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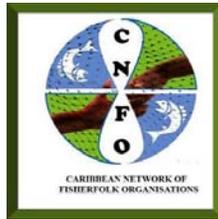
**CRFM Technical & Advisory Document Series
Number 2013 / 07**

Report of the CRFM / CNFO / CTA Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies



**7 – 8 October 2013
Guyana**

CRFM Secretariat
Belize
2013



CRFM Technical & Advisory Document - Number 2013 / 07

Report of the CRFM / CNFO / CTA Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies, 7 – 8 October 2013, Guyana

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CRFM TECHNICAL & ADVISORY DOCUMENT – Number 2013 / 07

Report of the CRFM / CNFO / CTA Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies, 7 – 8 October 2013, Guyana

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ABSTRACT

Stakeholders in Caribbean fisheries met in Guyana and reviewed the regional fisheries policies, institutional frameworks and strategic actions contributing to the principles and standards for responsible fisheries in the region. The conclusion was that significant progress had been made in establishing an integrated enabling regional policy environment that is in line with the critical international instruments influencing responsible fisheries in small-scale fisheries including the access of the small-scale fisherfolk to high seas fisheries. Furthermore that the strategic actions implemented by the region are responsive to welfares and livelihood security of the CNFO and fishing communities. Moreover stakeholders confirmed the critical role of regional fisheries for regional food and nutrition security, employment and poverty alleviation.

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Acronyms

ACP-EU	African Caribbean and Pacific-European Union
CANARI	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute
CAP	Community Agriculture Policy
CAR-SPAW	Regional Activity Centre for the Protocol on Specialty on Protected Areas and Wildlife of the Cartagena Convention
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARPHA	Caribbean Public Health Agency
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCCCC	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
CCH	Caribbean Cooperation in Health
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
CEREMES	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
CCRF	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
CCCFP	Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy
CLME	Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project
CNFO	Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations
COFOR	Council of Foreign and Community Relations
COFI	Committee on Fisheries
COTED	Council for Trade and Economic Development
CLME	Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
RSWG	Regional Strategy Working Group
CTA	Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation
CWA	Caribbean Week of Agriculture
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
EAF	Ecosystem Approach
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
ICRI	International Coral Reef Initiative
ILO	International Labour Organization
IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing
LAC	CARICOM Legal Affairs Committee
NFO	National Fisherfolk Organization
MCS	Monitoring, control and surveillance
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
OSPESCA	Central American Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector
RFNSP	Regional Food and Nutrition Security Policy
RFNSAP	Regional Food and Nutrition Security Action Plan
SAP	Strategic Action Plan
SIDs	Small Island Developing States
SSF	Small- scale fisheries
TBTI	Too Big To Ignore

UNCLOS United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea
VMS Vessel Monitoring System
WECAFC Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission

Appendices

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1. Executive Summary

The Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies (henceforward referred to as the Workshop) was held in Georgetown, Guyana from 7 - 8 October 2013 under a Project Agreement between Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and the Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation (CTA) and in collaboration with the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations Coordinating Unit (CNFO-CU).

The main objective of the Workshop was to agree on recommendations for a Draft Statement (henceforward referred to as the Statement), on the Role of Caribbean Fisheries in Regional Food and Nutrition Security. These recommendations were for presentation to the 12th Meeting of the Alliance on Agriculture and the Rural Milieu (henceforward referred to as The Alliance) during the Caribbean Week of Agriculture held in Georgetown, Guyana from 07 - 11 October 2013.

In attendance at the Workshop were members of the CNFO from across CARICOM and from fisherfolk organizations in the Dominican Republic, Senior Fisheries Officers from the CARICOM Member States, representatives from the main regional organs and bodies of CARICOM with interest in fisheries and persons with interest in fisheries from the host country Guyana. The Workshop started with an Opening Ceremony where participants were addressed by the Honorable Minister of Agriculture in Guyana and his Permanent Secretary, the Executive Director of CRFM, Head of Policy and Markets from CTA and the Coordinator of the CNFO-CU.

Perspectives on regional fisheries were provided by the Minister of Agriculture, Guyana, the Executive Director of CRFM, Head of Policy Markets and ICTs, CTA and Coordinator of CNFO-CU during the Opening Ceremony. Some of the important points made by these speakers during that Session were that:

- (a) The Workshop provides the opportunity for Caribbean fisherfolk to focus and define more clearly how to strategically promote the important contribution of the fisheries in the wider regional policies¹ designed to address hunger, poverty alleviation and improvements in incomes especially in rural communities
- (b) Significant gaps exist between local demand and local production of fish creating a need to reduce the over US\$200 million required to pay for regional fish imports annually. Measures to improve this imbalance between demand and local supply would include actions to diversify into other activities in fisheries communities including the in-land fisheries and to strengthen legal, policy and institutional frameworks for fisheries governance, resource management and sustainable development.
- (c) CRFM / CTA / CNFO collaboration was meeting the objectives of the CTA to contribute to the development of sustainable fisheries and improvements in the quality of livelihood and nutrition of regional fisherfolk and

¹ RFNSP (2010); CAP (2010); CCH (2009)

- (d) The organization of the Workshop with the integral involvement of CNFO - CU was evidence that increasingly Caribbean fisherfolk were involved in the decision making that affect the fisheries, their livelihoods and businesses.

In line with the main objective of the Workshop and the perspectives provided above, the participants spent significant time in discussions on presentations on the main international and regional fisheries policies influencing actions toward responsible fisheries in the region. These policies included the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), The Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP), International Guidelines on Small-scale Fisheries, Declaration on IUU Fishing, ILO Work on Fisheries Convention and the new Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of tenure of fisheries.

Several of these policies mentioned above were formulated with concerns for the sustainable use of the fisheries for food and nutrition security in developing countries. The significant role of fisheries to regional food and nutrition was also confirmed by CARPHA². The information provided by this regional institution provided strong evidence that consumption of fish can significantly improve health especially where obesity is high in populations, with the attendant NCDs. Fish also has other multiple benefits to health. In addition to the contribution to consumption patterns in food and nutrition security, fisheries are important in employment generation and poverty alleviation in fishing communities thereby contributing to access to household food security. In this respect the fisheries now provide employment directly and indirectly to 182,000 persons.

Information was also provided on the status of strategic actions in the region focused on protection of the fisheries. These actions included measures to control the invasive lionfish species, and to institutionalize ecosystem approach, climate change adaptation and disaster risk management for sustainability of the regional fisheries. Discussions on these actions were considered critical to the longer term viability of the fisheries in view of the inherent vulnerability of fisheries and associated ecosystems to the increasing intensity of climate change events with potentially negative impacts and from the recent threat to the fisheries from invasive lionfish.

In the Statement to The Alliance the participants called for regional support to processes at national and regional levels for adoption of all the policies reviewed and urged the Ministers present to facilitate the implementation of the CCRF and the CCCFP. The Statement also recommended that consideration is given to the necessary policy and institutional support for adoption and incorporation of the voluntary guidelines in small-scale fisheries and the rights based approach in tenure of fisheries into the CCCFP. Tangible evidence of intention to provide this level of support to the CNFO would include provision of resources through CRFM Secretariat for the continued engagement of the fisherfolk in the 2014 Negotiation in Rome to finalize the International Guidelines on Small- Scale Fisheries.

Other policies considered integral to the CCCFP included the Castries Declaration on IUU and the ILO Work in Fisheries Convention and the Recommendations on the welfares of fishers working on vessels. Specifically, capacity building for a reporting system and infrastructure to

² Caribbean Public Health Agency

manage IUU data and the putting in of place measures to ratify and implement the ILO Work in Fishing Convention, in all of the Caribbean States.

The Workshop also facilitated discussions on the status of selected fisheries activities including, (a) progress made at regional and national levels in the control of the invasive lionfish with evidence of reduction in numbers in some countries, national actions such as establishment of lionfish data base in Dominica, advocating for the development of a lionfish fishery in The Bahamas and public education and outreach in St Vincent and the Grenadines, (b) measures that CRFM / CNFO and Governments would be asked to pursue to ensure optimum benefits for fisherfolk from the next phase of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (CLME), (c) the collaboration with CERMES to enhance partnerships in the fisheries under the regional project Too Big To Ignore (TBTI) and (d) the preparation of a human resources development strategy for the fisheries sector under a CRFM / United Nations University Cooperation.

In view of the inherent vulnerability of fisheries and fishing communities to the events from climate change and climate variability adequate attention was given to discuss and evaluate measures being pursued to mitigate impacts on fisheries and the stakeholders. The ecosystem approach to sustainable management of the fisheries was endorsed as was strategies for effective adaptation to climate change and adoption of disaster risk management, pursued under the CRFM / CNFO capacity building program. Further discussion was pursued within the context of a Paper on issues on policy development and implementation on the ecosystem approach. The context of the presentation was that policies and legislation frameworks were inadequate and insufficient to prevent delays in implementation of strategic actions in EAF, CCA and DRM. These weaknesses were not however insurmountable and could be addressed through stronger commitment by Governments to the concepts, strengthening of CRFM on the existing arrangements for partnerships in fisheries communities, improvements in capacities to undertake or facilitate research and information management and continuous capacity building in CNFO to advocate for sustainable actions in the fisheries and associated ecosystem consistent with the guiding principles of the CCCFP.

The consensus of the participants was that the Workshop resulted in better understanding of the integrated³ nature of the policies influencing Caribbean fisheries and of the commitment required from all levels of stakeholders in the implementation of the CCCFP. Furthermore, based on the progress in policies development since the Agreement to establish the CCCFP, CRFM in collaboration with its regional and international partners in fisheries, including the CNFO has progressively integrated the critical international and regional policies and guidelines, to build an adequate enabling regional policy environment for the Caribbean fisheries. Moreover the new capacities in CRFM for knowledge sharing in the region and the application of web-based tools for conferencing and closer interactions are achievements which should increase partnerships productivity within the fisheries.

Based on this assessment some general conclusions emerging from plenary discussions are shown below.

³ Figure 1 *Appendix 5*

General conclusions from the Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies

1. The Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies met its objectives of providing a strong and comprehensive Statement to the Alliance on the role of fisheries in regional food and nutrition security welfares in fishing communities, as well as in presenting those issues, challenges and programs which must be addressed and strengthened to ensure and enhance the sustainable use and development of the fisheries for the longer term.
2. There is increased awareness among the CNFO-CU on the provisions of the international fisheries instruments that can benefit Caribbean small-scale fisheries sufficient to enable their effective participation in regional and international forum.
3. Based on participants' observations the adoption of international policies either by rule of law or voluntary obligations will require Caribbean States to pay better attention to policy and legislative frameworks, data quality and for integrated management plans for the fisheries while observing the protection of the rights and welfares of fisherfolk and workers.
4. The CCCFP is well developed in terms of its recognition of the most critical international fisheries instruments, its relevance to the needs of Caribbean small-scale fisheries, and the endorsement of fisherfolk on its usefulness to small scale fishers in the Caribbean, placing the Policy on a favorable platform to access support and cooperation for technical assistance from regional and international funding and technical assistance partners, with an interest in sustainable fisheries.
5. The body of fisherfolk are asking for more interventions in terms of capacity building and education for; best practices in fishing, in understanding and applying the ecosystem approach in the fisheries, the early benefits of the rights of tenure especially where displacement may be a threat, simplification of the policies in language that can move them from awareness to knowledge building and application of practices, as well as for the effective use of these policies as advocacy tools.
6. Caribbean fisheries are important to nutritional security, healthy diets and economic productivity but there are indicators of decline in some of the fish stocks amidst growing demand by local populations.
7. There is an urgent need for improvements in data quality on fisheries at the national and regional levels to adequately support fisheries management plans and to deter, prevent, or eliminate IUU fishing.

Recommendations emerging from the general conclusions are as follows:

1. Heads of Governments of CARICOM should show stronger support for the CCCFP by signing the Agreement⁴ for the adoption of the Policy and by putting in place the

⁴ Eight signatories are required for adoption of the Policy.

necessary measures to formulate or review national fisheries policies and other support frameworks that harmonize with the regional fisheries policy.

2. Governments should make provisions including through regional or technical assistance agreements for the continued and effective participation of CRFM / CNFO in the negotiations on the Technical Guidelines for Small-scale Fisheries to ensure that Caribbean small-scale fishers are well placed to derive optimum benefits from future cooperative actions.
3. Governments should put in place creative and innovative mechanisms to deal with the delays in policy implementation for sustainable fisheries and small-scale fishing.
4. CNFO should be facilitated to promote⁵ the CCCFP at national and community levels, including in industries willing to support measures for higher levels of productivity from fisheries and aquaculture in a responsible manner.
5. A strategic regional and national capacity building and education program for fisherfolk and fishing communities building on the CRFM/CTA Project and the ACP 11 Fish Project should be established. The program should be developed according to clearly defined objectives of the public awareness component *vis a vis* the fisherfolk education component.
6. CRFM should continue to engage with other regional players in the EAF approach and in the application of the precautionary clause considering the reported increase in the number fisherfolk in at least one member State and the growing demand for fish by Caribbean households and the hospitality sector
7. There should be continued and stronger support to build capacity in CRFM for regional fisheries data management. This should be a collaborative effort among CRFM, CERMES, CNFO and the national fisheries entities.
8. CRFM to be mandated and provided with capacity to establish a regional mechanism to facilitate coordination of efforts to access funding and other resources to assist the CNFO to participate in extra regional and international meetings and in best practices exchange. Part of this facilitation will include the assistance to the CNFO-CU to prepare strategic action plans for management of local fisheries communities according to the SSF Guidelines, participation in extra regional meetings and fisherfolk access to education in value-added and business.
9. Establish a regional fisheries information system to satisfy fisheries data gathering and management of information to deter, prevent and eliminate IUU fishing in coastal waters, to support evidence based fisheries policy review and project preparation for protection of the fisheries using EAF, CCA and DRM approach and the precautionary clause where data not available and for business decisions in fish markets and trade.

⁵ Radio, television, Town halls

2. **Statement from the CRFM / CNFO / CTA Fisheries Policy Workshop, Georgetown, Guyana, 7 - 8 October 2013**

Introduction

1. The CRFM / CNFO / CTA Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies was held in Georgetown, Guyana from 7 – 8 October 2013 as part of the Caribbean Week of Agriculture (CWA) 2013. Participants represented stakeholder groups including representatives of fisher-folk and their organizations, fish processing entities and representatives of national fisheries administrations. This workshop was the final activity in a series implemented jointly by the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and The Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations (CNFO), with funding and technical assistance by the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), to raise stakeholder appreciation and understanding of key fisheries and fisheries-related policy matters and the implications of these on the performance of the region's fishing industries. Participants considered and discussed a broad range of regional and international policy or policy-oriented issues and initiatives in the fisheries sector by way of presentations, working groups and plenary sessions.

FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (FAO CCRF)

2. Recalling that a number of Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Member States have voluntarily incorporated relevant provisions of the **FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (FAO CCRF)** in their fisheries management regimes and legislation, and that the Draft Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy and the Castries Declaration on IUU Fishing are each in large part based on the Code, the participants called upon Member States to facilitate further implementation of the FAO CCRF, including its incorporation into national policies and legislation, as appropriate.

Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (Tenure Guidelines)

3. The participants considered the **Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (Tenure Guidelines)** and noted that this is a new instrument that has significant implications for the sustainability of the fisheries sector. Participants recommended that these be reviewed and considered for incorporation into relevant regional and national fisheries policies, legislation and programmes, dealing with food and nutrition security and poverty alleviation, environmental protection, and sustainable social and economic development. Participants also recommended that these guidelines be incorporated into the Common Fisheries Policy through the protocols that are to be developed. In addition it was recommended that the necessary infrastructure/institutional arrangements and capacities should be put in place for the promotion and implementation of the Guidelines.

Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines)

4. The participants reviewed and endorsed the recommendations of the Caribbean Regional Consultation on the Development of **Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries** that was held in Jamaica, 5 - 8 December 2012, and gave consideration to how the essentials of the SSF guidelines could be incorporated into protocols to the CCCFP. The Participants noted, with concern, that only 1 CARICOM Member State participated in the May 2013 meeting in Rome, and urged CARICOM States to increase their participation in the negotiations on the SSF Guidelines which are expected to resume in February 2014, noting that at least 6 CARICOM Countries should be in attendance to ensure that the interests and positions of the region are presented and defended during the negotiations. The participants also requested that every effort be made to include fisherfolk representatives as part of national delegations. The participants further asked the CRFM Secretariat and Member States to seek to mobilize funding to allow for participation of representatives of the region in the resumed negotiations. Regional discussions in support of this attendance should also be facilitated by the CRFM.

ILO Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (C-188)

5. The participants noted the objectives of the **ILO Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (C-188) and the associated recommendations (R-199)**, which seek to improve living and working conditions of fishers on board fishing vessels. Participants also noted the comprehensive scope of the Convention in terms of the fishing operations to which it was extended and the variety of vessels to which it refers. Minimum requirements for work on fishing vessels, provision of accommodation and food and condition of service, medical care, health protection and social security were also identified as integral to the Convention. Participants noted that the Caribbean Fisheries Forum had, at its 10th meeting in the Bahamas, favoured accession to this Convention. The participants requested that CARICOM States consider the value of becoming party to the Convention, given the importance of securing decent conditions of work for fishers.

Control and Mitigation of the Lionfish

6. The participants recalled that the wider Caribbean response to the on-going devastating lionfish invasion, including that the regional Strategy for the **Control and Mitigation of the Lionfish** and Manual of Best Practices entitled: Invasive Lionfish: a guide to control and management, have been approved by the CRFM Ministerial Council. It was recognised that there have been some successes in the control of lionfish in the region. The participants noted the CRFM Ministerial Council endorsement of the Regional Strategy and Manual for the Control and Mitigation of the Invasive Lionfish in the Wider Caribbean Region, and further noted the need for rigorous and speedy implementation and monitoring of national response plans.

Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP)

7. The participants stressed the importance of the draft Agreement Establishing the **CCCFP** and expressed concern regarding the continuing delay in submitting the draft policy to the Heads of Government for final approval in accordance with the decision of the 4th Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council in May of 2011. In this regard, the participants urged Ministers responsible for fisheries to encourage their respective Heads of Government to approve the Common Fisheries Policy at the next meeting of the CARICOM Conference of Heads of Government. Further, fisherfolk organizations consider the recognition of the CRFM as the Competent Agency for implementation of the CCCFP notwithstanding the matters that have been agreed at other levels, specifically the Forum and Ministerial Council. The participants commended the CRFM for the initiative taken in the development of media product for promoting awareness of the CCCFP.

Castries Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing (Castries IUU Declaration)

8. Participants noted that the **Castries Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing** had been approved at the 2nd Special Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council held at Castries, St. Lucia on 28 July 2010 and that it was an integral instrument within the context of the CCCFP that is also consistent with the CCRF. Participants also noted the initiatives to update the 2005 Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism Study on Monitoring Control and Surveillance in the CARIFORUM Region, including a Strategy and Action Plan; and to prepare a Prosecution Manual, and Standard Operating Procedures for Enforcement Manual, as part of the strategy to implement the Declaration. The participants called for increased efforts by all stakeholders to strengthen collaboration and enhance the implementation of measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing in keeping with the Castries Declaration.

Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries, Climate Change Adaptation, and Disaster Risk Management

9. Participants noted efforts towards policy development and implementation of the **Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries, Climate Change Adaptation, and Disaster Risk Management** in Small-scale Fisheries in the Caribbean and recognized the need for specific protocols to give stakeholder-level effect to the broader policy directions. The participants noted that given this Strategy and Action plan had been approved by the CRFM Ministerial Council, they called for the urgent allocation and mobilization of resources to implement the Strategy and Action Plan

The Role of Fish and Seafood in Food and Nutrition Security

10. The participants noted that **Food and Nutrition Security** embraces food availability, food accessibility, food utilization, and stability. The participants also noted the multiple health benefits of fish and seafood consumption and the submissions by the Caribbean

Public Health Agency (CARPHA) that “seafood is a powerhouse food” that “fuels our bodies with important vitamins and minerals that help keep us in the best possible health throughout the life course.” CARPHA’s report goes on to say that the benefits of fish and seafood consumption, *inter alia*, include or may include: reduction in cardiovascular diseases through the regulation of blood clotting and vessel constriction thus reducing the risk of heart disease and may prolong life after a heart attack; lowers blood triglycerides (fats); improve heart function and reduce damage from heart disease; lower blood pressure; improve symptoms of inflammatory diseases, arthritis and psoriasis; the omega-3 fatty acids may reduce the incidence of depression and postpartum depression in pregnant women; reduce the risk of Alzheimers Disease and cognitive decline in the elderly; and contributes to vision development and nerve growth in the retina in babies.

11. The participants called for a holistic and integrated approach to the promotion of fish as a nutritional and healthy food.
12. The participants recalled that increased production from fishing and aquaculture; improved resource management and conservation; prevention of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; ungraded and modernized legislation; improved sanitary and phytosanitary systems; and enhanced competitiveness are among the objectives of the CCCFP and for these reasons, the Policy is an important instrument for the achievement food and nutrition security in the region.

New Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) Project (CLME+)

13. The Participants were informed that a follow up project to implement the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) Project Strategic Action Programme had been recently approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and that the new project would seek even closer engagement with fisherfolk on the ground than occurred during the 1st Project. The participants noted that the **CLME+ project** will include the North Brazil Shelf LME. The participants urged that every effort be made to ensure integration of the project in on-going national and regional initiatives and to facilitate full representation and participation by all stakeholders, fisher folk in particular, in the design and implementation of the CLME+ project.

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Knowledge Sharing

14. The participants noted the **Knowledge Sharing Programme** including online communications and interactive tools recently introduced by the CRFM, and plans for such work to be further supported by the CTA. Participants expressed support for the proposed work to be done by the CRFM and CTA with regard to knowledge sharing and collaboration using modern information and communication technology tools in the fisheries sector in the near future.

Too Big To Ignore Global Partnership for Small-Scale Fisheries Research

15. Participants acknowledged the potential for the “**Too Big To Ignore Global Partnership for Small-Scale Fisheries Research**” to raise the profile of the small scale fisheries sector and called upon regional fisheries officials to provide support to this initiative.

CRFM / United Nations University Cooperation

16. Participants noted the current **United Nations University Fisheries Training Programme (UNU-FTP)** cooperation with the CRFM, including the training needs assessment of national fisheries administrations within the CRFM Member States and the preparation of a human resources development strategy for the fisheries sector which are underway. Participants also recognized that it was important for States to provide information for the training needs assessment to CRFM in a timely manner.

Delay in Fisheries Policies and Legislation

17. Participants expressed concern about the inordinate delay in developing and putting in place fisheries policy and legislation to modernize and upgrade the sector. In light of this, participants called for higher priority to be given to the fisheries and aquaculture sector. As such, they recommended that the required resources be allocated and mobilized, and that the requisite human, technological and institutional capacities be provided to expedite policy development and implementation in the fisheries sector.

3. Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony for the Workshop took place at the Conference Room of the Grand Coastal Hotel, Georgetown Guyana on the morning of 7 October 2013. In attendance were senior officials and their stakeholder groupings representing the major national, regional and international partners engaged in Caribbean fisheries.

Among the senior officials were Dr. The Honorable Leslie Ramsammy, Minister of Agriculture in Guyana; Mr. Lamon Rutten, Head of Policies, Markets and ICTs, Centre for Technical Assistance (CTA); Dr. Milton Haughton, Executive Director, Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM); Mr. Mitch Lay, Coordinator, Caribbean National Fisherfolk Organizations Coordinating Unit (CNFO-CU) and Mr. George Jervis, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Guyana. Other persons included Chief Fisheries Officers, Heads of National Fisherfolk Organizations (NFOs) in the respective CARICOM / CARIFORUM Member States and representatives of national seafood marketing and export services. Also in attendance were persons from the main regional bodies⁶ engaged in academic research and policy development that impact Caribbean fisheries and aquaculture resources. The list of participants is at *Appendix 2*.

⁶ CANARI, CERMES, UN University Fisheries Program

Chair of the Opening Ceremony and Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Guyana, Mr. George Jervis, welcomed the participants and extended best wishes for a successful Workshop. He highlighted the increase in the numbers of small scale fishers in Guyana and as a result, the evidence of overfishing in the coastal waters. In this respect he emphasized that the Statement which the CRFM / CNFO would present to the Meeting of the Alliance should include recommendations to achieve balance in the use of the coastal marine resources. He recognized a need for local research in the fisheries, support for scientifically sound decisions on the management of the national fisheries and further recommended the application of the precautionary clause in those situations when decisions are not supported by adequate data. The Permanent Secretary also informed the attendants that currently, Guyana was focusing attention on the development of policies and regulations for responsible management of the fisheries. These actions would be supportive of plans already in place to provide funding to the local fishery.

Mr. Lamont Rutten, Head of Policies, Markets and ICTs at CTA, expressed pleasure at the opportunity to participate in the Workshop. He briefly described the on-going cooperative relationship with CRFM and its contribution to the development of the fisheries industry and to the improvements in the quality of life of fisherfolk. Specific reference was made to the aims of the Workshop to facilitate the continuous engagement of fisherfolk organizations with policy processes and decision making in key regional fisheries policy. Reference was made to the successful collaboration with the CNFO-CU. The Report of the proceedings of the Workshop would form an important input in the reporting and accountability requirements of the CTA. He therefore looked forward to copies of the Draft Statement to The Alliance and to the Final Report of the Workshop.

