



FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

67th GULF AND CARIBBEAN FISHERIES INSTITUTE

3-7 NOVEMBER 2014, BARBADOS

The 67th Annual meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute will be held in Barbados, during 3–7 November 2014 at the Accra Beach Hotel and Spa. The meeting is being hosted by the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), of The University of the West Indies (UWI), Cave Hill Campus, Barbados.

CONFERENCE THEME

The theme of the 67th GCFI conference is “**Small islands, big issues: applying fisheries and marine science to solve problems and create opportunities.**” The United Nations General Assembly has designated 2014 as the "International Year of Small Island Developing States (SIDS)" or IYOS. The SIDS process started in 1994 with the UN Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of SIDS held in Barbados. This resulted in the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS (BPOA) that identifies priorities for addressing the special challenges faced by SIDS. Coastal and marine resources feature prominently in the BPOA and the Caribbean region contains the largest number of SIDS.

In 2014 the 67th GCFI in Barbados will focus on applying fisheries and marine science to solve problems and create opportunities in SIDS and larger countries. The emphasis will be on practical, interdisciplinary and ecosystem-based approaches to science and how these can make a difference in both conservation and development. Addressing the issues of connectivity, fisheries management, conservation, and related issues at GCFI will aid in addressing critical marine resource issues within the Wider Caribbean Region.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



GCFI is pleased to announce that the opening address will be presented by **Dr. Robert Pomeroy** a Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Connecticut Sea Grant College Fisheries Extension Specialist at the University of Connecticut – Avery Point in Groton. He is also a Principal Scientist at the WorldFish Center headquartered in Penang, Malaysia. Before starting at UConn in August 2002, Dr. Pomeroy worked at the World Resources Institute in Washington DC from September 1999 to December 2001 where he helped develop a marine program. Prior to that, he worked at the

International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM) in Manila, Philippines from 1991 to 1999. Bob was a Fisheries Economist for South Carolina Sea Grant and Extension Economist in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Clemson University from 1984-1991. His PhD in Resource Economics is from Cornell University. His areas of professional interest are marine resource economics and policy, specifically small-scale fisheries management and development, coastal zone management, aquaculture economics, international development, policy analysis, and seafood marketing. Dr. Pomeroy has worked on research and development projects in over 70 countries in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America.

The focus of Dr. Pomeroy's professional activities for the last twenty-five years has been on improved governance of small-scale fisheries. More specifically, his vision has been to develop new ideas and methods to alleviate poverty and hunger for residents of coastal communities in tropical developing countries and to conserve the natural resources upon which these people depend for their livelihood, food and income. He is one of the world's leading experts on small-scale fisheries management and development and on co-management with experience in the Gulf and Caribbean region.

THEMATIC SESSION

The University of the West Indies proposes a thematic session on **“Small islands, big issues: applying fisheries and marine science to solve problems and create opportunities”** to be held on Monday morning and contributions to this session with a SIDS focus on the following topics are invited:

- Adapting to climate change and variability
- Building institutions for technical cooperation
- Conserving biodiversity of marine resources
- Developing capacity among diverse stakeholders
- Enabling community disaster risk management
- Forging links between tourism and fisheries

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The program features multi-disciplinary sessions arranged in part by ecosystem type. The subject areas are no different from previous GCFI meetings but each session may have a mix of natural and social science, management and technology related to the ecosystem or fishery for comprehensive information exchange. Papers and posters are solicited in the following areas, not exclusive of other subjects:

- ❖ Governance, livelihoods and organizations
- ❖ Reefs and associated ecosystems fisheries
 - Shallow and deep reef fishes
 - Snapper and grouper fisheries
 - Fish spawning aggregations
 - Lionfish and other invasive species
 - Queen conch, spiny lobster and other invertebrates
- ❖ Marine Protected Areas Science and Management (especially biological connectivity of MPAs)
- ❖ Pelagic ecosystem and recreational fisheries
- ❖ Continental shelf ecosystem fisheries
 - Shrimp and demersal trawl fisheries
- ❖ Habitats, climate change and coastal management

- Essential fish habitats
 - Integrated coastal management
 - Climate change adaptation
- ❖ Aquaculture

