



Implementing Voluntary Guidelines for securing sustainable small scale fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication

-SRI LANKA-

Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries

July 2019

**A study undertaken under an LOA between the
International Collective in Support of Fishworkers
(ICSF) and Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale
Fisheries (SLFSSF)**

The Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries and the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) signed an LOA on the 30th of July for provision of, ‘Service to strengthen small-scale fishery communities and produce related global information products in the context of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines)’.

The SLFSSF started its activities related to the project on the 1st of August 2018 and completed the project in June 2019

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7. Prof. Achini De Silva (Assistant Treasurer)
8. Prof. Sunil Jayakody (Executive Committee Member)
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The process of SSF Guidelines Implementation under an LOA with International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) by the Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries (SLFSSF) was a combined effort of an array of individuals and organisations including the government.

First and foremost, the ardent support extended by the Executive Committee of the SLFSSF was the key to the successful completion of the project, which is highly commendable. Senior Professor Upali Amarasinghe, Professor Ivan Silva, Senior Professor Ruchira Cumanatunge, Mr. Herman Kumara, Professor M. G. Kularatne, Professor Sunil Jayakody and Mr. Jayantha Chandrasome willingly participated in all technical and policy meetings giving advice and guidance. Mr. Herman Kumara and Mr. Nalaka Rosairo of National Fisheries Solidarity (NAFSO) played a very important role in preparing the translations of SSF Guidelines and communication tools. Their assistance is acknowledged with gratitude. Professor M. G. Kularatne and the Center for Social Science Research (CSSR) with its research staff at the University of Kelaniya provided a very productive and conducive working environment. We are thankful to the Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya and the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences for providing facilities at the CSSR. The secretary of the Project, Miss. Hareesha Sandaruwani did a commendable job in taking care of all documentation and organizational work.

The study relied heavily on stakeholder workshops with fishing communities and state actors. Dr. Nilantha De Silva and her team of facilitators (Miss. Kaumi Piyasiri, Miss. Chamini Dinushika, Miss. Thushara Dharmawarden, Miss. Shanika Weralugolla, Miss. Shiwanthika Dharmasiri, Miss Hareesha Sandaruwani and Mr. Swarna Malitha Peramunegama) organized and conducted field work in the southern, eastern, northern and northwestern provinces. We thank them for their excellent and dedicated work.

The task of organizing field work in distant locations was quite challenging. The SLFSSF was fortunate to have received the assistance of a number of dedicated Assistant Directors of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources who organized workshops in Hambantota, Trincomalee, Jaffna, Negombo and Colombo. We salute the willing assistance provided by Mr. L. G. T. Chandana, Mr. E. M. C. Boyagoda, Mr. Anura Jayasekera, Mr. T. U. K. Marasinghe (Negombo) and Mr. Rahim of NAFSO and Dr. Ahilan Kadirgamar and his students of the Department of Sociology of the University of Jaffna. In organising policy workshops, the assistance provided by Mr. K. D. S. Ruwanchandra, the present Secretary to the Ministry of Fisheries is mentioned with a deep sense of gratitude. We thank Mr. Monty Ranatunga, Director/Technical to the Ministry of Fisheries and, Mr. Dinesh Peiris and Mr. Suraj Chandrakumara of the Fisheries Management Division of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in ensuring the participation of fisheries officers at the workshops.

The whole process of SSF Guideline implementation was conducted to the fullest satisfaction of the SLFSSF due to the very successful deliberations that were held in various parts of the country, with the active involvement of fishing communities, including women fisher folk and state actors representing an array of state institutions;

fisheries, agriculture, coast conservations, wild life, forestry, environment, coast guard, etc. We salute them for their active participation. Our thanks are also due to a number of former senior administrators in the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, such as Mr. A. Hettiarachchi, Mr. H. S. G. Fernando, Dr. Leslie Joseph and the former secretary of the Ministry of Fisheries, Mr. G. Piyasena, who assisted us in conducting policy workshops and preparing policy statements.

It is the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), with funds provided by the FAO which gave the SLFSSF this opportunity of conducting the SSF Guidelines implementation in Sri Lanka, a process that was outlined as one of the prime objectives of the SLFSSF. In this respect SLFSSF feels that it has done its duty to the country, thanks to its dedicated membership. We say “*Grand Merci*” to ICSF for having confidence in SLFSSF in performing this task.

Finally, with the deepest sense of gratitude and appreciativeness, the SLFSSF acknowledges assistance provided by the FAO, with special mention of Madam Franz Nicole, Madam Nina Brandstrup and Mr. Dharmasree Wijeratne for their valuable contribution in making this project a reality.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Oscar Amarasinghe', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Oscar Amarasinghe, Ph.D
PRESIDENT / SLFSSF

28th July 2019.

THE CONTEXT

“Small-scale fisheries make an important contribution to nutrition, food security, sustainable livelihoods and poverty alleviation – especially in developing countries. Despite this significant contribution, the issues constraining the sustainable development of small-scale fisheries (SSF) remain poorly understood” (FAO). Sri Lanka is no exception to this rule.

Sri Lanka’s population consume relatively large amounts of fish (an average of 10.8 kg/yr), while 570,000 people find direct or indirect employment in the fishing industry. The marine fishing population consists of 190,000 households and 221,000 thousand active fishers spread out along the coastline, while another 48,900 fishing households and 54, 450 active fishers are engaged in lagoons and inland water bodies. The total fisheries dependent population has been estimated as 2.7 million. Arguably, all of these fishers and people involved in processing and marketing are engaged in the small-scale sector. Small-scale fishers in Sri Lanka are of many kinds. While some are beach-based, others use a variety of craft – orus, kattumarams, or fibre-glass boats – to ply nearshore, offshore, lagoon or inland fishing grounds. Gears include a broad selection of gillnets, cast nets, long lines, fixed nets and traps. While men generally dominate the harvesting process, women play an important part in processing, marketing and in support activities. Sri Lanka’s ‘large scale’ fisheries is confined to the ‘off-shore and deep sea’ sub-sector, consisting of a fleet of 4,218 multiday crafts, length varying from 32 ft to 45 ft, rather small-scale crafts in comparison to fisheries of developed nations. Yet, a clear distinction exists between this fleet from the rest; owned generally by non-fishing investors, use hired labour, targeting expensive fish like tuna and producing for the export market.

Sri Lanka’s aquaculture is of fairly recent origin. Despite large fresh water and brackish-water resources, only marine shrimp aquaculture and ornamental fish culture have been developed to a certain extent. About 17,000 are actively involved in the aquaculture sector. Nevertheless, shrimp and finfish production is growing. Today, the country’s main focus is to start small-scale aquaculture, aiming at supporting rural communities with income and food security.

In Sri Lanka, as well as globally, that small-scale fisheries are threatened more by anthropogenic pressures coming from both inside and outside the communities, and less by natural factors. High rates of resource exploitation, unregulated technological change, increasing fishing pressure, etc. are causing threats to aquatic ecosystems, leading to resource degradation. It is known that although blue revolution resulted in significant increases in fish catches, it has also resulted in increasing fishing pressure on resources and signs of degradation of resources are quite evident, which compelled the state, as the custodian of the resources, to intervene in protecting the resources from further degradation. Thus state laws mainly aimed at dealing effectively with the resource crisis and their focus on fisher wellbeing was poor or more distant (long run). For fishers who are vulnerable to poverty, and having limited access to livelihood capitals (to cope with vulnerability), one option is to use heavy rates of resource exploitation to meet the needs of their families. This is quite understandable, given that poor people use high rates in discounting future gains.

While fisheries cooperatives have played a very important role in the past as a kind of state-community partnerships, providing fishers with livelihood capitals and helping them to cope with vulnerability, many of them collapsed when various governments tried to introduce alternative structures to meet their short term political goals. Unfortunately, Sri Lanka's research is biased towards 'ecosystem' research rather than research on the human system; the fishing communities. Very little is heard of the issues facing small scale fisheries, although these are of tremendous importance. What we have learnt from research is pre-dominantly scientific; fisheries biology, oceanography, fish diseases, aquaculture, fish population dynamics, etc. with very little focus on small-scale fisheries, especially on small scale fishing communities who are confronted with an array of issues, such as lack of rights, their non-inclusiveness in fisheries decision making, lack of voice, resource degradation and declining livelihoods & wellbeing, etc.

On top of the above, climate change is now entering the SSF development equation an important variable. These impacts are mostly felt in coastal areas, which are to a great extent, inhabited by fishing populations. Sea level rise has caused loss of landing centers, beach seining sites, fish drying sites, displacement of fishing populations, etc. Food chain in marine habitats has been affected with declines in certain species, which have affected fishing landings, production and fishing incomes. Ocean acidification has caused gradual disappearance of shell fish such as mussels and lobsters. Lagoon ecosystems are also been affected by sea water intrusion causing a decline in productivity. Wetlands form another resource highly vulnerable to climate change, with loss of habitats, reduced bio-diversity and reduced ecosystem services. Again, climate change research too is science-biased; sea level rise, increasing temperatures, impacts on mangroves and biodiversity, etc., with little focus on the impact of climate change on the social system; the various strategies adopted by people to cope with climate change and the impact of such strategies on their wellbeing. Among many populations, those living in coastal areas confront the highest climate change risks which have very serious implications on the wellbeing of fishing communities who form the most important coastal stakeholder group.

Small-scale fisheries deserve attention not just for their problems, such as poverty, but also for the opportunities they provide in addressing important societal concerns that exist beyond the sector, such as providing safe and nutritious food and employment. But small-scale fisheries do more than just provide society with a 'service', but they are important in themselves. SSF represent cultural heritage, they offer a way of life, a particular lifestyle that provides both identity and meaning to the lives of those who inhabit them. Some argue that SSF are not always 'an occupation of last resort'.

The FAO has developed a vision for small-scale fisheries where, a. the contribution of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development is fully-realized; b. small-scale fishers and fish workers are not marginalized and, c. importance of small-scale fisheries to national economies and food security is recognized, valued and enhanced. The vision also recognizes that those dependent on the small-scale fisheries sector should be empowered to participate in decision-making with dignity and respect through integrated management of the social, economic and

ecological systems underpinning the sector. The FAO Voluntary Guidelines for securing sustainable small scale fisheries is a policy instrument adopted in 2014, capture the inherent features of small scale fisheries by addressing the most compelling issues in SSF, especially, the need to recognize the rights of fishing people and to make the process of fisheries management participatory, inclusive, integrated and holistic with special concern on women and marginalized populations. All efforts made towards sustainable small scale fisheries, especially the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and SSF guidelines, would be futile unless they are incorporated into the policy making and planning process. This does not take place automatically. Moreover, they are not blanket recommendations, but guidelines, and what is to be adopted or incorporated into national plans of action depend on specific contexts of countries. Governments have an important role to play in controlling essential legal, financial, technical resources in adopting the most appropriate guidelines. This needs a strong political will to do so. Today many governments in developing countries are moving from “government to governance”, including governance of fisheries. The recent efforts at establishing fisheries co-management platforms in Sri Lanka, is a good example, which is an essential and timely initiative. Such forms of Interactive Governance put pressure on governments to become more accommodating to stakeholder interests and concerns. In this process, the CSOs have an important role to play in awareness building, functioning as a watch dog and raising the voice when things go wrong. Since challenges that Sri Lanka are facing are also identifiable throughout South Asia and the world, lessons learnt in Sri Lanka would also provide lessons that go beyond Sri Lanka, while at the same time Sri Lanka can benefit from learning about how these challenges are dealt with elsewhere. This requires extending our tentacles beyond national boundaries to establish links with regional and international organisations working for SSF.

It is for the above reason that a “Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries (SLFSSF)” was established. It is a forum of academics, researchers, interest groups and individuals who have come forward to join hands, aiming at establishing interactive platforms to share information and broaden our knowledge of SSF, voicing the needs of the small scale fishing communities, provide policy inputs to government and establish links with regional and international organisations who are working towards Sustainable SSF. The first activity planned by the SLFSSF was to initiate a process of implementing SSF Guidelines, which was facilitated by the involvement of the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), with whom a Letter of Agreement was signed (LOA) was signed on the 30th of July 2018.

The Major Activities undertaken under the LOA between ICSF and SLFSSF

1. Develop an Institutional Profile of the Small Scale Fisheries Sector, which would include information on various fisheries and fisheries-related institutions; Objectives, their functions, locations, and other contact details¹.
2. Organize a workshop to sensitize and to raise awareness of government officials about the SSF Guidelines especially to identify the elements of the Guidelines to be incorporated into National Fisheries Policy and national fisheries plan of action
3. Develop communication tools (brochures, pamphlets, posters, booklets, etc.) on the SSF Guidelines in English, Sinhala and Tamil
4. Organize stakeholder awareness-raising workshops in the North (Jaffna), East (Trincomalee), North West (Negombo) and South (Galle/Tangalle) on the SSF Guidelines and to identify capacity building and training needs towards applying the Guidelines at various levels
5. Prepare a paper on assessing current policy, identifying its strengths and weaknesses and proposing changes towards incorporating relevant elements of the Guidelines
6. Organize a national workshop to identify changes to be proposed to national fisheries policy and legislation in light of the SSF Guidelines

OFFICE AND STAFF

The SLFSSF commenced its activities on the project as follows.

- a) The Social Science Research Centre of the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Kelaniya provided office space and other facilities to the project. The latter included office space, furniture, computers, photocopying facilities, water, electricity, etc. The address of the project office is as follows.

FAO Fisheries Project
Social Science Research Centre
Faculty of Social Sciences
University of Kelaniya, KELANIYA
Sri Lanka

- b) The project recruited the following staff

- Professor Oscar Amarasinghe: Project Coordinator
Mobile: +94 718 527327 email: oamarasinghe@yahoo.com
- Miss. Hareesha Sandaruwani: Project Secretary
Mobile: +94 713 976535 email: hareeshasandaruwani186@gmail.com
- Professor M. G. Kularatne, the Vice President of the SLFSSF functions as the overall administrator of the project

¹ Activity not laid down in the LOA, but included later after recognizing their importance to the fishing communities and interested parties

Chapter 1

GROUND WORK

Before embarking on the process of implementing the Guidelines, it was necessary to do certain ground work, or to prepare the stage for planned activities which were enumerated in the earlier sections. These activities included the following.

1. Preparation of an institutional profile
2. State actor sensitizing workshop
3. Preparation of Communication Tools.

1. Preparation of an Institutional Profile

It is fairly known that the knowledge of fishing communities, who form only one party of multi-stakeholders using coastal zone resources, about the diverse institutions that are relevant to them in accessing coastal zone services and in resolving multi-stakeholder conflicts remain quite poor. They need to know the right institutions, their functions, where they are located, the right persons to be contacted, their contact details, etc. The Institutional Profile that is being prepared aims in catering to this important need. This will not only be useful to fishing communities, but also to the wider community of other state actors, researchers, etc.

The institutional profile was a joint effort of the following.

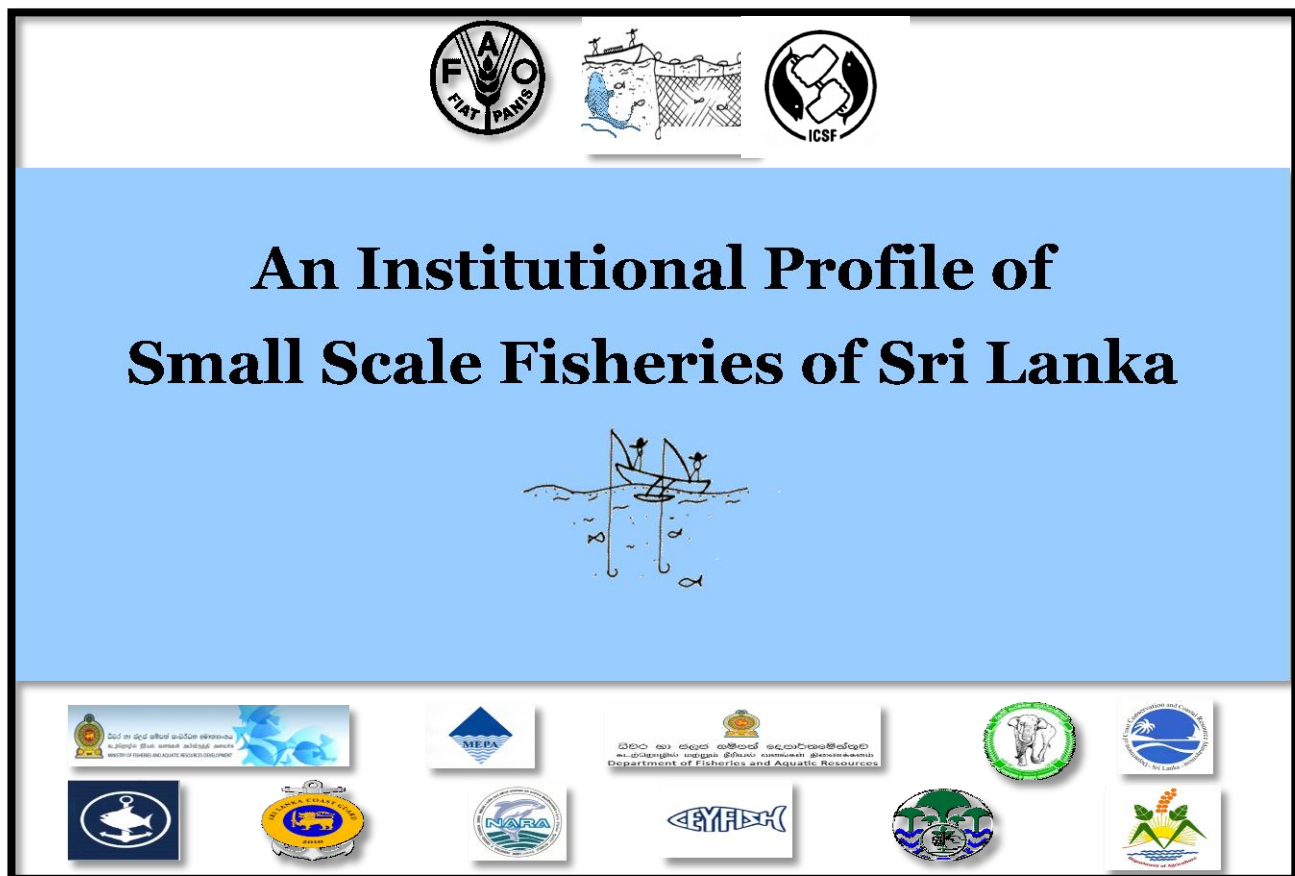
- Professor Oscar Amarasinghe (with assistance from, Miss. Kaumi Piyasiri, Miss. Shiwanthika Dharmasiri, Miss. Shanika Weralugolla)
- Professor M. G. Kularatne, Economist, University of Kelaniya [Vice President, SLFSSF]
- Mr. Upul Liyanage, Scientist, National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA) [Member of Executive Committee, SLFSSF]
- Mr. Suraj Chandrakumara, Management Assistant, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development [[Member of Executive Committee, SLFSSF]
- Miss. Kaumi Piyasiri (NORHED Project, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna)
- Miss. Shanika Weralugolla (NORHED Project, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna)
- Miss. Shiwanthika Dharmasiri (NORHED Project, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna)

The first draft of the Institutional Profile is now completed, which only needs some final checks. It is planned to publish this as a Booklet as a deliverable of the present ICSF-FAO-SLFSSF project on SSF guideline implementation

Functions, addresses and contact details of the following institutions are included in the Institutional Profile.

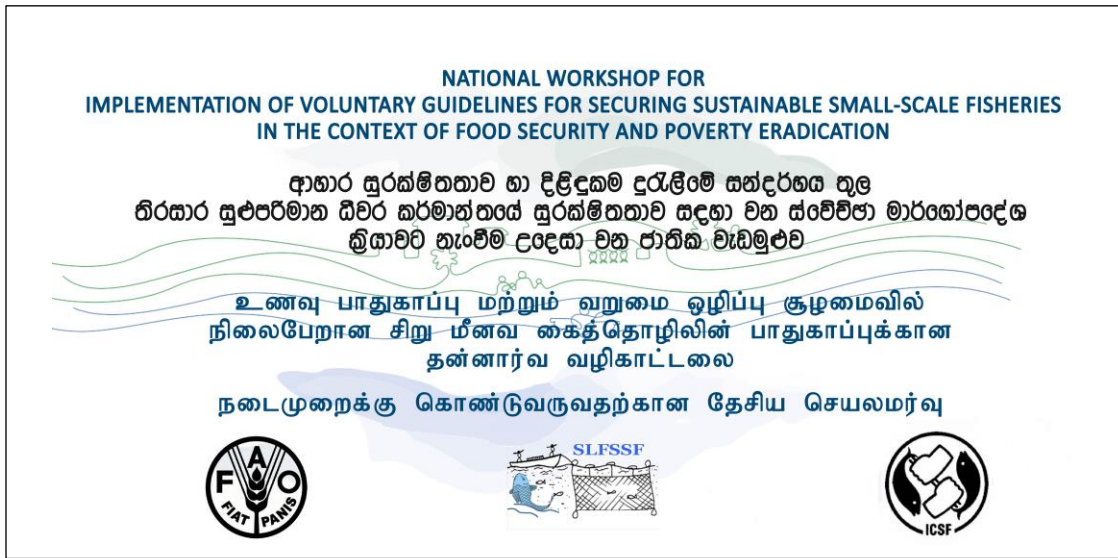
- a. Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development (MFARD)
- b. Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development (DFARD)
- c. National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA)
- d. National Aquaculture Development Authority (NAQDA)
- e. Ceylon Fisheries Corporation (CFC)
- f. Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation (CFHC)
- g. Sri Lanka Coast Guard
- h. Sri Lanka Navy
- i. CEYNOR Foundation
- j. Marine Environmental Protection Agency (MEPA)
- k. Coast Conservation Department (CCD)
- l. Department of Wild Life Conservation
- m. Department of Forest Conservation
- n. Department of Irrigation
- o. Department of Agriculture

The Draft Institutional Profile is given in ANNEX 1.



2. State Actor Sensitizing Workshop

Although the SSF Guidelines were adopted in 2014, it was realized that the awareness of the state actors, especially those engaged in fisheries related institutions: Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development, National Aquaculture Development Authority, and other institutions coming under the Ministry of Fisheries and, the diversity of institutions operating in the coastal zone of the country, was quite low. Thus, the SLFSSF proposed a ‘State actors sensitizing workshop’ as the first step in embarking in a process of implementing the SSF Guidelines, aiming at making the state actors aware of the SSF Guidelines, identifying the more relevant guidelines to Sri Lanka and also to obtain the fullest support of state actors in the diverse activities organized under the Guidelines implementation project. This workshop was held on the 28th of September 2018, at the auditorium of the National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka (47/5, Maitland Place, Colombo 7)



INTRODUCTION

The aim of this activity was to sensitize the state actors on DDF Guidelines and get their views on the implementation of the guidelines.

The activity commenced with a meeting held with the Secretary of the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development (MFARD), the Director General of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development (DFARD), Director General (Technical) of the MFARD, the Director of the Fisheries Management Division of the DFARD, and other officials. The Secretary fully endorsed the importance of implementing the Guidelines and it was decided to hold the state actor sensitizing meeting on the 28th of September 2018.

About 45 fisheries actors from MFARD, DFARD, National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA), National Aquaculture Development Authority (NAQDA), Ceylon Fisheries Corporation (CFC) and 15 officers from Coast Conservation Department (CCD), Agriculture Department, Ministry of Tourism, Wild life department, Coast Guard (Navy),

Marine Environmental Protection Agency (MEPA), etc. who are the other actors in the coastal zone were invited for the workshop.

Altogether, there were about 45 participants from the MFARD and DFARD and 15 participants from other stakeholders in the coastal zone. The FAO Representative in Sri Lanka, Madam Nina Brandstrup was the Chief Guest of the event while Secretary of MFARD was the Chief Guest. However, due to the need to attend an urgent meeting with the Minister of Fisheries, the latter could not attend the meeting.

THE EVENT

The day's events started with Professor Ivan Silva, the Joint Secretary of the Forum delivering the Welcome Speech. This was followed by the Speech of the Chief Guest, Madam Nina Brandstrup who explained the FAO involvement in preparing the guidelines and the long process of consultation of the global community. Madam Brandstrup also mentioned the importance of incorporating the relevant guidelines into national policies and national plans of action.

Professor Oscar Amarasinghe, the President of the SLFSSF and Senior Professor Upali Amarasinghe, the Joint Secretary of the SLFSSF presented the SSF Guidelines. Speaking first, Professor Upali Amarasinghe dealt extensively with governance of tenure and gender issues, such as gender equality and gender mainstreaming. Moreover, the need to identify and respect the rights of fishers to fish resources, land (beaches) and adjacent areas were also highlighted in this presentation. Prof. Oscar Amarasinghe dealt extensively with sustainable resource management, co-management, value chains and post-harvest practices including fish processing by women, social development and the need to empower fisher community organisation. The need for management to be integrated, inclusive, participatory and holistic was highlighted.

After the technical sessions the participants were divided into the groups based on the thematic areas as given below. The group discussions were conducted by Dr, Nilantha De Silva (Group Leader), with the assistance from Miss. Kaumi Piyasiri, Miss. Chamini Dinushika, Miss. Shanika Weralugolla and Miss. Shiwanthika Dharmasiri (all masters students from University of Ruhuna). The methodology employed included semi-structured group interviews.

The themes discussed were as follows.

Group A

- a) Responsible governance of tenure
- b) Sustainable Resource Management

Group B

- a) Social Development, Employment and Decent Work
- b) Gender Equality

Group C

- a) Value Chains, Post-Harvest and Trade
- b) Disaster risk and climate change

Group D

- a) Policy Coherence, institutional coordination and collaboration
- b) Information, research and communication

A complete report of this event and the results of the above discussions are given in ANNEX 2.



Photo 1: Professor Ivan Silva, Joint Secretary of SLFSSF welcoming the participants at the State Actor sensitizing workshop: 28 September 2018



Photo 2: Group discussions at the State Actor Sensitizing Workshop: 28 September 2018

3. Preparation of Communication Tools

The National Fisheries Solidarity (NAFSO), which is an affiliated Civil Society Organisation of the SLFSSF has already translated the SSF Guidelines into the 2 local languages; Sinhala and Tamil. However, these documents are written in a language, which is not generally well understood by the fishing communities. The important messages contained in the Guidelines are not clearly conveyed to fisher stakeholders. For this reason the SLFSSF decided to prepare a number of communication tools which will give the key messages in a simple language and in a form that will attract the public eye. It is expected to distribute these tools among the fisher communities all around the country, especially among the community organisations.

The communication tools prepared were the following.

- a) Copies of SSF Guidelines prepared in Sinhala and Tamil (500 copies in Sinhala and 250 copies in Tamil)
- b) A simplified version of Guidelines prepared in Sinhala and Tamil, that is easily understood by the ordinary (500 copies in Sinhala and 250 copies in Tamil)
- c) 13 Fact Sheets. Thirteen key messages contained in the Guidelines are given in the form of colourfully designed fact sheets enclosed in a folder (500 copies in Sinhala and 250 copies in Tamil)
- d) Two posters that gives two key messages; a. The role of Women; b. Co-Management (500 copies in Sinhala and 500 copies in Tamil)

- e) A Blog or an informational website in the social media on SLFSSF that will have a special page on SSF Guidelines Implementation Process, which will be constantly updated, allowing for sharing views and uploading current information on the process of implementation of the Guidelines.

The tools have been prepared with assistance from National Fisheries Solidarity (NAFSO), a Civil Society Organisation holding the Vice Presidency of the SLFSSF.

ANNEX 3 gives the two posters that have been prepared while ANNEX 4 gives the Fact Sheets.

Chapter 2

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS

This was the key component of the Guidelines implementation process, which formed the means by which information at the ground level were obtained. Stakeholder workshops were held in the Southern, Northern, Eastern and North-Western Provinces with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

1. Stakeholder workshop held at Rekawa, Hambantota with the participation of stakeholders from all three districts of the southern province (Galle, Matara and Hanbamtota). The discussions were held 24th of November at NARA regional Center, Rekawa.
2. Stakeholder workshop at Trincomalee, with the participation of stakeholders from three districts of the eastern province; Mullativu, Trincomalee and Batticaloa. The discussions were held on the 15 of December in Trincomalee.
3. Stakeholder workshop held at Jaffna town, Jaffna with the participation of stakeholders from all three districts of the Northern Province (Mannar, Kilinochchi and Jaffna). The discussions were held at the District Secretariat of Jaffna on the 5th of January 2019.

For all above workshops State officers representing all state institutions operating in the coastal zone in the key districts (Hambantota, Trincomalee and Jaffna) were invited. Generally the key state institutions represented at the discussions were the following.

1. Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development
2. Coast Conservation Department
3. Department of Agriculture
4. Department of Forest Conservation
5. Department of Wildlife Conservation
6. Sri Lanka Tourist Board
7. Marine Pollution Authority
8. Central Environment Authority
9. Sri Lanka Coast Guard / Navy

Activity and 3 and 4 other planned activities was delayed and had to be postponed due to the political instability over the change of government which was considered a wrong constitutional move made by the President of the Country as claimed by the government that held power until that time. The latter went to the Supreme Court and finally won the case and regained power, but the whole country was affected by this chaotic state of affairs during November and December 2018, and the work of the project too was affected during this period. However, the

project activities were only delayed by about 2-3 weeks and there is no danger in completing the work in time.

The delayed work included the 3rd Focus Group Discussion, which was finally held on the 5th of January 2019 at Jaffna and the 4th Focus Group Discussion, was held in Negombo on the 9th of February 2019.

Focus Group Discussions with Fisheries Community Stakeholders

The major activities completed during included the four stakeholder workshops held in Hambantota of the Southern Province, Trincomalee of the Eastern Province, Jaffna of the Northern Prince and Negombo of the North-Western Province.

Men and women from fishing communities were invited from 12 coastal districts and four provinces as follows.

Southern Province:	Districts: Galle, Matara, Hambantota
Eastern Province:	Districts of Mulativu, Trincomalee and Batticaloa
Northern Province:	Districts of Mannar, Kilinochchi and Jaffna
North-Western Province:	Districts of Puttlam, Chilaw and Negombo

The following methodology was adopted in conducting Focus group discussions.

Methodology

The focus group discussions included detailed discussions with a group of stakeholders on a selected topic. The major themes have been selected earlier (see below), but the discussants had a great degree of freedom in expressing their views. Since all Focus Group Discussions had the same themes, generalization of results could be done with a good degree of precision.

Fisher stakeholders (both men and women) were selected with the help of Assistant Directors of Fisheries in respective districts and with the help of the civil society organisation NAFSO, which is also a member of the SLFSSF.

The following consisted of the focus groups.

- a) 28 men. Generally office bearers of the two fishing community organisations (Fisheries Cooperative Societies and Rural Fisheries Organisations)
- b) 18 women generally those who are active in the sphere of fisheries [active members of community organisations (often office bearers) and fish processors]
- c) 10 - 12 State officers representing the government Institutions, operating in the coastal zone of the key district.

A team of four facilitators headed by a Senior Lecturer of the University of Ruhuna (all were members of the SLFSSF) conducted the Focus Group Discussions. All facilitators had postgraduate qualifications with experience in working with fishing communities. Professors of the Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries (SLFSSF) functioned as resource persons.

Several Key areas of the Guidelines were selected for discussions based on a number of past studies, discussions held with experts (SLFSSF), and the State Actor workshop held on the 28th of September 2019. In fact the key areas so identified included almost all key Guidelines.

The major themes (guidelines) selected were as follows.

1. Tenure Rights
2. Sustainable Resources Management
3. Conflicts among stakeholder groups
4. Institutional Collaboration (cross sectoral collaboration)
5. Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming
6. Post-Harvest Sector
7. Marketing and Trade
8. Social Development
9. Occupational Health, safety and decent work
10. Fisheries Insurance
11. Disaster Risk and Climate Change
12. Capacity Development
13. Empowering Community Organisations

Meetings between key SLFSSF office bearers and the Team conducting Focus group discussions, were held to discuss the methodological tools to be developed for extraction of information at Focus Group Discussions. Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools were used to extract information.

At the Focus Group Discussions the following grouping was done.

