

INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS
—— ICSF ——



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES
2002-2003 to 2005-2006

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Abbreviations

ACFR	Advisory Committee on Fisheries Research (of FAO)
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific
ADEPEG-CPA	Association pour le Développement de la Pêche en Guinée et les Communautés de la Pêche Artisanale
AFS	American Fisheries Society
AG	Advisory Group
AKTEA	Les Femmes dans la Pêche et les Cultures Marines en Europe
APFIC	Asia-Pacific Fisheries Commission
APRN	Asia-Pacific Research Network
APWLD	Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development
ASI	Asian Social Institute
BFW	Bread for the World, Germany
BOBP-IGO	Bay of Bengal Programme–Inter-governmental Organization
CBCRM	community-based coastal resources management
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCFD	Comité Catholique Contre la Faim et pour le Développement
CEC	Centre for Environment and Communication
CECAF	Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (of FAO)
CeDePesca	Centro para el Desarrollo y la Pesca Sustentable
CFFA	Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements
CFS	Committee on the Fishing Sector (of ILO)
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna
CMS	Convention on Migratory Species
COFI	Committee on Fisheries (of FAO)
CONSRN	Consortium to Restore Shattered Livelihoods in Tsunami-devastated Nations
COP	Conference of the Parties
COP7	Seventh Conference of the Parties (to the CBD)
COP8	Eighth Conference of the Parties (to the CBD)
COSOP	Country Strategic Opportunities Paper
CSA	Centre for Security Analysis
CSE	Centre for Science and Environment

CSO	civil society organization
CTA	Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Co-operation
DC	Documentation Centre
DFID	Department for International Development (of the United Kingdom)
DOALOS	Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (of UN)
EEZ	exclusive economic zone
EPA	economic partnership agreement
ESA	eastern and southern Africa
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAO RAP	FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
FARMCs	Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Councils
FNP	Fédération Nationale de la Pêche
FPA	fisheries partnership agreement
GB	general body
HIVOS	Humanistic Institute for Co-operation with Developing Countries
HTML	hyper text markup language
IAMSLIC	International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centres
IBAMA	Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis
ICAI	Institute of Chartered Accountants of India
ICSF	International Collective in Support of Fishworkers
ICTSD	International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFF	International Finances Facility
ILC	International Labour Conference (of ILO)
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMCAM	integrated marine and coastal area management
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INFOSAMAK	Centre for Marketing Information and Advisory Services for Fishery Products in the Arab Region (of FAO)
IOI	International Ocean Institute
IPC	International Planning Committee
ISST	Institute of Social Studies Trust

ITDG	Intermediate Technology Development Group (now, Practical Action)
ITLOS	International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
ITQs	individual transferable quotas
IUU	illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
LeaRN	Learning and Research Network
MCBD	marine and coastal biological diversity
MDT	Masifundise Development Trust, South Africa
MISEREOR	Bischofliches Hilfswerk Misereor
MPAs	marine protected areas
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NACA	Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific
NAFSO	National Fisheries Solidarity, Sri Lanka
NCAER	National Centre for Agricultural Economics, Policy and Research
NCFS	Norwegian College of Fisheries Science, Norway
NFF	National Fishworkers' Forum, India
NGO	non-governmental organization
NGO-COD	NGO-co-ordinating Committee on Development
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation
PDF	portable document format
PERI	Political Economy Research Institute
PRA	participatory rural appraisal
RFMOs	Regional Fisheries Management Organizations
RSS	really simple syndication or rich site summary
SAAPE	South Asian Alliance for Poverty Eradication
SBSTTA	Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (of CBD)
SDF	Sustainable Development Foundation
SEAFDEC	South East Asia Fisheries Development Centre
SIFFS	South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies
SLCDF	Sri Lankan Centre for Development Facilitation
SOFIA	State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (brought out by the FAO Fisheries Department)
SP	Perserikatan Solidaritas Perempuan

TDCA	Trade, Development and Co-operation Agreement
TEKs	traditional ecological knowledge systems
TESCOD	Technical Services for Community Development
TRINet	Tsunami Rehab Information Network
TRIPs	Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UK	United Kingdom
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFSA	United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement
UNICPOLOS	United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea
USA	United States of America
WFF	World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fishworkers
WFFP	World Forum of Fisher Peoples
WFP	World Food Programme
WHC	World Heritage Convention
WIF	women in fisheries
WIOMSA	Western Indian Ocean Marine Sciences Association
WorldFish	WorldFish Centre
WSF	World Social Forum
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WTO	World Trade Organization

Over the last four years, the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) has engaged with a wide range of issues of relevance to small-scale fishing communities, particularly those related to labour and social security, poverty, disaster and disaster preparedness, gender in fisheries, fisheries trade, fisheries subsidies, ecolabelling, coastal and fisheries management, coastal and marine biodiversity, and participatory approaches to conservation of endangered marine species. ICSF's work has drawn attention to the need to examine the fisheries sector in an integrated manner, focusing on the interplay between, and cross-cutting nature of, issues of labour, trade, responsible fisheries, gender and biodiversity, among others.

During this period, ICSF's Documentation Centre (DC), set up after the General Body in 1998, has convincingly established itself as a centre of information for, and about, small-scale fisheries. It has actively worked to access relevant information and make it available in diverse forms to fishworker organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and others. The ICSF website (www.icsf.net) has been redesigned and has become an important mode of dissemination of information on small-scale fisheries. The *SAMUDRA News Alerts* service has also played an important role in this process, in particular by giving greater visibility to developments of relevance to small-scale fisheries. The information and resources available through the DC have helped improve the quality and effectiveness of all ICSF programmes.

Geographically, ICSF's work has achieved a wide coverage, with programmes in Asia, Africa and Latin America. In very broad terms, the work in Asia has related to the post-tsunami rehabilitation of fishing communities, fisheries

management and gender issues in fisheries. In east Africa, the focus has been on identifying key issues of relevance to fishing communities, and, in west Africa, the focus on fisheries access arrangements has continued. In Latin America, the primary focus has been on fisheries management, and particularly on issues related to property rights in fisheries and the implementation of the artisanal fishing zone. Trade and labour issues in fisheries have remained in focus in all these regions.

A major preoccupation in this period was the tsunami that struck countries in the Indian Ocean region on 26 December 2004, and which had a very widespread and devastating impact on coastal fishing communities in the affected areas.

The last four years have been challenging. At one level, there have been opportunities to increase and consolidate ICSF's interactions with fishworkers, fishworker organizations and NGOs through networking, workshops organized and meetings attended. At another level, considerable energy has been expended on research and studies commissioned by multilateral and government agencies, providing an opportunity to engage intensively with issues relevant to small-scale fisheries today and to influence the discourse on these issues from a small-scale fisheries perspective. These and other activities, even while stretching the capacities of the organization and its DC, have been enriching.

This period also saw a greater international recognition of ICSF's work and efforts. In November 2003, ICSF was presented the Margarita Lizárraga medal by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in recognition of its role in promoting the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. More recently, in November 2005, ICSF was awarded the "Kungsfenan" Swedish Seafood Award for Sustainable Fishing. ■

MONITORING AND RESEARCH

The State of World Fisheries from a Fishworker Perspective

This programme was initiated with the primary objective of generating reliable information about fishworkers and their communities in countries around the world, given a situation where, in relative terms, more information is available about fish resources than about those who depend on them for their livelihoods. The objective was also to document and understand changes and trends in artisanal fisheries, to highlight emerging issues and stress the viability of the small-scale model of fisheries development.

In the period 2002-06, the following studies were undertaken:

India (Orissa)

The study titled *Sea Turtle Conservation and Fisheries in Orissa: Gendering Livelihood Concerns with Protection Measures* focused on the impact of sea turtle conservation measures in the Gahirmatha, Devi and Rushikulya areas of Orissa, India, on the livelihoods of coastal communities, with a specific focus on women. The study highlighted that even though conservation could very much be an agenda of artisanal fishing communities, and of women of these communities, the way in which conservation initiatives are actually played out often makes it an agenda against them. The information obtained by this study has been useful in supporting the campaign by small-scale fishworkers unjustly affected by turtle conservation measures. The report of the study has been published and is also available on the ICSF website. This study was also one of the six presented during the Asian Consultation on Women in Fisheries, in Medan, Indonesia, from 11 to 14 August 2004.

As a follow-up to this study on sea turtle conservation and fisheries in Orissa, a short-term study was undertaken to look into the socioeconomic impacts of turtle conservation, especially in the light of reports of suicides by

fishermen in this area. An edited version of this study was used as an article in *SAMUDRA Report* No. 43, to draw attention to the need for livelihood-sensitive conservation. Information from these studies was also used to draw attention to the importance of livelihood issues at the FAO Technical Consultation on Sea Turtle Conservation and Fisheries, in Thailand in November 2004, and the Eighth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP8) in March 2006, which had on its agenda the issue of protected areas. Information obtained from these studies has also been used for a film being made by ICSF on turtle conservation and fisheries livelihood. Titled *Right to Survive*, the film is to be released in June 2006.

India (Gujarat)

The draft *Study on the Status of Fisheries in Gujarat, India, from a Fishworker Perspective*, taken up in the previous triennium, was presented, as part of a follow-up process, at a series of workshops organized in Gujarat by the Gujarat Fishworkers' Forum and Protsahan, an NGO working on issues of coastal population dynamics and ecosystem changes. The study was useful in initiating discussions on fisheries management measures that need to be adopted. In September 2004, a meeting of policymakers, fishworkers and other stakeholders, discussed the need to reorient the Gujarat trawl fisheries towards a fisheries management regime. The draft study from Gujarat continues to be used during discussions on fisheries management in Gujarat. Information in the study is to be updated in the second-half of 2006.

Sri Lanka

The study titled *Changing Role of Women in the Deep-sea Fisheries Sub-sector of Sri Lanka* was undertaken to understand the manner in which the relatively recent development of the multi-day fishing sector in Sri Lanka, targeting deep-sea

resources, has affected the wives and families of crew members on these boats. The report of the study has been edited and is available on request. This study was one of the six presented during the Asian Consultation on Women in Fisheries, in Medan, Indonesia, from 11 to 14 August 2004, organized by the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), the Perserikatan Solidaritas Perempuan Indonesia (SP), the Sustainable Development Foundation Thailand (SDF), ICSF and Pamalakaya Pilipinas.

Senegal

The study titled *The Status of Artisanal Fisheries in Senegal from a Coastal Community Perspective*, has been completed and will be available, as a French document, on the ICSF website by June 2006. The study documents the dramatic changes that have occurred in the Senegalese fisheries sector in recent years: a massive increase in fishing effort in the artisanal fishery; a significant influx of investment and labour from outside the sector; a dramatic policy shift from *laissez faire* to direct intervention by the government and NGOs; and a fundamental reorganization of the artisanal fisheries sector professionals. The Senegal report provides insights into the changing nature of artisanal fisheries, evolving from a traditional sector providing food locally, to a modern export-oriented sector, playing a major role in the national economy.

Indonesia

A scoping study on trawling and its impact on the lives and livelihoods of small-scale coastal fishing communities was initiated in Sumatra, Indonesia, based on requests for such a study from small-scale fishworker groups in Indonesia. The study, located in Sumatra, an area where trawling has always been a contentious issue, has been circulated to fishworker organizations in Indonesia, Thailand and Cambodia for their comments and suggestions for follow-up.

Philippines

A study profiling the small-scale fisheries for tuna in the Philippines has been undertaken and its report, titled *The Philippines Tuna Industry: A Profile* is being published for distribution during the Review Conference of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA) in May 2006. The study documents the importance of small-scale fisheries for tuna, and effectively highlights the need to ensure that the interests of the small-scale sector are protected in fisheries management regimes for highly migratory stocks, including on the high seas. The study on small-scale fisheries for tuna in the Philippines has helped in obtaining an understanding about the significant contribution of small-scale fisheries to tuna catch in the region, and will be useful in making a case for artisanal fisheries interests in management regimes set up by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) under the UNFSA.

Peru

A study on the supply of fresh fish for direct human consumption in Peru was undertaken, and a draft report has been submitted in Spanish. It documents, analyzes and comments on the sources of fish for local human consumption in recent years. It highlights the crisis facing the artisanal sector, the traditional supplier of fish for local consumption, and the disorder in the fisheries sector as a whole, given the fact that there has been a reduction in the landings of the “traditional” fish species consumed by Peruvians of around 100,000 tonnes in seven years, whilst, at the same time, the coastal fishing population has almost doubled in size from around 40-50,000 to around 80-100,000 today. The work in Peru has highlighted how official statistics are being manipulated to hide dramatic changes in the sources of supply of fish for human consumption. In the past, Peru’s food fish needs have been entirely met by fresh-fish landings from the artisanal fishing sector. Today, they are

increasingly met by frozen-fish imports from Chile. The draft report from Peru is particularly useful in providing an insight into the issues facing the artisanal sector in recent years, a picture that cannot be obtained from available official statistics and reports. The report is to be edited and translated into English in 2006-07.

Ghana

The study on *The State of Fisheries from a Fishworker Perspective: The Ghanaian Situation* was discussed and vetted by various fishworker organizations, government officials and others at a one-day workshop organized in Accra, Ghana, in April 2004 is being published and will be uploaded on the ICSF website.

Brazil

The Study on the Status of Fisheries in Brazil from a fishworker perspective, titled *Artisanal Fisheries in Brazil*, is being published and will be uploaded on the ICSF website.

Some Reflections

The studies undertaken have been useful in documenting changes of various types taking place in the small-scale sector in several countries of the developing world: in the Philippines, Sri Lanka and India, in Asia; in Ghana and Senegal, in Africa; and in Brazil and Peru, in Latin America. Taken together, the studies provide an interesting overview of the dynamic nature of the small-scale sector. They clearly establish that the sector has, in many ways, changed as have the issues facing it. Both the Sri Lanka and Philippines studies document the small-scale fisheries for tuna, including in the high seas. The Peru study documents the crisis facing the small-scale sector, as the domestic demand for fish is increasingly met by frozen-fish imports from Chile. The studies make it clear that there is a need to constantly update understanding of the sector in order to arrive at an agenda for action to support it.

Social Security for Fishworkers

With the objective of documenting and raising awareness about the need for social security systems in fisheries in the developing world, ICSF undertook studies in two countries, Brazil and Sri Lanka, during this period. The summarized findings from these studies were disseminated during the 92nd session of the International Labour Conference (ILC) in June 2004 as part of the ICSF dossier *Fishing for Standards*. The study on *Social Welfare and Social Security in Sri Lankan Fisheries* was made available as a *SAMUDRA Monograph* at the 93rd session of the ILC, in June 2005. The study on *Social Security for Fishworkers in Brazil* (in English and Portuguese) was made available in summary form at the 93rd session and the full report was subsequently published as a *SAMUDRA Monograph* in March 2006. These reports have also been made available on the labour page of the ICSF website.

The studies from Brazil and Sri Lanka, along with the study on Kerala, India, completed earlier, have drawn attention to the issue of social security for those in the small-scale sector, highlighting some of the systems in place in selected countries. It is worth noting that Statements from two meetings of fishworker organizations and NGOs supporting them have stressed the need for States to recognize the rights of small-scale fishworkers to just social security benefits that include provisions for death and injury, maternity, medical benefit, and retirement pension. The two meetings are: (i) The Third General Assembly of the World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP), Kenya, 21 to 27 November 2004, and (ii) Conference on Sustainable Fisheries and Livelihoods in Latin America: The Imperative of Recognizing the Resource Access Rights of Artisanal Fishermen, Coastal Communities and Indigenous Peoples, Santa Clara, Argentina, 1 to 4 March 2005.

Some Reflections

The three studies on social security undertaken by ICSF have been very useful in documenting the kind of social security coverage, both protective and promotional, available to fishworkers in the developing world. The variations in the systems are also evident from the studies. The study from Brazil documents the manner in which the general social security measures in place benefit fishworkers and fishing communities. The study from Kerala, India, shows how, even with limited means, a developing State can adopt innovative social security measures. It highlights the importance of collective action by fishworkers for pressuring the State to honour its welfare commitments.

Regional Workshop on Post-tsunami Rehabilitation of Fisheries-based Livelihoods

The tsunami that struck countries in the Indian Ocean region on 26 December 2004 caused severe damage to life and livelihood. The impact on fishing communities in terms of loss of life and livelihood was especially severe. ICSF tried to respond to the enormity of the disaster in several ways. The main focus of ICSF's work was to try and ensure that the rehabilitation process took into account people's needs and aspirations, and that aid was effectively channelled to improve housing and the quality of life and livelihoods of the affected populations in the long term. ICSF also drew attention to the fact that these issues need to be looked at in conjunction with issues of fisheries management, given the dependence on fisheries resources for livelihoods. Towards this objective, ICSF undertook a range of activities.

Documentation and Dissemination of Information

In the aftermath of the tsunami, there was a constant demand for information of various types from various quarters. ICSF responded to this need for information on an ongoing basis. A webpage on tsunami relief and rehabilitation was

launched on 27 December 2004, to provide information on tsunami-related issues and initiatives. In the immediate aftermath of the tsunami, the frequency of *SAMUDRA News Alerts* was increased to twice a day, including weekends, and several original reports and appeals from the field were carried as *SAMUDRA News Exclusives*. RSS (Rich Site Summary, or Really Simple Syndication, a format for distributing news headlines and other content on the Web) feeds of the tsunami news alerts were used by various websites, including those of the South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS), FAO, OneFish, Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG, now called Practical Action), Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific (NACA), American Fisheries Society (AFS), Asia-Pacific Fisheries Commission (APFIC), Wikipedia, Disaster Watch, Via Campesina, Centro par el Desarrollo y la Pesca Sustentable (CeDePesca) and Oneocean.

ICSF also maintained close contact with the various fishworker groups and NGOs in the affected countries, to understand the scale of the disaster and the efforts being made by fisherfolk, peasant and other groups *vis-à-vis* relief and rehabilitation. Information obtained from them about the impact of the tragedy on fishing communities, and the initiatives being undertaken by them, was disseminated through the ICSF website and the *SAMUDRA News Alerts*.

ICSF produced a dossier titled *Post-tsunami Rehabilitation of Fisheries Livelihoods: An Information Dossier*, containing a compilation of documents on fisheries and fishing communities in Tamil Nadu, India, for use by NGOs and donors working in post-tsunami rehabilitation of fisheries-based livelihoods. The dossier was also made available online.