Coordinator of the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organization, Mr. Mitchell Lay, in his address expressed appreciation to the CTA and CRFM on behalf of the CNFO for the support towards the hosting of the Workshop. The Workshop would not only assist the small-scale fisherfolk of the region to improve their understanding of the international and regional policies but was evidence that increasingly fisherfolk were involved in decision making that affect their livelihoods and businesses. The opportunity to dialogue with other fisheries stakeholders on food and nutrition security as well as with other regional partners engaged in the process was recognized as an important step towards integration of fisheries into the broader regional discussions on food and nutrition security. Brief references were also made to the International Guidelines on Small-scale Fisheries, its holistic approach and its potential role in the improvement of welfares of fisherfolks.

Executive Director of CRFM, Mr. Milton Haughton, welcomed all participants, and included a special welcome for to the Minister of Agriculture in Guyana, other public sector fisheries representatives and representatives of the CNFO.

Special gratitude was expressed to the CTA for continued support and commitment to the fisheries sector in the Caribbean. Particular reference was made to the commitment of CTA for its engagement in Technical Cooperation Agreements to strengthen capacity of CNFOs for effective participation in fisheries policy formulation and implementation. In this respect special mention was made of the steadfast support of the CTA through the work of Mr. Jose Fonseca, to

build capacities in CRFM / CNFO for greater ownership of CNFO for decision making in their development process. He highlighted some of significant results achieved over eight years of partnership with CTA including:

- (a) NFO empowered and strengthened for better organization and the CFNO established at a level to co-host with CRFM and CTA this Regional Fisheries Policies Workshop,
- (b) Developmental growth reflected in the engagement of NFOs and the CNFO in several initiatives positively impacting the fisheries sector and the livelihoods of fisher folks, and
- (c) Implementation of participatory approaches which have allowed CNFO to recognize and identify further areas in their development process that respond to the issues, challenges and opportunities in the fisheries sector.

Mr. Haughton provided brief remarks on the expected outputs of the Workshop. These included facilitation of dialogue with other policymakers from across CARICOM / CARIFORUM engaged in the regional discussion on Caribbean food and nutrition security and rural development. Specifically the fisherfolk will for the first time have the opportunity to promote their arguments for stronger support for environmentally sustainable fisheries that are profitable, securing livelihoods in fishing communities and increasing access to locally produced fish and seafood for Caribbean populations.

In this respect the Workshop procedure will include presentations and discussions to continue the process of knowledge building and understanding of fisherfolk on the benefits of international and regional fisheries policies and strategic actions to the local fisheries. The aim is to encourage the necessary actions from fisherfolk, including advocacy for greater attention to the fisheries by the States, through support to the regional policies and for effective policy implementation at the national level. The intention is to sustain the role of the fisheries in food and nutrition security and livelihoods in fishing communities over the longer term. Participants were reminded of the multiple health and nutritional benefits provided by diets containing fish. This brought to the forefront the unique and important role of fisheries and aquaculture in satisfying the pillars⁷ of food and nutrition security and the theme of the 12th CWA.⁸

Based on the above, Mr. Haughton drew attention to significant gaps between local demand and local production of fish and encouraged increased activities in aquaculture production to create better balance in the management of the fisheries as well as to reduce the over US\$200 million, required to pay for regional fish imports annually. He proposed strengthened legal, policy and institutional frameworks for fisheries governance, resource management and sustainable use of the fisheries. He further proposed that progress would be enhanced by stronger and increased public / private sector engagements in the fisheries. In his conclusion he expressed hope of a future of closer working relations with fisherfolk at national and regional levels.

In his feature address Dr. the Honorable Leslie Ramsammy recognized the importance of the Regional Fisheries Policies Workshop within the context of the Caribbean Week of Agriculture (CWA) and the focus on food and nutrition security. He reminded the participants that at this 12th

⁷ Pillars of food and nutrition security are availability, access and consumption.

⁸ Linking the Caribbean for Regional Food and Nutrition Security and Rural Development

CWA a wide range of stakeholders were expected to engage in the dialogue on food and nutrition security. These would include representatives of Governments, the international community with interest in agriculture and rural development and livelihoods, private sector, rural women and youth, academia and technologists and researcher's, women, youth from the crops and livestock and fisheries sectors agri-food chains. All will have the opportunity to be facilitated in several different workshops to prepare for the 12th Meeting of The Alliance.

As equal partners, participants from these wide and diverse groups could discuss and agree on common and complementary regional policies and strategic actions towards conservation and sustainable development of the natural resources for food security, incomes, and livelihoods for those populations highly dependent on food production activities.

Within these opportunities provided by the CWA, Caribbean fisherfolk would be able to focus and define more clearly how to strategically promote their contribution to the wider regional policies designed to address hunger, poverty alleviation and improvement in incomes especially in rural communities.

At this point the Minister of Agriculture used the opportunity to highlight important contributions of the fisheries in Guyana to GDP, exports, diets and incomes. He went on to encourage the fisherfolk to pursue higher levels of productivity through diversification within the fishing industry citing fish product development, better organization of small business entrepreneurs and research and development to reduce cost of production in aquaculture activities. Much reference was also made to the value in the use of traditional practices, such as the use of indigenous feeds in aquaculture.

In closing, the Minister of Agriculture strongly endorsed the implementation of the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP) and called for the implementation of national policies and legislation to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing on the national fishery waters and high seas.

4. Organization of the Workshop

Introduction

The organization and arrangements for the Workshop are reported on against the background of the objectives of the Workshop and the Draft Agenda established by the CRFM / CTA / CNFO, the selection of the participants and the suitability of their environment to encourage interactions and for comfortable living.

4.1 Objectives framework of the Workshop

The objectives of the Workshop were defined within the framework of the CRFM / CTA Project supporting the Event and the specific outputs required from the two days of presentations, discussions and conclusions that would form the basis for participation in the 12th Meeting of The Alliance.

Overall Project Objective: The stated overall objective of the CRFM / CTA Cooperation Agreement is to contribute to the development of a sustainable and profitable industry, the improvement of the quality of fisherfolk's lives and nutrition in the CRFM / CARIFORUM Region.

The specific objective of the Workshop was to develop CRFM / CNFO policy recommendations to be presented at the 12th Meeting of The Alliance for Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu in the Wider Caribbean scheduled for 9 October 2013.

The Workshop would effectively facilitate the continuous engagement of fisher folk organizations with policy processes and decisions making for implementation of the regional enabling fisheries policy framework.

4.2 Expected Outputs of the Workshop

- (a) Presentations on selected regional and international fisheries policies and strategic actions under the umbrella of the CRFM.
- (b) Participants response to a selection of international fisheries policy instruments influencing the framework for the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP) presented and discussed
- (c) Participants response to regional fisheries policies and strategic actions in support of the CCCFP presented and discussed
- (d) Agreement on the priorities, issues, challenges and constraints of relevance to the sustainable contribution of the regional fisheries to food and nutrition security, sustainable livelihoods of fisherfolk and poverty alleviation in fishing communities. These elements would form the basis for the Statement from the CRFM / CNFO to be presented to the Alliance.

4.3. Selection of participants and arrangements for effective participation

Participants to the meeting represented public sector leaders engaged in fisheries and aquaculture in CARICOM⁹ and the Dominican Republic and from the national fisher folk organizations in these countries. Also participating were representatives from the main regional CARICOM organs and bodies involved in the management of the environment that impact the fisheries- CANARI and CREMES / UWI. CARPHA representing the regional food and nutrition concerns and policies participated by satellite as did the presenter of the UNDP / GEF / CLME Project. Participation from the host country included persons in fish markets and exports, and from aquaculture development and research including interests in the use of local grown inputs for fish food. CTA / Netherlands representatives and CRFM technical and administrative staff were also present in the sessions.

⁹ Antigua and Barbuda, The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, The Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St Kitts and Nevis, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

Arrangements were also made for the services of a Workshop facilitator as well as to receive two satellite presentations including one from Brazil, both to the Meeting room.

All overseas participants were accommodated at the Grand Coastal Hotel, which contributed to early and easy interaction with each other as well as for important exchanges which often take place during informal sessions outside of the meeting room. These informal exchanges were in addition to the provisions in the Agenda for structured Working Groups sessions.

4.4 Adoption of the Draft Agenda

The Draft¹⁰ Agenda was adopted after a single change in order to accommodate a satellite presentation on the UNDP / GEF / CLME Project.

5. Context of the Regional Fisheries Policies Workshop

Introduction

The context of the Workshop derives from the theme provided by the 2013 CWA; *Linking the Caribbean for Regional Food and Nutrition Security and Rural Development*. This theme also helped to define the specific objective of the Workshop which was to develop policy recommendations for the fisheries to be presented by a CFNO-CU representative at the 12th Meeting of The Alliance. The theme also provided guidance on basis on which the policy recommendations would be evaluated on the extent to which the fisheries was effectively linked to the broader Caribbean strategies for regional food and nutrition security and to contributions to rural livelihoods with an emphasis on fishing villages and communities.

CRFM response

An adequate response for the fisheries sector would be demonstrated policy implementation and strategic actions at regional and national levels sufficient to impact sustainable fisheries and associated ecosystems and security in the livelihoods and welfares of fisherfolk and other populations who benefit indirectly from the fisheries.

CRFM / CFNO and role of regional policies

Against this background the Workshop used the opportunity to facilitate a discussion among CRFM / CNFO and other stakeholders on the provisions of established regional policies to affect responsible fishing in Caribbean fisheries, the alignment of these policies with the rules and obligations of the international fishing community and the benefits and opportunities for CNFO and the region as a whole. Direct benefits would include livelihoods security and employment for fisherfolk, contribution to regional food and nutrition security, poverty alleviation in fishing communities, and enhance capacities among small-scale fisherfolk to dialogue and advocate for

¹⁰ Appendix 1 Draft Agenda of the Workshop

practices that enhance their sustainability including the rights of tenure of fisheries in the context of food security.

Adequacy of the enabling fisheries policy environment to respond to the CCRF.

In the context of sustainable fisheries and food and nutrition security the theme for the 12th CWA brings with it obligations of Caribbean countries signatory to the relevant international Conventions including the Declaration on Food and Nutrition Security and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. Cognizant of this the Technical Sessions of the Workshop Agenda appropriately focused on the widely accepted international fisheries policy instruments in shaping the regional fisheries policies and the integrated and participatory approach of the CRFM in arriving at an enabling policy and strategic regional framework for responsible fisheries for the sustainability of the small-scale and artisanal fisheries and their associated fishing communities.

6. Technical Sessions

The Workshop Agenda facilitated discussions under (i) the international fisheries framework shaping the regional policies and extra regional actions and (ii) the established regional policies and strategic actions.

6.1. International fisheries framework shaping regional fisheries policies

The CCCFP is influenced primarily by Articles 5 and 6 of the CCRF which speak to the Special Requirements of Developing Countries and the General Principles of the Code. This action brings with it provisions and opportunities for Caribbean states to engage collaboration and cooperation at all levels to manage and develop their own fisheries and to participate in high seas fisheries including access to such fisheries. This right to fish in coastal waters as well as high seas also carries with it obligations to do so in a responsible manner.

Among the ten objectives of the CCRF is to “*promote the contribution of fisheries to food security and food quality, giving priority to nutritional needs of local communities*”. This objective of the CCRF is in line with the theme of the 12th Meeting of the Alliance. The CCRF also encourages decision making processes that are transparent and urges States to facilitate consultation and the effective participation of fisherfolk among others in decision making with respect to the development of policies, laws and related fisheries management and development. This latter supports the objective of the CRFM / CTA Project.

In this section of the Workshop three of the international instruments with important impacts on the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP) were presented and discussed in plenary. These were (a) Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) (b) FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the Context of National Food Security and (c) Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication.

6. 1.1. Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

6. 1.1.2. What is the Code

Adopted in 1995 by the international community, The Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) is one of the international fisheries frameworks where CRFM in collaboration primarily with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), has worked with the CNFO to raise awareness of regional fisherfolks in the concept of responsible fisheries and to engage effective participation in the development and implementation of the CCCFP. The Code *provides a necessary framework for national and international efforts to ensure sustainable exploitation of aquatic living resources in harmony with the environment.*¹¹

Promoted globally by FAO-COFI¹², the CCRF is a set of international principles and standards of behavior for responsible practices for ensuring effective conservation, management and development of living aquatic resources with due respect for the ecosystem and biodiversity. The Code was developed after extensive work among Parties in the international fisheries community, following a significant rise in demand for fish that created fear of declines in the fisheries.

6.1.1.3 Origin of the Code

The demand on fisheries resources were brought about primarily by the introduction of exclusive economic zones (EEZ) and the adoption of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The latter gave coastal States rights and responsibilities for management of their fisheries. However many coastal States, in particular those within the developing world lacked adequate capacities to conserve and manage their coastal fisheries in a sustainable manner.

On the other hand, many developed countries increased their capacities to fish in their own waters as well as on the high seas and in many cases involving straddling and highly migratory fisheries within and outside of their own EEZs. This situation created an imbalance in the resource capacities of respective coastal states to conserve and manage their fisheries. Caribbean fisheries were among those small scale fisheries with weak capacities to use and conserve resources without an international framework agreement on the responsible use of fisheries.

Actions by the Committee of Fisheries (COFI)¹³ lead to the development of several international initiatives towards responsible fisheries concluding with the adoption of the CCRF in 1995.

It is important to note that the CCRF is not mandatory. It is a voluntary instrument but parts of it are based on relevant rules of international law and other obligatory legal instruments among the Parties to the many Conventions alluded to above. It is widely accepted and adhered to by the international fishing community, fishing entities, sub regional and regional organizations.

¹¹ Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries - Annex 2

¹² Committee on Fisheries at FAO

¹³ Committee on Fisheries – FAO / UN

6.1.1.4 Objectives of the CCRF

The objectives of the CCRP are wide ranging but focused on providing guidance to help states to implement national policies, legislation and measures for responsible fisheries. Of interest to Caribbean fisheries is that the CCRF facilitates and promotes cooperation in conservation of fisheries resources and management, the contribution of fisheries to food and nutrition security and livelihoods in fishing communities as well as research to support sustainable management of the fisheries and associated ecosystems.

6.1.1.5 Special requirements in the Code for developing countries

Article 5¹⁴ of the CCRF calls attention to the special requirements of developing countries to respond to the provisions of the Code and action-oriented awareness of the international community to the weak capacities of the developing countries, especially the SIDS.

Caribbean fisheries fall within the SIDS. The Code makes special reference to action-oriented support to SIDS. These include financial and technical cooperation to assist small scale and artisanal fisheries with the development of their coastal resources and to participate in high seas fisheries including access to these fisheries. Many of the general principles of the Code are particularly relevant to Caribbean fisheries and are inclusive of:

- ✚ An integrated ecosystem approach for enhanced sustainability of the fisheries and its contribution to poverty alleviation, food security and livelihoods
- ✚ Implementation of measures to prevent overfishing of target species and the necessary research to guide rehabilitation and where necessary the application of the precautionary approach. In this respect diversification through culture-based practices is also given attention.
- ✚ The use of environmentally safe fishing gear and practices.
- ✚ The requirements for standards for post harvest handling of fish including WTO consistent trade practices. Particularly for SIDS the policies should not only focus on technical barriers to trade , but should promote infrastructure and practices that prevents environmental degradation or negative impacts on nutritional security
- ✚ Establishment of protected areas and marine reserves
- ✚ The responsibilities of flag States and port States where this apply in the region.
- ✚ Capacity building through education and training of all fisherfolks to create greater awareness in responsible fisheries and in inland fisheries as well as for effective participation in fisheries policy formulation and implementation

¹⁴ There are 12 articles in the Code all of which are of interest to the Caribbean fisheries

- ✚ Safety at sea and living conditions to support healthy conditions for workers are also addressed in the Code in line with the ILO Work in Fisheries Convention - 2007 and Recommendations R-199.
- ✚ Rights of small-scale and artisanal fishery are given special attention that can serve to ensure their livelihoods and protect their vulnerability to loss of fishing grounds in their national jurisdiction.

6.1.1.6 Need to establish regional organizations and prepare fisheries management plans

Other areas of the CCRF of immediate relevance to Caribbean fisheries include the need to establish sub regional, or regional fisheries organization to manage issues such as migratory stocks or stocks exploited by more than two coastal states. It also encourages active cooperation among the relevant states towards responsible fisheries, the need to establish effective monitoring, surveillance and control as necessary and to engage in public awareness to support conservation measures.

The Code proposes that fisheries management plans should be results based and at the national and regional level should seek to establish relations that foster and promote international cooperation on areas of research that support effective policy and management decisions. In this respect all developing States including Caribbean States are urged to consider establishment of data management systems for data gathering, analysis and information dissemination. This data management operation should be sufficiently resourced, comprehensive and dynamic to capture data and other measures to prevent, deter or control illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing.

In brief the CCRF provides a solid framework for adoption in the formulation of a CCCFP and the selection of a regional organization to administer the regional policy and guidelines for effective conservation and management of small-scale fisheries in the global arena of world fisheries for the sustainability of the small scale fisheries.

6.1.2 FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of National Food Security

Introduction

The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of National Food Security are meant to serve as a reference to provide natural resources for the purpose of food production. As in the case of the CCRF the Guidelines are voluntary but have received very wide support at the international level and are well referenced in more recent international guidelines such as the 2012 International Guidelines for Small-scale Fisheries¹⁵. The Guidelines are therefore highly relevant to Caribbean fisheries and aquaculture development and in particular to the development processes of the CNFO.

¹⁵ FAO / CRFM / WECAFC Caribbean Regional Consultation on the Development of International Guidelines For Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries, Kingston, Jamaica, 6 - 8 December 2012

Responsible governance of tenure in Caribbean in the context of food and nutrition security comes with opportunities and challenges to policy implementation and legislation. However the opportunities and challenges in the fisheries are unique. On the one hand there is the opportunity to innovatively craft rights based governance provisions into policies that can serve to strengthen and mainstream fisheries concerns for sustainable livelihoods in fishing communities.

On the other hand there could be unperceived challenges for fishing communities in securing rights of tenure due to the fact that responsible governance of tenure for the fisheries is intrinsically linked to tenure rights for land and forests and other natural resources such as water resources¹⁶ each with different and competing stakeholders' interest and capacities to contribute to food and nutrition security, poverty alleviation, food security and employment. Furthermore that more than often tenure of fisheries is at best customary¹⁷ or non-existent.

6.1.2.1 The presentation¹⁸ to the Workshop

Participants received a presentation highlighting the following aspects of rights based governance of tenure:

- ✚ Tenure systems and tenure rights were explained as formal or informal practices to determine who can use and control resources, over what period and under what conditions. Customary tenure rights of community are often practiced in fishing villages and communities. Governance of tenure in fisheries is becoming more of an issue as fish resources decline from overfishing and the impact of climate change.
- ✚ Insecurity of tenure is a major issue for fishing communities as increasingly the informal practices of insecure tenure of is proving to be insufficient to protect vulnerable populations including in respect of their household food security. Often the livelihood security of these populations, including fisherfolk is entirely dependent on the natural resource. The result is conflicts and other social problems in fishing communities and associated ecosystem. Fisherfolk are often more disadvantaged as tenure rights of fisheries are largely informal and insecure as traditionally ownership is not with the fisherfolk.
- ✚ Implementation challenges of adoption may arise from the significant efforts which will be required to secure tenure rights in fishing communities, the processes to arrive at policies and institutional frameworks suitable to the many users of coastal land, and the complexities of an integrated ecosystem based approach to governance.
- ✚ The way forward for Caribbean fisheries will require proper assessment of existing tenure systems, sensitization, capacity building and mobilization of resources. The voluntary nature of the guidelines could be obscure as voluntary could still be influential, making the process one that requires significant public awareness, consensus building and political will.

¹⁶ Voluntary Guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure (Committee on World Food Security, Rome 2012)

¹⁷ Ownership rights and interest are based entirely on customs

¹⁸ Appendix 6

Despite the challenges highlighted above there are foreseeable benefits to adoption of the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance as a tool for clearly defined purposes such (a) a method to achieve improved security of tenure for small scale fisher folks (b) the realization of nutrition security through more secure access especially for the most vulnerable populations and (c) for use in advocacy.

Based on the above the recommendation was that policymakers and fisherfolk should make an effort to make the guidelines on rights based tenure work to the regions advantage as it relates to achieving tenure arrangements and adequate tenure systems especially for availability and access to food and nutrition security.

6.1.3 Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication

Introduction

Across the Caribbean the fisheries sector employs over 182,000 persons directly or indirectly. Whereas commercial fisheries play a key role in foreign exchange earnings in the region, small-scale fisheries is most dominant in job creation and in contributing to food and nutrition security across the States.¹⁹ Against this background CRFM / CNFO / CTA are engaged in a global process lead by FAO to develop international voluntary guidelines for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries in the context of food security and poverty alleviation.

6.1.3.1 The presentation on International Guidelines on Small-Scale Fisheries

The presentation to the participants covered the outputs of the two completed activities in this process. These are the joint CRFM / WECAFC / FAO Caribbean Regional Consultation on the Development of International Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries²⁰ held in Kingston, Jamaica and the follow- up Technical Consultation²¹ on International Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries, held at FAO, Rome. Participants to the FAO, Rome meeting included the Executive Director of CRFM and the Coordinator of the CNFO-CU.

6.1 3.2 Outputs of the Kingston Regional Consultation

At the Kingston Regional Consultation, CNFO and its Caribbean partners involved in regional fisheries confirmed that small-scale fisheries are major contributors to livelihoods, food and nutrition security and poverty alleviation in the region. In brief the Kingston Regional Consultation agreed:

¹⁹ CTA / CRFM / CNFO Press Release – Belize, 24 February 2013

²⁰ FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report No. 1033 FIPI/R1033 (EN) CRFM / WECAFC / FAO Caribbean Regional Consultation on the Development of International Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries, Kingston, Jamaica, 6 - 8 December 2013

²¹ Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication, Rome, Italy, 20 - 24 May 2013.

- ✚ That the shared and interconnected nature of aquatic systems will require cooperation and collaboration of fisheries and related policies, improved administrative capacities in SIDS, and improvements in functional fisheries management plans, in order to achieve sustainable development. Furthermore that endorsement of CRFM and other regional fisheries bodies will enhance implementation at national levels.
- ✚ That many obstacles are hampering the livelihoods sustainability of the small-scale fishers. Among these are their undervalued contributions, increasing threats to the fisheries from pollution, overfishing and the impacts from climate variability. Additionally weak capacities are slowing access to the regional and international markets. Continuous threats of displacement or loss of tenure to other sectors such as tourism and difficulties in accessing the formal social safety nets are other concerns for livelihoods security and welfares.
- ✚ That the key principles of human rights approach including participation, accountability and empowerment and rule of law are necessary tools for the development of the small-scale fisheries sector.

Recommendations emerging from the Kingston Regional Consultation

- Strengthening of regional partnerships²² arrangements for support in targeted areas including fisheries management and research and information sharing as necessary action to broaden support for endorsement of the SSF guidelines that are critical to the advancement of Caribbean fisheries.
- Acceptance of the human rights approach in the development of small-scale fisheries communities.
- Support for active participation, representation and capacity building of national and regional fisherfolk organizations such as the CNFO. Furthermore there should be support for effective involvement in implementation of the SSF Guidelines through measures to build capacities in priority areas such as the development of fisheries management plans and the design of research and development. Exchanges to learn best practices were proposed capacity building strategies.
- More public awareness initiatives to promote the value of the small-scale fisheries.
- More access to fisheries specific education for men and women in fishing communities.
- Commitment from Governments of the region to establish the necessary Technical Cooperation instruments with FAO to access assistance through a Trust Fund Arrangement for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

²² CRFM, OSPESCA, WECFAC, OECS

6.1.3.3 Status of Negotiations on the Voluntary International Guidelines for SSF following the Rome Technical Consultation

Agreements reached on the SSF Guidelines; the Rome Meeting agreed:

- ✚ That the overall objective of the SSF Guidelines is to enhance contribution of small scale fisheries to global food security and to contribute to equitable development of small-scale fishing communities through sustainable utilization and responsible management of the fisheries resources consistent with the CCRF and related instruments.
- ✚ For enhanced public awareness and advancement on knowledge of the fisheries among fisherfolk.
- ✚ Those SSF Guidelines are voluntary in nature, global and relevant to small-scale fisheries both in marine and inland water. These guidelines are addressed to all countries and to their organizations at all levels, national, sub regional and intergovernmental.
- ✚ That the guiding principles will be non-discriminatory in the promotion of small-scale fisheries, respect gender equality and equity as fundamental to development, with recognition of the role of women.
- ✚ That rules-based approach would be adopted.
- ✚ Transparency in policies, laws and procedures in applicable language and accountability are also agreed elements of the guiding principles.
- ✚ Other principles agreed to include respect for economic, social and environmental sustainability through the precautionary approach, recognition of the ecosystem approach. Community solidarity is to be promoted, there is to be collective responsibility and policies, strategies, plans and actions must be socially and economically sound.