POSTER SESSION

The poster session/reception will be on the evening of 4 November 2014. Poster space is limited. See the poster specification guidelines on the web site. The preferred poster size is 24” x 36” for either orientation.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

- ❖ **Strategies for improving fishery-dependent data for use in data-limited stock assessments in the Wider Caribbean region.**

Abstracts are requested that focus on identifying strategies to improve fishery-dependent data collection systems in the wider Caribbean. Areas of interest include the following: 1) identifying minimum data requirements and mechanisms for improving efficiencies in data collection, 2) continued information and/or technological needs or improvements needed to produce substantive reductions in uncertainty in the management advice, and 3) mechanisms to enhance participatory data collections. Abstracts identifying new developments or case studies that demonstrate improvements in survey operations and analytical tools to data-limited assessments are particularly encouraged.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is sponsoring this general session. For those interested in participating as a convener for this session, please contact [William Michaels](#), or [Alejandro Acosta](#).

- ❖ **GCFI Fishers Forum - Fisheries livelihoods: living for the work**

The 2014 Fishers Forum focuses directly upon fisheries livelihoods along the entire value chain “from hook to cook”. The sub-title “living for the work” reminds us that, contrary to previous popular opinion, many people do not get involved in fisheries as an occupation of last resort. For them it is a preference and a good fit to their personalities, culture and social structure. They live for the work. On the other hand, it is becoming harder for many in the Gulf and Caribbean region to make ends meet at the enterprise, household and community levels from fisheries alone. People are living for the work just to survive under conditions of actual or near poverty. Small-scale fisheries are being marginalized.

The links from fisheries science and management to livelihoods and decent work are not always clear. We need to better understand livelihoods from the industry perspective. The 2014 Fishers Forum brings together leaders from industry, science and management to (a) exchange information and perspectives on fisheries livelihoods, (b) better understand how to make livelihoods sustainable for the benefit of the resources and the people, and (c) advance the process of policy and practice for sustainable livelihoods.

The Forum will provide an opportunity to address livelihood issues by sharing the experiences and views of leading fisherfolk from around the region. This may allow GCFI members and the Fisheries for Fishers Initiative (F4F) to develop practical actions to address identified issues in consultation with fishers and other stakeholders. We aim for fisherfolk to play an increasing role in the move towards more sustainable resources and livelihoods throughout the Gulf and Caribbean as part of the GCFI F4F initiative.

Organizations that have expressed interest in this year's Fishers Forum include the Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk Organizations (BARNUFO), Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

❖ **Workshop on strengthening organizations and collective action in fisheries: towards the formulation of a capacity development programme (4-6 Nov by invitation)**

Although small-scale fisheries (SSF) supply most of the fish consumed in the developing world, many of them are extremely food-insecure and lack access to the resources and opportunities they need to lift themselves out of poverty. In some places, women in fisheries are particularly marginalized. Organizations and collective action in SSF are a way of gaining long-term community benefits to deal with the threats of fisheries mismanagement, livelihood insecurity and poverty. Fisheries organizations, both formal and informal, provide a platform by which SSF stakeholders exercise their right to organize, participate in the development and decision-making processes as well as to access markets, financial services, and infrastructure and influence the fisheries management outcomes. In March 2013 FAO organized an expert workshop on Strengthening Organizations and Collective Action in Fisheries: A way forward in implementing the international guidelines for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries. Following the March workshop, in-depth case studies were conducted in a few countries to examine the conditions for successful fishers' organizations and collective action. This workshop will discuss the findings and look at the diversity and scope of existing organizations and collective action in SSF, analyzing their strengths and weaknesses, and formulating a capacity development strategy to strengthen organizations and collective action in SSF to reduce poverty while promoting responsible fisheries. A small number of international experts from around the world will be invited to participate in this workshop organized by FAO. Sections of the workshop are integrated with the Fishers Forum, which will supply most of the remaining participants.

