

Fisheries Sustainability Leaving No One Behind

Three Key Policy Opportunities For the 21st Century

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WorldFish Centre



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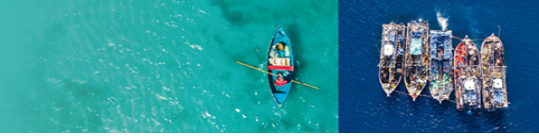
Session 8
Panel 8.1 cont'

International Symposium on Fisheries Sustainability:
Strengthening the Policy-Science Nexus



LAUNCHING A THOUSAND THOUGHTS





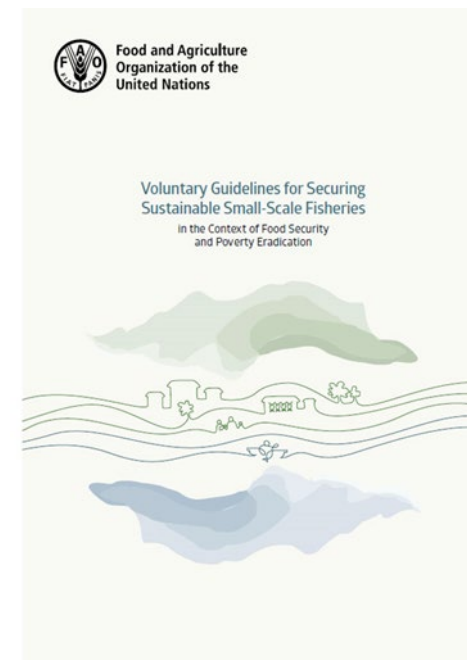
POLICY 1

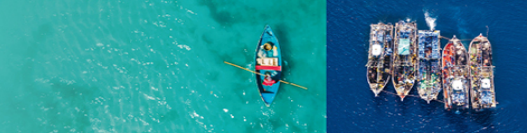
FISHERIES SUSTAINABILITY AND SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES

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New Perspectives for Valorising
Small-Scale Fisher People

A deeper and more nuanced interpretation of the FAO Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines is needed





1. Their phenomenal vernacular ecological knowledge

This is the result of their intimate knowledge of natural processes which yield a holistic understanding of the local aquatic ecosystems that they relate with regularly.



2. Their innate contribution to biodiversity conservation through convivial technologies

This results from combining their vernacular ecosystem knowledge with their use of small, passive, seasonal, diverse, skill intensive and convivial fishing craft-gear combinations.





3. Their largely owner-operated and collegial harvesting which fosters greater equity and comradery in work

This is the result of work being viewed as livelihood and the resource as a shared heritage of the whole community





4. Their cost and energy-efficient operations with lower carbon footprint

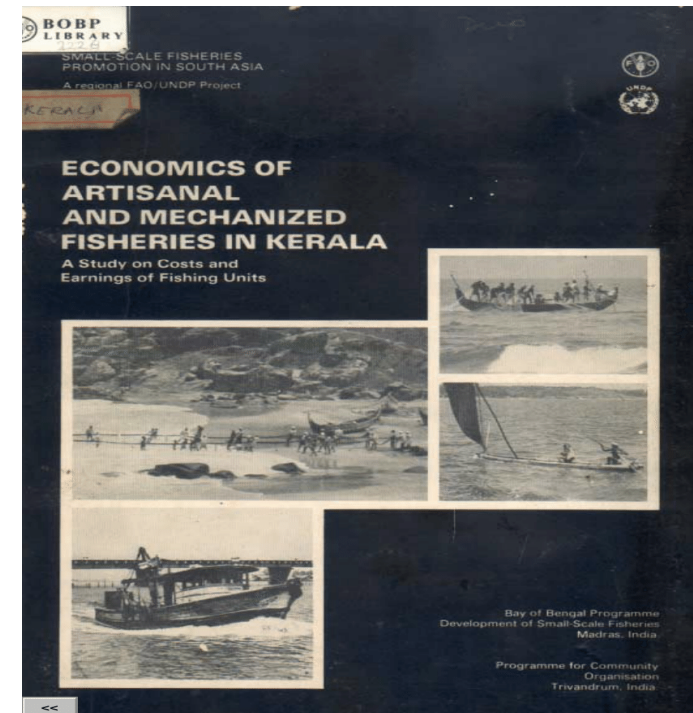
This is possible because, compared to all other types of fishing, they incur far lower costs to harvest a unit of fish due to limited use of non-renewable energy.