6.1.3.4 Status of SSF Guidelines Negotiations relative to the Responsible Fisheries and Sustainable Development

The Rome Technical Consultation also included agreements on two thematic areas under the above caption. These were (a) Governance of Tenure which was described earlier in the report and (b) Resources Management²³.

- (a) *Governance of Tenure*: In respect of governance of tenure the SSF Guidelines recognized the need for small-scale fisheries to have secure tenure to the natural resources that support livelihoods and sustainable development and reached the following agreed positions:

²³ Part 2: Section 5 – Technical Consultations on International Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries, Rome, Italy, 20 - 24 May 2013.

- ✚ That all Parties uphold responsible governance of land, fisheries and forests relevant to small- scale fisheries central for the realization of human rights, poverty eradication and other human rights security for sustainable fisheries and that States in accordance with their legislation, ensure security of tenure rights as appropriate to fishing communities and their fishery resources, with special attention to specific rights in respect of women.
 - ✚ That where the resources are State- owned, the State should undertake to determine use and tenure rights and as applicable recognize and safeguard those publicly owned resources that are collectively used and managed by fishing communities. Furthermore the State should ensure that small-scale tenure rights are secure. Where eviction is unavoidable special provision should be made to protect those most vulnerable and marginalized, and where displacement is due to natural causes such as weather-related events that efforts are made to restore access to traditional fishing grounds and coastal lands.
- (b) *Sustainable resource management*: In respect of sustainable resource management two of the areas agreed on under the SSF Guidelines are critical importance to the Caribbean fisheries; these are;
- ✚ States and all engaged in fisheries management should adopt measures for long term conservation and sustainable use of the fisheries while recognizing rights and responsibilities and the utilization of fishing practices that minimize harm to the ecosystem and to fish species.
 - ✚ Monitoring, control and surveillance systems should be applicable and suitable to small-scale fisheries and the roles and responsibilities of co-management arrangements of concerned parties and stakeholders should be clarified through participatory and legal process. Furthermore the role and involvement of both men and women should be encouraged and promoted in all aspects of fisheries value chain.

6.1.3.5 Status of SSF Guidelines Negotiations relative to social development, employment and decent work

In respect of social development, employment and decent work²⁴ the agreements reached are summarized below.

Social development

- ✚ Small-scale fisheries management practices should adopt an integrated ecosystem approach with provisions for sustainable livelihoods, empowerment of communities and enjoyment of human rights.

²⁴ Part 2: Section 6 – Technical Consolutions on International Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries, Rome, Italy, 20 - 24 May 2013.

- ✚ States should facilitate access by small scale fishers to services such as credit, savings and insurance with special attention for the inclusion of women fisherfolk.
- ✚ States should progressively nurture an enabling framework to the realization of the rights of small-scale fishers and others involved in the sector.

Employment

- ✚ In terms of employment it was agreed that States and other stakeholders should facilitate alternative income-generating activities in fishing communities, including support to diversification into other rural economic activities with linkage to the fisheries such as aquaculture or to other coastal activities such as rural tourism.

Decent work

- ✚ Necessary legislation should be in place to address unfair working conditions, occupational health issues and other aspects as required by the relevant conventions such as International Labour Organization (ILO).
- ✚ States should enable access to schools for children of small scale farmers and education for fishing children of small scale fishing communities that facilitate gainful employment of youth and women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child should be respected
- ✚ Safety at sea must be addressed through laws and regulations consistent with international guidelines of FAO, ILO and the International Maritime Organization (IMO). In this regard states should recognize the important role of coherent and integrated national strategies with the active participation of fisherfolks and in coordination with their regional organizations.

The final set of agreements on the Technical SSF Guidelines was reached under Section 7 dealing with value chains, post-harvest and trade. The negotiations in these matters are however incomplete. The matters agreed at this time are:

- ✚ Recognition of the central role that the small-scale fisheries post-harvest subsectors and its actors play in the value chain. Unequal power of actors in the value chain should be avoided. Specifically the role of women should be supported and facilitated
- ✚ States should foster, provide and enable investments, giving recognition to the traditional forms of associations of fisherfolk, put in place appropriate services for enhanced income and livelihood security including institutions, infrastructure and technologies that reduce post-harvest losses.

Negotiations are set to resume in early 2014 at which time paragraphs dealing with areas of the guidelines on value chains will be addressed. Other major areas include gender equality, disasters risk management, climate change and the enabling environment for implementation will be considered.

6.1.4 ILO Work on Fishing Convention, 2007 and Recommendation (R-199)

Introduction

Fishing is widely accepted as one of the most dangerous occupations. Hazards arise from several sources including the dynamic and constantly changing power of the sea. The nature of fishing operations and processing fish requires long and physically demanding hours.

6.1.4.1 Presentation on the ILO Work in Fishing Convention (2007)²⁵

The presentation provided information on the work of the ILO and its importance to the protection of fisherfolk during fishing operations at sea and in harbours of flag States or port States.

In summary, the 96th Session of the ILO Conference adopted the C-188 Work in Fishing Convention (2007) and the R 199 Work in Fishing Recommendations 2007. This action served to bring fishers in line with the international guidelines that promote rights at work, decent employment in fishing operations, enhance social protection and strengthen dialogue in handling work related issues.

6.1.4.2 Objectives of the Fishing Convention

The main objectives of the work in fishing convention is to improve living conditions of fishers on fishing vessels and to ensure that fishers have decent conditions of work on fishing vessels. In this respect C-188 / R199 makes provision for decent work conditions for fishers on vessels.

6.1.4.3 Scope of the Fishing Convention

The scope of the Fishing Convention is comprehensive extending to all fishing operations irrespective of marine or inland waters and vessel size or type. However there are higher requirements for larger vessels²⁶ and exceptions for others such as smaller vessels operating closer to port or at sea for short periods or those explicitly excluded by national authorities. Mechanisms for compliance with and enforcement of provisions make it legitimate for large vessels on extended voyages subject to inspections in foreign ports.

6.1.4.4 Main requirements of the Fishing Convention

The main requirements of the Fishing Convention address issues that are considered essential for decent work and include (a) minimum age (16) for working on fishing vessels (b) requirements for health and safety and for accommodation and food (c) conditions of service such as safe navigation and operation²⁷ and entitlement of fishers for repatriation (d) medical care health protection and (e) social security.

²⁵ Appendix 7

²⁶ Vessels 24m and above, normally stay at sea for more than 7 days and undertake distant water fishing.

²⁷ Article 13-14 of the Convention states that "Fishing vessels are to be sufficiently and efficiently crewed, are under the control of a competent skipper, and that the fishers on board are provided with sufficient rest period.

Recognizing that some countries might not have the financial and institutional resources to immediately apply the provisions, allowance is made for progressive implementation of certain of the provisions over time. For example countries can chose to initially exclude some types of boats on inland waters.

The conclusion on the presentation is that there are benefits of this treaty to all Caribbean States and that fishers in particular would enjoy improvements in basic working conditions. In this regard CNFO should consider advocating for the inclusion of measures to encourage all Caribbean States to ratify and implement the provisions of the Convention.

6.1.5 Regional Strategies for the Control and Mitigation of the Invasive Lionfish in the Wider Caribbean Region

Introduction

In the Caribbean two species of lionfish, *Pterois miles* and *Pterois volitans* are invasive in the region, posing one of the greatest threats to the fisheries, with significant impact on the ecosystem as well as on economic activities. Reportedly lionfish released into the Florida waters by accident or intentionally, found its way to the Caribbean Sea and established and adapted itself to the Caribbean reef environment.

Favorable Caribbean conditions for lionfish include lack of aggressive predators, naïve preys and low fish parasitic levels, all of which lead to high growth and reproduction rates and a rapid successful colonization process. In such favorable situation lionfish has become a high risk threat to Caribbean fisheries both ecologically and economically.

In 2010 Caribbean fish biologist reported high densities of invasive lionfish and warned that the indicators were showing these levels could remain high for a very long time unless effective control measures were put in place. Caribbean biologists also expressed fear that the invasive lionfish could spread through the entire region.

Lionfish are voracious eaters and are known to consume more than 60 species of fish and many invertebrate species, some of which are commercially, recreationally or ecologically important to the region. Stomach content analysis of lionfish has revealed a wide diversity in prey species and size classes.

Reportedly lionfish invasion has already adversely disrupted the balance of Caribbean reef ecosystems, and associated ecosystems such as sea grasses and mangroves. The fish also represents a safety risk to recreational divers and fishermen, because of its venomous spines, thereby compromising dives sites.

Collectively the situation resulting from the invasion of the lionfish in Caribbean waters could seriously threaten the quality of life of coastal communities, the contribution of the coastal fisheries to Caribbean regional food and nutrition security and to employment chains dependent on the marine resources.

6.1.5.1 The Strategy for Regional Invasive Lionfish Control

The strategy²⁸ for the control of the lionfish is a Wider Caribbean Response involving functional cooperation and a documented Regional Strategy. This initiative started in 2010 and functions under an Ad Hoc Committee for the Caribbean Regional Response to the Lionfish Invasion (henceforward called the Regional Lionfish Committee (RLC)), involving several Wider Caribbean and international partners. Readers are also directed to the Manual, *Strategies and Practices for Invasive Lionfish Control*²⁹. The Regional Strategy includes a Wider Caribbean Response and a CRFM Regional Response.

6.1.5.2 The Wider Caribbean Response to Control the Invasive Lionfish

The Wider Caribbean Response operates under the RLC. The vision of the RLC is that the environmental goods and services provided by coral reefs and associated ecosystems are not affected by the presence of the lionfish. This will be achieved through the facilitation two complementary actions; (a) An established framework for regional partnerships for lionfish control in the Caribbean that ensures actions that are consistent, complementary and rely on best practices and (b) Regional cooperation across social, economic and environmental sectors using best practices to develop local action plans to minimize the negative impacts of the lionfish in the Caribbean including the possibility of generating benefits to coastal communities.

Objectives of the Wider Caribbean initiative (RLC) are fivefold and include:

- (i) Collaboration to identify standard and holistic approaches for governments and stakeholders, facilitate partnerships and provide mechanisms to coordination of efforts across political and geographical boundaries
- (ii) Research and monitoring through a coordinated agenda, harmonization and support to develop and use technological solutions
- (iii) Legislations, regulations and policies to create an enabling environment for implementation
- (iv) Control of invasive lionfish populations using regionally coordinated and effective methods that minimize the impacts on other marine species and disseminate information on those methods among stakeholders and
- (v) Information and outreach for general public support and participation in the invasive lionfish programs.

Activities and Achievements of the Wider Caribbean initiative (RLC) to date include:

-  Release of an ICRI³⁰ Host Advisory Statement in three languages which seeks to draw international attention to the lionfish issue.
-  The production and dissemination of a best practice manual entitled: Invasive lionfish: a Guide to Control and Management.

²⁸ Appendix 8

²⁹ Available on the CRFM website

³⁰ International Coral Reef initiative

- ✚ Development and documentation of the Regional Lionfish Control Strategy.
- ✚ Technical workshops on the lionfish, a lionfish portal, to facilitate regional communication and access to best management practices include training tools and
- ✚ Compilation of a list of lionfish stakeholders hosted by CAR-SPAW³¹

6.1.5.3 The CRFM Response to the Wider Caribbean Response

The objectives of the CRFM Response to the Wider Caribbean -Regional Strategy are threefold and include to (i) enhance regional understanding on the lionfish issue across sectors (ii) provide the basis for regional coordination and cooperation at scientific, political and technical levels and help generate the synergies required to effectively minimize impacts and (iii) provide framework to develop consistent local action plans and help prioritize actions for research and donor support. An integrated framework strategy was developed as this was most suited to capacities of the small island systems of the Caribbean

Activities and Achievements of CRFM Response to date include:

- Several meetings at the level of the Ministerial Council and the Meeting of the Forum to report on the status of a strategy to control the lionfish.
- Caribbean Fisheries Forum endorsed a Best Practices Manual for use by CRFM and the Regional Strategy for the Control and Mitigation of the invasive Lionfish in the Wider Caribbean.
- The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, St Vincent and the Grenadines and The Commonwealth of Dominica provided updates to CRFM on country level implementation of the Caribbean Regional Strategy. Country efforts include public education and outreach in St Vincent and the Grenadines, advocating development of a fishery for lionfish its promotion, marketing and consumption in Antigua and Barbuda and the establishment of an invasive lionfish database in Dominica.
- CRFM RSWG engaged in providing support to statistical monitoring of the performance of national responses to lionfish invasion.

³¹ Regional Activity Centre for the Protocol on Specialty, on Protected Areas and Wildlife of the Cartagena Convention.

6.2. Caribbean Regional Fisheries Policies and Strategies Framework

In this section of the Workshop presentations and discussions focused on regional fisheries policies and strategies of relevance to the CWA theme and the objective to prepare policy recommendations in the context of food security and beyond.

The CCCFP is one of the four regional policies impacting food and nutrition security established by CARICOM in the last three years, the other three being the Regional Food and Nutrition Security Policy (RFNSP- 2010) and associated Regional Food and Nutrition Action Plan (RFNAP-2011), the Community Agricultural Policy (CAP-2010) and the Caribbean Cooperation in Health (CCH). Together these regional instruments are meant to address increase in domestic food production and improvements in health and nutrition in an overall objective to achieve food and nutrition security in all CARICOM member states.

Among the objectives³² of the CCCFP are to protect the sustainable development of fishing and aquaculture industries in the Caribbean region for food and nutrition security and improve the sustainable livelihoods and incomes of fishers and other vulnerable persons in fishing communities. Accordingly the presentation and discussions revolved around the appropriateness of the CCCFP and other regional policies integral to the successful implementation of the CCCFP.

Seven presentations were made covering (a) Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCRP) (b) Castries Declaration on IUU Fishing (c) Role of Fisheries in Regional Food and Nutrition Security (d) Updates on the status of two Projects (i) 5 Year UNDP / GEF / CLME+ Project and (ii) Too Big To Ignore (e) the CRFM Knowledge Sharing Project and (f) the Issues Paper on Policy Formulation for EAF, CCA, and DRM in Fisheries.

All of the presentations acknowledged as appropriate the cooperation and collaborative partnerships with CRFM and the CNFO. These partners included regional organizations such as OECS, CEREMES, CANARI and CARPHA and the main partners in fisheries organizations in the Latin America and the Caribbean region including OSPESCA. The main international partners acknowledged include FAO, CTA, UNEP, FAO / WECAFC and ACP-EU.

In line with the Workshop objectives the focus of the presentations was on policy design for sustainable fisheries, food and nutrition security, poverty alleviation, sustainable livelihoods and employment in fishing communities and targeted benefits of the policy to the CNFO capacity building for organization and for participation in the decision- making and policy implementation in the fisheries.

6.2.1 The Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP)

Introduction

In 2002 CARICOM established the CRFM with the objective to pursue efficient management and sustainable development of the marine and other aquatic resources within the jurisdictions of

³² Article 4.3 - CCCRP

Member States. In keeping with this action and the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, the 2003 Conference of the Heads of Government mandated the CRFM to develop a Common Fisheries Regime.

In 2009 the CRFM Ministerial Council gave a directive to elaborate the Common Fisheries Policy and defer considerations of matters related to the Common Fisheries Regime. Since then the CCCFP has been reviewed by a number of groups and bodies including ad hoc legal, socio-economic and multidisciplinary working groups, CRFM Forum and Ministerial Council, the Council of Trade and Economic Development (COTED) and Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR) and the CARICOM Legal Affairs Committee (LAC).

6.2.1.1 What is the CCCFP

The CCCFP is a framework³³ document designed to establish stronger and more effective collaboration and cooperation among participating countries in the conservation, management and sustainable use of the fisheries and related ecosystem in the Caribbean region. It seeks to establish within the context of the Revised Treaty, appropriate measures for the conservation, management, sustainable utilization and development of fisheries resources and related ecosystems and to build capacity amongst fishers and the optimization of the social and economic returns from their fisheries.

The CCCFP also seeks to promote competitive trade and stable market conditions for fisheries and aquaculture for the Caribbean peoples and the Caribbean region as a whole. The Policy recognizes the Region's obligations³⁴ under international instruments and agreements for responsible fisheries including the CCRF, the Declaration on IUU and the other related conventions on responsible fisheries, some of which are referenced below.

6.2.1.2 Structure and benefits of the CCCFP in context of the Workshop

The presentation was focused on the structure of the policy, its role in wealth creation for fisherfolk and fishing communities; food and nutrition security; the protection of the natural resources and livelihoods dependent on the resources; special benefits for fisherfolk and the nature of shared responsibility in fisheries. The presentation also provides information on the status of the CCCFP. Brief points of the presentation are provided below.

 *Policy design:* The CCCFP is designed to achieve closer consistency in fisheries policy among the countries, promote stronger commitment to practices in the use of living resources in fisheries ecosystems to safeguard the livelihoods of fisherfolk and to build capacities for business and trade for stakeholders. Socio-economic conditions of fisherfolks, participatory approaches and good governance in fishing communities and subsidiary are among the guiding principles of the Policy.

³³ Appendix 9

³⁴ UNCLOS, FAO / CCRF, FAO International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU Fishing; FAO Agreement of Port State Measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU Fishing.

- ✚ *Wealth creation:* The CCCFP promotes the fishing sector as an area of Caribbean economies with potential for economic growth including improved welfares of fisherfolks. This is to be achieved through strategies for diversification, innovation and cooperation in fishing operations. Better market access, exploitation of under or unexploited fisheries and value-added are the measures promoted to improve wealth creation.

- ✚ *Food and nutrition security:* The CCCFP supports the key role of small-scale fishers in food and nutrition security at household levels³⁵ and national levels while cautioning the need for a structured and balanced management approach in the use of the fisheries to avoid stock depletion. Other measures for balanced use include good post harvest practices including SPS compliance to avoid waste, encourage product development and for market access.

- ✚ *Protect the resource and preserve livelihoods:* The CCCFP promotes effective cooperation and collaboration in sustainable practices to secure maximum and longer term benefits from the fisheries and related ecosystems. A necessary outcome of the collaboration and cooperation is lessened concern that the level of fishing efforts in the Caribbean Sea will exceed the level of sustainable use. Furthermore the Policy gives adequate attention to the obligations under IUU Declaration and to harmonization of legislation in the region. Fisherfolk and policymakers are respectively encouraged to support and to facilitate an integrated approach to ecosystem protection in the fisheries to avoid IUU fishing practices.

- ✚ *Special benefits for fisher folks:* The CCCFP drafting process facilitated greater involvement of fisherfolk in decisions-making and advocacy. The process encouraged and promoted capacity building in organizational and developmental strengths enabled the inclusion of traditional knowledge in best practices and placed the CNFO on the international stage for small-scale fisheries discussions. Experiences gained are being translated into active participation in regional and international forum on issues such as guidelines for small-scale fishers suitable to the Caribbean and the understanding of governance issues such as implementation of rights based approaches in tenure in fisheries.

- ✚ *Shared Responsibility embraced:* There is greater understanding of the inter connectedness of the fisheries resources and the need for respect for shared responsibilities among States in sustainable use of the fisheries.

- ✚ *Status of the CCCFP:* The Draft Agreement to establish the CCCFP though endorsed by the CRFM Ministerial Council is still to be signed by Heads of Government of CARICOM.

³⁵ Reportedly there are some 182,000 Caribbean fisherfolk and their families who benefit.

6.2.2 Castries (Saint Lucia) Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

Introduction

The Castries (Saint Lucia) Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing was adopted by Member States of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism in 2010. This action by the Member States served to further align Caribbean fisheries with the international fishing community in the following ways:

- (a) Satisfies obligations to principles and rules of international law as reflected in several Conventions and Agreements including (i) the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (ii) the 1992 UN Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea concerning Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and (iii) the 1993 Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas.
- (b) Reaffirms the Member States commitment to the principles contained in the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and
- (c) Supports the 2010 endorsement of the FAO Council, for the FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU).

6.2.2.1 Benefits of Castries Declaration on IUU to Caribbean fisheries and the CNFO

Of primary interest to the CNFO is that the Castries (Saint Lucia) Declaration is an acknowledgement of the need for the regional and national fisheries organizations to put in place policy, legal and institutional frameworks to manage the issues and challenges of IUU. Adoption and implementation of the Declaration on IUU will strengthen support for regional fisherfolk security of livelihoods through adequate national surveillance and control systems for combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the region. The Castries Declaration on IUU also creates new opportunities for cooperation and collaboration regionally and internationally in the implementation of national and regional IUU frameworks to combat IUU in Caribbean coastal fisheries.

6.2.2.2 Responsibilities of States and individuals in the Declaration of IUU

Adoption of the regional instrument comes with regional and national responsibilities. These include among others, effective fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS), including vessel monitoring systems (VMS) and the setting up of regional register of vessels authorized to operate within CARICOM Region. The Declaration also calls for responsible reporting on fish catch by fisherfolk at one level and the cooperation in the management of shared resources at national and regional levels. In line with the CCCFP it calls for the promotion of harmonized approaches in the region, to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU Fishing in the region.

In effect, adoption of the Declaration on IUU fishing carries significant responsibilities for individuals and States. For example the IUU emphasizes responsibilities of port States to institute market related measures to prevent trade from IUU fishing. Flag States are also responsible for violations in their coastal waters, including measures to ensure that their own nationals do not support nor engage in IUU Fishing.

In recognition of the weaker capacities of small-scale fisheries, as in the case of Caribbean fisheries, the Castries IUU observe the provisions for phased implementation of the measures to combat IUU, through national plans of actions in accordance with the IPOA-IUU and in a transparent manner in accordance with Article 6.13 of the FAO CCCRF.

The presentation³⁶ to the participants on the provisions of the Castries Declaration on IUU is summarized below; the Declaration

- ✚ Recognizes the contribution of fisheries to welfares of fisherfolk, to nutrition security and appropriately makes reference to the vulnerability of CRFM States to IUU. It encourages compliance with the FAO-CCRF relative to IUU fishing.
- ✚ Draws attention to concerns about IUU impact on ecosystem and fisheries and the need for flag State and port States to exercise responsibilities.
- ✚ Encourages commitment to regional cooperation to combat IUU fishing.
- ✚ Encourages CRFM States to resolve to pursue efforts for integrated approach for long term sustainable use of the fisheries through legislation, enforcement and the adoption of markets and measures in accordance with international standards including WTO consistent measures³⁷.
- ✚ Encourages harmonized terms of minimum conditions to generate interest of the international community to cooperate with CRFM and member States.
- ✚ Promotes agreement on integrated and holistic approach including the establishment of necessary MCS and VMS capacities of flag States and for port State requirements. Implementation also has implications for capacity strengthening for CRFM Secretariat including establishment of mechanism to support a Working Group, and a regional database and information exchange infrastructure including information collected by flag States on fishing vessels, flying flags of Member States.

³⁶ Appendix 10

³⁷ WTO-Consistent Trade-related measures to address IUU fishing.

6.2.3. Issues on Policy Development and Implementation of the Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries, Climate Change Adaptation, and Disaster Risk Management in Small-scale Fisheries in the Caribbean.

6.2.3.1 Context of the Issues paper on Policy, Development and Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach

6.2.3.1.1 Role of fisheries and vulnerability of fishing communities

Small scale fisheries, including aquaculture are important to livelihoods, employment and nutritional security of some 182,000 persons in the Caribbean region. Fishing communities are faced with many threats including major threats from the impact of climate change and climate variability. Fisheries and fishing communities are inherently vulnerable to climate change because of the dynamic nature of land-water interfaces. This vulnerability is growing because of increased incidences of hazards and the influences of climate change. The interconnectedness of hazards and climate change suggests the need for an integrated management approach to disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change adaptation (CCA).

6.2.3.1.2 Proposed response mechanisms to CC in fisheries and fishing communities and aquaculture

The paper proposes the ecosystem approach to fisheries management in combination with DRM and CCA as essential for the realization of sustainable use of the fisheries and for aquaculture. A requirement for success is that this approach is closely integrated into wider development policies. For this to be effective and timely the process would need to consider strategies to include establishment of a coordination and partnerships umbrella, as central to the approach.

In view of the above, the paper recognizes the many CARICOM partners³⁸ with interest in EAF, DRM and CCA in respect of fisheries and aquaculture. Considerations would also include two existing regional frameworks namely (i) CCCCC Regional Framework for Achieving Development Resilient to Climate Change and (ii) Strategy, Action Plan and Programme Proposal on DRM and CCA in Fisheries and Aquaculture in CARICOM region.

The paper seems to suggest that even with the current frameworks and partnerships several issues and challenges exist for effective mainstreaming of EAF, DRM and CCA in small-scale fisheries. From then on the paper focuses on the identification of the critical issues relevant to development of policy and implementation of EAF, DRM and CCA in fisheries governance and management in CARICOM.