❖ **Workshop on MPAs as a potential management tool for responsible fisheries in the Caribbean: lessons learnt and ways forward for sustainable livelihoods and healthy oceans (6-8 Nov by invitation)**

The *FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries on MPAs and Fisheries* aspire to enhancing the understanding of how fisheries management and biodiversity conservation are linked and what the opportunities and challenges are of implementing MPAs within broader management frameworks taking both bio-ecological and human aspects into consideration. FAO, in close collaboration with its partners, is conducting regional workshops to discuss the technical guidelines and support existing initiatives promoting effective MPA management. A workshop is proposed for the Caribbean, the overall objective of which is to contribute to successful fisheries-oriented MPA management in the countries of the Caribbean region by facilitating an exchange of experiences and views among MPA managers and practitioners, fishers and fishing communities, government representatives – including fisheries, parks and environment departments and agencies – academia and NGOs. The workshop will identify issues, best practices and critical processes for planning and implementing MPAs in the context of fisheries, in particular with regard to small-scale fisheries.

❖ ***Call for participants in Special Workshop: Strategies for improving fishery-dependent data for use in data-limited stock assessments in the Wider Caribbean Region (2-3 Nov, registration is required)***

A special workshop will be held on data-limited stock assessments in the greater Caribbean region. The goal of this one and a half day interactive workshop will be to identify minimum fishery-dependent data collection needs to inform stock assessments in the region, and identify options for enhancing efficiencies in sampling. Workshop participants will discuss data needs and challenges related to different types of assessment models and management questions, as well as mechanisms for enhancing stakeholder participation in data collection. A report will be produced to summarize these findings and support future work on improving assessments in the region. Interested parties should write a brief letter of intent to the conveners describing what they would gain through participation in the workshop. Applicants who are directly involved in management, stock assessment, fisheries data analysis, or survey design will receive priority for workshop selection.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is sponsoring this special session. Workshop conveners: [Nancie Cummings](#), or [Mandy Karnauskas](#).

ABSTRACTS

Abstracts for the 67th GCFI are due 15 August 2014. Abstracts will be accepted in English, French, and Spanish. **ALL ABSTRACTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY ENGLISH, SPANISH AND FRENCH TITLES. Abstracts are only required in one of the three languages; titles must be in all three languages.** Abstracts must not exceed **250** words (**275** for Spanish and French). Abstracts must be submitted using the secure online abstract Submission Form found via the [User Portal](#).

“Acceptance to present within an oral session requires submission of a full and complete manuscript or extended abstract in the proper format (MS Word and jpg or PowerPoint figures) prior to presentation at the meeting”. Poster presentations do not require submission of a manuscript although they are enthusiastically accepted. However, students wishing to compete for the student awards and who are presenting an oral *OR* poster presentation are required to submit a manuscript for publication in the GCFI Proceedings at the meeting. Manuscript preparation guidelines are available [online](#) (pdf).

The Book of Abstracts will be available online in page-flipping and PDF formats. No printed Book of Abstracts will be distributed at the conference.

CINEFISH

Are you interested in submitting a short film for this year’s CINEFISH film festival at GCFI? If so, please email the following information to CINEFISH at cinefish@gcfi.org:

- Title of film
- Brief description of film (2-3 sentences)
- Film makers(s)
- Duration of film (specify) – Note films should be 10-15 minutes or less
- Film still shot
- Type of film
 - Documentary: A non-fictional motion picture to document some aspect of reality.
 - Animation: A short, hand-drawn, stop motion, character animations or computer animated production.

- New media: This includes Music Videos and Public Service Announcements (PSAs).
- B-film: These are low budget films

Please note that films should be recorded in AVI format. ***The deadline for submission is 30 September 2014.***

GLADDING MEMORIAL AWARD: CALL FOR FISHER NOMINATIONS

The GCFI Gladding Memorial Award (GMA) committee is requesting nominations of outstanding fishers for the 67th GCFI GMA. This annual award is presented to select fishers (men and women), who demonstrate, as Peter Gladding did, significant commitment to the sustainable use and long-term conservation of marine resources in the Gulf and Caribbean region. The winner will be sponsored to attend the GCFI meeting in Barbados to receive his or her award, and to participate in the Fishers Forum and main conference.

You are invited to submit award nominations to the GMA committee at gma@gcfi.org. All nominations must be received by 30 June 2014. Background information on the GMA, nomination forms with award criteria and details of the process are available on the GCFI website.