SAMUDRA Report No. 40 of March 2005 focused primarily on the post-tsunami situation, and carried comprehensive reports from affected countries on various aspects of post-tsunami rehabilitation. The post-tsunami issue of *Yemaya*, ICSF's newsletter on women in fisheries, carried articles highlighting the situation of women in tsunami-affected regions. Both these publications were widely distributed.

ICSF also produced a CD-ROM and dossier on post-tsunami rehabilitation, for distribution at the South Asian Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE)-ICSF workshop on post-tsunami rehabilitation, in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in April 2005.

Together with SIFFS and Bhoomika Trust, Chennai, ICSF supported the setting up of a resource centre called the Tsunami Rehab Information Network (TRINET) to facilitate information exchange and dissemination on tsunami rehabilitation among tsunami-affected areas in India. The TRINET newsletter is dedicated to providing information on post-tsunami rehabilitation and initiatives, and is widely disseminated.

Lobbying and Advocacy

ICSF supported the participation of fishworker and NGO representatives from tsunami-affected countries in the Regional Workshop on Rehabilitation of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Coastal Communities, organized by the Consortium to Restore Shattered Livelihoods in Tsunami-devastated Nations (CONSRN), on 28 February and 1 March 2005, at the FAO office in Bangkok. A statement was presented to this workshop outlining key concerns and proposals from a small-scale fisheries perspective.

ICSF also co-ordinated the presentation of an NGO statement on tsunami at the 26th session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) meeting of the FAO,

Rome, 7 to 11 March 2005. A side event was organized to enable representatives of NGOs from tsunami-affected countries to share their experiences on post-tsunami rehabilitation.

The ICSF Brussels office took an active role at the European level, drawing attention to the negative impact of the transfer of vessels from Europe to tsunami-affected countries. This involved communicating with European Union (EU) institutions and Member State governments, meeting with EU officials and NGOs, writing articles and releases for the media, and circulating information widely.

ICSF was also represented at the Regional Conference on Rebuilding Peasants' and Fisherfolk's Livelihoods After the Earthquake and Tsunami Catastrophes, held in Medan, North Sumatra, Indonesia, during 17-19 February 2005, which brought together 85 participants from 11 countries representing around 20 organizations of peasants, fisher peoples and victims of the earthquake and tsunami, as well as NGOs that work with, and support, peasants' and fishers' organizations. ICSF contributed to drafting the outcome document of that meet—the Medan Declaration on Rebuilding Peasants' and Fisherfolk's Livelihoods After the Earthquake and Tsunami Catastrophes, which contained important ideas and demands that helped shape subsequent policy prescriptions for rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts for the tsunami victims.

Apart from this, the ICSF Secretariat participated in many other meetings in the post-tsunami period. This was mainly to draw attention to issues from a small-scale fisheries perspective. It was also to draw attention to the livelihood issues of women fishworkers. ICSF also co-organized a meeting with SAAPE, titled "A People's Process for Post-tsunami

Rebuilding”, during 24-26 April 2005 in Sri Lanka. This meeting brought out a statement that highlighted, among other things, the need for donors to be sensitive to peoples’ planning and participatory processes. Articles were also contributed to newspapers to highlight aspects such as the potential problem of overcapacity that could be created by oversupply of boats.

***Regional Workshop on
Post-tsunami Rehabilitation
of Fishing Communities
and Fisheries-based
Livelihoods***

(i) *Studies:* To obtain a comprehensive understanding of the interventions that have taken place to rehabilitate the fisheries sector and communities dependent on fisheries, and to identify the issues/challenges emerging, ICSF commissioned studies in four countries, namely, Indonesia, Thailand, Sri Lanka and India, in October 2005, as follows:

- Role of traditional *panchayats* in coastal fishing communities in Tamil Nadu, India, with special reference to their role in mediating tsunami relief and rehabilitation
- Post-tsunami rehabilitation of fishing communities and fisheries-based livelihoods in Thailand
- Post-tsunami rehabilitation of fishing communities and fisheries-based livelihoods in Indonesia
- Post-tsunami rehabilitation of fishing communities and fisheries-based livelihoods in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Andhra Pradesh, India
- Post-tsunami rehabilitation of fishing communities and fisheries-based livelihoods in Sri Lanka. Along with this, a participatory rural appraisal (PRA) exercise was also undertaken among fishing communities in tsunami-affected villages to provide an overview on the major interventions

(ii) *Regional Workshop*: The five studies were presented at the workshop held in Chennai, India, on 18 and 19 January 2006. The workshop, which brought together around 90 participants from fishworker organizations, NGOs, governments, policymaking bodies and multilateral agencies from India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, and Maldives, was organized with the following objectives:

- to analyze the status of rehabilitation efforts in the fisheries sector and of fishing communities; and
- to identify issues that need to be addressed in ongoing rehabilitation projects *vis-à-vis* the fisheries sector for sustaining livelihoods in the longer term.

(iii) *NGO Workshop*: A one-day workshop was held on 17 January 2006, prior to the regional workshop, to enable organizations working with fishing communities in tsunami rehabilitation, to share experiences and to learn from one another. The meeting was also meant to identify some of the key issues/challenges emerging for longer-term rehabilitation, drawing on the country-level studies, and to put forth recommendations on basic issues that need to be addressed by ongoing rehabilitation interventions. These recommendations were presented to the workshop on 19 January 2006, and have since been widely circulated.

(iv) *Field Visit*: Participants at the workshop were taken for a three-day field visit. This was an exposure to post-tsunami interventions related to house construction, habitat restoration, appropriate technologies, alternative employment, and co-ordination of aid, taking place in the districts of Nagapattinam and Villupuram in Tamil Nadu, India, through interactions with government officials, women's self-help groups, NGOs and fishing communities.

(v) *Publication and Dissemination of Proceedings:* The proceedings of the workshop and the commissioned studies have been published. They are also available on the ICSF website as downloadable PDF files. Information about the reports and the recommendations from the NGO meeting have been widely disseminated through various mailing lists, *SAMUDRA News Alerts*, and other media.

Providing Inputs to Programmes for Post-tsunami Rehabilitation

ICSF prepared a report on “Damage Assessment and Livelihood Rehabilitation Strategy for Tsunami-affected Coastal Fishers in Tamil Nadu, India” for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in February 2005. ICSF also subsequently participated in the IFAD Project Formulation-cum-Appraisal Mission to formulate a Post-tsunami Sustainable Livelihoods Programme for the Coastal Communities of Tamil Nadu. The report prepared for IFAD was acknowledged as very useful by government and non-governmental organizations at a meeting organized to discuss proposed IFAD interventions in Tamil Nadu, and the proposals made therein have been reflected in the project subsequently decided on for implementation.

Some Reflections

The December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami disaster exposed, in a very stark way, the vulnerability of fishing communities occupying coastal lands—the very margins of the land mass, as it were—to natural disasters. It also helped in creating greater awareness about some of the socioeconomic, political and environmental factors that had increased the vulnerability of communities to such disasters. In some ways, the Indian Ocean tsunami helped in turning the spotlight on fishing communities, normally not in the limelight. Numerous media reports and workshops focused on fisheries and fishing communities in the post-tsunami period.

Through advocacy, documentation and dissemination activities, ICSF was able to create better awareness about small-scale fisheries and fishing communities, and draw attention to the rehabilitation needs of the small-scale fisheries sector, to some extent. ICSF was also able to link these issues with the need for improved resources management. The studies undertaken helped in understanding the various interventions being undertaken during the post-tsunami phase in the affected countries. However, the lack of a clear policy framework for rehabilitation, and the influx of unco-ordinated aid, donors and a wide range of actors in the post-tsunami period, were—and continue to be—major challenges.

The tsunami saw the emergence of strong solidarity networks in support of the affected communities. It was also notable that several ICSF Members in tsunami-affected countries, in Europe and elsewhere, took an active role in responding to the disaster, including by mobilizing funds and getting actively involved in tsunami-relief and rehabilitation.

Emerging Uses of Marine Biodiversity and Livelihood Rights

ICSF published an occasional paper titled *The Impact of CBD and TRIPS on Coastal Communities* by Anna Rosa Martinez in 2003. The paper assesses the implications of the Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for coastal communities access to, and control over, aquatic biodiversity. To this end, it reviews marine biodiversity, coastal communities' traditional ecological knowledge systems (TEKS) and the biodiversity they have conserved, and the industrial exploitation of marine genetic resources. The paper assesses the implications of TRIPS and CBD for coastal States and fishing

communities' access to marine resources, control over their knowledge and share of the benefits, and proposes areas for further research.

This paper is also available as a downloadable PDF file from the ICSF website, and has also been translated into Spanish. It was widely disseminated at the Seventh Conference of the Parties (COP7) to the CBD in 2004. ICSF also organized a side event at this meeting to release this study.

Some Reflections

It is known that TEKS are evolved within local and indigenous coastal communities, based on generations of close interaction with the coastal ecosystem. Coastal and marine resources such as fish, coral and seaweed have been used for various purposes, including as food, health supplements and medicine, and for housing. The livelihoods of coastal communities continue to depend on coastal biodiversity and access to it.

This paper was undertaken at a time when the non-food uses of marine biodiversity are growing in importance. The tremendous genetic, biochemical and physiological diversity in the marine ecosystem and its potential, particularly for pharmaceutical purposes, is only now being better understood. At the same time, there is considerable debate over the international legal framework for use of marine biodiversity, and on the coherence between TRIPS and the CBD. This paper offers some useful perspectives on this complex issue.■

EXCHANGE AND TRAINING

Workshop on Fishing Communities and Sustainable Development in Eastern and Southern Africa: The Role of Small-scale Fisheries

In October 2001, ICSF, in collaboration with the International Ocean Institute (IOI), organized a conference titled “Forging Unity: Coastal Communities and the Indian Ocean’s Future”, recognizing the long and shared heritage of coastal fishing, seafaring and maritime trading that exists till today between Asian and African countries bordering the Indian Ocean. The conference brought together fishworker organizations, NGOs, research institutions, universities and policymakers from 13 countries bordering the Indian Ocean, including from the east African countries of Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa and Seychelles. The conference provided the opportunity for Asian and African representatives from countries bordering the Indian Ocean, to exchange experiences and identify several areas of common concern. It further recommended that ICSF initiate a programme in east Africa.

It was against this background that the workshop on “Fishing Communities and Sustainable Development in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA): The Role of Small-scale Fisheries” was held from 14-17 March, 2006 at the Kurasini Training and Conference Centre, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. It was organized by ICSF, in collaboration with the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) and the Masifundisie Development Trust (MDT), with inputs from the Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements (CFFA).

The workshop was organized with the following objectives:

- to identify and promote understanding of key issues in fisheries, aquaculture and coastal area development and management in the ESA region, towards enabling fishing communities and organizations working with them to negotiate for programmes and policies that will sustain and improve their livelihoods; and

- to develop and strengthen networks amongst fishworker organizations, NGOs, community leaders and other stakeholders in coastal and inland fisheries in the ESA region.

A total of 53 participants attended the workshop. Participants came from fishworker organizations, NGOs, communities, intergovernmental organizations, government authorities and other stakeholders in coastal and inland fisheries in the ESA region.

The four-day workshop was devoted to presentations as well as plenary and group discussions. The workshop included sessions with the following titles:

- The Problems and Prospects for Small-scale Fisheries in the ESA Region
- Experiences and Perspectives from Southern Africa on Fisheries Co-management: Implications for Coastal and Inland Fishing Communities
- Aquaculture Development in Eastern and Southern Africa: Prospects and Pitfalls for Coastal and Inland Fishing Communities
- Fishing by Foreign Fleets: Issues for Small-scale Fisheries
- Cross-cutting Issues: Gender, Trade and Diversification of Livelihoods
- A Way Forward

As part of the preparations for the workshop, a website (www.icsf.net/jsp/conference/eastAfrica.jsp) was developed to provide information on the workshop. The website also carries country profiles for each of the participating countries, with statistical and other relevant information regarding the fisheries in the country, selected bibliographic resources for the region, multimedia resources, relevant regional instruments, and the proceedings of the workshop.

Through discussions at the workshop, it was possible to identify some of the key issues for fishworkers in fisheries, aquaculture and coastal area development and management in the ESA region and to identify issues for follow-up. It was also possible to initiate and strengthen networks amongst fishworker organizations, NGOs, community leaders, researchers and other interested organizations.

Contact with participants of the workshop is being maintained, and work on one of the areas for follow-up (creating a database of fishworker organizations/NGOs in the region) has been initiated, with responses to the questionnaire circulated being received. In the coming period, several other follow-up activities are planned, based on the discussions at the workshop.

Some Reflections

This was the first major workshop that ICSF has organized in the ESA region, building on the interaction with organizations in this region in the past. It was also the first time that the inland fisheries sector was being covered in an ICSF workshop. In the marine sector, both mainland States as well as small island developing States (SIDS) were represented.

Through the workshop, it was possible to identify the key issues facing fishing communities in this region. While the specific nature of issues varied, it was clear that a common problem was weak organizations of fishworkers, and a common need was to increase the political visibility of small-scale fisheries and to address issues of an economic nature, such as poor returns to primary producers.

The workshop also witnessed interesting discussions on the concept and practice of co-management. Co-management arrangements for fisheries resources management are in place in

most countries of the region, and the workshop provided the opportunity to take a critical look at the experience so far. A key concern was also the sustainability of such arrangements in the longer term.

Most participants felt that the workshop provided a very important learning experience, and should be seen as a first step in building up a shared understanding on issues affecting fishing communities in the ESA region. Subsequent initiatives, therefore, need to be more focused, and particular demands were made for training workshops on the use of ICSF's handbook on legal instruments in fisheries, on labour issues in fisheries, and on organizational options for fishworkers.

**Training Programme
“Empowerment through
Information” and
Handbook on International
Legal Instruments of
Relevance to Fishing
Communities**

The training programme titled “Empowerment through Information: ICSF's Training Programme for Fishworker Organizations and NGOs” was organized in Chennai, India, from 18 to 23 August 2003. It had 26 participants from seven countries (six Asian countries and South Africa). The focus was on international legal instruments of relevance to small-scale fishworkers. The training programme was followed by a field visit to Trivandrum, Kerala, from 24 to 28 August 2003.

As part of the preparatory material for the training programme, the DC compiled information on international instruments and institutions of relevance to fishworkers into a user-friendly interactive CD-ROM titled *International Instruments and Institutions Relevant to Fisheries*. A booklet titled *Handbook of International Legal Instruments Relevant to Fisheries* was also prepared as a ready reference guide on the subject. The aim of these was to provide information in an easily accessible manner on various international processes and instruments relevant to fisheries, which could be

used by fishworker organizations and NGOs to lobby nationally and internationally.

A field visit to Trivandrum, Kerala, was organized after the training programme, from 24 to 28 August 2003. The field visit was anchored by SIFFS, and it provided participants the opportunity to understand the social, political, ecological and economic reality of the small-scale fisheries sector in the south Indian State of Kerala.

The feedback on the training programme and field visit has been very positive. It is also worth noting that participation in the training programme enabled fishworker groups to engage more substantively with the International Labour Organization (ILO) process and with the COP7 of the CBD. The information was also used to support struggles and campaigns of fishworkers at the national level.

Based on the feedback received, the Handbook and CD-ROM were revised and expanded. The text for the Handbook was also sent to all the relevant Secretariats for comments. Comments and suggestions were received from several Secretariats, including the Secretariats of the CBD, WTO, Ramsar Convention, World Heritage Convention (WHC), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), ILO, United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS), and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

In March 2006, ICSF released the substantially revised *International Legal Instruments Relevant to Fisheries and Fishing Communities: A Handbook*, and the companion CD-ROM at the ESA workshop. The handbook provides detailed information on 114 legal instruments categorized into seven themes. The handbook and CD-ROM are being widely

disseminated, including to fishworker organizations and NGOs supporting them. They have also been sent to the Secretariats of various Conventions and multilateral organizations. The information contained in the handbook and CD-ROM is also being made available on the ICSF website. The webpage on international fisheries legal instruments will be online by July 2006.

Some Reflections

The training programme provided the opportunity for participants to learn about the international legal framework and the way in which it can be used to support local struggles and campaigns. Feedback in the subsequent period has indicated that the information was used at the national level, as in the struggle of South African artisanal fishers for fishing rights.

The feedback on the handbook and CD-ROM brought out in March 2006 has already been quite positive, with reactions coming from fishworker organizations, multilateral organizations, governments and others. Positive feedback has been received from the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) and the FAO, among others. The letter from the IMO says: "The excellence of these publications attests to the hard work of ICSF in its endeavours to making them informative and as up-to-date as possible".

The handbook and CD-ROM can certainly be used in the coming period as a tool to bring about greater recognition of the rights of small-scale fishworkers and to lobby for national policy and legislation that incorporates provisions that protect the interests of the small-scale sector.

Women in Fisheries

The focus in this programme has primarily been on ensuring that gender issues are integrated into all ICSF programmes. Specific activities related to

women in fisheries have included a regional workshop on women in fisheries in Asia and two provincial workshops in the Philippines. ICSF also launched a webpage on women in fisheries and continued the publication of *Yemaya* (see the section under Communication Programmes).

Workshops and Consultations

In 2003-04, ICSF provided partial support to two consultations, in the Luzon and Mindanao regions in the Philippines, for members of Bigkis Lakas, a national fishworker organization in the Philippines. These were organized by the Family Centre of the Asian Social Institute (ASI). An ICSF Member from India participated as a resource person in the first workshop. These workshops provided the space for women from local communities to discuss their participation in decision-making processes related to coastal resources management at various levels. The need for better statistics on women's work in the fisheries, regular training programmes to develop women's organizations and to strengthen their participation in Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Councils (FARMCS), and to develop alternative livelihood projects, was stressed.

The Asian Regional Consultation on Women in Fisheries was held from 11 to 14 August 2004 in Medan, Indonesia. It was held with the main objectives of:

- deepening the understanding of globalization processes and their impact on women in fishing communities, and documenting resistance to globalization by fisherfolk organizations; and
- strengthening fisherfolk organizations in seeking forms of development that sustain life and livelihoods.

The workshop was jointly organized by the APWLD, SP Indonesia, SDF Thailand, ICSF and Pamalakaya Pilipinas. There were

53 participants—men and women— from the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal.