6.2.3.2 Critical issues

The critical issues are identified in the Paper are summarized as follows:

- (a) Progress in EAF, DRM, CCA approaches are being delayed by weak policy formulation and implementation, absence of political will and poor understanding of the issues to

³⁸ CCCCC, CDEMA, CRFM, FAO, WECAFC, CDB, CARICOM.

inform policies and strategies. Reportedly many countries admit to little or no interest in CCA and DRM as a priority

- (b) Increasing vulnerability is evident in fishing communities with higher frequency and intensity of weather and climate related hazards are creating concerns that more severe threats are not only for the future but are expected in the short to medium term
- (c) The level of commitment and political will to undertake coherent, coordinated and modern approach to climate change and climate variability is low.
- (d) Fishery administration often lack the inter-institutional coordination, capacity, mandate and resources to respond to the changing vulnerability context and
- (e) There is inadequate technical scientific knowledge and information exchange and communication at all levels including fisheries communities, coupled with poor data capture and management.

6.2.3.3 Main constraints and challenges

The main constraints and challenges were identified as follows:

- (a) Inadequate ownership and leadership in planning, coupled with implementation weaknesses and capacity issues of fisheries authorities and other stakeholders, including FFOs.
- (b) Weak coordination and cooperation at all levels caused by overlapping and competing government agency jurisdiction.
- (c) Limited human, technical and financial resources in governments and fisheries authorities
- (d) Donor coordination is less than desirable and difficult to rationalize and
- (e) Technical capacity for EAF, DRM and CCA is weak in the CRFM.

The paper provides recommendations for actions from Governments and from CRFM. Recommendations were proposed for actions by CNFO by the Workshop. The recommendations are as follows:

6.2.3.4 Recommendations for actions by Governments are for;

- (a) Regional programs to encourage investment in EAF/DRM/CCA approach that can reduce vulnerability of fisherfolk and their communities
- (b) Stronger political will and commitment to EAF, DRM and CCA improvement in public policy and stronger public / private partnerships at national levels

- (c) Stronger legislation to enforce environmental compliance including assessment of environmental impacts for all activities that have an impact on coastal and marine environment and
- (d) Fishery management plans using an ecosystem approach

6.2.3.5 Recommendations for actions by CRFM are for:

- (a) CRFM to strengthen and formalize as necessary existing arrangements for shared vision and strategic partnerships in EAF, DRM and CCA in fisheries communities.
- (b) Lead and advocate for inclusion of fisheries in regional and national EAF / DRM / CCA frameworks and
- (c) Continue to support regional research and information management including indigenous knowledge in EAF, DRM and CCA and the development of the necessary policy frameworks for the adoption of the principles at national and local levels.

6.2.3.6 Recommendations for actions by CNFO

As indicated above the Issues Paper did not provide recommendations for actions by CNFO. It is suggested however that CNFO continues to carry out the following actions:

- (a) Work closely with CRFM towards adequacy in understanding and practice of the ecosystem approach
- (b) Advocate for all coastal projects and activities to be consistent with the CRFM / CNFO principles for EAF, CCA and DRM
- (c) Work towards mandatory approval for environmental impact assessment of projects in threatened fishery and associated communities.
- (d) Establish centralized community-based based facility for data gathering and information management to identify threatened communities and fisheries and trends in sensitive environmentally communities.

6.2.4 . Food and Nutrition Security and the Role of Fisheries

Introduction

In 2011, CARICOM Member States, established a Regional Food and Nutrition Security Action Plan (RFNSAP) *“to ensure that the regional food production, processing, distribution, marketing, trade, and food safety and agricultural public health system is capable of providing safe, adequate, nutritious and affordable food for the region’s inhabitants at all times, thereby achieving food and nutrition security”*³⁹.

³⁹ CARICOM Regional Food and Nutrition Policy and Action Plan

The Action Plan seeks to support an industry approach to food and nutrition security that includes sustainable access to nutritious and affordable food at all times in all populations. In terms of access to food CRFM reports that the fisheries sector provides employment and livelihoods to 182,000 persons directly and indirectly. In terms of nutrition security research carried out by the regional food and nutrition institutions establish the important role of fish in nutritional security and in maintain good health.

This Report has already established the multiple health benefits of consumption of fish including the important role in the reduction of obesity in populations. The Caribbean continues to report increasingly high cost of obesity related diseases to productivity and to the national budgets. Prevalence in overweight and obesity and associated NCDs are making NCDs the main public health problems of the region accounting for over 50% of public health expenditure. Currently NCDs account for more than 65% of the top seven causes of death and illness in the region.

The presentation on the role of fisheries in food and nutrition security is comprehensive and may be read in *Appendix 11*. Some salient points from the presentation are provided below.

6.2.4.1 Facts on the importance of fisheries in food and nutrition security

The presentation made by CARPHA⁴⁰ confirms the benefits of fish and seafood in the household diet in reducing obesity and associated Non-communicable disease (cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, some forms of cancers and hypertension). In addition according to CARPHA seafood is a powerhouse food, fueling the body with important vitamins and minerals, proteins, Vitamin D, vitamin B12, iodine, potassium, zinc, phosphorus and selenium among others. Omega -3 fatty acids from fish may also reduce the incidence of depression and post partum depression in pregnant women.

The aforementioned are only some of the few benefits of fish in the daily diets as the nutritional benefits of fish and seafood described were wide ranging. For example, fish and seafood diets also provide about 20% of high quality protein of red meat and poultry. Currently fish and fish products account for an average 9.9% of the total share of dietary proteins in the region. The omega-3 fatty acids in fish and seafood make excellent meat substitute. Many varieties of sea food are also low in sodium and cholesterol. Reportedly some fish and seafood contribute to vision development and nerve growth in the retinal in babies.

6.2.4.2 Declines in fish stocks and availability of local fish in the region

Fish production and availability of fish has fallen over the years. In the meantime the demand for the commodity has increased at household level and in the hospitality sector. The gap in regional demand is being met by imports while respective countries may also source intra-regionally from countries such as Guyana.

In addition to enhancing food and nutrition security through nutritionally sound diets, the fisheries sector in the Caribbean improves access in food security through employment chains and sustainable livelihoods in fishing communities. Other living aquatic marine plant resources

⁴⁰ Appendix 11

such as the seamoss are popular foods providing income generating streams for youth and women in the region. The fisheries activities are also good source of employment for women involved in fish processing and trading.

6.2.4.3 Social, economic and environmental impacts on the role of fisheries in food and nutrition security

Despite substantial levels of agricultural support in almost every CARICOM member States the domestic food sector in general including the fisheries sector has shown only marginal increase in economic activity. Food imports including fish imports continue to be high and comprise a wide range of species, while the prices, poverty in pockets of populations and lifestyles continue to affect the traditional healthy eating habits including the pattern of fish consumption.

Pollution in Caribbean fisheries is resulting in contaminants in the fish population. Both small and large fish accumulate toxins but the larger fish accumulates to a higher degree. Common contaminants include mercury, and species of fish that are high on the food chain such as swordfish, marlin, tuna and shark contain higher concentrations of mercury. However according to the FDA, the risk from mercury from eating shellfish is not a health concern for most people, but may affect brain development in unborn babies. Furthermore the selenium content in the fish can protect against the toxic effect of mercury. Tilapia, shrimp, salmon, sardines; canned tuna are some species with low levels of mercury.

6.2.4.4 Policy options for sustained contribution of fisheries to food and nutrition security

Options would include those policies which can address the areas listed below:

- ✚ Increase the availability of fish and seafood at the national and regional level to ensure food and nutrition security while at the same time ensuring sustainability of the local fisheries.
- ✚ Enhance institutional capabilities, the legal and regulatory environment and affect responsible fishing culture to reduce and prevent illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing activities in the CRFM Member States.
- ✚ Aggressively address programs to increase availability and access to fish and seafood through including value-added and the development of aquaculture in the CRFM member states
- ✚ Increase public education and capacity building for policy formulation and effective implementation using a participatory approach.
- ✚ Support a mechanism for generating public awareness programs that consistently inform on the economic and social cost associated with NCDs and obesity and promotes healthier food choices through increased consumption of fish and seafood.
- ✚ Establishment of a Regional Fisheries Information System and Policy Network.

6.2.5 Update on the UNDP / GEF / CLME+ Project

Introduction

The Project present is a component of the 10 year CLM+ Sustainable Action Plan for Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem.

CLM+ adopts the GEF Operational Strategy for International Waters using GEF types of interventions and operationally is managed in two phases: Foundational Capacity Building (2009 - 2013) and Implementation of a Sustainable Action Plan (SAP) (2014 - 2019). Based on an agreed SAP, GEF is supporting a SAP Implementation Project using an ecosystem approach.

6.2.5.1 Project status

At the time of reporting, seven root causes of CLME+ issues have been identified and six main strategies and four sub-strategies for CLME SAP developed. Three Regional Strategies covering, environment, fisheries (WECAFC, OECS, CRFM, OSPESCA) and inter-sectoral coordination have been agreed on.

Currently CLME+ SAP covers five types of projects ranging from pilots activities and case studies through to transboundary diagnostic assessments. The SAP also covers Programme and Project Coordination and Oversight.

UNDP / GEF / CLME+ identify five components as follows:

- Strengthening and consolidating the institutional, policy and legal frameworks
- Enhancing the capacity of key institutions and stakeholders to implement knowledge-based EBM/EAF
- Piloting the implementation of EBM/EAF (replication of best practices, up-scaling of early results, demonstration of improved / alternative livelihoods,)
- (Pre-) feasibility studies to identify major high-priority investment needs and opportunities and
- Monitoring and assessing progress of and results from the overall implementation of the CLME+ SAP

Details are provided at *Appendix 12*.

6.2.6 Too Big To Ignore

Introduction

The Project is of six years duration with two main goals:

- (a) To understand the real contribution of small-scale fisheries to nutritional security, sustainable livelihoods, poverty alleviation and wealth creation and

- (b) To understand the impacts of global change processes on small-scale fisheries including climate change, urbanization, aquaculture, communication technology and globalization. The Project is global, based in Canada and is managed by over 62 scientists across 27 countries.

There are four Working Groups (WGs). WG4 is based at CERMES and focus on *Enhancing the Stewardship* and is working in collaboration with regional and international organizations with interest in fisheries. The processes adopted for enhancing stewardship include attention to:

- ✚ Social-ecological interactions, monitoring systems and stewardship in small scale fisheries
- ✚ Information, shared learning and stewardship through interaction SSF and the environment, participatory monitoring and evaluation and decisions on responsible actions taken.

6.2.6.1 Benefits to CNFO

The CERMES Group operates in Latin America and the Caribbean and beyond. CNFO can expect to benefit from the Project in the areas in which CEREMES is involved; the outputs of these areas include:

- Production of an electronic book on fisheries- draft title *Enhancing stewardship: a global overview of local perspectives*.
- Participation in global conferences on the subject.
- Investigations on fisherfolk organizations under a FAO global project and in collaboration with The Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk Organizations (BARNUFO).
- MSc Research Projects on Impacts, monitoring and stewardship. Specifically the activity on stewardship focuses on the benefits to the CNFO and invites the views of the membership.
- WG4 will continue to participate in fisheries forum towards sustainable fisheries⁴¹; small-scale fisheries governance for welfares and sustainability⁴², the small scale fisheries guidelines resumed negotiations⁴³ and the 2ND World small scale Fisheries Congress⁴⁴. In respect of the SSF Guidelines in Rome, CNFO leaders and their representatives are urged to familiarize themselves with the draft guidelines, share

⁴¹ Fisheries Forum at the 66th GCFI, 4 - 8 November 2013, Texas

⁴² International Conference on Small scale Fisheries Governance: Development for Well-being and sustainability, December 2013, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad, India.

⁴³ Small-scale Fisheries Guidelines Resumed Negotiations, 3 - 7 February 2014, FAO, Rome.

⁴⁴ 2nd World Small Scale Fisheries Congress, 21 - 23 September 2014, Merida, Mexico.

information to generate interest in the SSF and to prepare to incorporate activities for implementation in line with guidelines.

Details of the presentation are provided in *Appendix 13* and further information online from www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes/tbti.htm.

7. Knowledge Sharing at CRFM

The presentation by CRFM provided information on the achievements under an ACP FISH II Project to strengthen capacity to CRFM and its member States for information and knowledge sharing and sustainable management of the fisheries sector in the Caribbean region. As a result of the project CRFM is now equipped with new tools for knowledge management and communication at the Secretariat and with member States.

Specifically the CFRM now has the necessary resources to develop and disseminate material, facilitate and organize a growing sustainable flow of communications as well as helping to catalyze online collaboration with partners and stakeholders. An important outcome is that CRFM will be able to significantly reduce the challenges posed by the multi-islands membership including the logistical cost associated with the consultative processes through the use of the new website and online tools.

Details of the process towards the establishment of the website and the other knowledge sharing facilities are shown at *Appendix 14*.

8. Summary of Plenary discussions and Working Groups Outputs.

Introduction

The summary of the response of the participants to the presentation include the main points arising from the discussions following some of the presentations and the outputs of two Working Group Sessions. The first Working Group examined the usefulness and challenges of the three international voluntary instruments and the second was instructed to provide a draft paragraph on each of the technical presentations, for consideration in the recommendations of the Draft Statement to the Alliance.

The general consensus was that:

- (i) The provisions of the international voluntary guidelines reviewed (CCRF, the Technical guidelines on Governance of land, fisheries and forestry and the SSF Guidelines for Small Scale Fisheries) are relevant to the successful implementation of the CCCFP.
- (ii) The critical elements of the CCRF were already integrated into the articles of the CCCFP. However participants felt that much work remains to be done in the prioritization of the provisions of the SSF Guidelines and in the newly introduced Guidelines for Governance

of tenure to ensure optimum benefits from these instruments within the framework of the CCCFP.

- (iii) Measures to improve capacities in CFNO to advocate for greater attention at the national level for policy, legislative and institutional support need to be addressed. CRFM resourced including through technical cooperation agreements to facilitate the capacity building as well as make representations to advocate on behalf of CNFO.
- (iv) CFNO-CU should continue to work with CRFM on readiness strategies to participate in the resumed negotiations on the SSF Guidelines including those parts which are linked to the Governance of tenure of fisheries. The strong support and lobbying of Ministers of the region prior to the Rome meeting and further support from CRFM within the FORUM, Fisheries Council Meetings and the COTED were all recognized as parts of the readiness strategies for 2014 negotiations.

8.1. Main points of discussion in respect of the following:

8.1.1 Voluntary guidelines on responsible governance; the Participants

- Recognized that the adoption of these new and voluntary guidelines on tenure would have implications for implementation of the CCCFP. Specifically the CRFM would have to give early consideration on how these rights based approach would be integrated into the implementation of the CCCFP considering the strong link to the SSF Guidelines
- Recognized the potential influence of the rights based approach in the international community the opportunities provided to draw attention to their concerns that currently there are situations where coastal users are being removed from livelihood resources by other coastal users and economic interests. Accordingly they largely viewed governance on tenure in fisheries guidelines as a strong basis for legitimate dialogue at national and community levels in those situations where conflicts and threats of displacement exist.
- Noted that issues of governance of tenure in small scale fisheries including their livelihood security were beyond a CRFM/CNFO agenda and deserved to be placed on the region's national and regional agenda⁴⁵. For example land tenure issues in fisheries communities will engage a broader dialogue embracing other users in larger groups and beyond those involved in fisheries and coastal resources.
- Rights to ecosystems resources and services such as water and inland water bodies could result in conflicts for persons involved in aquaculture and marine culture. Such competing interests and claims for rights within and between communities will require inter- ministerial cooperation and collaboration within the public sector including at the local government level and with the private sector.

⁴⁵ Antigua and Barbuda

Based on the above the group agreed that there is an important role for CFRM in the interpretation of the tenure guidelines, and advocacy on behalf of fisher folks in the holistic approach to the obligations of the CCCFP and its vision for sustainable development of the small scale fisheries and fishing communities.

8.1.2 Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy; the Participants

- Agreed that the CCCFP brought closer collaboration and cooperation among States and fisheries, while recognizing challenges to efforts to achieve higher levels of economic productivity, better resource management and diversification. The CCCFP was seen as a good policy framework to facilitate and build capacities among fisher folk for sustainable livelihoods, employment, food and nutrition security and a tool for advocacy on the rights of fishing communities.

8.1.3 Small-scale Fisheries Guidelines; the Participants

- Suggested that the diversity and variations in small scale fisheries in the region will provide challenges in the benefits to individual fisherfolk and among groups. In this regard this was an area where CRFM / CNFO will have to work closely at the national level to ensure that all fisherfolk are provided for in projects and other support activities. The wide ranging benefits included opportunities to enable participation in the entire fisheries production chain.
- Recognized the central role of the guidelines in bringing a holistic approach to Caribbean fisheries and expressed their satisfaction at the level at which they have been involved in the discussions on the SSF Guidelines both during the Kingston Regional Consultation⁴⁶ on the development of the guidelines and at the Rome Technical⁴⁷ Consultation on the guidelines. The Meetings they felt facilitated clarity and focused attention on those provisions of interest to the Caribbean small scale fisheries and have served to build the confidence of the fisherfolk who negotiate on behalf of the CNFO. In this regard the CNFO was looking forward to the discussions in areas such as gender equality, post harvest handling, value chains and trade in small-scale fisheries.

8.1.4 Control of the Invasive Lionfish; the Participants

- Discussed the varying experiences in the measures to control the invasive lionfish including consumption of the fish in some of the member States, culling including permission to fish for lionfish in the reserves. In respect of the consumption of the lion fish it was proposed that consideration should be given to the development and dissemination of protocols for handling of the lionfish for food.

⁴⁶ FAO / CRFM / WECFAC Caribbean Regional Consultation on the Development of International Guidelines for securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries, Kingston, Jamaica, 6 - 8 December 2012.

⁴⁷ Technical Consultations on International Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries, Rome, Italy, 20 - 24 May 2013.

- Expressed some level of concern that the reduction of invasive lionfish in some of the fisheries could not be explained especially in coastal waters there was no direct action to encourage culling or was there knowledge of aggressive predators in the coastal waters.
- Expressed that the strategies used in some countries and the strategies proposed by CRFM will require longer term funding for sustainable control. Recommendations from the participants were for a dedicated source of national or regional funding to support control of the invasive lionfish and the establishment of a regional database for scientific approach to data gathering and analysis of the pattern of the threat around the coastal waters.

8.1.5 Castries Declaration on IUU; the Participants

- Expressed strong support for the Castries Declaration on IUU. Participants proposed that the CRFM / CNFO used the opportunities created by participation in the CWA to bring the matter to the COTED. They felt that IUU threatens the sustainability of the regional fisheries including the shared resources within Caribbean fisheries. In this respect the matter was deserving of attention at the level of Heads of Government, particularly in relation to extra-regional cross border issues.
- Suggested that licensing and registration must be addressed to reduce the incidences of IUU in the region. There were calls for a stronger role of the maritime enforcement entities in addressing illegal fishing, and for the establishment of a Working Group on monitoring to determine the state of IUU in the regional fisheries.

UNDP / GEF / CLME Project: the Participants

- Agreed that the Project would have important benefits to the Caribbean. In this regard they proposed that adequate measures were put place to ensure that the fisherfolk and CRFM were involved in the formulation of the projects at the very start. This was necessary for the countries including CNFO involvement in the project preparation and not just be facilitated to implement the activities. It would also enable proper budgeting for the implementation of the activities and for other types of commitments such as travel to meetings.

8.2 Outputs of Working Groups Discussions

Introduction

The Working Groups were provided with guidelines for the discussions as well as copies of the relevant documents from the workshop presentations. The guidelines for the discussions on the international voluntary guidelines are shown in *Appendix 3* and guidelines for discussions to provide inputs to the recommendations for the Draft Statement to the Alliance are shown at *Appendix 4*.

Each Working Group had access to relevant background documents provided to participants prior to arrival at the meeting. The facilitator provided at least one copy of missing documents to Groups which for one reason or another did not have the required document at hand.

There were four different Working Groups on the first day working on the usefulness of the international instruments to the CCCFP and six different Working Groups on the second day working on respective paragraphs from the Agenda items for inputs into the Draft Statement. Groups reported to the plenary after each working session and received questions and or comments on the presentations.

The quality of the reports varied and the extent to which each presentation generated discussions also varied. The discussion on the SSF Guidelines generated much interest in itself but also relative to the rights based approach in small scale fisheries under the governance of tenure in fisheries. This was however not surprising as these were newly introduced documents with new concepts for most of the CNFO and some of the public sector officers.

Only one group from day seemed able to follow the guidelines from the first day through to a strategic action. One reason could have been the seeming unfamiliarity with the language of the international instruments which hampered an ability of two of the Groups to identify a strategic action (s) flowing from the instrument that could provide support to the fisherfolk and or small scale fisheries. Hence while there were extensive discussions on the SSF Guidelines and the Governance on tenure, there was no clearly targeted priority action identified by these Groups.

One group from the second day did not report.

Day 1

Group 1: The Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries:

Participants in the Working Group agreed that the CCRF is a comprehensive document but that it needs to be simplified and adapted to the country situation. In other words the Code needs to be broken down in lay terms for uptake and assimilation by fisherfolk. The group recommended that the necessary action should be undertaken by the CNFO using a bottom-up approach. Furthermore that the Code is currently most applicable to a single-species fishery but becomes more complicated with multi-species fisheries.

The Group felt that the main issues and challenges with the adoption of the CCRF could be addressed with change in attitude of fisherfolk from a mind-set of “fish can’t done”. It is no longer business as usual. Awareness of fishers needs to be increased – fishers must be made aware that management arrangements must be put in place in order to achieve sustainable and efficient fisheries. Understanding the fishery(ies) is crucial - data collection is critical to decision-making and adoption of the Code of Conduct or aspects of the CCRF. Current legal and institutional framework hinders effective move towards achieving responsible fisheries.

The Group identified short term and medium to longer term opportunities emerging from the CCRF in the areas of (a) Training and fisher exchanges - adoption and use of sustainable gear;

data collection (biophysical, socio-economic, stock assessment data) and (b) Conservation and protection of resources through EAF leading to increased food and livelihood security as well as food quality. In their conclusion the Group indicated that “*there are many things which need to be undertaken in order to satisfy some of these necessary activities*”.

Group 2: Technical Guidelines on Governance in Tenure:

The Group endorsed the usefulness of the tenure guidelines but suggested that there need to be a better understanding or simplified presentation on tenure and further recommended that this simplified text is incorporated into the regional fisheries policy and by extension into the national policy. The Group proposed two strategic approaches for incorporating tenure into the CCCFP.

The first option would be for a broader approach linking tenure to economic development. This approach would identify the scope of the existing situation regarding tenure issues from the macro to the individual level, as the basis for development of strategic objective(s) for incorporation into the fisheries policy. In this case the processes of policy development must give adequate attention to fisheries stakeholder involvement and to transparency.

The second option would be a strategy to develop a protocol under the CCCFP that incorporates issues of tenure.

The Working Group also provided a statement for consideration in the way forward on the voluntary technical guidelines on tenure which reads as follows:

“The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the Context of National Food Security, which were officially endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security on 11 May 2012, seek to promote secure tenure rights and equitable access to land, fisheries and forests as a means of eradicating hunger and poverty, supporting sustainable development and enhancing the environment.

These Guidelines could assist in securing tenure rights and equitable access to land and fishery resources for sustainable small-scale fisheries and aquaculture development as a means of eradicating hunger and poverty.

It is being recommended that the Voluntary Guidelines are reviewed and incorporated into relevant regional and national policies dealing with food security and nutrition and poverty alleviation, including the Common Fisheries Policy, and the necessary infrastructure/institutional arrangements and capacities be put in place for its promotion and implementation”.

Group 3: International SSF Guidelines:

The reaction to the international guidelines on small-scale fisheries was extensive. The Group recognized the diversity and variations in small scale fisheries in the region and that this situation would provide challenges to the interpretation and integration of the SSF Guidelines in ways that

would benefit fisherfolk individually and collectively. The Group proposed it would be necessary to:

- Establish networks across countries for innovative approach in education for understanding among all stakeholders for compliance with legislation
- Facilitate knowledge building among fisherfolk individually and collectively for increased productive capacities along the value-chain.
- Provide market infrastructure including quality control systems, HACCP certification, licensing and registration systems and the necessary training for fishermen.
- Develop a communication strategy including consideration for logistic arrangements to access training that suit the lifestyles of fisherfolk.
- Capture the leverage provided in the adoption of measures such as CCA, DRM and EAF approach to galvanize national, regional and international support for regional fisheries and using an integrated approach for effectiveness and efficiency.
- Consolidate efforts for effective participation in the resumed negotiations on the SSF Guidelines including clarity on what are the provisions Caribbean countries need to have in those final guidelines to enhance and assure sustainable development of the small-scale fisheries.
- Establish the differences in objectives and material content of CNFO / CRFM public awareness for promotion and public / consumer support for fisherfolks and fisheries education to empower and enable fisherfolk.
- Sharpen readiness to discuss the real issues which are very common in small scale fisheries and which should be considered in the international negotiations – clarity on what to take from the CCCRF into the negotiations on SSF guidelines.
- Identify challenges in order to prioritize and integrate strategies and actions and avoid a linear approach to the actions on behalf of the fisherfolk.
- Identify and establish a financing mechanism to support participation of fisherfolk in global meetings especially the negotiations on the SSF guidelines. It was proposed that the CNFO undertakes the lead to develop a strategic action plan to mobilize resources for participation in important global or regional meetings. Focus was on the 2014 Rome Negotiations and on capacity building to develop the national SSF Guidelines. CRFM was endorsed to facilitate the discussions on the mechanism and sources of funding.