5. Their entrepreneurial prowess making high private and social returns despite limited means

This is a combined function of ecological knowledge, convivial technologies, energy-efficient operations, owner-operation and collective work ethic that are embedded in the socio-cultural fabric of their communities.



6. Their greater contribution to food security and wholesome nutrition for local rural consumers at affordable prices

This happens due to the relatively smaller harvests, resulting in shorter value chains mostly reaching the immediate hinterlands where they operate.

In short production by the masses for consumption by the masses

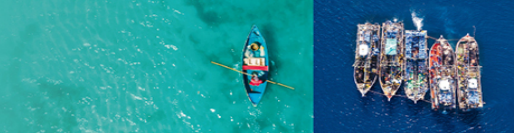




7. Their generation of inclusive livelihoods -- particularly among women -- along these short value chains

This is due to the customary and familial orientation of their occupation.

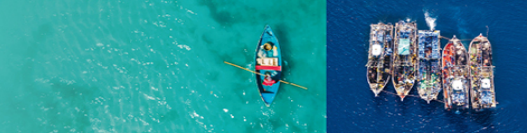




8. Their provision of physical protection and security to coastal and riparian territory

This is made possible due to their spatially dispersed habitation and the ability to provide quick feedback about unusual events and activities.





9. Their vital contributions to the economy of their countries

This arises from, *inter alia*, the considerable foreign exchange from their fresh harvests; the tourist revenues they incidentally promote; and the significant ancillary employment they generate – all with negligible state subsidies.

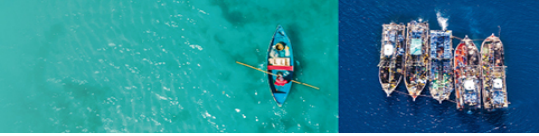


10. Their protection of balanced life both below and above water

This is achieved by commitment to socially, culturally and economically embedded management practices of their aquatic “community commons”.

This creates a moral economy yielding greater socio-economic well-being, balanced with income and gender equity.





Supporting small-scale fishers
and fisheries
makes more
ecological, economic,
nutritional, social, cultural
and moral sense

