with other – although related – issues. Some have been organised by FAO, other by its partners (CSOs and projects) or national governments or institutions. Events that took place in 2011 are listed in the below table (see next page).

As results become available, they are posted on the FAO *SSF Guidelines* website (see footnote 2) and/or on websites of partner organisations. ICSF has set up a website dedicated to the CSO-led

consultative workshops and to their support to the *SSF Guidelines* development process: <https://sites.google.com/site/smallscalefisheries/>.

Date	Coverage / venue	Meeting / context
May 2011	Africa (Johannesburg, South Africa)	Side event / presentation at inception workshop of the NEPAD-FAO Fish Programme (NFFP)
Jun 2011	Morocco (Tangier)	Presentation at <i>National Mediterranean Artisanal Fisheries Day</i> .
Jun 2011	Asia (Bangkok, Thailand)	Side event / presentation at the <i>ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020</i>
Jul 2011	Tunisia (Tunis)	Presentation at <i>National Consultation Day for a Strategic Approach to the Development of Small-scale Fisheries</i>
Aug 2011	Pacific (Wellington, New Zealand)	Presentation at 14 th <i>FAO Round Table Meeting for Pacific Island Countries on WTO and Regional Trade Agreements and Provisions</i>
Sep 2011	India (Kolkata)	<i>National Workshop on Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries: Towards FAO Guidelines on Marine & Inland Small-scale Fisheries</i>
Oct 2011	Cambodia	<i>Start of broad based local and regional consultations which will culminate in national workshop in 2012</i>
Nov 2011	Uganda (Kampala)	<i>National Consultative Workshop for Small Scale Fisheries: Towards FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Small-scale Fisheries</i>
Nov 2011	Africa (Mbour, Senegal)	Presentation and discussions at <i>World Fisheries Day - African Workshop on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF) and Transparency in the maritime fishery sector in Africa workshop</i>
Nov 2011	Sri Lanka (Negombo)	<i>National Consultative Workshop for Small Scale Fisheries: Towards FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Small-scale Fisheries and policy dialogue</i>
Nov 2011	Brazil (Praia do Canto Verde)	<i>Inquiry for the Voluntary FAO Guidelines on artisanal fisheries workshop</i>
Nov 2011	Honduras (San Lorenzo, Valle)	<i>National Consultative Workshop for Small Scale Fisheries: Towards FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Small-scale Fisheries</i>
Nov 2011	Africa (Seychelles, Mahé)	Presentation at <i>FAO Meeting on Fish Technology, utilization and quality assurance</i>
Nov 2011	Global (Germany, Berlin)	Presentation at <i>Conference on Policies against Hunger IX - Food Security and Access to Natural Resources</i> (https://www.policies-against-hunger.de/en/results-of-the-conferences/2011/)
Nov 2011	Global (Monaco)	Presentation at <i>Sustainable Use of Oceans in the Context of the Green Economy and the Eradication of Poverty conference</i> (http://bemonaco2011.org/)
Dec 2011	Costa Rica (Tárcoles)	<i>National Meeting to Discuss the Voluntary Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small Scale Fisheries</i>
Dec 2011	Caribbean (Barbados)	Presentation at <i>Regional Policy and Planning Workshop on the FAO CCRF in the Caribbean: Achieving Improved Fisheries Management and Utilization in the Wider Caribbean Region</i> (http://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes/ccrf_index.html)

Additional events are planned for the first half of 2012, including national consultations in Malawi and Pakistan, and a regional consultation for the North Africa and Middle East region (to be held in Oman). There will also be a national workshop in Cambodia that consolidates the outcomes from extensive local and provincial level consultations held in the 2nd half of 2011. Moreover, FAO and the South Pacific Community (SPC) are co-organizing a regional workshop in June 2012. It is vital that the

consultation process has a comprehensive global coverage. At the same time, it has to be accepted that not all countries and subregions can be involved directly because of practical and financial constraints.

Workshop participants are encouraged to suggest and organize additional events and consultation activities that they feel would contribute to the development of the SSF Guidelines. This could include opportunities in the form of side-events, presentations, round tables etc during already planned relevant events or new activities dedicated to the SSF Guidelines.

OTHER RELEVANT DEVELOPMENTS

In addition to the work explicitly focusing on small-scale fisheries, there are several other developments in related fields that are of relevance to the sector and to the *SSF Guidelines*. Some of the key developments in this respect are briefly referred to below together with sources where more information can be found. The list should not be regarded as exhaustive and additional considerations may be suggested by workshop participants. Some of the topics mentioned here were also included in the Discussion Document in which links to relevant international instruments are reviewed.