At the workshop, six case studies on gender and globalization in fisheries, commissioned prior to the workshop with support from APWLD, ICSF and the Asia Pacific Research Network (APRN), were presented. These case studies enabled participants to identify concretely the manner in which globalization processes are playing out in a variety of situations and countries, and ways in which they are affecting livelihoods within fishing communities at the local level. Discussions also focused on what could be a feminist perspective and agenda on fisheries.

Participants identified the need to work more on gender issues within their respective organizations, and to develop greater clarity on how these can be best addressed. Participants also agreed that women-in-fisheries issues need to be highlighted at various forums, and that links need to be maintained and strengthened amongst women fisherfolk in the region. The consultation brought out a statement calling for a people-centred, gender-just development, based on the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

The workshop helped participants develop a better understanding of gender issues in fisheries and the need for a feminist perspective, moving beyond recognizing the important roles women play in the sector, to discussing the kind of fishery that will maintain women's spaces in the fishery and sustain the resource base, and that will maintain both life and livelihoods.

As the workshop itself was a collaborative exercise, issues related to women in fisheries are more firmly on the agenda of a greater number of organizations in the Asia-Pacific region, including of organizations such as the APWLD.

However, it was also clear that working towards a feminist perspective in fisheries will be a slow task, especially in view of the fact that small-scale fisherfolk themselves are not well-organized and represented, and that women are rarely part of their decision-making structures.

ICSF Members also played an important role in the “AKTEA Conference on Women in Fisheries and Aquaculture: Lessons from the Past, Current Actions and Ambitions for the Future” held in Spain during 10–13 November 2004. This had brought together women fishworkers, researchers and activists from Europe and elsewhere. The conference provided the opportunity to renew links with those working on women-in-fisheries issues and with women of fishing communities, continuing the process initiated through ICSF’s Women in Fisheries programme.

Website on Women in Fisheries

ICSF launched a website on women in fisheries (wif.icsf.net/jsp/wif/english/index.jsp) in August 2004 to coincide with the Asian Regional Consultation. The website brings together all ICSF publications on women in fisheries, as well as other important resources (books, documents, videos, websites) on the issue. The site has been well received, going by the number of hits received (74,447 hits in 2005-06) and reports downloaded. The ICSF WIF webpage is returned regularly in Internet searches. Information from the WIF webpage and ICSF studies/reports on the issue is often found referenced in other studies and reports.

Integration of WIF Issues into ICSF Programmes

In this triennium, in accordance with the decision of the General Body, the effort was to integrate gender issues into each ICSF programme. At the 2002 General Body (GB) a Gender Working Group was constituted from among the membership for this purpose though, for various reasons, it could not play an active role. There

were, nevertheless, conscious efforts to integrate a gender perspective into ICSF programmes, and this was an issue regularly monitored by the Animation Team. Efforts to highlight issues related to the rehabilitation and livelihoods needs of women fishworkers in the post-tsunami period were consistently undertaken. The ICSF submission at the ILO highlighted the need to recognize shore-based fishing activities in which women predominate, and bring these under the purview of the proposed ILO Work in Fishing Convention. The Handbook on Fisheries Legal Instruments specifically covers international instruments of relevance to women fishworkers. Most of the status studies undertaken have dealt with women's issues in the sector. Both the workshops organized in 2005-06—the “Regional Workshop on Post-tsunami Rehabilitation of Fishing Communities and Fisheries-based Livelihoods” and the “Workshop on Fishing Communities and Sustainable Development in Eastern and Southern Africa: The Role of Small-scale Fisheries”—had a focus on gender issues.

Some Reflections

This was the first period in which ICSF did not have a dedicated programme on women in fisheries, and where the focus, instead, was on integrating a gender perspective into all programmes. This has been a helpful shift. More work and reflection are needed, however, to ensure better integration of a gender perspective. Indeed, the bigger challenge is to ensure that the agenda is not merely to “bring women in”, but to stimulate a discussion and awareness on the kind of fishery that will maintain women's spaces in the fishery and sustain the resource base, and that will maintain both life and livelihoods. This is a debate that is needed at various levels, including within the organization itself.

In this context, it is worth noting that ICSF was perhaps one of the first organizations to draw attention to the important role of women in

fisheries and to make issues of concern to them, more visible. Going beyond that, ICSF has attempted to develop a conceptual framework to look at women and fisheries issues, and to develop a feminist perspective in fisheries. This perspective connects with the larger feminist critique of development, that is, it critiques development models that increase the vulnerability of local communities and destroy their means of livelihood, and undervalue and overexploit natural resources. The focus is on sustainable development strategies in fisheries, and in working towards a form of development that is gender-just and environmentally and socially sustainable.

Follow-up to the West Africa Fish Fair

The “Workshop on Problems and Prospects for Developing Artisanal Fish Trade in West Africa” and the “West African Fair for Artisanally Processed Fish”, organized in Dakar, Senegal, in mid-2001, had drawn attention to the need for greater intra-regional trade in artisanally processed fish, and for greater support to the work of women fish processors and traders. Specific activities to follow up on the workshop and fair could not be undertaken in this period, even though contact with local women’s groups engaged in fish trading and processing activities have been maintained. A CFFA regional workshop in August 2004 in Mauritania, for example, provided an opportunity for contacts between Ghana and Mauritania (and other countries) to be deepened. Plans for the visit by a team of fish processors and traders from Ghana to Gambia and/or Mauritania, to explore possibilities of greater intra-regional trade between small-scale processors and traders from both countries and to inform processors in exporting countries of consumer preferences in Ghana, did not materialize, even though discussions and links were initiated between groups in Ghana and

Gambia/Mauritania, and exploratory visits to Gambia were made.

The French version of the CD-ROM *Fisheries in Sub-Saharan Africa* was brought out in December 2002. This provides information on general socioeconomic factors, fishery resources, fishing communities and fishworkers, fish processing and trade, regional trade arrangements, regional fishery bodies, legislation pertaining to fisheries, and fishery access agreements for 25 countries in the west African region. It is also worth noting that the market study report (dealing with artisanal fish processing and trading in west Africa) and the report of the Fish Fair held in June 2001 continue to be regularly downloaded by users from the ICSF website.

Some Reflections

The issue of greater support to intra-regional fish trade in Africa continues to be important. The recent Abuja Declaration on Sustainable Fisheries (August 2005) also has reference to the need to promote intra-regional trade. ICSF has been one among several organizations that has consistently drawn attention to this important issue, particularly through enabling women fish processors and traders to articulate their priorities through research and workshops. Even though ICSF could not pursue its work in west Africa this triennium due to various reasons, this should remain an important area for further interventions in the coming period. ■

CAMPAIGNS AND ACTION

Comprehensive Standard on Work in the Fishing Sector at the 92nd Session of the International Labour Conference, 2004

Engaging with the ILO process related to the proposed Convention on Comprehensive Standard on Work in the Fishing Sector has been an important part of ICSF's work in 2002-06. It needs to be recalled that the ILO had last developed standards for the fishing sector four decades ago. The proposed new standard, placed on the agenda of the 92nd session of the ILC in June 2004, to revise the existing seven ILO standards on the subject, was, therefore, significant, particularly as the proposed Convention aims to extend coverage of labour standards to all—men and women—involved in the fishing sector, including those on artisanal and small-scale vessels and those working to process fish on board vessels. ICSF saw engagement with the ILO process as an opportunity to focus greater attention on issues related to the conditions of work in the small-scale fisheries sector, including aspects such as safety at sea, social security, remuneration and recognition of women in shore-based fishing activities.

The 93rd session of the ILC in June 2005 was expected to take a decision on adoption of the revised labour standards in the fishing sector. Unfortunately, however, at the final record vote on its adoption, the proposed Convention could not be adopted, for lack of quorum. ICSF will, in the coming period, continue to highlight the need to adopt this Convention when it comes up again for voting, in 2007.

A detailed report of activities undertaken between 2002 and 2006 follows:

In 2002-03, the ILO Secretariat had released a report on “Conditions of Work in the Fishing Sector” in preparation for this Agenda item. The Secretariat had also sent a questionnaire to all States on the proposed Agenda item on “Conditions of Work in the Fishing Sector:

A Comprehensive Standard (a Convention supplemented by a Recommendation) on Work in the Fishing Sector”. States were requested to consult the most representative organizations of employers and workers before finalizing their replies to the Questionnaire and to give reasons for their replies. ICSF undertook to inform fishworker organizations and NGOs about the ILO process, the Report and the Questionnaire, to increase awareness about the possible implications for small-scale fishworkers.

In 2003-04, ICSF organized a session on labour issues in the fisheries sector during the training programme “Empowerment through Information: ICSF’s Training Programme for Fishworker Organizations and NGOs”, held in Chennai from 18 to 28 August 2003. The session also discussed the questionnaire that had been sent by the ILO Secretariat to States in preparation for the consultation on the comprehensive standard on work in the fishing sector at the 92nd Session of the ILC in June 2004. Several of the participating organizations expressed an interest in engaging with the ILO process and in organizing consultations at the national level to discuss this issue. National-level consultations were subsequently organized in the Philippines, Sri Lanka and India to discuss labour standards in the fishing sector. The consultations provided interesting insights into labour issues in the fisheries sector and into the changing structure of the sector. A study on labour issues in the fishing sector in India was also initiated. Unfortunately, the study could not be completed.

The process of national consultations was continued in 2004-05, and consultations were organized in Ghana and India in April 2004. In India, the issue was discussed at an ICSF-SIFFS workshop organized for the National Fishworkers’ Forum (NFF), in Trivandrum on 2 and 3 April 2004. In Ghana, labour issues came

up for discussion at the ICSF-TESCOD workshop, held in Accra, Ghana on 21 April 2004.

Subsequently, ICSF organized a two-day meeting on the ILO standards and the fishing sector prior to the General Assembly of the WFFP in Kenya in November 2004. Members of WFFP from 20 countries in Africa, Asia, Central America, Caribbean, Europe, Pacific and Canada, participated in the workshop. The workshop came out with a statement on the relevance of the proposed ILO fishing standards to the small-scale fishing sector.

A session on the ILO process was also organized during the Latin American Conference organized by ICSF in March 2005: “Sustainable Fisheries and Livelihoods in Latin America: The Imperative of Recognizing Artisanal Fishworkers Fishing Access Rights”. This conference had participation from fishworker organizations and NGOs from seven countries in Latin America.

ICSF participated in the Committee on the Fishing Sector (CFS) set up by the 92nd Session of the ILC in June 2004, Geneva, which adopted provisions on a number of substantive issues in relation to fishing labour standards. The conclusions adopted by the committee, after 20 sittings, aimed to reach the majority of the world’s fishers, including those on board small fishing vessels. The 92nd session of the ILC approved the report of the committee and adopted the proposed conclusions concerning the fishing sector.

ICSF presented a statement at the 92nd session that drew attention to the need and relevance of standards on work for the small-scale sector. ICSF also facilitated the representation of the WFFP at the ILC.

A dossier, *Fishing for Standards*, on labour standards in the fishing sector was brought out to coincide with the 92nd Session and a website on

labour issues in the fisheries sector was also simultaneously launched (www.icsf.net/jsp/conference/labour/home.jsp).

In December 2004, ICSF was invited to participate in the Tripartite Meeting of Experts on the Fishing Sector, Geneva, during 13-17 December 2004, organized by the ILO, which reviewed provisions on accommodation and also dealt with the pending issues from the 92nd Session of the ILC.

In 2005-06, ICSF participated in the 93rd session of the ILC in June 2005. ICSF also made two statements—one to the plenary of the 93rd session and the other to the CFS. These drew attention to the need and relevance of standards on work for the small-scale sector. The need to broaden the definition of fisher to include persons, especially women, employed in shore-based fishing operations who do not necessarily work on board a fishing vessel, was also stressed.

ICSF also published a *SAMUDRA Monograph* titled *Social Welfare and Social Security in Sri Lankan Fisheries* and a draft version of the study on *Social Security for Fishworkers in Brazil*. These were circulated during the 93rd session of the ILC. The labour page on the ICSF website was updated on a regular basis, during and after the conference, to provide information on the discussions at the conference and the various country positions. *SAMUDRA News Alerts* also carried regular despatches during the 93rd session of the ILC, to disseminate information on a daily basis.

ICSF also facilitated the participation at the 93rd session, of representatives from various fishworker organizations from Africa, Asia and Latin America, and organized a Panel Discussion on “ILO Labour Standards for the Fishing Sector: A Small-scale Fisheries Perspective” at the John Knox International Centre, Geneva, where

representatives of small-scale fishers from Chile, India and Senegal spoke. The side event was attended by Norway, the Chair of the Government group in the CFS, ILC, workers' and employers' representatives, the ILO Secretariat and a representative of the ILO Office of External Relations, in addition to some others. The side event witnessed useful discussions and the delegate from Norway formally drew attention to it at the ILC on the eve of the record vote on whether or not to adopt the Fishing Convention.

As mentioned earlier, the proposed Convention on Work in the Fishing Sector could not be adopted at the 93rd session of the ILC in 2005, for lack of quorum. The disappointing outcome and decisions of the 93rd session of the ILC were widely disseminated by ICSF, through articles carried in *SAMUDRA Report*, *SAMUDRA News Alerts* and *Yemaya*. Efforts were also made to highlight the issues in the Sri Lankan and Indian media, given that these were among the countries that had abstained from voting. In Sri Lanka, an article by a member of ICSF on the ILO issue was published in the *Daily News* (*The Lost ILO Convention on Work in the Fishing Sector: Who is Responsible?* 30 June 2005). In the case of India, articles were published in the *Economic and Political Weekly* (*India Should Vote for ILO Work Programme*, Commentary, 28 January 2006) and also in the *Economic Times* (*Fishing for Labour Standards*, Guest Column, 10 December 2005). The latter was also carried as a *SAMUDRA News Commentary* along with *SAMUDRA News Alerts*. This issue of the stand taken by India was also raised as a question in the Indian Parliament and in the Kerala State Legislative Assembly.

A discussion on the current status of the proposed ILO Convention subsequently took place at the ICSF-WIOMSA-MDT "Workshop on Fishing Communities and Sustainable Development in

Eastern and Southern Africa: The Role of Small-scale Fisheries”, held in Tanzania from 14 to 17 March 2006, in the context of the difficult working conditions of crew on board distant-water fishing vessels in the region. A workshop on this issue in 2006-07 for the ESA region has been proposed.

Some Reflections

Even though the Fishing Convention was not adopted in 2005, it is expected that it will be adopted in 2007. Engaging with the ILO process has been useful in drawing attention, for the first time, to labour issues in the fisheries sector, particularly with respect to the artisanal and small-scale sector. However, ICSF has so far not been able to bring shore-based workers within the purview of the Convention.

It is also worth noting that this focus on the small-scale sector is timely, in view of the changes within the small-scale sector itself in many parts of the world, evident, for example, in the emergence of employer-employee relations and wage labour in certain categories of small-scale fisheries, such as in Sri Lankan multiday fisheries, the Filipino tuna pump-boat fisheries, and so on.

Engagement of small-scale fishworker organizations and NGOs from several countries in the ILO process, as in lobbying their national governments, has been substantive. In India, at a workshop organized in New Delhi by the Centre for Environment and Communication (CEC) in May 2004, for example, representatives of the NFF engaged in dialogue with politicians, bureaucrats and trade union leaders, to gain support for provisions in favour of the small-scale sector in the proposed ILO Convention. In southern Africa, the declaration adopted by the Southern African Small-scale Fishers’ Conference at Cape Town, in November 2004, resolved to

engage with the ILO process towards developing new labour standards for the fishing sector, with a view to reaching a greater portion of the world's fishers, particularly small-scale and artisanal fishers.

The two-page article contributed by ICSF, at the request of the FAO, for inclusion in FAO's widely read and quoted publication, the *State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture* (SOFIA), 2004, was also useful in raising greater awareness about labour issues in fisheries, including among departments of fisheries. It is the first time that SOFIA has carried an article on labour issues in fisheries. Several other publications and articles on this issue in national and international media, as well as the webpage on labour on ICSF's website, have also served the same purpose.

The substantive engagement with labour issues has also been in line with ICSF's perspective of looking at issues of fisheries management, trade, labour, gender, and so on, in a holistic manner.

Latin American Regional Workshop on Sustainable Fisheries and Livelihoods in Latin America: The Imperative of Recognizing Artisanal Fishworkers' Fishing Access Rights

In recent years, the access rights of artisanal and small-scale fishing communities to traditional fishing zones, and their rights of tenure in the coastal areas have been under increasing threat. On both land and sea, coastal communities are increasingly having to compete with other interests, such as tourism development, industrial development, larger-scale and more intensive fishing activities, mineral extraction, and aquaculture. In many countries and regions, artisanal and small-scale fisheries have been afforded some protection by the establishment of 'exclusive artisanal fishing zones', or through the establishment of near-shore fishing zones, where destructive and intensive fishing activities (such as trawling and other mechanized techniques) are excluded. This is the case in many countries in Latin America. On the basis of requests and

interest shown by several Latin American NGOs and fishworker organizations, ICSF organized a workshop that focused on this issue, in particular, and on the issue of access rights, in general.

While originally the workshop was to have focused on the issue of access rights to both fish resources and coastal resources, due to the complexity of the issues involved and time constraints, it was decided to focus on fisheries management issues, with a particular emphasis on access rights. Limiting the focus of the workshop to fishing issues, however, also meant that issues of access to coastal lands—a critical issue in many Latin American countries and one of key importance to women of fishing communities—could not be addressed.

The workshop was eventually organized in Santa Clara del Mar, Argentina, from 1 to 4 March 2005, with the following specific objectives:

- promote understanding of the value and importance of sustainable fisheries, and fisheries management measures that recognize and protect the access rights of artisanal and small-scale fishworkers;
- review the contribution of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development (poverty alleviation, food security, resource conservation, etc.) in Latin American countries;
- review the various formal and informal management provisions that have been adopted by countries in the Southern Cone region of Latin America to protect access rights of artisanal fishworkers to fisheries resources, and to examine the effectiveness of these provisions for protecting livelihoods and for improving management of fisheries resources;
- within a sustainable fisheries framework, highlight the need to develop, strengthen and

- improve measures to protect the access rights of artisanal and small-scale fishworkers; and
- review the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and highlight the particular contribution its implementation could make to protecting and promoting small-scale fisheries.

The workshop brought together about 50 participants from artisanal fishworker organizations, indigenous and coastal communities, and NGOs, researchers and government officials from eight Latin American countries (Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Brazil, Peru, Chile, Uruguay and Argentina).

