

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Wednesday, 9 June 2021 16:00 GMT +08:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Farmers and Fishers Solutions : Sustainable Fishing
CONVENED BY	AFA, INOFO, PIFON, WFO
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/23434/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Fiji, India, Philippines, Thailand

The outcomes from a Food Systems Summit Dialogue will be of use in developing the pathway to sustainable food systems within the locality in which they take place. They will be a valuable contribution to the national pathways and also of interest to the different workstreams preparing for the Summit: the Action Tracks, Scientific Groups and Champions as well as for other Dialogues.

1. PARTICIPATION

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

138

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

38

19-30

60

31-50

40

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

83 Male

55 Female

Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

125 Agriculture/crops

11 Fish and aquaculture

Livestock

Agro-forestry

Environment and ecology

Trade and commerce

Education

Communication

Food processing

Food retail, markets

Food industry

Financial Services

Health care

Nutrition

2 National or local government

Utilities

Industrial

Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Small/medium enterprise/artisan

Large national business

Multi-national corporation

136 Small-scale farmer

Medium-scale farmer

Large-scale farmer

Local Non-Governmental Organization

International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

Local authority

2 Government and national institution

Regional economic community

United Nations

International financial institution

Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

Consumer group

Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

HOW DID YOU ORGANIZE THE DIALOGUE SO THAT THE PRINCIPLES WERE INCORPORATED, REINFORCED AND ENHANCED?

Co convenors come from different farmers and fishers organizations in the Asia Pacific region and --- practised consensus-building measures in designing the concept and program of the event ---were in charge of inviting their constituencies and in identifying speakers for the session. --- divided the tasks of moderating/facilitating and notetaking. ---ensured there are women, men and youth in their list of participants ---ensured there is translation for every national language where participants will come from (In Asia , usually, one country, one language. And farmers usually cannot speak and read English) ---invited NGOs and government and farmers and fishers; groups at national and sub national levels Break out groups per sub region done to increase interaction among participants. In the break out group, participants shared their issues, their initiatives/ solutions and their priority recommendations to scale up and scale out these solutions. Qand A was done during the Dialogue proper.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

DO YOU HAVE ADVICE FOR OTHER DIALOGUE CONVENORS ABOUT APPRECIATING THE PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT?

3. METHOD

The outcomes of a Dialogue are influenced by the method that is used.

DID YOU USE THE SAME METHOD AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONVENORS REFERENCE MANUAL?

Yes

No

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

Small scale fishers play a key role in ensuring food and nutrition security, and eradicating poverty. Aquatic food systems strategies can help address the complex issue of the “triple burden of malnutrition” (food insecurity, undernutrition and overweight). Many coastal and inland populations rely on fish as the most accessible source of animal protein. In addition to high-quality protein, fish, especially small fish consumed whole, can be rich sources of omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins A, D and B, and minerals such as calcium, zinc, iodine and iron, while seaweed represents an excellent source of fatty acids, vitamins and minerals.

Fish farming is dominated by Asia, which has produced 89% of the global total of volume in the last 20 years. An estimated 59.51 million people were engaged (on a full-time, part-time or occasional basis) in the primary sector of capture fisheries (39.0 million people) and aquaculture (20.5 million people) in 2018. Women accounted for 14 percent of the total, with shares of 19 percent in aquaculture and 12 percent in capture fisheries. Of all those engaged in primary production, most are in developing countries, and most are small-scale, artisanal fishers and aquaculture workers. The highest numbers of workers are in Asia (85 percent), followed by Africa (9 percent), the Americas (4 percent), and Europe and Oceania (1 percent each). When post-harvest operations data are included, it is estimated that one in two workers in the sector is a woman.

Small fishers are facing plethora of challenges in Asia and elsewhere. Owing to their poor economic status and often marginalized social status, their voices are not heard by the policy makers adequately. Small fishers are facing worst crises today. Apart from poverty and discrimination, the added perils are climate change induced extreme weather conditions and depletion of species. Access and control over natural resources has always been a contentious issue for poor fishers, who face hurdles to access sea beaches, to park their boats and dry their nets due to indiscriminate grabbing of coastal land for tourism and other industrial purposes. Also dumping effluent near the coast and in deep sea adversely affect their catches. Though there are rules restricting trawlers from fishing near the shore but violation of that rule is rampant and regulation is very weak.

On social entitlement front too fishers are disadvantaged. Existing social schemes, various pensions and insurance schemes fall short to the need. This is simply because these schemes are not developed keeping fishers issues/challenges in mind

majority of fisherwomen are in fish vending with no hygienic and secured workplace at markets. They suffer from lack of transportation facilities (often local regular transport refuse to take them due to smell of fish and dipping water etc), inadequate knowledge of market prices.

Encroachment of big companies in the coast for industry, tourism and dumping of effluent etc further impoverished poor fishers and they are losing their grounds fast. Increased price of fuel and other essential items have added to their misery. Last but not the least lack of coordination among different government departments (lack of apt policies) has slowed down the pace of serving poor fishers through existing schemes.

In the light of the contributions of the fisheries sector in food and nutrition security, and in the light of the issues and challenges faced by small scale women and men fishers who form the majority of the labor force in fisheries, this Independent Dialogue would like to gather together representatives of small scale fishers' organizations in a discussion on the solutions they have undertaken to overcome these challenges while contributing to sustainability of the oceans, of the lands, and the eco system in general. In this Independent Dialogue, we would like to hear their voices, their perspectives, their solutions and their recommendation so that as small scale women and men fishers, they can play their utmost part in contributing to the global goals of ending hunger and poverty, first amongst their communities, and next, to the whole society.

