



3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress
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Debrief from Policy Day

Day 3, Wednesday, 24 October 2018

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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

government.

- 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'

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