After several days of intense discussion, the workshop produced a Vision Statement and Declaration that set out common positions on such issues as artisanal fishing, access rights, fisheries management, integrated coastal management, exclusive fishing areas, women in artisanal fisheries, industrial fishing, the international market, discards, aquaculture, research, food security and sovereignty, and working conditions.

It is significant that the workshop could provide a platform for debate on the live and contentious issue of individual transferable quotas (ITQs) in fisheries, where organizations supporting and opposing the system could participate and put forth their views. The workshop resolved to reject ITQs as a management tool for artisanal fisheries, and expressed concern that the use of ITQs can jeopardize the legitimate rights of artisanal fishworkers, coastal communities and indigenous people to secure and just fisheries-based livelihoods.

Information about the workshop, the programme and the papers presented, was widely disseminated through websites in Spanish and English set up by CeDePesca and ICSF,

respectively. A CD-ROM to report on the proceedings of the workshop, and to provide a resource of compiled information on the fisheries from the eight countries in the region, was also produced.

A formal discussion forum (Foro Latinoamericano de Pesca Artesanal- www.cedepesca.org.ar/foroclara/) on artisanal fisheries has been established. This also produces regular bulletins on developments relevant to small-scale fisheries in the region.

In general, the workshop was able to provide a platform for fishworker organizations, indigenous communities, NGOs and policymakers to discuss issues of access rights and improved and responsible fisheries management from a small-scale and artisanal fisheries perspective, and to establish a common agenda and plan for future action. There was a high degree of participation and intense discussions over four days by all participants, and agreement on several issues, as articulated in the Declaration. The interaction between participants, and provision of mutual support on common issues have continued subsequent to the workshop.

Some Reflections

The workshop was particularly relevant in a context where the concept of rights-based fisheries is increasingly in focus and where access to fisheries resources is being privatized, through systems such as ITQs. Chile is the first country in Latin America and among the first in the developing world, where access to resources is being privatized. The Latin American workshop saw intense debates on this issue, with small-scale fisher groups representing both sides—those who supported privatization and those who opposed it—present at the workshop. It was noteworthy that the final Declaration was unequivocally critical of the ITQ system. The workshop was useful in enabling fishworker

organizations from other countries in Latin America to familiarize themselves with the pros and cons of the ITQ debate, in a context where the ITQ system or its variants could well be introduced in other countries.

The electronic forum that has been formed subsequent to the workshop has also seen lively debate on fisheries management issues in the region. It has also provided an avenue for circulating news of interest to small-scale fishworkers. The Latin American workshop was timely in that it provided a forum for continuing debate on critical issues.

However, the fact that the workshop did not focus on issues of access to coastal land—a matter of key concern to women of fishing communities—needs to be dealt with. In this context, it is worth mentioning that women participants of the workshop made a strong statement asserting that any future workshops should definitely have distinct spaces for women's issues to be discussed and provisions for women themselves to discuss their issues.

Participation in FAO, CSD and Other UN Meetings

ICSF's engagement with UN forums was with the objective of influencing them to take into consideration the interests of artisanal and small-scale fishworkers, and disseminate information of significance about developments/discussions/decisions in these forums to artisanal fishworkers and other interested individuals and organizations.

ICSF engaged, among others, with processes related to the FAO, DOALOS, UNFSA, World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the CBD. ICSF's engagement with the ILO process has

been reported separately. ICSF has consistently been engaging with FAO processes, given that the FAO is recognized as the leading specialized agency on fisheries within the UN system. There has been an ongoing focus within the WSSD process on issues related to the sustainable management and protection of fisheries resources. Engagement with UNFSA processes has been aimed to defend the interests of small-scale fishworkers targeting straddling and highly migratory fish stocks in regional fisheries management arrangements. ICSF's engagement with UNEP processes has been to contribute, from a small-scale fisheries perspective, to the fishing subsidies debate. ICSF's engagement with the CBD processes was initiated in 2002 and is to follow the work of the Convention on aquatic (marine and inland) biodiversity, particularly in view of the growing importance of competing uses of ocean space.

ICSF participated in the following meetings in the period 2002-06:

2002-03

World Summit on Sustainable Development, South Africa, 26 August–4 Sept 2002

ICSF participated at the WSSD, held in Johannesburg in end-August 2002. ICSF also circulated a statement at the WSSD to highlight the fact that fishworker concerns were not well represented in the Plan of Action being finalized at the WSSD.

FAO Expert Consultation on Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management, Iceland, 16–19 September 2002

ICSF participated in this consultation, which was to develop guidelines for the ecosystem-based approach in fisheries. A note on small-scale fisheries and the ecosystem approach was also prepared.

Meeting of the Expert Group for the FAO/Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway Study on “The Impact of International Trade in Fishery Products on Food Security”, Italy, 16–18 December 2002

ICSF participated in the above meeting, held in Rome in December 2002, as a member of the Expert Group. The meeting was to discuss the framework and implementation of the above study, and to propose countries and issues on which the study could focus.

Expert Consultation on International Fish Trade and Food Security, Morocco, 27–30 January 2003

ICSF participated in the Expert Consultation on International Fish Trade and Food Security organized by Information and Advisory Services for Fishery Products in the Arab Region (INFOSAMAK) in co-operation with the FAO, in Morocco, from 27 to 30 January 2003.

FAO’s Committee on Fisheries, Italy, 24–28 February 2003

ICSF participated in the COFI meeting. Agenda Item 10 on the “Strategies for Increasing the Sustainable Contribution of Small-Scale Fisheries to Food Security and Poverty Alleviation” was of particular interest. Inputs from NGOs present at COFI, including ICSF, in the form of a report of a lunchtime meeting between FAO staff and NGOs on Agenda Item 10, held on 25 February 2003, were presented to delegates, prior to the commencement of discussions on Agenda Item 10.

2003-04

Second Informal Consultation of the States Parties to the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA), USA, 23-25 July 2005

ICSF participated in the Second Informal Consultation of the States Parties to The

Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA), held in New York, United States of America (USA), from 23 to 25 July 2003. ICSF participation was to highlight the need for a greater role for artisanal fishers in regional fisheries management organizations. The ICSF intervention, as mentioned in the report of the meeting, was as follows:

“65. In addition, the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers drew attention on the important role of artisanal fishing activities for highly migratory species like tuna and sharks, in particular in the Indo-Pacific region. It pointed out that the role of artisanal fishers in regional fisheries management organizations needed to be recognized more widely. In this regard, it proposed that the FAO should prepare a report on the status of artisanal and small-scale fisheries that were dependent on straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks.”

ILO Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Labour Standards for the Fishing Sector, Switzerland, 2–4 September 2003

ICSF was invited to participate in this meeting organized by the ILO in Geneva from 2 to 4 September 2003. ICSF's participation was to highlight the need for a standard of work that covered the small-scale sector. The ICSF intervention, as reflected in the report of the meeting, was as follows:

“15. The representative of the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers indicated that his organization was supportive of the initiative to create a comprehensive

standard. He reminded the Meeting of the impact of new techniques, which would enable small-scale fisheries to extend the range of their work and to bring considerable changes to this part of the sector. It was therefore suggested that the new instrument should also cover small-scale fisheries.”

*FAO-ACFR “Working Party on Small-scale Fisheries”,
Thailand, 18–21 November 2003*

ICSF participated in the FAO-ACFR (Advisory Committee on Fisheries Research) “Working Party on Small-scale Fisheries”, held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 18 to 21 November 2003, which discussed a research agenda for small-scale fisheries.

*Seventh Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD,
Malaysia, 9–20 February 2004*

ICSF participated in COP7 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The ICSF delegation included representatives of fishworker organizations and NGOs from Thailand. A joint statement from fishworker groups and NGOs was presented during the session on the programme of work on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity (MCBD). ICSF also organized a side event on “Marine Biodiversity and Coastal Fishing Communities: Recognizing Rights and Defining Obligations”. A key outcome of the participation at COP7 was that the MCBD programme of work now makes specific reference to the need to protect the preferential access rights of artisanal and small-scale fishworkers to fishing grounds and resources, in keeping with Article 6.18 of FAO’s Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

2004-05

*UNEP Workshop on Fisheries Subsidies and
Sustainable Fisheries Management, Switzerland,
26–27 April 2004*

Participation at this workshop was to highlight developing-country and small-scale fishworker positions on fisheries subsidies issues in the context of WTO negotiations on fishing subsidies. Two presentations, titled *Managing Artisanal Fisheries*, and *Fisheries Subsidies and Developing Countries*, were made by ICSF at this workshop.

FAO Expert Consultation on Implementation Issues Related to Listing Commercially Exploited Aquatic Species on CITES Appendices, Italy, 24–28 May 2004

ICSF participation at this consultation was to highlight the need to see how best to implement the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) listings by being sensitive to the livelihood interests of small-scale fishers. Several marine species such as sharks and turtles are listed under CITES.

FAO Technical Consultation on the Use of Subsidies in the Fisheries Sector, Italy, 30 June–2 July 2004

Participation was with the objective of understanding the positions of different States on the issue of subsidies in fisheries, being discussed at the WTO, and to highlight the importance of maintaining and enhancing subsidies that lead to improved resource management and that contribute to improving the quality of life of small-scale fishworkers, particularly in developing countries.

FAO Expert Consultation on the Role of Small-scale Fisheries in Poverty Reduction and Food Security, Italy, 5–8 July 2004

This consultation was to develop guidelines, in the context of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, for enhancing the contribution of small-scale fisheries to poverty reduction and food security. The Technical Guidelines are to be published by the FAO in all official languages. Participation in this

consultation was to highlight measures and issues seen as crucial for improving the livelihoods of small-scale fishworkers, including women fishworkers.

FAO Technical Consultation on International Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries, Italy, 19–22 October 2004

Participation at this consultation was to follow the debate on ecolabelling, an issue of potentially growing importance from the perspective of small-scale fishworkers in developing countries. FAO's voluntary guidelines for the ecolabelling of fish products were later adopted at the 26th session of COFI in March 2005. ICSF has been following ecolabelling initiatives in fisheries since the formation of the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) in 1996, to draw attention to developing-country/small-scale-fishworker concerns.

FAO Technical Consultation on Sea Turtle Conservation and Fisheries, Thailand, 29 November–2 December 2004

ICSF supported the participation of a fishworker leader from Orissa, India—the largest rookery for olive ridley turtles in the world—on its delegation. Participation at this meeting was to follow the debate on fisheries-turtle interactions and to highlight the importance of community participation and consultation in implementing turtle conservation programmes. The statement presented to the consultation, highlighting these issues, was widely disseminated.

Tenth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-10) of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Thailand, 7–11 February 2005

ICSF participation was to follow the Agenda item on “Proposed Global Outcome-oriented Targets for the Programmes of Work on the Biological Diversity of Inland Waters Ecosystems and

Marine and Coastal Biodiversity”. ICSF was also invited to make a presentation on the “Impact of the Tsunami on Fishing Communities”, in a side event organized by the CBD on biodiversity and natural disasters.

Regional Workshop on Rehabilitation of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Coastal Communities, Thailand, 28 February–1 March 2005

This workshop was organized by the CONSRN, formed by the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAORAP); NACA; APFIC, South East Asia Fisheries Development Centres (SEAFDEC); Bay of Bengal Programme–Intergovernmental Organization (BOBP-IGO); and WorldFish Centre (WorldFish). ICSF facilitated the participation of five representatives of fishworker organizations and NGOs from tsunami-affected countries to this meeting.

Participation was to highlight measures that should be taken for effective rehabilitation of fishing communities in the post-tsunami period, and to draw attention to developments of concern, such as the real threat of overcapacity in the absence of a clear policy framework for post-tsunami rehabilitation of fisheries livelihoods. A statement was also presented to the workshop.

26th Session of the Committee on Fisheries, Italy, 7–11 March 2005

Participation at the 26th Session of COFI was to follow the debate on the Agenda items of particular interest, which included post-tsunami rehabilitation, supporting small-scale fisheries, and marine protected areas (MPAS) and turtle conservation. ICSF facilitated agreement on an NGO Statement on post-tsunami rehabilitation, which was presented during the discussion on this Agenda item. Given the special nature of the

Agenda item, NGOs were allowed to present the Statement at the start of the session, immediately after the presentations by tsunami-affected States. ICSF also organized a side event on the tsunami, to enable representatives of fishworker organizations and NGOs from tsunami-affected countries to share their experiences with delegates.

2005-06

Sixth Meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS), USA, 6–10 June 2005

This meeting was organized by DOALOS. ICSF was invited to make a presentation during Panel A on Fisheries and their Contribution to Sustainable Development. The ICSF presentation stressed the need to recognize and valorize the role of selective artisanal and small-scale fishing in the sustainable utilization of fisheries resources in the entire exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

CBD Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management, Canada, 11–15 July 2005

The meeting was to identify obstacles to the implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management (IMCAM), and propose strategies to overcome these obstacles. ICSF's participation in this meeting was to highlight the importance of recognizing small-scale fisheries and fishing communities and their livelihood interests in IMCAM programmes. It was also to highlight the importance of the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities in these programmes.

APFIC Regional Workshop on "Mainstreaming Fisheries Co-management", Cambodia, 9–12 August 2005

ICSF participated in this meeting, and also supported the participation of a representative

from the Community-based Coastal Resource Management (CBCRM) Centre, Philippines. The CBCRM Centre has been working for long on community-based management. ICSF participation at the meeting was to follow the efforts being made to ‘mainstream’ co-management into national policies. It was also to draw attention to the need to ensure genuine involvement of small-scale fishworkers, and consultation with their representatives. ICSF also drew attention to the need for participation of representatives of fishworker organizations in meetings, consultations, workshops and other discussions on co-management.

Joint IMO/ILO Ad Hoc Expert Working Group on Liability and Compensation Regarding Claims for Death, Personal Injury and Abandonment of Seafarers’, UK, 9–21 September 2005

ICSF participated in the above meeting to draw attention to the issue of abandonment of fishing vessel crew.

The Third International Fishing Industry Safety and Health Conference, India, 1–4 February 2006

This conference was jointly organized by the BOBP-IGO, FAO and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Alaska, USA. ICSF was invited to make two presentations at the conference, which brought together governments, multilateral organizations, researchers and NGOs. The presentations were titled *Measures to Improve Safety and Health in the Fishing Industry: The Proposed ILO Standards for Fishing and Their Relevance to Small-scale Fisheries* and *Sea Safety Programmes for Artisanal and Small-scale Fishing Communities: Role of Gender*. At a two-day meeting that followed on “Post-tsunami Revival of Fisheries Sector and Rehabilitation of Fishing Communities” on 6 and 7 February 2006, ICSF made a presentation titled *Post-tsunami*

Rehabilitation of the Fisheries Sector: Priorities from a Small-scale Fisheries Perspective. This was based on the recommendations from the NGO meeting, presented at ICSF's "Regional Workshop on Post-tsunami Rehabilitation of Fishing Communities and Fisheries-based Livelihoods", held earlier in Chennai, in January 2006.

Sharing the Fish Conference 2006, Australia, 26 February–2 March 2006

This conference was organized by the Western Australian Department of Fisheries, in co-operation with FAO and supported by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and New Zealand Ministry of Fisheries. ICSF was invited to make a presentation at the session on allocation within sectors. The ICSF presentation was titled *Allocation of Fisheries Resources: A Small-scale Fisheries Perspective*. ICSF's participation at the conference was useful in drawing attention to allocation issues as related to small-scale fishworkers in developing countries. Most of the other presentations focused on allocation issues in the industrialized world.

Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Brazil, 20–31 March 2006

ICSF's participation at the conference was to follow the debates on IMCAM and MPAS. ICSF, along with many other NGOs, was signatory to a Joint NGO Statement presented during the discussions on Agenda Item 27.1 on Protected Areas. Among other things, the Statement called for steps to ensure that protected areas meet the socioeconomic and equity needs of indigenous peoples and local communities. ICSF was also invited to participate in two side events: one organized by the Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA) on "Addressing the Link Between

Conservation and Poverty–Community Conserved Areas”, and another by Brazilian NGOs on shrimp aquaculture. ICSF’s presentation at the former event highlighted the need for participatory approaches to conservation, lacking which conservation approaches could lead to exacerbation of poverty. The side event was also covered by the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* ENB on the Side (ENBOTS, CBD COP8, Issue 5).

FAO-CONSRN One-year later Regional Workshop on Rehabilitation of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Coastal Communities of Tsunami-affected Countries in Asia, Thailand, 30–31 March 2006

ICSF participated in the above workshop to share the discussions and recommendations from the “Regional Workshop on Post-tsunami Rehabilitation of Fishing Communities and Fisheries-based Livelihoods”, held in Chennai in January 2006, and to advocate for policies and programmes supporting livelihoods of small-scale fishworkers. The Proceedings of the ICSF workshop were released at the Workshop and were well received.

Some Reflections

Engaging with UN processes and influencing them to take on board the interests of small-scale fishworkers and fishing communities has always been an important part of ICSF’s work. ICSF has also facilitated the participation of several representatives of fishworker organizations to these meetings. Additionally, the statements made by ICSF to these meetings, meeting reports and analyses of such meetings, have been disseminated to fishworker organizations and others interested, through *SAMUDRA Report*, *SAMUDRA News Alerts* and *Yemaya*, and through training programmes and workshops. It is worth noting that several issues flagged by ICSF are reflected in the reports of the various meetings and workshops.

Support to the Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements

During 2002-06, ICSF continued to support the activities of CFFA, an autonomous organization formed in 1992, of which ICSF is a founder member. CFFA's activities during this period focused on monitoring and documenting the changing nature of fisheries arrangements between the EU and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) and other developing countries, and informing and advising fishworker organizations and NGOs on issues related to fisheries arrangements entered into by the EU, and the implications of these for coastal communities, especially in the South.

The activities undertaken by CFFA included the following:

(i) CFFA provided reports, analyses and other documentation to various organizations, including EU and ACP administrations, NGOs and professional organizations, on the changing nature of the EU's fisheries policies. In particular, CFFA has provided advice, policy advocacy, and documentation (press releases, position papers, critiques, etc.) on:

- the economic partnership agreements (EPAs) currently under negotiation and due to replace the Cotonou Convention in 2007 (by January 2008);
- the Commission's proposal and EU Council decision on fisheries partnership agreements (FPAs);
- the new financial instruments of the Common Fisheries Policy (the European Fisheries Fund and other instruments);
- the implementation of specific EU-ACP fisheries agreements; and
- the negotiation and implementation of bilateral EU free trade agreements (EU-Chile Association Agreement, EU-South Africa TDCa (Trade, Development and Co-operation Agreement), and EU-Med Agreements).