ACTION TRACKS

- Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
- Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
- Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
- Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
- Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Finance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Policy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Innovation | <input type="checkbox"/> | Data & Evidence |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Human rights | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Governance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Women & Youth Empowerment | <input type="checkbox"/> | Trade-offs |
| | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environment and Climate |

MAIN FINDINGS

Context of Small Scale Fishers

- 97% of SSF are from developing countries, 85% of whom are from Asia
- 90% of those in fishing community are SSF, 50% of which are women.
- 68% of global produce are from Asia.
- 95% of produce is consumed locally.
- Fish is affordable and a major source of protein, vitamins and minerals for the poor.

Challenges faced by SSF

Fish is one of the most affordable and nutritious food products. Therefore, it is all the more necessary now in the scenario of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet very little is being done to save small scale fisheries (SSF). SSF play a key role in ensuring food and nutrition security, and eradicating poverty. Unfortunately, they are being continuously subjected to various forms of social discrimination, competition from big companies encroaching on coastal fisheries areas, violence against women, lack of access to credit, steeping down the value chain, weak implementation of fisheries policies, and the list goes on. Below are the economic, social, gender based, technological, and environmental challenges SSF face.

A. Economic Challenges

- Access to resources
- Low investment in SSF
- Alternative/allied livelihood

B. Social Challenges

- Social entitlements
- Involvement in policy making
- Marginalized

C. Gender based Challenges

- Lack of recognition
- Access to market
- Not involved in decision making

D. Technological Challenges

- Need for technical knowledge
- Storage
- Access to equipment and trainings

E. Environmental Challenges

- Low fish catch and depletion of species
- Climate change
- Disaster risk

Solutions

1. Women empowerment
2. Drying fish
3. Fish mobile vans
4. Increase access to market
5. Mangrove reforestation
6. Integrated pond management
7. Probiotic fish feed
8. Small scale hatcheries
9. Advocacy for sustainable artisanal fishing
10. Participation of SSF in local level decision making
11. Learning exchange program
12. Advocacy and participation in local and national fisheries councils

Recommendations

1. Review various government policies using the VGSSF as tool.
2. Establish strong SSF organizations so that they are able to provide service to members with governments and other organizations supporting them with access to finance, pre and post-harvest facilities, capacity building, fishing technologies for marine and fresh water resources.
3. Provide spaces for women and young fishers to act.
4. Invest in post-harvest value chain, access to credit.
5. Check encroachment on coastal areas.
6. Prior access of SSF to commercial fishers.
7. During fish bans, provide support mechanisms.
8. Educate and enforce practices for sustainable fisheries.
9. Empower and organize women and youth fishers.
10. Rehabilitate fishery resources.
11. Conduct policy research on current status of implementation of VGSSF and documentation of good practices.

12. Establish ministry/department of fisheries (India, Philippines)
 13. Recognize the role of SSF and IP communities, as well as their organizations and cooperatives, to restore, co-manage, conserve and protect local aquatic and coastal ecosystem.

SSF Message to UNFSS

- ☐ Increase investment in SSF.
- ☐ Review various policies in fisheries by using VGSSF as tool.
- ☐ Recognize the role of SSF and IP communities to restore, conserve, protect, and co-manage local aquatic and coastal ecosystem.
- ☐ Livelihood protection.
- ☐ Promote gender equity and equality in SSF sector.

“According to studies, unless we act now, there may be no fish left in 2048.”
 (Boris Worm et al, 2006)

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KEYWORDS

- ✓ Finance
- ☐ Innovation
- ✓ Human rights
- ✓ Women & Youth Empowerment
- ✓ Policy
- ☐ Data & Evidence
- ✓ Governance
- ☐ Trade-offs
- ✓ Environment and Climate

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

Solutions for Sustainable Fishing with Small scale women and men farmers:

1. Women empowerment
2. Drying fish
3. Fish mobile vans
4. Increase access to market
5. Mangrove reforestation
6. Integrated pond management
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Recommendations to scale up and scale out Solutions :

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

ACTION TRACKS

- Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- **Documentation. Day 3 Sustainable Fishing**
<https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Day-3-FSS-ID-2021.06.16-final-draft.docx>

RELEVANT LINKS

- **Zoom recording of the meeting**
https://www.dropbox.com/home/2021/2021.06.07-11%20Asia-Pacific%20FSS%20ID/Day%203%20Sustainable%20Fishing/Video%20Recording?preview=Day+3+Video+Recording_Shared+screen+with+speaker+view.mp4
- **Innovation. District Fishermen's Youth Welfare, India.**
https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/69jt8dpqjz3xczl6u7djh/Success-Stories-India.pptx?cloud_editor=powerpoint&dl=0&rlkey=6uugd9z3uouknx4fuea2roqmy
- **Empowering Women Fishers in Fiji.**
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/z34hcphzpr2ti3/PIFON%20-%20Women%20in%20Fisheries%20-%20Neomai%20Matawaga.mp4?dl=0>
- **Story of Hope. Fisherman Association. Roberto Ballon**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-8MFIzRd6jQ>
- **The VGSSF**
https://www.canva.com/design/DAEg_4FwhQE/F2YZIMV37gw3drRyG-87Bg/view?utm_content=DAEg_4FwhQE&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=publishsharelink
- **Small Scale Fisheries in Asia**
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/8r3o1hc2ybe6wqy/Small%20Scale%20Fisheries%20in%20Asia%20Final.pdf?dl=0>
- **Women Fishers in Pacific. Lily Chow**
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/abp5kc13inr24kt/Women%20in%20Fisheries%20-%20Lily%20Chow.mp4?dl=0>