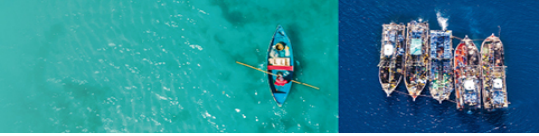


POLICY 2

FISHERIES SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE



Inclusive Knowledge Collaboration in the
Age of Climate Change



AS POPE FRANCIS SAID

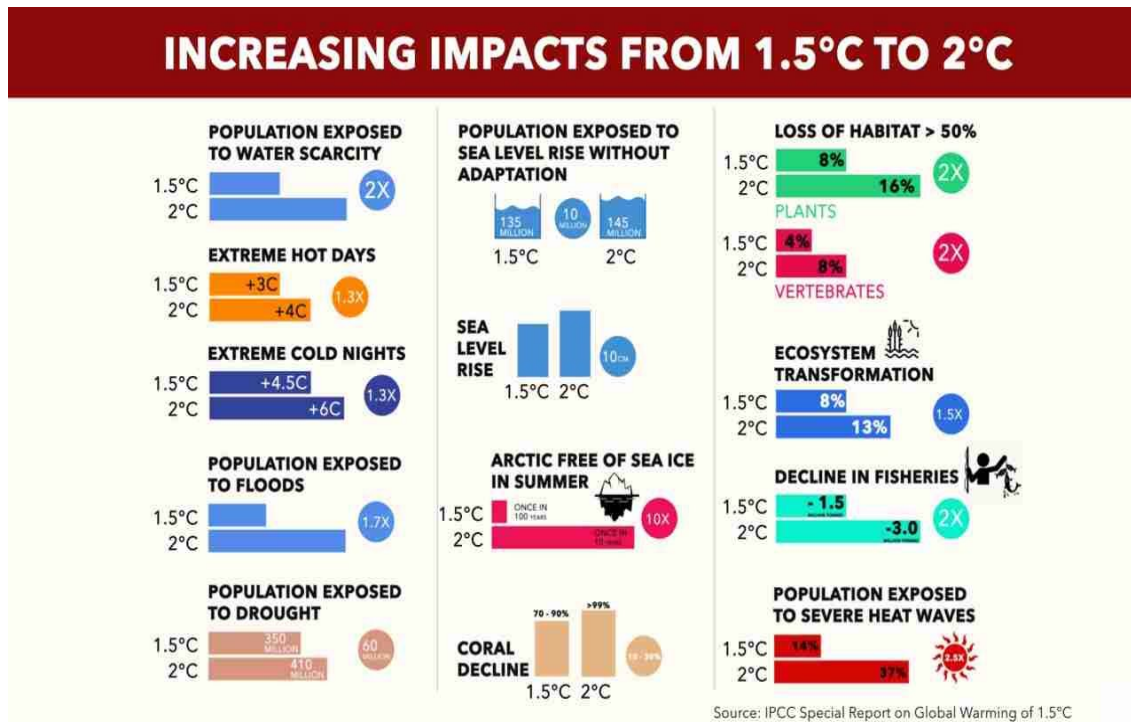
“We must never forget that the natural environment is a collective good, the patrimony of all humanity and the responsibility of everyone.”



FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS TO KEEP IN MIND

TWO DIMENSIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Cognitive scientific facts



Concrete experiential reality





POLICY 3

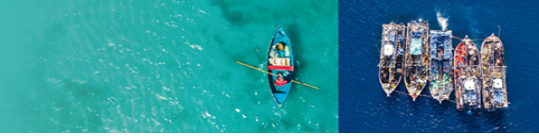
FISHERIES SUSTAINABILITY AND THE BLUE ECONOMY



Trans-Generational Justice and the Blue Economy

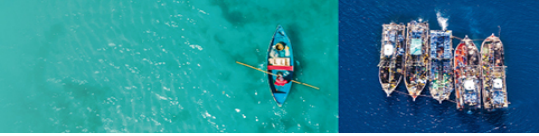
FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS TO KEEP IN MIND





OUR CHILDREN'S QUESTIONS????

*Will your numerous debates and discussions about the Blue Economy include **your moral obligation towards me** –and many children like me yet to be born – to have enough fish to eat and access to bountiful and clean seas to frolic in and enjoy?*