1. First state actors were separated from others, who formed one group at discussions
2. The rest was split into 4 groups; A, B, C and D
3. The groups were mixed groups of men and women
4. At group discussions, each group discussed separately the themes given to them. The following gives the topics discussed by each group

Group A: Tenure Rights, Sustainable Resources Management, Conflicts among stakeholder groups and Institutional Collaboration (cross sectoral collaboration)

Group B: Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming, Post-Harvest Sector, Marketing and Trade

Group C: Social Development, Occupational Health, safety and decent work
Fisheries Insurance

Group D: Disaster Risk and Climate Change, Capacity Development, Empowering Community Organisations

The state actors formed a separate group, only the following themes were discussed with them

- Institutional collaboration and coordination (Cross sectoral collaboration)
- Sustainable Resources Management

- Co-management (existing platforms and the future)

All participants were paid a travel allowance and, and provided refreshments and lunch

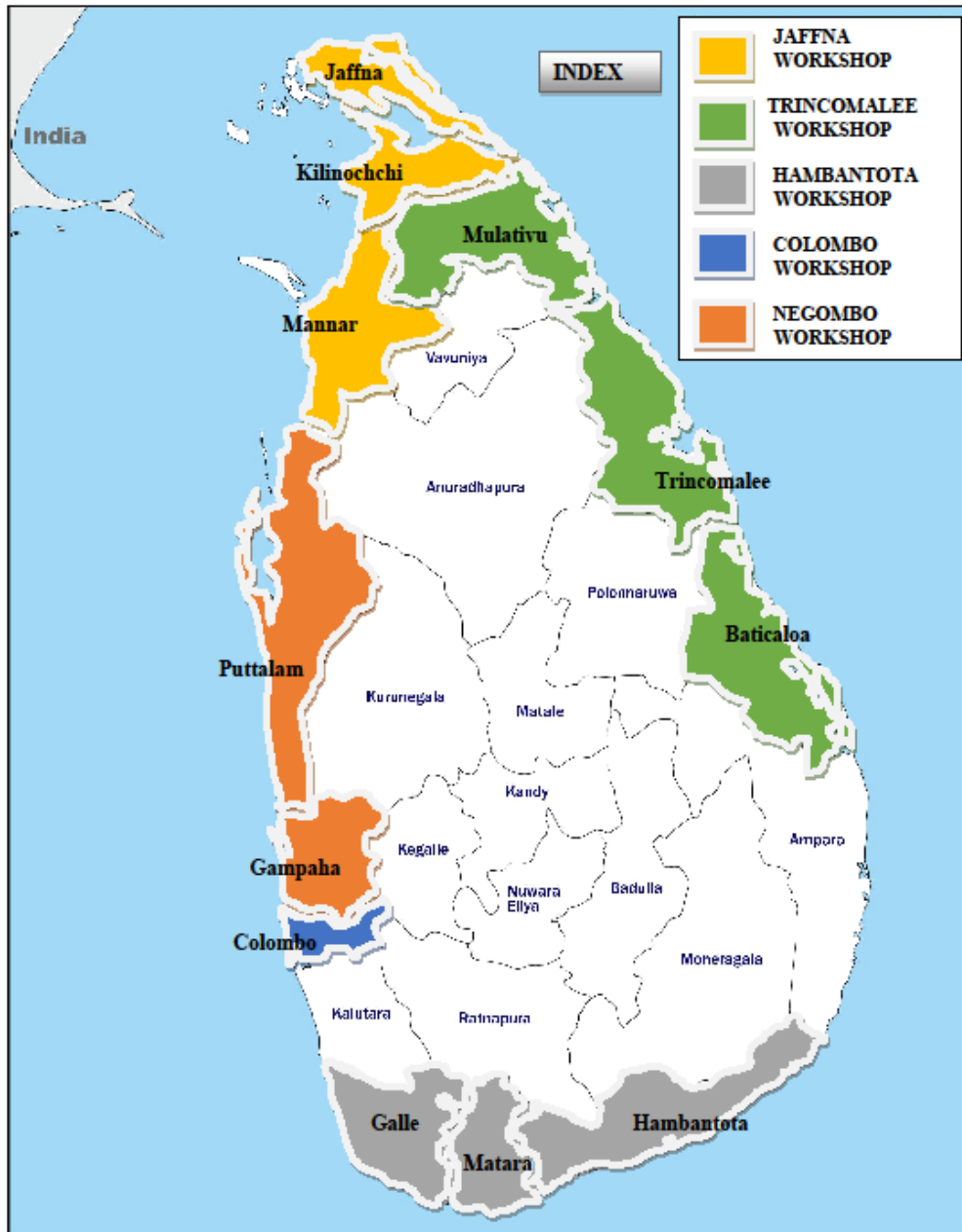


Figure 1: Coastal districts covered in the study



Photo 3: Focus Group Discussions with community stakeholders, Trincomalee, Eastern Province (2018)



Photo 4: Focus Group Discussions with state actors, Rekawa, Southern Province (2018)

Chapter 3

RESULTS OF THR STAKEHOLDER WOEKSHOPS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Results of the workshops are presented in this section under the major themes that were used for deliberations at the Focus Group Discussions. Results of the Focus Group Discussions with community actors and state actors are presented separately. At the end of discussions on diverse themes, policy implications of the results are also indicated.

A. TENURE RIGHTS

As laid down in SSG Guidelines, small-scale fishing communities need to have secure tenure rights to the fish resources and the beach area, which form the basis for their social and cultural well-being. Since issues concerning tenure rights were found to be quite common to all districts, the results are presented for the aggregate sample (all provinces).

Table 1: Rights fishers possess and enjoy and suggestions to protect these rights

Rights enjoyed by Fishers	Issues concerning these rights	Suggested Action/s
Access to the sea (up to 200 km),	a. Acquisition of beach areas by tourism stakeholders, resulting in loss of anchorage sites, beach seining sites. b. space available for craft and gear repair and fish processing; c. technological issues such as inadequate horse power in engines, d. lack of better technology to travel longer distances and catch large quantities of fish, and, e. lack of proper documentation (legal documents) to support the rights of fishers f. Acquisition of beach access roads by private land owners and hoteliers	Cross sectoral collaboration and co-management with the involvement of, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (DFARD), • CCD • Ministry of Tourism • Fisheries Community Organisations (coops)
To use the coast and the beach for craft landing and anchorage		
Access to lagoons and mangrove areas		
Access to the beach (which is 'public')(beach access roads)		
To use the beach for craft anchorage		
To use the beach for construction of temporary huts (fishing gear storage, etc.)		

To use the beach for repair of craft and gear and other beach-based activities (such as fish processing)		
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Policy Implications:

- Identify, record and respect traditional and customary rights of fishers to the fish resources, the beach and adjoining lands
- Identify and demarcate the coastal zone for fisheries activities and for tourism development, and ensure that tourism interests do not contradict with fisheries interests
- Develop technology to provide small scale fishers with greater access to distant fisheries resources
- Provide space and facilities for craft anchorage, fish drying and fishing equipment storage on the beach and in the adjoining lands

Table 2: Rights fishers think they possess but are unable to enjoy them

Rights fishers think that they have	Reasons for their inability to exercise them	Suggestions for protecting the rights
Right of access to all areas of the beach**	Encroachment of the beach area by hoteliers who enjoy a dominant position on the beach (most powerful stakeholders in the coastal zone).	Protect fishers’ rights with the involvement of, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFARD, • Ministry of Tourism, • CCD, • Forest Department and • Fisher-community organisations, who will jointly work towards resolving these issues and protecting the rights of fishers
	Use of stretches of the beach encompassing beach seine ‘padu’ (net laying area) by hoteliers	
Small scale fishers customary rights to use near coastal resources	Large scale fishers operate their vessels in the near coastal area.	
Access to lagoons and mangrove areas and the right to use these resources	Artificial breaching of the sand bar by non-fisheries stakeholders (hoteliers and farmers, to drain water from their premises and land)	
	Agricultural run-off (carrying agrochemicals) into lagoons	

	Department of Forest Conservation imposing restrictions on using mangrove areas (ex. crab farming)	
Right to receive fair price for fish	Middlemen oligopsonies, where merchants earn exorbitant profits by pushing down the producer price	Government intervention in fish marketing
Right for social protection	Non-functional and poorly paid pension scheme and ineffective insurance scheme	Government Intervention in establishing an effective pension scheme and an insurance scheme

Policy Implications:

- Establish joint working platforms through cross sectoral collaboration towards Integrated Coastal Zone Management.
- Intervene in fish marketing and increase competition in fish buying towards ensuring a fair price to fish producers
- Provide social protection through effective fisheries pension schemes and fisheries insurance schemes

Table 3: Rights that fishers do not have at present but would like to secure

Rights that fishers do not possess at present but want to enjoy	Issues concerning the possession of these rights	Suggestions for the rights
Access to and use of mangrove forest area for aquaculture	Restrictions imposed by the Department of Coast Conservation	The Coast Conservation Department (CCD), the Department of Forest Conservation and the DFARD to work together to respect and legalize the said rights
Access to land adjoining beaches for craft anchorage	Due to coastal erosion beach area for craft anchorage has been reduced.	
To construct more permanent huts on the beach	In order to store gear, one need more secure permanent type of buildings	
Right to exploit non-fisheries ocean resources.	There are other resources in the ocean other than fish	
Right to Information	Fishers are not aware of policy guidelines / recommendations	
		Present National fisheries Policy in an understandable form

		MFARD
Job Security	Due to lack of job security in the vocation, fishers /in general, do not encourage their children to take up fishing.	Establish an institute which collect payment from fishers during the season and pay back during off-season

Policy Implications:

- Prepare rules, regulations and policy documents in a language easily understood by fishing communities and provide easy access to them
- Promote insurance scheme that cover income losses during off season

B. SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Securing sustainable fisheries has been the major focus of all governments in their efforts towards fisheries development in the country. However, priority accorded to small scale fisheries in this respect has been quite low, and offshore fisheries was considered the sector that could strengthen the economy. High fishing pressure, pervasive use of illegal fishing practices and declining fishing incomes in the coastal area have recently received attention of the government, from which stemmed a renewed interest in sustainable development of the small scale fisheries sub sector.

During the stakeholder workshops, the major Resource Management issues highlighted were the following:

1. Use of destructive gear that includes IUU fishing
2. Loss of beach area due to coastal erosion and tourism activities,
3. increase in fishing pressure,
4. illegal constructions on the coast (especially by tourism stakeholders),
5. lack of access to areas around lagoons and the beach,
6. coastal pollution,
7. lack of knowledge and awareness about coastal resources and communities,
8. lack of trained/skilled officers, weak post-harvest handling of fish,
9. obsolete fishing and processing technology,
10. poor concern for protecting resources during breeding periods,
11. failure to demarcate coastal boundaries (buffer zones, no-build zones, etc.), etc.

Since issues concerning sustainable resources management differed among districts, the following results are presented separately for the four provinces studied.

The following gives the major issues in sustainable management of fisheries resources, which were ranked according to their severity.

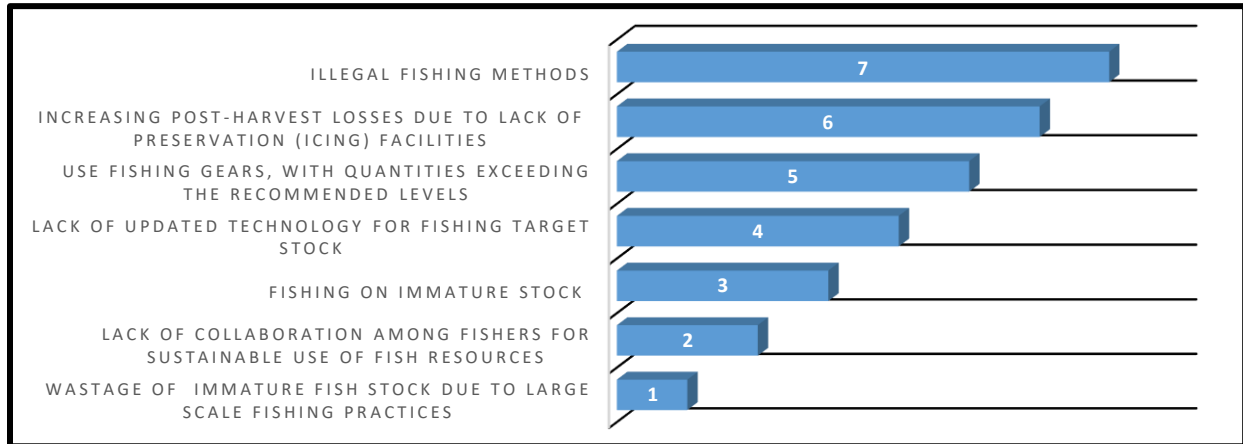


Figure 2: Issues in sustainable management of fisheries resources- fishing community- SOUTHERN PROVINCE [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

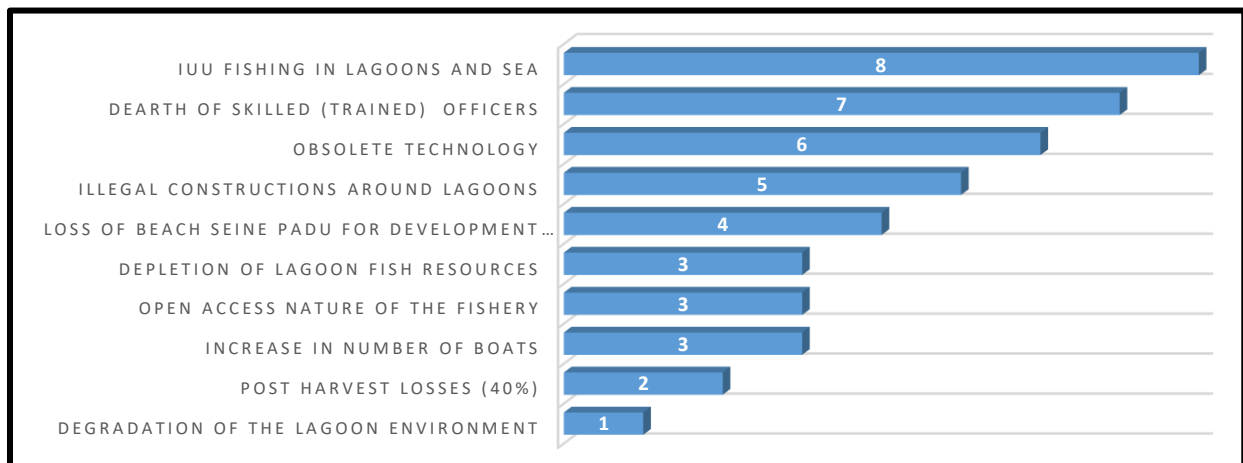


Figure 3: Issues in sustainable management of fisheries resources- fishing community- EASTERN PROVINCE [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

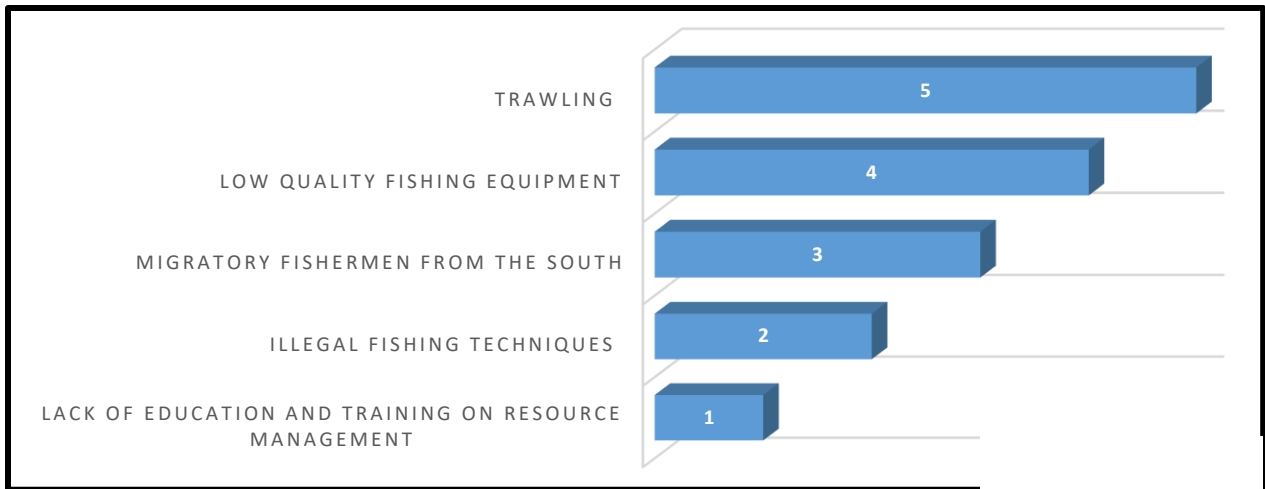


Figure 4: Issues in sustainable management of fisheries resources- fishing community-NORTHERN PROVINCE [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

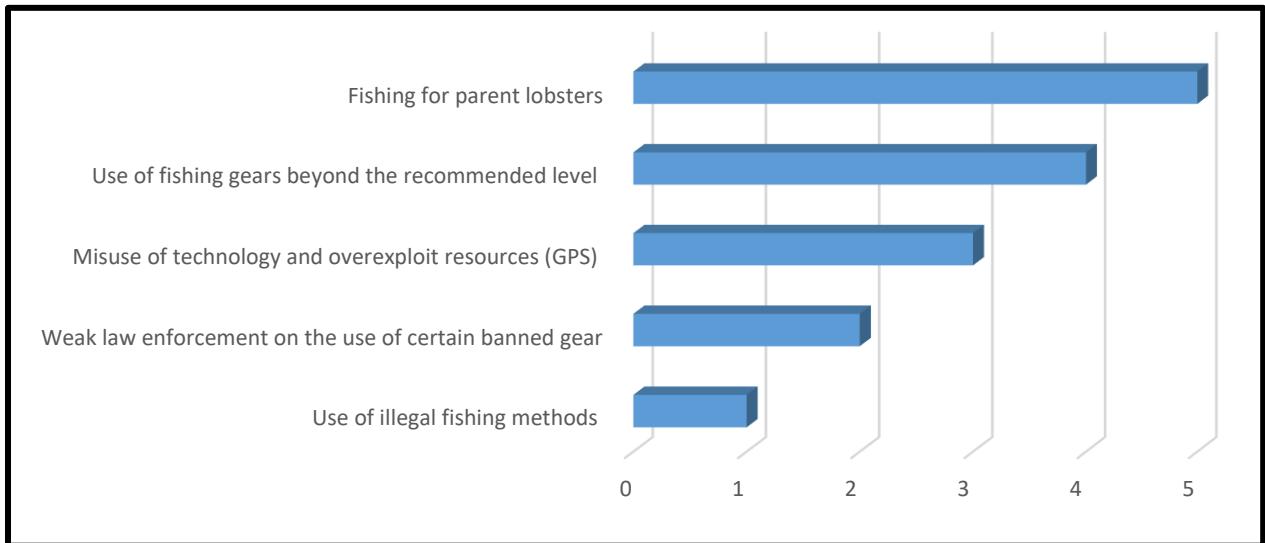


Figure 5: Issues in sustainable management of fisheries resources- fishing community-NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

Discussion with state actors

Given below are the results of the group discussions held with the state actors.

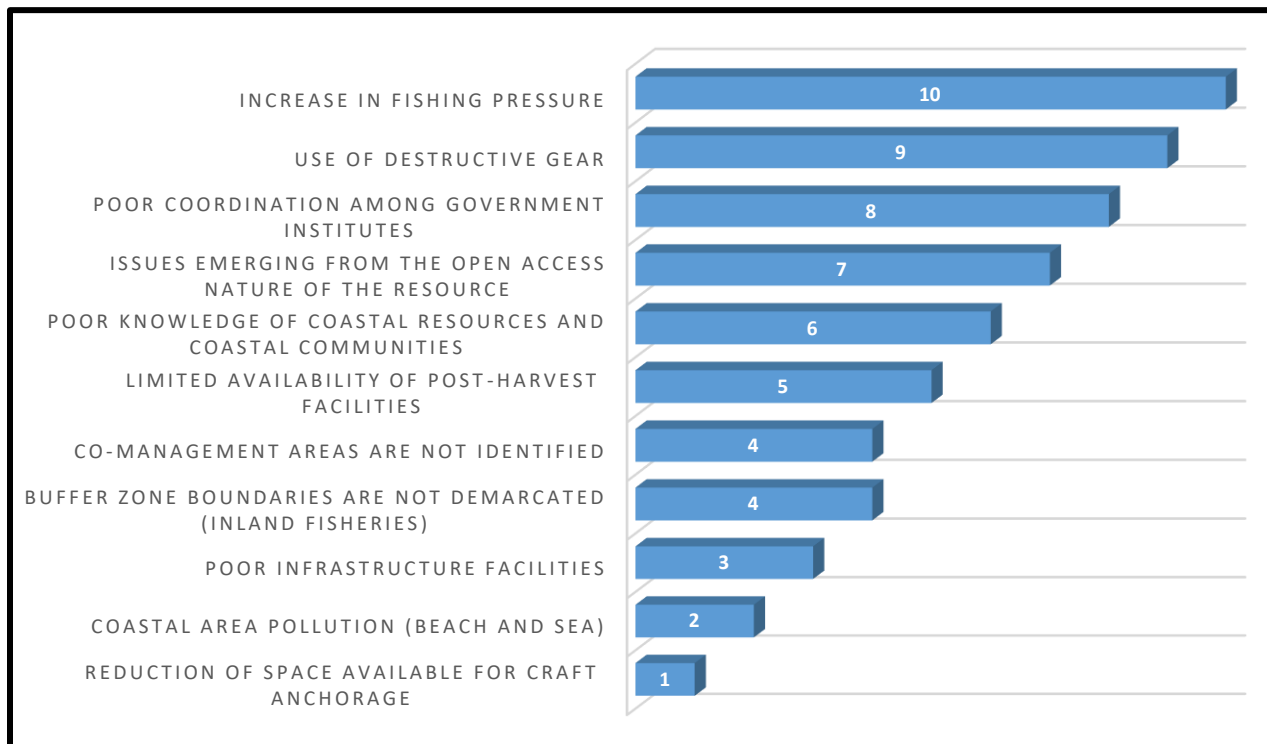


Figure 6: Issues in sustainable management of fisheries resources- state actors-southern province [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

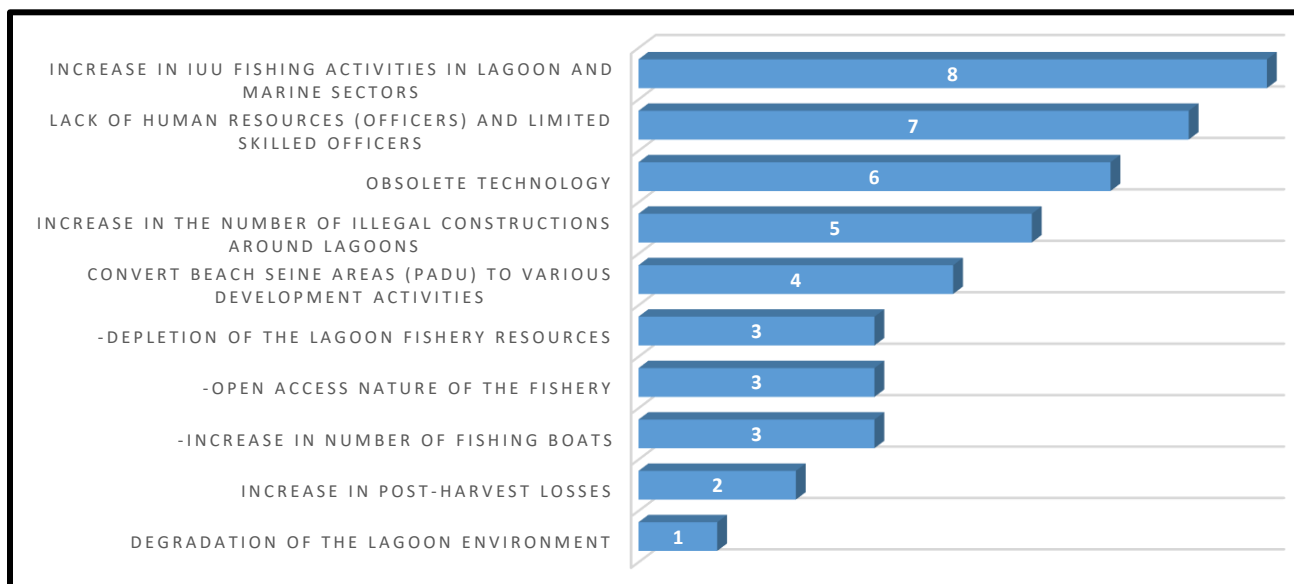


Figure 7: Issues in sustainable management of fisheries resources- state actors-EASTERN PROVINCE [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

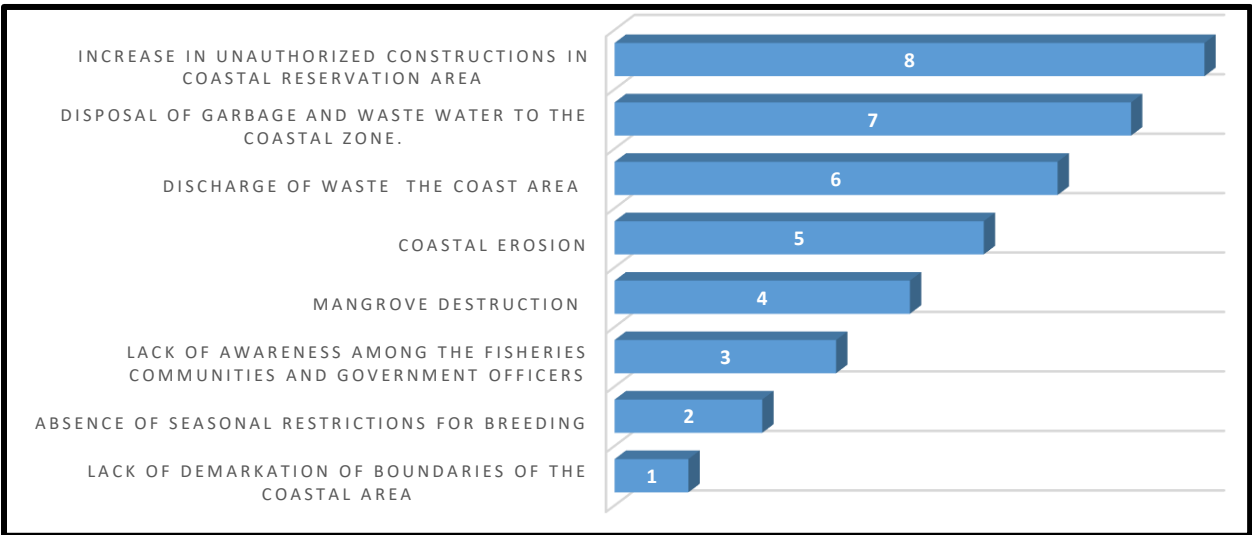


Figure 8: Issues in sustainable management of fisheries resources- state actors-Northern Province [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

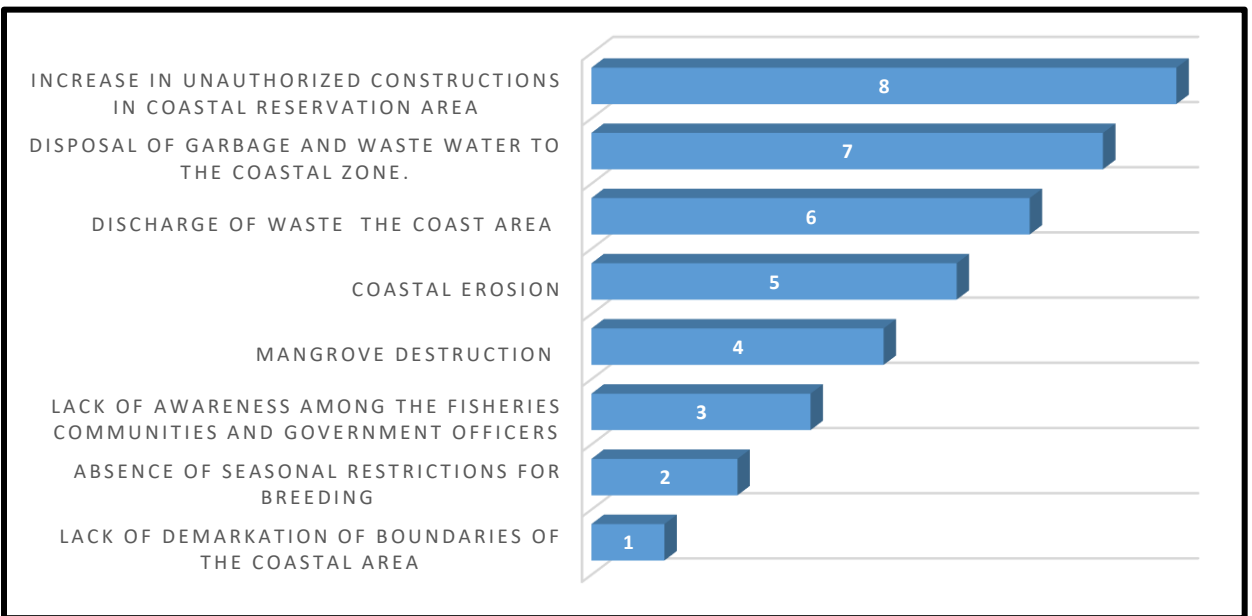


Figure 9: Issues in sustainable management of fisheries resources- state actors-Northern Province [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

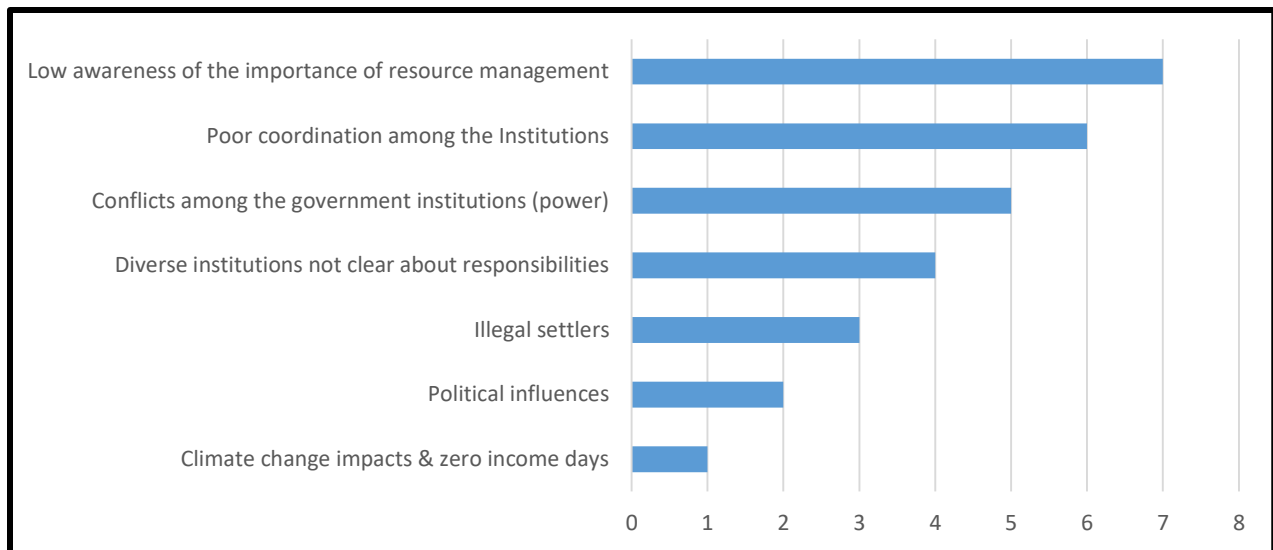


Figure 10: Issues in sustainable management of fisheries resources- state actors-north-Western province [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

Resource management issues appear to be more location specific. However, illegal and destructive fishing practices, including trawling have ranked top of all issues in almost all areas showing the pervasiveness of these practices. In the North of the country the major problem has been trawling by local fishers (Figure 4). Low quality of fishing equipment was also mentioned as an important resource management issue by the northern fishers while this was not reported in other areas. The need to educate people and train officers was mentioned as a resource management issue by fishers in Eastern and Northern provinces, which has important implications for capacity building of state officers and fisher leaders (in fisheries community organisations). Increase in fishing pressure, in the form of increasing number of crafts and higher quantity of gear used by fishers, is also reported as an important management issue. Loss of beach seine padu due to tourism activities and illegal constructions around lagoons, which too is associated with the expansion of tourism have been reported by fisher stakeholders in eastern province, probably revealing either the weak enforcement of laws and or the dominance of tourism interests in that area. The incidences of harvesting immature stock (juveniles) appears to another sustainable resource management issue. Allegations are directed at Large scale fishers in this regard. Fishers have also reported that the fishing technology (catching, preservation and post-harvest handling) are obsolete and of low quality, revealing the importance of introducing innovations along the diverse links in the fish value chain. Among the other issues mentioned in the sustainable management of resources were, depletion and degradation of resources and lagoon environment and, high post-harvest losses. The Northern fishers also mentioned the incidence of southern fishermen (from Negombo, Chilaw and Puttalam) migrating to the North and harvesting resources. The issue is not only taking a large share of the resources ‘belonging’ (customarily) to the people in the north but also the use of destructive fishing techniques by the migratory fishermen. The differential power among institutions leading to dominant and weaker institutions preventing coordination among them, political influence and lack of knowledge of institutions about their responsibilities, etc. were reported by stake holders in the North Western province.

