Small-Scale Fishers – Resource and Market Access Challenges

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**Benefits of Healthy Oceans Globally**

**Livelihoods**
- 90% of the people who derive livelihoods from fishing live in developing countries.

**Marine Tourism**
- Tourism is the world’s largest industry.
- The marine tourism industry provides 200 million jobs worldwide.

**Food**
- 1 Billion people depend on fish for their primary source of protein.

**Coastal Protection**
- Wetlands, seagrass beds, mangroves and coral reefs are a natural defense to protect coastlines.

**Climate**
- 5X more carbon is stored by coastal habitats than by tropical forests.

**Resilience**
- Healthy oceans will be able to cope with negative impacts.
SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES

90%

Employ more than 90% of the world’s capture fishers and fish workers – about half of whom are women.

1 million +

Provide livelihoods to millions of people – through full or part time work, seasonal or occasional fishing and related activities.

+50%

Supply half of global catches – share increases to 2/3 when considering catches for direct human consumption.

50-90%

Provide important source of high value protein to Small Vulnerable Economies (SVEs).

Strong social and cultural interdependencies in many cultures
Challenges

**Structural** - examples:
- Diverse, dispersed, dynamic nature of Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF)
- Often open access fisheries with lack of effective controls on the quantities harvested or the techniques used
- General lack of voice and representation in policy making and access to information
- Conflicts between large scale and SSF

**Socio-economic** - examples:
- Often widespread poverty in artisanal fishing communities
- Often limited access to basic infrastructure and social services
Challenges

Market – example:

- **Access** to
  - Exports to international markets (e.g. trade and market entry barriers and compliance with supply chain requirements)
  - Local markets (e.g. infrastructure and supply chain structure)

Also a question of balance

**Revenue generation through exports**

and / or

**Local food production and supply & availability of high value protein**
Challenges

Environmental – example:

• **Overfishing** particularly impacts already vulnerable SSF given existing social and economic challenges.

Environmental challenges strongly linked with structural, socio-economic and market challenges.
Addressing Challenges –
The Importance of Resource Management

Building resource management capability
= Basis for fisheries management tools, enabling & fostering stakeholder participation, integrated planning, policy coordination and enforcement

Enabling condition for **effective stewardship** of marine resources and creation of and access to **sustainable supply chains and markets**

**Increased benefits** from sustainable use of and trade in fisheries resources

Contribution to **improving food security and livelihoods**, advancing **poverty reduction**, and strengthening social and environmental resilience
Recommendations SDG 14.b
UN Ocean Conference 2017

Prioritize capacity building, financial and technical assistance for SIDS and LDCs to improve

i. the conservation and management of marine resources to ensure long term food security, economic and social wellbeing

ii. access to markets through sustainable supply chains

Priority actions include:

- Enable the adoption of innovative and low cost technology and approaches to support fisheries management (incl. data collection, monitoring and enforcement)

- Create enabling environment that empower coastal communities and fishers to effectively manage and participate in governance of their resources in ways that supports their long-term needs.

- Address and remove barriers to women’s participation in the management of community based coastal fisheries.
Advancement of UNCTAD Nairobi Maafikiano

Global level:
Crucial role of technical assistance in efforts to reform the use of trade measures, standards and subsidies, enhance transparency and help improve fisheries management

- Joint technical assistance related to economic reforms to the fisheries sector by UNCTAD, World Bank, FAO, UNEP

Country level:
Crucial role of national/regional subsidy reforms linked to research, stakeholder capacity building, partnerships with relevant institutions and civil society
Priority for the
WTO 11th Ministerial Conference

WTO negotiations on FISHERIES SUBSIDIES:

Secure an effective and meaningful outcome on fisheries subsidies reform and improve rules on transparency of fisheries subsidies programmes

→ Crucial to achieve governments’ commitments to the UN 2030 Agenda
THANK YOU