THE RON SCHMIED SCHOLARSHIP

The Ron Schmied Scholarship, a GCFI initiative supported by the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) and private individuals, will be offered to a qualified graduate student in support of their travel to the 67th GCFI in Barbados. The Scholarship is in the amount of US\$1,500, and graduate students with an interest in social, economic, biological, ecological, or management perspectives on recreational fisheries are eligible to apply. ***The deadline for students applying for the award and submitting an abstract and all supporting paperwork is 31 July.*** Students will be notified of acceptance/rejection of their application by 1 September. Complete instructions and eligibility requirements for the Ron Schmied Scholarship are on the GCFI web page at: <http://www.gcfi.org/StudentAwards/RonSchmied/RonSchmiedEng.php>. Students may apply for the Scholarship and for consideration for the Student Achievement Award in the same year. Students may also ask to be considered for the Ron Schmied Scholarship and a GCFI Travel Award in the same year, but will only be awarded one of these sources of funding.

THE SCRFA TRAVEL AWARD

The [Science and Conservation of Fish Aggregations Association \(SCRFA\)](#) will again offer a Student Travel Award of US\$800 to a student in the Caribbean Region to attend the 67th GCFI, Barbados. Originally formed in 2000 and known as the Society for the Conservation of Reef Fish Aggregations with the mission of promoting responsible stewardship of fish aggregations, in particular, reef fish spawning aggregations, the Society modified its name in 2012 to reflect its focus on science and the inclusion of all aggregating fish species. The SCRFA Student Travel Award is to encourage and help students to work in this important area and showcase their ideas and work at GCFI.

Applications should be submitted by 1 June 2014. Applications and further information enquiries are to be sent to [Martin Russell](#) (SCRFA Chair/CEO) or, visit: www.SCRFA.org

STUDENT AWARDS

GCFI is offering two travel awards of US\$750 each to eligible students to help offset travel costs to the 67th GCFI in Barbados. ***The deadline for students applying for these awards is 31 July*** at which time

abstracts and all supporting paperwork must be submitted. Students will be notified of acceptance/rejection of their application by 1 September. Complete instructions and eligibility requirements for the travel awards are on the GCFI web page at: <http://www.gcfi.org/StudentAwards/StudentAwardsEng.php>. Students may apply for a travel award and for consideration for the Student Achievement Award in the same year. Students who received a Student Achievement Award at the 66th GCFI are not eligible for a travel award to the 67th GCFI.

GCFI will offer two Student Achievement Awards which will cover all expenses to the subsequent GCFI conference. Students must meet the abstract deadline to be eligible for the Student Achievement Awards. Students wishing to be considered for these awards must indicate their interest at the time of abstract submittal on the abstract submittal form. Eligibility criteria for the Student Achievement Awards can be found at: (<http://www.gcfi.org/StudentAwards/OutstandingAwardEng.html>). Note that a manuscript of the talk/poster must be submitted at the meeting to be eligible for this award. Students who applied for the award when submitting their abstract may withdraw from consideration of the award by the first day of the conference. Winners of these awards will be announced on Friday at the end of the conference. Please check the website (www.gcfi.org) for other Student Awards.

REGISTRATION

Registration can be completed online via the [User Portal](#). In 2013, the GCFI board of directors approved a new registration rate. Early registration (until 30 September) for the meeting is US\$185 (\$85 for students); late registration after 30 Sept is US\$225 (\$100 for students). Registrations at the door are US\$250. Check the GCFI website (www.gcfi.org) for registration rates for daily participation.

Everyone registering for more than one day is automatically a member of GCFI and will receive a CD copy of the GCFI Proceedings from the meeting when published. Onsite registrations may be made with a credit card, check, money order, or US currency. Other arrangements may be made by contacting registrations@gcfi.org.

THE VENUE

The meeting venue will be the Accra Beach Hotel and Spa, P.O. Box 73W Rockley, Christ Church, Barbados WI.
Phone (246) 435-8920. Toll Free (888) 71 ACCRA / 1 888 712-2272 (USA & Canada), Fax: (246) 435-6794
Website: www.accrabeachhotel.com



This 4-star, AAADiamond-rated three and a half acre property is ideally located on the beautiful Rockley Beach on the lively south coast just 20 minutes from the airport, 15 minutes from the capital Bridgetown and on the outskirts of the recently inscribed UNESCO World Heritage Site – Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison. One could not ask for a better location! Stroll or jog along the seashore on the 1.6 km South Coast Boardwalk from Rockley Beach to Needhams Point; delight in the wide selection of casual and fine dining that surrounds the hotel; shop at the nearby Quayside Centre Shopping Plaza and Lanterns Mall; travel anywhere around the island on frequent and cheap public transport available just outside the hotel; and just about 10 minutes away explore the St. Lawrence Gap for exciting nightlife and more restaurant options.