Another important management issue mentioned by the fishers in southern and north-western provinces was the 'lack of collaboration among fishers', which reveals the need to work jointly and through collaborative efforts to secure sustainable fisheries. In the context of SSF, this shows the need for fisher community organisations to establish links with similar organisations horizontally (bridging social capital) to work towards resource management.

Discussions with state actors, revealed a number of issues which were not given strong emphasis by fisher stakeholders. Increase fishing pressure in the context of open access nature of fisheries was highlighted as one of the more serious management issues. Another important issue underlined was the increasing number of unauthorized constructions on the beach, even on the buffer zone. This is a serious issue which not only violates the Coast Conservation Act but also results in loss of beach for beach seining fishing, craft anchorage, fish drying, etc. With regard to state institutions functioning in the coastal zone, two management issues were strongly emphasized; the lack of trained officers who could effectively participate in resource management in the coastal zone and, poor collaboration among institutes to coordinate the diverse activities of the coastal zone.

What is evident from the results of the focus group discussions with all actors concerned is the need for collaboration and coordination of the activities of all actors, the lack of which appears to be a serious deterrent to achieve effective management of the resources in fisheries and the coastal zone.

In resolving the above issue an array of propositions were made by fisher stakeholders. In respect of the use of illegal fishing methods, especially trawling, it was suggested to enforce the Trawl Ban law, which came into effect in 2017. Surprisingly this act is not enforced. In the case of other destructive fishing methods, strict enforcement of laws and strengthening the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) activities was proposed. Bringing in new laws to prevent illegal constructions on the beach and in lagoon environment was also proposed. However, according to CCD Acts and Regulations clear cut laws against illegal constructions on the beach exist thus showing that it is more a case of lack of enforcement of laws than the absence of laws that have caused this situation. Thus CCD needs to strictly enforce laws to protect the coastal environment. In resolving the conflicts between fishers and tourism stakeholders it was suggested to resort to zoning of the coastal area for tourism related activities to ensure that tourism does not adversely affect fisheries activities in the coastal zone.

Several suggestions were made towards protecting the fisheries resources from degradation. As a means of easing the pressure on coastal resources, it was suggested to promote deep sea fishing by all state and community actors. Provision of deep sea crafts at concessionary prices was suggested. Limits on the number of crafts owned by one person was also proposed as a means of controlling entry. As a means of easing pressure on resources, the state actors emphasized the need to provide alternative livelihood activities to fishers. Establishment of fish breeding centers was also proposed in increasing the productivity of inland, reservoir and lagoon waters. Moreover, there were propositions to introduce a quota system to fisheries and/or catch control measures by size and weight. Several suggestions were made to prevent fishers from harvesting immature and breeding stock. Education and awareness building programmes for fishers, strengthening MCS activities and strict enforcement of laws against law breakers were proposed to deal with this issue.

Moreover, provision of more durable and good quality equipment and the development of necessary infrastructure such as good anchorage facilities and those for post-harvest processing activities were proposed. Lack of innovative new technology in most spheres of activity was noted by fisher stakeholders and the need to replace obsolete technology with more productive new technology was proposed.

One of the important needs arising out of discussions was the need for capacity building. For lack of knowledge about the fisheries sector of the country, it was proposed to introduce fisheries education into the syllabus of secondary schools. Capacity building of fisher stakeholders and state officers in fisheries management was strongly emphasized, while training and capacity building in the field of fish processing (especially for women) was also highlighted. Another area of intervention is the demarcation of coastal boundaries, which is a matter for the CCD. In fact this activity is also related to the above suggestion for 'zoning' the coast. Development of pollution management plans and to bringing in new laws to curb coastal pollution was also suggested. In an effort towards building partnerships among different state and non-state actors to coordinate the activities of all and to make decisions collectively, the establishment of management committees at the district level was also suggested. Given that, there is near-perfect knowledge of the resources at the district level and that the interaction among state actors representing diverse institutions is high at the district level, this could be an important step towards establishing District Co-Management Committees for Sustainable Management of the resources in the coastal zone. This also means decentralization and transfer of management decision making powers from the center to the periphery, which requires a strong political will to do so.

Policy Implications:

- IUU fishing is not allowed in Sri Lanka's waters
- Monitor fishing activities carried out in all waters and aquaculture by establishing a strong Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) process
- Monitor Coastal Development activities through a Coastal Zone Surveillance Unit.
- Clearly demarcate boundaries in the coastal zone
- Manage coastal pollution through 'Polluter Pays' principle
- Train government officials and community leaders in the principles, practices and benefits of community based management.
- Establish area-specific management rules and guidelines
- Adopt Integrated Coastal Zone Management approaches to ensure sustainable management of the coastal zone resources.
- Reduce Fishing Pressure on coastal resources
- Provide legal recognition of fisheries community and their rights of management over fisheries resources in fishery areas
- Build capacities of fishing community leaders in principles of ICZM

Conflicts among Coastal Actors & Institutional Coordination

The existence of multiple actors using the resources in the coastal zone has also given rise to a number of problems among them. These problems among multi-stakeholders have become a serious deterrent to sustainable resource management.

Conflicts:

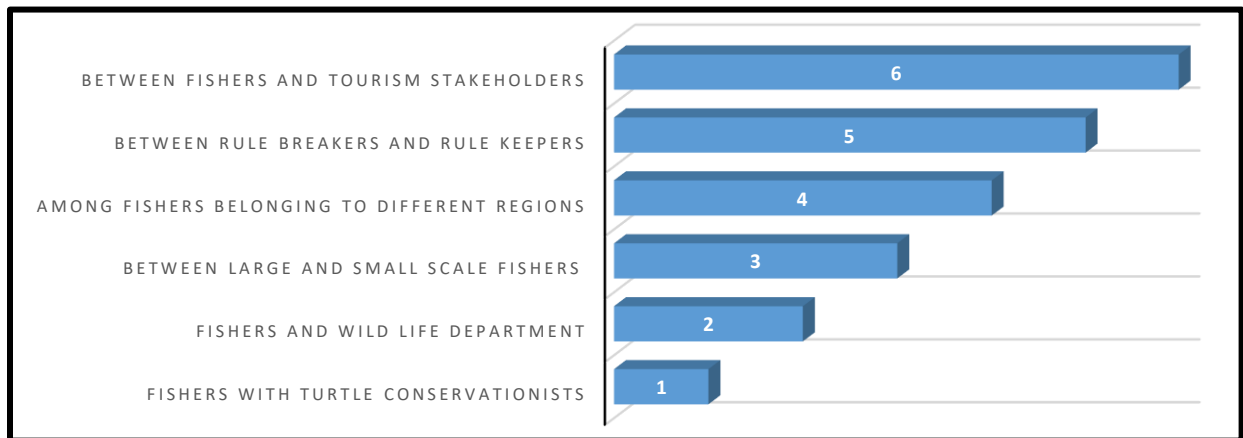


Figure 11: Conflicts among stakeholder groups- Southern Province (fishing community) [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

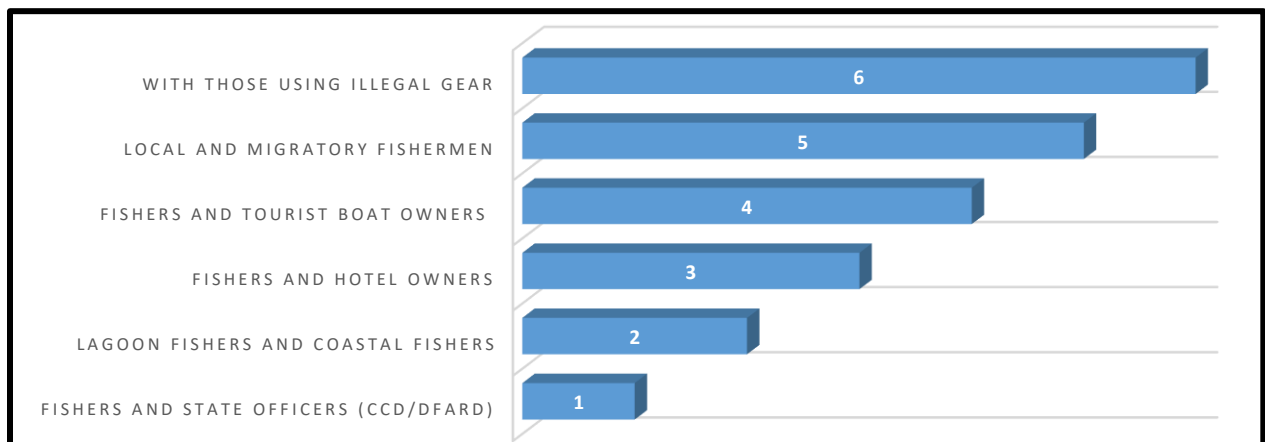


Figure 12: Conflicts among stakeholder groups- Eastern Province (Fishing community) [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

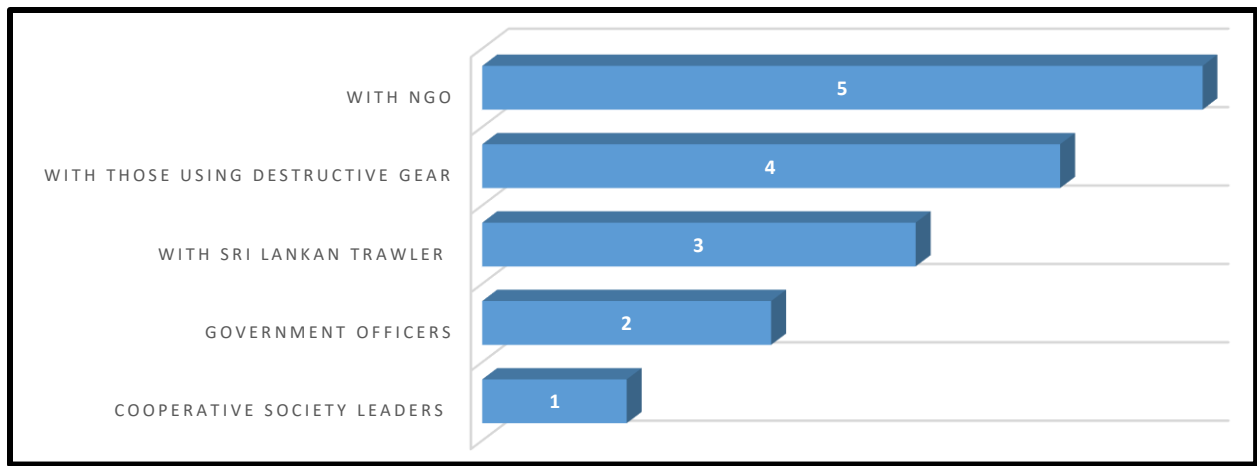


Figure 13: Conflicts among stakeholder groups- Northern Province (fishing community) [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

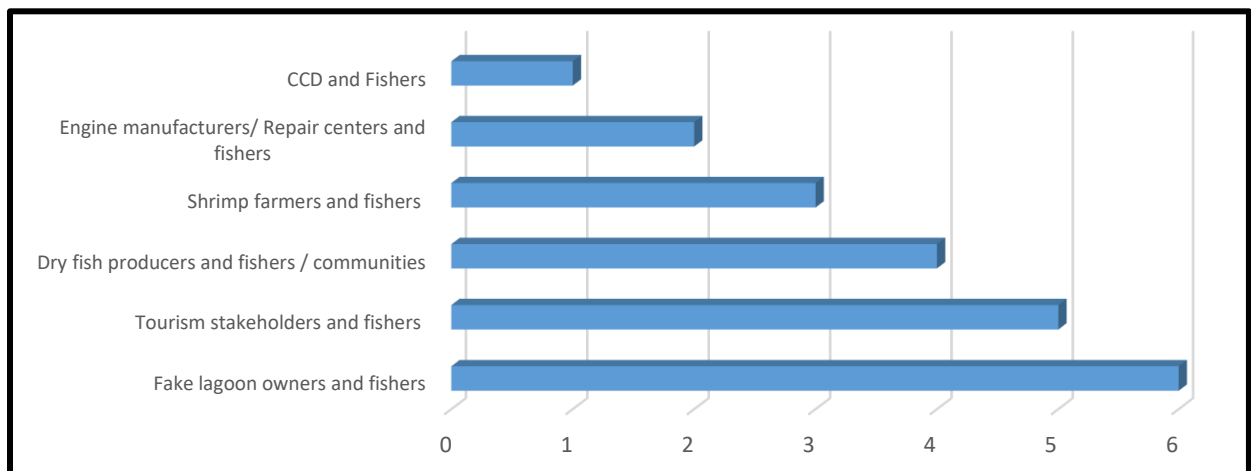


Figure 14: Conflicts among stakeholder groups- North-Western Province (fishing community) [ranked according to severity of the issue: from most severe (6) to least severe (1)]

It was evident from the results that a number of conflicts or disputes exists among diverse stakeholder groups. The most common conflicts are those between fishers and tourism stakeholders. Hoteliers violate marine fishers’ traditional access to the beach and the sea, by building tourism related structures in the coastal zone, lagoon areas, blocking pathways to the beach and forcefully using beaches for their private use. There are also conflicts between the hoteliers and lagoon fishers because hoteliers use their power to forcefully breach the sand bar at the lagoon mouth, in order to protect their lands from flooding. Large scale destruction and felling down of mangroves by the tourism stakeholders was also reported. The Department of Forest conservation, which is the authorised state institute in this regard, was blamed for their apathy and sluggishness in taking actions against those who break the law.

Another source of conflicts is the use of illegal or destructive gear by certain members of the fishing community. According to fishers this practice is quite pervasive in almost all parts of the

country, yet the type of gear used vary from region to region; for example, bottom set gill-nets in the south and wing nets fitted with galvanized pipes in Mannar, while the use of harmful techniques such as dynamite is carried out all over the country. There are conflicts among fishers themselves, such as those between local and migratory fishermen which is reported in Trincomalee and Mannar (local fishers with those migrating from the south) and conflicts between large and small scale fishers (conflicts with trawlers in the north and those large scale fishers operating in areas traditionally used by SS fishers). It also appears that law abiding fishers are in conflict with rule breakers, especially when the latter causes resource degradation (catching lobster during lobster ban). Conflicts with state officers were also noted. Incidences of tension between fishers and state officers of CCD and Department of WildLife have been reported, which have emerged when fishers tend to exploit nearby forest areas for livelihood activities. Conflicts with security forces was also reported in Trincomalee.

Quite interestingly, fishers in Jaffna complained of certain NGO activities which violates community norms, values and customs, which was considered as the most serious conflict in Jaffna. The clash between conservation and development goals was evident in Hambantota, where fishers reported conflicts with turtle conservationists for whom the coast is important as a turtle nesting site, where as for fishers it was an arena of productive activities. Fishers in Jaffna reported conflicts with leaders of cooperative societies due to their gender bias in electing members to cooperative societies, whereas women in the south of the country play a very active role in cooperatives.

It was also complained that, dry fish making leads to air pollution and bad odor and establishment of dry fish zones was suggested. Another form conflicts evident in the North-Western Province was those between the shrimp farmers and the fishing communities. The discharge from shrimp farms appear to cause serious environmental problems.

Irrespective individual variations, it is evident that more serious conflicts in the coastal zone are those between fishers and tourism stakeholders, those among various groups of fishers; resident and migratory; large vs small scale and, those with state officers (for using coastal resources where rights of access are not clear and officers' engagement in corruptive practices). The latter was only reported in Jaffna.

In resolving conflicts with the law breakers, fishers suggested to strictly enforce countries laws (the Fishers and Aquatic Resources Act 1996 and its amendments, the Coast Conservation Act, etc.), to stop illegal methods of harvesting fishers and coastal resources. Zoning of both sea and land was suggested for allocating fishing areas and craft anchorage areas between small and large scale fishers and, in allocating beach area for fisheries and tourism. The fishers also suggested to provide them with facilitate to run tourism activities on the beach, such operating boat services, which will not clash with beach-related fisheries activities. While fishers expressed their concern for conservation measures, they stated that such activities should be conducted without violating the customary rights of fishers to the beach and adjoining land. In this regard it was suggested to establish co-management platforms, with the participation of all stakeholders to secure fishers right to the beach and adjoining resources. In dealing with NGOs who lack people skills and do not understand the culture of communities, the fishers suggested that they should only operate under fisheries community based organisations.

Institutional Coordination

Results reveal that institutional collaboration and coordination of their activities remain very low, giving rise to an array of management problems. Fishers stated that there was hardly any collaboration with fisher organisations in adopting conservation measures or development projects in the coastal zone. It was also noticed that conflicts have emerged in the use of the coastal zone by fishers along with other stakeholders, which require collaboration among institutions having responsibilities for managing the coastal zone. The powerlessness of fishers was also evident from results where they stated that their ‘voice’ is not heard.

Province	Why do you think institutional collaboration is important in minimizing conflicts	Existence of cross-sectoral collaboration (Yes/No) (If Yes, assess the degree- High, medium or low)
Southern Province	To identify fishers’ problems and requirements in the coastal zone	Yes, Medium
	To communicate fishers’ problems to authorities	Yes, Medium
	Need to work together in development projects in the coastal zone	Yes, Low
	To allow fishers to involve in conservation projects	No
Eastern Province	Insufficient Government involvement in dealing with fisheries conflicts in the coastal zone issues	Yes / low
	To address more holistic human wellbeing issues	Yes / very low
	To provide fishers the ‘voice’ at decision platforms	No
	To settle coastal zone management issues	Yes / very low
	To settle disputes among stakeholders (farmers vs fishers)	Yes / medium
Northern Province	NGO problem	No
	Coastal environment conservation practices implementation	No
	To reduce illegal fishing practices	No
North-Western Province	Coordination between responsible parties before implementing a project	Yes, Low
	Allowing fishers to involve in construction projects which might have harmful impacts on the environment.	Yes, low

	Allowing fisher’s involvement on decisions of renting coastal lands for projects	No
	For sustainable use of fisheries resources	Yes, Low

Table 4: Status of Institutional Coordination (Southern, Eastern, Northern and North-Western Provinces) (fishing Community)

In resolving disputes among coastal resource users, in involving fishing communities in conservation and development projects, to reduce illegal practices in the coastal zone, in deciding about land use in the coastal zone and holistic approach to management decision making and securing sustainable use of fisheries resources were laid down as other reasons needing institutional collaboration. In all provinces except the Northern Province, some forms of collaboration do exist but to a medium/low extent. In the Northern province no such collaboration has been reported.

Consultations with State Actors

For state actors, the mis-match among mandates of different institutions has been a serious issue in dealing with management issues. Centralized decisions that won't work at the ground level has also been a problem. Obviously such issues have to be dealt with cross sectoral collaboration at the local level, more specifically, at the district level. The absence of collaboration among institutions have given rise to many problems, such as allocating the coastal space among diverse stakeholders, tenure rights of fishers to fish resources, the beach and adjacent land, granting permission to aquaculture activities in the coastal zone, coastal pollution, water pollution, access to mangrove forests, lagoons, etc. The most compelling issue is the absence of a co-management process, according to state actors.

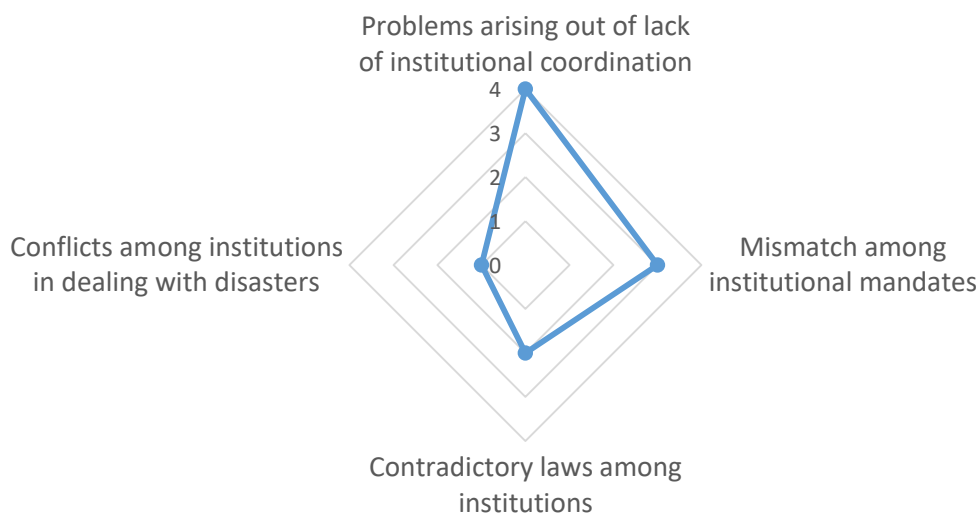


Figure 15: Issues in respect of collaboration among government Institutions- Southern Province- Consultation with state actors) (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

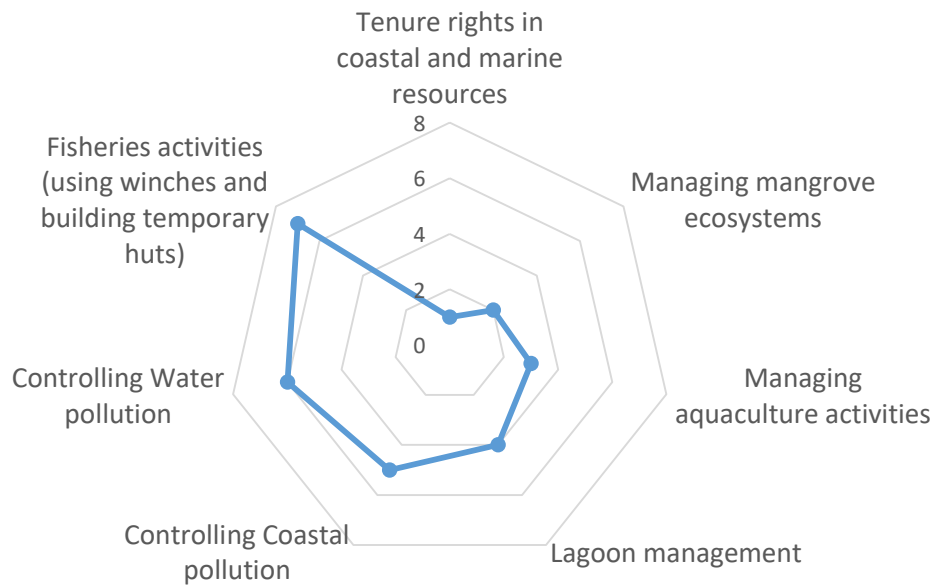


Figure 16: Issues in respect of collaboration among government Institutions- Eastern Province- Consultation with state actors) (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

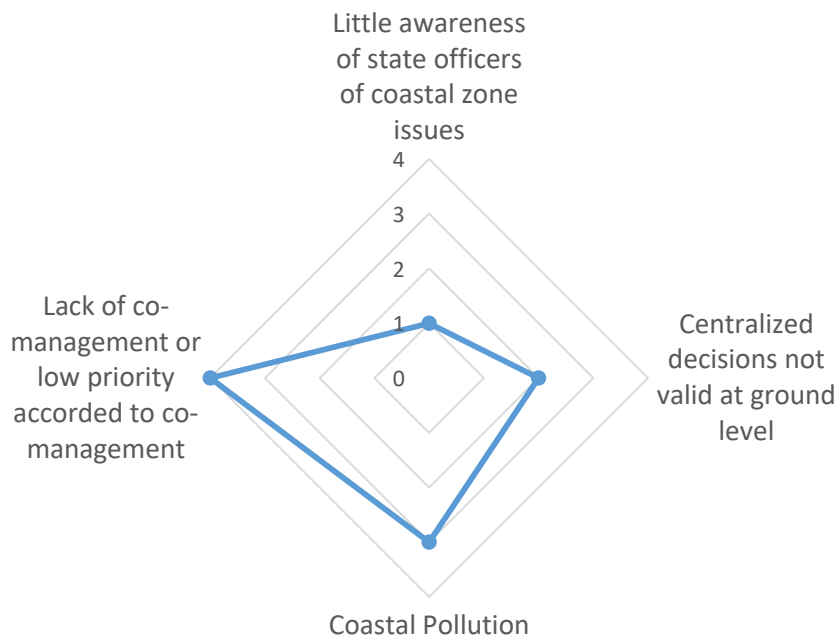


Figure 17: Issues in respect of collaboration among government Institutions- Northern Province- Consultation with state actors) (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

Figures 15, 16, 17 give the issues highlighted by respondents and their rank order (from highest to lowest in respect of severity of issue). The skewness of the intervention space (or intervention plane), point to the priority areas of intervention. The highest intervention is required in the spheres of resolving issues concerning mis-match of institutional mandates, contradictory laws, failure to involve in fisher stakeholders in development and conservation decision making, and lack of coordination of activities of different institutions to deal with management issue of the coastal zone; pollution, aquaculture activities and tenure rights of fishers.

Both community and government actors strongly emphasized the need for institutional collaboration and coordination of activities of the diverse institutions at the district level. In doing so, it was proposed to organise education and awareness building programmes for state officers to understand the mandates and regulations of different institutions operating in coastal zone of the same locality. The establishment of co-management platforms was proposed. While fishers strongly stressed the importance of their involvement in such platforms, the government officers failed to recognize this, showing the divergence of interests between the two parties, as it was evident in the earlier section on conflicts.

Another important finding is that the co-management platforms (or collaborative platforms) were proposed to be established at the district level, This is also related to the propositions made under sustainable resource management, to resort to collective decision making at the district level, with the participation of all stakeholders.

Finally it is to be emphasized that the success of institutional collaboration and activity coordination through co-management platforms depends on the capacity of both the state officers and fishing communities to understand the objectives and rules of the game of different actors (their own and those of others) and, more importantly, what co-management aims at, given the diverse management issues in the coastal zone. This requires awareness building and capacity building of all actors concerned, on integrated coastal zone management, directing coastal zone management process along an economically, Socially and Environmentally sustainable direction.

Policy Implications:

- Establish co-management platforms with cross sectoral collaboration, ensuring that they are participatory, integrated, inclusive and holistic.
- Recognize the centrality of the voice of the fishing communities in the process of management of the coastal zone resources.
- Devolve decision-making responsibilities to the appropriate levels so as to permit local governments and communities to engage in fisheries management and development activities in accordance with national policies and guidelines;
- Strictly enforce fisheries Acts, Ordinances, Laws, Regulations, etc. through the establishment of a law enforcement authority, for the coastal zone.

- Minimize mismatch between the mandates among institutions responsible for coastal zone management

C. GENDER EQUALITY & GENDER MAINTREAMING

Gender issues in fisheries have not received much attention in the past. While direct fishing by women is rare, many of them are involved in marketing and post-harvest processing. While women play a major role in taking up household responsibilities, such roles are not recognised and appreciated. Moreover, women participation in decision making bodies still remains quite low. For these reasons and many others, gender issues in fisheries are now surfacing and women folk in fishing communities are raising their voice and demanding the recognition of their rights to resources and fisheries decision making.

Results of the Focus Group Discussions on gender revealed that women have been prevented from their engagement in fishing related activities, post-harvest activities and in holding positions in fisheries cooperatives for a number of reasons.

Table 5: Issues in Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming - Results of the Focus Group Discussion held in Southern Province

Situations where women have been precluded from enjoying equal or fair opportunities	Reasons for such preclusion	Suggested actions to address those issues and to promote gender equality	Agents/actors/ Stakeholders who should be involved in them
Engagement in more domestic employment related to the fisheries sector, such as fish processing. Involvement in beach related activities (Ex work at landing sites)	Lack of capital Difficulties in finding a market for the products Insufficient technological knowledge in dry fish industry Lack of time availability for net mending activities Distance from the house to the place where fisheries related activities are taking place (beach) Negative attitudes of men towards women involvement in fishing activities	Introduce credit facilities with low interest rate Provision of alternative livelihoods Introduce market information system Introduce technology training programs Conducting awareness programs towards changing attitudes	CSOs, NARA, Rural fishery organization, Fisheries cooperatives. NARA NARA, Community Organizations, Fisheries cooperatives

Table 6: Issues in Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming - Results of the Focus Group Discussion held in Eastern Province

Situations where women have been precluded from enjoying equal or fair opportunities	Reasons for such preclusion	Suggested actions to address those issues and to promote gender equality	Agents/actors/ Stakeholders who should be involved in them	
Holding positions in the fisheries cooperatives	Negative Attitudes	Conducting awareness programs towards changing attitudes	MFARD, NAQDA, CSOs	
	Cultural barriers			
Purchasing fishing boats through fisheries cooperatives	Negative attitudes Ex:- Majority of people think that women are not capable of operating a boat	Preparing policies which provide opportunities for women to purchase boats.	MFARD	
Active participation of women in fishing activities (especially at the landing site)	Negative attitudes of the society which reflects that women should not be involved in fishing activities in the beach	Conducting awareness programs towards changing attitudes	MFARD, NAVY	
Engaging in self-employment activities related to fish post-harvest sector / rearing fingerlings	Lack of capital	Introduce credit facilities	Govt. Banks, CSOs	
	Loss of market due to the use of obsolete techniques	Introduce latest technology with training programs	NAITA, MFARD	
	Strict rules and regulations while providing credit facilities Ex:- Finding guarantors for loan facilities	Giving credit facilities through government approved/ registered fisheries cooperatives		MFARD, Fisheries cooperatives
		Allow the members of the fisheries cooperatives as guarantors instead of government workers (group guarantees)		Fisheries cooperatives

Table 7: Issues in Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming - Results of the Focus Group Discussion held in Northern Province

Situations where women have been precluded from enjoying equal or fair opportunities	Reasons for such preclusion	Suggested actions to address those issues and to promote gender equality	Agents/actors/ Stakeholders who should be involved in them
Women involvement in fishing activities (Inland and fish processing activities)	Lack of experience	Conducting training programs	MFARD, CSOs
	Lack of technological knowledge	Conducting training programs Insert fishery related courses to university curriculum Create an opportunity to share the experiences of well-functioning fisheries cooperatives	MFARD, CSOs
	Safety issues in the beach areas	Create women groups to involve in fishing activities in the beach to increase women's contribution	Fisheries cooperatives, Female community organizations
	Lack of access to beach due to community values and Navy intervention	Make suitable arrangements to allow female access to beach areas	Navy
	Communities think Fishing activities are for the men	Introducing fish processing plants and allow females to work in them	Rural fishing community organizations
	Cultural barriers	Conducting awareness programs towards changing negative attitudes	Fisheries cooperatives, Female community organizations
	Difficult to attend fishing related activities at night	Create women groups to involve in fishing activities in the beach to increase women's contribution	Fisheries cooperatives
	Salary imbalance	Introducing fair stable salary for women	Fisheries cooperatives

	Difficult to find time with domestic responsibilities	Introducing fishery postharvest processing jobs which women can do at home	Fisheries cooperatives, MFARD
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Table 8: Issues in Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming - Results of the Focus Group Discussion held in North-Western Province

Situations where women have been precluded from enjoying equal or fair opportunities	Reasons for such preclusion	Suggested actions to address those issues and to promote gender equality	Agents/actors/ Stakeholders who should be involved in them
Holding positions in the fisheries cooperatives	Lack of time availability Lack of capacity to hold such positions Negative attitudes of the men in the area towards women involvement	Conducting women capacity building programs Providing a suitable education program to enable them on involving fisheries cooperative works	MFARD

Involvement in self-employment related to fishery industry (Ex : Dry fish industry)	Difficulties in finding capital	Introduce credit facilities with low interest rate	Fisheries cooperatives
	Lack of space		
	Difficulties in finding a market for the products	Appoint a representative to collect the products at home itself.	Rural fishery organization
	Not having a proper waste disposal system	Introduce training programs on dry fish industry	MFARD
		Introduce a proper waste disposal system	Municipal Council

The major problem in respect of women undertaking fishing related activities is the cultural barrier-that fishing is an activity for man, which is particularly debarring the engagement of women in fishing activities. This situation was reported by the fisher women in the North, while for the women in the predominantly Buddhist communities in the south of the country, the presence of women on the beach is socially despised. Yet, women thought that they should be provided with opportunities to take up employment in other non-fishing activities at landing sites (removing fish from nets, net mending, marketing, etc.).

Lack of capital and access to processing technology are reported to be other barriers for women involvement in fish processing. It appears that women avoid being seen on the beach due to the presence of Navy personnel on the beach (which became a common sights after the cessation of the civil war in 2009). Coupled with the distance from home to the landing sites, the need to take care of the children at home, poor access to technology and capital to take up fish processing, oligopsonistic buying practices by traders, and cultural and religious barriers, women are prevented from engagement in fishing and fishing related activities, which they think is their

right. Women also complained that they draw a lower salary than men in similar employment activities, even though they put in more labour effort at times. If not fishing, women are more than willing to engage in alternative income generating activities if opportunities for such engagement are provided to them.

