

# Towards Resilient and Equitable Small-Scale Fisheries

## Meeting Summary

3-5 September 2019 | Penang, Malaysia

---

### Executive Summary

From 3-5 September 2019, representatives from fisher and fish worker Social Movements, Indigenous Peoples, intergovernmental agencies, environmental NGOs (ENGOs), social justice NGOs and research organisations came together in Penang, Malaysia. The process was designed to enable discussion about how groups working in, with, and for small-scale fisheries can better coordinate their efforts to support development outcomes and inclusive water, ocean, and landscape governance. The overall objective of the meeting was to support the implementation of the [Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication](#) (SSF Guidelines). Additional objectives were to explore the feasibility of and, potentially, plan for future work to support:

- Increased capacity to coordinate and build collective action among multiple actors to maximize progress towards common goals;
- Delivery of strategic communications leading to greater recognition in policy and investment decisions for the contributions of small-scale fisheries; and
- Improved collaborative capacity to understand the impacts of investments and institutional innovations towards more resilient small-scale fisheries.

The meeting agenda shifted over the course of the three days in response to participants' feedback and requests. The final agenda proceeded as follows:

<b>Day 1: Morning</b>	Opening remarks, a review of the agenda, introductions, and a series of presentations designed to "set the stage" for subsequent discussions
<b>Day 1: Afternoon</b>	Discussions to identify participants' common ambition for greater collaboration amongst diverse groups working with and for small-scale fisheries and implementing the SSF Guidelines.
<b>Day 2: Morning</b>	Presentation on the Global Strategic Framework and its sub-component the Knowledge Sharing Platform (KSP); parallel discussions on the Knowledge Sharing Platform draft Terms of Reference and the Social Movements' and Indigenous Peoples' priorities for implementing the SSF Guidelines.
<b>Day 2: Afternoon</b>	Presentation and discussion of the Illuminating Hidden Harvests research initiative
<b>Day 3</b>	Brief presentations by participants on their organizations' approaches towards small-scale fisheries; discussions on strategic communications, principles for responsible communications, and possible next steps.

On Day 1, participants met in small groups to draw pictures representing their **ideal images** of what might be accomplished within five years through effective collaboration. Although these were produced on the first day and no common language for a group ambition was agreed upon, the points are emblematic of many of the major themes that emerged throughout the three days of the meeting:

- A number of small groups envisioned ongoing **collaboration across multiple stakeholder groups**, including Social Movements, Indigenous Peoples, academics, social justice NGOs, and environmental NGOs, with a secondary role for governments. Stakeholder groups that were

missing from the present meeting — such as other human rights or community development organisations — should be identified and included.

- Collaboration should have **the SSF Guidelines at the center**, with a focus on **identifying shared goals** and **amplifying voices of small-scale fisheries actors**. Strong efforts should be made to recognize the different stakeholders' **differential and complementary roles and capacities**, as well as the **enormous diversity** of the small-scale fisheries sector and small-scale fisheries actors.
- Collaborative activities should be **human rights-centered**, and **evidence based**. There should be strong efforts to **promote two-way information sharing** among the stakeholder groups, and to **build the capacity of the Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples**.
- Bold, effective and responsible **strategic communications** should also be a focus, with the group aiming to develop a **powerful statement regarding environmental justice** for the small-scale fisheries sector, and to **amplify legitimate voices and messages**.
- Stakeholders should identify a set of **defined, agreed-upon objectives** focused on promoting **resilient, sustainable communities and livelihoods**, and **ensuring accountability** for governments and other actors in the small-scale fisheries space.

Overall, participants' comments suggested that there were strong potential upsides to effective collaboration but, as one participant put it, "collaboration moves at the speed of trust."

On Day 2, the NGO and researcher representatives expressed broadly positive reactions to the Knowledge Sharing Platform, and provided constructive feedback on the KSP draft Terms of Reference. Participants also provided constructive feedback on the Illuminating Hidden Harvests research initiative, and outlined a series of suggestions for big data projects more generally, focused on ensuring small-scale fisher actors are included and consulted at multiple stages of the data collection and dissemination process.

Following an excursion up to Penang Hills on the evening of Day 2, participants returned for their final day acknowledging the benefits of the informal time spent together outside the meeting room. The NGO representatives noted that they had decided to create a mechanism to share information, promote best practices and learning, and increase transparency. The Social Movement/Indigenous Peoples representatives shared a list of specific requests they had for the NGOs, including a request to obtain descriptions of each organization's work in the small-scale fisheries sector.

A number of participants expressed confidence that — despite legitimate differences in priorities, goals, and experiences — there were several areas where collaboration among stakeholders in the room could be helpful. Others suggested that collaboration among some groups could be difficult, in particular in cases where they find themselves on opposite sides of specific issues.

Participants closed the meeting by discussing a series of next steps focused on sharing knowledge about the work each NGO is pursuing in the small-scale fisheries space, moving forward with the Knowledge Sharing Platform, and considering the potential for future multi-stakeholder convenings. A detailed list of next steps is included at the end of the full summary.

## Full Summary

---

### Meeting in Brief

From 3-5 September 2019, representatives from fisher and fish worker Social Movements, Indigenous Peoples, intergovernmental agencies, environmental NGOs (ENGOs), social justice NGOs and research organisations came together in Penang, Malaysia. The process was designed to enable discussion about how groups working in, with, and for small-scale fisheries can better coordinate their efforts to support development outcomes and inclusive water, ocean, and landscape governance. The overall objective of the meeting was to support the implementation of the [Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication](#) (SSF Guidelines). Additional objectives were to explore the feasibility of and, potentially, plan for future work to support:

- Increased capacity to coordinate and build collective action among multiple actors to maximize progress towards common goals;
- Delivery of strategic communications leading to greater recognition in policy and investment decisions for the contributions of small-scale fisheries; and
- Improved collaborative capacity to understand the impacts of investments and institutional innovations towards more resilient small-scale fisheries.

Participants came from across the globe with different experiences and perspectives on small-scale fisheries. For a full list of participants, please see Appendix A.

The meeting agenda shifted over the course of the three days in response to participants' feedback and requests. The final agenda proceeded as follows:

<b>Day 1: Morning</b>	The morning of Day 1 included opening remarks, a review of the agenda and introductions of all those in the room. This was followed by a series of presentations designed to “set the stage” for subsequent discussions around the SSF Guidelines Global Strategic Framework, implementation of the SSF Guidelines, and the role of small-scale fisheries within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
<b>Day 1: Afternoon</b>	The afternoon of Day 1 focused on identifying participants' common ambition for greater collaboration amongst diverse groups working with and for small-scale fisheries and implementing the SSF Guidelines.
<b>Day 2: Morning</b>	The morning of Day 2 included a presentation on the Global Strategic Framework (an established institutional structure that supports the implementation of the SSF Guidelines) and its sub-component the Knowledge Sharing Platform (KSP) (a proposed body to help coordinate learning and monitoring in support of the SSF Guidelines amongst NGOs, researchers and other stakeholders). Discussions addressed the Knowledge Sharing Platform draft Terms of Reference and the Social Movements' and Indigenous Peoples' priorities for implementing the SSF Guidelines.
<b>Day 2: Afternoon</b>	The afternoon of Day 2 included a presentation and discussion of the Illuminating Hidden Harvests research initiative, and how it might better serve the interests of small-scale fisheries themselves.
<b>Day 3</b>	Day 3 included a series of brief presentations by participants, providing background on their organizations' approaches towards small-scale fisheries, followed by group discussions on strategic communications, principles for responsible communications, and possible next steps.

