

GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES

Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries:

Bringing together responsible fisheries and social development

13-17 October 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand

Conference Themes, Plenary Presentations and Themes for Small Group Discussions

THEME 1 SECURING SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE USE AND ACCESS RIGHTS

Plenary presentations

- Challenges of sustainable resource use
- Securing access/use rights to fishery and other natural resources by small-scale fishing communities for equitable and sustainable development
- Sustaining livelihoods and creating wealth

Themes for small group sessions

- Governance of small-scale fisheries – what are the key elements of policies, institutions and management approaches.
- How to secure equitable access rights to coastal lands and resources.
- Local-level management: what are the legal, practical and local prerequisites & requirements for decentralised and shared management?
- Interdependencies of small-scale fisheries with other sectors: how to maximize synergies and avoid negative impacts.
- Marine Protect Areas: how can they be designed to address small-scale fisheries access, equity and sustainability issues.
- How to promote appropriate and energy-saving technologies and practices in support of sustainable and equitable fisheries.
- How can fishery livelihoods and culture become recognized, valued and supported.

THEME 2 SECURING POST-HARVEST BENEFITS¹

Plenary presentations

- The post-harvest sector and fisheries management – how can the links be strengthened
- Securing greater post-harvest benefits for small-scale fishing communities
- International fish trade – how can it benefit small-scale fisheries and support food security

Themes for small group sessions

- Small-scale fishers and international trade: how to enhance benefits along the value chain and avoid negative repercussions on sustainability and equity
- Labelling and certification: how can they improve market access for products from small-scale fisheries and ensure responsible fisheries
- Recognizing and strengthening women's roles in post-harvest activities: What steps need to be taken?
- Securing post-harvest economic benefits: the role of cooperatives and other organizational forms
- The post-harvest sector and fisheries management – how can the links be strengthened

¹ To be considered and elaborated from a holistic value chain perspective

THEME 3 SECURING SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Sub-themes

1. Securing economic and social rights of fishworkers
2. A human rights approach to sustainable development of small-scale fisheries
3. Indigenous people's issues

Themes for small group sessions

- How can the human rights approach to sustainable development be applied in small-scale fisheries?
- Improving working and living conditions, ensuring safety and social security of all types of fishers and fishworkers (Self-employed persons, owner-operators, and workers (in fish processing plants, on fishing vessels, shore-based fishworkers, including unpaid family workers, vendors, traders etc) - what are the key issues and how to address them?
- Securing economic, social and human rights of women (rights of women as self-employed, as co-workers (paid and unpaid) and as community members) - what are the key issues and how to address them?
- Indigenous people: how to recognize their rights and valorize their culture, institutions, knowledge, values and norms, for responsible fisheries?
- Ways of enhancing democratic governance and policy spaces for fisher community representation (including women) in decision-making processes?
- Trans-border fishing: How can the problems of arrest and detention of small-scale fishers be addressed through bilateral and multilateral mechanisms to protect the human rights and livelihoods of small-scale fishers.

Note that all discussion groups should address both marine and inland fisheries and consider cross-cutting issues such as gender; rights of indigenous people, and capacity-building.