

Decent Work in Artisanal Fish Processing: Issues and Challenges

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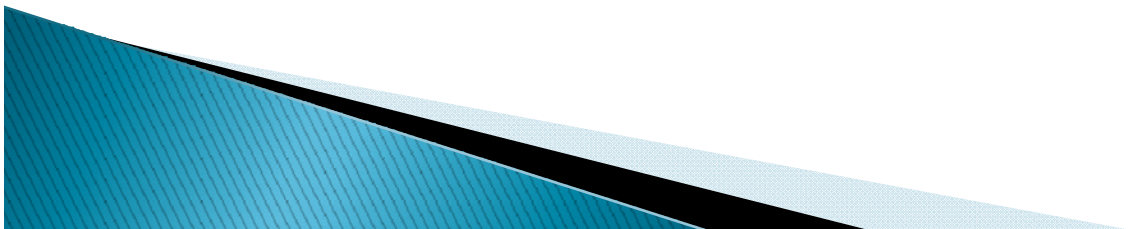
Fish Processing

- ▶ Live, fresh and chilled—45%
- ▶ Frozen fish—31%
- ▶ Prepared and preserved—12%
- ▶ Cured fish—12%
- ▶ Cured fish or fish preserved using traditional methods such as salting, fermenting, drying and smoking (mainly Africa and Asia)
- ▶ -- Data from State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture, 2018



Employment in African fisheries

- ▶ Over 12 million estimated to be employed in fishing and fish processing in Africa (inland and marine combined)
- ▶ 5 million are employed in fish processing (1.5 million in inland; 2 million in marine artisanal and 1.5 million in marine industrial fisheries)
 - Source: Gertjan de Graaf and Luca Garibaldi.2014. The Value of African Fisheries FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1093



Employment of Women in Fish Processing in Africa

- ▶ Of 5 million employed in fish processing in Africa, 3 million (60%) are women (more or less equally divided between inland, marine artisanal and marine industrial fisheries)
- ▶ 69% of employment in inland fish processing, 44% in marine artisanal fish processing and 71% of in marine industrial fish processing, are women
- Source: Gertjan de Graaf and Luca Garibaldi. 2014. The Value of African Fisheries FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1093



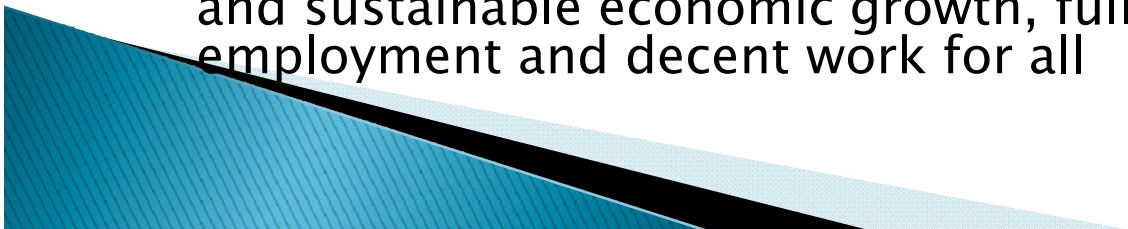
Decent Work and Small-scale Artisanal Fish Processing

- ▶ Promote decent work for all small-scale fisheries workers, including both the formal and informal sectors (6.6 of the SSF Guidelines)
- ▶ Recognize the right of small-scale fish workers to work in accordance with national and international human rights standards (6.7 of the SSF Guidelines)
- ▶ Address occupational health issues and unfair working conditions of all small-scale fish workers by ensuring that the necessary legislation is in place and is implemented (6.12 of the SSF Guidelines)



Decent Work: ILO and FAO

- ▶ “The primary goal of the ILO today is to promote opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work, in conditions of freedom, equality, security and human dignity”
- ▶ “Decent work is the converging focus of ILO’s four strategic objectives: the promotion of rights at work; employment; social protection; and social dialogue” (Decent Work, Report of the Director General ILO, 1999)
- ▶ FAO Strategic Framework 2010–2019 includes promoting decent work in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, especially in rural areas
- ▶ Decent work is now a global goal; an important step towards reducing poverty, and obtaining equitable, inclusive and sustainable development (High Level Segment of the UNECOSOC, 2006)
- ▶ Decent work for all– UNGA Resolution 2015 Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Sustainable Development Goal 8). Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



1. Promoting Decent Rights at Work in Fish Processing

- ▶ Protect rights related to life, liberty, equality and dignity
- ▶ Promote the freedom of association of fish-processing workers;
- ▶ Promote associations of employers of fish processing plants
- ▶ Address worst forms of child labour and eradicate forced labour in fishing
- ▶ Protect the right to a work agreement:
- ▶ Protect the right to rest, right to regular payment; right to safety and health; and right to social security



2. Decent Social Protection

- ▶ Promote social protection programmes (protective and preventive) especially to benefit women and workers in small-scale fisheries (See paragraph 6.3 of the SSF Guidelines)
- ▶ Improve outreach to communities to help them benefit from social protection
- ▶ Need for fishworkers to organize to benefit from social protection



3. Decent Social Dialogue

- ▶ Improve consultation and participation to improve policy coherence, institutional coordination and collaboration
 - *See para 10.1 of the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (the SSF Guidelines)*



Conclusion:

Reduce the Decent Work Deficit

- ▶ Ratify and apply all relevant ILO instruments to benefit fishworkers in fish processing activities
- ▶ Protect and promote all human rights
- ▶ Implement the SSF Guidelines to benefit all small-scale fishers and fishworkers, as well as men, women and children in fishing communities



Thank You