Day 2

Five of the six Working Groups from Day 2 of the Workshop provided statements for inputs into the policy recommendations for presentation to The Alliance. These statements are guided by the Guidelines shown in *Appendix 4* and are as follows:

Group 1: ILO Work in Fisheries Convention:

Paragraph:

The ILO Convention should be given consideration as an integral part of the implementation of the CCCFP. The basic principles of the Convention are very important. In general the region will need to decide how to treat with issues such as the very small vessel types, typical of the Caribbean fisherfolk and perhaps harmonize. There are also cost implications of establishing minimum standards for welfare, health and other conditions of work especially on these smaller vessels. Cost implications will extend beyond the CNFO through the fishing industry. CRMF and Governments therefore need to give consideration to the ILO Convention and the implications for bringing the provisions under the CCCFP. There are other issues such as meeting the requirements of flag states especially as this relates legislation, interpretation of the labor laws and the adequacies in capacities for monitoring of the minimum standards on the flagged vessels.

Group 2: Choice of Competent Agency for CCCFP

Paragraph:

Representatives of the fisher folk organizations consider the recognition of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) as the Competent Agency for implementation of the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP) notwithstanding the matters that have been agreed to at other levels within the CRFM, specifically the Forum and Ministerial Council.

Group 3: The CLME Strategic Action Plan

Paragraph:

The project needs to be developed and implemented with proper staffing and management, from the very start, in a way that the institutional arrangements at the regional and national levels are reflective of the needs of the representatives of civil society organizations including the CNFO (bottom - up approach) and that resources are made available to ensure there is maximum participation and benefits derived from the project. Also, stakeholder-based monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and indicators should be put into place to allow for proper verification of the implementation of the activities to ensure the achievement of the goals and objectives of the project. Strengthening of governance in the fisheries sector and benefits to the final beneficiaries of the project should be the focus of the Strategic Action Plans.

Group 4: Benefits of the IUU Declaration and what needs to be done now to facilitate realization.

This Working Group did not respond to the request for a report to the plenary.

Group 5: Role of fisheries in food and nutrition security

Paragraph:

The fisheries are major contributors to livelihoods, food and nutrition security and poverty alleviation in the region. Fish and seafood have multiple health and nutrition benefits and is an important part of the diets in food and nutrition security. Omega-3 fats in fish can reduce the incidence of NCDs in the region including cardiovascular disease, hypertension and some cancers. There are many other health benefits of a diet in fish. The fisheries also provide employment in fisheries communities including many women involved in processing and trade of fish. There is evidence that the fisheries or some fish stocks are on the decline. Efforts should therefore be made at national and regional level to put in place enabling policy frameworks and actions for rehabilitation and the use and sustainable development of the fisheries. This will require endorsement of CCCFP, the development or review of national policies and the necessary support for the CRFM.

Group 6: Addressing challenges in capacities for effective policy formulation and drafting of legislation

Paragraph:

Recognizing the limited capacity to draft legislation and to develop policy in the CARICOM Region, the CNFO urges policy makers to employ strategies that will among other things support the development of laws and policies and speed up implementation of critical activities in fisheries. These strategies should include where possible *inter alia*; (a) Establishment of policy development units in line ministries; (b) Engagement of short term consultancies to draft legislation and policies; (c) Where possible approach implementation of critical strategies in a phase manner such that in the absence of laws and policy Strategic Alliances with key stakeholders may be established (potential problems) and (d) Employ modern strategies in drafting legislation (e.g., efficient mechanism to increase fines and amend Laws). Urge Ministers to give higher priority to fisheries laws.

Conclusions and Recommendations

General conclusions from the Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies

1. The Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies met its objectives of providing a strong and comprehensive Statement to the Alliance on the role of fisheries in regional food and nutrition security welfares in fishing communities, as well as in presenting those issues, challenges and programs which must be addressed and strengthened to ensure and enhance the sustainable use and development of the fisheries for the longer term.
2. There is increased awareness among the CNFO-CU on the provisions of the international fisheries instruments that can benefit Caribbean small-scale fisheries sufficient to enable their effective participation in regional and international forum.
3. Based on participants' observations the adoption of international policies either by rule of law or voluntary obligations will require Caribbean States to pay better attention to policy and legislative frameworks, data quality and for integrated management plans for the fisheries while observing the protection of the rights and welfares of fisherfolk and workers.
4. The CCCFP is well developed in terms of its recognition of the most critical international fisheries instruments, its relevance to the needs of Caribbean small-scale fisheries, and the endorsement of fisherfolk on its usefulness to small scale fishers in the Caribbean, placing the Policy on a favorable platform to access support and cooperation for technical assistance from regional and international funding and technical assistance partners, with an interest in sustainable fisheries.
5. The body of fisherfolk are asking for more interventions in terms of capacity building and education for; best practices in fishing, in understanding and applying the ecosystem approach in the fisheries, the early benefits of the rights of tenure especially where displacement may be a threat, simplification of the policies in language that can move them from awareness to knowledge building and application of practices, as well as for the effective use of these policies as advocacy tools.
6. Caribbean fisheries are important to nutritional security, healthy diets and economic productivity but there are indicators of decline in some of the fish stocks amidst growing demand by local populations.
7. There is an urgent need for improvements in data quality on fisheries at the national and regional levels to adequately support fisheries management plans and to deter, prevent, or eliminate IUU fishing.

Recommendations emerging from the general conclusions are as follows

8. Heads of Governments of CARICOM should show stronger support for the CCCFP by signing the Agreement⁴⁸ for the adoption of the Policy and by putting in place the necessary measures to formulate or review national fisheries policies and other support frameworks that harmonize with the regional fisheries policy.
9. Governments should make provisions including through regional or technical assistance agreements for the continued and effective participation of CRFM / CNFO in the negotiations on the Technical Guidelines for Small-scale Fisheries to ensure that Caribbean small-scale fishers are well placed to derive optimum benefits from future cooperative actions.
10. Governments should put in place creative and innovative mechanisms to deal with the delays in policy implementation for sustainable fisheries and small-scale fishing.
11. CNFO should be facilitated to promote⁴⁹ the CCCFP at national and community levels, including in industries willing to support measures for higher levels of productivity from fisheries and aquaculture in a responsible manner.
12. A strategic regional and national capacity building and education program for fisherfolk and fishing communities building on the CRFM / CTA Project and the ACP II Fish Project should be established. The program should be developed according to clearly defined objectives of the public awareness component vis a vis the fisherfolk education component.
13. CRFM should continue to engage with other regional players in the EAF approach and in the application of the precautionary clause considering the reported increase in the number fisherfolk in at least one member State and the growing demand for fish by Caribbean households and the hospitality sector
14. There should be continued and stronger support to build capacity in CRFM for regional fisheries data management. This should be a collaborative effort among CRFM, CEREMES, CNFO and the national fisheries entities.
15. CRFM to be mandated and provided with capacity to establish a regional mechanism to facilitate coordination of efforts to access funding and other resources to assist the CNFO to participate in extra regional and international meetings and in best practices exchange. Part of this facilitation will include the assistance to the CNFO-CU to prepare strategic action plans for management of local fisheries communities according to the SSF Guidelines, participation in extra regional meetings and fisherfolk access to education in value-added and business.

⁴⁸ Eight signatories are required for adoption of the Policy.

⁴⁹ Radio, television, Town halls

16. Establish a regional fisheries information system to satisfy fisheries data gathering and management of information to deter, prevent and eliminate IUU fishing in coastal waters, to support evidence based fisheries policy review and project preparation for protection of the fisheries using EAF, CCA and DRM approach and the precautionary clause where data not available and for business decisions in fish markets and trade.

APPENDICES

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM SECRETARIAT

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CARIBBEAN WEEK OF AGRICULTURE 2013
CRFM / CTA / CNFO Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies
Georgetown, Guyana
7 – 8 October 2013
Draft Agenda

DAY 1: MONDAY 7, OCTOBER 2013		PRESENTER
0830 - 0900	Registration	
0900-0945	Opening ceremony: - Welcome - Project Overview - Regional Relevance	Invited speakers
0945-1000	Break	
1000-1030	<i>FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF)</i>	M. Lay (CNFO)
1030-1100	Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure	M. Haughton (CRFM)
1100-1130	Development Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines	M. Lay (CNFO)
1130-1230	Group work	Facilitator
1230-1400	Lunch	
1400-1430	ILO Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (C-188) and Recommendations (R-199)	M. Haughton (CRFM)
1430-1500	Control and Management of the Invasive Lionfish	S. Singh-Renton (CRFM)
1500-1600	Group work	Facilitator
1600-1615	Break	
1615-1700	Group reports	Facilitator
END OF DAY 1		
1730-1900	VIDEO - LOCAL VOICES IN CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: MARINE RESOURCES AND FISHERIES. FOLLOWED BY RECEPTION	
DAY 2: TUESDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2013		
0830-0900	Review of Day 1	Facilitator
0900-0930	Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP)	M. Haughton (CRFM)
0930-1000	Castries (St. Lucia) Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing	S. Singh-Renton (CRFM)
1000-1030	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF), Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and Small-scale Fisheries (SSF)	K. Parsram (EPA, Guyana)
1030-1100	Break	

1100-1130	Policy brief on food and nutrition security	James Hospedales, (CARPHA)
1130-1145	Update on the CLMP+ Project (via tele-conference)	Patrick Debels, Project Coordinator
1145-1230	Group work	Facilitator
1230-1300	Group reports	Facilitator
1300-1400	Lunch	
1400-1440	Knowledge Sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CTA Knowledge Sharing Programme • CRFM new website, knowledge sharing and collaboration tools 	C. Addison (CTA) / S. Singh-Renton (CRFM)
1440-1500	Too Big To Ignore	M. Pena (CERMES)
1500-1600	Review and finalization of draft submission for Alliance meeting	P.A. Murray (CRFM)
1600-1700	Way forward, workshop evaluation and close	Facilitator
DAY 3	FIELD TRIP	

CRFM / CNFO / CTA Fisheries Policy Workshop
Georgetown, Guyana
7 - 8 October 2013

#	Country	Name of Representative	Designation
1	Antigua and Barbuda	Mr. Philmore James firstabiola@gmail.com	Deputy Chief Fisheries Officer Fisheries Division
2		Mr. Devon Warner Codrington Barbuda free.dive.barbuda@gmail.com	Antigua and Barbuda Fishermen's Cooperative
3	The Bahamas	Mr. Gregory Bethel GREGORYBETHEL@bahamas.gov.bs	Senior Economist Department of Marine Resources
4		Mr. Adrian LaRoda alarodabahafish@gmail.com	President, Bahamas Commercial Fishing Alliance
5	Barbados	Mr. Stephen Willoughby bajanwahoo@yahoo.co.uk	Chief Fisheries Officer Fisheries Division
6		Ms. Vernel Nicholls vernel.nicholls@gmail.com	Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk Organizations (BARNUFO)
7	Belize	Mr. Mauro Gongora megongora@hotmail.com	Fisheries Officer Department of Fisheries
8		Ms. Nadine Nembhard bfca@btl.net	Secretary Belize Fishermen Cooperative Association
9	Dominica	Ms. Valcencia Candy-Stout fisheriesdivision@dominica.gov.dm	Fisheries Officer Fisheries Division
10		Mr. Baylon Fontaine nafcoop@gmail.com	Secretary National Association of Fisherfolk Cooperative (NAFCOOP)

#	Country	Name of Representative	Designation
11	Dominican Republic	Ms. Jeanette Mateo jeannettemateo@gmail.com	Director of Fisheries CODOPESCA
12		Tarsis Alcántara	Fisheries Officer CODOPESCA
13	Grenada	Mr. Johnson St. Louis johnsonstlouis@yahoo.com fisheries@gov.gd	Fisheries Officer Fisheries Division
14		Mr. James Nicholas southernfa@gmail.com	Interim President National Fishermen Association
15	Guyana	Mr. Yuri Moti	Supervisor Upper Corentyne Fishermen's Cooperative Society Ltd.
16	Haiti	Louis Jean Vixamar vixamar2000@hotmail.com	Department of Fisheries
17		Angelo Felix felixangelo27@yahoo.fr	Department of Fisheries
18	Jamaica	Mr. Andre Kong gakong@moa.gov.jm	Chief Executive Officer Fisheries Division
19		Mr. Glaston White wglaston@yahoo.com	President Jamaica Union of Fisherfolk
20	St. Kitts and Nevis	Mr. Marc Williams marcwill3@aol.com dmrskn@gmail.com	Director Department of Marine Resources
21		Mr. Winston Hobson atta.fish4u@hotmail.com	President Nevis Fishermen's Cooperative and Member National Fisherfolk Organization of St. Kitts and Nevis

#	Country	Name of Representative	Designation
22	St. Lucia	Mr. Thomas Nelson thomas.nelson@govt.lc	Fisheries Biologist Department of Fisheries
23		Mr. Horace Walters horacedwalters@gmail.com	President St. Lucia Fisherfolk Cooperative Society Limited
24	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Mrs. Jennifer Cruickshank-Howard jencruickshankhoward@yahoo.com	Chief Fisheries Officer (ag.) Fisheries Division
25		Mr. Winsbert Harry	Member of the Board of Directors National Fisherfolk Organization and Goodwill Fishermen's Cooperative
26	Suriname	Mr. Edmond Ritfeld	Department of Fisheries
27		Mr. Willem Moehamed Hoesein markspen2@yahoo.com	Vossercollectief
28	Trinidad and Tobago	Mrs. Christine Chan-A-Shing CChanAShing@gov.tt	Director Fisheries Division
29		Mr. Junior Quashie jushq04@gmail.com	President All Tobago Fishing Association
30	CNFO-CU	Mr. Mitchell Lay mitchlay@yahoo.co.uk	Coordinator Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisation
31	CANARI	Mr. Terrence Phillips penaeustp@yahoo.com	Technical Officer CANARI
32	TNC	Ms. Nathalie Zenny nzenny@tnc.org	Conversation Specialist The Nature Conservancy
33	UWI-CERMES	Maria Pena maria.pena@cavehill.uwi.edu	Lecturer UWI-CERMES

#	Country	Name of Representative	Designation
34	CRFM Secretariat	Mr. Milton Haughton Milton.haughton@crfm.int	Executive Director
35		Dr. Susan Singh-Renton susan.singhrenton@crfm.int	Deputy Executive Director
36		Mr. Peter A. Murray peter.a.murray@crfm.int	Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development
37		Mrs. June Masters june.masters@crfm.int	Statistics and Information Analyst
38		Mr. Delmar Lanza delmar.lanza@crfm.int	Manager, Finance and Administration
39		Thor Asgeirsson thor.asgeirsson@crfm.int	Fisheries Expert
40		Dr. Barbara Graham lyle_graham@hotmail.com	Facilitator
41	SusGren Project	Ms. Orisha Joseph orisha.joseph@gmail.com	
42	Trinidad and Tobago	CARPHA	Consultant
43	Guyana	Kemraj Parsram	Consultant

**CRFM / CNFO / CTA WORKSHOP ON REGIONAL FISHERIES POLICY
7 - 8 October 2013**

Work Groups Guidelines - Day 1

Overall objective:

To develop regional fisheries policy recommendations in support of sustainable management and development of the regional fisheries, for longer term food security, poverty alleviation, trade, foreign exchange, incomes and livelihoods with a focus on the development, strengthening and participation of CNFO as a strategic and critical stakeholder.

The Group will:

- 1.1 Examine the usefulness of the voluntary international agreements / codes / and strategic action(s) presented, in the sustainable management and development of coastal fisheries, participation in high seas fisheries including access and trade in such fisheries.
- 1.2 Identify and prioritize the main issues and challenges in the adoption of obligations of responsible fisheries as presented in the instruments focusing on the long term sustainability and livelihoods of the CNFO and others in the fisheries value-chain.
- 1.3 Identify the short, medium and long term opportunities provided by the international agreements / codes / and guidelines with a focus on the CNFO.
- 1.4 Provide a response to some of the concerns of the Agriculture Minister of Guyana on stock depletion and measures to reverse same such as product development, markets, increased productivity and inland fisheries.
- 1.5 Propose the most direct short, medium and long term actions to realize opportunities that could impact the CNFO and the fisheries:
 - (a) What needs to be done e.g. capacity building, policy, modernization of legislation, research, data quality for management plans, information systems.
 - (b) How and who should do it (institutions(naytional, regional, international, CNFO, CRFM, CEREMES, private sector)
 - (c) Technical assistance required.
 - (d) Inter-sectoral partnerships for full integration with other relevant activities that impact and or depend on the fisheries and other marine resources e.g. agriculture, tourism, th eindustry cahin and consumers. The pro[osals should be SMART.

**CRFM / CNFO / CTA WORKSHOP ON REGIONAL FISHERIES POLICY
7 - 8 October 2013**

Work Groups Guidelines - Day 2

Overall objective:

To develop regional fisheries policy recommendations in support of sustainable management and development of the regional fisheries, for longer term food security, poverty alleviation, trade, foreign exchange, incomes livelihoods with a focus on the development, strengthening and participation of CNFO as a strategic and critical stakeholder.

Specific action:

Based on the presentation and discussions of Day 2 of the Workshop respective groups will continue to dialogue in order to provide a draft statement / paragraph for input into the Statement for the Alliance that reflect the following:

Group 1

The implications of the provisions of the ILO Work in Fisheries Convention for Caribbean fisheries keeping in mind the differences in existing labour legislation of the countries (age at which young person could be licensed), cost of insurance, state of equipment and fisher capacity, boat size bearing in mind that most of the fishers operate small boats, how to treat this to ensure safety and protection for all. Statement should reflect the relevance in light of the large majority of small scale fishers.

Group2

Conclude the discussion on the choice of the Competent Agency to administer the CCCFP using the careful / sensitive language discussed in the plenary.

Group 3

The real value added of the CLME Strategic Action Plan and a recommendation to ensure that CNFO is able to access fully the potential benefits of the project outputs / outcomes, what additional partnerships to engage, what are the steps to be taken now to ensure engagement from the higher level processes through to the fisherfolk.

Group 4

The benefits of the IUU Declaration for small scale fisheries and actions to strengthen the work already facilitated by CRFM. Focus on the necessary strengthening to meet obligations of port and flag States as well as meeting the requirements for participation in international trade,

satisfying reporting procedures for curbing IUU, reducing inadequacy in legislation, improve data management systems and protect the artisanal fisheries.

Group 5

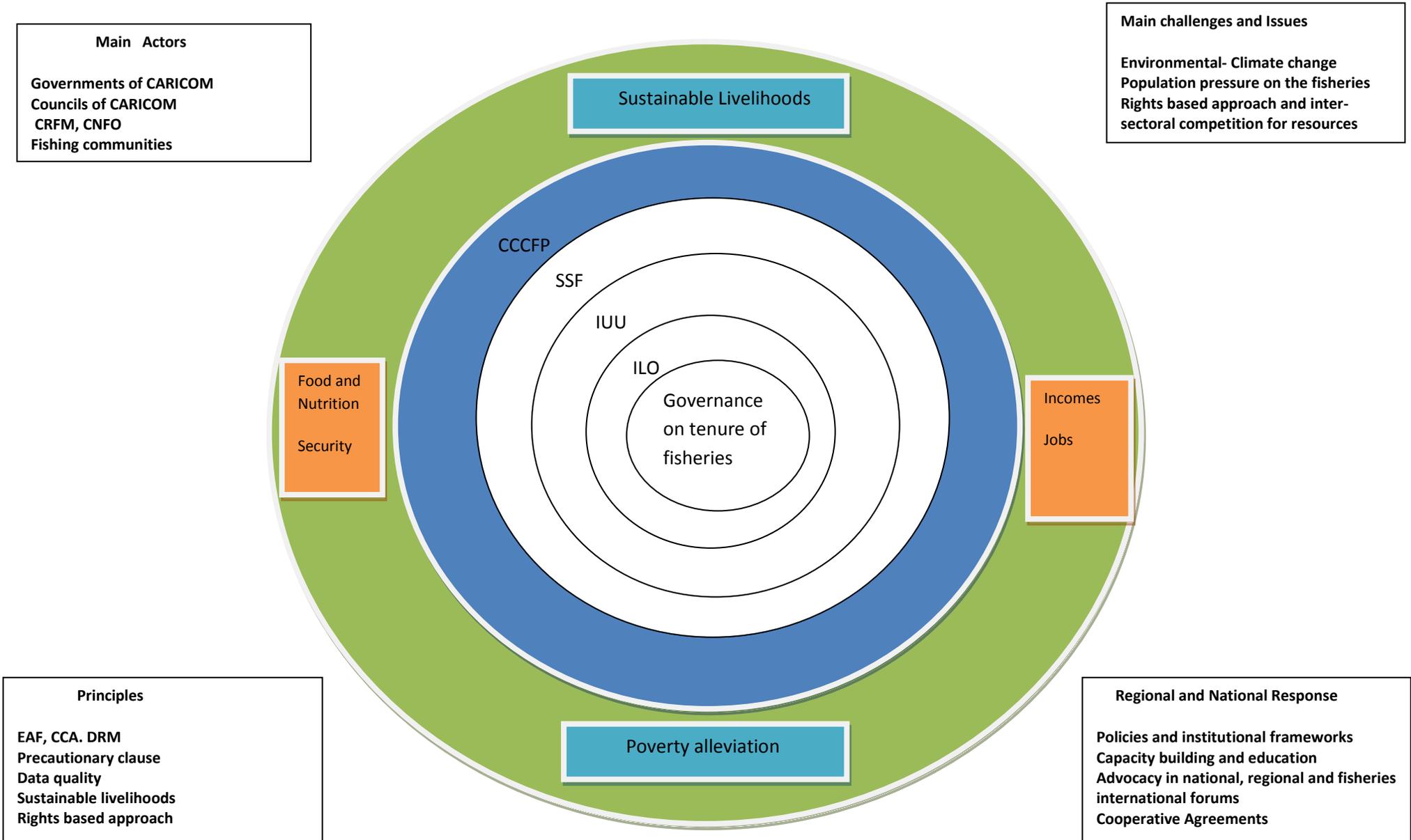
To promote the role of fish in nutritional security, including the issues of balancing availability with access (price), product development post harvest handling, and quality assurance and extending the value chain for access.

Group 6

Across the region and in all sectors there is an obvious weakness in institutional capacities to develop / formulate policies and draft legislation with regulations and in implementation. Discuss innovative ways for improvements including innovative actions at national level. While recognizing the achievements of CRFM / CFNO, examine the benefits of exploring broader strategic partnerships and strategic alliances that could benefit speedy implementation while awaiting the delays in policies and regulations (for example alliances with tourism, consumers, and processors). What would be the role for CRFM / CNFO? Is there an innovative way to develop the strategic actions / community based actions through alliances at country level in a manner that enhance efficiencies in policy implementation in the CCCCCFP.

**Obligations of the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy and Stakeholders'
Responsibilities**

Figure 1 Obligations of the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy



CRFM-CNFO-CTA Fisheries Policy Workshop, 7-8 Oct 2013

*FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the
responsible governance of tenure of
land, fisheries and forests in the
context of national food security*

Milton Haughton
Executive Director



Tenure Guidelines

- Voluntary Instrument – like Code of Conduct
- Committee on World Food Security – Adopted May 2012
- Objective – improve governance of tenure
- Sets out principles and internationally accepted standards for best practice
- Strongly based on **human-rights approach**, including realizing the **right to food**
- Framework for countries to use in developing policies, laws, programmes and activities



What are Tenure Systems?

- Systems by which access to and use of land, fisheries and forest is defined and regulated
- Determine
 - who can use, manage and control resource
 - For how long
 - Conditions
- System may be:
 - formal written policies and laws
 - Unwritten customs, tradition & practice



Tenure Rights in Fisheries?

- Long history of **customary tenure rights** of community
 - often based on access right to fish in certain areas and combined with land tenure
- **Informal tenure rights** lack legal recognition but can still be legitimate
- **Formal tenure rights** relatively new concept
 - Evolving
 - combining the concept of rights-based fisheries management (RBFM) + human rights-based approach to development



Why is governance of tenure in Fisheries Important?

- Growing population, over-fishing, environmental degradation, increased competition, climate change, = declining resource, conflict.
- Inadequate and insecure tenure rights increases
 - Vulnerability
 - Displacement of weak and marginalized
 - Poverty and hunger
 - Conflict and social problems



Why is governance of tenure in Fisheries Important?

- **Fishing communities need secure tenure rights to:**
 - fishery resources
 - land where they live and
 - other resources they depend on for their livelihoods
- **Secure tenure rights provide fishers :**
 - more secure livelihoods
 - greater control over their future
 - enhance contribution to poverty alleviation, food security, and equitable economic growth – for the benefit of coastal and rural communities and for society at large



Objectives and Principles

Objective:

- For benefit of all, emphasis on vulnerable & marginalized
- Goals of food security & progressive realization of the right to adequate food, poverty eradication, sustainable livelihoods, social stability, housing security, rural development, environmental protection and sustainable social & economic development.