Tenure guidelines

FAO and its partners are preparing *Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security* with a view to improve the governance of tenure of land and other natural resources. Fisheries are an important component and the guidelines will be of direct relevance to small-scale fisheries. Responsible governance of tenure is inextricably linked with access to and management of fishery and other natural resources. The tenure guidelines seek to improve governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests “for the benefit of all, with an emphasis on vulnerable and marginalized people, with the goals of food security and progressive realization of the right to adequate food, poverty alleviation, sustainable livelihoods, social stability, housing security, rural development, environmental protection and sustainable social and economic development” (Part 1; Objectives). There is currently a partly negotiated draft available. Negotiations, under the leadership of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), will be continued on 5-9 March 2012. More information is available at <http://www.fao.org/nr/tenure/voluntary-guidelines/en/>.

Right to food

The FAO Council adopted *the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security* in 2004. The guidelines represent a step towards integrating human rights into the work of UN agencies dealing with food and agriculture. This is of direct relevance to the small-scale fisheries sector and the promotion of the small-scale sector is referred to, for example, in paragraph 3.7:

States are encouraged, inter alia and in a sustainable manner, to increase productivity and to revitalize the agriculture sector including livestock, forestry and fisheries through special policies and strategies targeted at small-scale and traditional fishers and farmers in rural areas, and the creation of enabling conditions for private sector participation, with emphasis

on human capacity development and the removal of constraints to agricultural production, marketing and distribution.

The importance of stakeholder consultations is emphasised and the guidelines state that strategies should be “transparent, inclusive and comprehensive” and consider “special needs of girls and women” and “combine short-term and long-term objectives”. The FAO webpage <http://www.fao.org/righttofood/> contains more information as well as links to the Right to Food guidelines and other relevant material.

UN Development Group Human Rights Mainstreaming Mechanism

Human rights are of course not only important in the context of food but are fundamental to all development. Mainstreaming human rights within the UN system has been a cornerstone of UN reform since 1997. Recently, a UN Practitioner's Portal on Human Rights-Based Approaches to programming (HRBA Portal) has been launched by UNDP and OHCHR⁶: <http://hrbaportal.org/>. The portal is a collaborative effort between 19 UN organisations, agencies and programmes (including FAO) and provides a single entry point to knowledge and experiences that have been accumulated over the years. It aims at sharing “lessons learned and good practice in mainstreaming human rights in programming and practice”.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): reconciling biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation

The CBD makes two clear links between that biodiversity and poverty:

“Recognizing that economic and social development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of developing countries,

Aware that conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity is of critical importance for meeting the food, health and other needs of the growing world population, for which purpose access to and sharing of both genetic resources and technologies are essential”

(Preamble, the Convention).

More recently, the need to strengthen the links between biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation has been given increased attention. There is a need to build capacity to improve the mainstreaming of biodiversity with poverty eradication and development. At the High Level Forum on Biodiversity in Development Cooperation in Nagoya, Japan, on 26 October 2010, at the occasion of the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, the links between biodiversity, ecosystem services and poverty alleviation were noted. It was also recognised that, among other things, it is important to respect “the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities as development affects their traditional areas and livelihoods” (see <https://www.cbd.int/cop10/>).

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

The preparations for *Rio+20* to be held in June 2012 as a follow-up to the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, are progressing and a number of papers and statements referring to small-scale fisheries have already been submitted. A “zero draft” outcome paper – *The future we want* – has been prepared based on the wide range of inputs and is currently being circulated to UN member states. It refers to fisheries with respect to the need to rebuild fish stocks, combat illegal,

⁶ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and phase out environmentally harmful subsidies. FAO contributes to Rio+20 and its documentation in several ways, e.g. through a paper on “Blending Green and Blue Economics: Sustainability transitions in the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector of Small Island Developing States” and a chapter on fisheries and aquaculture that is included in a new UNEP-coordinated interagency report "Green Economy in a Blue World"⁷. Particularly in the latter, the case for, among other things, governance reform and application of a human rights perspective with regard to securing sustainable small-scale fisheries is made. The document “A Blueprint for Ocean and Coastal Sustainability” is an interagency paper for the Rio+20 discussions analysing challenges in global ocean and coastal management. It makes specific reference to the development of the small-scale fisheries international instrument and provides an analysis of current issues. These documents and many more informative reports and submissions to Rio+20 are available at <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/>.

Too Big To Ignore research network

The global partnership for small-scale fisheries research, *Too Big To Ignore*, was initiated by researchers at the Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada. The initiative takes a special interest in small-scale fisheries in the Newfoundland and Labrador province but also extends to global issues. It is currently in the process of putting together a list of the one hundred most urgent research questions regarding small-scale fisheries. The network promotes knowledge sharing and information exchange. In October 2010, a World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress was organised in Bangkok, Thailand. This scientific meeting aimed at addressing issues concerning small-scale fisheries around the world. More information is available at <http://toobigtoignore.net/>.