## Day 1

### Opening Remarks

Gareth Johnstone, Director General of WorldFish, opened the meeting by welcoming all participants to the WorldFish complex and thanking the Oak Foundation for its support. Gareth offered some background information on the history of WorldFish and its relationship to small-scale fisheries. He suggested that the event provided an opportunity to elevate the evidence illustrating that global small-scale fisheries are a core, valuable part of the solution to equitable ocean governance. He closed by highlighting the importance of using the SSF Guidelines as the basis for any actions and next steps.

Philippa (Pip) Cohen, WorldFish Small-Scale Fisheries Program Leader, also gave opening remarks. She thanked all the participants for their attendance, WorldFish staff for helping to coordinate the meeting, and the Oak Foundation for its support. Pip then highlighted that the individuals in the room had been brought together because of the central roles they play addressing small-scale fisheries issues within their respective organisations or networks. She noted that there were organisations and people not present in the room who also play critical roles in this space, and encouraged all participants to report back to their broader constituencies and networks. Pip then highlighted the current unprecedented attention small-scale fisheries is receiving globally, and the opportunity to reframe existing narratives around its value. She closed by acknowledging that full alignment and coordination among participants was neither a goal nor a possibility. Rather, the hope was that participants would acknowledge their different priorities and nonetheless find a “sweet spot” of connection that will improve sustainability and human well-being within and through small-scale fisheries.

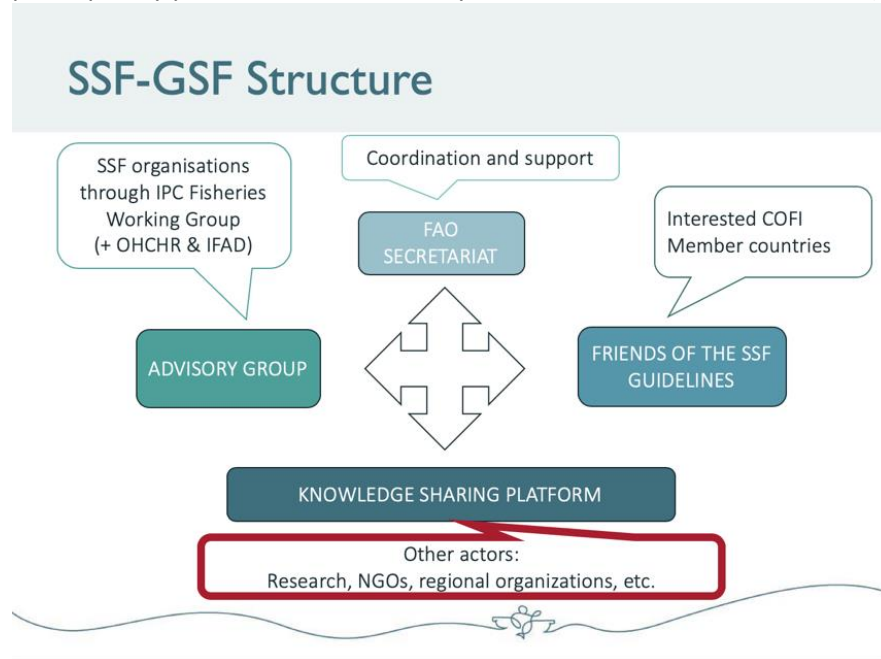
Toby Berkman, a facilitator from Consensus Building Institute (CBI), introduced the facilitator’s role, presented potential metrics for success of the meeting, and gave an overview of the proposed agenda for the three days. He also reviewed several key assumptions that had been made for convening this meeting, namely that there was a shared interest in advancing the SSF Guidelines among everyone in the room, and that there were enough shared interests and complementary resources among the participants that significant value could be added to their work through collaboration. He reiterated that there were areas where the room would not be fully aligned, or where collaboration was not possible or helpful, and that this was okay.

In response to Toby’s overview, a participant clarified that the Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples representatives would need to report back to their networks and constituencies, and engage in their own decision-making processes, before deciding on any next steps. The group acknowledged this clarification and agreed that any proposed next steps should be considered as potential paths forward rather than firm commitments, with discussions on how specifically to proceed still outstanding.

### Setting the Stage Presentations

Several participants were invited to give presentations that “set the stage” for the meeting’s discussions. A brief summary of each presentation can be found below.

**An Introduction to the SSF Guidelines and the Global Strategic Framework in Support of the SSF Guidelines Implementation:** Nicole Franz, from the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, provided an overview of the SSF Guidelines, and their development process, content and implementation. She highlighted that the catalyst for the development of the SSF Guidelines had been a 2008 request from Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples groups for a global framework by and for small-scale fisheries communities.<sup>1</sup> The SSF Guidelines were developed through a participatory process and endorsed by the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in 2014. They constitute a



global consensus on principles and guidance for small-scale fisheries governance and development, complementing other international instruments. The small-scale fisheries Global Strategic Framework (SSF-GSF) is an informal partnership mechanism to promote a common implementation vision based on the principles of the SSF Guidelines.

The structure of the SSF-GSF (pictured to the left) includes an Advisory Group

with representatives of small-scale fisheries organisations, a Friends of the SSF Guidelines group consisting of a number of governments, a Knowledge Sharing Platform (KSP) for other organisations and institutions active in the small-scale fisheries arena, and an FAO Secretariat. While several preliminary meetings of the Advisory Group and Friends group have already been held, the KSP is not yet up and running, but could provide an opportunity for the NGOs and researchers in the room to engage directly in advancing the SSF Guidelines and their implementation. Draft Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the KSP have been developed but the KSP — and its links to the other parts of the SSF-GSF, especially the Advisory Group — is still work in progress.

**SSF Guidelines Implementation Framework:** Editrudith Lukanga, Co-President, World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF) and Executive Director, Environmental Management and Economic Development (EMEDO), spoke on behalf of the IPC Fisheries Working Group on the implementation process of the SSF Guidelines. She provided an overview of the expectations of the Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples with regard to the SSF Guidelines implementation, reiterated the importance of the SSF Guidelines to small-scale fisheries communities, and emphasized that work to implement the SSF Guidelines has been ongoing since their endorsement in 2014.

She noted that the Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples’ vision for implementation involves a people-centered approach that embraces the full participation of small-scale fisheries communities and explicit

<sup>1</sup> [Global Conference On Small-Scale Fisheries Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries: Bringing Together Responsible Fisheries And Social Development](#)

appreciation of indigenous knowledge. Research initiatives or questions should directly respond to the needs of fish workers and their communities, with results presented in a useful manner. With respect to awareness raising, small-scale fisheries fishers and fish workers should be the first group engaged and informed. Lastly, it is critical to enable two-way feedback around monitoring, where communities can both participate in and provide feedback on the implementation process. Ediltrudith invited the group to consider the potential of the KSP, if developed and embraced by the participants in the room and others, as a legitimate and effective platform on which to improve such exchanges of knowledge. She concluded by expressing hope that the other actors in the room would offer reactions to the proposed vision, roles, and implementation process she had put forward; address the differential levels of power in the room; and consider how to use the SSF Guidelines as a tool bring together various processes at the global, national, and local levels.

In response to a question about the Social Movements' and Indigenous Peoples' priorities for implementation, Ediltrudith emphasized the importance of involving small-scale fisheries actors in the implementation process, in particular in helping to develop national plans of action (NPOAs) based on specific implementation priorities according to the country context.