(ii) CFFA organized and participated in national, regional and international meetings. In particular, CFFA:

- continued to work closely with the CTA (Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Co-operation) and the United Kingdom's (UK's) Department for International Development (DFID), providing key inputs in a number of areas;
- organized a major two-day event with CTA and the Commonwealth Secretariat in Brussels in December 2004 on "EU-ACP Fisheries Relations: How to Bring Benefits to ACP Coastal Communities", and published the proceedings;
- organized a meeting in Mauritania of professional organizations (fishermen/women fish processors/exporters) from five west African countries' on "West African Artisanal Fishing Communities and the Export of Fishery Products", which was hosted by the National Fisheries Federation (FNP), Mauritania, in August 2004.
- organized electronic discussions with ACP stakeholders on "EU-ACP Fisheries Relations and ACP Fishing Communities" and on "Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) Fishing";
- made presentations at various international meetings on EU-ACP fisheries relations. These include: Commonwealth Secretariat meetings in Barbados, Fiji and Mozambique; UNEP meeting in Geneva on fisheries subsidies; Tanzanian government meeting on EPAS; FAO meeting in the ACP Secretariat on EU-ACP fisheries agreements; and FAO Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF) meeting in Senegal.
- in co-operation with Association pour le Developpement de la Pêche en Guinée et les Communautés de la Pêche Artisanale

(ADEPEG-CPA), helped to organize a mission to Guinea to gather information on illegal fishing by foreign fishing fleets;

- launched a website (www.cape-cffa.org);
- published an appraisal of the EU-Chile association agreement, which focused on the impact on Chile's coastal communities. Meetings were organized between the European Commission and other EU institutions to discuss the findings of the report with the authors, Ecoceanos.
- organized a meeting in Brussels in December 2005 between CFFA's partners from Guinea, Senegal and Mauritania, to set in motion a programme to improve collaboration between coastal communities and the media.

Some Reflections

As a result of its diverse activities, CFFA has been able to monitor, analyze and disseminate information on the changing nature of fisheries arrangements between the EU and ACP and other developing countries, and has been able to inform fishworker organizations and NGOs on issues related to fisheries arrangements entered into by the EU, and the implications of these for their livelihoods. Its work is regarded by many as providing one of the most important countervailing opinions on North-South relations in fisheries, and its advice is sought by many individuals and organizations.

Supporting the activities of CFFA has been particularly helpful in keeping abreast of developments around EU proposals for establishing a new formula for its fisheries agreements with developing countries, as, for example, the EU-Chile free trade agreement, which also has implications for the fisheries sector. The CFFA has provided important inputs to several ICSF programmes and workshops, such as the ESA fisheries workshop and the Latin American conference.■

COMMUNICATION

Documentation Centre

With the primary objectives of increasing awareness about developments of relevance to artisanal and small-scale fishworkers, particularly in the South; identifying and establishing relations with other resource centres and information sources; meeting the information needs of fishworker organizations and other users; raising the visibility of the small-scale sector; and providing support to ICSF programmes, the DC undertook activities in the following broad areas in the period 2002-06:

- Information identification, collection and documentation
- Information dissemination
- Providing support to other ICSF programmes

Information Identification, Collection and Documentation

Information was sought from a variety of sources, including journals, books, conferences and meetings, newspapers, websites, fisheries databases, fishworker organizations, NGOs, and governmental and multilateral agencies. The DC holds, as of 31 March 2006, a total of 43,862 items, which include books, documents, articles indexed from journals, and news clippings. The DC's photograph repository has 8,360 photographs, of which about 1,000 are available online. Work on the video database was initiated during this period and information relating to 33 most useful videos has been made available for users on the ICSF website. The DC has also moved forward in its work on the database of fishworker organizations, and information collected will be made online by July 2006.

Apart from this, an audio-visual documentation on sea turtle conservation and traditional fishing communities in Orissa, India, was initiated for the film *Right to Survive*. The film will be completed by July 2006. Audio-visual documentation was also taken up in the aftermath of the tsunami, in the tsunami-affected districts in India.

As part of the effort to identify relevant sources from which information can be obtained when required, the DC actively established contact with the libraries of several institutions such as FAO, INFOFISH, SEAFDEC, University of Washington, University of Wisconsin, The International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centres (IAMSLIC) network of libraries, and the secretariats of various legal instruments. The DC has been in regular contact with fishworker organizations and NGOs working on issues of relevance to small-scale and artisanal fisheries in Latin America, Africa and Asia. Information on ongoing activities and campaigns has been exchanged and received from these organizations, some of which has been used in *SAMUDRA News Alerts*.

A major initiative of the DC in this period was towards linking with other resource centres working on small-scale fisheries issues in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe. The effort was to build synergy between the centres in systematic ways, towards a common objective of meeting the information needs for supporting the small-scale fisheries sector. With this objective, the DC organized a workshop titled “Processes of Documentation: Building Links”, from 18 to 22 July 2005, in Chennai, India. This brought together representatives from seven resource centres based in Latin America, Asia, Africa and Europe.

Information Dissemination

Information put together was disseminated in various ways, including by directly responding to requests for information from fishworker organizations, NGOs, researchers and policymakers. The ICSF website has become a major tool for dissemination of information, and it has been redesigned towards making it more dynamic and interactive. Information available in the DC database, and at the resource centres in France and Brazil, can now be searched online.

All of ICSF's publications, including *SAMUDRA Report* and *Yemaya*, are to be made online by July 2006. The website also carries all statements and presentations made by ICSF.

The following thematic sub-sites have been created to increase dissemination of specific information:

- *Indian Legal Instruments*: This site makes available national and State-level legal instruments (legislation/regulations) relevant to the fisheries sector in India. It has a free-text search facility, and the instruments are freely downloadable. It is important to note that this is the only available site that brings together Central and State-level legislation on fisheries in India. It is also important to note that much of this information, especially the notifications, is not easily accessible elsewhere—in many cases, it is available only from the State Fisheries Departments themselves.
- *ESA Fish Workshop*: This site was developed specifically for the “ESA Fish Workshop: Fishing Communities and Sustainable Development in Eastern and Southern Africa: The Role of Small-scale Fisheries”, held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in March 2006. It provides information on the workshop, apart from relevant background material.
- *Labour*: This site contains: (i) updated information on labour from the ILO conferences; (ii) extracts of statements made by countries on labour standards of particular relevance to small-scale fisheries and women fishworkers; (iii) useful resources of relevance to labour standards in the fishing sector, including documents, books, and audio-visual information; and (iv) ICSF statements and documents on labour issues in fisheries.

- *Women in Fisheries*: This site, launched to coincide with the Asian Regional Consultation on Women in Fisheries in Medan, Indonesia, in August 2004, provides information on (i) ICSF publications and programmes related to women in fisheries; (ii) useful articles and documents on women-in-fisheries issues; (iii) legal instruments of relevance; and (iv) news on women in fisheries.
- *Tsunami*: The site on tsunami was set up on 27 December 2004, one day after the tsunami struck countries in the Indian Ocean region, to provide timely information and news on the impact of the tsunami, relief efforts particularly by fishworker organizations, meetings, statements and reports on tsunami relief and rehabilitation.
- *Latin American Conference*: This site was developed for the conference titled “Sustainable Fisheries and Livelihoods in Latin America: The Imperative of Recognizing Artisanal Fishworkers’ Fishing Access Rights” and carries all presentation made at the workshop as well as other background information.

The DC has also brought out several multimedia products for effective dissemination of information. These include:

- *The Indian Ocean Tsunami CD-ROM* that was produced by ICSF for the Regional Meeting on “A People’s Process for Post-tsunami Rebuilding”, organized jointly by SAAPE and ICSF on 25-26 April 2005, in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Apart from basic information on tsunamis, warning systems and disaster management, the CD-ROM contains damage assessment rehabilitation reports from governments and multilateral and non-governmental organizations, relating to India,

Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Somalia, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

- *International Legal Instruments Relevant to Fisheries and Fishing Communities: A Handbook.* This has already been reported on under the section on Training Programmes.

SAMUDRA News Alerts, initiated on a trial basis in December 2003, and officially launched in January 2005, sends out news, free of charge, on aspects related to fisheries and fishworkers on a daily basis and a weekly digest form, in plain text and HyperText Markup Language (HTML) formats. The number of subscribers has increased to over 500.

The features offered include RSS Feeds, *SAMUDRA Exclusives*, *SAMUDRA News Special*, *SAMUDRA News Analysis* and *SAMUDRA News Commentary*. During this phase, *SAMUDRA News Commentary* was initiated with a commentary on labour standards in the fishing sector, in general, and India, in particular. The news alerts have helped in increasing traffic to the ICSF site, as news on small-scale fisheries are uploaded on the site on a daily basis.

Providing Support to Other ICSF Programmes

The focus and content of the DC's work—issues on which information is collected and disseminated—are determined by the objectives, priorities and programmes of ICSF.

The DC has been providing significant inputs towards improving the quality and content of ICSF programmes. Studies and research undertaken by ICSF have benefited from the information available through the DC. The quality of preparation for conferences, workshops and training programmes organized by ICSF, as well as the provision of information to participants on relevant themes, have also improved significantly due to inputs from the DC.

Advisory Group to the DC

Recognizing the potential for further growth of the DC, a six-member Advisory Group (AG) was formed in 2004, to give direction, and suggest priorities. With the objective of reflecting on the work of the DC and suggesting future directions and priorities for its work, a meeting of the DC Advisory Group was held from 5 to 7 April 2004. The AG meeting was extremely useful in reflecting on current modes of operation of the DC, and in identifying areas where efficiency could be increased in collection, collation and dissemination of information. It was also helpful in clarifying the role of the DC and in identifying the strategic niches that the DC could occupy, given existing expertise. The AG provided several suggestions on ways to take the work of the DC forward and to improve dissemination and exchange of information. For example, the DC has been able to reduce time, effort and cost spent in collection, indexing and entering of information. Concrete changes to the design and content of the ICSF website have been made, such as putting up ICSF statements, increasing links to important fisheries sites, improving presentation of databases on the website, etc. Overall, the meeting helped in achieving greater clarity and focus in the work of the DC.

Some Reflections

Access to information in appropriate forms is undoubtedly a key requirement for small-scale fishworker organizations and fishing communities, and empowerment through information has been the underlying theme of the work of the DC. Through its activities, the DC has been able to support, both directly and indirectly, the cause of small-scale fisheries and fishworkers. *SAMUDRA News Alerts*, for example, have increased visibility of developments related to small-scale fisheries, particularly in the developing world, and have helped fishworker organizations and organizations working with them to keep abreast of developments of

relevance to them. Timely provision of information for fishworker campaigns, as in the case of the shark ban in India, has helped local struggles.

It would be fair to say that the DC has, by and large, been effective in meeting the objectives with which it was set up and in furthering the objectives of the organization. It has been able to identify important sources of information on specific themes of interest in fisheries, as on issues relating to tsunami rehabilitation, artisanal fishing communities in Africa, labour standards in the fishing sector, and fisheries subsidies. It has also been able to establish links with other resource centres and sources of information, and to source information in a timely manner, when needed. The DC has also responded in a timely manner to requests for information from fishworker organizations and NGOs working to support them, as well as from academics, researchers and others interested in small-scale fisheries.

Publication of *SAMUDRA Report* in English, French and Spanish

The publication of *SAMUDRA Report* and *Dossiers* was continued, with the objective of widely disseminating information on important developments in fisheries relevant to the small-scale fisheries sector, and creating greater awareness about issues of concern to the sector.

Thirteen issues of *SAMUDRA Report* in English (Issue Nos. 31 to 43) were brought out in the period 2002-06. In the same period, 12 issues of *SAMUDRA Report* (French) and 13 issues of *SAMUDRA Report* (Spanish) were brought out. The mailing list for *SAMUDRA* English, French and Spanish has remained stable at 1,091, 525 and 158, respectively.

In 2003-04, two thematic *Dossiers*, on safety at sea (*Dangerous Calling*) and on women in fisheries

(*Gender Agenda*), culling out articles from past issues of *SAMUDRA Report*, were also brought out. These are also available on the ICSF website, with individual articles downloadable as PDF files. These *Dossiers* have been widely disseminated and downloaded from the site.

During this period, all issues of *SAMUDRA Report* (English) were made available online, with a free-text search facility. All issues of *SAMUDRA Report* (French) and *SAMUDRA Report* (Spanish) were digitized, and will be online by June 2006, with a free-text search facility. With this, all issues of *SAMUDRA Report*, in all languages, will be available in PDF format with a free-text search facility, on the ICSF website.

An analysis of the number of webpage hits to the ICSF site indicates that the number of users accessing *SAMUDRA Report* articles online has increased substantially—*SAMUDRA Report* (English), for example, received 108,370 hits in 2005-2006. (In 2004-05, the number was 85,207.)

A questionnaire formally seeking feedback was circulated to readers along with *SAMUDRA Report* No. 41. The questionnaire was circulated in English, French and Spanish, and was also put up on the ICSF website. Responses are still coming in and a complete analysis of responses will be taken up in 2006-07.

Based on internal discussions within ICSF, a letter was sent to readers of *SAMUDRA Report* in Europe on an experimental basis, requesting contributions to the journal. Nine subscribers have contributed so far.

Some Reflections

SAMUDRA Report has covered a wide range of subjects of relevance to small-scale fishworkers in the period 2002-06, including management and labour issues in fisheries, fisheries trade, gender in fisheries, coastal and marine

biodiversity, and so on. The publication of *SAMUDRA Report* has helped in disseminating information on important developments in fisheries and in increasing awareness about fisheries issues of concern to artisanal and small-scale fishworkers, particularly in developing countries. Dissemination of articles in *SAMUDRA Report* has increased as now all issues of the journal, in all languages, are available online.

A preliminary analysis of responses from the questionnaires sent out indicates that a majority of the readers find the articles carried by *SAMUDRA Report* to be unique and difficult to find in other journals. Some specific responses were as follows: *SAMUDRA Report* gives “an international coverage of fisheries with a fishermen’s perspective”; an “excellent source of information about artisanal fisheries and problems”; provides a platform for “global information exchange”; “gives a broad view of issues relating to the fishery sector”; “is a source of information for advocacy in the field of fishery”; “it enables the developed world to appreciate the problems in fisheries of the developing world”; and so on.

It is worth noting that the citation for the Margarita Lizárraga Medal awarded by the FAO to ICSF in 2003 referred to *SAMUDRA Report*. It stated that: “Its information dissemination through its widely circulated flagship magazine *SAMUDRA* has increased awareness about the Code and contributed to national fishery policy formulation and implementation in accordance with the Code’s principles and articles.”

Yemaya

Yemaya was brought out, three times a year, in English, Spanish, French and, later, also in Portuguese, with the basic objective of maintaining and sustaining links between women and men of fishing communities, fishworker organizations and NGOs/researchers working with fishworkers in different countries, both in the

North and South, on gender issues in fishing communities

Between 2002-06, 12 issues of *Yemaya* (English), 12 of *Yemaya* (French) and 13 of *Yemaya* (Spanish) were brought out. In addition, four issues of *Yemaya* (Portuguese) were published. It needs to be noted that translation of *Yemaya* into French and Portuguese was undertaken on a voluntary basis.

All issues of *Yemaya*, in English, French and Spanish, are available online at the ICSF website, as PDF files, with a free-text search facility for better user interface. Searches on the internet on women/gender in fisheries throw up past *Yemaya* issues to a greater extent, increasing the overall visibility of the publication and of women-in-fisheries issues.

A survey form was circulated to subscribers along with *Yemaya* No.19 (August 2005), to get feedback on the relevance and usefulness of *Yemaya*. An analysis of responses will be taken up in the coming period.

In general, positive feedback on the newsletter has been obtained from several sources, and articles from *Yemaya* have been reproduced in other newsletters and publications. Several articles from *Yemaya* have been reproduced, for example, in the recent book *Changing Tides: Gender, Fisheries and Globalization*, published by Fernwood Publishing (2005) and edited by Barbara Neis, Marian Binkley, Siri Gerrard and Maria Cristina Maneschky.

Some Reflections

As perhaps the only newsletter on women in fisheries that brings together experiences of women organizing from all parts of the world, *Yemaya* occupies a unique niche. *Yemaya* has provided a forum for sharing and dissemination of experiences on gender and fisheries issues,

sustaining the links amongst a network of individuals and organizations working on gender and fisheries issues. Through the newsletter, it has been possible to draw attention to issues related to women organizing, problems being faced by women of fishing communities, the impact of the tsunami on women, and so on.

A preliminary analysis of the feedback from the questionnaire circulated indicated that readers found the newsletter useful. Other responses reflected that *Yemaya* has been “*educative and informative*”; “*particularly on gender and fisheries*”; “*with unique style and precious contents*”; with “*realistic information on fishery at the local level*”. Some also said that it is a “*job well done*” and encouraged ICSF to continue the “*wonderful work*”.■

CO-ORDINATION

Review of ICSF Activities

In preparation for the General Body meeting of ICSF in 2006, which marks the completion of 20 years since ICSF’s formation, a review and planning meeting was organized in August 2005, with the following objectives:

- (1) Review the objectives, priorities and programmes of ICSF since its formation in 1986
- (2) Review the effectiveness and adequacy of ICSF’s organizational form/style of functioning in meeting organizational objectives and priorities
- (3) Propose objectives and priorities for ICSF in the coming period

A total of 15 persons participated in the meeting. This included members of the ICSF’s Animation Team, other ICSF Members, invited resource persons, and members of the Secretariat. The meeting came up with several proposals regarding priorities of work and functioning of ICSF, for consideration by the General Body.

The meeting witnessed very interesting and focused discussion, and was very well facilitated. It helped in analyzing key changes in the fisheries sector since ICSF's formation, and in proposing future priorities for work. It also helped in identifying and proposing key priority areas from an organizational perspective for consideration by the General Body. The report of the Review and Planning meeting has been circulated to all regular Members of ICSF.