⁷ A summary of the report will be presented at the Global Conference on Land-Oceans Connections (GLOC): Towards Greener Coastal Economies in Manila, Philippines, on 23-24 January, and the final report will be launched at the World Oceans Summit in Singapore on 24 - 28 February 2012.

WORKSHOP WORKING GROUPS

Workshop structure

The workshop will be structured around plenary presentations and discussions, and working groups. There will be a total of four working group sessions with three groups running in parallel each time. Each group will be led by an FAO-facilitator and a rapporteur will ensure that the discussions are documented. Each working group will be informed by a brief introduction to the topic at the beginning of the sessions. After each session, the working groups will report to plenary (presentation to be made by a group presenter) and time will be allocated for comments and discussions. The working groups are also expected to propose draft texts for the different sections of the Guidelines.

Suggested topics for working group discussions

In the introductory presentations in each working group session, key elements and additional information on their particular topic will be conveyed to the working group members. The following topics - which correspond closely to the different sections of the Discussion Document in which more information on the topics can be found - are suggested for the working groups:

Session 1

1. Title, structure, scope and target audience

The title of the Guidelines should appropriately reflect their purpose and contents. While they are likely to be referred to as the ‘Small-scale Fisheries Guidelines’ for short, a more descriptive full title should be sought (the current working name is “Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries”). It would also be important to consider whether they should be referred to as “international” or “voluntary” guidelines.

It is suggested that the Guidelines be divided into a number of sections, each dealing with a certain subject matter or thematic area according to the to the sections of the Discussion Document. There could however also be other options for the structure of the document (e.g. to follow the CCRF structure as appropriate) and participants should provide recommendations with regard to chapter headings. Moreover, with regard to the scope of the Guidelines, it needs to be decided to what extent they should deal with wider livelihoods aspects and address concerns of stakeholders outside the small-scale fisheries sector itself. There are, for example, important links to larger scale operators through the value chain and markets.

The Guidelines would provide recommendations to States and other stakeholder groups (using language such as “States should...”, “Fish workers’ organizations should...”). There is a need to discuss who the target audience is and who should be directly addressed and how. The workshop may also want to provide other recommendations with regard to language and style.

2. Characterization of small-scale fisheries

A discussion on how the Guidelines will deal with the characterisation or definition of small-scale fisheries is needed. While a global definition appears impossible, it is important to identify key characteristics that should be taken into account when defining small-scale fisheries at a national level or in each particular context. The Guidelines should likely also include provisions on the process that should be followed at the national or local level to arrive at a definition of small-scale fisheries.

What activities and which operators are considered small-scale is important to ensure transparency and accountability in the application of the Guidelines.

It is likely to be desirable that the criteria used for defining the sector be aligned with an inclusive view of fishing communities and include those employed in the postharvest subsector and in other shore based activities. It is particularly important to ensure that the often 'hidden' work carried out by women (because of lack of data and/or a gender biased perspective of the sector) is considered.

3. Key guiding principles and thematic areas

The Guidelines will be grounded in a number of basic principles: good governance – including transparency and accountability – equitable development and non discrimination. Equal consideration of the environment, social and economic development needs, and community rights should be given. Social responsibility and solidarity are supported and a human based approach to development promoted. The Guidelines should also promote the application of inclusive and participatory approaches in all decision-making, planning and implementation processes that concern small-scale fishers, fish workers and their communities.

The workshop should discuss and recommend which basic and guiding principles the Guidelines should refer to specifically and how these should be understood and implemented.

Session 2

4. Resource governance, access regimes and enforcement (access and governance principles, responsibilities and enforcement mechanisms, safety-at-sea)

The proposed topic of resource governance and access is a vast and important area referring to sustainability in a comprehensive sense. The Guidelines need to recognise the necessity for a sustainable use of aquatic and other natural resources and to fulfil the right to development by meeting both developmental and environment needs of present and future generations. This includes acknowledging EAF, which takes both human and bioecological considerations into account, as a guiding principle for resource management. The workshop should consider how the Guidelines address these topics, also considering how small-scale fishing communities can be bestowed the right and responsibility to restore, protect and manage local aquatic and coastal ecosystems. Regarding resource access and tenure issues, the Guidelines will be informed substantively by the final version of the currently negotiated Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Contexts of National Food Security. A subgroup within this working group will be considering safety-at-sea as it is an issue closely related to fisheries management and which is also proposed for discussion within this context.