***The Sustainable Development Goals as Basis for Strategic Ocean Sustainability Research:*** Gerald Singh, from Memorial University of Newfoundland, presented on the knowledge gap that exists with respect to the SDGs and small-scale fisheries. This knowledge gap is in part due to the fact that, based on the distribution of funding, SDG 14 ("Life Below Water") is perceived to be one of the lowest priority SDGs. Gerald's research suggests that there are clear points of synergy and trade-offs between and within the different SDGs. For example, some ocean resource protection goals can conflict with human food security. There is no internationally established methodology for tracking the status of SDG 14, nor a concerted monitoring effort. Nevertheless, the data suggests that there are significant co-benefits to prioritizing the oceans, and in particular small-scale fisheries. Gerald suggested that a group like the KSP could help identify shared research and communication priorities, learn lessons around conflicts and synergies between and amongst goals, and provide a missing link between research outcomes and effective communication. He acknowledged that such efforts could be challenging, because different actors have different ideas about what kinds of research and communication are most important.

### **Articulating a Common Ambition**

During this session, participants met in small groups to draw pictures representing their **ideal image** of what stakeholders could accomplish within five years through effective collaboration. Each group was then asked to report out and explain its drawing. Overall, a number of shared themes and principles for engagement emerged. Specifically:

- A number of small groups envisioned ongoing **collaboration across multiple stakeholder groups**, including Social Movements, Indigenous Peoples, academics, social justice NGOs, and environmental NGOs, with a secondary role for governments. Stakeholder groups that were missing from the present meeting — such as other human rights or community development organisations — should be identified and included.
- Collaboration should have **the SSF Guidelines at the center**, with a focus on **identifying shared goals** and **amplifying voices of small-scale fisheries actors**. Strong efforts should be made to recognize the different stakeholders' **differential and complementary roles and capacities**, as well as the **enormous diversity** of the small-scale fisheries sector and small-scale fisheries actors.

- Collaborative activities should be **human rights-centered**, and **evidence based**. There should be strong efforts to **promote two-way information sharing** among the stakeholder groups, and to **build the capacity of the Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples**.
- Bold, effective and responsible **strategic communications** should also be a focus, with the group aiming to develop a **powerful statement regarding environmental justice** for the small-scale fisheries sector, and to **amplify legitimate voices and messages**.
- Stakeholders should identify a set of **defined, agreed-upon objectives** focused on promoting **resilient, sustainable communities and livelihoods**, and **ensuring accountability** for governments and other actors in the small-scale fisheries space.

Some participants strongly voiced that the Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples representatives could not “agree” to any common ambition language at this meeting, but could commit to bringing these themes (and the details discussed within them in the coming days) back to their constituents for discussion.

## Day 1 Reflections

Participants offered a number of final reflections at the end of Day 1. Some highlighted the difficulty of trying to take advantage of opportunities for collaboration while still remembering and honoring difficult and contentious histories, as well as ongoing disputes. They stressed the importance of addressing and airing some of the highly politicized issues that have been sources of conflict among the diverse group of actors in attendance, and suggested that direct engagement and discussion around these issues would be critical to re-establishing trust.

Other participants emphasized the importance of remembering communities on the ground even as the group worked at the global level. Still others commented on the need to continue recognizing the complexity of small-scale fisheries issues, even while considering how to distill this complexity into simple, resonant communications messages. Overall, participants’ comments suggested that there were strong potential upsides to effective collaboration but, as one participant put it, “collaboration moves at the speed of trust.”

Towards the end of the session, a number of Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples representatives suggested it would be helpful to hear more from the ENGOs about their approaches to small-scale fisheries and resource management/conservation, their interest in the KSP, and their reaction to the draft ToRs. Some NGO and researcher representatives, in turn, expressed interest in hearing more from the Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples representatives about their priorities for implementing the SSF Guidelines, and what kind of support they would most want to see from NGOs and researchers around those priorities.

## Day 2

In response to the group feedback from the end of Day 1, the morning of Day 2 was dedicated to addressing: 1) the NGOs’ and researchers’ interest in the KSP and their reaction to the draft KSP ToRs, and 2) the Social Movements’/Indigenous Peoples’ priorities for implementing the SSF Guidelines, and what kind of support they would most want to see from NGOs and researchers around those priorities.

## Overview of the Knowledge Sharing Platform

FAO and WorldFish Consultant Lena Westlund provided an overview of the SSF-Global Strategic Framework with a specific emphasis on the Advisory Group and the Knowledge Sharing Platform (KSP).

She reiterated the overall need for the SSF-GSF as a mechanism for supporting implementation the SSF Guidelines among different actors, and for giving a strong voice to small-scale fisheries Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples in this context. She reviewed the structure of the Advisory Group and its specific tasks, discussed how the KSP fit into the overall SSF-GSF, and presented the group with the draft KSP ToRs. These draft ToRs, which are based around the need to share experiences, generate knowledge and support capacity development, are included below in Appendix B.

### **Morning Breakout Groups**

Participants broke into two breakout groups based on their roles as either: 1) potential members of the KSP (including NGO representatives and researchers), or 2) members of the Advisory Group (including Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples representatives). There was a discussion around terminology, and a suggestion that members of the former group might aptly be referred to as “duty bearers,” while members of the latter group could be called “rights holders.” The purpose of breaking into these groups was to address the requests made at the closing of Day 1 regarding the NGOs’ and researchers’ reactions to the KSP ToRs, on the one hand, and the Social Movements’/Indigenous Peoples’ priorities and desired support for implementing the SSF Guidelines, on the other.

### ***Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples Breakout***

Participants in this session suggested that those present in the room could not unilaterally identify priorities for implementing the SSF Guidelines without first discussing this prioritization with their constituents as well as bringing such a request to the attention of the Advisory Group for additional direction. However, some suggestions were offered as possible starting points once the appropriate discussions had taken place. These suggestions included the need to **map ongoing SSF Guideline implementation efforts**, and the need to create some **general rules of engagement for effective and respectful implementation of the SSF Guidelines**, directed towards various relevant actors including prospective members of the KSP.

With respect to mapping implementation efforts, participants suggested it would be helpful to better understand current NGO activities in different countries and regions. It was suggested that this information would help in identifying where collaboration could possibly take place in the future.<sup>2</sup>

With respect to rules of engagement surrounding implementation of the SSF Guidelines, the Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples participants suggested the following:

- Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples should **be the sources of information provided** as part of any communications efforts
- It would be helpful for prospective KSP members to help the Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples to develop **common messaging materials** on small scale fisheries and the SSF Guidelines
- Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples do not need help with identifying **what information to share**, but rather **how to package it**
- Stakeholders should work together to **jointly determine the rules of engagement** around how to work in communities, and how project work is done

---

<sup>2</sup> Later in the meeting, ENGO representatives agreed to share out a short summary of their activities related to small-scale fisheries, with links to further information. See the table of next steps at the end of this summary for more details.

- Dialogue on implementation of the SSF Guidelines should embrace a **people-centered approach**; above all there needs to be mutual respect and understanding of **the human side of small-scale fisheries**
- It would be helpful for the NGOs taking part in the meeting to **leverage their networks** to bring in additional organisations (acknowledging that it may be difficult for them to reach some organisations, such as social development or human rights NGOs, that are not in their networks)
- It is *not* helpful when other stakeholders **talk “at” Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples representatives** about what is going on in their own communities, or when **meetings are planned without their involvement or consultation**
- In order to participate effectively in meetings, **complete information about who is in the room and time to process this information** should be provided in advance.

### ***NGOs and Researchers Breakout Group***

The breakout group consisting of NGO representatives and researchers — i.e., potential members of the KSP — reviewed the draft ToRs for the KSP and provided detailed feedback. The reaction of the group towards the draft ToRs and the KSP was, in general, broadly positive.

