



3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress
Chiang Mai, Thailand | October 22-26, 2018

Debrief from Science Day

Day 1, Monday, 22 October 2018

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Main messages

- Small-scale fisheries are important places (i.e., human rights, food security, and livelihoods)
- Their sustainability is affected by interacting, levelled social and environmental drivers of change including climate change
- Not all small-scale fisheries are the same or similarly affected by these drivers
- Implementing the SSF Guidelines in these dynamic contexts represents scientific and moral imperatives
- ›Human rights and social justice perspectives are guiding lights for our work
- This includes bringing the research & messages to where the people are and facilitating increased voice for communities
- We also have imperatives for more attention to inland fisheries

Data and methods

- Data for SSF remains uneven (still 'data poor' for some)
- New technologies like mobile apps, crowdsourcing, mapping with diverse knowledge types can help bring SSF data into policy processes.
- Participation and adult learning techniques in training workshops are effective ways of communicating and exchanging knowledge with local communities.
- ›Inclusion of TEK is as foundation for moving forward scientifically (e.g., MSC certification)

Innovations

- New methods/approaches discussed during Science Cafés and special sessions
 - Crowdsourcing portal used by ISSF, activities and exercises, games, interactive discussions and pictures are effective ways of relaying messages to communities who have few facilities and low levels of literacy.
- Social, policy and institutional innovations need attention to advance ACCESS that is critical for livelihoods in SSF
 - E.g., New policy instruments, ways to address multiple dimensions of justice (e.g., conflict, corruption, and livelihoods), and advance means for collective action

Brightspots about progress

- Much work has been completed over the past 8 years (VISIBILITY for SSF)
- SSF guidelines in place
 - Development of Global Strategic Framework in support of implementing
 - Together SSF-Guidelines and SDG can be used as the blue print for sustainable development of SSF.
- Various ways developed for outreach to community (e.g., CSOs in Africa)
- 2018 – FAO COFI propose new subcommittee of fisheries management
- 2022 - International Year of Fisheries and Aquaculture
- There is more interdisciplinary and perhaps transdisciplinary research, across the

What is the major knowledge gap in small-scale fisheries?

- Implementing the SSF Guidelines at all levels
- Building capacity, collective action insights
- Comparative analyses challenging due to heterogeneous nature of SSF
- Not all fisheries are doing equally well – why?
- Debating critical questions: development the right goal?

What are the major challenges facing small-scale fisheries?

- Dealing with change
- Translating policy into action
- Advancing social, policy and institutional innovation
- Implementing the SSF guidelines.
 - Engaging stakeholders who did not participate in the consultations for SSF guidelines
 - Encouraging the development of international or national initiatives to collect more consistent data on SSF for integration in the policy processes

What kind of change in science (community, markets and policy) is required to improve viability of small-scale fishing communities, reduce their vulnerability and to promote SSF sustainability?

- Inland fisheries coming into focus
- The changes affecting fisheries, which are resilient, which are not
- When do changes occur? Shifting baselines....does a situation have to reach crisis point before there is a response?
 - Tied to funding, global and local institutional constraints, and making people care (i.e., TBTI is a great example of clear message)

What actions are required from civil society organizations, research community and policy people in order to implement the SSF Guidelines?

- With implementation of SSF Guidelines comes monitoring = civil society has a large role
- Strengthening SSFs capacities.
- Organizing women to be involved in the implementation of SSF guidelines.

3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress
'Transdisciplinarity and Transformation for the Future of Small-Scale Fisheries'

Contact us!



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