A photograph of two people on a traditional wooden boat at night. The boat has a large, multi-colored sail. One person is leaning over the side, illuminated by a bright lantern, while another person sits behind them. The water is dark, and the sky is a deep blue twilight.

Small-Scale Fishers – Resource and Market Access Challenges

**Anna Holl-Buhl, WWF
UNCTAD Oceans Forum
on trade-related aspects
of SDG 14**

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LIVELIHOODS

90%

of the people who derive livelihoods from fishing live in developing countries

About **350 million** jobs are linked to the oceans globally



MARINE TOURISM

Tourism is the world's largest industry

The marine tourism industry provides **200 million** jobs worldwide

COASTAL PROTECTION

Wetlands, seagrass beds, mangroves and coral reefs are a natural defense to protect coastlines



FOOD



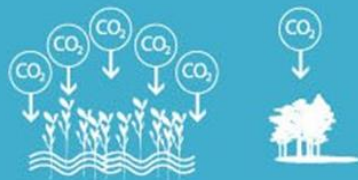
1 Billion

people depend on fish for their primary source of protein

BENEFITS OF HEALTHY OCEANS GLOBALLY

CLIMATE

5X more carbon is stored by coastal habitats than by tropical forests



RESILIENCE

Healthy oceans will better 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.



+50%

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

1 million +

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

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

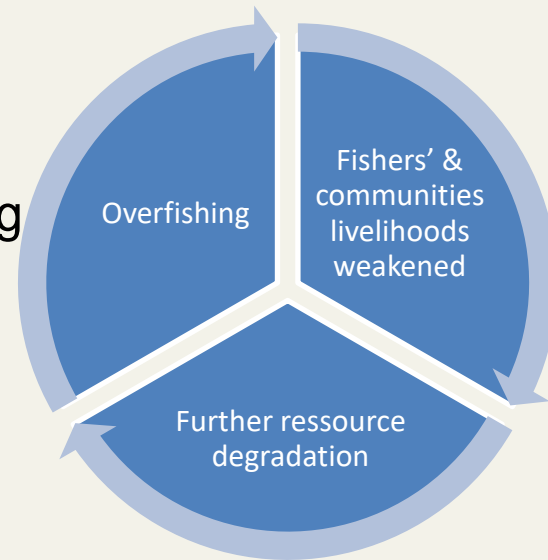
and / or

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