Overall, NGO representatives and researchers expressed interest in developing a forum where they can **continuously share** best practices and lessons learned with each other and with small-scale fisheries actors. The goal should be to facilitate dialogue around **what is working** and **limitations or challenges** that arise, to improve **transparency, efficacy and alignment** around both outcomes and approaches. Ideally, such a forum would be highly **nimble and responsive**, improve **trust and relationships**, and **build a functional channel for information validation and exchange** amongst ENGOS, development or social justice NGOs, the research community, and small-scale fisheries actors, to name a few.

Participants also expressed interest in a forum (such as that described in the KSP ToR, but not necessarily exclusively the KSP) that explicitly includes **diverse perspectives**, including multiple scientific disciplines<sup>3</sup> and multiple types of NGOs.<sup>4</sup> As much as possible, the group’s activities should be practically-oriented and linked directly to actions taking place **on the ground**. Group activities should also be focused on **communications and messaging**, as part of an effort to increase donor and policy-maker interest in and financial and policy support for the small-scale fisheries sector. Participants emphasized the critical importance of having a forum for **honest self-examination**, where they can share examples of their less successful work (e.g. poor community consultation in the development of Marine Protected Areas, sub-optimal addressing of gender-equity in fisheries initiatives), identify blind spots, and bring this knowledge about what works and what doesn’t to donors and other actors to avoid repeating the same mistakes. The ultimate objective would be to **build a network of actors to improve social and environmental outcomes, including those experienced by small-scale fisheries actors**.

With respect to the language in the draft ToRs, participants identified a number of specific things that they liked. In particular, they liked the ToRs’ **emphasis on multi-stakeholder diversity, knowledge sharing, common messaging, and strategic communications**. They also liked the overall structure and spirit of the ToRs, in particular the emphasis on KSP members’ **fundamental accountability to rights holders** like the small-scale fishers themselves, Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples. They liked that **the Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples “own” the KSP** and are empowered to choose

---

<sup>3</sup> Such as public health experts, anthropologists, and sociologists who can help identify the consequences of alternative approaches and increase the credibility of scientific findings.

<sup>4</sup> Such as human rights organisations, labor rights groups and others.

which organisations to invite to become members. Multiple participants suggested that the spirit of the ToRs is **strongly aligned with the values of their organisations**.

Participants also highlighted some questions or areas for Advisory Group members to consider further clarifying within the draft ToRs. Clarification would be useful on how and when the Advisory Group might identify, nominate and communicate about nominations for the KSP. A number of participants requested more clarity on the **levels of bureaucracy** that would be involved in engaging with the KSP, in particular given that the KSP is structured under the umbrella of an organisation, FAO, within the multi-governmental UN system. Some expressed concern that housing the KSP within FAO could restrict its agility. Others suggested it would be helpful to have more information on the **decision-making structure** of the KSP, for example through the development of a decision tree, and the nature of the **relationship and communication with the Advisory Group**. In general, participants noted that it could be helpful to see **examples of analogous multi-stakeholder structures**, and information on how successfully they function, to help with understanding and potentially improving the structure of the KSP.

Other suggestions focused on the overall purpose, vision and values of the KSP. For example, some participants suggested the ToRs might be improved through a more explicit **statement of purpose** or vision, clarifying for example whether the goal of the KSP is to **facilitate collaboration** opportunities or simply **information sharing**, or noting that the KSP seeks to **catalyze change**. Others noted that the ToRs do not currently have a **statement of values** or **principles for engagement**, and might be improved by an explicit statement embracing the principles articulated in the SSF Guidelines themselves, as well as some of the “preferred rules of play” around communication, collaboration and trust-building.

Finally, some participants asked for more clarity around the **level and nature of commitment** expected from NGOs and researchers that agree to participate in the KSP. They noted that some of the member tasks noted in the ToRs seem quite manageable, while others appear more open-ended. Participants would be reluctant to commit if they felt they may be unable to meet very ambitious or unclear tasks. More clarity on this issue — and potentially an effort to refine or narrow the list of tasks in the ToRs — could help representatives make a stronger case for their organisations’ participation. Commitments that require significant time and investment — such as “resource mobilization,” for example — may not be tenable to senior leadership at some organisations. In general, tasks that focus on using the KSP as a **learning, reporting and research-shaping platform**, where members can communicate what they are currently doing, identify lessons and receive general advice from the Advisory Group about priority areas for learning or action, are likely to be of interest to the broadest set of organisations, while tasks that would require additional interactions or activities beyond information sharing, such as new project work, could be less tenable to some.

In the end, participants agreed that it is critically important for their organisations to improve how they share information in the small-scale fisheries space, develop messaging and communications, and identify best (and worst) practices across the sector. They expressed interest in learning more about the KSP and potentially participating if invited by the Advisory Group, and also expressed interest in meeting more frequently in parallel amongst themselves.

### **Illuminating Hidden Harvests**

Nicole Franz briefly introduced [Illuminating Hidden Harvests \(IHH\)](#), a collaborative study among FAO, WorldFish and Duke University to improve our understanding of the contribution of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development, including environmental, economic, social and governance dimensions. The initiative will provide global evidence in the form of “big numbers” through collection of country case

studies, and regional to local evidence via in-depth thematic case studies. Data will shed new light on key dimensions relating to small-scale fisheries' catch, utilization, employment, gender, governance arrangements, cultural values, nutrition contributions, distribution of benefits and drivers of change in the sector. The goal is to help break the cycle of marginalization of small-scale fisheries and produce actionable evidence to elevate its value across the globe. The purpose of this session of the meeting was to discuss how the IHH team can help participants leverage its research to advance their work and help implement the SSF Guidelines.

Fiona Simmance, WorldFish Fish in Food System Scientist, presented on the IHH research approach and methodology, and the scope and scale of the study. She informed the group that the results report is scheduled to be released in second half of 2020.

Following the IHH overview, participants engaged in a discussion to identify evidence needs in support of small-scale fisheries, and discuss ways in which IHH outputs could be of value to small-scale fisheries actors to generate positive impact and change for the sector. Participants considered the following discussion questions at their tables, and then reported out their main findings:

1. *How have you used knowledge and evidence to make a case for small-scale fisheries in your region/country or sector? Who was the target audience?*
2. *In what way would the kinds of data produced by IHH help you support sustainable and equitable small-scale fisheries? Be as specific as possible.*
3. *Can you identify at least 3 specific opportunities for using IHH findings?*

The following key themes emerged from these discussions.

Uses of IHH-like Data: The types of data collected by IHH are useful. Participants highlighted in particular the importance of gender data, and evidence that can feed into the global discourse on economic, food and nutrition security, and human rights. Data related to small-scale fisheries has been used across various contexts by NGOs, small-scale fisheries networks and communities, and fellow researchers to raise the profile small-scale fisheries benefits at the local level, ultimately supporting more impactful advocacy and communications, and potentially increasing funding and policy support for the sector. Participants shared a few specific outcomes from the use of similar data in the past, such as securing a seat at an important table relevant to small-scale fisheries, empowering women in the sector at local and national levels, and directly resisting specific activities by harmful actors, such as industry or governments.