Principles

- Based on human rights and good governance
- Take a livelihoods approach and recognise the need for dual rights (fishery resources and land)



Allocation, Transfer, Administration

- **Recognition and allocation of rights and duties**
 - What type of rights should be given to whom?
 - Permanent rights? Transferable rights?
 - Criteria for allocation of rights
- **Transfer and changes to tenure rights and duties**
 - Sets out duties of state and others
- **Administration of tenure**
 - Responsibilities of States include provision of competent, timely, fair, accessible and non-discriminatory services to settle disputes



Process of Preparation of TG

- Process of consultation / negotiation
 - LAC level consultation usually not adequate
 - Limited involvement of fisheries interest
 - Low level of awareness
- Contrast with process re SSF Guidelines



Tenure Issues

Fishers / communities face enormous challenges

- Increasing competition for coastal land & water
- Trend of displacement – from traditional land and sea space - tourism, oil & gas
- In the name of 'development' or 'greater public good'
- MPA and promises of Alternative livelihoods



Tenure Issues

Tenure rights in fisheries – largely informal

- Legitimate but not legally recognized
- Beach Land and forest used by fisher often owned by government or private owners – with legally secure tenure



Benefits of TG

Good tool to achieve improved security of tenure for SSF and realize right to food

- More secure access and control
- Positive impact on livelihood of stakeholders
- Increased sense of security & responsibility
- Increased revenue via taxation
- Use as an advocacy tool



Implementation

- Provisions not equally relevant/applicable
- Significant effort needed to allocate, recognize & secure tenure rights of fishers/ communities
- Reforms needed:
 - Policies, legislation, institutional frameworks re land use, fisheries, coastal & marine resources
- Integrated/EBM approach to Governance
 - Land, mangrove forest, marine space
 - Tourism, agri, shipping, fisheries



Implementation

- Voluntary
 - but still influential,
 - concept of “voluntary” can be deceptive
- Awareness building at regional national levels –
 - Very important
 - facilitate informed dialogue and discussion among stakeholders
- Build consensus re relevant principles and actions for region
- Political will to implement



Way Forward

- Proper assessment of the existing tenure systems (both at a regional and national level)
 - To know what rights (customary & informal) exist
 - Clearly identify stakeholders
- Sensitization (stakeholders, politicians, technical personnel)
- Capacity building: trainer of trainers
- Mobilization of resources
- Any approach to tenure systems in the Region should be integrated and holistic.



Conclusion

- THE GUIDELINES CAN WORK TO THE REGION'S ADVANTAGE AS IT RELATES TO ACHIEVING REASONABLE TENURE ARRANGEMENTS AND ADEQUATE TENURE SYSTEMS
- Can revolutionize the thinking of tenure systems in the Region.
- Financial support CRITICAL for implementation



Thank you !!

Sources:

- Regional workshop – Guyana (June 2013)
- FAO Power point presentation (Executive Committee meeting (Sept 2013)
- Text of the VG



CRFM-CNFO-CTA Fisheries Policy Workshop, 7-8 Oct 2013

ILO Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 and Recommendation (R-199)

Milton Haughton
Executive Director



Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism



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Work in Fishing Convention

- Binding International treaty
- C-188 Adopted 2007 by ILO
- Recommendation 199 – non-binding guidelines
- ILO: Promotes rights at work, encourages decent employment opportunities, enhances social protection, and strengthen dialogue in handling work-related issues
- C-188/R-199 – Ensures decent condition work for fishers on vessels
- 10 ratifications (including 8 coastal states) needed for entry into force (12 months after)
- To date 4 States have ratified



Why this Convention needed ?

- Fishing - dangerous occupation
- Danger arise from several sources:
 - Dynamic & changing sea & weather
- Nature of fishing operations & processing
- Long hours, mental stress
- Physically demanding and fatiguing work required to find and catch fish at sea
- Far away from access to medical facilities



What are Objectives

To improve living & working condition of fishers on fishing vessels

- To ensure fishers have decent conditions of work on board fishing vessels re:
 - minimum requirements for work on board
 - conditions of service
 - accommodation and food
 - occupational safety and health protection
 - medical care
 - social security



What is the Scope?

- Comprehensive
- Extend to all fishing operations –
 - marine & inland
 - rivers, lakes or canals
 - large- and small-scale fishing vessels,
 - open and decked, as well as fishers on board such vessels.
- (exception of subsistence and recreational fishing)
- Higher requirements for certain vessels



What are the Main Requirements?

Minimum Requirements for Work on Fishing Vessels

- minimum age (16) for work on fishing vessels, so as not to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of young people;
- medical examination, to make sure that fishers are fit to perform duties;

Accommodation and Food

- provisions on board fishing vessels with respect to accommodation, food and potable water;



Main Requirements?

- **Conditions of Service**
 - safe manning, to ensure safe navigation & operation
 - regular periods of rest for fishers
 - carrying crew list on vessels and providing a copy to authorities before departure
 - preparation of work
 - entitlement of fishers for repatriation
 - mechanisms to ensure regular payment of wages to fishers



Main Requirements?

Medical Care, Health Protection and Social Security

- medical care & right to medical treatment ashore
- right to be taken ashore in a timely manner in the event of serious injury or illness
- prevention of occupational accidents, occupational diseases and work-related risks on board fishing vessels, including risk evaluation and management;
- training for fishers in handling of types of fishing gear & the knowledge of fishing operations
- reporting and investigating accidents



Main Requirements?

Provisions would apply to Fishing vessels:

- a) 24 m and above;
- b) That normally stay at sea for more than 7 days;
- c) Undertake distant-water fishing operations.

Most provisions would also apply to other fishing vessels and fishers except those explicitly excluded by national authorities



Main Requirements?

- Recognizes that some countries might not have resources to immediately implement all provisions
- Makes allowance for progressive implement certain of its provisions over time
- Countries can choose to initially exclude some types of boats – e.g. those fishing in inland waters like lakes, rivers and canals



Importance of Consultation

- The importance of consultation among governments and representatives of fisherfolk is recognized and reflected throughout the Convention (see for example 2- Article 5).
- The requirement for consultation is mentioned 35 times in the Convention.



Conclusion

- This is a treaty that should also be of interest to all Caribbean State and fishers in particular
- Would improve basic working conditions of fishers
- Forum considered at 10 Meeting (Bahamas)
- Fishers may wish to include in their advocacy campaign for improved welfare



Thank you !!



Control and Management of the Invasive Lionfish {*Pterois volitans* (Red Lionfish) & *P. miles* (Devil firefish)}

CRFM Secretariat,
Offices in
Belize & St. Vincent & the
Grenadines



PRESENTATION LAYOUT

- LIONFISH – BEAUTY & THE BEAST
- Wider Caribbean response
- CRFM Response



Lionfish – The Indo-Pacific Beauty

- A marine fish, native to the South Pacific & Indian Oceans
- Has a striped, zebra-like appearance
- Grows to 30-38 cm in length, but can grow larger in non-native areas
- The pectoral fins are long and showy, and with a row of long, dorsal spines.
- Each spine contains a venom gland in the distal third of the spine

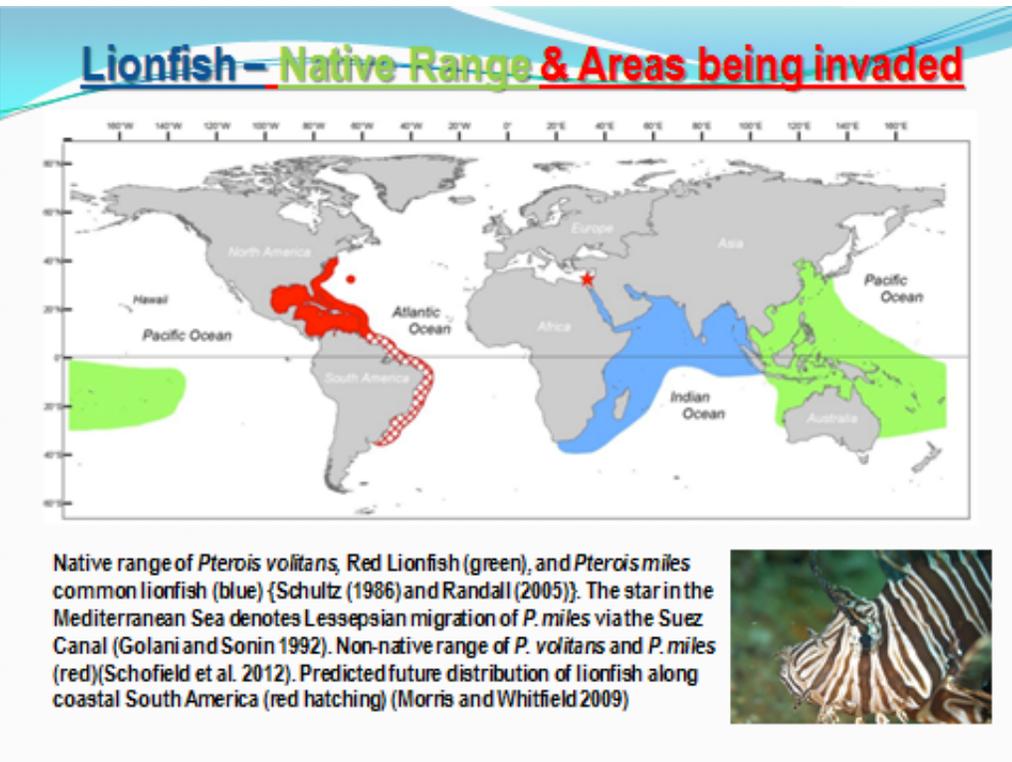
Lionfish – The Caribbean Beast

- An Invasive - the worst marine invasion to date. In 2010, listed as one of top 15 threats to global biodiversity
- A predatory reef fish with a voracious appetite. In native range, young fish run from the sight of lionfish → not so in the Caribbean
- A single lionfish can eat 1-2 fish per minute, & its stomach can expand up to 30 times its normal size. Obese lionfish have been found off North Carolina – for this, fish is eating over 7.5 times average dietary intake
- In the Bahamas, estimated to eat 1000 lbs (625 kg/ 0.6 t) or more of prey per acre (~63X63 m) per year
- Can reduce native fish amounts by up to 70%, removing organisms serving important ecological roles (e.g. herbivorous fish which keep algae in-check on the reefs)

Lionfish – The Caribbean Beast

- Reduced species important for harvest & human consumption
- Increased risk regarding recreational use (bathers, divers, snorkelers, because of density)
- Reduced reef biodiversity important for tourism appeal - the impacts are far-reaching!!
- Lionfish also compete for food with native predatory fish such as grouper and snapper

Increased mobility (Caribbean is small, shallower basin than Indo-Pacific region), greater reproductive effort and success, & decreased predation (expected to be more for young fish and larvae) compared to native regions, may be helping the lionfish invasion



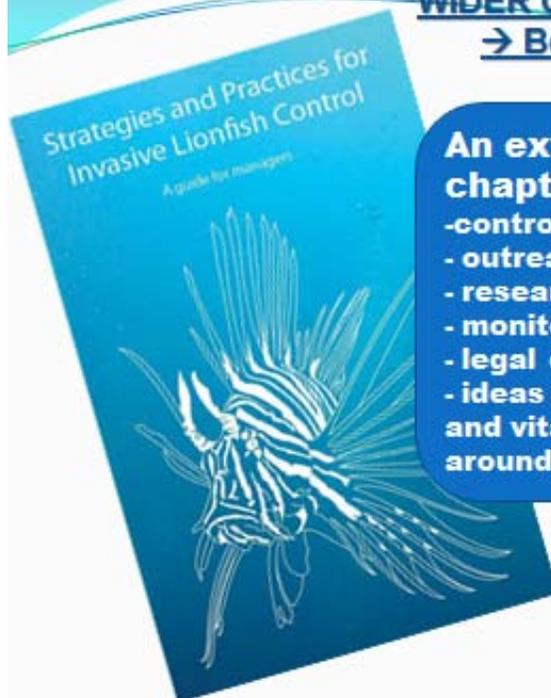
WIDER CARIBBEAN RESPONSE

An Ad Hoc Committee for the Caribbean Regional Response to the Lionfish Invasion (known as 'Regional Lionfish Committee (RLC)') was established in November 2010, involving several partners. (UNEP- CEP) & its Regional Activity Center for the Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife of the Cartagena Convention (SPAW-RAC), the gov. of Mexico and its Commission on Protected Areas (CONANP), the USA gov. & NOAA, Reef Check DR, CABI, REEF and representative Caribbean experts)

RLC Activities & achievements :

1. The release of an [ICRI Host Advisory Statement](#) in three languages which seeks to draw international attention to the lionfish issue
2. [The production, launch, release and translation of a best practice manual entitled: *Invasive lionfish: a Guide to Control and Management*](#)
3. [The joint writing and development of a Regional Lionfish Control Strategy, which intends to provide a framework to help guide action by stakeholders concerned with, and impacted by, the lionfish invasion](#)
4. The organisations of [specialized, technical workshops](#) on the lionfish invasion
5. The development of a [lionfish webportal](#) to facilitate ongoing regional communication, compile scientific information related to lionfish, and provide access to best management practices and manager-training tools (release planned for August 2013)
6. The compilation of a contacts list of lionfish stakeholders (currently hosted by CAR-SPAW)
7. Numerous presentations at [regional and international conferences and for a](#) on the lionfish invasion in the Caribbean

WIDER CARIBBEAN RESPONSE → Best Practices Manual



An extensive manual with chapters on

- control strategies,
- outreach and education plans,
- research,
- monitoring,
- legal considerations, &
- ideas for acquiring resources and vital partnerships from around the region

WIDER CARIBBEAN RESPONSE - Regional Strategy

OBJECTIVES OF THE STRATEGY:

1. Enhance regional understanding on the lionfish issue across sectors,
2. Provide a basis for regional coordination and cooperation at scientific, political and technical levels, and help generate the synergies required to effectively minimize impacts,
3. Provide a framework to develop consistent local action plans, and help prioritize actions for research and donor support.

Strategic directions :

- On-the-ground implementation via exchanges of experiences, protocols, and tools;
- Reduce costs via regional programs with pooled resources;
- Enunciate responsibilities of different actors and sectors;
- Fund-raising (the document of the Strategy will form the basis for the implementation of listed top priority actions) and guide donors on priorities;
- Consistent & complementary actions at all levels and across all sectors.



CRFM RESPONSE

2011-2012

OCTOBER 2011: 5TH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING - Raised issue formally for first time, with request for further attention at 6TH meeting.

MARCH 2012: 10TH MEETING OF FORUM - Received update on activities and work progress of ICRI Regional Lionfish Committee (RLC) from Belize (RLC Member), which included preparation of a publication "*Strategies and Practices for Invasive Lionfish Control*" & a proposal to develop a Regional Strategy for Controlling lionfish.

JUNE 2012: 6TH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING - Noted RLC's ongoing and completed work; Urged countries to develop & implement national response plans based on RLC recommendations, Urged plans to include statistical and reporting components to enable evaluation of the performance of national activities.

THROUGH 2012: Several CRFM countries developed and began implementing national response plans.

SEPTEMBER 2012: CRFM SECRETARIAT expert participated in September 2012 Writing Workshop to prepare the first draft of the Regional Strategy

CRFM RESPONSE

2013

APRIL 2013: 11TH MEETING OF FORUM – Noted progress of RLC activities; Endorsed Best Practices Manual for use by the CRFM; Endorsed Regional Strategy for the Control and Mitigation of the Invasive Lionfish in the Wider Caribbean Region.

MAY 2013: 7TH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING - Formally approved Forum decisions

JUNE 2013: 9TH ANNUAL CRFM SCIENTIFIC MEETING – CRFM Reef and Slope Fish Resource Working Group (CRFM RSWG) considered updates by 3 countries (Bahamas, St. Vincent & The Grenadines and Dominica) on implementation of regional strategy. To date, efforts have included public education and outreach, advocating development of fishery for lionfish, promotion of marketing and consumption. Only Dominica indicated that a database was being maintained.

JULY 2013 ONWARDS: CRFM RSWG will need to work inter-sessionally to support statistical monitoring of the performance of national responses to the lionfish invasion.

Indo-Pacific beauty, Caribbean Beast

Not going away,
Lionfish is here to stay,
Must control without delay,
Or live to see a sadder day...



The Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy

CARIBBEAN FISHERIES

our treasure, our life

Milton Haughton
Executive Director



Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism



www.crfm.int

Presentation Overview

- CCCFP history
- The policy
- Wealth creation
- Food and good nutrition security
- Preserve the resource, protect livelihoods
- What's in CCCFP for fisherfolk?
- Shared responsibility
- CCCFP status



CCCFP History Policy Development

- 2003 Heads of Government mandate
- Then, studies, reviews, missions abroad, regional workshops, national consultations
- Working groups
 - Legal
 - Socio-economic
 - Multidisciplinary
- CRFM Forum and Ministerial Council
- Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) and Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR)
- Legal Affairs Committee (LAC)



Common Fisheries Policy

- Initiates closer cooperation, integration and consistency in fisheries policy among countries
- Builds States' capabilities to conduct research, collect and analyse data
- Encourages new business opportunities; generating more trade, improved incomes and higher profits through diversification
- Stronger commitment to conservation, protection and sustainable use of living resources to safeguard fisherfolk livelihoods
- Uses key international principles of sustainable fisheries, particularly the precautionary and the ecosystem approaches



Common Fisheries Policy

- Enhance development of fisheries and aquaculture to improve the welfare and socio-economic conditions of fishers and communities
- Participatory approach, considering the rights and special needs of traditional, subsistence, artisanal and small-scale fishers
- Good governance, accountability and transparency, including equitable allocation of rights, obligations, responsibilities and benefits
- Subsidiarity, in particular that the Competent Agency will only perform those tasks which cannot be more effectively achieved by individual States.



CCCFP and Wealth Creation

Times are tough

- Fishing sector is an area of Caribbean economies with room for economic growth through diversification, innovation and cooperation
- Need to improve livelihoods and welfare of fishers
- Need more fisheries-generated employment and income in our economies
- Foreign exchange from the fishing industry helps counteract the region's perennial trade deficit
- Improved performance of the sector can help us rise above difficulty



CCCFP and Wealth Creation

CCCFP supports

- Market research and market access gains
- Marketing and sector trade development
- Pursuit of under- or unexploited species
- Increase in fish processing to add value, capture more profit, create more jobs in the region
- More aquaculture business ventures



Food and Nutrition Security

- Fisheries provide a healthy share of our good nutrition and food security; a safety net in difficult times
- Small-scale fishers have a key role, creating jobs and supplying food across the region
- Need a structured, balanced approach, avoiding stock depletion while assuring consistent supply to Caribbean markets



Food and Nutrition Security

CCCFP:

- Harmonises sustainable fisheries management and post-harvest practices
- Promotes competitive trade and stable market conditions
- Improves quality assurance and seafood safety standards
- Requires participating nations to establish protocols for sanitary and phytosanitary measures so that the seafood we consume is not only good for us, but is also of high quality.



Protect the resource Preserve livelihoods

CCCFP Vision

- “...effective cooperation and collaboration in the conservation, management and sustainable utilisation and development of the fisheries and related ecosystems in the region to secure the maximum benefits for the peoples...”
- Promote recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a Special Area of sustainable development, so that the level of fishing effort does not exceed the level of sustainable use.
- Transform the sector: more market-oriented, internationally competitive and environmentally sustainable



Protect the resource Preserve livelihoods

The CCCFP aims to:

- Prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing
- Strengthen, upgrade, harmonise and modernise regional fisheries legislation, foster better cooperation, enforcement and information sharing
- Integrate environmental, coastal and marine management consideration into fisheries policies
- Protect and conserve fish stocks and related ecosystems from degradation due to pollution, climate change or natural disasters.



What's in it for fisherfolk?

- Greater involvement in decision making, as exhibited throughout the CCCFP drafting process
- Improved image and perception of the fisheries sector to give it higher priority in national development and funding
- Use the best available information in decision-making, taking into consideration traditional fisherfolk knowledge
- Better regulations, enforcement and licensing to help preserve livelihoods
- Improved welfare of fishers



What's in it for fisherfolk?

- Opportunities for businesses to grow regionally by expanding the product range
- Improved marketing opportunities and market access for fish
- Expanded market research, planning & scientific studies to help fishers meet ongoing challenges

Needed: innovation and cooperation

Shared resource Shared responsibility

- Caribbean people are all interconnected
- Fishing is woven throughout our societies
- We all benefit in one way or another from our fisheries - jobs, food and recreation
- CCCFP comes from a *participatory* approach to *regional* cooperation
- Fisheries resource management and protection is for *all* people in the Caribbean
- Save the resource today for tomorrow's generation and others to come



CCCFP Status

Where we are today:

- Policy is approved by and supported at all levels of CARICOM governments

The final step:

- Signature by CARICOM Heads of State
- Only 8 signatures needed for policy entry into force



CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY COMMON
FISHERIES POLICY

It's time to sign!



Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism



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Castries (St. Lucia) Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing

A Presentation
by
CRFM Secretariat,
Belize &
St. Vincent &
the Grenadines



Illegal fishing – common everywhere & hurting



The screenshot shows the homepage of The Gleaner newspaper. The main headline is "Gov't Vows To Curb Illegal Fishing", published on Thursday, January 13, 2011. The article features a photo of Christopher Tufton, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, speaking at a press conference. The sidebar contains several news snippets, including "Captains to be charged for illegal fishing" and "Japanese Used Car".

BACKGROUND

2006 – 2010

Acknowledging the issues and challenges of weak national surveillance and control systems, and an urgent need for cooperation in combatting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, the Caribbean Fisheries Forum began work in 2006 that eventually led to the adoption of the Castries (St. Lucia) Declaration on Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing



A Jamaica Defence Force soldier guards some of the 48 men, claiming to be Hondurans, who were caught in Jamaican waters catching lobster and conch illegally by the crew of the Her Majesty's Jamaican Ship Cornwall.
Source: Jamaica Gleaner

Layout of the Declaration

- ❑ 22 paragraphs of preamble (setting the context)
- ❑ Body of the Declaration, containing 7 sections and with sections 4-7 speaking to 28 specific actions

PREAMBLE (1)

- 1. Recognises the contribution of fisheries to human and social well-being, particularly, food and nutrition security and employment**
- 2. Defines illegal unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, recognises its negative impacts worldwide, and the vulnerability of CRFM States to IUU fishing activities practiced on national, regional and international scales**
- 3. Aware that IUU fishing practiced by both local and foreign vessels, & the fight against IUU fishing requires regional cooperation to be effective**
- 4. Recalls international & regional laws that prescribe responsible and sustainable fisheries management, compliance with management/ conservation measures, including the FAO IPOA IUU & The CRFM Agreement, and notes importance of improved implementation of these**

PREAMBLE (2)

- 5. Notes specific concerns about IUU impacts on health of resources, artisanal/ small-scale fisheries, and countries' economies and sustainable management efforts**
- 6. Notes flag and port state responsibilities, coastal state responsibilities**
- 7. Aware of the need for an effective Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) system to combat IUU fishing**
- 8. Recognises the need for regional and international cooperation and for capacity-building**

BODY OF DECLARATION (Sections 1-3)

- 1. Determined to work together (stakeholders, regional, multi-lateral partners)**
- 2. Committed to intensifying efforts to implement the relevant international instruments**
- 3. Committed to implement the principles contained in same declaration**

BODY OF DECLARATION (Section 4)

RESOLVE & RENEW EFFORTS:

- 1. Integrated approach (social, economic, environmental) & considering varying state responsibilities under international law**
- 2. Phased implementation via national & regional plans of action**
- 3. Adopt management actions for long term sustainable use of resources**
- 4. Revise legislation and regulations, with strong sanctions to combat benefits derived from IUU**
- 5. Work to identify, reduce/ eliminate economic incentives of IUU, and adopt market measures in accordance with international standards**
- 6. Database of vessels in good standing**
- 7. Participatory approach (across CRFM membership, and stakeholders)**
- 8. Implement plans of action with transparency**
- 9. Seek to improve capacity**

BODY OF DECLARATION (Section 5)

CALL UPON:

- 1. Member States to cooperate in implementing harmonized minimum terms & conditions of MCS**
- 2. Member States to maintain records of fishing vessels fishing within national jurisdictions & the High Seas**
- 3. International Community to cooperate with and support CRFM States to build necessary capacity to prevent, deter, eliminate IUU**

BODY OF DECLARATION (Section 6)

AGREE ON THE NEED:

- 1. Holistic & integrated approach**
- 2. Monitor & regulate transshipment operations to prevent IUU fishing & illegal catch laundering.**
- 3. Regional network of information exchange meshing with International MCS Network**
- 4. Strengthen relevant coastal and port state measures**
- 5. Further international actions against 'Flag of Convenience' vessels & require 'genuine link' between states and vessels**
- 6. Strengthen CRFM to cope with expected contributions**
- 7. Vessel marking requirements consistent with agreed international & regional standards**
- 8. CRFM working group on IUU to deal with methods of data collection**
- 9. Promote all related information exchange between states and CRFM**

BODY OF DECLARATION (Section 7)

URGE ALL MEMBER STATES:

- 1. To implement relevant provisions of FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries & Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development**
- 2. Supply information on fishing vessels to the CRFM**
- 3. Become parties to relevant international fisheries conventions and agreements that provide support against IUU fishing**
- 4. Supply data on authorized High Seas vessels to FAO on voluntary basis, if not yet party to the FAO Compliance Agreement**
- 5. Exercise full control of vessels flying flag**

Serving Caribbean Fisheries



The Role of Fish and Seafood on Nutrition and Food Security

Prepared for the Caribbean Week of Agriculture 2013
CRFM/CTA/CNFO Workshop on Regional Fisheries
Policies
7-8 October, 2013



Preventing disease, promoting and protecting health

Overview of Presentation

Summary of the Problem

The Contextual Environment

- *The Nutritional and Epidemiological Transitions*
- *Seafood and Fishery Industry*
- *Nutritional Benefits of Fish and Seafood*
- *A bit on Contaminants*



Recommendations for policy action

Summary of the Problem



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Preventing disease, promoting and protecting health

Summary of the problem

1. Food and nutrition security exists when the household has access to food needed for a healthy life for all members and is not at risk of losing such access. It embraces all sectors, is multidimensional and embodies:
 - food availability;
 - food accessibility;
 - food utilization; and
 - stability
2. In 2004 fish provided more than 2.6 billion people globally with at least 20 % of their average per capita animal protein intake (FAO 2006).