Some Reflections

This was the first such meeting organized by ICSF, and the first time that external facilitators had been invited for such a meeting. The meeting was focused, and several key issues could be raised and discussed in preparation for the General Body meeting.■

CONCLUSION

The period 2002-06 has been one in which ICSF has been able to engage with issues within the fisheries sector, as well as with larger issues of marine and coastal biodiversity. Engagement has been with local, national and international processes, and on highlighting the interrelationship between the various levels. At the same time, with the development and growth of the DC, there has been a major leap in dissemination-related activities—apart from *SAMUDRA Report* and *Yemaya*, the ICSF website and thematic webpages, and the daily *SAMUDRA News Alerts*, have become major modes of real-time dissemination and sharing of information.■

OTHER ACTIVITIES

As part from programme activities, ICSF was invited to participate in various meetings and conferences. ICSF was also requested to undertake studies on various issues.

PARTICIPATION IN OTHER MEETINGS

ICSF staff was invited to participate in, and make presentations at, various meetings on fisheries and related issues. ICSF accepted some of these invitations with the objective of providing a small-scale fisheries perspective on various themes, or to follow issues/developments seen as relevant, as below:

2002-03

International Planning Committee Meeting on World Food Summit Follow-up, Italy, 16–17 October 2002

ICSF participated in the meeting of the International NGO/CSO Planning Committee (IPC). The IPC is the NGO grouping that has been co-ordinating NGO events at the two World Food Summits organized by the FAO, the last in June 2002. The IPC engages with the FAO process on issues of food sovereignty, and comprises NGOs and movements representing various sectors, including workers, peasants and indigenous peoples, from all regions.

Gender in Fisheries and Aquaculture Workshop, Belgium, 9–10 December 2002

ICSF participated in this workshop, which was in support of the European Commission's International Science and Technology Co-operation with Developing Countries, and was organized by the European Commission (Research Directorate-General). The workshop was expected to provide guidance on how to integrate the gender dimension more effectively into the EC's international scientific co-operation activities in relation to aquatic ecosystems. The workshop provided an opportunity to interact

with scientists, researchers and activists working on women-in-fisheries issues from all parts of the world, and to explore the possibility of setting up North-South collaborative research projects on gender and fisheries issues. A report of the workshop has also been brought out.

*International Conference on Natural Assets,
Philippines, 8–11 January 2003*

ICSF participated in this conference that was organized by the Political Economy Research Institute (PERI), University of Massachusetts, Amherst, together with the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), India. Several ideas for follow-up to the workshop were mooted, including the need to increase audio-visual documentation of community efforts in building and conserving natural assets.

*National Seminar on Conservation and Management of
Marine Biodiversity, India, 21–22 March 2003*

This seminar, organized by the Wildlife Institute of India and the Ministry of Environment and Forests, India, was held on 21 and 22 March in Kanyakumari, India. A presentation on “Conserving Marine Biodiversity: What Role Can Coastal Communities Play?” was made by ICSF. The main focus of the presentation was to highlight how wildlife conservation programmes in coastal areas often lead to displacement of artisanal fishing communities, and the need to develop inclusive solutions to marine wildlife conservation of species like turtle and shark.

2003-04

*Globalization and Its Impact on Women's Labour,
Thailand, 18–20 June 2003*

ICSF participated in the APRN Research Conference on “Globalization and Its Impact on Women's Labour”, Bangkok, Thailand, from 18 to 20 June 2003. A paper on the impact of globalization

processes on women in the fisheries sector was presented, highlighting areas for further research.

Southeast Asian Conference on Sustainable Fisheries Management and Trade, Philippines, 10–14 November 2003

ICSF participated in the Southeast Asian Conference on Sustainable Fisheries Management and Trade, organized by the Tambuyog Development Centre, to discuss trade and subsidies issues in fisheries.

IFAD-WFP-NABARD COSOP Stakeholder's Consultation, India, 8–9 January 2004

ICSF participated in the IFAD-WFP-NABARD COSOP (IFAD-World Food Programme-National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Country Strategic Opportunities Paper) Stakeholder's Consultation held in Delhi on 8 and 9 January 2004. The meeting was to define IFAD's future strategic thrusts and priorities that would form the framework for the country programme in India during 2004-09. The draft COSOP paper on fisheries, *Coastal Fisheries and Poverty: The Case of India*, had been prepared by ICSF.

World Social Forum, India, 16–21 January 2004

ICSF participated in the World Social Forum in Mumbai, India, from 16 to 21 January. ICSF participation was mainly to follow the workshops on fisheries issues and to facilitate screening of the ICSF-produced film: *Under the Sun: The Transient Fisherfolk of Jambudwip*, on the struggle of Jamudwip fishworkers of West Bengal, India, against eviction. The film was screened at the Other Worlds are Breathing: World Social Forum (WSF) Film Festival 2004. ICSF also facilitated the participation of the director of the film, Rita Banerji, and its camera person, Shilpi Sharma, at the screening and at the panel discussion that followed its screening.

Strategies and Options for Increasing and Sustaining Fisheries and Aquaculture Production to Benefit Poor Households in Asia, India, 29–30 January 2004

ICSF participated in a workshop of the ICAR-ICLARM Project on the “Strategies and Options for Increasing and Sustaining Fisheries and Aquaculture Production to Benefit Poor Households in Asia”, organized by the National Centre for Agricultural Economics, Policy and Research (NCAER), New Delhi, on 29 and 30 January 2004.

2004-05

Strategies and Preparedness for Trade and Globalization in India, India, 12 April 2004

ICSF participated in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) meeting for the official launch of the project “Strategies and Preparedness for Trade and Globalization in India”, jointly implemented by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, UNCTAD and DFID, on 12 April 2004, in New Delhi.

General Assembly of the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fishworkers, Lisbon, Portugal, 23–28 May 2004

ICSF participated in the General Assembly of the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fishworkers (WFF), in Lisbon, Portugal, 23-28 May 2004, as an observer. This was to follow the development of an international organization representing fishworkers, and to understand better the concerns and issues being articulated by its member organizations.

Fishermen’s Problems in the Palk Bay, India, 2 June and 28 August, 2004

ICSF participated in two meetings organized by the Centre for Security Analysis (CSA) in Chennai, on 2 June and 28 August 2004, to discuss and

obtain comments on a study being conducted by CSA on the fishermen's problems in the Palk Bay region between India and Sri Lanka. Participation was to draw attention to the solutions being proposed by fishermen's groups from India and Sri Lanka, and the initiatives being taken by them towards this.

Side Event on the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Thailand, 5–6 June 2004

The network of Thai environmental groups organized an Environmental Fair on 5 and 6 June 2004. ICSF was invited to participate in the side event on the WSSD organized by NGO-Co-ordinating Committee on Development (NGO-COD), a network of NGOs in Thailand, and to make a presentation on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and the WSSD process and its relevance to fishworkers. Participation was to disseminate information on international processes of relevance to small-scale fishworkers.

Workshop on Fishery Harbours: Current Status and Future Management Concerns, India, 24–25 June 2004

ICSF participated in a workshop on “Fishery Harbours: Current Status and Future Management Concerns”, organized by Protsahan, the National Institute of Ocean Technology and the Harbour Engineering Department, Kerala, India on 24-25 June 2004. A presentation was made on “International Legal Instruments and Fishing Harbours”.

Conference on International Trade in Fishery Products and Food Security, Norway, 7–8 October 2004

ICSF participated in the Conference on International Trade in Fishery Products and Food Security in Bergen, Norway, 7-8 October 2004, jointly hosted by the Norwegian Forum for Development Co-operation in Fisheries and the Norwegian Agency for Development

Co-operation (NORAD), and made a presentation titled “International Trade in Fish and Fish Products: Who Gets What?”

South Asian Artisanal Fishing: Past Traditions, Contemporary Reality, New Delhi, India, 8–9 October 2004

ICSF participated in a workshop titled “South Asian Artisanal Fishing: Past Traditions, Contemporary Reality”, on 8-9 October 2004, New Delhi. The presentation on fisheries in Gujarat, India, was to highlight the urgent need for fisheries management.

Southern African Small-scale Fisher’s Conference, South Africa, 2–7 November 2004

ICSF participated in the Southern African Small Scale Fisher’s Conference organized by Masifundise Development Trust in Cape Town, South Africa, from 2 to 7 November 2004, and made a presentation on “International Instruments of Relevance to Small-scale Fisheries”. Participation was also to become more familiar with the issues being raised by fishworkers in the SADC region.

AKTEA Conference on Women in Fisheries and Aquaculture: Lessons from the Past, Current Actions and Ambitions for the Future, Spain, 10 –13 November 2004

ICSF Members participated in the international AKTEA Conference that brought together women fishworkers, researchers and activists from Europe and elsewhere.

Third General Assembly of the World Forum of Fisher Peoples, Kenya, 21–27 November 2004

ICSF participated in the General Assembly of the WFFP, at Kisumu, Kenya, from 21 to 27 November 2004. ICSF also provided inputs to the WFFP in preparing its draft fisheries policy, based on discussions at the workshop.

Meeting of the International NGO/CSO Planning Committee, Italy, 26–28 November 2004

ICSF participated in the general body meeting of the IPC, an alliance of NGOs/Civil Society Organizations (NGOs/CSOs) from various sectors, including the fisheries sector, active in the World Food Summit processes.

2005-06

A People's Process for Post-tsunami Rebuilding, Sri Lanka, 24–26 May 2005

This meeting was organized by the SAAPE, in collaboration with ICSF. This meeting agreed on a statement. The statements and the presentations made at the meeting are available online on the SAAPE website.

Untangling Fisheries and Trade: Towards Priorities for Action, Switzerland, 9–10 May 2005

ICSF participated in this strategic dialogue with fisheries trade negotiators from developing countries at the World Trade Organization (WTO), organized by the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), Geneva, on the impacts of fisheries subsidies on fisheries resources and sustainable livelihoods; the challenges and opportunities of using trade-related measures in the fisheries sector; the impact of aquaculture expansion on international trade, domestic market and fisheries resources; and bilateral agreements and their effects on domestic fishing and management capacities.

Women's Livelihood in Coastal Communities: Management of the Environment and Natural Resources, India, 6 June 2005

This workshop was organized by the Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST). The theme paper presented by ICSF was titled “Women of Coastal Fishing Communities in the Asian Region: An Agenda for Research”. The workshop discussed

an agenda for research and action vis-a-vis women of coastal fishing communities. This seminar, held in ISST's Silver Jubilee year, provided an opportunity for stocktaking and planning for the future. In particular, it was to explore the possibility of ISST's research work with women in coastal fishing communities.

Post-tsunami Regional Consultation on "Enhancing Resiliency and Livelihoods Towards Recovery", Colombo, Sri Lanka, 15–17 June 2005

This consultation was jointly organized by the Learning and Research Network (LeaRN) project of the CBCRM Resource Centre and the Sri Lanka Centre for Development Facilitation (SLCDF). The meeting was to share practices and efforts in the post-tsunami period, and to work out a road map towards longer-term recovery of tsunami-affected communities. ICSF's participation was to share some of the concerns of, and initiatives to support, small-scale fishing communities in tsunami-affected countries.

South Asia Regional Conference, Apostleship of the Sea, India, 17–21 November 2005

The conference was held in Chennai, India, from 17 to 21 November 2005. ICSF was invited to make a presentation on the proposed ILO Convention on Standards of Work in the Fishing Sector, with the objective of increasing awareness about the Convention.

STUDIES/REPORTS/ PAPERS

Study on "Various Aspects of Subsidization of the Domestic Fisheries Sector in the Context of Possible Sectoral Negotiations at the WTO"

A study on "Various Aspects of Subsidization of the Domestic Fisheries Sector in the Context of Possible Sectoral Negotiations at the WTO" was completed for the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India. The study has documented

the magnitude of subsidies in Indian fisheries and coastal aquaculture, and it has analyzed the Indian subsidy schemes in the light of the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures as well as in the light of new proposals at the Rules Negotiating Group of WTO to address fishing subsidies that not only have trade effects but also have negative production effects like overcapacity and overfishing. ICSF has also summarized various country positions on fisheries subsidies issues.

Paper on “Sea Turtle and Fisheries Interactions”

A paper on “Sea Turtle and Fisheries Interactions” was prepared for the FAO in 2004. The purpose was mainly to produce a brief overview of the current status of marine turtle resources and the major biological, ecological and socioeconomic issues related to their conservation and use, with particular reference to fisheries. Based on the ICSF report, done in collaboration with marine biologists from the Mediterranean and the Atlantic and the Pacific, FAO organized a conference on turtle-fishery interactions.

Study on “Coastal Fisheries and Poverty: The Case of India”

A study on “Coastal Fisheries and Poverty: The Case of India” was completed for the IFAD in 2003. It is being used by IFAD to formulate its interventions in the coastal fisheries sector in India.

Paper on “The Special Conditions and Requirements of Developing Countries and Countries in Transition to Adopt Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products”

A paper on “The Special Conditions and Requirements of Developing Countries and Countries in Transition to Adopt Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products” was prepared for the FAO, in preparation for the Expert Consultation on

Ecolabelling organized by the FAO in October 2003.

Post-tsunami Sustainable Livelihoods Programme for the Coastal Communities of Tamil Nadu

ICSF participated in the IFAD Project Formulation-cum-Appraisal Mission in April 2006 to formulate a “Post-tsunami Sustainable Livelihoods Programme for the Coastal Communities of Tamil Nadu”.

Study on the “Definitions and Features of Artisanal Fisheries Used Across Africa”

ICSF undertook a study on the “Definitions and Features of Artisanal Fisheries Used Across Africa” for the Commonwealth Secretariat. The report produced was for use by African trade negotiators in negotiations on fisheries subsidies issues at the WTO.

“Re-orienting Developing Country Fisheries Policies towards Sustainability: A Role for Subsidies?”

ICSF is currently working on a study for UNEP on “Re-orienting Developing Country Fisheries Policies towards Sustainability: A Role for Subsidies?”. It is expected that the report will be completed by August 2006.

MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTIONS

Video Film: Under the Sun

A film titled *Under The Sun: The Transient Fisherfolk of Jambudwip* was produced by ICSF in June 2003. It was directed by Rita Bannerji of Dusty Foot Productions, India. The film documents the use of the island of Jambudwip in the Sunderbans mangrove forest in West Bengal by small-scale fishworkers for fish drying. It documents the manner in which fishworkers are being threatened with eviction in the name of forest conservation. Both *SAMUDRA Report* and *Yemaya* also carried a write-up on this film, and

several requests for the film have been received subsequently. The film has been well received, particularly by the NFF.

Trading Fish: A CD-ROM on Fisheries Resources, Management and Trade in South East Asia

ICSF was requested by the SEAFish for Justice Network (comprising of NGOs and fishworker organizations in the South East Asian region) to prepare a CD-ROM on fisheries resources management and trade issues in the South East Asian region. This process was anchored by the ICSF DC. The CD-ROM, titled *Trading Fish: A CD-ROM on Fisheries Resources, Management and Trade in South East Asia*, provides information on the various bilateral and regional trade agreements in the region, trade negotiations at the WTO of relevance to fisheries, fisheries management issues in the region, and legal instruments of relevance to both trade and management.■

FINANCIAL REVIEW
2002-03 to 2005-06

FINANCIAL REVIEW: 2002-03 to 2005-06

This review by ICSF's management seeks to provide a commentary on the organization's finances for the four financial years 2002-03 to 2005-06. This corresponds to the financial years between successive full General Body Meetings (GBMS) of ICSF (more usually triennial), held at Maputo, Mozambique, in June 2002 and at Fortaleza, Brazil, in July 2006. Beginning with an outline of the status of ICSF's financial systems, we shall then make an analysis of its financial resources and its flows of income and of expenditure.

1

Financial Systems

As a result of the financial restructuring exercise undertaken by ICSF in the earlier years, international accounting standards are applied to ICSF's financial accounting and reporting, while keeping in view the UK Charities regulations in their spirit (being not applicable directly). Independent audit in consonance with international auditing standards are followed. All the laid-down financial systems and processes are fully complied with and these are continuously reviewed for fine tuning.

An International Finances Facility (IFF) was initiated at Brussels during the last triennium, in order to separate the international financial flows from those of the local Office and to facilitate consolidation of ICSF's financial statements. From a long-term perspective, this had the added advantage of enabling portability of the separated unit. This advantage has now been invoked by the shifting of the IFF's bookkeeping from Brussels to Chennai, as an adjunct to the Programme Co-ordination Centre there. The international banking would, however, continue to be operated from Brussels. This move has enabled timely accounting and financial reporting and also led to the desired system of financial planning, which is resulting in a more efficient management of financial resources.

The three key financial resources of ICSF are its Unrestricted Fund, that is, its own resources, the Capital Fund and the Grant Balances on hand.

Unrestricted Fund has decreased from €148K to €71K (Euros 148,000 to Euros 71,000) over the first three years due to the need to support programme and co-ordination expenditure from internal resources due to the time lag for arranging grants, meeting coordination expenses from internal sources without apportioning to specific programmes in the first year and currency exchange losses due to the fall in Euro value of other currencies. Unrestricted Fund increased from €71K to €108K during the fourth year through minor donations and income and appropriate financial planning to meet programme expenditure through specific grants.

Operational capital has tended to be provided by internal resources rather than by grant advances. Though grant instalments are intended to be disbursed in advance of their use in the concerned project, some are usually received in arrears, sometimes after a substantial time lag. This makes it necessary to continuously invoke internal resources for smoothening the operational cash flow. Unrestricted Fund is primarily represented by the liquid assets, around €130-150K at the last three year-ends and much of the bank balance has needed to remain in current account. Reasonably accurate financial planning in the last three years, has minimized the time lag for disbursement of grants, as evidenced by marginal level of grant receivables.

The Capital Fund is represented by net Fixed Assets, around €22-27K. Capital expenditure has been met primarily from grants, and portions of grants utilized for this purpose are transferred to the capital fund rather than being treated as income for that year. They are written-in to income over the life of the asset, parallel with depreciation. As such, depreciation does not really provide for

replacement of fixed assets. This has resulted from the following of an accounting regulation that may not be always appropriate to not-for-profit organizations, particularly those of a similar grant-based character. Assets (Original Cost €20K), considered no longer usable upon physical verification, have been fully depreciated and discarded during the fourth year.

3

Income/Contributions

In addition to grants, which constitute the major source of ICSF's income, we shall also consider here the minor donations and income and the significance of contributed services.

Some details of the grantors are brought out in the chart of grant income, together with Schedule C to the financial statements, from which it is derived. Four major grantors provided support through the triennium, for programmes and coordination. Two of these provided about €320-480K each, together accounting for around 70 per cent of grant income over the four years. The other two provided around €70K each, together about 12 per cent (Grant income needs to be distinguished from grants received—the former refers to that portion of grant instalments received that are utilized during the year.)