Moving Forward with Small-Scale Fisheries Data: While there was agreement on the overarching utility of Big Data and the IHH initiative, participants suggested it is critical to involve small-scale fisheries actors in research from the outset. For example:

- **Researchers should collaborate with small-scale fisheries actors on study design.** Such collaboration can help researchers do a better job respecting and responding to community realities like interview-fatigue, help the utility of the study for fisher communities, and create more direct accountability mechanisms.
- **Researchers should engage in responsible data collection.** This means ensuring respectful and inclusive methods of study execution while in communities, as well as the appropriate and equitable incorporation of indigenous or traditional knowledge.
- **Findings of community-level research should be fully accessible to small-scale fisheries actors including small-scale fisheries communities.** If research involves communities, then it is a best practice to communicate findings to community actors and engage them in the process. In

general, whenever data relate to a particular set of actors, those data should be made available to those actors and their views of the data should be solicited. This will help ensure studies have widespread and effective use, and will help prevent the unintentional validation of “bad” or potentially harmful data.

Moving forward with IHH Data: Participants offered advice on moving forward with the IHH evidence addressing the following themes:

- Access to data. Participants asked whether there will be open access and sharing of data specific to IHH. Fiona noted that the intention is to make data as openly accessible as possible, while also respecting some concerns regarding the data privacy of country case studies.
- Engaging in global discourse. Data can be presented to target audiences engaged in a variety of key global discussions and debates, such as human rights, economics, food and nutrition security, and migration, in combination with legitimate representation of small-scale fisheries actors.
- Communication. IHH should stagger its production of results. It should evaluate and address risks around certain data, produce targeted information for regions and audiences (including key messages specific to inland fisheries), and engage with the audience further to identify approaches for local to global level change.

Potential actions and next steps: Participants identified a number of potential actions and next steps. They suggested it would be helpful to engage in further thinking and joint discussions on how small-scale fisheries networks, representatives, and communities might use IHH data in their communications and outreach. They further suggested it would be helpful to receive any case studies, partial datasets, or reports early — prior to late 2020 if possible — to maximize near-term opportunities to amplify small-scale fisheries-related messages. Some participants also suggested the IHH team consider translation issues in developing materials for different audiences. They noted that the phrase “hidden harvest” can refer to criminal or black-market activities in different languages and contexts.

Participants also identified several opportunities to bring the IHH data and reports to various forums and upcoming events. These included:

- Regional councils such as the Council of African Ministers on Fisheries and Agriculture
- Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples meetings and constituencies
- The General Assembly of World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF)
- The General Assembly of African Fish Traders 2020/21
- The UN Oceans Conference 2020
- The World Bank Spring Meetings and other international finance institution gatherings
- Local, national, and international ministerial meetings
- Human rights, food security, and security-focused gatherings like the World Conservation Congress, Committee on Food Security, and meetings related to the Decade of Family Farming

Fiona commented that these suggestions were very constructive and committed to continuing the conversations started in the room and relaying the feedback to her colleagues. She also acknowledged participants’ requests to ensure that the products of the study are useful and accessible. She suggested the IHH team would make efforts to produce information, such as early briefs of key messages, where feasible, and to communicate updates, events, and other platforms for engagement via the IHH newsletter. She further suggested the team would make efforts to address concerns around translation, access to the final report, and communication products.

## Day 3

### Morning Reflections

Following an excursion up to Penang Hills the evening of Day 2, participants returned for Day 3 acknowledging the benefits of the informal time spent together outside the meeting room. The NGO representatives Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples representatives and the reported on separate meetings they had taken part in the night before. The NGO representatives noted that they had decided to create a mechanism to share information, promote best practices and learning, and increase transparency. The Social Movement/Indigenous Peoples representatives shared a list of specific requests they had for the NGOs, including a request to obtain descriptions of each organization's work in the small-scale fisheries sector. The specific proposed next steps, action items, and opportunities for collaboration that were shared have been incorporated into the Next Steps table at the end of this summary.

After these initial remarks, a number of participants expressed confidence that — despite legitimate differences in priorities, goals, and experiences — there were several areas where collaboration among stakeholders in the room could be helpful. Others suggested that collaboration among some groups could still be difficult, in particular in cases where they find themselves on opposite sides of specific issues.

### Lightening Rounds: Who is in the room?

In response to a request from participants to get a clearer picture of who was in the room, researchers and NGO representatives were asked to briefly share the following information:

1. *Your organisation's overall goals and approach, particularly towards community consultation and engagement*
2. *Funding sources*
3. *Activities related to small-scale fisheries: what you work on, where, and how?*
4. *Areas where you would be interested to learn more*

Each researcher and NGO representative shared his or her answers to these questions. A number of social movement/Indigenous Peoples representatives also chose to share. Rough notes from these lightening round presentations are included below in Appendix C. There was a general consensus that this was a useful exercise, and that it would be helpful to do something similar at the outset of future meetings.<sup>5</sup>

### Strategic Communications

The overarching questions posed for consideration throughout this session were:

1. *In what ways can we improve collaboration around strategic and responsible communications?*
2. *How can we help raise up the voices of small-scale fishers?*

Kate Bevitt, a communications consultant for a WorldFish-led small-scale fisheries project, began the session by providing a brief introduction to the role of strategic communications in creating an enabling environment for small-scale fisheries. She highlighted how communications are critical to raising

---

<sup>5</sup> In addition, a participant highlighted the lack of representatives addressing inland small-scale fisheries at the meeting, and suggested this would be important to remedy in the future.

awareness of small-scale fisheries, giving greater visibility to fishers and fish workers, and encouraging decision-makers and donors to better support small-scale fisheries. She provided examples of the impact of successful communications in elevating issues on the world stage, and the importance of telling the human story and avoiding sector-specific jargon.

Participants then broke into small groups to engage in a thought experiment about “A Communications Apocalypse.” Each table was asked to place itself in the year 2024 and devise its own communications disaster scenario, detailing what happened and why and how it went wrong. They were then asked to determine which, if any, of the components of their apocalyptic scenario were presently occurring, and finally to identify some potential remedies and ways forward.

Each group reported out its apocalyptic scenarios, which ranged from a co-opting of the voice and message of small-scale fishers, to losing all funding for small-scale fisheries-related endeavors. A number of themes emerged from the conversations around principles for responsible, effective and inclusive small-scale fisheries communications. In particular:

- Participants emphasized that small-scale fisheries communications need to be **community-centered and -driven**, with a focus on raising up and **supporting the voices of small-scale fishers**. This means an emphasis on **capacity development** for fisher communities and their representatives, and working to ensure they have a seat at decision making tables. In addition, there need to be ongoing efforts to **coordinate** with and take guidance from Social Movements and Indigenous Peoples representatives on key messages, language, and ways to support their existing communication advocacy activities.
- Participants discussed that communication messages should be **co-produced with relevant Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples**, with a recognition that developing and disseminating communication messages represents a form of power, which needs to be exercised responsibly. Messages should focus on some of the key sectors and policy arenas that small-scale fisheries interact with including, for example, human rights, food security and nutrition, human health, environmental conservation and Indigenous Peoples.
- Participants highlighted that an effective communications approach that serves all small-scale fisheries actors needs to be holistic and driven by a shared goal, and should **pay attention to each stakeholder’s target audiences, level of influence, relationships and scales of working**, from the global to the local.

Kate closed the session by suggesting that, in the future, it might be helpful for stakeholders to start collaborating on fleshing out a communications plan for small-scale fisheries that serves the whole sector.

## **Review of Next Steps & Closing**

In the final session of the day, participants worked together to identify and refine potential next steps. Throughout the review of these next steps, participants shared offers across the room to exchange relevant publications, available data, input, feedback, support, and contact information, to ensure the conversation continued. The table below summarizes the next steps that were put forward to the group.