It was strongly proposed that it is high time that attitudes of fishing society are changed towards more gender equitable way, providing more opportunities for women to engage in employment in fishing related activities and to hold positions in community organisations such as fisheries cooperatives. Towards achieving this end, it is suggested to organize awareness building programmes for fishing communities. Further, provision of credit to women at concessionary interest rates, training and capacity building of women to take up fish processing and other alternative livelihoods were also suggested. All stakeholders agreed that gender mainstreaming was important and that women should be well represented in forums that make decisions concerning both conservation and development.

To empower women in fishing communities it was suggested to organize women into groups based economic activity or other; net mending groups, processing groups, (or even based on geographical region), etc. Establishment of fish processing centers by the government and/ or by private investors to provide employment to women was also proposed. However, it was also suggested to bring in new laws to remove discrepancies in wages for men and women. Fisher community organisations (Fisheries Cooperatives and Rural Fisheries). In understanding the role women could play in fishing communities, it was suggested to share the experience of some of the well-functioning cooperatives who have reported high female engagement in their activities.

In ensuring that the above propositions are taken into granted in securing sustainable SSF, the involvement of NARA (for fish processing), DFARD and Fisher community organisations including women's organisations, was recommended.

Policy Implications:

- Build awareness among fishing communities on the right of women to take up employment either directly or indirectly in small scale fisheries
- Ensure a minimum of 25 percent representation of women in the 'committee of office bearers' of fisheries community organisations.
- Remove discrepancies in wages paid to men and women in the fisheries sector
- Train women in fishing communities for alternative income generation activities

D. POST-HARVEST SECTOR

With more and more value being added to fish that have been landed, to reach the final consumer in the form of diverse products, from fresh fish to a range of fish products on one hand, and huge post-harvest losses recently reported causing serious losses in income on the other, a considerable interest in the post-harvest sector has emerged.

Issues in post-harvest handling can generally be categorized into three; pre-harvest, landing site and post-harvest. The only issue highlighted during the pre-harvest stage was the lack of on-board preservation facilities.

At the landing site a number of issues were brought into surface, which included, shortage of labour for removing fish from the nets, lack of cold storage facilities on the beach, absence of electricity and water in most landing sites, absence of facilities for waste removal and poor sanitation.

Off the landing site issues included (except marketing), lack of space on the beach for fish drying, lack of technological knowledge, the dilapidated condition of roads and problems of transportation of produce.

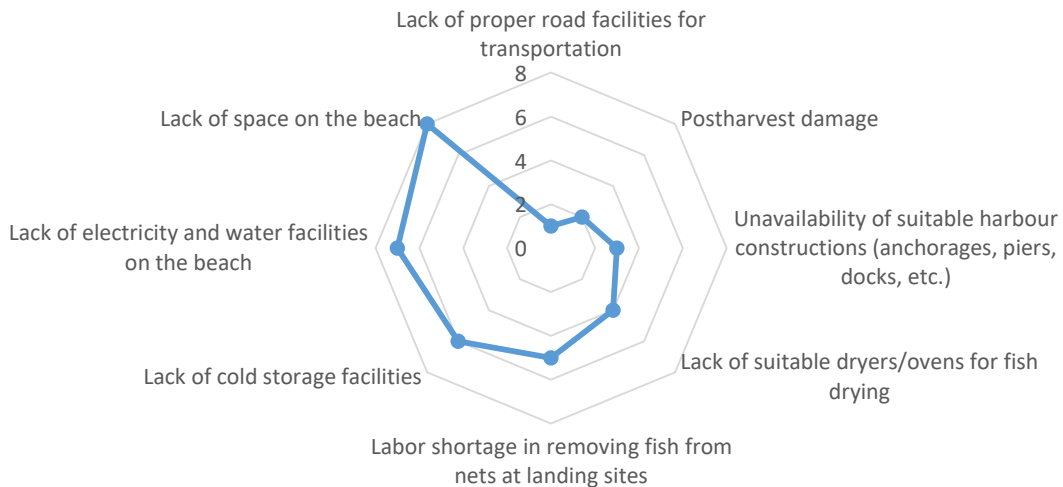


Figure 18: Issues in respect of post-harvest handling of fish- Southern Province- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

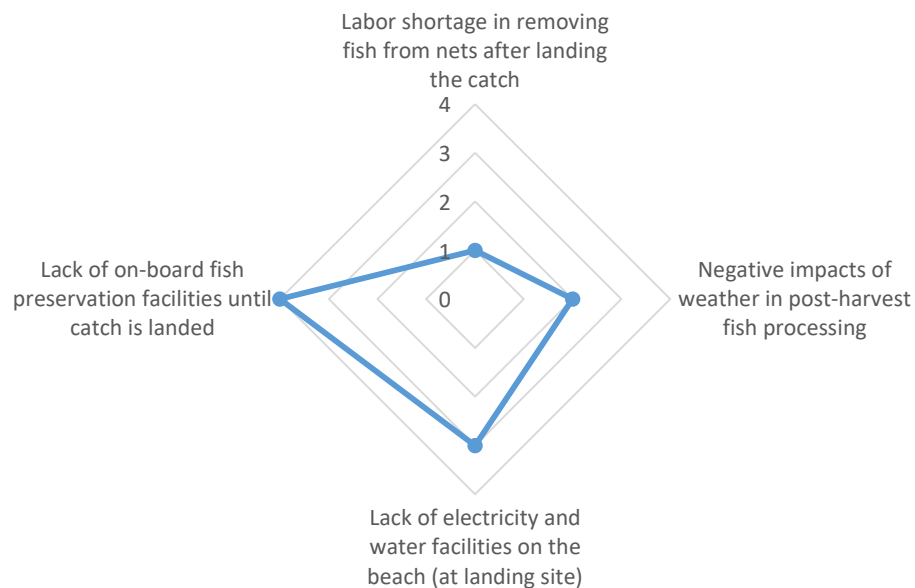


Figure 19: Issues in respect of post-harvest handling of fish- Eastern Province- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

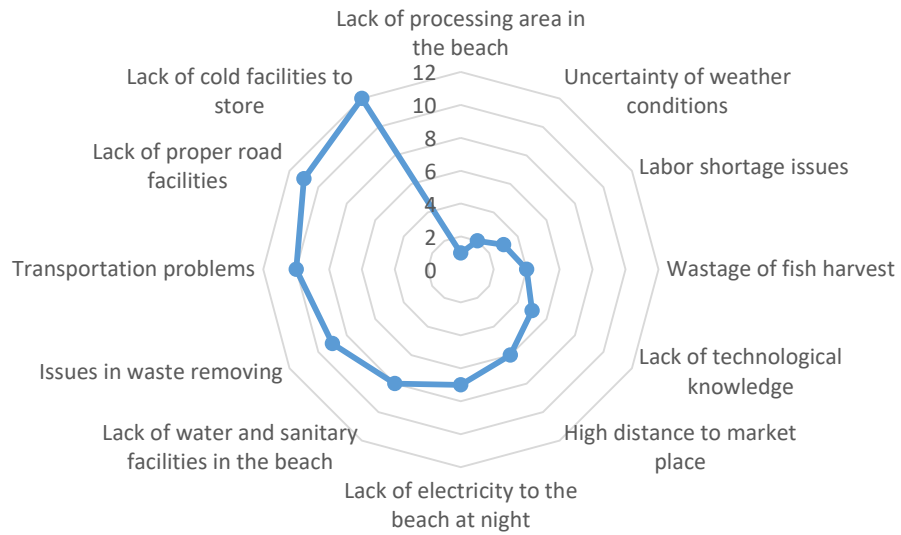


Figure 20: Issues in respect of post-harvest handling of fish- Northern Province- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

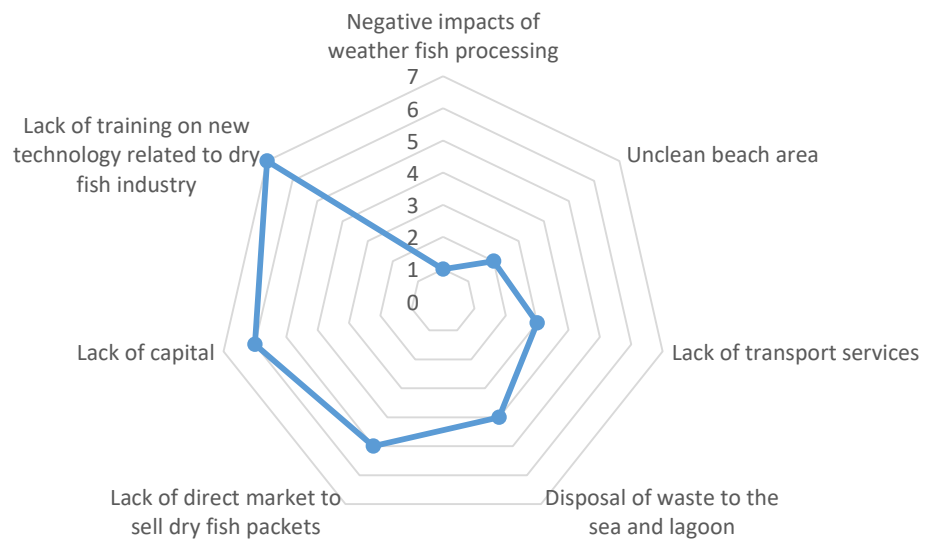


Figure 21: Issues in respect of post-harvest handling of fish- North-Western Province- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

Lack of innovations in the field of processing technology and lack of training for post-processing opportunities were also highlighted. The willingness of women to add value to dried fish such as 'ready-made packs dried fish' and the need for establishing market links was expressed.

Policy Implications:

- Develop infrastructural facilities at landing sites to ensure the provision of electricity, water, facilities for cold storage and waste disposal, wash rooms, drainage system, auction halls, etc.
- Develop road network in fishing villages
- Develop technology to minimize post-harvest losses
- Train women in post-harvest processing of fish
- Establish market links for value added processed fish

E. MARKETING AND TRADE

Marketing is an important link all through the fish value chain. A number of middlemen are involved in this process and middlemen oligopsonies in fish buying, exploiting the fishing communities, including the women fish processors have been frequently reported. While international trade in fish and fish products have increased the foreign exchange earnings during the past few decades, there were complains that benefits of trade have not trickled down to the people at the bottom and that trade has threatened the nutrition of poorer groups in the

country. During the stakeholder discussions, apart from discussing marketing and trade issues, the community stakeholders also highlighted certain issues, which were only indirectly related to the major themes.

While not directly related to marketing, the stakeholders mentioned the issue of IUU fishing or the use of banned and destructive fishing gear and methods which will degrade the resources in the long run and cause livelihood issues to the poor and vulnerable. This will also result in the small scale fisheries sector being branded as sector which resort to IUU fishing, which is only true with the large scale fishing operations at the moment.

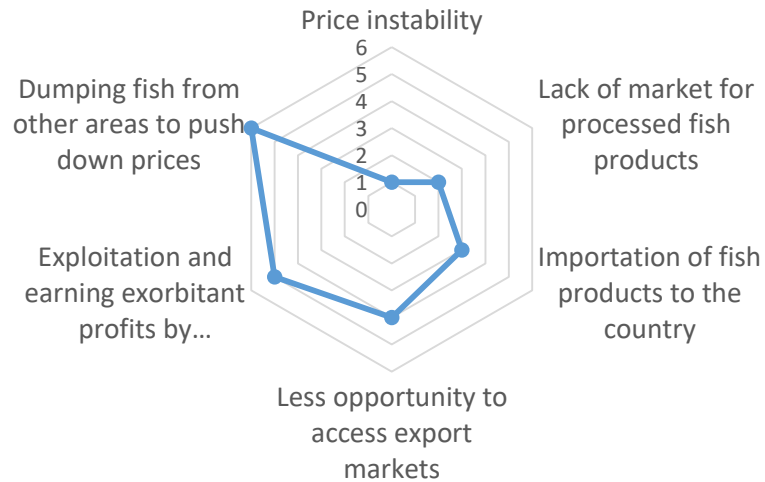


Figure 22: Issues in respect of Marketing and Trade of fish- Southern Province-Consultation with state actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

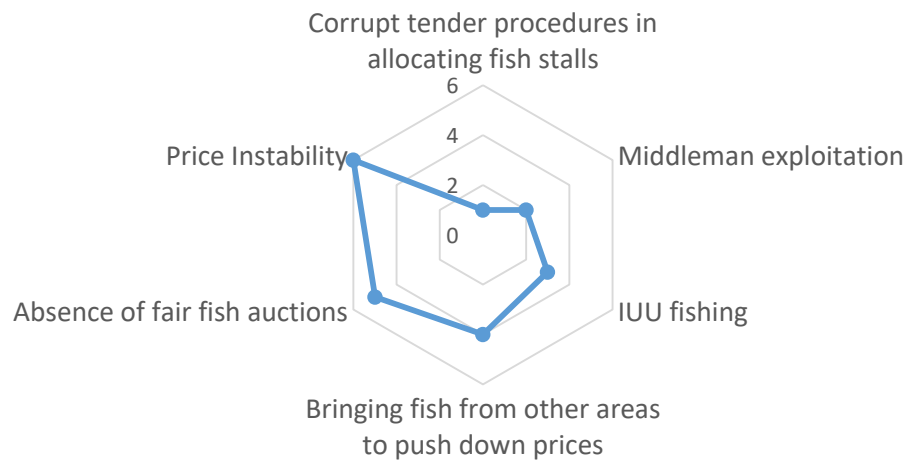


Figure 23: Issues in respect of Marketing and Trade of fish- Eastern Province-Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

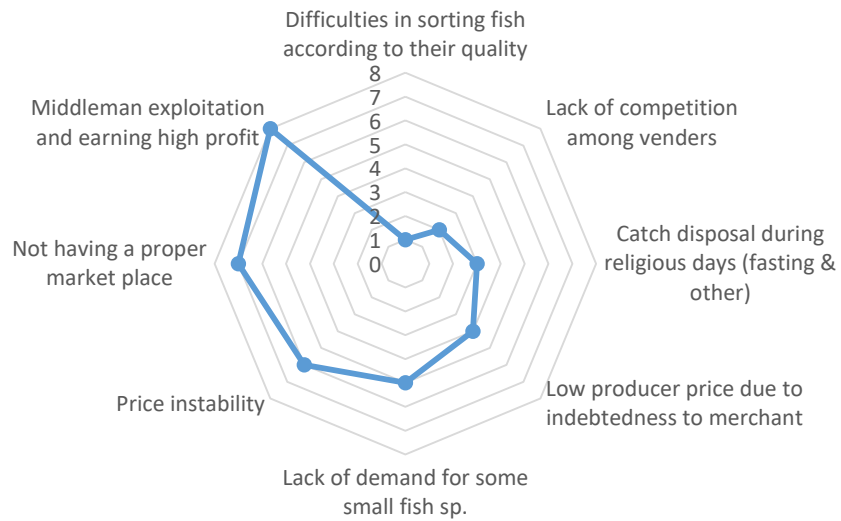


Figure 24: Issues in respect of Marketing and Trade of fish- Northern Province-Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

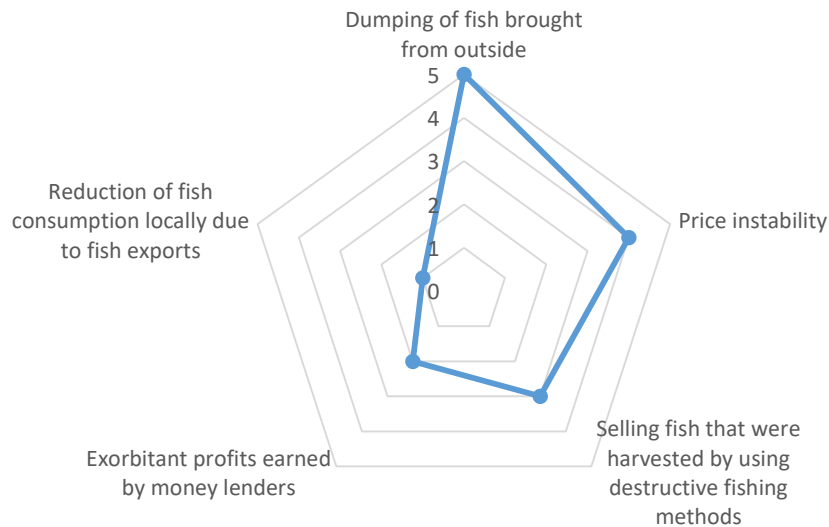


Figure 25: Issues in respect of Marketing and Trade of fish- North-Western Province-Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

The most common issue in fish marketing is the functioning of middlemen oligopsonies where merchants collude with each other and push down fish price. Such fish buying practices are pervasive in large scale fish trade where a handful of fish merchants, especially those having strong links to the village, use both economic and political power to prevent outsiders from entering the trade. But this was not true with the SSF in early days. However, as reported by the respondents such oligopsonic fish buying practices have infiltrated to SSF sector as well (see Figures 22 and 24). It was proposed that Ceylon Fisheries Corporation should have their stalls

at the fish landing centers to buy fish in competition with fish merchants. Facilitation of entry of outsiders to fish buying was also proposed to break middlemen oligopsonies and increase competition in fish buying. DFARD was mentioned as the responsible state agent in providing this facility. It was also proposed that the cooperatives should undertake fish buying functions.

Another process that tends to push down the fish prices is the dumping of huge quantities of fish from other areas (fig 22). For example fish from areas such as Negombo and Chilaw (North West of the country) are brought to the south (Galle, Weligama, Dondra) within a few hours using the newly constructed express ways within a matter of 2 – 3 hours, during 'lean' days. Since this provides the day's wage during such lean days, there is no opposition to this practice at the receiving end. It was proposed to prohibit this practice with the involvement of the local government authorities, the DFARD and the police.

Although it is well known that fish prices fluctuate daily in the SSF sector, the fisher stakeholders think that one should ensure prices stability to prevent poorer groups from suffering from high fluctuations seriously affecting their day to day life (Figures 22 and 24). It also appears that fish auctions do not set fair prices as explained by respondents (Figure 20), hinting the existence of mal practices. It was proposed that auctions should be held in the presence of a responsible officer (fisheries officials, community leader, leader of community organization, etc.) They think that the Ceylon Fisheries Corporation could assist in maintaining stable prices.

Absence of a market place in most of the landing centers was highlighted by stakeholders as a serious issue and it was suggested that each landing site should be equipped with a market place, which could facilitate effective sale of the landed fish.

Lack of market information to exploit opportunities that exist in the export fish market was also mentioned as an issue. The business of export trade is controlled by merchants. They purchase fish from the fishers and sell to export firms. The latter prices are quite high allowing the fish merchants to earn extremely high profit margins. These prices are not known to fishers and the access to firms is also denied to them. Fishermen suggested that NARA and MFARD should facilitate provision of export market information to fishers and to help them access fish export firms.

Increasing export of fish causing reduced fish consumption at home was also revealed. This tends to increase the local prices of small fish varieties, which are generally consumed by poorer groups (estate workers and the rural poor).

Some of the less important issues mentioned by the stakeholders included, lack of market for processed products and some fish species, inability to separate landed fish according to quality, etc. Among them the lack of demand for small fish varieties need further clarification. The suggestion that the consumption of small fish varieties should be promoted and that processing factories for trash fish should be established, reveal that there were two issues under concern; small fish varieties and trash fish (by catch or fish that have a very low demand). It should also be mentioned that, SSF generally land small fish and higher demand for small fish through promotional campaigns will definitely benefit SSF.

Policy Implications:

- Provide fishing communities with access to information on fish export market
- Establish state fish purchasing centers at landing sites and allow for increased entry into fish marketing
- Promote entry of community organisations into fish marketing and establish export market links
- Promote consumption of small fish varieties
- Regulate foreign trade to ensure that food and nutritional security of the people is not threatened by international trade in fish and fish products
- Dumping of fish from other areas by merchants to reduce local fish prices is not allowed

F. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

It is now understood that development efforts will not succeed unless the communities are provided with basic social services, such as education, health, housing, etc. at the same time. It will be difficult to convince a poor fisher, who is at the verge of starvation, not use environmentally unfriendly fishing gear. Thus, increased attention need to be paid to the provision of basic social services to fishing communities, if their active participation is to be obtained for sustainable management of fisheries resources.

The following are the results of focus group discussions held on the diverse issues of social development in small scale fisheries.

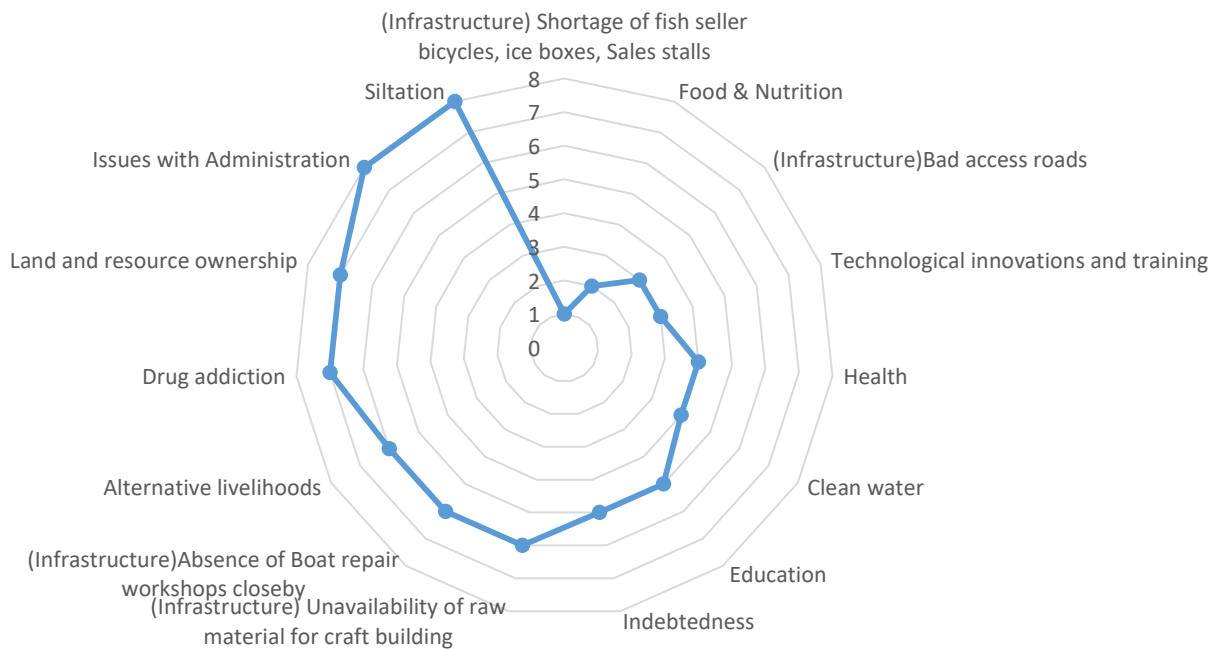


Figure 26: Issues in respect of Social Development- Southern Province-Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

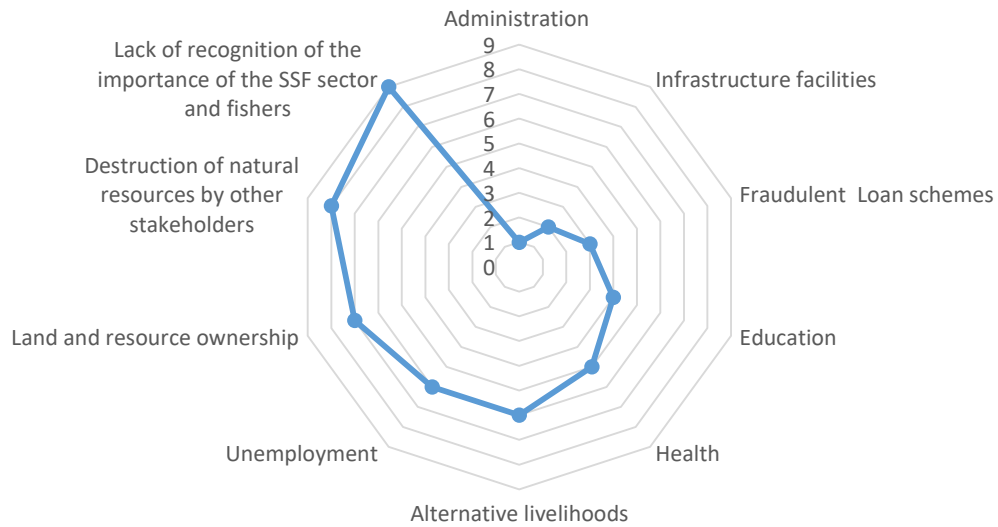


Figure 27: Issues in respect of Social Development- Eastern Province-Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

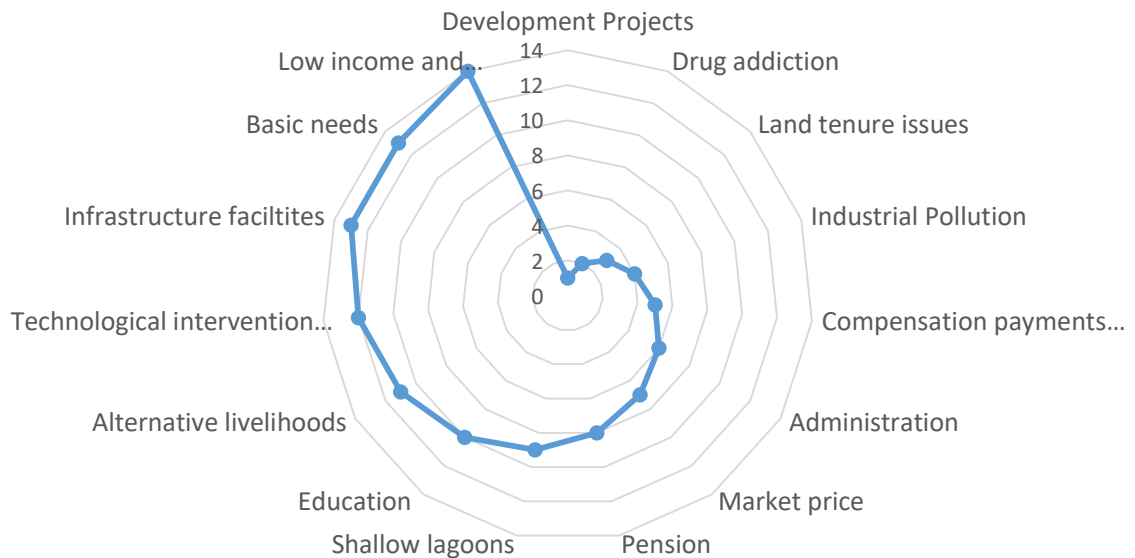


Figure 28: Issues in respect of Social Development- Northern Province-Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

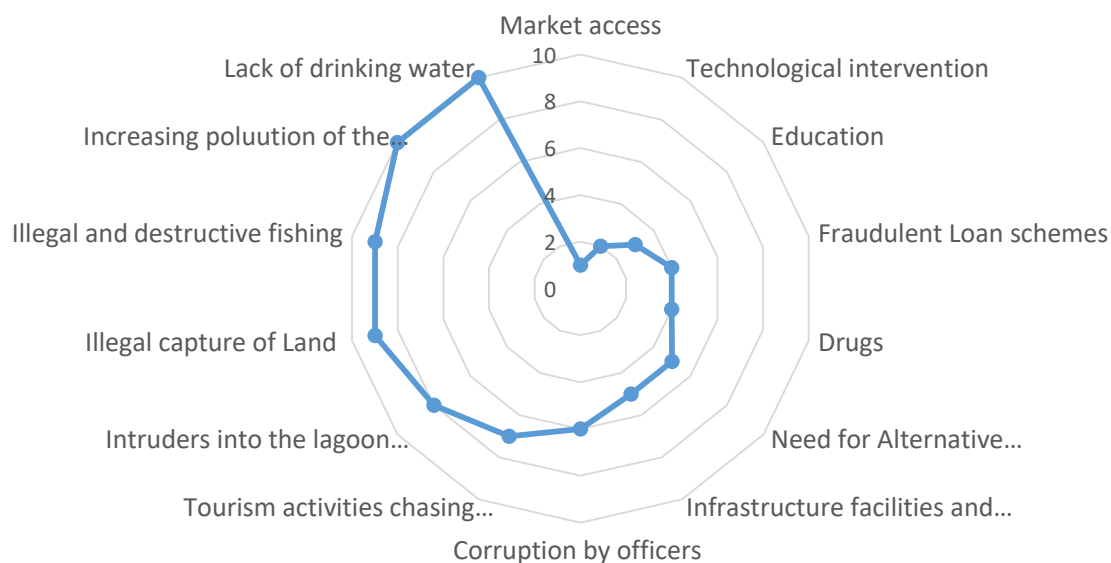


Figure 29: Issues in respect of Social Development- North-Western Province-Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

Among the social development issues mentioned, rural infrastructure issues, illegal activities of tourism stakeholders and lack of services were ranked quite high in the scale of severity. Lack of drinking water, siltation of lagoons and inland water bodies, poor infrastructural facilities at landing sites, illegal encroachment into mangrove areas by tourism stakeholders, corruption by officers, lack of alternative livelihoods, high cost of educating children, drug addiction and pollution of lagoons, etc. were highlighted by fisher participants all around the country.

However, in respect of severity of issues, lack of access to drinking water, poor infrastructural facilities at landing sites and fishing villages which included cold storage, ice boxes, boat repair workshops, fish bicycles, road network, etc, was reported in almost all areas. Illegal acquisition of land by tourism stakeholders appears to be a serious issue. Mangrove areas are being land filled to convert into hotel premises and recreational areas, which is taking place at a pace not noticeable to the naked eye. Release of waste water and industrial effluents to the lagoons causing pollution of lagoons has also been of serious concern. People complained that drug addiction is becoming a menace which, among other things, lead to high school drop outs.

Lack of alternative livelihoods was reported in almost all areas, which is also another important concern. Noticeably, corruption by state officers appears to be another serious issue, especially in allowing the more powerful tourism stakeholders to illegally encroach mangrove areas and other land in the coastal area.

In the war-affected Northern Province, lack of basic needs (food, land, shelter, employment, etc.) and poverty appear to have pushed people into the use of destructive fishing techniques exploiting fish resources heavily. Poverty appears to be closely linked to indebtedness, and people reported increasing indebtedness among them. Some of them attributed their indebtedness to lack of credit facilities and borrowing from fraudulent credit schemes, especially those offered by some NGOs. Land tenure issues, where many people lack clear titles to land was also reported from the Northern Province.

High cost of children's education was also reported in many areas, while health issues due to pollution of coastal areas were also reported.

While not reported in all areas, the low status accorded to SSF was also highlighted as an issue that relegate fishers to the background in coastal zone decision making arena. Another issue of concern was the ineffectiveness of the fishermen pension scheme which made very low payments (about Rs. 1000 per month).

In resolving social development issues, people suggested the infrastructure build up in landing sites and fishing villages as an important first step. Provision of alternative means of livelihoods, the required training and the provision of credit for such activities, mainly focusing on women in the post-harvest sector was also suggested. As another means of alleviating poverty, government intervention in marketing was also suggested in order to ensure fair price to the producers.

In respect of children's education, a number of actions were suggested. Organising extra classes for school children, provision of facilities to learn information and communication technology, awarding scholarships to poorer children, assigning the services of good teachers to rural schools, provision of a good public transport service to school children were also suggested. Giving priority to children from fishing families in recruiting employees to fishing related institutions and industries formed another proposition.

Regarding the provision of credit facilities empowerment of and assistance to fisheries community organisations were proposed by participants from all areas. The participants also highlighted the need to have one strong community organization rather than two (as at present). Community organisations were also to be consulted and involved in implementing development projects, the participants added. It was also suggested that, in recognizing the important role played by the SSF in the coastal zone, to invite fisher representatives to participate in forums / committees / platforms which make decisions concerning coastal resources management.

Strong legal action against the tourism stakeholders using their power to bribe officers and illegally encroach into mangrove and other coastal areas was suggested. Related to the same is the need to identify the rights of the fishers to the coastal land and to respect them by providing the necessary legal protection.

In resolving increasing pollution of lagoons and the coastal area, people emphasized on taking strong legal action against polluters.

It was also proposed to re-organise and revitalize the fishermen's pension scheme which would ensure at least a payment of Rs. 7000 per month, if it is to provide the necessary social protection to fishers. Repair of the dilapidated public road network was also another proposition, which would facilitate fish marketing; reducing cost of marketing and post-harvest losses.

In protecting the youth and the community from drug addiction, strong action against drug dealing was proposed, which has become a serious national issue.