Of the former, Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (NORAD), an agency of the Norwegian government, provided broad-based support to the several programmes in ICSF's triennial plan. The support from Humanistic Institute for Co-operation with Developing Countries (HIVOS), the development funding agency based in The Netherlands, had its emphasis on ICSF's Documentation Centre and the *SAMUDRA Report* during the first two years and provided broad-based support to the several programmes from the third year onwards. The other two major grantors who are key development funding agencies based in France and Germany, viz., Comité Catholique

Contre la Faim et pour le Développement, France (CCFD) and Bischofliche Hilfswerk MISEREOR (Misereor), Germany, provided broad-based and project-specific support respectively, in line with the triennial plan. Smaller grants were provided by ten other grantors, for specific programmes/events and totaled about €200K over the four years.

While minor donations and incomes are significant in that they accumulate into ICSF's own resources and these have offset currency exchange losses of €40K during the four years, namely, €28K due to the fall in Euro value of other currency bank accounts and €12K due to conversion of Rupee into Euro (Chennai operations). In the fourth year, the Unrestricted Fund was credited with semi-restricted grants of about €4K.

A vital part of ICSF's resources is constituted by contributions in kind in the form of voluntary services of its members and associates. Even though they have not been reflected in monetary terms in the financial statements, as mentioned in the notes to the latter, their significance may be gauged by the quantitative estimates of 1,100 person-days in the four years. If converted to monetary terms, they may constitute anywhere in the region of 25-75 per cent of monetary flows, depending upon the monetary valuation attributed to a person-day.

4

Expenditure

We first look briefly at ICSF's classification of expenditure, followed by programme and co-ordination expenditure, and briefly at capital expenditure thereafter.

ICSF follows a dual classification of its expenditure, in line with the UK Charities regulations. The natural and functional classifications analyze expenditure by 'nature' of expense and by activity (that is, programme/co-ordination), respectively. As seen in Schedule B to the financial statements,

remuneration and travel are the main constituents of ICSF's activity expenditure, around 44 per cent and 27 per cent, respectively, during the four years. As between programmes and co-ordination, the proportion of remuneration has become realistic during the latter three years, that is, after the apportionment of executive remuneration during the four years and other remuneration in the latter three years. As may be expected, travel costs are proportionately higher for programmes than co-ordination. As compared to remuneration costs, travel costs are higher for the former due to Members and associates providing voluntary services. Costs of facilities are proportionately similar for programmes during the four years. Costs of facilities are proportionately similar for coordination during the last three years, whereas it was higher during the first year due to allocation of rent between co-ordination and Documentation Centre. Communication and documentation costs, which have tended to become indistinguishable due to the technology, were proportionately similar as between programmes and co-ordination.

Since a detailed narrative account of programmes is carried in the first part of this Report, it need not be elaborated here. Programme-wise financial costs are provided in Schedule A to the financial statements under the same major programme heads as in the narrative account. The year-wise proportions between these may be seen in the charts. The unevenness of the trend in this regard is in large part due to the costs of the occasional events. Among the major events, mention may be made of the costs of the ILO Conference, around €32K (2004-05); Monitoring of Post-tsunami Rehabilitation Efforts, around €61K (2005-06); Artisanal Fisheries Zone Workshop, around €55K (2004-05); ESA Fish Workshop, around €44K (2005-06); and Training Programme, around €39K (2003-04). The cost of the GBMS and associated meetings were around €70K for the Maputo meetings.

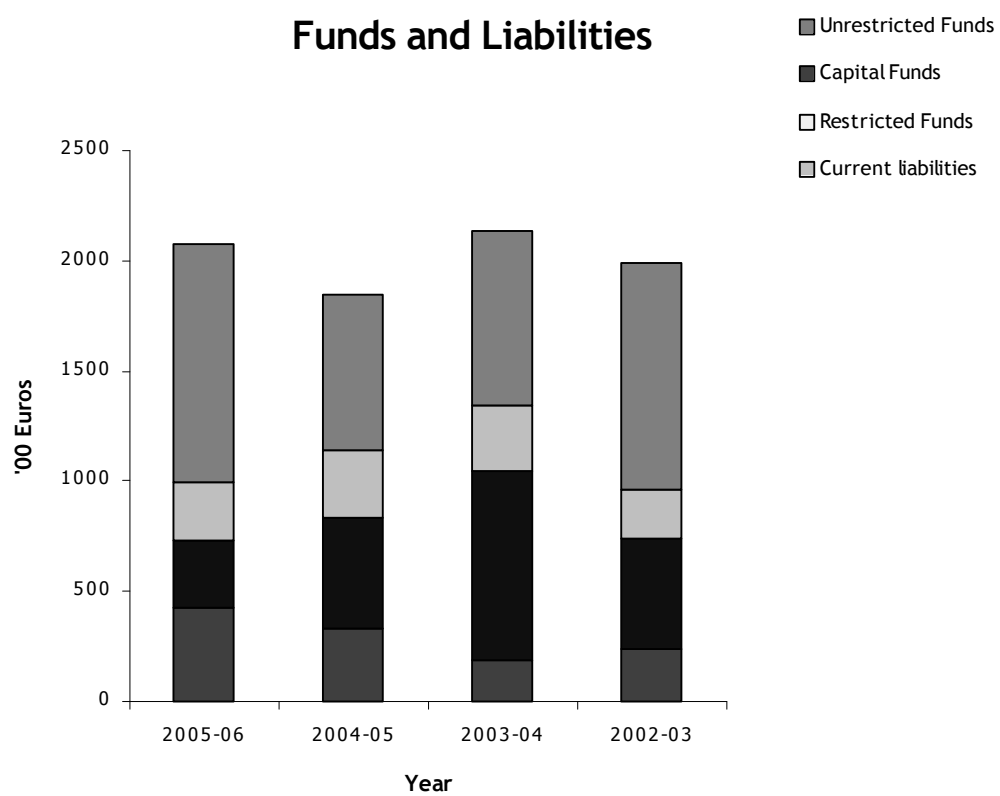
ICSF's co-ordination expenditure includes the costs of its two Offices, at Chennai and Brussels, and the costs of international co-ordination, that is, meetings of the Animation Team and remuneration of international personnel. The total coordination costs tend to be reflected on the higher side in the first year since, programme-wise apportionment of the same is being done from the second year of the four years onwards. Upon such apportionment, the remaining activity expenditure stood in the range of 14-19 per cent of the total activity expenditure in the latter two years. Programme costs are reflected on the lower side because a substantial part of the services forming part of programme cost are not monetarily reflected therein, being contributed voluntarily by Members and associates.

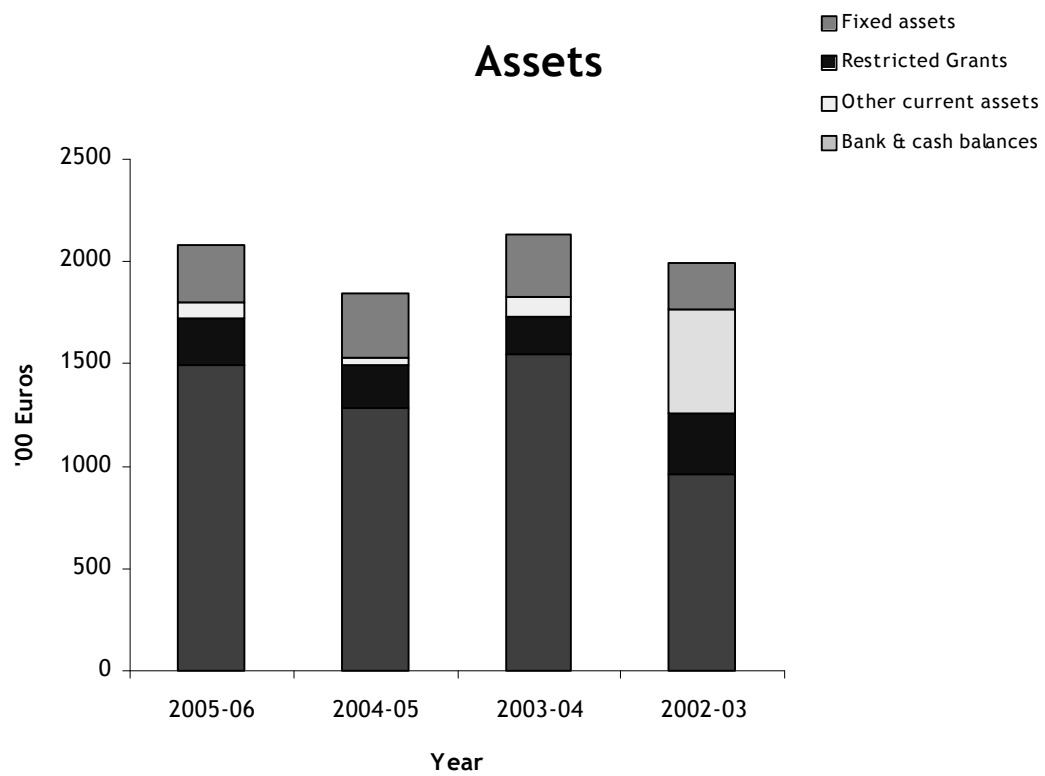
Capital expenditure is traditionally distinguished from activity (or 'revenue') expenditure, and the dual classification mentioned earlier concerns the latter only. Capital expenditure is relatively small at ICSF, the two Offices being housed in rented premises, and its capital assets consisting primarily of computers and office equipment, with a small proportion of furniture and fixtures. The costs of website development and software are sought to be also capitalized as part of computer assets. On the other hand, vital resources of the Documentation Centre are presently accounted in quantitative terms only, not yet reflected in monetary terms. As mentioned in the brief discussion of Capital Fund above, capital expenditure is met primarily from grants.

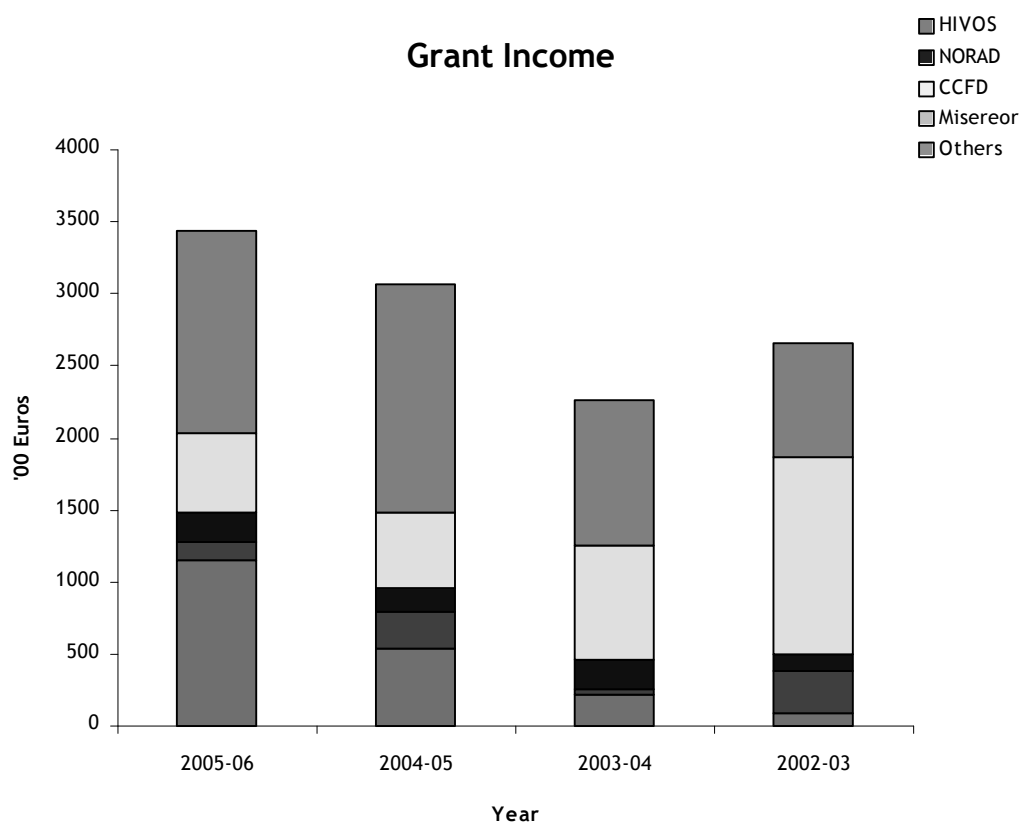
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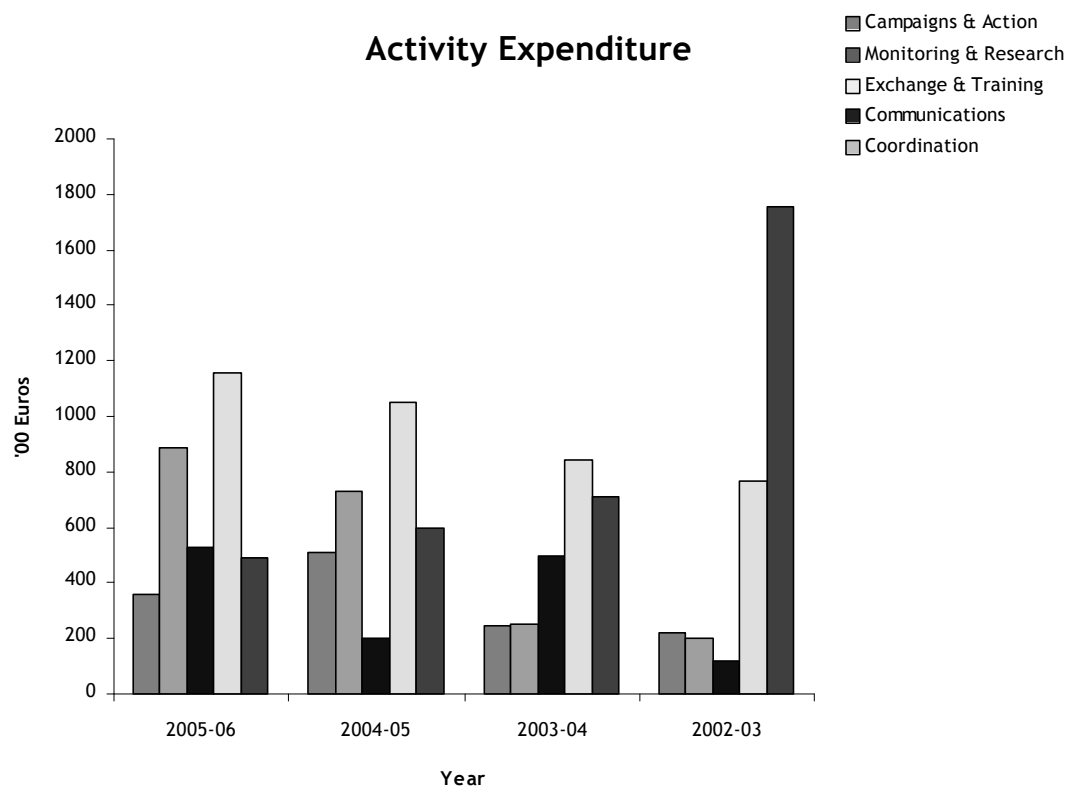
Accountability Practice

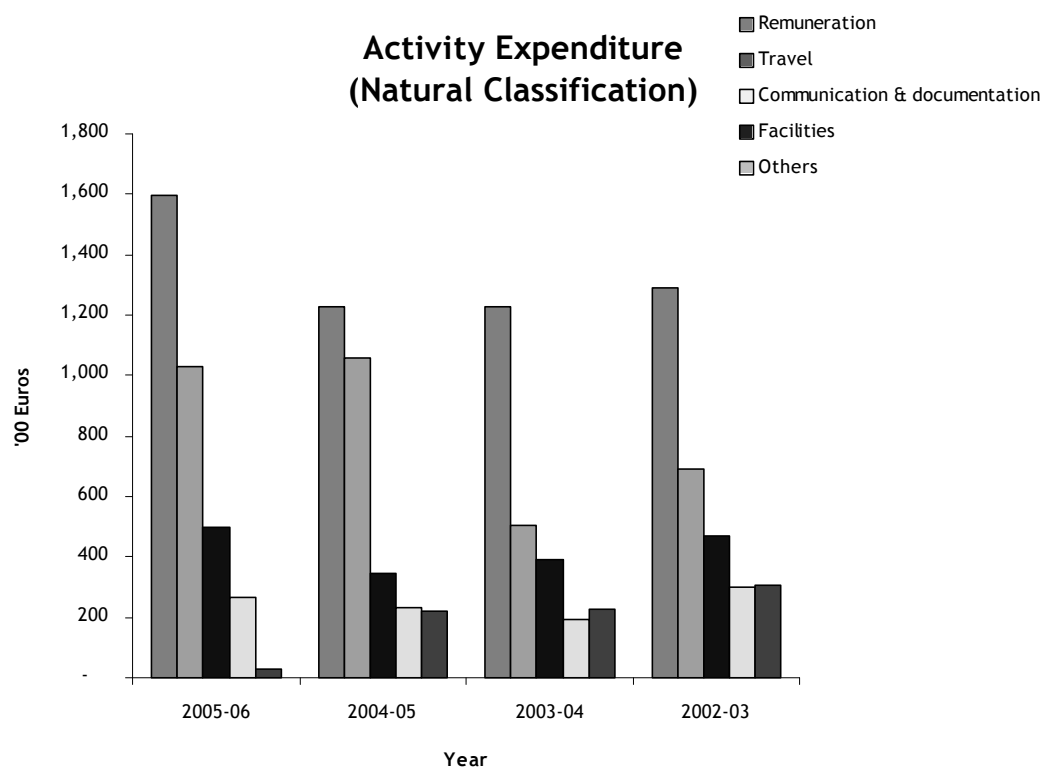
Arising from the needs of its internal democratic processes, ICSF has sought the most appropriate norms of accountability practice. Some of its key systems in this regard have been voluntarily adopted and have preceded the requirements of grantors and statutory/governmental regulations. All the intended financial systems are now well in place and are continuously reviewed and updated.■











**SUMMARY
OF
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS

We have examined the accompanying summarized financial statements of International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) for the four years ended 31st March 2006 on pages 1 to 7, comprising of Summarised Balance Sheet, Summarised Income & Expenditure Account and Summarised Cash Flow Statement for the four years ended 31st March 2006. The underlying financial statements from which these have been derived were prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standards while keeping in view the spirit of the regulations applicable to Charities in the United Kingdom. These financial statements are the responsibility of the organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit for the last three of the four years in accordance with the statements and standards on auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) while keeping in view the spirit of the International Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. This includes the obtaining of an understanding of the design and operation of the accounting and internal control systems. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates and judgments made by management in the preparation of the financial statements as well as evaluating the overall adequacy of presentation of information in the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. For the first of the four years, we have relied on the opinion of the erstwhile auditor on the financial statements for that year.