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Summary of the problem

- The FAO report also highlights that fish protein as a share of total world animal protein supplies increased from 14.9% in 1992 to 15.5% in 2003 with global fish consumption at 16.5kg per capita in 2013 (majority accounted for by China).
- Production has fallen over the years despite increasing demands for fish and seafood by both consumers and the Tourism industry.
- Despite substantial levels of agricultural support in almost all CARICOM member states over the past 40 years, the fisheries industry has shown only marginal economic activity.



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Summary of the problem

The fisheries sector in the Caribbean:

- Provides employment for many in the rural communities.
- Enhances food and nutrition security and is an important foreign exchange earner.
- Is an important contributor to GDP (as low as low as 0.13% in Trinidad and Tobago to a high of 6.85% in Guyana).



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Summary of the problem

- Fish and other seafood constitute a traditional element of the diet of most Caribbean people.
- Fish and fish products account for an average of 9.9% of the total share of dietary protein and consumption has increased particularly of the imported frozen and smoked fish.
- Grenada, Guyana, Barbados, Suriname and St. Lucia have the highest share of the dietary consumption while St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and Belize have the lowest (CRFM Administrative Report, 2009).



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Summary of the problem

- However, there are several threats to its availability and challenges to continued access. Some other challenges include:
 - population growth;
 - limited productivity of coastal fisheries;
 - climate change; and
 - overexploitation of certain species such as tuna (Secretariat of the Pacific Community, 2008).



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The Contextual Environment



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The Contextual Environment: The Epidemiological and Nutritional Transition

The region is experiencing a nutrition transition reflected in a shift in diets away from indigenous foods including fish and seafood to diets that are more energy dense and processed; and more added sugars, high in fats/oils and sodium, and often more alcohol.

This shift in diets is ultimately reflected in the increasing prevalence of overweight and obesity, a main risk factor in NCDs, such as diabetes, hypertension, stroke, heart diseases and some forms of cancers.

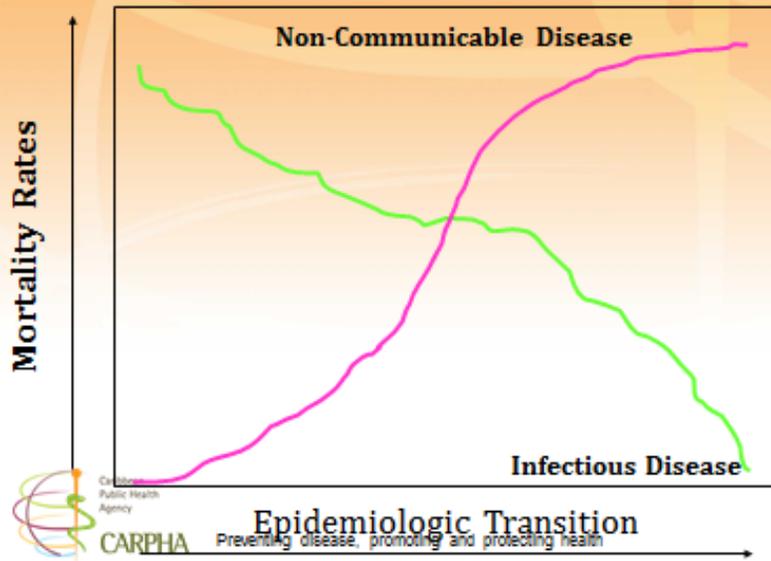
These NCDs are the main public health problems in the region and are linked to current food intakes and lifestyle.



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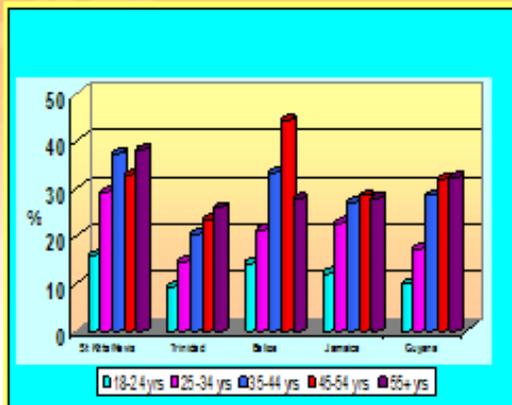
Epidemiologic Transition

Omran, A. The Epidemiologic Transition: A theory of the epidemiology of a population change. *Milbank Q.* 1971;49:509-538.



More information available at <http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec0022/007.htm>

Obesity Prevalence (Selected Age Groups and Countries).



Source: Henry, 2004c

- Obesity has increased rapidly in the last two decades in the Caribbean.

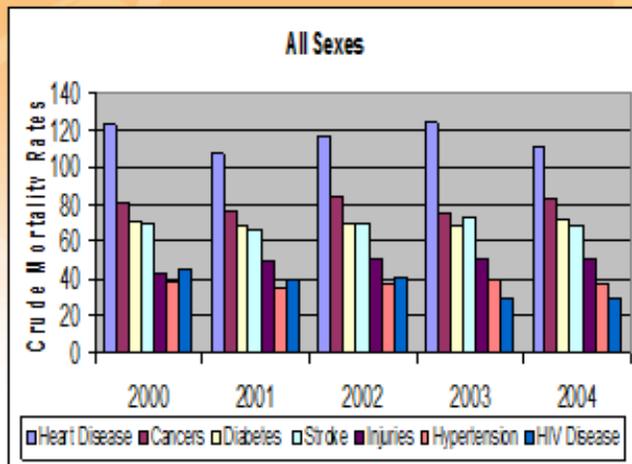
- About 25% of adult Caribbean women are obese, almost twice as many as their male counterparts.

- Child and adolescent obesity is also high.

- Adult obesity is associated with child obesity and this risk increases when either parent is also obese (Henry, 2004c).

- After adolescence there is a clear and consistent increase in obesity through to older adults

Crude Mortality Rates (Deaths/100,000) in the Caribbean for Selected Diseases



Source: CAREQ 2007.

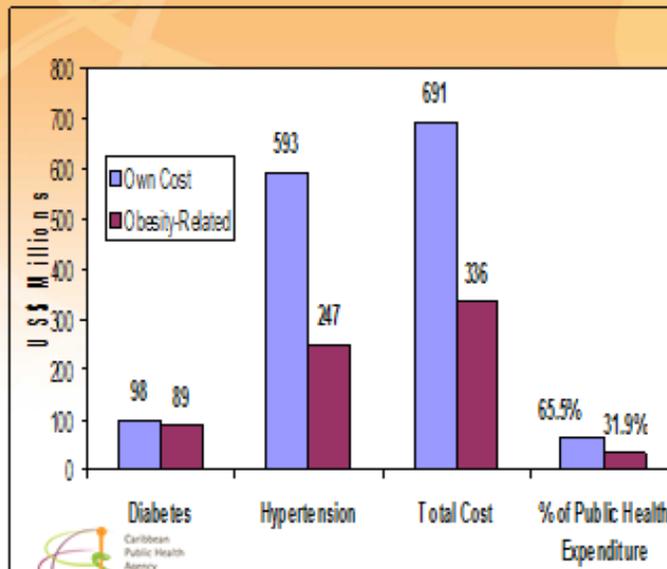


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NCDs account for more than 65% of the top seven causes of death and illness in the region

CARIFORUM: Direct cost of Diabetes and Hypertension (USM\$)



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Obesity related costs to total Public Health expenditure is almost 50%

The Seafood and Fisheries Industry

- According to Heileman (2007) the living marine resources in the Caribbean Sea include:
 - queen conch,
 - spiny lobster,
 - crabs,
 - molluscs, and
 - penaeid shrimps.



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The Seafood and Fisheries Industry

- The resources also include a range of fish species associated with different habitats including:
 - reefs,
 - muddy bottom species,
 - small and medium sized coastal pelagic species,
 - large migratory pelagic species,
 - deep slope snapper and groupers, and
 - turtles and marine mammals.



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The Seafood and Fisheries Industry

- In the Region, fish is preferred in a fresh whole form, although salted dried fish is well accepted in some islands.
- Processed forms are bought in larger quantities due to greater availability and sometimes cheaper prices.



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The Seafood and Fisheries Industry

- Fish imports into the region comprise a wide range of species and product forms, mostly dried, smoked, salt-dried, gutted, iced, and canned.
- The use of salted cod forms a major part of the local diets of the region.
- Complex economic factors combined with traditional eating habits continue to affect the pattern of fish consumption.



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The Seafood and Fisheries Industry

- Crustaceans are scarce and seldom consumed locally. They have become a valuable export commodity in most islands, particularly spiny lobsters.
- Freshwater prawns are consumed by the local population in some territories, although at present they are all being channeled to the local tourist trade due to their high value.



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The Seafood and Fisheries Industry

- Molluscs are not a traditional part of the diet, with the exception of stromboid queen conch and the mangrove oyster which are consumed mainly in Cuba and Jamaica.



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Nutritional Benefits of Fish and Seafood

- Seafood is a powerhouse food. It fuels our bodies with important vitamins and minerals that help keep us in the best possible health throughout the life course.
- Fish and seafood are important sources for vital nutrients such as proteins, vitamin D, vitamin B12, phosphorus, potassium, zinc, selenium and iodine. Canned fish with edible bones, such as salmon or sardines, are also rich in calcium.



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Nutritional Benefits of Fish and Seafood

- Seafood contains about 20% of the high quality proteins of red meat and poultry. It is also low in fat and most of that fat is polyunsaturated. It contains high levels of nutrients that are not commonly found in other foods and have a low proportion of the saturated fats.
- Some fish are relatively high in fat such as **salmon**, **mackerel** and **catfish**. However, the fat is primarily unsaturated.



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Nutritional Benefits of Fish and Seafood

- These polyunsaturated and long-chain fatty acids (omega 3 fatty acids: eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) and docosahexaenoic acid (DHA)) are key building blocks in the cell membranes of fish, shellfish and marine mammals.
- Because many diets now specify polyunsaturated fat, rather than saturated fat, fish and seafood make excellent meat substitutes.



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Nutritional Benefits of Fish and Seafood

- Many varieties of seafood are also low in sodium and cholesterol. Fish is also a good source of "B" Vitamins" B₆, B₁₂, biotin and niacin. Vitamin A is found mainly in fish liver oils, but some high fat fish are good sources of Vitamin A.
- Fatty fish and cod liver oil are the most important sources of long-chain polyunsaturated omega-3 fatty acids and vitamin D, and is favorable with respect to both cardiovascular diseases and foetal development..



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Nutritional Benefits of Fish and Seafood

- The cholesterol content of most fish is similar to red meat and poultry, about 20 mg per ounce. Some shellfish contain more cholesterol than red meat. But the fat is mainly polyunsaturated. Fish and seafood provide a range of health benefits.
- A growing body of evidence indicates that omega -3 fatty acids help maintain cardiovascular health by playing a role in the regulation of blood clotting and vessel constriction thus reducing the risk of heart disease and may prolong life after a heart attack.



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Nutritional Benefits of Fish and Seafood

- Fish and seafood consumption lowers blood triglycerides (fats); may improve heart function and reduce damage from heart disease; can lower blood pressure; and may improve symptoms of inflammatory diseases, arthritis and psoriasis. The omega-3 fatty acids may also reduce the incidence of depression and postpartum depression in pregnant women.
- Some fish and seafood may reduce the risk of Alzheimers Disease and cognitive decline in the elderly.
- In babies it contributes to vision development and nerve growth in the retina.



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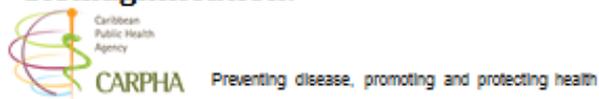
Contaminants

- Fish and seafood are an important part of the diet because they provide minerals, vitamins, proteins, and fatty acids. However, pollution in our waterways results in the contamination of fish populations.
- The main seafood groups can be divided into larger predator fish such as sharks, tuna, marlin, swordfish, mackerel, and salmon; and smaller forage fish like herring, sardines and anchovies. These smaller fish feed on plankton and can accumulate toxins but it is the larger predator fish that accumulates the toxins to a higher degree.



Contaminants

- Common contaminants include **mercury**, often in the form of methylmercury, a highly toxic organic compound of mercury, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) — compounds linked to neurological disorders and other health effects.
- Species of fish that are high on the food chain, such as **shark**, **swordfish**, **marlin** and **tuna**, contain higher concentrations of mercury than others. Since fish are less efficient at depurating than accumulating methylmercury, fish-tissue concentrations increase over time and they amass body burdens of mercury that can be ten times higher than the species they consume. This process is called **biomagnification**.



Contaminants

According to the FDA, the risk from mercury by eating fish and shellfish is not a health concern for most people. However, certain seafood might contain levels of mercury that may cause harm to an unborn baby (and especially its brain development and nervous system).

Research also suggests that selenium content in fish is protective against the toxic effects of methylmercury content. Fish with higher ratios of selenium to methylmercury (Se:Hg) are better to eat since the selenium binds to the methylmercury allowing it to pass through the body un-absorbed.



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Contaminants

Species with characteristically low levels of mercury include *shrimp, tilapia, salmon, pollock, sardines, canned light tuna* and *catfish (FDA March 2004)*.

A study published in 2008 found that mercury distribution in tuna meat is inversely related to the lipid content, suggesting that the lipid concentration within edible tuna tissues has a diluting effect on mercury content.



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Contaminants

- Ciguatera poisoning is another concern to the safety of fish consumption. However, it is more prevalent in the larger carnivorous fish, such as *barracuda* and *grouper* caused by consumption of reef fish contaminated with ciguatoxin, which originates with certain dinoflagellates (i.e. algae) associated with coral reef systems.
- Contaminated fish have no specific odour, colour, or taste, making identification of potential contamination extremely difficult.



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Recommendations for Policy Action



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Policy Options

1. At the policy level there is the urgent task to increase the availability of fish and seafood at the national and regional level to ensure food and nutrition security while at the same time ensuring sustainability of the supply. This would require:

- The development and implementation of policies to stimulate an increase in domestic production of fish and seafood.
- The development and implementation of policies to avoid overfishing to sustain viable stock.
- The development of mechanisms for the management of shared resources and the reduction of fisherfolk vulnerability to disasters.



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Policy Options

2. Enhancing institutional capabilities, the legal and regulatory environment, and responsible fishing culture to reduce and prevent illegal, unregulated fishing activities in the CRFM member States. There is also need to:

- Assess the CRFM Member States situation with respect to requirements for global trade



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Policy Options

3. Aggressively addressing programmes to increase the availability and accessibility to fish and seafood. These could include:

- Support for the development of a Regional Information System and Policy Network.
- Facilitating the development of aquaculture in the CRFM Member States.
- Adding value as a means of sustainability of products and the farming sector
- Promoting the expansion of pelagic fisheries and other un-utilized resources.



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Policy Options

4. Increased Public Education/ Capacity Building, including:

- Strengthening capabilities of CRFM Member countries in the formulation of policies and plans.
- Enhancing capacity of all participants (including Fishers' Organizations) in the fishing industry for effective participatory management and to ensure sustainability.



Preventing disease, promoting and protecting health

Conclusion

- Policy makers should be constantly reminded of the prevailing and inter-generational economic and health costs associated with obesity and the NCDs.
- It is important also for public policy and resources to be directed at creating awareness to the urgency of addressing these nutrition problems through healthier food choices.
- There is also a need to replace the high saturated fats and cholesterol foods with fish and seafood that have greater nutritional benefits. This would mean putting policies, legislation and systems in place for increased availability, accessibility and sustainability.



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Preventing disease, promoting and protecting health



Caribbean & North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems

10-year CLME+ SAP
and
5-year UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project

Patrick Debels
Regional Coordinator
PatrickD@unops.org

Laverne Walker
Senior Project Officer
LaverneW@unops.org



CLME

Sustainable Management of the
Shared Living Marine Resources of the
Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME)
and Adjacent Regions

**4-year project (co-)financed by
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)**

GEF Contribution: aprox. US\$ 7 million

Focal Area : International Waters

Start Date: May 2009

End Date: Feb 2014

GEF Operational Strategy For IW
kinds of GEF interventions:

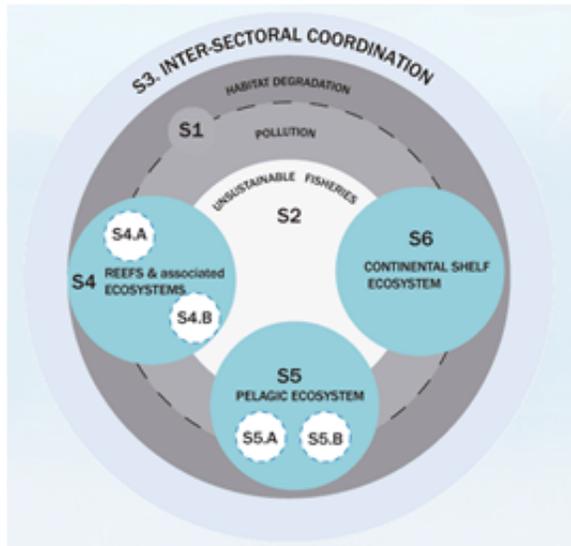


ROOT CAUSES OF THE 3 CLME+ ISSUES

1. Weak governance (including legal & institutional frameworks, inadequate environmental quality standards and legislation)
2. Limited human and financial resources
3. Inadequate (access to) data and information (inadequate knowledge)
4. Inadequate public awareness & participation
5. Inadequate consideration of value of ecosystem goods & services
6. Population and cultural pressures
7. Trade and external dependency (high dependence on fish for income and export earnings)



CLME SAP:
6 main STRATEGIES
and 4 sub-strategies



- S1 – Protection of the Marine Environment
- S2 – Sustainable Fisheries
- S3 – Inter-sectoral Coordination

S4 – EBM, Reef Ecosystems

- S4a Spiny Lobster Fisheries*
- S4b Queen Conch Fisheries*

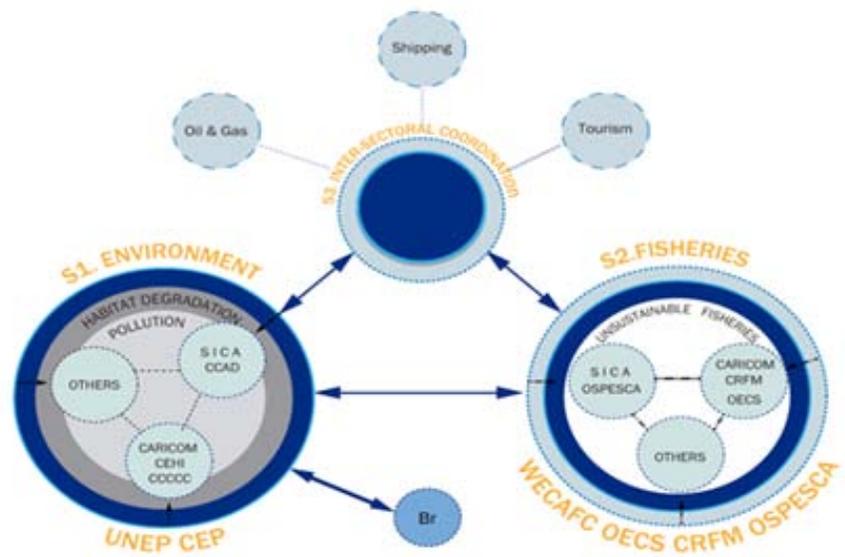
S5 – EAF, Pelagic Ecosystem

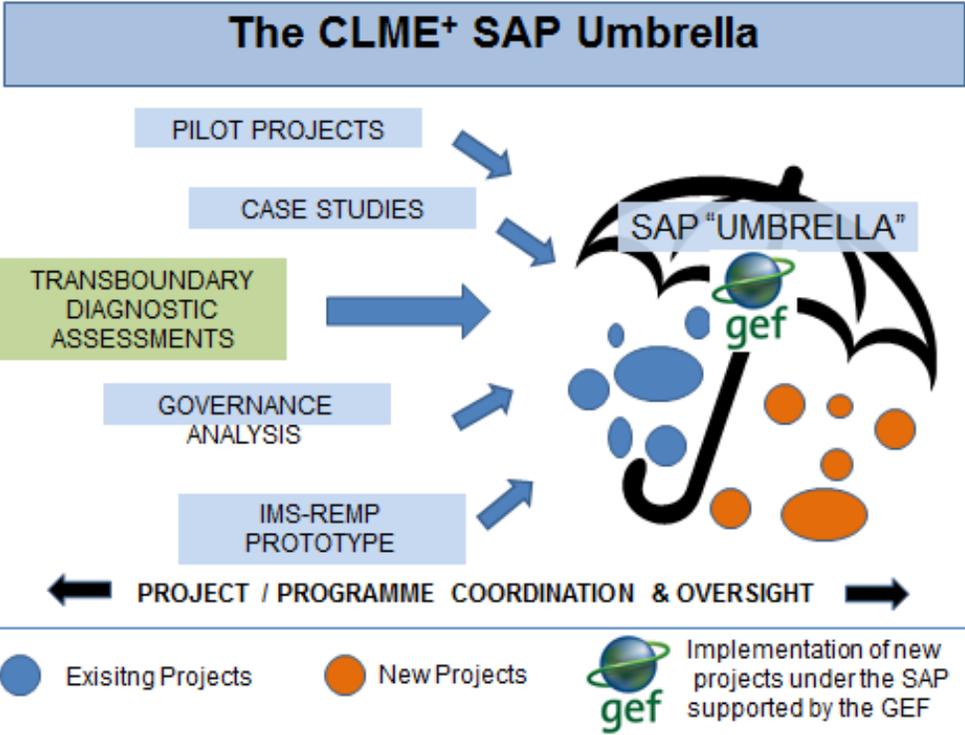
- S5a Flyingfish Fisheries*
- S5b Large Pelagics Fisheries*

S6 – EBM/EAF, Continental Shelf



CLME
Strategic Action Programme:
3 Regional Strategies





CARIBBEAN
LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM
PROJECT
www.clmeproject.org

gef

UNEP

UNOPS

OSPECSA

SPM

IAPF

COMET

and others

CLME⁺

Catalyzing implementation
of the Strategic Action Programme for the
Sustainable Management of the
Shared Living Marine Resources of the
Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf LMEs

**5-year project (co-)financed by
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)**

GEF Contribution: aprox. US\$ 12,5 million

Focal Area : International Waters

Start : 2014 ***End : 2019***

The UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project

catalyzing implementation of the SAP!

Component 1:

Strengthening and consolidating the institutional, policy and legal frameworks

Component 2:

Enhancing the capacity of key institutions and stakeholders to implement knowledge-based EBM/EAF

Component 3:

Piloting the implementation of EBM/EAF (replication of best practices, up-scaling of early results, demonstration of improved/alternative livelihoods,..)