Strictly enforcing laws against destructive fishing, corrupt officers, polluters (industries, hoteliers and other) and encroachers into public property etc. was emphasized. Obtaining the assistance of the Sri Lanka Navy in taking action against those using destructive gear and fishing techniques was proposed.

The need to prepare a lagoon management plan by the relevant authorities was also highlighted.

Policy Implications:

- Establish an effective pension scheme for fishers
- Children of fishing families are accorded priority in recruiting employees to fishing related institutions
- Monitor release of waste into lagoons and coastal area
- Demarcate boundaries for lagoons
- Consult and involve fishing communities in development projects and activities in the coastal zone
- Build infrastructure at landing sites
- Provide facilities for fish handling and storage at landing sites
- Conduct MCS activities in the coastal zone and the sea jointly with Sri Lanka Navy
- Provide financial assistance to needy children from fishing families during off season
- Recognize central role of communities in the management of coastal zone resources
- Strict enforcement of laws against bribery and corruption
- Promote the development of credit and micro-credit schemes to encourage investment in fisheries and which also enable the poor and vulnerable to obtain access to credit;
- Ensure effective representation and participation of the disadvantaged and the poorer sections of the community, particularly the youth, women and disabled persons in the planning processes at all levels.

G. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Occupational health and sea safety issues have been more relevant to distant water fishing, more specifically to offshore and deep sea fishing. However, instances of accidents causing serious ill health and death of small scale fishers have been observed in the recent past. Probably this is related to the increase in the intensity and frequency of storms following changes in the climate.

The results of the focus group discussions with community stakeholders on issues of sea safety and occupational health are presented below.

Issues related to Occupational Safety and Decent Work could be categorized into, a. those due to lack of facilities for safety and protection during night, b. those associated with safety equipment-poor quality, high cost and lack of access, c. absence of facilities, d. illegal fishing and, e. those due to negligence and lack of awareness.

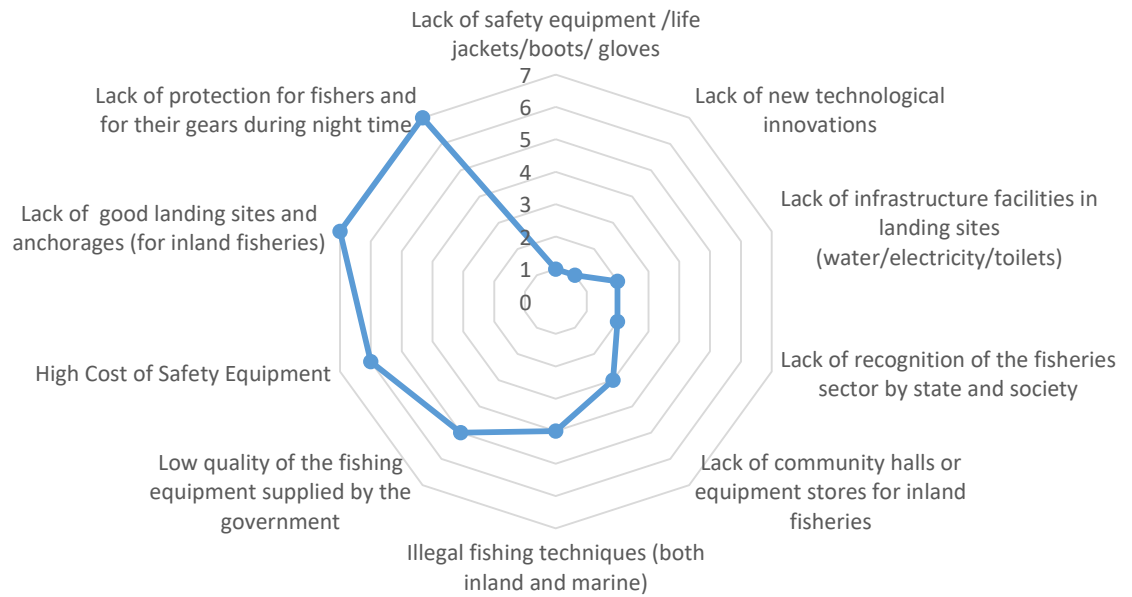


Figure 30: Issues in respect of Occupational Health and Safety- Southern Province- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

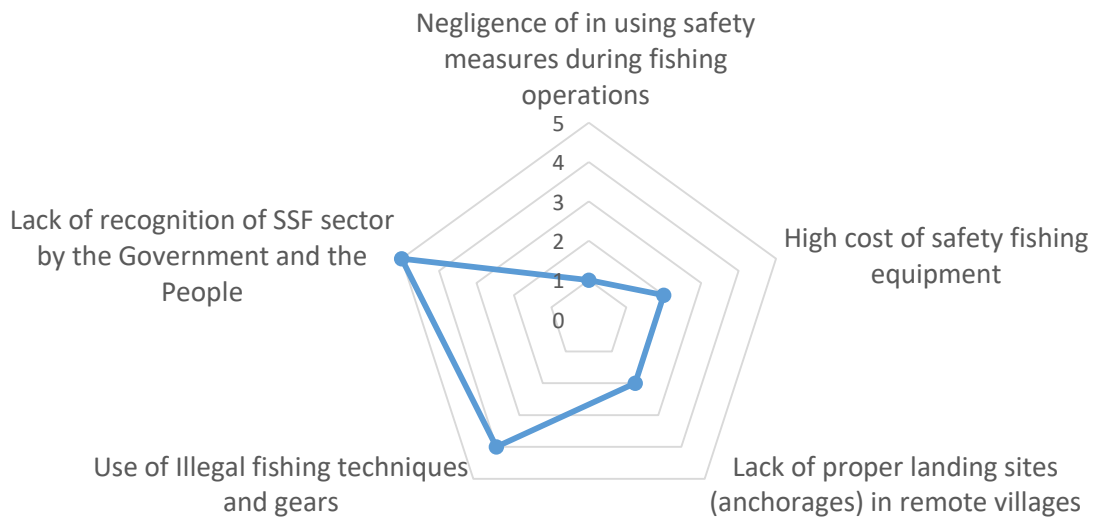


Figure 31: Issues in respect of Social Development- Eastern Province- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

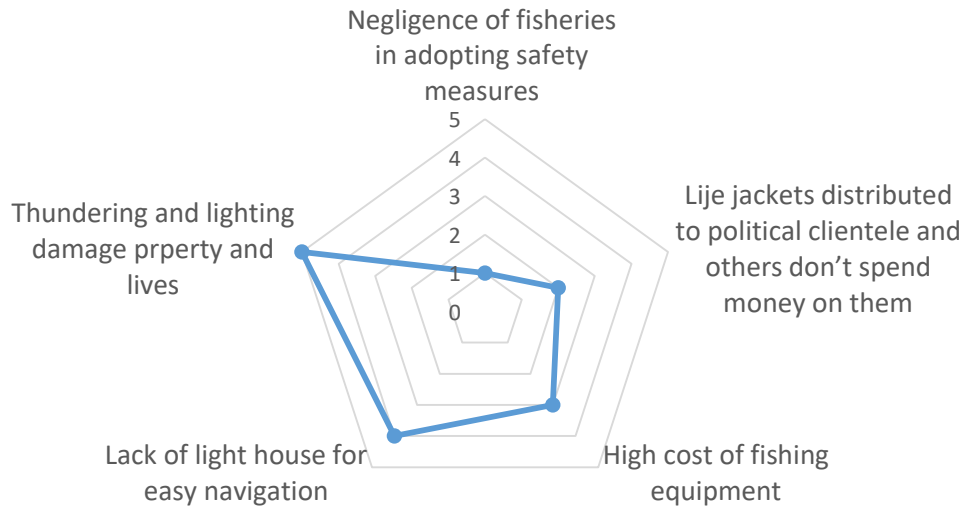


Figure 32: Issues in respect of Social Occupational Health and Safety- Northern Province- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

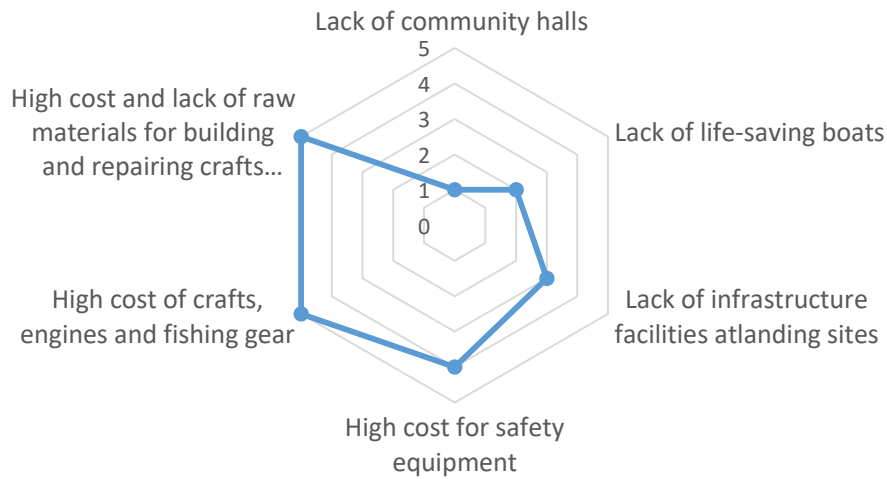


Figure 33: Issues in respect of Social Occupational Health and Safety- North-Western Province- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

- a. Lack of protection for gear at night was a serious safety issue. This stems from the fact that gear is too heavy to be taken to places of residence and no permanent constructions for gear storage are allowed on the beach.

- b. Fishers complain of bad quality of craft and gear, high cost of safety equipment, such as life jackets, boots, etc. While subsidies are also given by the government it was complained that subsidies are channeled through the political clientele system.
- c. lack of good landing sites for inland and marine fisheries, was a serious issue. Another complain was the absence of community halls (meeting place) in many fishing villages.
- d. Use of illegal fishing gear and techniques appears to be quite pervasive, which makes all forms of social protection offered to fishing communities unproductive.
- e. Besides the above issues, it was also mentioned that two of the issues related to safety was lack of awareness of fishing communities on the importance of adopting safety measures and, negligence in adopting such measures.
- f. In addition to all safety concerns. Lack of recognition of the importance of the SSF sector was mentioned as a serious concern.

Table 9: Suggestions for social development – all provinces

Southern Province	Provision of good quality craft and gear; provision of subsidies to purchase safety equipment; construct anchorages and community halls for inland and marine fishing villages; build equipment stores near landing sites; improve infrastructure facilities in landing sites; change the attitudes of state and society towards fishers and their occupation; enforce ban on illegal gear and techniques; provide training, and conduct awareness campaigns regarding safety equipment
Eastern Province	Provide subsidies to fishing related equipment; construct anchorages; change the attitudes of state and society towards SSF and fishers; strengthen state laws; raid shops selling banned gear; build awareness among fishers regarding the importance of using safety measures
Northern Province	Provide subsidies for safety equipment with equal treatment to all; build awareness among fishers regarding the importance of using safety measures; design an overall (safe uniform) for fishers; provide for light houses; provide GPS equipment to fishers
North-Western Province	Provide subsidies to purchase safety equipment; provide sun protectors/ shade huts/ roofs to protect fishing gear under the scorching sun; provide electricity, community halls, etc.to landing sites; operate life-saving boats under community organisations

Policy Implications:

- Build awareness among fishers on the importance of adopting sea safety measures
- Assist fishers in acquiring safety equipment
- Provide land-based equipment and facilities for easy navigation of fishing crafts
- Invest in the construction / development of proper anchorages and landing sites with basic infrastructure facilities for marine and inland fishing villages

- Build awareness among people of Sri Lanka of the importance of the SSF sector and recognition of fishing as respectable vocation.

H. FISHERIES INSURANCE

Due to informational issues Fisheries insurance has always remained a problematic issues. The hazardous nature of the sea has always put the fishing equipment at high risk of damage and loss. Thus demand for fisheries insurance remains at a very high level, although the supply remains low because of the difficulty of assessing damages arising from informational issues. Having a valid insurance is essential for craft registration and for obtaining loans, but indemnity payments for damages are delayed and may not be paid at all.

The views of community stakeholders on fisheries insurance and their suggestions for improvement are given below.

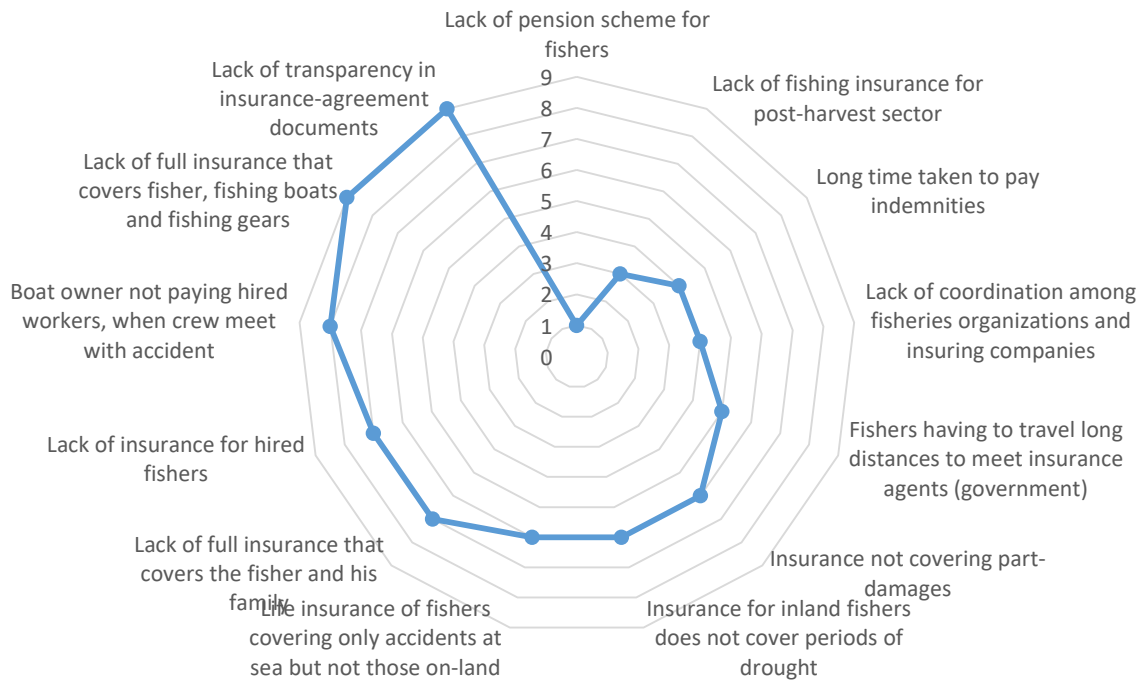


Figure 34: Issues in respect of Fisheries Insurance- Southern Province-Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

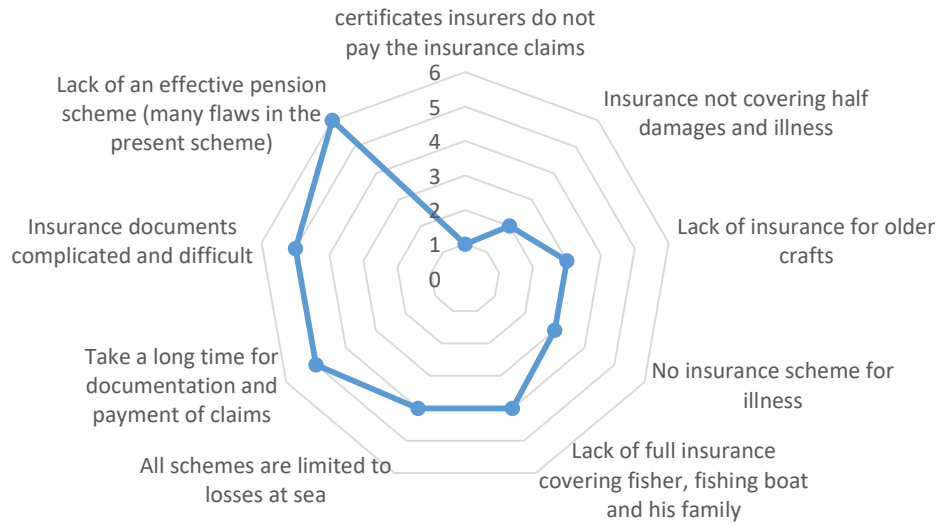


Figure 35: Issues in respect of Social Occupational Health and Safety- Eastern Province- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

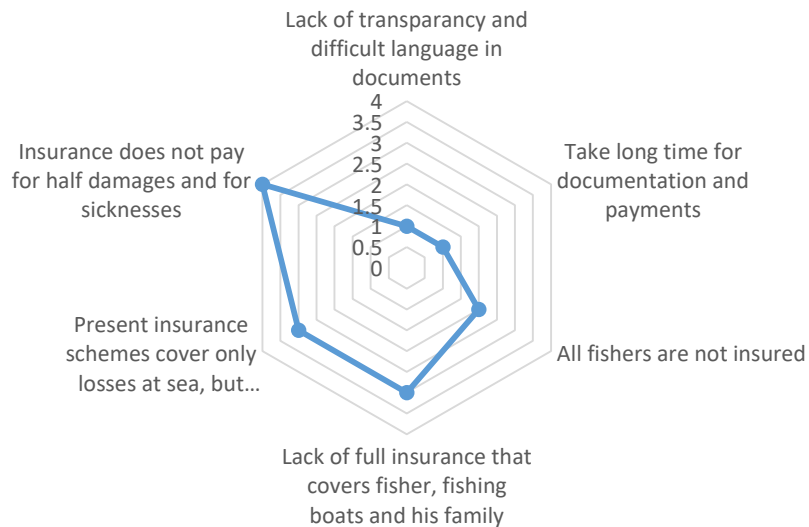


Figure 36: Issues in respect of Social Occupational Health and Safety- Northern Province-- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

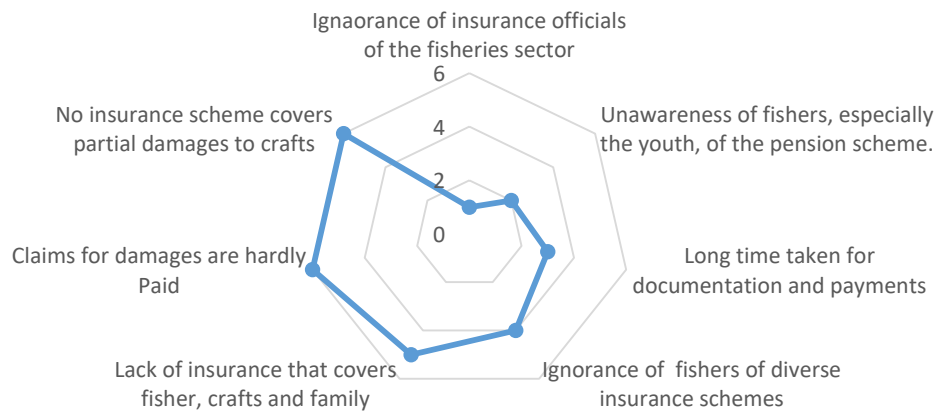


Figure 37: Issues in respect of Occupational Health and Safety- North-Western Province- Consultation with community actors (in rank order from highest to lowest in respect of their severity)

There is a great degree of uniformity in the issues related to fisheries insurance as highlighted by the participants from all provinces. The most common issues, in the order of severity include, a. lack of complete insurance cover for craft, fisher and family; b. insurance not covering partial damages; c. Lack of transparency; d. long time taken for documentation and paying indemnities; e. lack of insurance for accidents on land (house damage due to storms; losses during drought); f. ignorance of insurance officials of the fisheries sector; g. lack of insurance for illness, for hired workers and for post-harvest sector; h. lack of insurance for inland fishers; complicated documentation; i. lack of coordination between insurance agents and community organisations; j. long time taken for documentation and paying indemnities; k. absence of any scheme for older crafts; l. need to submit death certificate to pay insurance and j. fishers’ ignorance of insurance schemes.

Table 10: Suggestions improvement of fisheries insurance

Southern Province	Establish an insurance scheme which considers a fisheries community organization as one unit in providing insurance cover; Cover part-damages as well; Pay for the losses during of periods of drought; Give the copy of signed agreement to the fisher; Indemnities to be paid as soon as possible; Give the authority to the community organizations to collect premiums and provide information on damages; Bring in necessary laws to ensure that hired workers are also paid his share of indemnities; Cover all accidents regardless of the location; Establish a pension scheme for fishers
Eastern Province	Provision of new crafts under easy payment methods and insure them; Establish an insurance scheme which insure fisher, fishing crafts and the families; Provision of insurance that cover both land and sea losses

	(storms damaging all types of assets); Cover partial damages as well; Establish an insurance scheme through Community organizations to minimize information problems; Provision of part-payment at times of illness and half damages until claims are paid; Use simple language that could be easily understood by fishers; Give a copy of signed agreement to the fisher; Minimize delays in payment; Speedy provision of death certificates within a short time for those whose lives were lost or disappeared at sea; Establish an effective pension scheme for fishers; provision of insurance cover for illness.
Northern Province	Establish an insurance scheme which insure fisher, fishing crafts and their families; Provision of life insurances that cover both land and sea losses; Establish an insurance scheme through Community organizations for acquisition of reliable information on damages and losses at sea; Use simple jargon in documentation; Give the copy of signed agreement to the fisher; pay indemnities without delay; Build awareness about insurance schemes
North-Western Province	Remove law making insurance compulsory for craft registration; Establish an insurance scheme through with Community organizations; Awareness building among fishers regarding different insurance schemes; Establish an insurance scheme which insure fisher, fishing crafts and their families; Cover the half damages to crafts (at least 50% of the damage); Pay the claims instant fishers really need it without making long delays; Make the fishers aware of this available pension scheme; Employ officers knowledgeable of the fisheries sector

Policy Implications:

- Establish Fisheries Insurance Scheme jointly with Fisheries Community Organisations to minimize informational asymmetries
- Fisheries insurance to cover full and partial damages to fishing crafts and gear at sea, houses and fishing equipment damaged / lost due to storms and, illness and death of the insure.
- Build awareness among fishers on Fisheries Insurance

I. DISASTER RISK AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Along with changes in climate, incidence of strong storms and coastal damages have become quite frequent. The most affected areas have been the coastal belt of the country, where the majority of the small scale fishers live. Monsoonal changes and shift of seasonal rainfall pattern have not only had strong adverse impacts on the fisheries sector, but also on agriculture and other productive sectors as well. These issue are quite pronounced today and governments are quite keen in understanding the diverse aspects of the issue and means of dealing with them.

At the focus group discussions, the views of the community stakeholders were obtained on the major climate impacts and their suggestions for coping with them.

Table 11: Impacts of natural and human-induced disasters and climate change on livelihood activities- all provinces

Southern Province	Loss of life and property damages due to heavy winds and storms in the ocean
	Income reduction due to no-fishing under rough seas and heavy winds
	Pollution of the beach /sea/lagoon due to dumping garbage/industrial waste and emission of effluent
	Fish kills and destruction of eggs due to sea water pollution from oil spills
	Fishing gear and craft damages due to increased wave action
	Destruction of fish habitats and seabed due to irregular coastal development projects
Eastern Province	Property (fishing crafts and gear) damages due to heavy winds and storms
	Loss of life due to heavy winds and storms occur in the ocean
	Reduced income due rough seas and heavy winds preventing fishing
	Deterioration of health conditions owing to spread of waterborne diseases as a result of heavy rains and floods
	Difficulties in fishing for a longer time due to high atmospheric temperatures
Northern Province	Not going for fishing due to cyclones / storms.
	Damage and loss of crafts and gear in the sea.
	Natural bunds destroyed due to coastal erosion, changing wave patterns and causing difficulties sailing crafts (increase in no-fishing days).
	Natural monsoonal winds too strong (Mannar fishers affected by South-West monsoon and Jaffna-Mulativu fishers by North-East monsoonal winds)
North-Western Province	Cannot go to the sea using sail boats (<i>Ruwal Oru</i>) due to high wind speed.
	Risk of damage and loss of crafts / gear / life when the wind speed is higher than 40km h ⁻¹ .(which occurs frequently)
	Fish harvest is decreased due to inflow of flood water to the sea during heavy rains
	Fishing boats destroyed due to Tsunami waves.
	Fishing boats and equipment are affected by storms, which are now frequent
	Cannot go to the sea using crafts with sail (<i>Ruwal Oru</i>) due regularly occurring high wind speeds.

Of the diverse disasters, only a few man-made disasters were cited, which were coastal pollution (lagoons and the coastal waters) and coastal development activities. Natural disasters were mainly due to storms (winds blowing at high speeds) causing loss and damage of craft and gear and loss of lives. Coastal erosion was also cited as another disaster that had damaged natural coastal structures protecting the landing sites and beach area. It was also revealed by the participants that harsh weather, strong winds, storms and cyclones (even tornados) are frequent due to continuous change in the climate.

Issues and/or gaps in the disaster and climate impact management systems

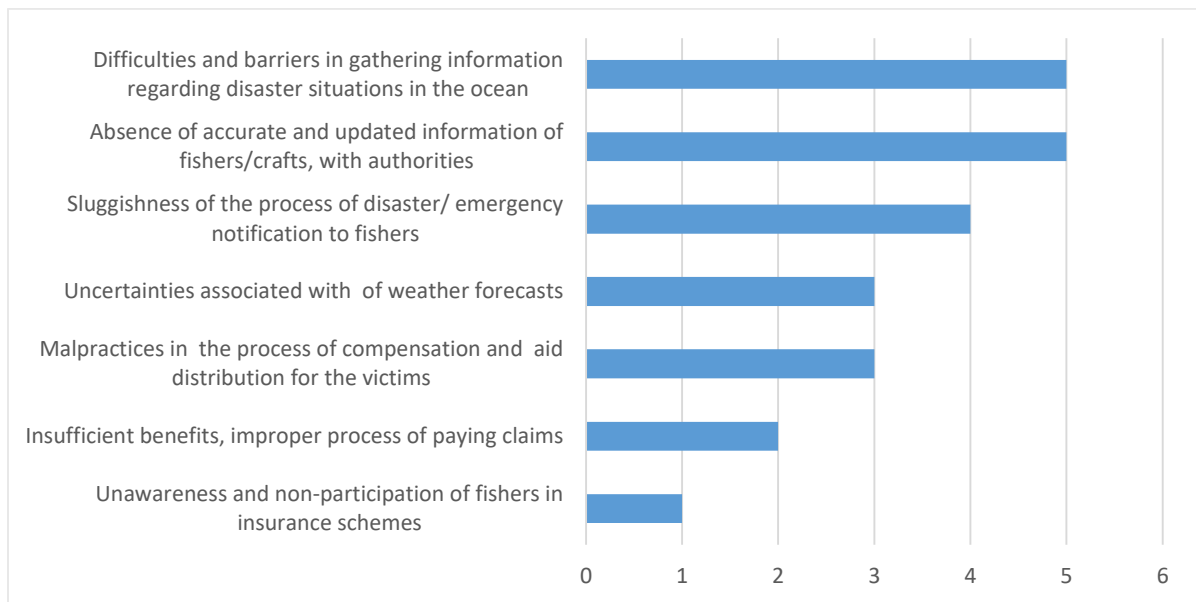


Figure 38: Issues in dealing with Disasters and Climate Change, ranked according to their severity (Highest to lowest) Sothorn Province

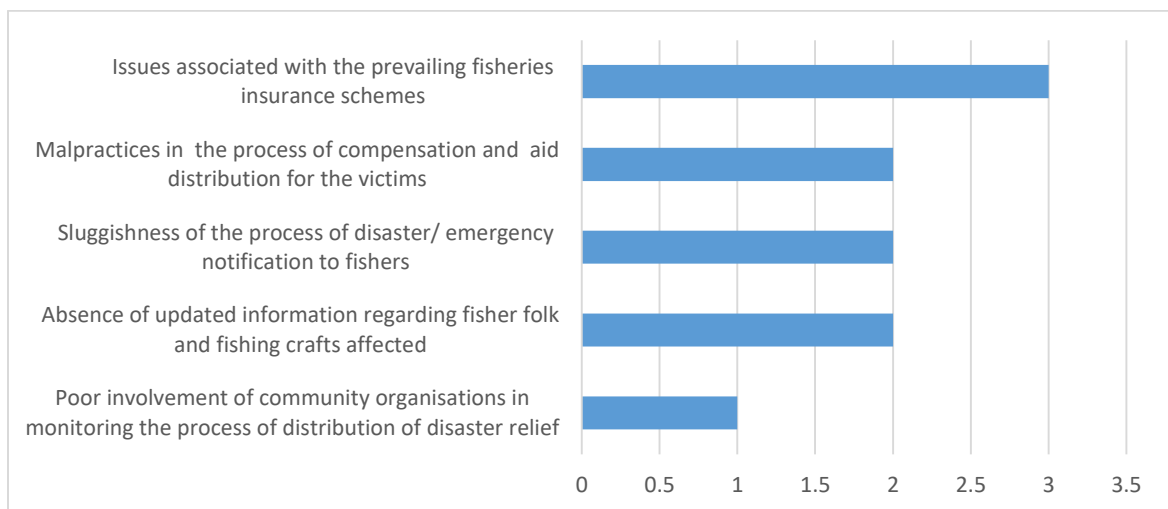


Figure 39: Issues in dealing with Disasters and Climate Change, ranked according to their severity (Highest to lowest) Eastern Province

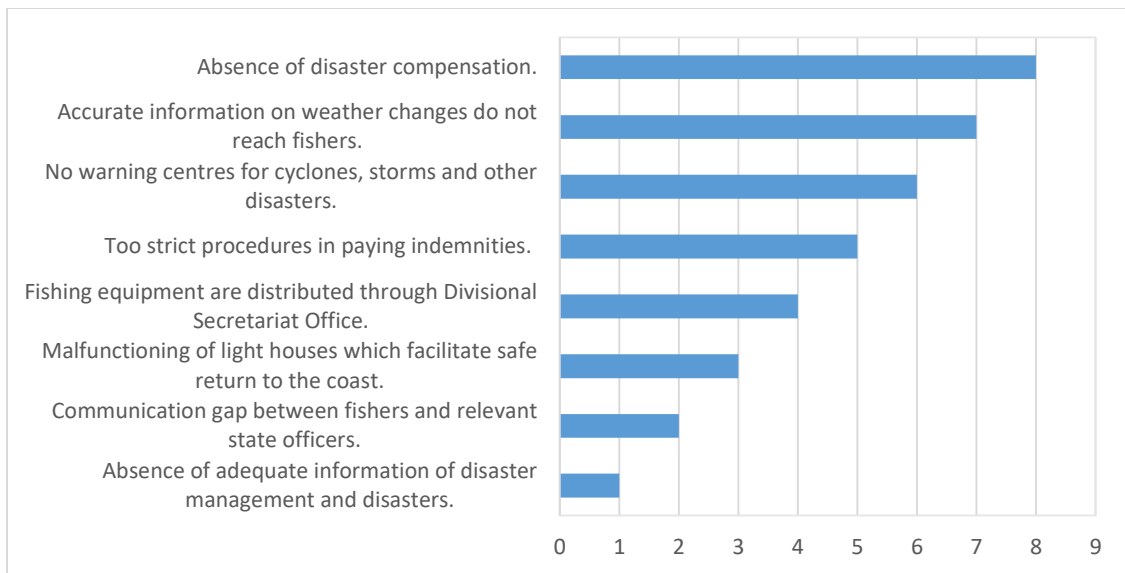


Figure 40: Issues in dealing with Disasters and Climate Change, ranked according to their severity (Highest to lowest) Northern Province

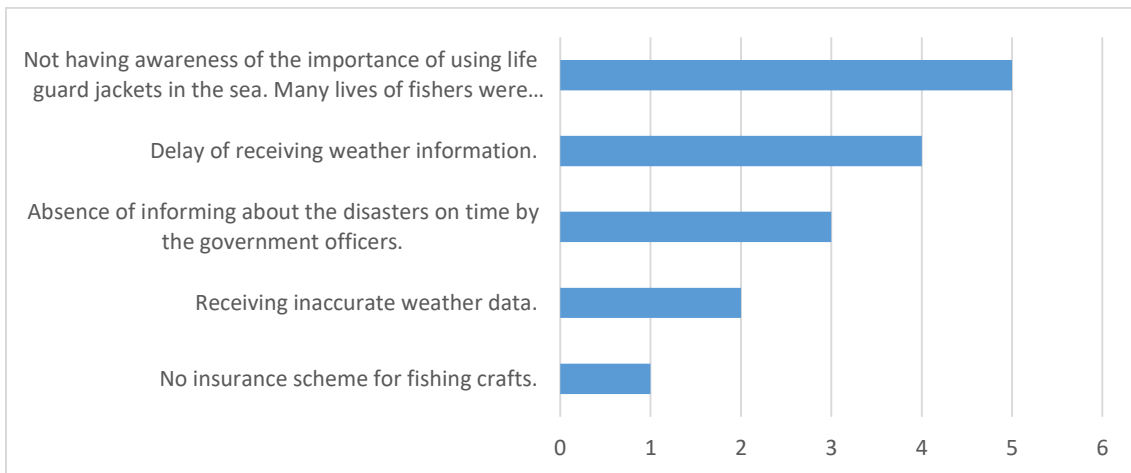


Figure 41: Issues in dealing with Disasters and Climate Change, ranked according to their severity (Highest to lowest) North-Western Province

It was reported from all provinces that the major issues with disaster management included, i. lack of accurate information on weather along with the absence of proper disaster warning systems; ii. lack of up-to-date information on fishers and fishing crafts and assets (proper registries); iii. delays and malpractices in compensation payments; and iv. Absence of an effective insurance scheme. The malfunctioning of light houses and very little involvement of community organisations in the process of disaster management were also reported.