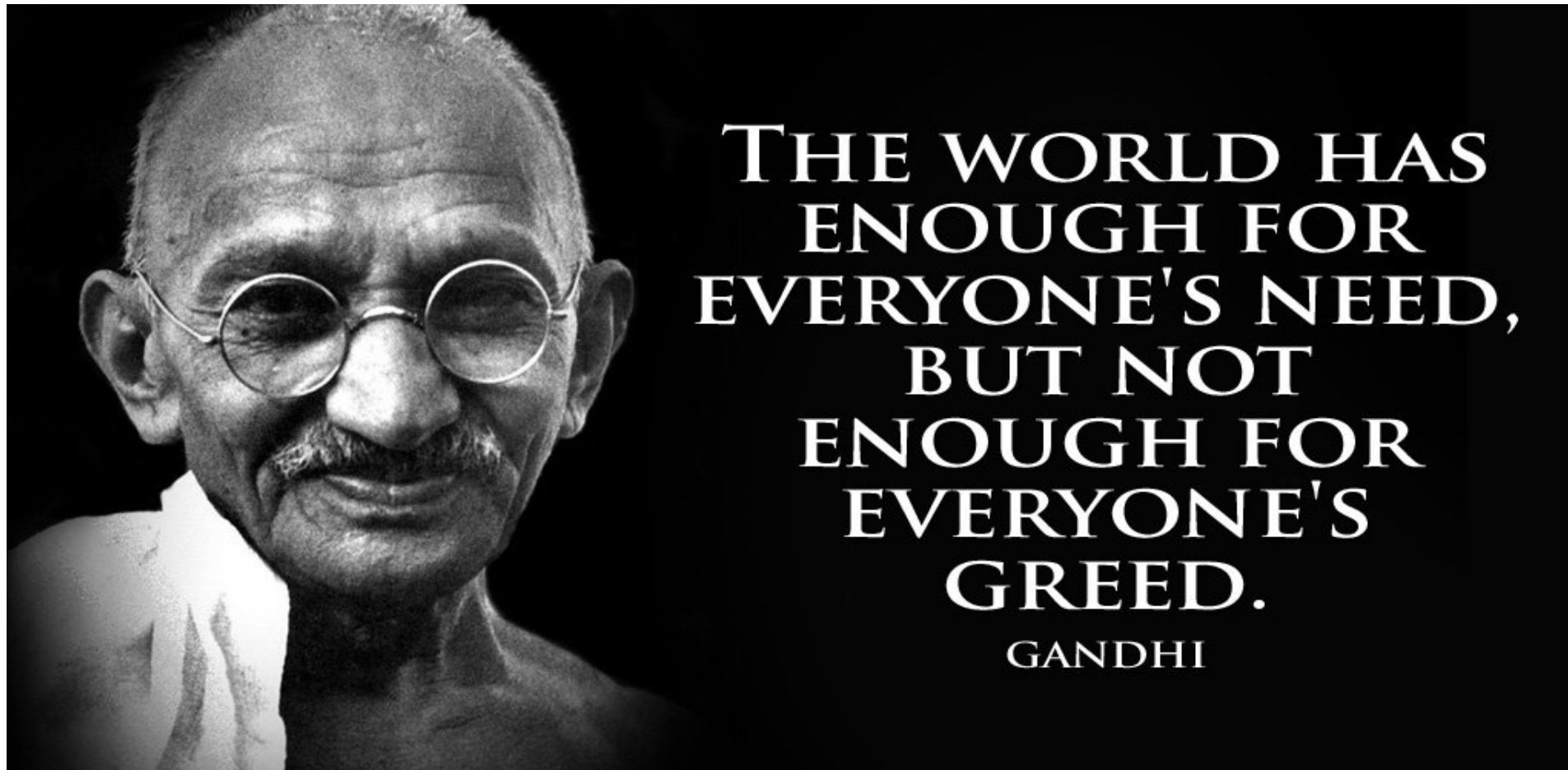


TRANS-GENERATIONAL JUSTICE

The Urhobo people of the Niger Delta articulated it well:

“resources belong to the dead, the living and those yet to be born.”