For Hotel reservations please complete the hotel booking form found at: <https://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=1209165&hotelID=74509>.

Since Barbados is one of the top tourism destinations in the Caribbean, bring your significant other or family to this year's GCFI. A Spouse Programme of activities will be suggested. More details to follow.

For information related to travel to the GCFI conference in Barbados, please visit the [GCFI Barbados conference website](#). We have included information related to airfare, the hotel as well as other important travel information. Please be sure to revisit the conference webpage often as information changes regularly.

FISHERS FORUM FIELD TRIP AND TOURS

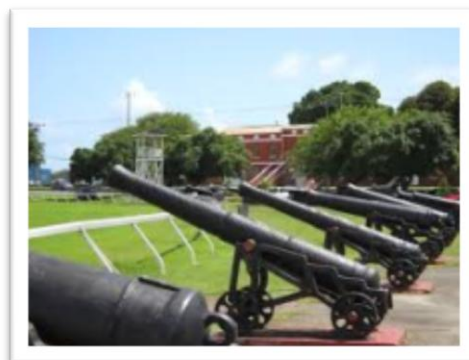


The Fishers Forum field trip will be held on Tuesday 4 November. Fishers Forum participants will be treated to a guided tour of a number of primary and secondary fish landing sites scattered around the south and east coasts with time for stopping, staring and chatting. The trip concludes at Conset Bay, a primary fish landing site on the beautiful east coast where field trippers will have the opportunity to partake of refreshments and chat with fishers from the area. This tour has been conceptualized by the GCFI planning committee of the Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk Organizations (BARNUFO). More details to follow in a subsequent update.

On the afternoon of Wednesday 5 November choose from among four tours of the island that have been specially designed with you in mind.

- **History and Heritage Walking Tour:** Explore three centuries of Barbados' history and heritage in its UNESCO Heritage Site, Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison.
- **Coastal cruising:** Enjoy an afternoon catamaran cruise of the west coast stopping for a bit of snorkeling and swimming with turtles.
- **Terrestrial Trek:** Come and experience two of Barbados' natural wonders, The Welchman Hall Gully and the world famous Harrisons Cave.
- **Round de' Island:** Get a snapshot of Barbados in this coastal tour of the island. See the difference between the developed south and west coasts and the rugged north and east coasts. Lots of 'stops and stares' along the way with a picnic at Bathsheba, one of the most scenic places on east coast of the island.

A specified contribution to each tour will be required from each participant. More details on this as well as the tours will follow.



OISTINS EXCURSION

We are getting you out of the hotel and taking you to Oistins for a real Bajan fish fry on Thursday night. Oistins is a dominant fishing town and community on the south coast of the island about 20 minutes drive from the Accra Beach Hotel. The now popular Oistins Fish Fry offers a truly Barbadian cultural dining experience with a street party setting for visitors and locals. Excellent fish, fried or grilled, served in an informal setting under



a full moon...yes, there will be a full moon on 6 November...awaits you! This will be a pay-your-way event with transportation provided to and from Oistins. More details to follow in a subsequent update.

VISA APPLICATION

For the 67th GCFI Conference, all individuals travelling by sea or air will require a passport or other accepted official form of identification to enter the island.

There are a number of countries that require visas to travel to Barbados. Please make contact with the local Ministry of Foreign Affairs or Immigration Department, for enquiries or to obtain one.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Address: Culloden Road, St. Michael, Barbados
Phone : (246) 431-2200
Email Address: barbados@foreign.gov.bb
Website: www.foreign.gov.bb

Or Immigration Department: http://www.immigration.gov.bb/pages/Visa_Requirements.aspx

As the meeting approaches, more information about the venue and program will be posted on the conference web page.

Remember advance planning can smooth the visa application process for you. Apply for your visa well in advance of your travel!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN BARBADOS IN NOVEMBER FOR THE 67TH GCFI!