Table 12: Suggested Actions to cope with climate change impacts- all provinces

Southern Province	Proper registration of the fishers and fishing crafts; Keeping the records and registers up-to-date; Appointing a fisheries inspector (FI) for each anchorage site(Thotu pola); Notify disasters from harbours and anchorage sites to small vessels; Increase the involvement of community organisations in disaster management (identifying victims, estimating damages, payment of compensation, etc.); Establish an efficient insurance scheme with government involvement
Eastern Province	Proper registration of the fishers and fishing crafts; Maintaining records and registers up-to-date; Increase the involvement of community organisations in disaster management (identifying victims, estimating damages, payment of compensation, etc.); Establishment of a proper insurance scheme with the involvement of government and community organisations; Relaxing the strict conditions laid down in the existing insurance schemes; Establishment of a proper disaster warning system within each district;
Northern Province	Government intervention to make aware the people regarding disasters and disaster management in each and every village; Correct malfunctioning light houses; Provide accurate weather data on time; Fill the communication gap between fishers and government officers; Construct warning centres for natural disasters for every village; Ease of rules and regulations of insurance scheme; Distribute fishing equipment through Fisheries Office; disaster compensation schemes should be operated through DFARD.
North-Western Province	Frequent provision of relevant weather data on time; Establish insurance scheme with the involvement of the government; Make aware the fishers about the importance of wearing life jackets and provide them free of charge through DFARD; Warn fishers about disasters early; Provide accurate weather data.

Proper and regular procedure of registration of fishers and their crafts with continuous updating of information was suggested as an important step in effectively addressing disaster management issues. Provision of accurate weather information to fishers and the establishment of early warning systems based on districts was also proposed. It was suggested to involve community organisations in identifying victims, estimating damages and paying compensation in the process of disaster management. The need to correct inefficiencies in the present insurance schemes and the need for government involvement in designing and operation of such an insurance scheme was also pointed out.

Policy Implications:

- Establish early warning systems for small scale fishers based on coastal district
- Provide fishers with access to weather data through mobile phone based weather information system
- Register fishers, crafts and fishing equipment with regular update of information
- Process of disaster management is carried out with the involvement of community organisations

- Establish insurance scheme through community organisations to cover both fishing related and climate related risks on fishing equipment and other coastal assets

J. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Capacity Development Needs

Management decision making requires the participation of all stakeholders, including the fishing communities: fishers, women fisher fold and the marginalized groups. However, active participation of stakeholders requires building their capacities in sustainable use of resources and decision making on resource conservation and management. During the stakeholder workshops the stakeholders were asked to indicate their capacity building needs and the results of this exercise are presented below.

Table 13: The diverse capacity development needs of community stakeholders- all provinces

Southern Province	New techniques of fishing and fishing gear
	Management of fisheries resources and conservation
	Marketing of the catches (the business of marketing)
	Post-harvest handling
	Value addition and fish processing
	Financial management
	Alternative employment generation activities
	Self-employment activities and opportunities for women
Eastern Province	Mechanical knowledge (on craft repair)
	New techniques of fishing and fishing gear
	Post-harvest handling
	Value addition and fish processing
	Marketing of the catches
	Alternative income generation activities
	Self-employment activities and opportunities for women
Northern Province	Knowledge on updated new technologies (GPS, Compass handling).
	Practical training in the sea about fishing techniques.
	Training for fisherwomen on fishing net repairing, marketing and dried fish production.

	Training to engage in shrimp farming and fish farming via constructing of aquaculture training centres.
	Knowledge on deep sea fishing.
	Mechanical knowledge on repairing boats and out board motors.
North-Western Province	Knowledge on fish, prawns and crab farming for fishers.
	Knowledge and training to enhance dried fish production for fisher women and introduce market channels to sell them.
	New technology and knowledge on salmon production for fisher women.

Table 14: Suggestions for Training and assistance for community stakeholders- all provinces

Southern Province	<i>The Government (MFARD / DFARD / NAQDA / Industrial Development Board / Universities) to get involved in providing training for both men and women in the fields of resource conservation and management, value addition, alternative income generation, fish processing, financial management, new fishing gear and techniques; Provision of financial support for trainees and regular monitoring after the training processes; Empowering community organisations and getting their assistance in identifying areas in which capacity building is required</i>
Eastern Province	<p>Provision of training in craft and engine repair, value addition and post harvest handling, new fishing techniques, alternative employment. Provide financial support for trainees and regular monitoring and follow up after the training processes.</p> <p>Empower community organisations and getting their assistance in identifying areas in which capacity building is required. Provision of proper infrastructure facilities for post-harvest storage, handling and value addition. Enhancement of fishers' access to credit through provision of credit schemes</p> <p>Building up awareness among fishers of the consequences of 'bondage' to merchants. Establish new market links</p> <p>Establishment and strengthen marketing organisations in fishing communities</p> <p>Provision of basic supplies/raw material, capital, to initiate self-employment activities.</p>
Northern Province	Give training on new fishing techniques, GPS technology, deep sea fishing', shrimp farming, etc.. Give incentives to trainees throughout the

	<p>training period. Women to be trained in net repair and post-harvest processing.</p> <p>There should be only one fisher community organisation to represent fishers.</p>
<i>North-Western Province</i>	<p>Provide training in fish farming; crabs, shrimp, etc. Provide land, capital, etc. to start fish farming. Train women in salmon production?</p>

Policy Implications:

- Design and conduct training courses in fish farming.
- Build capacities of members of fishing communities in new fishing techniques, deep sea fishing technology, alternative livelihoods and, resource conservation and management
- Train women in fishing communities in post-harvest processing, and other ancillary activities related to fisheries

K. EMPOWERING COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

SSF Guidelines stresses the need to empower community organization to obtain their active participation in the process of decision making in conservation and management of resources. There are two parallel fisheries community organisations in Sri Lanka: Rural Fisheries Organisations and Fisheries Cooperatives. The former is of recent origin (2010) while the latter has a long history and has played a very important role in fisheries development of the country. However, government assistance to fishing communities is channeled today only through the Rural Fisheries Organisations.

During the focus group discussions, the stakeholders were asked to compare the two forms of organisations and to indicate which organization is preferred in implementing the relevant SSF Guidelines. The results of this exercise are presented below.

Table 15: Strengths and weaknesses of community organisations-responses of community stake holders (all provinces)

RURAL FISHERIES ORGANISATIONS		
	Strengths	Weaknesses
Southern Province	High State Sponsorship Channeling of state help	Lack of auditing of accounts; High political interference ; Not catering satisfactorily to fishers' needs
Eastern Province	High State Sponsorship Channeling of state help	Lack of auditing of accounts; Absence of security and accountability for membership fees; Difficulties in organising meeting sessions ; Poor participation of members in meetings
Northern Province	Channeling of public good	Lack of audit: Absence of credit facilities
North-Western Province	Information not available	Information not available
FISHERIES COOPERATIVES		
	Strengths	Weaknesses
Southern Province	Provides a platform to present and discuss the matters of fishers which cannot be resolved individually; Provides livelihood capitals; Understanding fishers' needs and representing them, and had functioned as the voice of the fishers; Strong leadership Existence of a constitution; Involved in securing fishers' rights	Insufficient state sponsorship and concessions; Weaknesses in leadership and management; Poor maintenance of records and documentation by the village level officers and mishandling of money
Eastern Province	Provision of financial facilities to the members; Involving in securing land and tenure rights of fishers; Membership open to all social groups; Promotion of social solidarity through conducting group activities;	Lack of state sponsorship No public assistance

	High women participation in activities	
Northern Province	Government Audit done there under Community Development Officer (CDO); All the members are treated equally (When providing for insurance and compensations); Provision of credit facilities.; Monthly membership fee is paid by the members. Those leaving can withdraw membership with interest.	In some societies, government assets are misused Political influence in some particular FCS.
North-Western Province	Information not available	Information not available

People from three provinces; Southern, Eastern and Northern, emphasized the fact that there should be only one organization to represent fishers.

Discussions revealed that the only positive points in support Rural Fisheries Organisations were the state sponsorship for such organisations and the channeling of state assistance to fishers through them. As the only government-recognised fisheries community organisation in the country, such treatment is easily justified. However, in a an array of respects, such as transparency in financial matters, auditing of accounts, open membership for all including women, provision of livelihood capitals, equal treatment to all, organization of collective activities and high social cohesion, protecting the rights of fishing communities, fisheries cooperatives appear to be preferred by the fishing community as representative of their interests.

Participants at the workshop in the North-Western Province stated the following facts as the characteristics of a 'true' community organisation.

- High women participation (gender equality respected)
- Protect the rights of fishers.
- Should motivate fishers and introduce new technology
- Concerned with coastal resources conservation.
- Transparency and good leadership
- Concerned with the need for improving health, education and living standards of the membership
- Conduct awareness programmes on fish farming technology and fisheries resources management.
- Encourage and motivate fisher women to take decisions in meetings, actively participate in the activities and protests
- Effectively deal with government officers, private sector and NGOs.
- Obtain financial assistance from the government and NGOs.
- Listen to the voice of membership in making decisions.
- Guide the members to avoid conflicts with other stakeholders in the coastal zone; tourism, forest Department, Wild Life Department, Agriculture Department, etc.

- The organization should have the capacity to take its own decisions independently without political involvement.
- Organise social, cultural and religious festivals for all groups of people, which will then make such an organization a 'true' organization of the people.

Policy Implications:

- Recognize and Empower Fisheries Cooperatives as the true representative of fishing communities
- Provide for training of officials of fisheries cooperatives in resource conservation and management, financial management and principles of cooperation
- Channel all public assistance to fishing communities through fisheries cooperatives.
- Fisheries Cooperatives are to be consulted in the design, planning and implementation of fisheries and other development projects in the coastal zone.

Chapter 4

RE-MODELLING NATIONAL FISHERIES POLICY

After the completion of the stakeholder workshops and identifying the policy implications of the outcome of the Focus Group Discussions, the next step was to prepare a policy statement that incorporates the relevant Guidelines. This process consisted of the following.

1. A review of the current National Fisheries Policy and identifying the gaps
2. Preparation of a policy statement based on the policy implications of the outcome of the stakeholder workshops.
3. Policy workshop with state actors to finalize the new policy statement based on 1 above and its incorporation into the current National Fisheries Policy.

1. A review of the current National Fisheries Policy and identifying the gaps

The current National Fisheries Policy was reviewed by a policy expert; Professor Oscar Amarasinghe, the President of the SLFSSF. He played a key role in the preparation of the National Fisheries Policy of 2004, and was also participated in the preparation of the current National Fisheries Policy (2018).

This review revealed that the current fisheries policy has failed to incorporate the major SSF Guidelines which were found to be quite relevant to Sri Lanka (as revealed at stakeholder workshops). The policy expert also proposed to rearrange the current policy in order to indicate policy statements under the major themes as discussed in the Guidelines. The expert then prepared a set of new policy statements based on the policy implications of the outcome of the stakeholder workshops. A document was finally prepared, which shows, under these major themes, what the current national policy has to say and what the new policy statements indicate. This document was discussed at the next activity as given below.

2. Preparation of a policy statement based on the policy implications of the outcome of the stakeholder workshops

A meeting with a group of policy actors was held on the 15th of March 2019, at the Social Science Research Center of the University of Kelaniya to discuss the policy implications emerging from the results of the stakeholder workshops. These were compiled and arranged according to the major themes under which the whole process of Guidelines implementation was carried out. These were translated into policy statements by the policy experts of the SLFSSF.

- i. Prof. Upali Amarasinghe
- ii. Prof. Ivan Silva
- iii. Prof. Ruchira Cumararatunga
- iv. Prof. D. S. Jayakody

- v. Dr. M. G. Kularatne
- vi. Dr. Champa Amarasiri
- vii. Mr. A. Hettiarachchi
- viii. Dr. Leslie Joseph
- ix. Mr. H. S. G. Fernando
- x. Mrs. Kumari Vithana
- xi. Mr. Herman Kumara
- xii. Mr. Monty Ranatunga

Given below are the new policy statements prepared by the policy experts, based on the policy implications of the results of the stakeholder workshops.

1. TENURE RIGHTS
<p>1.1 Identification, recording and protection of legitimate rights, including, where appropriate, traditional and customary rights of fishers, to the fish resources, the beach and adjoining lands</p> <p>1.2 Promotion of zonal plans to ensure sustainability of major economic activities including fisheries</p>
2. SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
2.1 General
<p>2.1.1 A strong MCS process in all waters for fisheries and aquaculture in collaboration with other appropriate agencies,</p> <p>2.1.2 Promotion of area-specific or local level co-management platforms rising upto the national level, with cross sectoral collaboration, ensuring that they are participatory, integrated, inclusive and holistic.</p> <p>2.1.3 Rules and guidelines for fisheries management through holistic and integrated approaches</p> <p>2.1.4 Intervention to minimize overlapping policies and mandates among institutions responsible for coastal resources development conservation and management</p> <p>2.1.5 Effective participation of the disadvantaged and the poorer sections of the community, particularly the youth, women and differently abled persons in the planning processes at all levels.</p>
2.2 Marine & Coastal
<p>2.2.1 Promotion of cross sectoral collaboration towards Integrated Coastal Zone Management</p> <p>2.2.2 Promote demarcation of boundaries of ecosystems in the Coastal zone critical for fisheries and aquaculture.</p> <p>2.2.3 Prevention of fisheries and aquaculture based environment pollution</p>
3. FISH VALUE CHAIN
3.1 Pre-Harvest Sector
<p>3.1.1 Promoting the provision of suitable space and facilities for craft anchorage, fish drying and fishing equipment storage etc.</p>

<p>3.2 Post-Harvest Sector</p> <p>3.3.1 Provision of facilities for scientific fish handling and storage at landing sites</p> <p>3.3.2 Intervention in fish marketing and increase competition in fish buying towards ensuring a fair price to fish producers</p> <p>3.3.3 Provision of fishing communities with access to information on fish export market</p> <p>3.3.4 Promotion of entry of community organisations into fish marketing and establish export market links</p> <p>3.3.5 Promotion of the development of technology for post-harvest value addition and minimizing post-harvest losses.</p>
<p>4. FOOD SECURITY, FOOD SAFETY AND NUTRITION</p> <p>4.1 Regulation of foreign trade to ensure that food and nutritional security of the people is not threatened by international trade in fish and fish products</p>
<p>5. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>5.1 Ensuring that small scale fishers have affordable access to basic education, health, housing and household amenities</p> <p>5.2 According priority to children of fisher communities to enter higher education in fisheries, and giving priority with their excellence, during recruitment for employment in the fishery related institutions</p> <p>5.3 Provision of financial assistance to needy children from fisher families to continue education during off season</p> <p>5.4 Promotion of the development of credit and micro-credit schemes to encourage investment in fisheries and to enable the poor and vulnerable to access credit.</p> <p>5.5 Building awareness among people of Sri Lanka of the importance of the SSF sector and recognition of fishing as respectable vocation.</p>
<p>6. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>6.1 Ensuring safe, healthy and fair working conditions at sea, inland waters and on land</p> <p>6.2 Building awareness among fishers on the importance of adopting sea safety measures</p> <p>6.3 Assisting fishers in acquiring safety equipment</p> <p>6.4 Provision of land-based equipment and facilities for easy navigation of fishing crafts</p> <p>6.5 Investment in the construction / development of proper anchorages and landing sites with basic infrastructure facilities for marine and inland fishing villages</p> <p>6.6 Ratification of ILO Conventions on Safety and Work in the fishing sector and, incorporation of the relevant provisions to ensure safety and fair working conditions in the fisheries sector</p>
<p>7. SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FISHERIES INSURANCE</p> <p>7.1 Provision of social protection through effective fisheries pension schemes and fisheries insurance schemes</p> <p>7.2 Establishment of Fisheries Insurance Schemes jointly with Fisheries Community Organisations to minimize informational asymmetries</p> <p>7.3 Promotion of fisheries insurance schemes that cover fishing and climate related risks causing full and partial damages to fishing crafts and gear, coastal assets, illhealth and loss of life</p>

8. DISASTER RISK AND CLIMATE CHANGE
<p>8.1 Promotion of research towards predicting the shifting of breeding, migration of fish stocks due to climatic change effects</p> <p>8.2 Establishment of early warning systems for small scale fishers based on coastal district</p> <p>8.3 Provision of fishers with access to weather data through mobile phone based weather information system</p> <p>8.4 Registration of fishers, crafts and fishing equipment with regular update of information on annual basis,</p> <p>8.5 Involvement of community organizations on disaster management,</p> <p>8.6 Cross sectoral collaboration and institutional coordination to deal with disasters and climate change impacts in the coastal zone</p>
9. CAPACITY BUILDING
<p>9.1 Designing and conducting training courses in fish farming</p> <p>9.2 Building capacities of members of fishing communities in new fishing techniques, deep sea fishing technology, post-harvest processing, alternative livelihoods and, resource conservation and management,</p> <p>9.3 Training of women & school drop outs in fishing communities in post-harvest processing and other ancillary activities related to fisheries</p> <p>9.4 Training of government officials and community leaders on the principles of co-management</p>
10. GENDER IN FISHERIES
<p>10.1 Building awareness among fishing communities on the right of women to take up employment either directly or indirectly in small scale fisheries</p> <p>10.2 Ensuring a minimum of 25 percent representation of women in the ‘committee of office bearers’ of fisheries community organisations.</p> <p>10.3 Removal of discrepancies in wages paid to men and women in the fisheries sector</p>
11. EMPOWERING COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS
<p>11.1 Provision of training for officials of fisheries cooperatives in resource conservation and management, financial management and principles of cooperation</p> <p>11.2 Channeling of all public assistance to fishing communities through fisheries cooperatives ensuring the benefits to the end users,</p> <p>11.3 Consultation of Fisheries Cooperatives in the design, planning and implementation of fisheries and other development projects</p> <p>11.4 Dissemination of Policy documents, laws, rules and regulations in a manner fisheries communities understand easily</p>

3. Policy workshop with state actors to finalize the new policy statement based on 1 above and its incorporation into the current National Fisheries Policy

The final policy workshop was scheduled to be held in April 2019, but was postponed following bomb attacks in several parts of the country by an extremist terrorist group. This workshop was finally held on the 18th of June 2019 at the University of Kelaniya.

The final policy meeting was attended by the following

1. Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development. Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker.
2. FAO Representative in Sri Lanka. Guest of Honour.
3. Senior academics of the Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries

4. Former Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development.
5. Former Directors of Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development.
6. Staff of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development.

The Policy meeting was organized as follows.

1. Keynote address by the Chief Guest, the Secretary to the Ministry of Fisheries
2. Address by Guest of Honour, the FAO representative in Sri Lanka
3. Group work.

The participants were divided into groups as follows.

Group 1: *Tenure Rights, Sustainable Resource Management (General/Marine and Coastal)*

Group 2: *Fish Value Chain (Pre Harvest/ Post Harvest), Food Security, Food Safety and Nutrition, Social Development*

Group 3: *Occupational Health and Safety, Social Protection and Fisheries Insurance, Disaster risk and Climate change*

Group 4: *Capacity Development, Gender in Fisheries, Empowering community Organisations*

The following document was distributed among the participants, which indicated the existing policy statements and the proposed new policy statements alongside each other. The participants were asked to subject the new policy statements to scrutiny; to make any adjustments and changes to the new policy statements and also to indicate, as far as possible, diverse strategies and actions that can be adopted to achieve the aims of the policy.



Photo 5: Participants at the Final Policy Workshop, held at University of Kelaniya on 18th June 2019



Photo 6: Preparing the action plan. Final Workshop to prepare the SSF Policy Statement and Action Plan

The following was the Policy document distributed among participants



THE NATIONAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE POLICY

*Changes proposed to the current fisheries policy,
'to incorporate relevant FAO Voluntary Guidelines for securing sustainable
small scale fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication'*

Policy Strategies (Principles)

A. National Fisheries Policy (existing)	B. Proposed Strategies (emerging from SSF Guidelines)
1. TENURE RIGHTS	
1.1A Recognition and protection of the tenure rights of the fishing communities to land, water and fish resources	1.1B <i>Identification, recording and protection of traditional and customary rights of fishers to the fish resources, the beach and adjoining lands</i>
	1.2B <i>Identification and demarcation of the coastal zone to ensure sustainability of major economic activities including fisheries and tourism development</i>
2. SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	
2.1 General	
2.1.1A Ensure sustainable management of the living marine resources based on the best available evidence from social, economic and ecological sciences.	2.1.1BA <i>strong MCS process in all waters for fisheries and aquaculture in collaboration with other appropriate agencies</i>
2.1.2A Application of ecosystem based management and precautionary approaches for responsible fisheries management.	2.1.2B <i>Promotion of area-specific co-management platforms with cross sectoral collaboration.</i>
2.1.3.A Enhancement of stocks of endangered, threatened and protected species	2.1.3B <i>Establishment of rules and guidelines for fisheries management through integrated, inclusive, participatory and holistic approaches</i>
2.1.4A Protection of resources in Sri Lankan water from IUU fishing	2.1.4B <i>Intervention to minimize overlapping policies and mandates among institutions responsible for coastal</i>

	<i>resources development, management and conservation.</i>	
2.1.5A Application of temporal and spatial planning	<i>2.1.5B Effective participation of the disadvantaged and the poorer sections of the community, particularly the youth, women and differently abled persons in the planning processes at all levels.</i>	
2.1.6A Use management information systems for planning, development, management and reporting		
2.1.7A Application of co-governance and management processes where appropriate		
2.1.8A Promotion fishing for under-exploited and unexploited fish resources		
2.2 Marine & Coastal		
2.2.1A fish stocks enhancement in the territorial sea and the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) by ranching and habitat improvement	<i>2.2.1B Promotion of Integrated Coastal Zone Management through cross sectoral collaboration and institutional coordination</i>	
2.2.2A Prevention of overcapacity of the fishing fleet.	<i>2.2.2B Promote demarcation of boundaries of ecosystems in the Coastal zone critical for fisheries and aquaculture.</i>	
2.2.3A Diversion of marine and coastal fishing efforts from over-exploited areas to unexploited or under-exploited areas.	<i>2.2.3B Prevention of fisheries and aquaculture based environmental pollution</i>	
2.2.4A Promotion of fishing practices that cause the least impact on resources and the environment.		
2.2.5A Strengthen prevention of fishing by foreign fishing vessels in Sri Lankan waters.		
2.2.6A Compliance with international treaties concerning responsible fisheries management.		
2.2.7A Conditions to limit entry of new national high-seas fishing boats based on internationally accepted protocols in navigation, fish detection, harvesting, preservation, postharvest technology etc.		
2.2.8A Royalty for exploitation of fish stocks in the EEZ of Sri Lanka by local fishing boats		
2.2.9A Fee for allocation of fish catch quotas to local fishing vessels fishing in high seas		
2.3 Inland and Aquaculture		
2.3.1A Conservation of aquatic biodiversity in inland waters.		
2.3.2A Regulation of fishing fleet characteristics for lagoons and estuaries.		
2.3.3A Prohibition of motorized boats fishing in reservoirs.		
2.3.4A Environmental and socio-economic impact assessments for allocation of land and water resources for aquaculture projects		
2.3.5A Use of bio-safety and best management practices in aquaculture		

3. FISH VALUE CHAIN	
3.1 Pre-Harvest Sector	
3.1.1A Management of the possible overcapacity of the fishing fleet.	
3.1.2A Improvement of quality assurance of fishing vessels.	
3.1.3A Improvement of the fisheries forecasting system for fishers to obtain information on locations for productive fishing.	
3.1.4A Improvement of quality infrastructure facilities in the production and supply chain.	<i>3.1.1B Promoting the provision of suitable space and facilities for craft anchorage, fish drying and fishing equipment storage etc.</i>
3.1.5A Private sector involvement in the investment and operation of fisheries infrastructure facilities.	
3.1.6A Promotion of communities in the operation and maintenance of anchorages and minor fish landing sites.	
3.1.7A Promotion of managing fishery harbours by the CHFC under the “green fishery harbour” concept.	
3.2 Harvest Sector	
3.2.1 General	
3.2.1.1A Promotion of investments in export-oriented fisheries and aquaculture projects.	
3.2.1.2A Promotion of the production of fish and fishery products in compliance with international standards through supply chain management.	
3.2.1.3 A Promotion of fisheries and aquaculture as appropriate.	
3.2.1.4A Promotion of the import and culture of new exotic species that have the potential for export.	
3.2.15A Promotion of the production and export of ornamental fish and aquatic ornamental plants.	
3.2.1.6A Promotion of a market driven production of fisheries and aquaculture products including innovative products.	
3.2.1.7A Promotion of the production of high valued eco-friendly fishery products.	
3.2.1.8A Provision of assistance for branding of Sri Lankan fishery products.	
3.2.2 Marine	
3.2.2.1A Promotion of fishing for un-exploited or under-exploited fish stocks in EEZ.	
3.2.2.2A Promote the use of locally produced bait including live bait.	

3.2.2.3A Promotion of foreign fish landings in a responsible manner in accordance with the relevant international treaties.	
3.2.3 Inland and Aquaculture	
3.2.3.1A Development of aquaculture eco-friendly approaches	
3.2.3.2A Promotion of the culture of indigenous species, and new exotic species in compliance with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Code of Practice for the Introduction of Aquatic Species.	
3.2.3.3A Genetic improvement of the performance of fish species used for aquaculture with the application of the precautionary principle	
3.3 Post-Harvest Sector	
3.3.1A Development of awareness on best fish handling practices	<i>3.3.1B Provision of facilities for scientific fish handling and storage at landing sites</i>
3.3.2A Working towards trade agreements that will improve the access to all export products including fisheries and aquaculture products in identified or prioritized international markets	<i>3.3.2B Intervention in fish marketing and increase competition in fish buying towards ensuring a fair price to fish producers.</i>
	<i>3.3.3B Provision of fishing communities with access to information on fish export market</i>
	<i>3.3.4B Promotion of entry of community organisations into fish marketing and establish export market links</i>
4. FOOD SECURITY, FOOD SAFETY AND NUTRITION	
4.1A Creation of employment with adequate income levels in the sector to ensure food security of more people.	<i>4.1B Regulation of foreign trade to ensure that food and nutritional security of the people is not threatened by international trade in fish and fish products.</i>
4.2A Ensuring the quality and food safety of locally marketed fish and fishery products.	
4.3A Promotion of the consumption of sufficient fish for meeting nutritional requirements.	
4.4A Stocking fish as buffer stocks during gluts to ensure the availability of fish at reasonable prices during lean periods.	
4.5A Ensuring the traceability and transparency at all stages of the value chain process.	
5. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
5.1A Adopting measures to prevent alcoholism in fishing communities	<i>5.1B Ensuring that small scale fishers have affordable access to basic education, health, housing and household amenities</i>
5.2A Ensuring that adequate compensation is provided to fisher communities who will be	<i>5.2B According priority to children of fisher communities to enter higher</i>

affected by development activities in the respective areas	<i>education in fisheries, and giving priority with their excellence, during recruitment for employment in the fishery related institutions.</i>
5.3A Promotion of investment in human resource development such as health, education, literacy and digital inclusion in fishing communities	<i>5.3B Provision of financial assistance to needy children from fisher families to continue education during off season.</i>
5.4A Progressive realization of rights of the small scale fishers and fishworkers to an adequate standard of living in accordance with the national and international human right standards.	<i>5.4B Promotion of the development of credit and micro-credit schemes to encourage investment in fisheries and to enable the poor and vulnerable to access credit.</i>
5.5A Working towards the generation of more employment opportunities in the sector where possible.	<i>5.5B Building awareness among people of Sri Lanka of the importance of the SSF sector and recognition of fishing as respectable vocation.</i>
5.6A Continuing to implement poverty alleviation programs that provides sustainable livelihoods.	
6. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY	
6.1A Ensuring safe, healthy and fair working conditions at sea and on land in accordance with international standards.	<i>6.1B Ensuring safe, healthy and fair working conditions at sea, inland waters and on land</i>
6.2A Promotion of the establishment of insurance schemes concerning safety at sea and occupational safety	<i>6.2B Building awareness among fishers on the importance of adopting sea safety measures and assisting them in acquiring safety equipment.</i>
	<i>6.3B Provision of land-based equipment and facilities for easy navigation of fishing crafts.</i>
	<i>6.4B Investment in the construction/development of proper anchorages and landing sites with basic infrastructure facilities for marine and inland fishing villages.</i>
	<i>6.5B Ratification of ILO Conventions on Safety and Work in the fishing sector and, incorporation of the relevant provisions to ensure safety and fair working conditions in the fisheries sector.</i>
7. SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FISHERIES INSURANCE	
7.1A Improvement of the social safety net and social security protection for the fishers and fish workers including women	<i>7.1B Provision of social protection through effective fisheries pension schemes and fisheries insurance schemes</i>
	<i>7.2B Establishment of Fisheries Insurance Schemes jointly with Fisheries Community Organisations to</i>

	<i>minimize informational asymmetries.</i>
	<i>7.3B Promotion of fisheries insurance schemes that cover fishing and climate related risks causing full and partial damages to fishing crafts and gear, coastal assets, ill-health and loss of life</i>
8. DISASTER RISK AND CLIMATE CHANGE	
8.1A Development of a strategy to address the environmental and climatic-change challenges, and impacts of natural disasters	<i>8.1B Promotion of research towards predicting the shifting of breeding, migration of fish stocks due to climatic change effects</i>
8.2A Taking precautions to prevent marine pollution given its direct adverse impacts on fish and other living marine aquatic resources.	<i>8.2B Establishment of early warning systems for small scale fishers based on coastal district.</i>
8.3A Provision of assistance to the communities affected by disasters to resettle and recommence livelihoods.	<i>8.3B Provision of fishers with access to weather data through mobile phone based weather information system</i>
8.4A Provision of assistance to the communities affected by disasters to resettle and recommence livelihoods	<i>8.4B Registration of fishers, crafts and fishing equipment with regular update of information on annual basis.</i>
8.5A Development of peoples' resilience capacity to cope with climatic change impacts.	<i>8.5B Involvement of community organizations on disaster management.</i>
8.6A Improvement of research work and institutional involvement to fill the information gaps and developing a database on climate change related issues.	
9. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT	
9.1A Building the capacity of fishers and ensuring their effective participation in fisheries management.	<i>9.1B Designing and conducting training courses in fish farming</i>
9.2A Provision of training and capacity building programmes	<i>9.2B Building capacities of members of fishing communities, including women and school drop outs in new technology related to fish processing, deep sea fishing, fish farming, alternative livelihoods and, on resource conservation and management.</i>
9.3A Encouraging communities to commence business activities including integrated sustainable tourism	<i>9.3B Training of women & school drop outs in fishing communities in post-harvest processing and other ancillary activities related to fisheries</i>
9.4A Motivation of communities to commence aquaculture or culture-based fisheries as	

income activities in wetland areas associated with their villages.	<i>9.4B Training of government officials and community leaders on the principles of co-management</i>
9.5A Train school leavers in advanced technology related to fisheries, aquaculture and new marine industries targeting employment.	
9.6A Train skippers and crew members for foreign employment.	
10. GENDER IN FISHERIES	
10.1A Promotion of equal opportunities for women's participation in the activities of the sector	<i>10.1B Building awareness among fishing communities on the right of women to take up employment either directly or indirectly in small scale fisheries.</i>
10.2A Making gender mainstreaming an integral part of small scale fisheries development strategies	<i>10.2B Ensuring a minimum of 25 percent representation of women in the 'committee of office bearers' of fisheries community organisations.</i>
10.3A Creation of conditions for both men and women to have equal access to resources and benefits.	<i>10.3B Removal of discrepancies in wages paid to men and women in the fisheries sector.</i>
10.5A Assisting women in fisher communities to set up micro-business enterprises with special attention to widows.	
11. EMPOWERING COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS	
11.1A Recognition, empowerment and strengthening of fisheries cooperatives in addressing issues in fisheries and fisher wellbeing, and in representing fishing communities at decision making platforms.	<i>11.1B Provision of training for officials of fisheries cooperatives in resource conservation and management, financial management and principles of cooperation.</i>
11.2A Liaising with fisheries cooperatives in integrated coastal zone management.	<i>11.2B Channeling of all public assistance to fishing communities through fisheries cooperatives ensuring the benefits to the end users.</i>
	<i>11.3B Consultation of Fisheries Cooperatives in the design, planning and implementation of fisheries and other development projects</i>
	<i>11.4B Dissemination of Policy documents, laws, rules and regulations in a manner fisheries communities understand easily.</i>

No new policy statements are proposed to be incorporated into in the current National Fisheries Policy under the following themes (which remain unchanged)

12. BLUE ECONOMY

- 1.1 Promotion of the establishment of new marine industries utilizing living marine resources.
- 1.2 Regulation of access to marine bio-prospecting with equitable sharing of benefits.
- 1.3 Promotion of integration of marine activities to ensure maximum efficiency,

- 1.4 Promotion of recreational fisheries without conflicting with mainstream fisheries.
- 1.5 Promotion of the establishment of marinas and marine-based tourism activities.
- 1.6 Conservation of ship wrecks for enhancement of fish stocks and promotion of tourism.
- 1.7 Application of the “green-harbour concept” in development and management of fishery harbours.
- 1.8 Promotion of conservation of the marine and coastal environment.