In closing, participants offered thanks for the engagement of the room and the hard work everyone had put in. Pip thanked all involved parties for their dedication, engagement, time, and energy throughout three full days. She reiterated that the conversations that transpired should be thought of as the beginning of a long-term process and that she hoped and expected there would be more in the future.

Activity	Details	When
Record of the meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After CBI drafts meeting summary, WorldFish to have a conversation with stakeholders about what will be shared publicly</li> </ul>	6 October 2019
Meetings around the FAO symposium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples (through the advisory group Advisory Group) to meet alongside the FAO symposium</li> <li>• NGO/researchers to also meet, and communicate in advance about common messages and presentations</li> <li>• There is potential for an additional joint gathering enabled by FAO, potentially with discussions on common messaging</li> </ul>	November 2019
Moving forward with the KSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WorldFish to circulate summary of NGO/researcher comments on the KSP ToRs – for consideration by the Advisory Group</li> <li>• Advisory Group may consider updating the draft ToRs, how to move forward with membership, and whom to communicate with about membership</li> </ul>	TBD
ENGO forum to facilitate knowledge sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENGOS to initiate formation of an informal forum for knowledge sharing, with an openness to engage in or with the KSP as it develops</li> <li>• Mauro to be Social Movements'/Indigenous People's focal point for ENGO exchanges</li> <li>• There is interest in ensuring two-way communication between the ENGOS and the Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples, for example by hearing about their priorities and providing information back to them; there will be discussions with FAO and with WorldFish about how best to support this channel</li> </ul>	TBD
Request for information from ENGOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each ENGO to provide Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples with a brief (one PowerPoint slide each with links was deemed feasible) summary of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Their projects related to small-scale fisheries (including work on MPAs, individual transferable quotas, the blue economy, etc.)</li> <li>○ The processes related to SDG 14b in which they are participating</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There was a wish that the summaries be a starting point to help the Advisory Group identify where, at which level (local, national, or international), and on which topics there is potential for ENGO support around capacity building, communications, fisher-to-fisher knowledge exchanges, translation and dissemination of the SSF Guidelines, and other activities to promote implementation of the SSF Guidelines.</li> <li>• ENGOS to follow-up with the Social Movements on the types of information to provide and the appropriate format (e.g. whether to create one slide per ENGO on projects/areas of work, plus a key contact from each organisation)</li> <li>• Advisory Group to consider reviewing the summaries and communicate on possible areas of collaboration with ENGOS.</li> </ul>	ENGO summaries to be provided by October 20, 2019
small-scale fisheries/ENGO toolbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EDF to collect resources on small-scale fisheries tools from other NGOs, with a goal to create an ENGO small-scale fisheries "toolbox"</li> <li>• ENGOS to solicit feedback from Social Movements to understand their needs and ensure the toolbox is helpful</li> <li>• ENGOS to make concerted efforts to highlight and include inland fisheries resources</li> </ul>	TBD
Pooling ENGO data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WorldFish to host webinar on tools and challenges of managing datasets</li> </ul>	TBD

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples and other small-scale fisheries actors invited to join</li> </ul>	
Advisory Group implementation priorities and further activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Advisory Group to identify priority areas for implementation of the SSF Guidelines</li> <li>● Advisory Group to communicate with KSP focal point regarding further joint activities</li> <li>● Both issues will be up for discussion in a meeting in early 2020</li> </ul>	TBD
Illuminating Hidden Harvests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● IHH to have presence at November small-scale fisheries Symposium, providing opportunities for more dialogue</li> <li>● Anyone can sign up for email updates on the IHH project status by selecting the “Illuminating Hidden Harvests” option in this <a href="#">subscription form</a></li> <li>● Further dialogue to take place on inland fisheries data</li> </ul>	November 2019
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Communications issues will be included in future ENGO forum and/or KSP conversations</li> <li>● Kate to send invitation to Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples to follow-up on messaging and potential capacity building/support</li> </ul>	TBD
Consider key events in 2020 for mutual support for attendance and representation – if deemed critical for influence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Social Movements/Indigenous Peoples and ENGOs/researchers to discuss their participation</li> <li>● FAO and WorldFish to help identify focus and potential pilot of messaging at the events</li> </ul>	March 2020

## Appendix A: List of Participants

- Sonia Sharan, Oceana
- Anna-Marie Laura, Rare
- Alexis Nicole Rife, Environmental Defense Fund
- Caleb McClennen, Wildlife Conservation Society
- John Tanzer, World Wildlife Fund
- Jack Kittinger, Conservation International and Arizona State University
- Daniel Steadman, Fauna & Flora International
- Alasdair Harris, Blue Ventures
- Hoyt Peckham, Ocean Outcomes
- Lena Maria Westlund, FAO
- Nicole Franz, FAO
- Pip Cohen, WorldFish
- Edward Hugh Allison, University of Washington
- Gareth Johnstone, WorldFish
- Kate Bevitt, WorldFish
- Kama Dean, Independent consultant
- Imani Fairweather Morrison, Oak Foundation
- Mauro Conti, Centro Internazionale Crocevia
- Editrudith Lukanga, Environmental Management and Economic Development Organization
- Cairo Roberto Laguna, Federación, Nicaraguense de la Pesca, R.L./WFF
- Lorena Elodia Ortíz Martínez, Confederación Mexicana De Cooperativas Pesqueras y Acuicolas
- Ujjaini Halim, East Coast Fish Workers' Union
- Margaret Nakato Lubyayi, World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers
- Chief Gary Duane Harrison, Chickaloon Native Village, IITC, AAC (Arctic Athabaskan Council and Chickaloon Village Traditional Council)
- Rochelle Marie Diver, International Indian Treaty Council
- Alex Castillo, Asociación de Trabajadores del Campo (ATC)
- Syukur Hariyanto, Kesatuan Nelayan Tradisional Indonesia (KNTI)
- Naseegh Jaffer, WFFP / Masifundise
- Christiana Saiti Louwa, Elmolo Eco-Tourism Rights and Development Forum
- Moises Osorto, Asociación de Pescadores artesanales del golfo de fonseca, Honduras (APAGOLF)
- Ensly Gretion Rosairo (Nakala), National Fisheries Solidarity Movement (NAFSO)
- Nadine Orchid Nembhard, World Forum of Fisher Peoples/ Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations
- Gaoussou Gueye, Confederation African of Professional Organizations of Artisanal Fisheries (CAOPA)
- Carsten Pedersen, The Transnational Institute
- Yi-Fang Slot-Tang, FIAN International
- Maia Nangle, Masifundise Development Trust
- Carmen Mannarino, Masifundise Development Trust
- Gerald Singh, Memorial University of Newfoundland
- Manas Roshan, International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)
- Yoshitaka Ota, The Nippon Foundation, NF-UBC Nereus Program
- Toby Berkman, The Consensus Building Institute (CBI)
- Sofia Soto Reyes, The Consensus Building Institute (CBI)

## Appendix B: Knowledge Sharing Platform Draft Terms of Reference

### Terms of Reference of the Knowledge Sharing Platform of the Global Strategic Framework in Support of the Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF-GSF)

#### ROLE OF THE KNOWLEDGE SHARING PLATFORM

##### 1. Scope and purpose

The Knowledge Sharing Platform (KSP) supports the Friends of the SSF Guidelines (Friends) and the Advisory Group (AG) at national, regional and global level with research, communication, capacity development, resource mobilization and other relevant activities. Members of the KSP can also seek advice from the AG on strategies and activities needed to further the SSF Guidelines implementation.