5. Social and economic development (holistic perspective on poverty and related vulnerabilities, income security and alternative livelihoods)

The role of small-scale fisheries in a livelihoods perspective is both diverse and complex. Small-scale fishing communities often have alternative livelihood strategies complementing those based on aquatic resources, forming a web of cross-sectoral linkages. There is a need for secure incomes and actions may be required that aim at improving earnings from fisheries related activities or creating complementary or alternative income-generating activities. Small-scale fishing communities are often vulnerable to changes – on resources, markets, etc –in the surrounding environment. The

Guidelines need to address these issues and the workshop should consider what issue and aspects should be dealt with and how.

6. Disaster risks and climate change

Many small-scale fisheries communities are vulnerable to natural disasters and climate change. They are often located in areas that are prone to such events and consequences; where land and water meet is one of the most environmentally dynamic environments that exist. They can also be subject to difficult circumstances in cases of conflicts and wars. The workshop should consider the need for taking a relief-development continuum – because emergency response and disaster preparedness are related – and recommend how disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change adaptation (CCA) are addressed in the Guidelines.

Session 3

7. Postharvest employment and value chains

The postharvest sector comprises all activities from when the fish has been caught until it reaches the consumer. This integral part of the fishery system employs more people than the primary production subsector and most of these are women. In addition to its direct role in providing livelihoods and supporting food security, the sector plays an important role at the national level, generating tax revenues and foreign exchange. Full consideration and adequate integration of the postharvest sector and value chain aspects in small scale-fisheries governance and development are prerequisites for the sustainability of sector as a whole. There is a strong link between resource utilisation (supply) and consumption (demand) with the latter influencing the sector through, *inter alia*, the way it may fund fishing operations. Large-scale interests higher up in the value chain may have considerable power over small-scale producers. The Guidelines should recognise the pivotal role of the postharvest sector and the workshop need to provide recommendations for how to ensure that these aspects are adequately captured in the document.

8. Social and gender equity (social and economic equality and equity, gender, child labour, integration of migrants)

In line with the general principles, including non discrimination, already mentioned above (see No. 3), social and gender equity should play a central role in the Guidelines. The workshop should consider all aspects related to social and economic equality and equity, including the need for gender mainstreaming, addressing child labour in fisheries, integration of migrants and avoiding discrimination or marginalisation of certain stakeholder groups and provide recommendations for their inclusion in the Guidelines.

9. Policy coherence, institutional coordination and collaboration

In order to ensure policy coherence and the integration of small-scale fisheries in broader policy frameworks, it would appear essential to embrace holistic and integrated governance and development approaches as well as to promote cross-sectoral linkages, fostering an environment that facilitates collaboration. Moreover, many issues are transboundary and a combination of local-regional-global linkages and networks are needed. The Guidelines may encourage international, regional and sub-regional cooperation and the workshop is requested to provide advice on how they should address policy and institutional coordination at different scales.

Session 4

10. Research and information needs, sources and exchange

For improved governance and decision-making, a wide range of information, including bio-ecological, social and economic data, may be required. At the same time, valuable information is available but not always accessed. Within the context of research and information needs, the workshop should, among other things, discuss how the Guidelines can address and promote the use of a combination of scientific data and local, traditional or indigenous knowledge and how horizontal and vertical two-way information flows (among communities or countries; between communities and national and regional structures) can be improved.

11. Capacity development

Capacity building – including organisational development, training and information – in all areas and at all levels will be key to support the implementation of the Guidelines as well as for support to awareness-raising and empowerment. Attention is needed to ensure that different stakeholder groups within small-scale fishing communities have the capabilities to effectively participate in relevant institutions and decision-making processes. In particular, people’s self-determination capacity should be enhanced and their right of choice promoted. The workshop should identify crucial aspects of capacity development that the Guidelines should make reference to and that are needed for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries.

12. Implementation support and monitoring

Together with broad support to capacity development, specific support to and monitoring of the implementation of the Guidelines will be required for successful outcomes. The workshop should define and recommend key processes, institutional arrangements, activities etc that will be required in this respect. These efforts may need to start in parallel with the continued development of the Guidelines and involve different stakeholder groups. Recommendations may hence be directed at different groups and span a longer timeframe.

Summary of expected workshop outputs

The expected outputs of the workshop are recommendations with regard to

- The title, structure, scope and target audience of the Guidelines, including chapter headings (corresponding to key thematic areas) and specific requirements concerning language and style.
- How the definition or characterization of small-scale fisheries should be addressed and what the key guiding principles should be.
- Contents, including draft text elements for identified key sections/thematic areas.
- How to create and make use of potential opportunities and how to overcome constraints for implementation.
- The next steps in the Guidelines development process (e.g. concerning the continued consultations, the report to be given to 30th Session of COFI in July 2012, the inter-governmental Technical Consultation scheduled for 2013, and the eventual submission of a negotiated *SSF Guidelines* document to COFI in 2014)

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