Debrief from Policy Day  
Day 3, Wednesday, 24 October 2018

Prepared by Milena Arias Schreiber, Madeleine Gustavsson  
and a team of notetakers.

Roles of Government in the SSF Guidelines implementation

- Describe the complexities and hierarchies involved in the SSF Guidelines implementation associated with governmental and bureaucratic processes.
- Acknowledge the importance of international collaborations.
- Attempt to integrate national targets with local needs.
- Recognize core social principles that go beyond fisheries or resource management alone (e.g. human rights, gender equality, dignity, cultural identity, etc.).
- Highlight the importance of participation of local small-scale fishers representatives and CSOs at the early stages of implementation.

Roles of Policy Influencers in the SSF Guidelines implementation

- Adopt a multi-dimensional, transdisciplinary approach.
- Seek broader connections across sectors.
- Understand that we have to build and collect information and data with communities – not just about them.
- The SSF Guidelines can be used to self-evaluate the work of NGOs.
- Shift the discourse to ‘adopting’ rather than ‘implementing’ the Guidelines.

Protecting livelihoods, promoting wellbeing and values

- Nine speakers presented their work on livelihood aspects of SSFs from contexts as diverse as Brazil, Australia, Ghana, Gambia, Canada, and Papua New Guinea.
- The session discussed factors underpinning the resilience and vulnerabilities of small-scale fisher communities enabling them to respond to rapid change and enhancing their livelihoods.
- Brazil: individual and household-level responses to external change do not translate to community level resilience and adaptation.
- Papua New Guinea: argued that recreational-SSF interaction were not well understood and need more attention.
- By highlighting livelihoods and their diverse connections, the speakers stressed the importance of what lies beyond the SSF economic contribution.

Tradition and innovation in governance

- Implementation of the SSF Guidelines: walking the talk, needs new thinking.
- Blue economy is used widely but abstract. How does it impact SSF?
- Knowledge gap: How does SSF fit within the blue economy?

Multiple tools, approaches and perspectives in SSF governance

- MPAs bring different forms of contestations: what it means; and how they are implemented.
- Small-scale fisheries governance needs to be analyzed under different perspectives included all components of the systems, natural, socio-ecologic and...
Failures in the governance process is the disconnection and no dialogue among the regional, national and local management.

Examples of “communities enforcement committees” were presented.

SSF need to be involved in the international policy reform not just national levels – specific for those SSF targeting migratory fish (e.g. tuna).

**Multiple demands, multiple governance challenges**

- Social equity can be an outcome of co-management, and also a tool to reach the outcomes which we desire. Community-based marine reserves can have benefits but we should understand them well to maximize their outcomes.
- Governance rules from government to community have to be well applied and at regional scale.
- We cannot let the communities isolated dealing with the problems alone. There is a need for more clear, connected and regionalized regulations.
- Need to think more about the role of markets. Technical solutions about markets, must to address the relations that sustain poverty (e.g. the question of land ownership and reform).
- Accommodation of local and scientific knowledge.

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

Contact us!

3wsfcongress@gmail.com