2. OTHER

2.1 Compliance with Regional and International Obligations

- 2.1.1 Participating actively in the regional and international fisheries management forums.
- 2.1.2 Complying with fisheries management measures stipulated in international treaties and by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO)s.
- 2.1.3 Cooperating with other coastal states directly and through RFMOs for conservation and management of highly migratory and straddling fish stocks.
- 2.1.4 Cooperating with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in conservation and management of fisheries resources.
- 2.1.5 Complying with the requirements stipulated in international labour conventions and international maritime conventions in regard to maritime labour.
- 2.1.6 Provision of port access and assistance as a port State in accordance with the international law to foreign fishing vessels in distress.

2.2 Financial Facilities

- 2.2.1 Encouragement of private financial institutions to develop financial instruments to ensure financial inclusion for fishers.
- 2.2.2 Encouragement of fisher communities to deal with banks and other formal credit institutions for their financial requirements.

2.3 Private Sector Participation

- 2.3.1 Promotion of the private sector participation in the sector.
- 2.3.2 Promotion of the establishment of public – private partnerships (PPPs) for investment in the sector.
- 2.3.3 Promotion of the construction of fishing vessels, recreational vessels and -other vessels for export

2.4 Human Rights

- 2.4.1 Ensuring that no human rights are violated in development and management of fisheries and aquaculture.

2.5 Anti-Corruption

- 2.5.1 Working towards the prevention of corruption and economic fraud including fish-laundering in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

Following the group discussions, the proposed policy statements arising from the national consultation process on SSF Guidelines were finalized and an array of actions were also suggested in meeting the policy objectives. However, since the major objective of the policy workshop was to finalize the proposed policy statements, sufficient space was not allocated to

develop an action plan to implement the new policy guidelines, although some headway was reached.

Finalized Policy Statements and draft Action Plan (18th June 2019)

At the final policy workshop held on the 18th of June 2019, the participants (state actors, mostly from the Ministry and Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Deveopment), were asked to go through the SSF policy statements that have been prepared, make necessary adjustments and to finalize them. An attempt was also made to identify the diverse actions that could be taken to reach the policy goals. The preparation of the Action Plan was not the aim of the policy workshop and thus was not properly carried out: both due to time and resource constraints.

1. TENURE RIGHTS		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
1.1	Identification, recording and protection of legitimate rights, including, where appropriate, traditional and customary rights of fishers, to the fish resources, the beach and adjoining lands.	<p><i>Identification of key stakeholders</i></p> <p><i>Identifying and mapping temporal and spatial changes related to tenure rights of fishers and other groups</i></p> <p><i>Developing a legal framework to ensure access to fisheries and coastal resources</i></p> <p><i>Consulting fishing communities for the decision making process of fisheries management</i></p> <p><i>Reviewing traditional practices in the present fisheries management process</i></p>
1.2	Zonal plans to ensure sustainability of major economic activities including fisheries	<p><i>Mapping major economic activities in the coastal zone</i></p> <p><i>Prioritization of major economic activities in the coastal zone based on agreed parameters</i></p> <p><i>Preparation of zonal plans through stakeholder consultation</i></p> <p><i>Ensuring linkages with existing coastal zone management plans</i></p>

2. SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (General)		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
2.1.1	A strong MCS process in all waters for fisheries and aquaculture in collaboration with other appropriate agencies.	<p><i>Developing a systematic management-oriented data collection system</i></p> <p><i>Integration of socio-economic data in small scale fisheries management</i></p> <p><i>Conducting research on SSF management through socio-economic approaches</i></p> <p><i>Promoting integrated approaches for resource management through collaboration with relevant agencies</i></p>
2.1.2	Promotion of area-specific or local level co-management platforms rising up to the national level, with cross sectoral collaboration, ensuring that they are participatory, integrated, inclusive and holistic.	<p><i>Identification of the role of different stakeholders in resource utilisation and management</i></p> <p><i>Ensuring consultation and participation of key stakeholders in the management decision making process of Small Scale Fisheries</i></p> <p><i>Budget allocation for the implementation of a collaborative management decision making system at field/local level</i></p>
2.1.3	Intervention to minimize overlapping policies and mandates among institutions responsible for coastal resources development conservation and management.	<p><i>Preparation of site-specific integrated coastal management plan (such as CRMP)</i></p> <p><i>Identifying the overlapping policies and mandates related to coastal resource development, conservation and management</i></p> <p><i>Policy harmonisation and legalisation of the integrated plans</i></p>
2.1.4	Effective participation of the disadvantaged and the poorer sections of the community, particularly the youth, women and differently abled persons in the planning processes at all levels.	<p><i>Identification and profiling of vulnerable groups in the SSF sector</i></p> <p><i>Empowering and incorporating vulnerable groups in decision making process</i></p> <p><i>Strengthening vulnerable groups through the provision of social-welfare facilities</i></p>

2.2. SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (Marine and Coastal)		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
2.2.1	Promotion of cross sectoral collaboration towards Integrated Coastal Zone Management	<i>Recognizing the importance of Small scale Fisheries in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) process</i> <i>Promoting institutional collaboration and coordination towards coastal zone management</i>
2.2.2	Demarcation of boundaries of ecosystems in the Coastal zone critical for fisheries and aquaculture	<i>Conducting research towards identification of physical, geographical and ecological boundaries critical for fisheries and aquaculture</i>
2.2.3	Prevention of fisheries and aquaculture based environment pollution	<i>Identification of sources and levels of pollution</i> <i>Identification and implementation of mitigatory measures</i>

3. FISH VALUE CHAIN : Pre Harvest Sector		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
3.1.1	Promoting the provision of suitable space and facilities for craft anchorage, fish drying and fishing equipment storage etc.	<i>Demarcation of landing sites</i> <i>Development of infrastructure facilities for different activities (e.g: sorting, unloading, cleaning and waste management)</i>
3. FISH VALUE CHAIN : Post Harvest Sector		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
3.3.1	Provision of facilities for scientific fish handling and storage at landing sites	<i>Provision of proper fish handling facilities</i> <i>Provision of proper and regular water supply to the storage centres</i> <i>Provision of facilities to crush ice</i> <i>Provision of training for fishers on proper fish handling and storage</i> <i>Undertaking comprehensive studies/research to identify the</i>

		<i>factors affecting storage quality of fish</i>
3.3.2	Intervention in fish marketing and increase competition in fish buying towards ensuring a fair price to fish producers	<i>Undertaking market research for different species</i> <i>Promoting 'producer organisations'</i> <i>Utilising the excess quantities of low-fish species for value added products</i> <i>Providing facilities to fishers to access updated market information</i>
3.3.3	Provision of fishing communities with access to information on fish export market	<i>Conducting awareness programmes for fishers on the requirements of fish export market</i>
3.3.4	Promotion of the entry of community organisations into fish marketing and establish local and foreign market links.	<i>Conducting awareness programmes to increase knowledge on export market requirements</i> <i>Expansion of information networks</i> <i>Empowering community organizations financially</i>
3.3.5	Promotion of the development of technology for post-harvest value addition and minimizing post-harvest losses.	<i>Increase funding for research on cost effective post-harvest technologies</i> <i>Promoting institutional collaboration to share and make available the research findings</i>

4. FOOD SECURITY, FOOD SAFETY AND NUTRITION

No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
4.1	Regulation of foreign trade to ensure that food and nutritional security of the people is not threatened by international trade in fish and fish products.	<i>Improving the quality of fish and fish related products available in the market.</i> <i>Regulate international trade in fish and fish products.</i>

5. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
5.1	Ensuring that small scale fishers have affordable access to basic education, health, housing and household amenities	<p><i>Empowering the fishing families to acquire basic facilities within the community</i></p> <p><i>Updating information and data on the mentioned sectors</i></p> <p><i>Provision of infrastructure facilities (human and physical)</i></p>
5.2	Accordinging priority to children of fisher communities to enter higher education in fisheries, and in recruitment for employment in the fishery related institutions.	
5.3	Provision of financial assistance to needy children from fisher families to continue education during off season	<i>Introduction of an insurance scheme related to education</i>
5.4	Promotion of the development of credit and micro-credit schemes to encourage investment in fisheries and to enable the poor and vulnerable to access credit.	<i>Revisiting available credit schemes to identify required amendments</i>
5.5	Building awareness among people of Sri Lanka of the importance of the SSF sector and recognition of fishing as a respectable vocation.	<i>Conducting awareness programmes</i>

6. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
6.1	Ensuring safe, healthy and fair working conditions at sea, inland waters and on land	<p>Strategies <i>Standardization of fishing vessels in accordance with their seaworthiness</i></p> <p>Activities <i>Identification, establishment and updating of standards for boats</i></p> <p><i>Proper enforcement of the existing rules and regulations</i></p> <p><i>Acting in accordance with the international instruments related to fisheries (e.g: ILO)</i></p>

6.2	Building awareness among fishers on the importance of adopting sea safety measures	<i>Improving awareness of fishers on safety at sea</i> <i>Conducting training and awareness programmes for fishing related community organizations</i>
6.3	Assisting fishers in acquiring safety equipment	<i>Introducing subsidy schemes and provision of subsidies for community organisations</i>
6.4	Provision of land-based equipment and facilities for easy navigation of fishing crafts	Strategies <i>Development of infrastructure facilities at landing sites</i> Activities <i>Installation of beacon lamps in landing sites</i> <i>Development of navigation pathways</i> <i>Provision of proper anchorage facilities for fishing crafts</i>
6.5	Investment in the construction / development of proper anchorages and landing sites with basic infrastructure facilities for marine and inland fishing villages.	Strategies <i>State investment on the development of basic infrastructure facilities of fishing villages</i> <i>Encouraging and empowering community organisations to undertake development and management of anchorage sites</i> Activities <i>Identification of proper anchorage and landing sites with the assistance of community organisations</i>
6.6	Ratification of ILO Conventions on Safety and Work in the fishing sector and, incorporation of the relevant provisions to ensure safety and fair working conditions in the fisheries sector	

7. SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FISHERIES INSURANCE		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
7.1	Provision of social protection through effective fisheries pension schemes and fisheries insurance schemes	
*7.2	Establishment of Fisheries Insurance Schemes jointly with Fisheries Community Organisations to minimize informational asymmetries	<i>State insurance agencies to work jointly with fisheries cooperatives to design a new insurance scheme</i> <i>Empower Coops to collect premiums and involve in damage assessment for a certain percentage of the premiums.</i>
7.3	Promotion of fisheries insurance schemes that cover fishing and climate related risks causing full and partial damages to fishing crafts and gear, coastal assets, ill health and loss of life	<i>To study the possibility of offering insurance cover to full and partial damages to fishing crafts and gear, coastal assets, ill health, etc.</i>

8. DISASTER RISK AND CLIMATE CHANGE		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
8.1	Promotion of research towards predicting the shifting of breeding, migration of fish stocks due to climatic change effects	<i>Conducting research on climate change and the impacts of climate change on small scale fisheries</i> <i>e.g.</i> <i>Changes of fish breeding spawning grounds</i> <i>Climate change impacts on fish migratory patterns</i>
8.2	Establishment of early warning systems for small scale fishers based on coastal district and the provision of easy access to weather data.	<i>Decentralizing early warning systems based on coastal district/provinces</i> <i>Development of mobile based disaster warning systems</i> <i>Development of early warning systems with the involvement of community organisations</i>

8.3	Registration of fishers, crafts and fishing equipment with regular update of information on annual basis	<p><i>Registration of fishing crafts and equipment through community organisations</i></p> <p><i>(The list of fishers who have registered their crafts has to be updated annually with the assistance of community organisations)</i></p> <p><i>Updating data and information on crafts and equipment annually through ADs of fisheries</i></p>
8.4	Involvement of community organizations on disaster management.	<p><i>Development of a direct coordination system between the Community based organisations and Disaster Management Centre</i></p> <p><i>Development of a contingency plan based on the area of community organisations</i></p> <p><i>Identifying social issues through the community organisations</i></p>
8.5	Cross sectoral collaboration and institutional coordination to deal with disasters and climate change impacts in the coastal zone	<i>FMCC (Existing)</i>

9. CAPCIY DEVELOPMENT		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
9.1	Designing and conducting training courses in fish farming	<p><i>Need Assignment – knowledge gap curriculum development</i></p> <p><i>Training tools/responsible training institute</i></p> <p><i>Identify resource persons/resources</i></p> <p><i>Funding agencies</i></p>
9.2	Building capacities of members of fishing communities in new fishing techniques, deep sea fishing technology, post-harvest processing, alternative livelihoods and, resource conservation and management.	<p><i>Assess existing capacities</i></p> <p><i>Awareness building of new technologies</i></p> <p><i>Selected / identify suitable technologies, resources</i></p> <p><i>Pilot level demonstration</i></p> <p><i>Train fishing community by identified fishing technology</i></p>

9.3	Training of women & school drop outs in fishing communities in post-harvest processing and other ancillary activities related to fisheries	<i>Identify the interested group Identify existing Post harvesting technology Selecting suitable technologies Skill development/training</i>
9.4	Training of government officials and community leaders on the principles of co-management	<i>Identify key stakeholder (relevant government officers and fishing community leaders of CBOs) Training</i>

10. GENDER IN FISHERIES

No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
10.1	Building awareness among fishing communities on the right of women to take up employment either directly or indirectly in small scale fisheries	<i>Building awareness among fishing communities (both men & women) Identify the role of fisher women in small scale fisheries</i>
10.2	Ensuring a minimum of 25 percent representation of women in the 'committee of office bearers' of fisheries community organizations.	<i>Regulate 25% representation of women in fisher CBOs</i>
10.3	Removal of discrepancies in wages paid to men and women in the fisheries sector	<i>If the discrepancies of wages paid for the fishers men and women If there is any discrepancies identify the factors on discrepancies Take necessary action the remove the discrepancies with consultation of relevant authority</i>

11. EMPOWERING COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS		
No	Final Policy Statements	Strategies / Action Plan
11.1	Provision of training for officials of fisheries cooperatives in resource conservation and management, financial management and principles of cooperation.	<p><i>Need Assignment – knowledge gap curriculum and training tools development</i></p> <p><i>Responsible training institute</i></p> <p><i>Identify resource persons/resources</i></p> <p><i>Funding agencies</i></p>
11.2	Channeling of all public assistance to fishing communities through fisheries cooperatives ensuring the benefits to the end users.	<i>Formulate procedures to channeling the public assistance through CBOs</i>
11.3	Consultation of Fisheries Cooperatives in the design, planning and implementation of fisheries and other development projects	<p><i>Formulate /implementation procedures to ensure consultation process</i></p> <p><i>Introducing community monitoring system in implementation of projects</i></p>
11.4	Dissemination of Policy documents, laws, rules and regulations in a manner fisheries communities understand easily.	<p><i>Develop communication tools in local language and user friendly</i></p> <p><i>Conducting awareness programme using simplified communication tools</i></p>

Chapter 5

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND WAY FORWARD

The whole process of SSF Guideline Implementation in Sri Lanka undertaken by the Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries went uninterrupted according to the work plan and time schedule, with some delays during October and November 2019 due to sudden changes in the government due to a constitutional issue and towards the end of the project (April, May 2019) due to bomb attacks on churches and tourist hotels by an extremist group. Yet the project met the deadlines earlier set as per the work plan and time schedule.

All efforts made towards sustainable small scale fisheries, especially by incorporating the relevant SSF Guidelines, would be futile unless they are incorporated into the policy making and planning process. This does not take place automatically. Moreover, they are not blanket recommendations, but guidelines, and what is to be adopted or incorporated into national plans of action depend on specific contexts of countries. Governments have an important role to play in controlling essential legal, financial, technical resources in adopting the most appropriate guidelines. This needs a strong political will to do so. Today many governments in developing countries are moving from “government to governance”, including governance of fisheries. The recent efforts at establishing fisheries co-management platforms in Sri Lanka, is a good example, which is an essential and timely initiative. Such forms of Interactive Governance put pressure on governments to become more accommodating to stakeholder interests and concerns.

The whole process of SSF Guideline implementation, went uninterrupted as planned. Starting with the state actor sensitizing workshop the process took place over a period of 10 months. The communication tools. Consisting of simplified version of SSF Guidelines, the key messages prepared in both local languages; Sinhalese and Tamil, facilitated the process of building awareness and understanding among the fishing communities of the SSF Guidelines and their importance in sustainable management of the resources and improvement of the wellbeing of fishing populations. These tools helped in the stakeholder discussions held in 4 coastal provinces of the country that included 12 coastal districts. The participants, who included fisher leaders, active women fisher fold in communities and officers representing diverse state institutions operating in the coastal zone were found to be very active and effective arenas of interaction among a large diversity of stakeholders, who differed in ethnicity, religion, gender, education, vocation, etc. The final outcome was a set of new policy statements to be incorporated into the National Fisheries Policy.

A number of very important phenomena which have not received much attention earlier but that were found to be quite important in securing sustainable small scale fisheries emerged from discussions based on a diversity of themes that outlined a number of guidelines. The emphasis laid on the need to look at the coastal ecosystem as a whole in management decision making was an important outcome of the deliberations. This was associated with the need for cross sectoral collaboration and institutional coordination (9.3 of the Guidelines and Part III: enabling environment). This was then connected to the requirement that all stakeholder groups should

participate in management decision making including community stakeholders, including youth, women and marginalized groups. Emphasis was laid on four important features to be incorporated into such co-management platforms, namely, *integrated, inclusive, participatory and holistic* (5.15 & 5.17 of the Guidelines). The need for capacity building of both state and community stakeholders for effective participation in such platforms was also underlined. A related proposition was the need to empower community organisations, consulting them in all stages of development activities and obtaining their active participation in management decision making (5.15).

Another very important outcome of the discussions was the incorporation of a number of policy statements to address issues of fishermen's tenure rights. While the need to respect and protect legitimate tenure rights of fishers to land, water and fish resources was emphasized, it was also decided that it was necessary for demarcation of boundaries in the coastal zone (5.4 of the Guidelines). In resolving disputes among diverse resource users in the coastal zone and to ensure sustainable utilization of resources it was agreed that management bodies should be established at local levels (area specific or at district levels), rising up to the national level, with the participation all local governance actors and communities (10.7).

The policy development process also emphasized on incorporating a number of policy statements on social protection, work conditions and fisheries insurance. The need to revise and improve the fishermen's pension scheme, adopt the relevant ILO conventions on work in the fishing sector, and reducing discrepancy in wages paid for men and women, etc. could be considered as very important improvements from the earlier policy document. Fisheries Insurance was another area where the FGD discussions finally yielded important policy propositions. It was proposed that Fisheries Insurance schemes, which has been a failure all throughout, should be operated jointly with fisheries cooperatives to minimize informational asymmetries commonly associated with fisheries insurance.

Access to basic education, health, housing and household amenities, was another area that received significant attention of the people. It was suggested that fishing communities should be provided with affordable access to these basic social services (6.2).

Gender is another area where discussions reached agreements towards minimizing gender inequalities. Other than proposing that awareness should be built among community members about the right of women for fishing related or other employment, and the proposed actions to minimize wage discrepancies (8.2 of the Guidelines), it was also proposed that women representation in the committees of community organisations should be a minimum of 25 percent, which can be considered as a significant improvement over the gender concerns found in the former policy document.

Appreciably, the need for government intervention in marketing and trade was recognized at the deliberations and several policy statements were formulated to cope with unfair producer prices and unfair trade (7.7). It was proposed that the government should engaged in fish buying at landing sites, promote community organisations to take up fish marketing and provide fishers with market information to ensure that fishers receive a fair price. An important development over the last policy document was the proposition that international trade has to be regulated so as to ensure that nutritional needs of the poorer groups of this country are not threatened, a very important policy measure indeed.

The whole process of implementing SSF Guidelines in Sri Lanka, could be considered as quite successful on several grounds. This process was strongly supported by the government actors, especially those of the Ministry and Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and their sister organisations. A very important factor that facilitated the process was the presence of state actors among the membership of the Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries (SLFSSF) and the fact that all Assistant Directors of Fisheries were co-opted members of the SLFSSF. They willingly took initiatives to organize the stakeholder consultation meetings held in various parts of their country and invite participants from fishing communities. The Secretary of the Ministry of Fisheries accepted to be the Chief Guest in both policy-actor meetings. The support of the community stakeholders remained at a very high level, mainly due to the fact that SLFSSF had long experience in working with fisher community organisations in many parts of the country and knew many of the fisher-leader participants.

While the whole process of SSF Guideline implementation went on smoothly as expected, one of the setbacks was the insufficient time given to community stakeholders to the SSF guidelines. It was felt that more time was needed to make the community stakeholders aware of the Guidelines and their implications for sustainable use of the resources and for the wellbeing of fishing populations. It was also felt that the participants had certain pre-meditated issues that they wanted to bring to the notice of the organisers and suggest their own solutions. While the conductors of focus group discussions did their best to highlight the important implications of SSF Guidelines for the sector's progress, it is questionable whether they were fully successful in doing so.

During discussions with state actors it was disclosed that there is a mismatch between National Plan of Action and National Policy Guidelines. Often the National Plan of Action is prepared without giving much concern to the policy guidelines, it was noted. In fact, National Policy is an instrument used by politicians and administrators to show the aid agencies and other interested parties that a particular sector is moving along a socially optimal direction, while the actual running of the sector is based on the national plan of action that could deviate from policy prescriptions. Thus, it was attempted at the final policy meeting to prepare a draft action plan. This was only partly done because more time was needed for such a task, which was not earlier planned to be undertaken.

Way Forward

The SLFSSF has conducted the process of implementing the SSF Guidelines to its fullest satisfaction. A new policy statement has been prepared for small scale fisheries based on SSF Guidelines. Yet, there exists a National Fisheries Policy which has already been approved by the Cabinet of Ministers. Thus one cannot make any amendments or changes to it without obtaining the approval of the Cabinet again. Rather than remodeling the exiting policy it was suggested to prepare a new policy statement along with an action plan for small scale fisheries sector of the country. Such an initiative is likely to get the support of the Ministry of Fisheries, as it is evident from the penultimate statement of the Key Note address of the Secretary to the Ministry of Fisheries at the final policy meeting held on the 18th of June 2019.

“Through a global consultation process, the FAO has recently developed Voluntary Guidelines for securing sustainable small scale fisheries that capture the inherent features of small scale

fisheries by addressing the most compelling issues in SSF. All efforts made towards sustainable small scale fisheries, would be futile unless they are incorporated into the policy making and planning process. Implementation of the SSF Guidelines is an important step towards improving sustainable use of fisheries resources and the wellbeing of thousands of small scale fishers and their families in this country”

The policy development process is still incomplete unless the new policy instrument is presented with a national plan of action and is implemented. This requires the organization of a few policy workshop to prepare a National Plan of Action based on the new SSF policy instrument. Of course, its implementation need building the capacities of both the state and community actors, as identified during stakeholder workshops. The SFLFSSF is willing to undertake this task, provided that it has access to international assistance both in terms of expertise and funds.

It is proposed that the process of SSF Guideline implementation should continue with major focus in six directions. First, there is a need to organize a few workshop to prepare a National Plan of Action based on the new SSF policy instrument. Second, it is necessary to prepare the policy instrument, along with an action plan and to submit a white paper to the Cabinet by the Ministry of Fisheries. Third, a proper Monitoring Mechanism need to be established to assess the implementation of the policy strategies laid down in the proposed revised national fisheries policy, and to allow the results of monitoring to feed back into policy formulation. Fourth, there is a need to establish district level co-management platforms that rise up to the national level, forming national level platforms, with cross sectoral collaboration and institutional coordination ensuring that fisheries management process is participatory, inclusive, integrated and holistic. Fifth, capacity building needs of the state actors and communities should be properly identified and training and skill development programmes need to be designed to cater to these needs. Emphasis will also be made on the status of women in the post-harvest sector. Sixth, means of empowering communities with emphasis on women, should be identified and mechanisms should be developed to obtain their effective participation in the fisheries management process. Social capital need to be built up ensuring sustainable use of the resources, access to livelihood capitals, strengthened household economies and improved wellbeing.

With its diverse expertise which comprise of experienced senior academics, researchers, state actors, civil society actors and communities, and, by achieving the goals of the initial phase of the SSF Guidelines implementation process with great success, the SLFSSF is in a very advantageous position to engage in the above activities in furthering the Guideline implementation process. In this respect, the role of the SLFSSF would be that of a mentor, mediator and a facilitator. It will join hands with the state actors and other stakeholders to ensure the achievement of the above goals. The methodology employed would consist of community consultations at the national level using Participatory Tools of analysis, workshops with state actors at the district and national level, Key Informant discussions, Rapid Rural Appraisals at selected locations, consultations with educators and training experts, discussions with training organisations such as National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency, the Industrial Development Board, etc. and Ministry of Women’s Affairs.



An Institutional Profile of Small Scale Fisheries of Sri Lanka



An Institutional Profile of Small Scale Fisheries of Sri Lanka



An initiative under the process of SSF Guideline Implementation conducted by the Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries (SLFSSF) and initiated under the LOA signed between ICSF and SLFSSF and funded by the FAO

November 2018

SLFSSF

Preface

The FAO has recently developed a vision for small-scale fisheries where, a. the contribution of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development is fully-realized; b. small-scale fishers and fish workers are not marginalized and, c. importance of small-scale fisheries to national economies and food security is recognized, valued and enhanced. The vision also recognizes that those dependent on the small-scale fisheries sector should be empowered to participate in decision-making with dignity and respect through integrated management of the social, economic and ecological systems underpinning the sector.

Towards securing sustainable small scale fisheries, an array of institutions serve the small scale fisheries sector of Sri Lanka, some of which are directly involved in governance, management and providing a host of technical and welfare services, while others are involved in the governance of the coastal ecosystem as a whole, which include a host of non-fisheries institutions. However, one of the serious deficiencies of the fisheries governance and management process is the gap that exists between the fishing people and the institutions that serve them; which could either due to their lack of awareness and knowledge of them or, the absence of any means of accessing the services offered by them. While the recently developed SSF Voluntary Guidelines capture the inherent features of small scale fisheries by addressing the most compelling issues in SSF, and promote participatory, inclusive, integrated and holistic approaches to management, such efforts would be futile unless people's capacities to participate in such a management process are improved.

This booklet is prepared towards meeting the above needs, especially in assisting the fisheries dependent populations in accessing services provided by institutions operating in the coastal zone of Sri Lanka, which aim at providing the people with opportunities to improve their livelihoods, resolve conflicts, while ensuring them with a sustainable future.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (DFARD)

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Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DFAR) is operating under the Preview of the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development as its main implementation body. Mandate of the Department Fisheries and Aquatic Resources is **Management, Development and Conservation** of the **Fisheries and Aquatic Resources** of Sri Lanka.

The Department continues its process of updating its legal provisions such as the introduction of 1996 Fisheries Act No-2, as well as the declaring of various related fisheries management practices in line with the regional and international conventions and regulations.

Vision and Mission

Vision: To provide an optimum contribution to the national economy through strengthening the socio-economic status of the fisher communities while maintaining the fisheries and aquatic resources in a sustainable manner.



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கடற்றொழில் மற்றும் நீரியல் வளங்கள் திணைக்களம்
Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

Organisational Structure

Six Divisions

1. Fisheries Management Division
2. Fisheries Industries Division
3. Monitoring, controlling and surveillance Division
4. Fishery product Quality control Division
5. Finance Division
6. Administration Division

Three Additional Units

1. High Seas Management Unit
 2. Lagoon Management Unit
 3. Vessel Monitoring Centre
- 15 District Assistant Directors' Offices along the coastal districts of the island.
 - 148 Fisheries Inspectorate Divisions under the District Offices
 - About 18 Harbor officers to Manage the High Seas Fisheries Activities
 - 21 Radio Communication Centers to deal with the communications with multiday vessels

Mission: Management of fisheries and aquatic resources by adopting new technologies in compliance with the national and international laws and treaties for the productive contribution to the Sri Lankan economy through sustainable development of fishing industry.

Key Objectives

To facilitate the entrepreneurs to increase their production for the local as well as the export markets.
To plan and embark on numerous developmental activities to increase the production as well as exploiting various market niches.

Key Function

The Department of Fisheries is tasked to oversee the development of the fisheries industry of Sri Lanka and assist fisher community to uplift their socio-economic conditions.

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NATIONAL AQUATIC RESOURCES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (NARA)

Head Office: Crow Island, Mattakkuliya, Colombo 15.

Phone (General): 0112521000 / 0112521006



Vision:-

To be the premier institution for Scientific Research in Conservation, Management and Development of Aquatic Resources in the Region.

Mission:

To provide innovative solutions for national development issues in the aquatic resources sector utilizing scientific and technological knowledge & resource base

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA) is the principal National Institute charged with the responsibility of carrying out and coordinating research, development and management activities on the subject of Aquatic Resources in Sri Lanka. The National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency Act No. 54 of 1981 established NARA in 1981.

The main objectives of NARA are,

- To face the challenges offered by the 200 nautical miles Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

DIVISIONS

1. Inland Aquatic Resources and Aquaculture Division
2. Marine Biological Resources Division
3. Socio-Economic & Marketing Research Division
4. Fishing Technology Division
5. Environmental Studies Division
6. Institute of Post Harvest Technology
7. National Institute of Oceanography & Marine Sciences
8. National Hydrographic Office
9. Monitoring and Evaluation Division
10. Regional Research Center – Kadolkele
11. Regional Research Center - Rekawa
12. Regional Research Center – Kalpitiya
13. Regional Research Center – Kapparahota
14. Regional Research Center – Panapitiya
15. Center for Ocean and Fisheries Information (COFI)- Beruwala

- Ensure the application and utilization of scientific and technological expertise for the implementation of the national development program on the subject of living and non-living aquatic resources
- Promote and conduct research activities directed towards the identification, assessment, management, conservation and development of aquatic resources and in particular in Oceanography and Hydrography
- Improvement and development of fishing craft, fishing gear and equipment, and fishing methods
- The social and economic aspects of the fishing industry, including the welfare of fishermen and their dependents
- The processing, preservation and marketing of fish and aquatic products
- The development, management and conservation of aquatic resources in the inland waters, coastal wetlands and off-shore areas
- Provide advisory and consultancy services on scientific, technological and legal matters relating to the exploitation, management, conservation and development of aquatic resources .
- Co-ordinate the activities of institutions engaged in the exploitation, planning, research, development, conservation, control and management of aquatic resources
- Undertake the collection, dissemination and publication of information and data useful for the management, conservation and development of aquatic resources and the fishing industry in Sri Lanka.
- Provide training for persons required to carry out or assist in the work of the Agency .
- Exercise, discharge and perform all the powers, functions and duties conferred or imposed on the Agency under the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency Act No. 54 of 1981 as amended by act No. 32 of 1996

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NATIONAL AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA (NAQDA)

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National Aquaculture Development Authority (NAQDA) was established under the provisions made available by the National Aquaculture Development Authority Act (No. 53 of 1998). It is the main state sponsored organization mandated for the task of development of the aquaculture and inland fisheries sector in Sri Lanka. Presently, it is under the purview of the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

Vision and Mission

Vision:

To be an apex body in the region responsible for sustainable development management of aquaculture and inland fisheries to ensure food security order to improve the quality of life of the people.

Mission:

To contribute to the improvement of the socio-economic conditions of rural societies through alleviation of poverty by increasing freshwater and brackish water fish production and introducing new technologies for utilization of aquatic resources for small, medium and large scale enterprise development.