##### 2. Membership

The members of the KSP are organizations or institutions that are identified by the FAO Secretariat and the AG among relevant actors and partners (e.g. academia, research institutes, regional organizations, and NGOs) who support the SSF Guidelines and work actively with small-scale fisheries issues. Membership will be guided by principles of engagement in line with the SSF Guidelines. KSP members commit to support the achievement of the objectives of the SSF-GSF and to generate knowledge and support capacity development for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries. Interested actors and partners can approach the FAO Secretariat or AG if they wish to become part of the KSP and contribute to the SSF-GSF. The AG, in consultation with the FAO Secretariat, decides on KSP membership.

##### 3. Tasks

The KSP will:

1. Raise awareness on good practices related to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and promote a human rights-based approach;
2. Develop and share innovative approaches to research, information, monitoring and communication;
3. Collect and analyse information, and create communication/training materials in close consultation with the AG and including scientific and knowledge-based analysis;
4. Support capacity development;
5. Mobilize resources to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines including within the framework of the SSF-GSF.

##### 4. Mode of Operation

###### 4.1 Responsibilities of members

KSP members commit to:

- Participate in KSP meetings and experience sharing activities organised within the SSF-GSF ensuring the participation of appropriate experts;

- Share relevant research results and experiences with the SSF-GSF, i.e., with other members of the KSP, the AG, the Friends and the FAO Secretariat.within the SSF-GSF;
- Carry out specific research, capacity development and other activities that have been identified by the AG and agreed within the KSP as important for informing and supporting the the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and share the results and experiences with the SSF-GSF;
- Consider advice from the AG on SSF Guidelines implementation matters and integrate such advice into policies and activities, as appropriate;
- Identify opportunities for the KSP to meet and facilitate the organisation of meetings.
- Appoint a contact person (in each member organisation) through whom communications will be directed.

#### *4.2 Focal point of the KSP*

The KSP will nominate a focal point among its members that will:

- Call for, chair and ensure the effective organisation of KSP meetings, as appropriate;
- Coordinate communications between the KSP and the AG, the Friends and the FAO Secretariat, as well as with external partners, as required;
- Ensure that contributions, when required, by the KSP to, for example the AG, are delivered in a timely manner and in the appropriate format. Generally, it is expected that contributions and outputs of KSP are communicated by means of technical reports shared with the AG, the Friends and the FAO Secretariat;
- Collaborate closely with the FAO Secretariat.

The successful functioning of the KSP also requires that each member organization identify a contact person (see above).

\* \* \* \* \*

## Appendix C: Rough Notes from Lightning Round Presentations

The following are brief notes from the “lightning round” presentations participants offered describing the work of their organizations. These are rough notes only, not a verbatim or comprehensive description of what was said.

### **BLUE VENTURES:**

- Established in Madagascar explicitly to mend the relationship between conservation organisations and SSF communities. Our approach: design of marine management within fisheries work that targets those fisheries that are most important to SSF communities. We do not design MPAs that come from outside indices (e.g. species richness indices).
- We have worked closely with fishing communities to increase the equitability of the Octopus fishery and to introduce management practices that enable highly productive SSF; this has become a “foot in the door” for marine management and small-scale fisheries work in Madagascar.

### **CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL:**

- Works in 25 countries around the world; most of the people in those country offices are locals; most of our work is based in the tropical developing world in Africa, Pacific Islands, Latin America, and Southeast Asia (Indo Pacific).
- On community consultation: we work primarily at the invitation of local communities and this is prevalent in our work.
- SSF Work: 28 initiatives in 15 countries: have struggled to try and create commonalities that are correlated with success and primarily do this with capacity development and bringing market incentives. Measured outcomes are around environment and social indicators. Our social responsibility in fisheries metrics are all derived from the SSF Guidelines.
- Funded by foundations: Oceans work; SSF are funded locally, impossible to find funding strategies that fund at the regional level
- Areas to learn more: thirsty for whether or not CI’s successes/failures are correlated with what other people have experienced; coordinating capacity is important to accelerate this, we have a deep sense of urgency about these issues.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND (EDF):**

- 5 different programs of work, oceans are one, we have 700 staff total, oceans is 100 people, active in 14 different countries around the world, mostly in Latin America/Southeast Asia; active programs with industrial fisheries in the US/Mexico; work is focused on implementing rights-based management systems to meet the needs of the communities with which we work; we take a people-centered approach to design goals/needs systems;
- SSF work: means protecting/securing tenure rights of fishing communities, establishing areas for which communities have exclusive access, work closely with communities to strengthen and build governance institutions, and have a pretty strong focus on improving science/management purposes – if data is unavailable what can we do; increased focus on learning networks across regions have the opportunity to come together to exchange their experiences/practices (fishers should talk to fishers);
- Funding provided by foundations (Oak is a funder);
- Area(s) to learn more: how to incorporate social goals into fisheries management decisions (youth, gender, HR, etc.)

### **FAUNA & FLORA INTERNATIONAL:**

- Oldest conservation organization in the world (established in 1903, based in Cambridge UK; 500 staff); this length of time comes with a complicated legacy; helped to set up first MPAs in the world and the approaches have changed significantly. Our mission is to conserve threatened species/ecosystems world-wide, choosing solutions that are based on sound science; debate on “taking into account human needs” captures our commitment on a human-rights based approach; work in 40 countries around the world; mixed level of working, in most cases we are trying to put biodiversity conservation in the hands of national institutions, national civil society organizations;
- SSF: learning (e.g. E/W Africa: this means learning about religions/traditional systems in place), empowering (e.g. working directly with local fishing associations), educating;
- Area to learn more: how do we link capacity building of individual fisher movements at a national level.

### **OCEAN OUTCOMES:**

- Organization of 20 people; objective: achieve plentiful fisheries that are profitable for small-scale fishers (exclusively), some people work in dirty industrial fish. SmartFish model: rescues the value of SSF; limitations for the application of this only works in place where management is official or works in a *de facto* way, or where fishers are organized into functional fisheries; only been using this model in marine areas (interested in inland); work exclusively when a seafood enterprise wants help in optimizing their supply chain “surgical approach” with limitations mentioned
- Funding: primarily philanthropic from North America and Europe and IDO funding (world bank/FAO).

### **IPCT:**

- Autonomous/self-organized; providers of skills and capacity at the service of social movements, help with discussions during their internal movements, just a space of alliance not an organization; IPCT space has 11 global movements and rep 300 million+ people;
- In 1996 opened up this space in FAO that we negotiated; opened up working group has been helping to decide by the General Assembly what are the priorities/fisheries that have been prioritized with ecology/land/agricultural society

### **INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS (ICFS):**

- Organization is 6 people, have a rich membership structure with 15 members, formed in 1986 (out of a protest) to represent SSF in processes like the FAO at the global level, group of teachers, academics activists who formed ICFS;
- Through members who work in most of the continents, take their knowledge from national/local level and participate in FAO-led processes on fisheries; active in developing the guidelines and work on national-level implementation and doing helping others with work in 9 countries

### **NEXXUS:**

- Primarily like to bring equity in ocean governance and are interested in working with CSOs on what we’re allowed to do and would like to learn what is going on and put into a system to upstream to SDGs or advancements of these guidelines;
- Funding: post-docs/researchers who want to work on these issues; if there is a workshop and any groups are organizing and would love to participate;

- SSF Activities: my last project is 600 pages in results, but hoping NGOs can buy it and would like to present this book and will organize if they want to learn everything; have predictions of the future ocean;
- We can see the way the ocean changes, but how does this impact on the ground, there is so much we don't know. SSF is global fisheries; traditionally academics are outside, but we want to contribute to make things better.