In our opinion, the information in these summarized financial statements read with the schedules and notes thereon, is consistent with the underlying financial statements from which it was derived. Our reports for the last three of the four years and the erstwhile auditors report for the first of the four years expressed unqualified opinion as to the true and fair view of the financial statements for those years. The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required as per International Accounting Standards. Reading these summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the financial statements of the respective years.

For **S.S & Co.,**
Chartered Accountants

S.Sridharan
Partner

Dated the 24th June 2006 at Chennai

Membership No.26409 of ICAI

INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS

BALANCE SHEET

SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS PAGE 1 of 7

as at four year ends upto 31st March 2006

(Euros 00s omitted)

	As at 31st March			
	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
FUNDS & LIABILITIES				
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	1,083	708	791	1,032
Income & Expenditure Account balance after adjustments				
CAPITAL FUNDS	268	309	299	215
Contributions for capital expenditure net of depreciation				
RESTRICTED FUNDS	306	497	855	502
Portions of grants received but not utilised till the year end				
CURRENT LIABILITIES	421	333	191	240
Balances in short term accounts				
TOTAL	2,078	1,847	2,135	1,989
ASSETS				
FIXED ASSETS	276	317	307	222
Net value after deducting accumulated depreciation of €71,626 (previous years €75,646, €66,957, €55,577 & €46,150)				
RESTRICTED GRANTS	79	37	97	504
Grants receivable from grantors towards activity expenditure incurred and approved				
OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	225	212	181	305
Balances in short term accounts				
BANK AND CASH BALANCES	1,498	1,281	1,551	958
TOTAL	2,078	1,847	2,135	1,989

Schedules A to D form an integral part of these statements

As per our report of even date attached herewith

for S.S & Co., Chartered Accountants

The complete versions of the annual statements are available on request.

These statements have been signed for ICSF by its present & previous Executive Secretary and by its Auditors as per their attached Report 24.6.06

The annual statements were signed for ICSF by its Treasurer as well as Executive Secretary/s

INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS PAGE 2 of 7

for the four years ended 31st March 2006

(Euros 00s omitted)

	4 Yrs ended 31.3.06	Year ended 31st March			
		2006	2005	2004	2003
INCOME					
Specific Grants Utilised	10,891	3,361	2,945	2,069	2,516
Grants utilised for Activity Expenditure					
Minor Income & Donations					
Research Income	274	178	-	55	41
Other income & donations	456	199	40	170	47
Financial income	37	16	12	6	3
Capital Write-In	436	119	109	114	94
TOTAL	12,094	3,873	3,106	2,414	2,701
EXPENDITURE					
Programmes	8,547	2,929	2,484	1,830	1,304
Campaigns & Action, Monitoring & Research, Exchange & Training and Communication					
Co-ordination	3,550	490	596	712	1,752
Expenses of Brussels & Chennai Offices, Animation Team, Other International Coordination and General Body Meeting					
Depreciation	436	119	109	114	94
TOTAL	12,533	3,538	3,189	2,656	3,150
Surplus/(Deficit)	(439)	335	(83)	(242)	(449)

Schedules A to D form an integral part of these statements

As per our report of even date attached herewith
for S.S & Co., Chartered Accountants

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INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS PAGE 3 of 7

for the four years ended 31st March 2006

(Euros 00s omitted)

	4 Yrs ended 31.3.06	2006	2005	2004	2003
OPENING CASH	1,140	1,281	1,551	958	1,140
Cash in banks & on hand at the beginning of the year					
INFLOWS					
Restricted Grants Received	11,859	3,205	2,767	3,114	2,773
Instalments received during the year					
Unrestricted Grants Received	40	40	-	-	-
Minor Income & Donations	767	393	52	231	91
Total cash available	13,806	4,919	4,370	4,303	4,004
OUTFLOWS					
Activity Expenditure					
Programme Expenditure	8,547	2,929	2,484	1,830	1,304
Coordination Expenditure	3,550	490	596	712	1,752
Capital Expenditure	533	78	119	197	139
Fixed assets acquired (Net)					
Grants refunded	96	-	-	88	8
Unutilised grants refunded					
Other Current Accounts					
Current assets-Net increase/(Decrease)	(127)	13	32	(124)	(48)
Current Liabilities-Net (increase)/Decrease	(291)	(89)	(142)	49	(109)
Total cash utilised	12,308	3,421	3,089	2,752	3,046
CLOSING CASH	1,498	1,498	1,281	1,551	958

Cash in banks & on hand at the end of the year

Schedules A to D form an integral part of these statements

As per our report of even date attached herewith
for S.S & Co., Chartered Accountants

The complete versions of the annual statements are available on request.

These statements have been signed for ICSF by its present & previous Executive Secretary and by its Auditors as per their attached Report 24.6.06

The annual statements were signed for ICSF by its Treasurer as well as Executive Secretary/s

INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS

SCHEDULES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS PAGE 4 of 7

for the four years ended 31st March 2006

(Euros 00s omitted)

Schedule A-Activity Expenditure

Functional Classification

ACTIVITY	4 Yrs ended 31.3.06	Year ended 31st March			
		2006	2005	2004	2003
Campaigns & Action	1,331	358	507	246	220
Lobbying and Responses	527	113	120	130	165
ILO Conference	520	155	316	49	-
Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements	241	90	71	50	29
Sustainable Development in Fisheries Meeting	3	-	-	-	3
Indian Ocean Seminar	39	-	-	16	23
Others	-	-	-	-	-
Monitoring & Research	2,064	889	728	249	198
IFAD Tsunami Study	15	12	3	-	-
Monitoring Post-tsunami rehabilitation efforts	605	605	-	-	-
Status of Fishworkers	295	100	164	31	-
Artisanal Fisheries Zone	683	84	554	31	14
Defining small scale & artisanal fisheries	19	19	-	-	-
Reorienting fisheries policy	55	55	-	-	-
Social Security in Fisheries Sector	40	13	-	26	-
Crisis in world fisheries	59	-	7	-	52
Turtle Study	38	-	-	38	-
Marine Biodiversity Study	58	-	-	20	38
Status of Marine Fishing	32	-	-	-	32
Study on Coastal Fisheries & Poverty	27	-	-	27	-
Study on Various Aspects of Subsidies	138	-	-	75	63
Others	-	-	-	-	-
Exchange & Training	1,342	526	201	494	120
Training Program	486	30	68	387	-
ESA Fish Workshop	437	437	-	-	-
West Africa Trade	71	18	-	-	53
Legal Instruments Revision	104	41	20	43	-
Women in Fisheries	239	-	113	64	62
Sri Lanka Workshop	6	-	-	-	6
Others	-	-	-	-	-
Communications	3,810	1,156	1,048	841	765
Documentation Centre	1,838	705	480	346	306
DC Advisory Group	48	-	48	-	-
SAMUDRA Report	1,553	400	385	371	397
Yemaya	136	42	30	29	35
Trade & Management	114	10	105	-	-
Other Publications: Videos	121	-	-	95	26
Programme Expenditure	8,546	2,929	2,484	1,830	1,304
Coordination	3,550	490	596	712	1,752
International Coordination	1,244	108	256	337	544
Brussels Office	411	108	69	104	130
Chennai Office	832	116	168	166	382
General Body Meeting	696	-	-	-	696
Review & Planning/AT Meeting	367	158	103	106	-
Depreciation	436	119	109	114	94
ACTIVITY EXPENDITURE	12,532	3,538	3,188	2,656	3,151

INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS

SCHEDULES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS PAGE 5 of 7

for the four years ended 31st March 2006

(Euros 00s omitted)

Schedule B-Activity Expenditure

Natural Classification

EXPENDITURE HEAD	4 Yrs ended	Year ended 31st March			
	31.3.06	2006	2005	2004	2003
Programmes	8,546	2,929	2,483	1,830	1,304
Remuneration	4,008	1,365	1,019	924	700
Travel	2,416	926	938	410	142
Communication and Documentation	1,420	438	293	314	375
Facilities	559	186	170	126	77
Others	143	14	63	56	10
CO-ORDINATION	3,552	490	596	713	1,753
Remuneration	1,335	229	209	305	592
Travel	869	106	120	95	548
Communication and Documentation	285	62	50	76	97
Facilities	427	78	61	66	222
Others	636	15	156	171	294
GRAND TOTAL	12,099	3,420	3,079	2,543	3,057
Remuneration	5,343	1,594	1,228	1,229	1,292
Travel	3,285	1,032	1,058	505	690
Communication and Documentation	1,705	500	343	390	472
Facilities	986	264	231	192	299
Others	779	29	219	227	304

INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS

SCHEDULES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS PAGE 6 of 7

for the four years ended 31st March 2006

(Euros 00s omitted)

Schedule C-Grant Accounts

Grantor	Purpose	Balance as on 31.3.02	4 Yrs ended 31.3.06 Receipt	Utilisation	Balance as on 31.3.06
Humanistic Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries, The Netherlands (HIVOS)	Core grant for programmes incl. Co-ordination	268	4,631	4,796	103
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, Norway (NORAD)	Core grant for programmes incl. Co-ordination	(141)	3,416	3,230	45
Bischofliche Hilfswerk MISEREOR, Germany	Triennium programmes	(119)	907	725	63
Comite Catholique Contre la Faim et pour le Developpement, France (CCFD)	Women in Fisheries, Indian Ocean Conference & preparation	-	720	686	34
Royal Norwegian Embassy, Tanzania	East Africa Training Program	-	411	437	(26)
Bread for the World, Germany (BFW)	Lobbying for small fishworkers	(372)	372	-	(0)
Oxfam, Hong Kong	Monitoring Post-tsunami Rehabilitation Efforts	-	258	258	-
Christian Aid, United Kingdom	Monitoring Post Tsunami Rehabilitation Efforts	-	208	178	30
Norwegian College of Fisheries Science (NCFS), Norway	Monitoring Post-tsunami Rehabilitation Efforts	-	199	169	30
Development & Peace, Canada	W.Africa Fish Trade	105	187	292	(0)
Netherlands Organisation for International Development Cooperation (Novib- Oxfam), The Netherlands	Training programme	-	180	180	-
Food & Agriculture Organisation of United Nations (FAO), Italy	Fish Code Program-Santa Clara	88	142	230	-
Tambuyog Development Centre, Philippines	CD-ROM for Fisheries Trade in SEA	-	120	120	-
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Study of subsidies, development & sustainable fisheries management	-	-	53	(53)
Entraide et Fraternite, Belgium	Yemaya	51	20	71	-
Commonwealth Foundation, United Kingdom	Indian Ocean Seminar	8	(8)	-	-
GRANT BALANCES:		(111)	11,763	11,425	227
Balance on hand		520			306
Balance receivable		631			(79)

SCHEDULES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS**SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS PAGE 7 of 7**

For the four year ended 31st March 2006

Schedule D-NOTES

Notes regarding the quality of information in the financial statements

1. Apportionment of Executives' Remuneration & Coordination Expenditure:

A considerable degree of objectivity is being practiced in the system of estimation that forms the basis of the apportionment of executives' remuneration and associated overheads to programmes and coordination. The need for greater degree of objectivity in such estimation and apportionment is being addressed on a continuous basis.

Apportionment of Coordination Expenditure is being done from the year 2003-04 in respect of Chennai Office. Rent is apportioned to Coordination, Documentation Centre and Samudra based on the area occupied and the balance to other major programs in the ratio of the cost incurred for each program to the overall cost. 50% of Facilities costs (excluding rent), 50% of Remuneration paid to Office Secretary and 100% of Other Remuneration are apportioned to various programs in the ratio of the cost incurred for each program to the total expenditure on respective allocated programs.

2. Contributed Services:

Contributed services are not reflected in monetary terms in the financial statements and include voluntary services from members. If these contributions were to be reflected in monetary terms in the Income & Expenditure Account, the net deficit or surplus would not be affected, as they would add to both the income and expenditure. Estimates made by the respective members for the four years ended March 31, 2006 are 1,100 person-days.

3. Disposal/discarding assets:

Loss on disposal of assets (Written down value €111) of €66 was written off under Coordination expenses. Assets (Original Cost €20,285) which are considered no longer usable upon physical verification have been fully depreciated and discarded during the 2005-06 viz. computers (€14,567), Office equipments (€4,434) and furniture and fixtures (€1,284). No material salvage value is expected upon disposal of these assets.

4. Brought forward balances written off & written in:

Expense payable of €855, being no longer payable, was written-in and old unrecoverable balances of €6,555 were written off, under International Coordination in the four-year period.

5. Currency translation:

Cash, receivables and payables are translated in reporting currency using the closing rates as at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising on the settlement of monetary items or on reporting such monetary items at rates different from those at which they were initially recorded during the period or reported in previous financial statements has been recognised as income or as expense in the period in which they arise. Net Fixed assets are carried in terms of historical cost and are reported using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Program and Coordination expenditure for the reporting period is translated into reporting currency at the average of the monthly average exchange rates. Exchange differences arising on such translation is recognized as income or as expense for that period.

6. Registration & Activities of the Organisation:

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers is a not-for-profit organization registered in Geneva, Switzerland in 1987 under Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code. Its Programme Coordination Centre is situated in Chennai, India and a liaison Office is at Brussels, Belgium. Its international financial operations are also based at Brussels, in the form of an International Finances Facility.

7. The complete versions of ICSF's financial statements are available on request.

LIST OF MEMBERS

REGULAR MEMBERS

Alain Le SANN	France
Antonio Carlos DIEGUES	Brazil
Chantal ABORD-HUGON	Canada
Cornelie QUIST	Netherlands
David ELI	Ghana
John KURIEN	India
Maria Cristina MANESCHY	Brazil
Nalini NAYAK	India
Nathanael MARANHÃO	Brazil
Nenita CURA	Philippines
Pierre GILLET	Belgium
Pisit CHARNSNOH	Thailand
René-Pierre CHEVER	France
René SCHÄRER	Brazil
V. VIVEKANANDAN	India
Virgilio CRISTOBAL	Philippines

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Anna-Rosa Martinez I PRAT	Spain
Ery DAMAYANTI	Indonesia
Gunnar ALBUM	Norway
Hector Luis MORALES	Chile
James SMITH	France
Juan Carlos Cárdenas NIMEZ	Chile
Kaningini MWENYIMALI	Burundi
Kobla AMEGAVIE	Guinea-Bissau
Mamadou NIASSE	Senegal
Mama-yawa SANDOUNO	Guinea
Oscar AMARASINGHE	Sri Lanka
Réginald Joseph COMEAU	Canada

ANIMATION TEAM (2002-06)

Alain Le SANN	France
David ELI	Ghana
Maria Cristina MANESCHY	Brazil
V. VIVEKANANDAN	India
Virgilio CRISTOBAL	Philippines

ICSF AUDITORS

S.S. & Co.	India
Sanjay KUMAR	India

ICSF STAFF

(as on 31 March 2006)

CHENNAI OFFICE

Chandrika SHARMA	Executive Secretary
Sebastian MATHEW	Programme Adviser
N. VENUGOPALAN	Consultant (Documentation)
Ramya RAJAGOPALAN	Programme Associate (Documentation)
Neena Elizabeth KOSHY	Programme Associate (Documentation)
P. Santhosh KUMAR	Assistant (Documentation)
Pamela GORDON	Office Secretary
K. KARTHEGHEYAN	Accounts Assistant
R. DEEPAK	Office Assistant
K. ANDAL	Caretaker
K. LOGAMBA	Assistant Caretaker
B. VIMALA	Assistant Caretaker

BRUSSELS OFFICE

Brian O'RIORDAN	Secretary
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All Members of ICSF have expended great amounts of time and energy for the different activities of the organization, often in a purely voluntary fashion and going far beyond the call of duty. To all of them, ICSF owes unending gratitude.

We would like to thank the following persons for their invaluable help with the various programmes of ICSF:

- S.S. & Co., auditors, ICSF, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06;
- Sanjay Kumar, auditor and financial adviser, ICSF, 2002-03;
- Clothilde de Jamblinne for documentation work at the Brussels Office;
- Gildas Le Bihan for translating *SAMUDRA Report*, *Yemaya* and other reports into French;
- Aida Martinez I Prat, Anna-Rosa Martinez I Prat and Núria Gregori Pla for helping translate *SAMUDRA Report* and *Yemaya* into Spanish;
- K G Kumar for editing *SAMUDRA News Alerts*, *SAMUDRA Report* and other publications of ICSF;
- Beatrice Gorez for translation and other help;
- Cristina Maneschy for her help with translating *Yemaya* into Portuguese;
- Daniele Le Sann for her help with translation work;
- Satish Babu and the team at InApp Information Technologies Pvt Ltd for all assistance related to ICSF's website development, multimedia productions and other timely professional technical inputs;
- Ramya Rajagopalan for her high-level contributions to the work of ICSF, over and above the call of duty;
- Members of the Advisory Group to the DC: Jean Collins, John Kurien, KG Kumar, Satish Babu, Alain le Sann and Naseegh Jaffer;
- Patrick Mulvany for his advice and assistance with reviewing ICSF's work and looking to the future;
- IDPPE for organization of the General Body meeting of ICSF in Maputo, Mozambique;
- Ernesto Godelman and the team at CeDePesca for help with the organization of the Santa Clara Workshop, for translation work and other help; and
- Julius Francis, WIOMSA, for help with organization of the ESA Workshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES
2002-2003 to 2005-2006

ICSF is an International NGO working on issues that concern fishworkers the world over. It is in status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN and is on ILO's Special List of Non-governmental International Organization. It also has Liaison Status with FAO. Registered in Geneva, ICSF has offices in Chennai, India, and Brussels, Belgium. As a global network of community organizers, teachers, technicians, researchers and scientists, ICSF's activities encompass monitoring and research, exchange and training, campaigns and action, as well as communications.



www.icsf.net