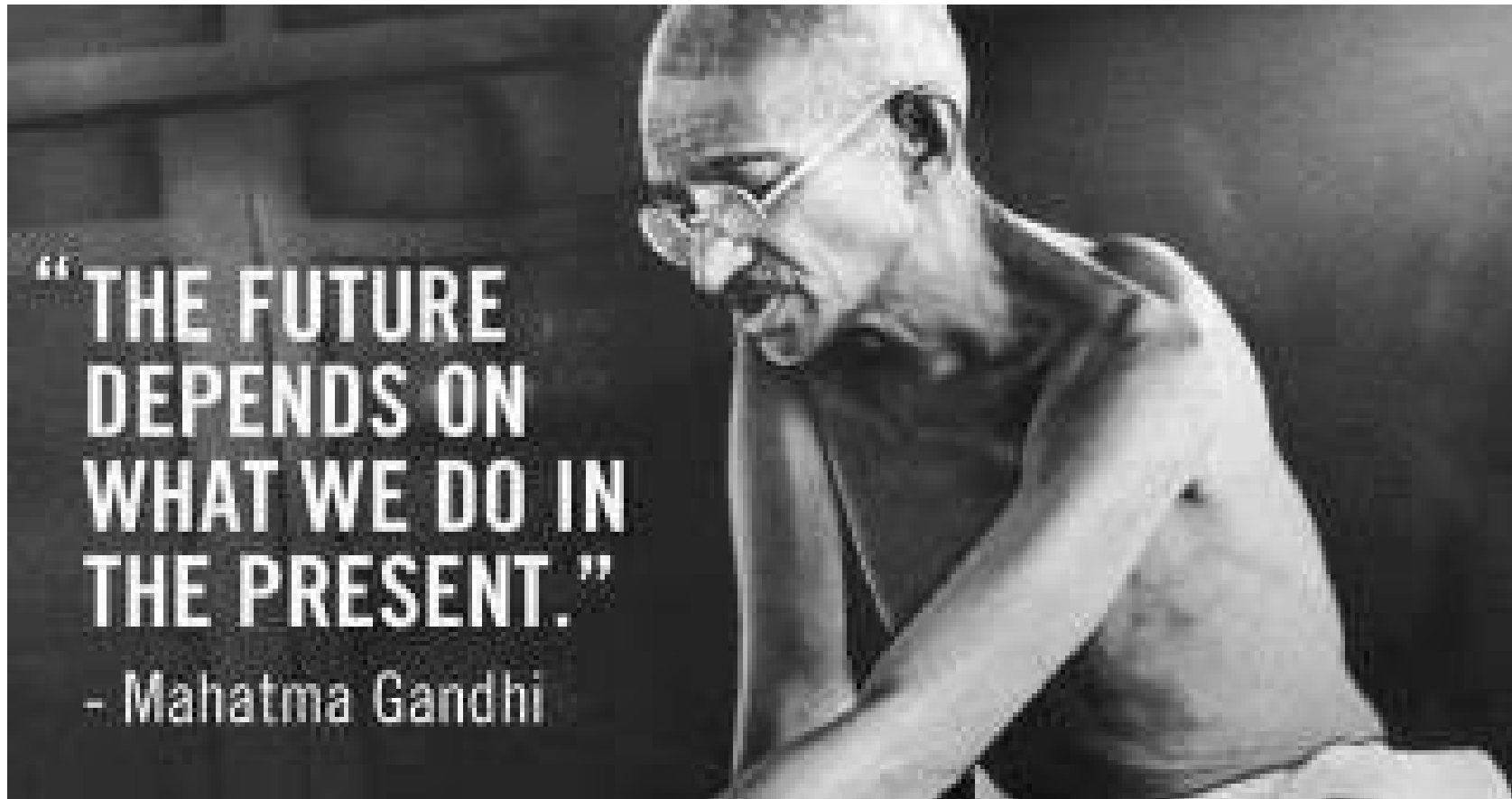
FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS TO KEEP IN MIND





While we rightly stress the issue of human rights for today, we also need to think beyond and raise the matter of trans-generational access and use of resources from the oceans.

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS TO KEEP IN MIND





CONCLUSION

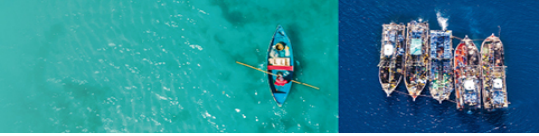
Thiruvalluvar – the Sage of South India





*Easy it is to speak, easy to lecture and preach
But hard, so very hard, the preached goals to reach*

(Thirukkural Verse 664)



*Deliberations must end in decision
Else they are a ramble
Decide after due reflection
And after that – act, not amble*

(Thirukkural Verse 671)

NAMASTE
AND
THANK YOU





Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

Partnering with FAO to make fisheries sustainable

Working for **#ZeroHunger**