Component 4:

(Pre-)feasibility studies to identify major high-priority investment needs and opportunities

Component 5:

Monitoring and assessing progress of and results from the overall implementation of the CLME+ SAP

The PPG (Project Preparation Grant)

Preparation of the Project Document for the Full Sized UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project

CLME+ PPG	Timeframe (in months)[1]							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	2013		2014					
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Component A: Technical Review								
<i>Baseline Analysis</i>								
<i>Identify project activities</i>		Prescreening						
<i>Integrate with development plans, policies & complementary projects</i>		Prescreening						
<i>Stakeholder consultations</i>	Meeting *			Meeting *				
Component B: Institutional arrangements, M&E								
<i>Finalize Project Results Framework</i>		Prescreening						
<i>Define Project M&E Plan</i>								
<i>Define Sustainability Plan</i>								
<i>Define project management arrangements</i>								
<i>Stakeholder consultations</i>								
Component C: Financial planning & co-financing investments								
<i>Develop multi-year budget</i>						Meeting *		
<i>Identify co-financing opportunities</i>								
<i>Secure official support letters</i>								
<i>Stakeholder consultations</i>					Meeting *			
Component D: Validation Exercise								
Component E: Finalise PRODOC								

WWW.CLMEPROJECT.ORG

CARIBBEAN
LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM
PROJECT

www.clmeproject.org

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE SHARED LIVING MARINE RESOURCES
OF THE CARIBBEAN LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM (CLME) AND ADJACENT REGIONS

DIAGNOSTIC ANALYSES CASE STUDIES PILOT PROJECTS REGIONAL GOVERNANCE MONITORING AND INFORMATION

CLME 10-year Strategic Action Programme APPROVED
6 March 2013: 22 countries convene in Cartagena, Colombia, saying YES to Sustainable Management of Shared Living Marine resources

CATALYSING OCEAN FINANCE Transforming Markets to Restore and Protect the Global Ocean NEW TECHNOLOGY The Revolution of the Speed of Light

CLME INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
IMS/PORTAL

STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME
CLME+ SAP

Thank you

www.clmeproject.org

CLME Project Coordination Unit
Cartagena, Colombia
(57) (5) 664 88 82
info@clmeproject.org



Update on TBTI WG4 October 2013 in Guyana

www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes/tbti.htm



Main goals of TBTI

- To understand the **real contribution** of small-scale fisheries
 - to food security, nutrition, sustaining livelihoods, poverty alleviation, wealth generation and trade
- To understand the **impacts of global change** processes on small-scale fisheries
 - including urbanization, globalization, migration, climate change, aquaculture and communication technology

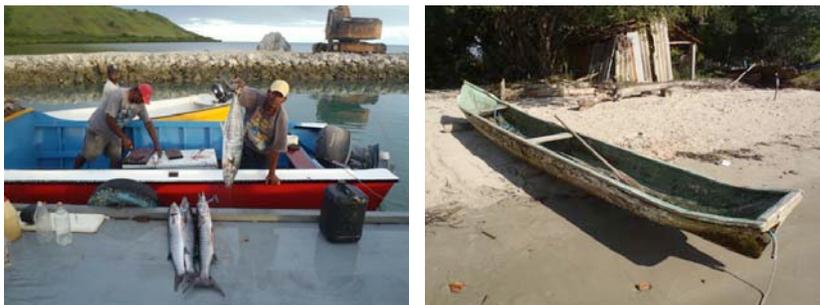
TBTI vital statistics

- Six-year global project (Mar 2012 - Feb 2018)
- Based in Canada; implemented worldwide
- Team of over 62 scientists from 27 countries
- Has seven working groups on fisheries topics

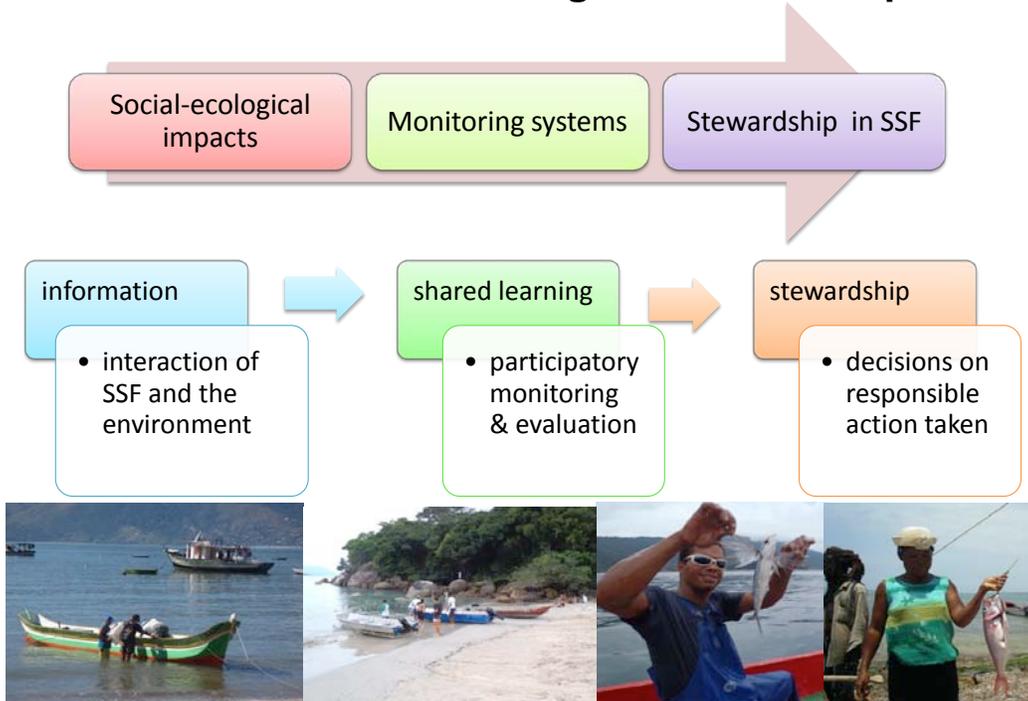


WG4 vital statistics

- Working Group 4 (WG4) based at CERMES
- Working on “Enhancing the stewardship”
- Focus now on Latin America and Caribbean
- Works with CNFO, CRFM, CANARI, FAO, GCFI...



Process for “Enhancing the stewardship”



Social-ecological impacts

- How does nature impact fisheries?
- How do fisheries impact nature?
 - technology, by-catch, climate change, etc.



Monitoring systems

- How to monitor and evaluate impacts?
- How to be participatory and practical?
 - indicators, scorecards, engage fishers, etc.



Stewardship

- What arrangements favour stewardship?
- How to make fisheries systems resilient?
 - fisherfolk organisations, SSF Guidelines, etc.





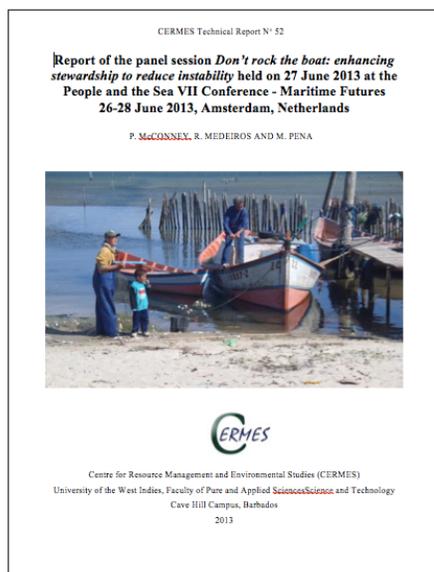
WHAT WG4 IS DOING IN LAC AND BEYOND

WG4 electronic book on fisheries

- Draft title:-- *Enhancing stewardship: a global overview of local perspectives*
- Over 20 chapters on the three WG4 topics
- One-page perspectives from industry, NGOs
- Only 1 Caribbean fisherman has contributed



Panel at conference in Amsterdam

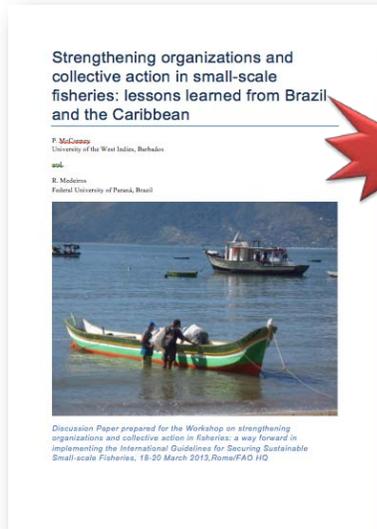


**Report of the panel session
*Don't rock the boat:
enhancing stewardship to
reduce instability* held on 27
June 2013 at the People and
the Sea VII Conference -
Maritime Futures
26-28 June 2013, Amsterdam,
Netherlands**

Workshops in Latin America ... Brazil



Investigating fisherfolk organisation successes under a global FAO project



IN-DEPTH CASE STUDY ON ORGANIZATIONS AND COLLECTIVE ACTION IN SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES

The Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk Organisations (BARNUFO)

CERMES MSc research projects

✧ Impacts

- Snapper fishery in Barbados

✧ Monitoring

- SocMon from data to decisions
- Incorporating GIS into SocMon
- Indicators for fisheries management

✧ Stewardship

- **Stewardship in fisherfolk organizations**
 - **Coretta Samuels at this workshop!!**







Participants at the
CRFM/CNFO/CTA Workshop on Regional Fisheries Policies, Georgetown, Guyana,
 7 – 8 October 2013

Too Big To Ignore (TBTI) - Working Group 4 (WG4)
Enhancing the stewardship

Too Big to Ignore (TBTI) is a global research network and knowledge mobilization partnership on small-scale fisheries. It aims to enhance the understanding of the real contribution of small-scale worldwide (<http://toobigtoignore.net/>). Working Group 4 (WG4) on "Enhancing the Stewardship", which is led by UWI-CERMES, is collaborating with the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO) to answer three questions in order to get a better understanding of "stewardship".

1. *How is the concept of stewardship understood by fisherfolk?*
2. *What are some examples of individual and collective fisheries stewardship, and constraints encountered in stewardship?*
3. *What arrangements exist, or can be developed, to enhance stewardship within fisherfolk organisations?*

Coretta Samuels is investigating stewardship using these 3 questions in her MSc degree at UWI-CERMES. Please take a little time to talk to her about your views on stewardship. The results of her research will be shared with fisherfolk. For CNFO to develop it needs to promote, and hence understand, stewardship...with your help.

For more information: Visit the UWI-CERMES web page at <http://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes/tbt1.htm>

Stewardship

What does it mean to Caribbean fisherfolk?

For CNFO to develop it needs to promote, and hence understand, stewardship ...with your help

Coretta's MSc research
Share your views with her!



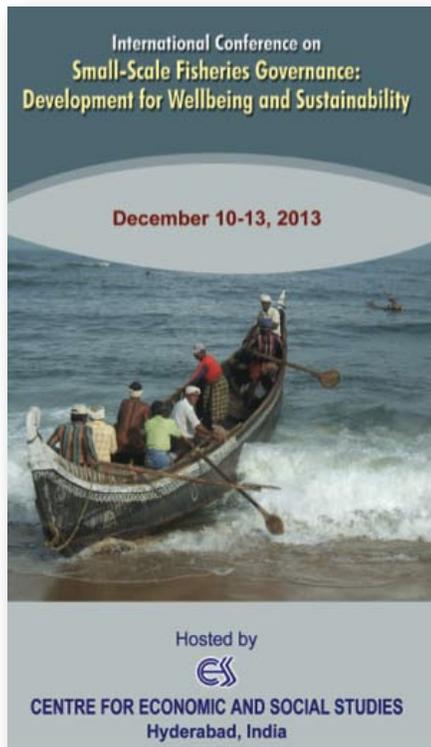
UPCOMING EVENTS WITH TBTI AND WG4

Fishers Forum events at the 66th GCFI 4-8 Nov 2013, Corpus Christi, Texas

Theme: Collaborative science towards sustainable fisheries

- Mon 4 Nov
 - Fishers Forum general session
 - Gladding Memorial Award
- Tue 5 Nov
 - Fishers Field Trip (shrimpers)
- Wed 6 Nov
 - Fisheries for Fishers (F4F) action

Visit web site
www.gcfi.org



Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines negotiations, 3-7 Feb 2014, Rome

- Get to know the draft SSF Guidelines ... information online
- Get fisherfolk organisations interested ... share information
- Try to attend the resumed negotiations ... start planning now
- Prepare to implement SSF Guidelines ... incorporate activities

Photo credits to, and more detailed information at, <http://igssf.icsf.net>



2nd World Small Scale Fisheries Congress 21-25 September 2014, Merida, Mexico



- ✓ economic viability;
- ✓ livelihoods and wellbeing;
- ✓ ecosystem stewardship;
- ✓ rights and access;
- ✓ governance and governability;
- ✓ food security;
- ✓ assessment and monitoring.

CRFM new website, knowledge sharing & collaboration tools

Prepared by
CRFM Secretariat
for
CRFM / CTA / CNFO Workshop on
Regional Fisheries Policies
Georgetown, Guyana
7 – 8 October 2013



WHY/ HOW??

WHY

- CRFM – 17 MEMBER STATES STRETCHED ACROSS THE CARIBBEAN
- CRFM – INVOLVED IN NATIONAL/REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AFFAIRS
- AN URGENT DEMAND FOR EFFECTIVE INFORMATION SHARING & COMMUNICATION.
- IN 2009 DEVELOPED AN INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION STRATEGY & PLAN TO PROVIDE FRAMEWORK FOR KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AND SHARING (KES) FUNCTIONS.
- FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICTs) AND GROWING DEMANDS ON CRFM → NEW LOOK FOR STRATEGY, WEBSITE & NEW ICT TOOLS.



HOW – ACP FISH II PROJECT: “CAPACITY STRENGTHENING TO CRFM AND ITS MEMBER STATES FOR INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING ON SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE FISHERIES SECTOR IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION”

Objective of 2012-2013 KES initiative

- 1. To provide focused support to the CRFM Secretariat and Member States to agree and document goals and targets for the IT component of CRFM Communication Strategy**
- 2. Deliver technical assistance to upgrade and maintain the CRFM website**
- 3. Provide training to fisheries officers in an effort to maximise the use of the new website and online tools.**

KES PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- 1. National consultations in Belize, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, St. Vincent and the Grenadines to assess and evaluate the ICT usage opportunities and current state of affairs**
- 2. Regional Technical Consultation held in St Vincent (Jan 2013) to review and endorse the NEW CRFM Communication Strategy**



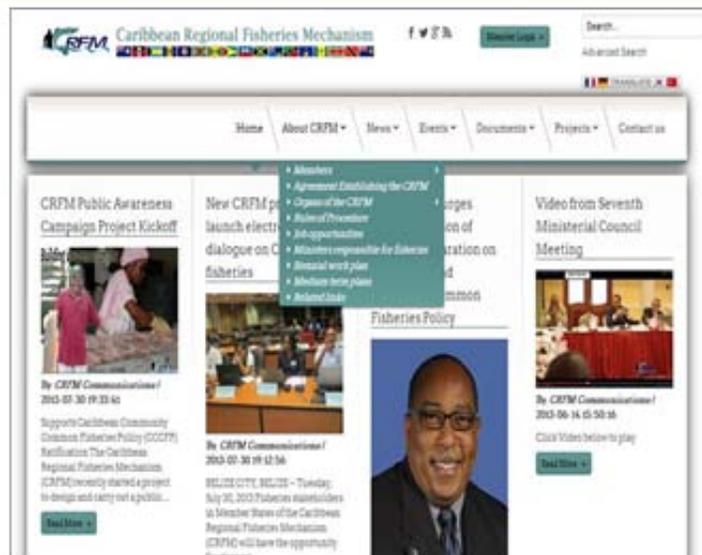
KES PROJECT ACTIVITIES

3. Review & finalization of Draft Communication Strategy and Plan (focus on ICT component);
4. New website implementation & procurement of improved ICT tools and services
5. On-the-job training (CRFM Secretariat offices, March 2013)
6. Manuals for webmaster and content managers and for end users
7. National representatives of CARIFORUM states trained in using new CRFM website and online interactive tools (March 2013).



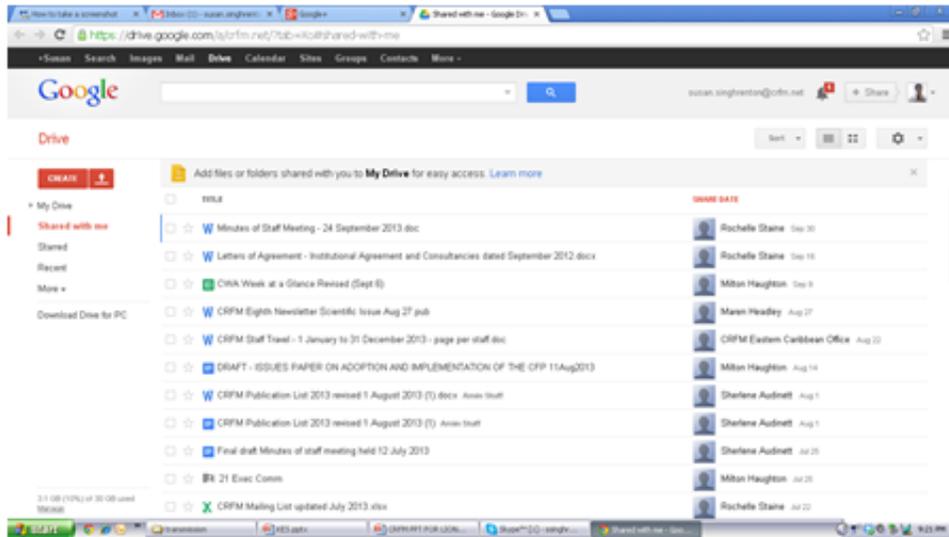
ACHIEVEMENTS: UPDATED WEBSITE & INTRODUCED INTERACTIVE TOOLS

1. New comprehensive [CRFM website](#), that includes CRFM documents and reports, Scientific Publications and statistics, Events agenda and organiser, project management tool, Fisheries Newsfeeds, Newsletters, etc.



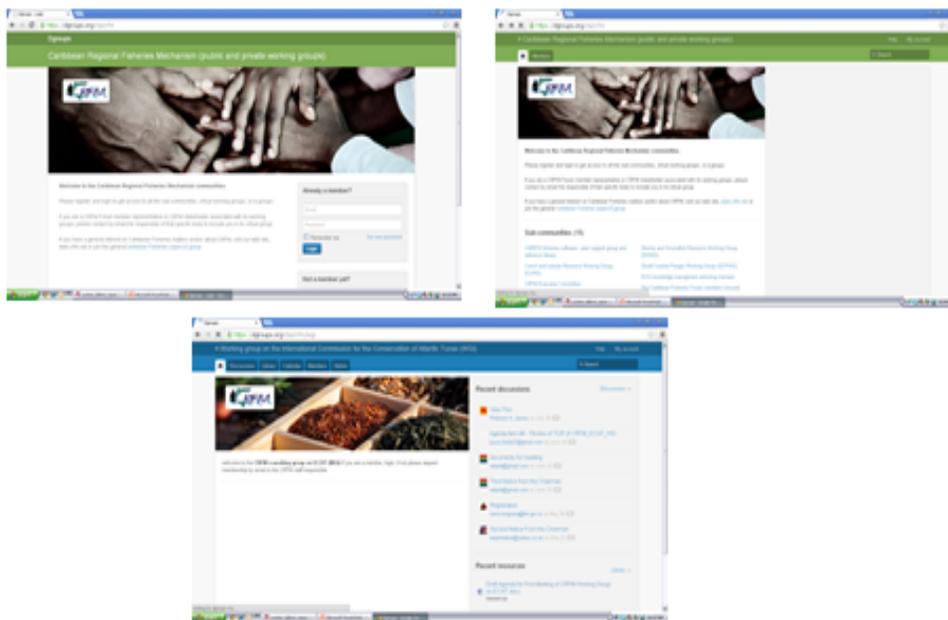
ACHIEVEMENTS: UPDATE D WEBSITE & INTRODUCED INTERACTIVE TOOLS

2. A complete Intranet system using [Google Apps](#) for Business, ready to share documents drive, contacts, mails, internal groups, etc



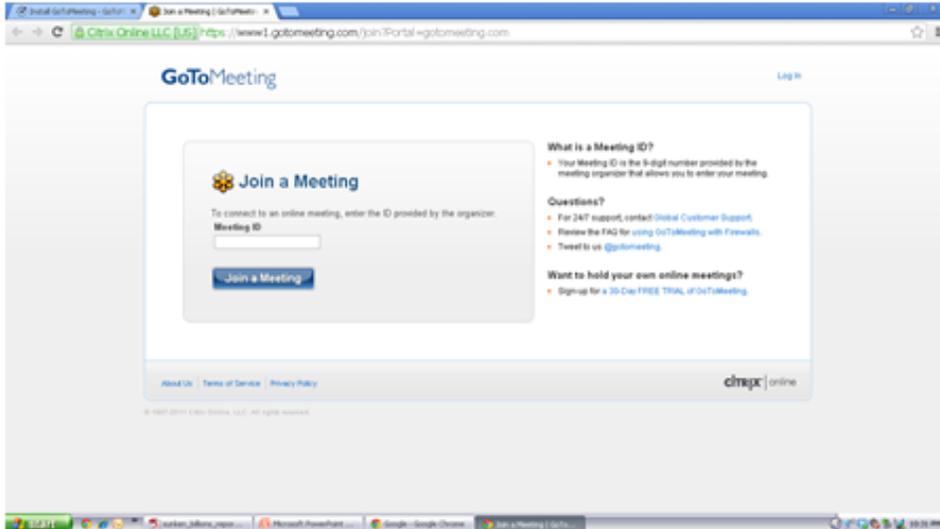
ACHIEVEMENTS: UPDATE D WEBSITE & INTRODUCED INTERACTIVE TOOLS

3. 15 CRFM virtual Communities on [dgroups.org](#) for Scientific and technical working groups CARIFIS user help community, executive board and forum (private spaces) CARIFIS software users, etc



ACHIEVEMENTS: UPDATE D WEBSITE & INTRODUCED INTERACTIVE TOOLS

4. 3 accounts for CRFM Video conferencing, [MCONF](#) free tool for videoconferencing and webinars tools, [GotoWebinar](#) for webinars and virtual education, [GotoMeeting](#) for videoconferencing



ACHIEVEMENTS: UPDATE D WEBSITE & INTRODUCED INTERACTIVE TOOLS

5. Accounts or pages on the main social networks namely [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Youtube](#) and [Slideshare](#)



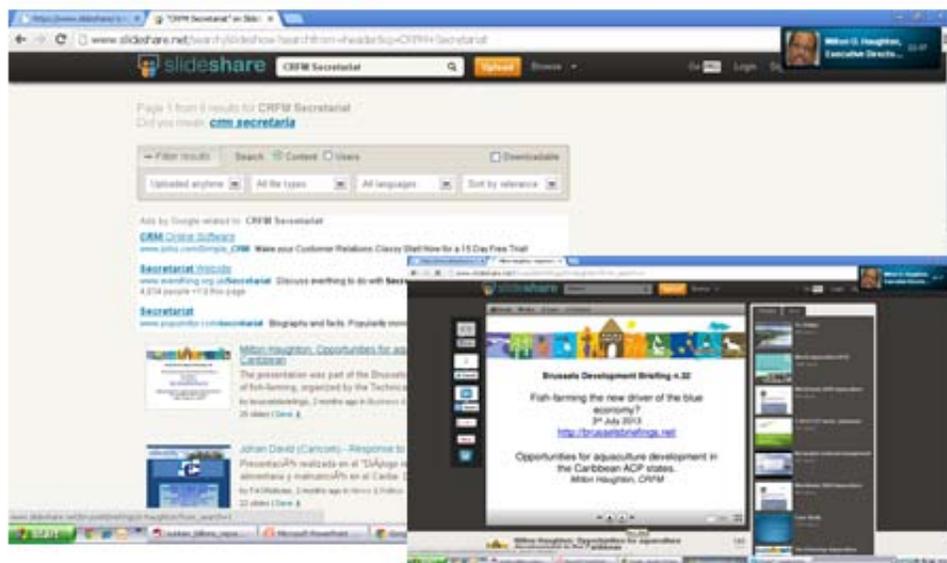
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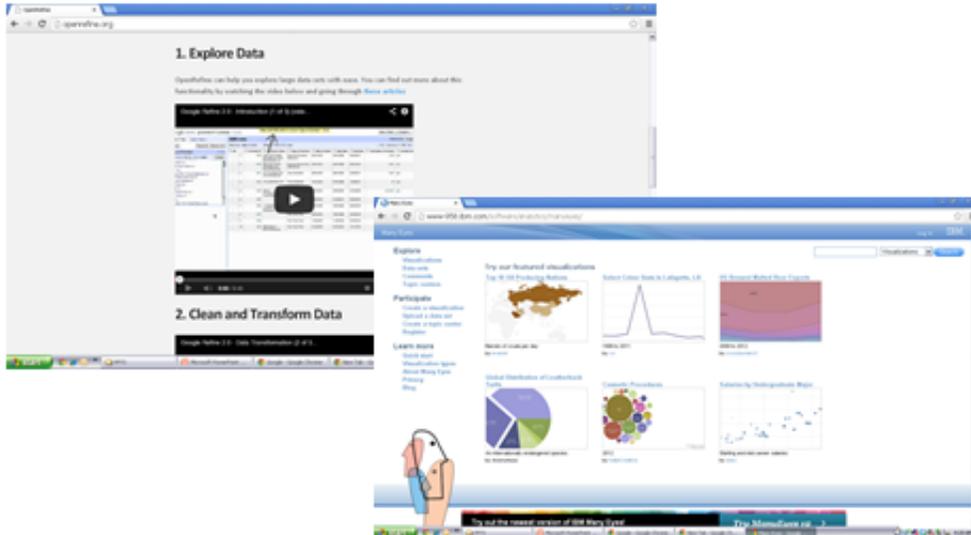
ACHIEVEMENTS: UPDATE D WEBSITE & INTRODUCED INTERACTIVE TOOLS

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ACHIEVEMENTS: UPDATE D WEBSITE & INTRODUCED INTERACTIVE TOOLS

6. The selected following data sharing tools: Open Refine to clean data files; Google Fusion table to share, merge and compare table and data bases and To Create visualisations with IBM Many Eyes



FINAL NOTE

These new tools will increase knowledge management and communication facilitation capacity of the CRFM Secretariat staff and Member States, by making the most of these new tools, developing and disseminating content, facilitating and organising a growing sustainable flow of communications as well as helping catalyse online collaboration with partners and stakeholders.

