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**Manaus Workshop Report**

We evaluated the “Seminar on Indigenous Fisheries in Amazonas and Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries”as a success. The Seminar took place on March 27 and 28, 2019, in Manaus, capital of the State of Amazonas, and was produced by the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) and the NGO Operação Amazônia Nativa (OPAN), with the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the NGO Social-Environmental Institute (ISA), the International Institute of Education Brazil (IEB) and partnerships with the National Indigenous Foundation (FUNAI) and the Sea Memories Collective network (CMM). Participated in the Seminar government representatives of the Secretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture (SAP) of Brasilia, the Special Secretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the State of Amazonas (SEAP), regional coordination of the National Indian Foundation (FUNAI), the State Indian Foundation (EIF), the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio) of the State of Amazonas and the Public Ministry of the State of Amazonas (MPF). The event was attended by 25 indigenous fishermen from 16 ethnic groups, including: Apurinã, Baniwa, Baré, Deni, Desano, Kambeba, Kanamari, Kokama, Kulina, Munduruku, Mura, Paumari, Piratapuia, Tenharim, Tikuna and Tukano.

During the organization of the event, the team faced some difficulties related to financial resources. The resource sent by the FAO was not enough to organize the event because the costs to bring the indigenous participants are very high due to the distance and isolation. Indigenous people of the Paumari ethnic group, for example, took four days to reach the event because of the location of their village. To bring them were spent more than 2 thousand *reais* only on gasoline, an amount that we had not computed in the initial budget. As a result, food expenses were also higher, since we needed to pay the participants' meals during the long trip.

The financial problems were only solved due to the financial resource we received from the NGOs Social-Environmental Institute (ISA), OPAN and International Institute of Education Brazil (IEB), which took care of the passages of several participants. Still, we need to ask FAO for permission to change the value of the video because the video was budgeted higher than the standard value of an audiovisual work in Brazil. The initial idea, elaborated before this consulting firm, consisted of performing a video workshop to the participants. However, we believe that this proposal was not in line with the concentrated program of the Seminar and could disperse the focus of indigenous fishermen. Thus, the value of the video was reduced by half, guaranteeing appeal for the passages of the participants. Because of all the team's efforts to optimize financial resources, we have also been able to keep a backup resource to cover any unforeseen events that may appear. As we anticipated, we had several more expenses in the week of the event, because appear more participants than we invite.

The cooperation of OPAN, the support of ISA, of IEB, and the partnership with FUNAI was indispensable for the success of the event. The ICSF does not have operations in the Amazon, which made it difficult to define an NGO to be the resource taker of this project. Institutions in the Amazon that work with indigenous peoples are consolidated in the region and many have been surprised by the ICSF project, due to the lack of knowledge of the institution, rejecting the initial proposal. With much effort and dialogue, we managed to close the project with OPAN, which was the NGO that guaranteed to open the doors to ICSF within the region.

The Seminar began at 9:00 am with a presentation of the organizing institutions followed by the presentation of the VG SSFs by the ICSF members and by the representatives of the small fishworkers movement in Brazil (CONFREM and MPP). In the afternoon, four groups were formed with representatives of several Amazon watershed basins and rivers represented in the seminar: Solimões basins, Rio Negro basins, Juruá River and Purus River, Amazon River, Marmelos River and Madeira River. Supported with voluntary facilitators of participant organizations, every group discussed the problems, opportunities and demands of indigenous peoples in relation to fisheries. Several demands were brought to the table, including the need to enable more opportunities for indigenous communities on fisheries management, community-based tourism and aquaculture. All participants highly appreciated the opportunity to learn about the VG SSFs and acknowledged the need for additional seminars to advance their knowledge and actions on such matters.

In the second day, participants worked in thematic groups around the most recurrently discussed issues of the first day, including: Fisheries Management and Commercialization; Community Based Tourism; Aquiculture. The Fisheries Management and Commercialization working group brought the discussion of *pirarucu* management and was one of the most highlighted issues during the seminar: most participants choose to enroll in this working group, to exchange experiences and benefits, hearing and learning with other indigenous communities how to start the management process in their territories.

The Community Based Tourism working group enabled a great learning process through the indigenous experience Baré in the middle Rio Negro region (downstream of São Gabriel da Cachoeira settlement). They have initiated pioneer regulation of the sport fishing in the Amazon. In the working group, Baré participants told how this process happened, casting doubt on participants from other ethnicities who are interested in starting the same process on their lands. In the Aquaculture working group, the professor Paulo Adelino de Medeiros, a researcher based at Amazonian Federal Institute of Education, Science and Technology (IFAM) shared his research on the viability of family-based pisciculture. Paulo has been working with the Sataré-Mawé to develop a family approach to pisciculture that promotes low-cost production practices and minimum fish-food usage, with simple measures that can give communities higher autonomy from continuous technical advice. Participants of this working group were very enthusiastic of following up discussions about development of family pisciculture in other rivers, and agreed to build a participative project to think how to move this opportunity forward.

At the end of the day, participants gathered in a final plenary to decide about future steps. At this stage, the Fisheries and Aquaculture Secretary of Amazon state showed up and discoursed about their interest to cope with the demands brought by indigenous participants during the seminar. A representative from federal-level counterpart Secretary of Aquaculture and Fisheries discoursed in a similar vein and said she would take the results of the seminar back to Brasilia where it would be discussed with her superiors in the context of fisheries policies for North Brazil. Participants plead for the realization of other seminars to disseminate and debate the VG SSF. They also elaborated a list of villages interested in fisheries management, community based tourism and family pisciculture; highlighted the need for higher participation of women in events and encounters about fisheries in the region; expressed they desire to connect indigenous movements in the international arena discussing the VG SSFs.