#### **OCEANA:**

- Largest oceans-only NGO; we work on oceans SSF, we do not work in inland fisheries/aquaculture (related to transparency of corporations and production) primarily located in the Americas (with offices in the EU and the Philippines). Each country office is staffed with people from that country, but we are a centralized organization, and coordinated as such;
- Mission statement: "save the oceans, feed the world"; campaign-based work to influence the countries that we work in,
- Funded by foundations like Bloomberg Philanthropies and Oak Foundation; no explicit SSF funding and a little bit more implicit/internal consideration;
- SSF projects: Brazil/Philippines — local campaigns to protect access to make sure that governments are following through on enforcement; global fishing watch: any country to track encroachment into local nearshore waters; limited resources and time:
- Areas to learn more: species that are important to SSF; data on how to link fisheries management work with human well-being targets as this would justify future work in these areas.

#### **RARE:**

- Our overall approach is for sustainable natural resource management so that people and nature survive. For this reason, a unique thing about Rare is that we do social marketing campaigns with a behavior change approach;
- In the context of fisheries: fisheries are something that communities feel pride for; we have a global "Fish Forever" program that addresses community access rights, area based, co-management with fishers and local government at a local level; financial literacy is a core piece of our programs to make fisheries more sustainable and have those communities more resilient;
- Funding sources: public funding (GEF, USAID, GER, SWE, NORWAY), foundation (Bloomberg and others), individual contributions.

#### **TRANSNATIONAL INSTITUTE:**

- Environmental Justice Team; want to give our contribution to support mass ground-based political transformation; socialist democracy; we work with not only fishers but many other constituencies and the type of work we do on the ground in communities is participatory action research (based on community requests) which allows them to benefit from this
- Some of the topics we work on are topics that have been identified here (ocean grabbing); there are many groups out there and this is part of the research that we do;
- Also look at the blue economy and the SSF Guidelines are used as a tool to expose the flaws in the state of our blue economy and also to propose some solutions.

#### **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY:**

- Based in the Bronx Zoo in NYC, have programs in 60 countries around the world and 3500 staff and we are supporting the advancement of conservation in those countries; alongside MPAs, our reason for existing is biodiversity conservation and protection;

- Within SSF we work a lot on science and supporting basic indicators and metrics. We only do community work and engagement if invited in; do not have an ability to go in and work somewhere without invitation; consultative bottom-up process; work is different based on where we are;
- SSF Work: oceans and coastal areas, have inland fisheries programs on the Mekong, Congo, and Nile
- Funding is ½ public, ¼ private, rest is endowment or individual

#### **WORLD FISH:**

- Intergovernmental research and development organization with offices in countries where we work in close collaboration with governments; Bangladesh is the biggest office, in Africa have Zambia, Tanzania, Ghana, with some work in Egypt on aquaculture
- Largest donors: USAID/Australia
- Interested in the conversations on who civil society is, food security/nutrition, improved management, and inland sectors

#### **WORLD WILDLIFE FUND:**

- 6 practices; everyone getting together as “fish is food”; sustaining human well-being, conserving biodiversity;
- WWF different from Oceana, we are heavily involved in political advocacy, but also work in capitals and international forums and particularly want to address things in office; increasingly our approach has been traditionally about industrial fishing has been moving towards the developing world and the importance of SSF; blue economy is on its way (channel funding into blue economy) how do we influence where money is going; SSF and MPAs to sustain, FIP, certification; our focus is very much on working with communities

#### **AFRICAN CO-FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF FISHERS:**

- We are only a professional organization, we respect gender and we work in small scale fishing in a context that is worrying because of the over-exploitation of fish resources, undeclared fishing. Men and women are of equal dignity; it’s good that we have the guidelines and the political framework of the African Union who speak about human rights. We think about the labor rights of women working in fisheries, children with no access to school
- SSF is the agent/driver of collaboration; this must be done with a climate of trust and healthy true collaboration.

#### **INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL (IITC):**

- IITC is an organization of Indigenous People started in 1974 at Standing Rock, South Dakota, representing indigenous communities in North, Central, and South America, as well as the South Pacific. It was founded because colonizers would never recognize our rights, so we busted down the door at the UN in Geneva began negotiations for the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In 2007 the declaration was live and is the core of what we do; we represent 99 indigenous nations and are a grassroots indigenous organization though we access international mechanisms. We have about 5 staff and we all work out of our home nations and are a part of those communities.
- We provide human rights capacity building to continue to speak for the rights of Indigenous People in the international arena; we are the first organization to have consultation status with the UN.
- We take no federal or state funding, we survive solely on foundation money so that we can continue to hold the states accountable.

**CHICKALOON NATIVE VILLAGE, IITC, AAC (ARCTIC ATHABASCAN COUNCIL AND CHICKALOON VILLAGE TRADITIONAL COUNCIL):**

- I'm Chief of my people; this is why it's a little weird for me to be here in the capacity I am.
- I am also a fisher person, fished many different ways, have strived for our rights for many years, this is one of the other reasons I'm here. They know that I will stand up and say stuff, even if it's uncomfortable.

**WORLD FORUM ON FISHERIES (WFF):**

- International member-based network of SSF. We have 33 member organizations, 14-15 working on issues to improve the life of fisher-folks: access to fishing rights, access to fisheries management, organizing markets, developmental fishing, etc. Our communities are engaged in conservation activities, we also work on policy issues, globally, regionally, and at the national level. More work in marine, inland, and rivers in SSF working with our organizations as a network and they can work directly with their members if they have any programs.
- We have a general assembly which we are planning for 2020 and use this to educate people about global fisheries and enhance collaboration with other actors.

**WORLD FORUM ON FISHER PEOPLES:**

- We are a mass social movement of 50 member countries, representing 10 million and fisher people. Our focus is on human rights, social justice, and the struggle against ocean grabbing. We work through the UN system, a highlight of our membership: we have members who are Indigenous Peoples; working groups carry forward the work/principles and formation of the organization: food sovereignty, inland fisheries, ocean grabbing, model similar things for La Villa Campesina, institutions/assemblies (youth, gender, women, etc.),
- Group that looks specifically at SSF guidelines, in terms of functioning; GA everything three years, and we have a face-to-face; the WFF has been very active in the formulation of the guidelines in the dissemination of the guidelines to our members and to the government officials and to work with us on the ground; involved in the monitoring of those guidelines
- Funding: Do not have a pot of money, which is what we try to solicit for our programs, and to hold our meetings.

**FIAN INTERNATIONAL:**

- Our organization holds states accountable to rights holders through case documentation and analysis. We use different treaty bodies (e.g. Committee for Economic, Social, and Cultural rights) to show how much they have done to their food. In this changing world, we need to strengthen human rights and there are so many gaps so we also need to keep fighting and keep improving the standard; in tenure process we build the capacity and can use SSF Guidelines to advocate for human rights and political support

**OAK FOUNDATION:**

- We are a family-led charity; guided by the values of the family; commitment is to dedicate their resources to improve the lives of people around the world who are disadvantaged (environmental/social justice);
- Have some specific programs where the families have a personal connection; have 6 offices world-wide and are headquartered in Geneva; environment program focuses on climate related issues, ocean related issues, industrial fisheries plastics, and small-scale fisheries;

- For environmental issues we invest 50 million annually; SSF: budget is only 6 or 7 million; have a history of supporting Indigenous Peoples, fishers, fisher-folk organisations, we've also supported international NGOs and our encouragement is to embrace the diversity and find synergies and common points for advancing on whatever topic we're hoping to perform.
- Strategy on our website is guided by SSF Guidelines and to think through how the family can invest/think through SSF globally.