Units/Centres

- Freshwater Aquaculture Development Centers (*Udawalawa, Dambulla, Inginiyagala and Iranamadu*) in 1999
- Coastal Aquaculture Development Centers (*Pambala, Thillawatawana, Puthukudirippu-Batticaloa*) coming
- Ornamental Fish Breeding Centers (*Rambadagalla and Ginigathhena*)
- Ornamental Fish, Aquatic Plants, Accessories Exchange and Information Center and in
- Shrimp Farm Monitoring And Extension Unit (*Battuluoya*)
- National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Training Institute (NIFATI) (*Kalawewa*)

Key Functions

- Develop aquaculture and aquaculture operations, with a view to increase fish production and fish consumption in the country
- Promote the creation of employment opportunities through the development of inland and coastal aquaculture
- Promote the farming of high valued fish species including ornamental fish for export
- Facilitate optimum utilization of aquatic resources through eco- friendly aquaculture practices
- Promote and establish small, medium and large scale private sector investments in aquaculture
- Conserve and rehabilitate aquatic resources devastated by poor aquaculture practice

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National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Training Institute (NIFATI)				
Mr. R.H. Pothuwila	Assistant Director	Kalawewa	025-2264560	025-2264560

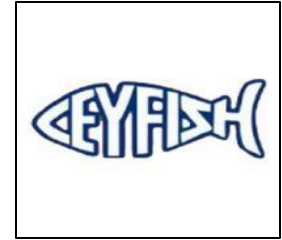
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CEYLON FISHERIES CORPORATION (CFC)

Address (Head Office): P.O. Box.1384, Rock House Lane, Mutwal, Colombo 15, Sri Lanka.

Phone (General): +94 11 2523227 - 8

Email: info@cfc.gov.lk



The Ceylon Fisheries Corporation was established in 1964 under the State Industrial Corporations Act. No.49 of 1957 and commenced its commercial operations in 1965. The CFC is a Statutory Government Organization, which is fully owned by the State and has its unitary status as the apex body of the fisheries industry under the Ministry of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development. At the commencement, the objectives of the Corporation covered the entire fisheries sectors.

Vision and Mission

Vision:

To be the Leading Commercial Organization, Guiding and promoting fish production and trade for the benefit of the Consumer and the Producer.

Mission:

To be an effective organisation to contribute more to the Gross National Product, To be the most significant organisation responsible for marketing of fisheries production, processing and marketing, To (harness) strengthen the economic activity of fishermen and to obtain greater (achievement) development of its production capacity, and To engage in production and marketing of quality fish and value added products at a reasonable price, using modern technology.

Key Objectives

The objectives of the Corporation given in the Extra Ordinary Gazette Notification, number 14186 01st October 1964 are mentioned below:

- To engage in fish processing (canning and drying, processing) and in the production of fish by products, directly or through authorized agents
- To engage in the distribution and sale of fish on wholesale and retail basis, directly or through authorized agents
- Construction and maintenance of fishery harbours, anchorages inclusive of cold storage rooms.
- Import and sales of fishing gear and necessary equipment to the fisheries industry.
- To act for and on behalf of the Department of Fisheries or any other Government Department for the purpose of development of the fishing industry.
- Construction of boats and small ships for the fisheries industry.
- To provide facilities for the repairs and maintenance of fishing boats.
- Manufacture and sale of fisheries equipment.

Key Functions

- Purchase of fish directly from fishermen through our regional offices.
- Import of fish.
- Distribute and sale of fish at a reasonable rate to the consumers through our retail fish outlets.
- Sale of packet fish at a reasonable rate through State Institutions like Lak Sathosa, Co-op Cities etc. to reduce the cost of living of the consumers.
- Supply of fish to all Government Hospitals.
- Conducting of Mobile fish sales in rural areas.
- Conducting of Fish Mela sales in popular towns.
- Production and sale of fish fillet.
- Production and sale of ice to fisheries sector and other traders.
- Providing cold room facilities to fisheries sector and other traders.
- Providing processing facilities to foreign fishing vessels.
- Purchase of fish from the foreign fishing vessels.

Contact Details

Name	Position	Phone (Office)	Fax	Email
Mr. Hemal Gunasekara	Chairman	011-2 540 455 011-2 523 689	011-2 523 385	chairman@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. Wijemuni Nipuna Mahin Zoysa	Managing Director	011-2 520 831	011-2 523 385	md@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. Daham Kith Pussella	Acting General Manager	011-2 522 413	011-2 522 413	gm@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. Daham Kith Pussella	Deputy General Manager (Finance)	011-2 522 513	011-2 522 513	dgmfinance@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. Duminda Munasinghe	Deputy General Manager (Marketing)	011-4 364 109	011-4 364 109	dgmmarketing@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. Anuradha Manaranjana	Act. Deputy General Manager (HR & Administration)	011-2 522 415	011-2 523 385	dgmadmin@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. W.G. Yasantha	Operation Manager	011-2 529 592	011-2 529 591	mgroperation@cfc.gov.lk
Ms. A.J. Chintha Kumuduni	Finance Manager	011-2 522 513	011-2 522 513	finance@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. S. Santhusitha Ovitigala	IT Manager	011-2 523 227	011-2 540 092	mgrit@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. Sharan Kumar	Mechanical Engineer	011-2 525 709	011-2 523 385	mecheng@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. Sarath Kumara Peiris	Administration Manager	011-2 522 415	011-2 523 385	admin@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. P.U.K. Botheju	Marketing Manager	011-2 529 591	011-2 529 591	marketing@cfc.gov.lk
Mrs. Chamari Manupriya	Acting HR Manager	011-2 527 309	011-2 523 385	hr@cfc.gov.lk
Mrs. Vishaka Bandaranayake	Legal Officer	011-2 546 795	011-2 523 385	legal@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. H.R.P. Perera	Manager (Quality Control)	011-2 522 662	011-2 523 385	iceplant@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. Hemantha Rupasinghe	Manager - State Supply	011-2 524 145	011-2 523 385	statesupply@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. Malinda Fernando	Manager (Packeted Fish Division)	011-2 529 593	011-2 523 385	packet@cfc.gov.lk
Mrs.W.H. Mallika	Manager Stores	011-5 764 210	011-2 523 385	stores@cfc.gov.lk

Mr. Chamila Karunathilake	Internal Audit Officer	011-2 529 589	011-2 523 385	audit@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. S. Santhusitha Ovitigala	Supplies Manager	011-2 540 092	011-2 540 092	supply@cfc.gov.lk
Mr. Tony Kumarapperuma	Manager – Security	011-5 764 218	011-2 523 385	security@cfc.gov.lk
Regional Offices				
Office	Name	Position	Phone (Office)	Email
Anuradhapura	Mr. W.Quintus Vaz	Manager/Officer In Charge	025-2 222 584	anuradhapura@cfc.gov.lk
Ambalangoda	Mr. Rathnasiri Bandara	Manager/Officer In Charge	091-5 880 777	ambalangoda@cfc.gov.lk
Bandarawela	Mr. Manoj Gunawardhana	Manager/Officer In Charge	057-2 222 293	bandarawela@cfc.gov.lk
Beruwala	Mr. Anuradha Manaranjana	Manager/Officer In Charge	034-2 277 026	beruwala@cfc.gov.lk
Chilaw	Mr. W.Quintus Vaz	Manager/Officer In Charge		chilaw@cfc.gov.lk
Galle	Mr. Anura Bandara	Manager/Officer In Charge	091-2 222 544	galle@cfc.gov.lk
Hambantota	Mr. Gamini Dissanayake	Manager/Officer In Charge	047-5 679 174	hambantota@cfc.gov.lk
Kandy	Mr. K.H. Priyankara	Manager/Officer In Charge	081-2 234 307	kandy@cfc.gov.lk
Kurunegala	Mrs. Inoka Thushari	Manager/Officer In Charge	037-2 222 585	kurunegala@cfc.gov.lk
Metropolitan	Mr. Dammika Saman Kumara	Manager/Officer In Charge	011-2 943 686	metro@cfc.gov.lk
Minneriya	Mr. Lanka Bandara Jayalath	Manager/Officer In Charge	027-2 246 237	minneriya@cfc.gov.lk
Negombo	Mr. W.G.Yasantha	Manager/Officer In Charge	031-2 235 067	negombo@cfc.gov.lk

Pesalai	Mr. Rohana De Silva	Manager/Officer In Charge	023-5 676 747	pesalai@cfc.gov.lk
Point Pedro	Mr. Anparasan	Manager/Officer In Charge	021-5 671 344	pointpedro@cfc.gov.lk
Rathnapura	Mr. W.M. Suranga	Manager/Officer In Charge	045-2 262 226	ratnapura@cfc.gov.lk
Tangalle	Mr. Jagath Prasanne	Manager/Officer In Charge	047-2 240 209	tangalle@cfc.gov.lk
Trincomalee	Mr. K.H. Pradeep Kumara	Manager/Officer In Charge	026-5 676 747	trincomalee@cfc.gov.lk
Galle Ice Plant	Mr. Krishantha Kodituwakku	Manager/Officer In Charge	091-2 232 120	galleiceplant@cfc.gov.lk

Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation (CFHC)

Head Office: No 15, Rockhouse Lane, Colombo 15.

Phone (General): 01122522947, 01122523051, 01122524607,
0112 2529394

Email: contactcfhc@gmail.com



OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation (CHFC) was established in primary responsible for delivering quality fishery-harbour related providing the fishing community with modern infrastructure and

Vision

To be the fundamental resource of the fisheries Industry and the the local fishing community whilst striving to become the top facilitator maritime enterprise

Mission

To deliver superior quality fishery harbour related services together supporting infrastructure to provide all modern facilities to the fishing and achieve self-sustainability by upgrading the harbours through viable ventures

DIVISIONS

1. Mechanical Engineering Division
2. Supplies Division
3. Finance Division
4. Administration Division
5. Legal Division
6. Civil Engineering Division
7. Harbour Operation Division
8. Security Division
9. Internal Audit Division
10. IT Division
11. Marketing Division
12. Transport Division

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CONTACT DETAILS

	Name	Position	Mobile	Office	email
1	Dr. V.I. Sudarshana Fernando	Chairman		0112525065	chairmancfhc@yahoo.com
2	Mr. S. Wickramaarachchi	Managing Director		0112527816	mdcfhc@gmail.com
3	Mr.P.A. Samarasinghe	General Manager		0112520482	gmocfhc@gmail.com
4	Mr.Prabath Ranaweera	Deputy General Manager (Engineering)	0714287287	0112529535	
5	Mr.J.P Mudalige	Deputy General Manager (Harbour Operations)	0777187995	0112527528	
6	Mr.G.D.S Thushara	Human Resource Manager	0775533760	011 2522217	
7	Mrs.P.C.N.S Perera	Finance Manager	0773617577	0112522683	
8	Mr. Nishantha Wickramasooriya	Civil Engineering Manager	0771562241	0112529391	
9	Mr. G. Dharmapala	Manager Engineering Services	0715356802	0114619691	
10	Mr. M.D.R. Dhammika	Chief Internal Auditor		0112525061	
11	Mr. N.J.C. De Zoyza	Security Manager	0773380441	0112527720	
12	Mrs. Shalika Abeysinghe	Acting Supplies Manager		0112525063	
13		Legal Manger		0112546924	
14	Mr.Amila Wickramanayake	Assistant Manager - IT	0711313977	0112529637	
15	Mr. A.M.P Srilal	Assistant Manager - Marketing	0783876686	0112529090	

16	Mr. H.U.N. Amarathunga	Assistant Manager - Transport	0777709350	0112527066	
17		PRO		0112529393	
18		Inspection Officer		0112528577	

Harbours

	Harbour	Tel	E-mail
1	Dikkowita (North)	0112942873	dikkovitan.cfhc@gmail.com
2	Dikkowita (South)	0112942872	dikkovitas.cfhc@gmail.com
3	Panadura	0112657374	panadura.cfhc@gmail.com
4	Beruwala	0342276651	beruwala.cfhc@gmail.com
5	Hikkaduwa	0912277850	hikkaduwa.cfhc@gmail.com
6	Ambalangoda	0912258936	ambalangoda.cfhc@gmail.com
7	Dodanduwa	0912267089	dodanduwa.cfhc@gmail.com
8	Galle	0912234573, 0912242368	galle.cfhc@gmail.com
9	Mirissa	0412251660	mirissa.cfhc@gmail.com
10	Puranawella	0412227694	puranawella.cfhc@gmail.com
11	Suduwella	0412258660	sudwella.cfhc@gmail.com
12	Nilwella	0412257785	nilwella.cfhc@gmail.com
13	Kudawella	0412255106	kudawella.cfhc@gmail.com
14	Tangalle	0472240978	tangalle.cfhc@gmail.com
15	Hambanthota	0472222431	hambanthota.cfhc@gmail.com
16	Kirinda	0473489378	Kirinda.cfhc@gmail.com
17	Valachchenai	0652258282	valachchenai.cfhc@gmail.com
18	Trincomalee	0262233266	cfhc.codbay@gmail.com
19	Kalpitiya	0322260969	kalpitiya.cfhc@gmail.com
20	Chilaw	0322224950	chilaw.cfhc@gmail.com
21	Negambo	0312228905	cfhc.negambo@gmail.com
22	"Weligowwa"	071750306	
23	"Ruhunuputha"	071-750750	

Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Department

Head Office: 4th Floor, Ministry of Fisheries Building,
New Secretariat, Maligawatta, Maradana, Colombo 10.

Phone (General): 0112449754

Fax: 011 243 8005

Email: info@coastal.gov.lk



OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The Coastal Conservation Department (CCD) was established in 1984 under the Coastal Conservation Act No.57 of 1981 and its amendment in 1988, the Coastal Conservation (Amendment) Act no. 64, with the principle responsibilities of administration, control, custody and management of the coastal zone.

Mission:

Conservation of the Coastal Zone and Management of Sustainable Coastal Resources

Vision:

Sri Lanka to achieve prominence as a country with the sustainable management coastal resources in the Asian Region

DIVISIONS

- [Coastal Research & Design Division](#)
- [Coastal Works Division](#)
- [Planning Division](#)
- [Finance Division](#)
- [Administration Division](#)

of

The main objectives of CCD's are,

- Improve the status of coastal environment
- Develop and manage the shoreline
- Improve the living standards of coastal communities
- Promote and facilitate economic development based upon coastal resources

CONTACT DETAILS

	Name	Position	Office	Fax	email
1	B.K. Prabath Chandrakeerthi	Director General	0112449197/ 0112449754	0112438005	dg.ccd.lk@gmail.com
2	Eng. R.A.S. Ranawaka	Chief Engineer/ Coastal Development Division	0112472622/ 0112449754	0112472622	sujeewa7@hotmail.com
3	Eng. I.M.Wickramanayake	Chief Engineer/ Coastal Research & Design Division	0112322564/ 0112449754	0112438005	mangalawk@gmail.com
4.	Eng. L.D. Ruhunage	Head/ Coastal Monitoring & Evaluation Unit	0112431148/ 0112449754	0112438005	lilaniruhunage@gmail.com
5	A.H.Gamini Hewage	Actg. Director/ Coastal Resource Management Division	0112387922/ 0112449754	0112472623	hewage.gamini@yahoo.com
6	Lal Kumarasiri	Chief Accountant/ Finance Division	0112387940/ 0112449754	0112387940	kuma425@yahoo.co.uk
7	M.A.E.S.K. Jayawardena	Assistant Director/ Administration Division	0112338307/ 0112449754	0112338307	
8	P.K.T. Wijerathne	Administrative Officer/ Administration Division	0112387930/ 0112449754	0112387930	ao@coastal.gov.lk
9	Panchali Fernando	Legal Officer/ Legal Unit	0112330460/ 0112449754	0112438005	kpafernando@yahoo.com

Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA)

Head Office: No.758, 2nd Floor, Baseline Road, Colombo 09.

Phone (General): 0112690604/ 0112690605

Fax: 0114615960

Email: info@mepa.gov.lk



OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The Marine Environment Protection Authority is the apex body established by the Government of Sri Lanka, under the Marine Pollution Prevention Act No. 35 of 2008, with the sole responsibility to prevent, control, and manages the pollution of Sri Lanka's Marine Environment.

Vision

A pollution free marine environment around Sri Lanka for the sustainable national development and the well-being of its people and the economy by the year 2020

Mission

Be an agency with required skills, competence, organizational structure and infrastructure framework to prevent, control and manage marine pollution in Sri Lankan waters through effective enforcement of regulations, implementation of concerned International conventions, coordination and mobilization of stakeholder and other resources, for sustainable management of marine environment for present and future generations

The main objectives of MEPA are,

- To effectively and efficiently administer and implement the provisions of Marine Environment protection act and the regulations made there under
- To formulate and execute a scheme of work for the prevention, reduction, control and management of pollution arising out of ship-based activity and shore base maritime related activity in the territorial waters of Sri Lanka or any other maritime zone declared at a future date under such law, its fore share and the coastal zone of Sri Lanka
- To conduct research in collaboration with other departments, agencies and institutions for both the government and private sector for the purpose of prevention, reduction control and management of pollution arising out of any ship-based activity or any other maritime zone declared at a future date under such law, its fore share and the coastal zone of Sri Lanka
- To take measures to manage safeguard and preserve the territorial water of Sri Lanka or any other maritime zone declared at a future date under such law, its fore share and the coastal zone of Sri Lanka
- To provide adequate and effective reception facilities for any oil, harmful substances or any other pollutant
- To recommend adherence to all international conventions and relevant protocols dealing with marine pollution which the government of Sri Lanka has or may ratify, accept, accede to or approve
- To formulate and implement the national oil pollution contingency plan
- To oversee, regulate and supervise the conduct of the contractors and person conducting or engaged in exploration of natural resources, service, sub-contractors and person conducting or engaged in exploration of natural resources including petroleum or related activities.
- To create awareness amongst groups of community of the need to preserve the marine environment
- To do all such other acts or things as may be necessary for the discharge of all or any of the above functions
- To effectively safeguard and preserve the territorial waters of Sri Lanka or any other maritime zone declared under the maritime zones law or which may be declared at a future date under such law from any pollution arising out of any ship based or shore based maritime related activity

- To conduct investigations and inquiries and to institute legal action in relation to any pollution, arising out of any ship-based activity or shore based maritime related activity
- To oversee all sea transport of oil and bunkering operations that are carried out in the territorial waters of Sri Lanka or any other maritime zone declared under the maritime zones law or which may be declared at a future date under such law, for the purpose of prevention of pollution

CONTACT DETAILS

	Name	Position	Mobile	Office	Fax	email
1	Rear Admiral (Rtd) Rohana Perera	Chairman		0112672761	0112687451	ch@mepa.gov.lk
2	Dr. P.B. Teney Pradeep Kumara	General Manager		0114615960	0114615960	gm@mepa.gov.lk
3	M.A.G.Priyantha	Deputy General Manager - (Information Officer)	071194 3433	0112676775	0114615960	dgmmepe@gmail.com

District & Regional Offices

	Regional Office	Address	Office	Fax
1	Galle District	Marine Environment Protection Authority No: 04, Cloisenburg Road, Magalle. Galle	0912233547	0912233547
2	Hambanthota District	Marine Environment Protection Authority No:46, 2nd Floor, Ruhunu Magampura Administrative Complex, Sribopura, Hambanthota	0472256372	0472256372
3	Matara District	Marine Environment Protection Authority No: 18, Wilmot Balasuriya Mw,	0412234250	0412234250

		Nupe, Matara.		
4	Kaluthara District	Marine Environment Protection Authority No: 28, Gangabada Road, Kalutara South.	0342221790	0342221790
5	Puttlam District	Marine Environment Protection Authority No: 23, Ebert Silva Watta, Colombo Rd. Chilaw.	0322222865	0322222865
6	Gampaha District	Marine Environment Protection Authority 1st Floor, No: 70/3, Colombo Road, Kurana, Katunayeka.	0312228606	0312228606
7	Colombo District	Marine Environment Protection Authority No: 758, 1st Floor, Baseline Rd, Colombo 09.	0114896911/ 0114615960	0114615960
8	Trincomalee District	Marine Environment Protection Authority District Secretary Office, 4 Mile, China Bay, Trincomalee	0262050805	0262050805
9	Ampara District	Marine Environment Protection Authority, Pradeshiyasabha Building, Village Council Road, Thambilyvil 2	0672265416	0672265416
10	Batticaloa Office	Marine Environment Protection Authority, 3, Pillayar Kovil Road, 1st Cross Street,	0652224979	
11	Jaffna District	Marine Environment Protection Authority, District Secretary Office, Jaffna.	0212212663	0212212663
12	Mannar Office	Marine Environment Protection Authority, District Secretary Office, Mannar	023225178	

SRI LANKA COAST GUARD (SLCG)

Address (Head Office): SLCG 'Rohana', Udupila, Mirissa, Matara, Sri Lanka

Phone (General): 041-2260265/041-2260268

Sri Lanka Coast Guard (SLCG) functions under the Ministry of Defence. It is an enforcement agency at sea. Every Coast Guard officer of the Department of Guard shall be deemed to be a peace officer within the meaning for the purposes of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act No. 15 of 1979. SLCG has been empowered with legal authority to search and arrest ships, craft and personnel engaged in illegal activities in maritime zone of Sri Lanka and constitute legal proceedings against the offenders.

Responsibilities and Functions

- Law enforcement, in the coastal areas, the territorial waters, and the maritime zones of Sri Lanka, and high seas.
- Prevention of illegal fishing in the coastal areas of Sri Lanka and the protection of fishermen including rendering assistance at sea.
- Providing assistance to the Customs and other relevant authorities in counter smuggling operations and border management.
- Prevention of illegal human trafficking.
- Prevention of piracy.



Deployment

Coast Guard Ashore Bases (Chilaw, Dikovita, Wellawatte, Dehiwala, Mount Lavinia, Panadura, Beruwela, Aluthgama, Balapitiya, Ambalangoda, Mirissa, Kirinda, Oluvil and Kankesanthurai)

Life Saving Training School (Balapitiya)

Diving Centre (Kirinda)

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- Cooperating with the law enforcement agencies and armed forces by taking necessary measures for the suppression of destructive terrorist activities occurring within the maritime zones and the territorial waters of Sri Lanka.
- Prevention of trans-boundary movement of narcotics by sea.
- Rendering of necessary assistance to the relevant authorities in ensuring safety of life and property at sea.
- Participating in search and rescue operations in times of natural catastrophes and providing assistance in salvage operations in relation to vessels and cargo subsequent of such incidents and other accidents at sea.
- Rendering of necessary assistance in the preservation and protection of maritime and marine environment.
- Rendering of necessary assistance to relevant authorities in the implementation and monitoring of measures required for the prevention and control of marine pollution and other disasters which occurs at sea.
- Rendering assistance in the conservation of marine species.
- Dissemination of information including warnings by radio or any other means in time of natural catastrophes.
- Providing security to maritime transportation and rendering assistance to ensure navigational safety.
- Performance of such other functions as may from time to time be conferred on or assigned to by the government.
-

Powers Vested upon the SLCG

- Stop, enter, board, inspect and search any place, structure, vessel or aircraft and arrest and detain any vessel or aircraft.
- Demand the production of any license, permit, record, certificate or any other document and inspect such license, permit, record, certificate or other document or make copies of or take extracts from such licenses, permit, record, certificate or other document.
- Investigate any offence which it has reason to believe is being committed or is about to be committed or has been committed. Exercise the right of hot pursuit.

Contact Details

Location		Phone	Fax
Sri Lanka Coast Guard Headquarters			
Udupila, Mirissa, Matara		041-2260265 041-2260268 041-2260267 041-2260312 041-2254752	041-2260265 041-2260268
Sri Lanka Coast Guard Rear Headquarters			
No 77, Colombo Plan Road (Marine Drive), Colombo 06		011-2363025	011-2363074
Regional Headquarters			
Region	Location	Phone	Fax
Western Region	Modara, Panadura	011-3818251 011-3818089	011-2363074
Northern Region	Kankasanthurei		
Coast Guard stations			
Location		Phone	Fax
Thissa, Kirinda		047-3625376	047-3625376
Olvil		067-2255427	067-2255427
'Dickovita', Hendala, Wattala		011-3818211	011-3818211
Coast Guard Life Saving Training school			
Balapitiya		011-3818250 091-2254688	091-2254688

FOREST DEPARTMENT

Head Office: 82, Rajamalwatta Road,
Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.

Phone (General): +94 112 866 616

Fax: +94 112 866 633



OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

Forest Department was started as the Office of the Conservator of Forests in 1887 denoting the commencement of forest conservation and scientific forestry in Sri Lanka. Both forest and wildlife management was carried out by the Forest Department until the establishment of Department of Wildlife Conservation in 1949. Today about 55% of forest lands of the country falls under the purview of Forest Department while the balance forest area is primarily managed by the Department of Wildlife Conservation with an exception of very small extents isolated forest patches under the purview of other agencies and private ownership. Forest Department manages ninety thousand hectares of forest plantations.

The forestry policy approved by the government in states that all the forest areas are to be managed in a sustainable manner in order to ensure the continued existence of important ecosystems and flow of forest products and services. It also

DIVISIONS

Headquarters

16. Additional Conservator Generals of Forests - Forest Protection, Operations and Management
17. Additional Conservator Generals of Forests - Research and Education
18. Additional Conservator Generals of Forests - Human Resource Management, Administration and Institutional Development
19. Forest Protection and Law Enforcement Division
20. Silviculture and Forest Management Division
21. Forest Inventory and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Division
22. Environment Conservation and Management Division
23. Social Forestry and Forest Extension Division
24. Planning and Monitoring Division
25. Finance Management

Regional Administration

There are 20 forest divisions under these four regions. Each forest division is sub divided in to forest ranges, forest beats, and forest field assistant units.

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recognizes and respects the traditional rights, cultural values and religious beliefs of people living in and adjacent to forest areas. There are adequate provisions for collaborative management of protected areas and for benefit sharing.

The three main objectives of the National Forest Policy are,

- To conserve forests for posterity, with particular regard to biodiversity, soils, water, and historical, cultural, religious and aesthetic values.
- To increase the tree cover and productivity of the forests to meet the needs of present and future generations for forest products and services.
- To enhance the contribution of forestry to the welfare of the rural population, and strengthen the national economy, with special attention paid to equity in economic development.

National Policy on Wildlife Conservation and National Land Use Policy are two other important policies related to the National Forest Policy.

Forestry Sector Master Plan

The first Forestry Sector Master Plan was prepared in 1986. Although this plan made a valuable contribution to improve the database needed for planning and to introduce a systematic approach to develop countries forest resources, it also had deficiencies due to its pioneering nature. The main drawback of the plan was having too narrowed a scope and not addressing environmental aspects of forestry adequately while failing to get involved all the key stakeholders in the planning process. In order to address the deficiencies, found in the first forestry master plan, an environmental review was carried out in 1989 by the government. Based on the recommendations of this review, the current master plan was prepared in 1995 covering bio-physical, environmental, socio-political, and economic aspects of the forestry sector. The plan covers the period 1995 - 2020.

The Forestry Sector Master Plan puts particular emphasis on:

- Conserving the remaining natural forests to maintain biological resources (flora & fauna) as reservoirs of biodiversity.
- Empowering people and rural communities to manage and protect multiple use forests mainly for their own benefit.
- Building partnerships in forestry development activities.
- Developing home garden and other agro forestry systems as well as forest plantations to meet peoples' basic needs and to supply industrial wood.
- Policy and legal reforms.
- Developing and strengthening forestry institutions, both state and NGOs.

CONTACT DETAILS

	Name	Position	Office	Fax	email
1	Mr. Anura Sathurusinghe	Conservator General of Forests	+94 112 866 616	+94 112 866 633	cgfsoffice@gmail.com
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3	Dr. Ramyalal Weerawardhane	Additional Conservator General of Forests – Research & Education	+94 112 866 635	+94 112 866 628	adcgf.re@gmail.com
4.		Additional Conservator General of Forests - Human Resource Management, Administration and Institutional Development	+94 112 866 625	+94 112 866 625	
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DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

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OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The Wildlife Department was established in October 1949. The challenge in the hands of the Department of Wildlife Conservation from 1960 onwards was to ensure the protection of wildlife resources against the large scale multi-purpose development projects implemented in the country. The first National Policy on Wildlife Conservation 1990 was approved by cabinet in June 1990. The present National Wildlife Policy addresses many of the same issues in updated form, while also adding some points that respond to the evolving needs of Sri Lankan society and the additional mandates of the convention on Biological Diversity, which Sri Lanka ratified in 1994. The convention is important because it provides a new context for managing wildlife resources, by emphasizing the three themes of conservation, sustainable use and benefits sharing, and by recognizing that these must be balanced and linked if sustainable development is to be achieved.

DIVISIONS

1. Natural Resource Management (NRM) Division
2. Research Division
3. Veterinary Division
4. Planning and ICT Division
5. Law Enforcement Division
6. Division for Elephants
7. Finance Division
8. Administration Division

Objectives of the National Wildlife Policy are,

- To conserve wildlife resources, through protection, research, education, sustainable use and benefit sharing, for the benefit of present and future generation.
- To maintain ecological processes and life-sustaining systems, with particular regard to primary production, hydrological balance, nutrient cycles, and prevention of erosion, siltation, drought and flood.
- To manage all components of genetic diversity, as resources to improve crop plant and farm animal, and to develop in a fair and equitable manner new product and processes through bio-prospecting.
- To ensure sustainable use and equitable sharing of benefits, arising from the direct and indirect use of wildlife resources and ecosystems.
- To conserve native and endemic species and their habitats, so as to maintain the overall species richness and ecological integrity of the country.
- To encourage the development of biological repositories, for the purposes of conservation education and science.
- To encourage the private sector and communities to join as full partners in all aspects of the wildlife-conservation process.

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4.	Lal Perera	Director (Finanace)				
5	Mahesh Abesekara	Director (Admin)				
6	Laxman Peries	Diputy Director (Research)				
7	Ranjan Marasinghe	Deputy Director (Planning & ICT Division & Law enforcement Division)				
8	U.L Taufeeek	Deputy Director (Elephant)				

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The Department of Agriculture (DOA) functions under the Ministry of Agriculture and the DOA is one of the largest government departments with a high profile community of agricultural scientists and a network of institutions covering different agro ecological regions island wide.

The objectives of the DOA are,

- Focused on maintaining and increasing productivity and production of the food crop sector for the purpose of enhancing the income and living condition of the farmer and making food available at affordable prices to the consumer.
- The major functions of the DOA include
 - Research,
 - Extension,
 - Production of seed and planting material,
 - Regulatory services related to plant quarantine, Plant Protection Act

DIVISIONS

Research institutes

- Rice Research and Development Institute
- Field Crops Research and Development Institute
- Horticultural Crops Research and Development Institute

Technical service centers

1. Seed Certification and Plant Protection Centre
2. Seed and Planting Material Development Center
3. Extension and Training Centre
4. Socio Economics and Planning Center
5. Natural Resource Management Center
6. Progress Monitoring and Evaluation Unit

Support services

1. Engineering Division
2. Finance Division
3. Administration Division

Soil Conservation Act
Control of Pesticide Act
Seed Act

- Soil conservation and pesticides.

CONTACT DETAILS

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ANNEX 2.

State Actor Sensitizing Workshop

Outcome of Group Discussions

Group 1

The thematic areas dealt with by Group 1 included the following

- c) Responsible governance of tenure**
- d) Sustainable Resource Management**

a) Responsible Governance of Tenure

Responsible Governance of Tenure (Working group discussion : 1 hour)			
Issues/gaps that exist with tenure rights to fishery resources	Actors/stakeholders for whom these issues/gaps are most relevant	Proposed types of processes/actions or changes to address these issues/gaps	Responsible agents/stakeholders
Overlapping of laws	Department of Fisheries, Tourism, Fishers, Wildlife, Forest, Environment, CCD, MEPA, Irrigation, Local authorities, Fisher community, Tourism industry.	Need of a proper policy measures to ensure, policy coherence, coordination and implementation, political commitment, establishment of national committee for all aquatic environments (inland and marine).	All relevant ministries having responsibilities in the management of the coastal zone.
Loss of beach access	Fisher community, Tourism, CCD, Department of Fisheries, Divisional secretary, Local authority, Forest, Wild life, Shipping industry	-Stakeholder consultation. -Focus on rights of small scale fishers when implementing new development projects.	CCD, Ministry of Fisheries, Local government, District Secretary's office, Tourism Development Authority
Lack of proper/ appropriate regulations and commitments	Department of Fisheries, Tourism, Fishers, Wildlife, Forest, Environment, CCD, MEPA, Irrigation, Local authorities, Fisher	Identify the gaps and strengthen laws and regulations and strictly enforce law	CCD, Department of Fisheries, Political authorities

	community, Tourism industry.		
Conflicts among resource users	Fishers, Farmers, other stakeholders, Religious organizations, NGOs	-Proper co-ordination among diverse stakeholders. -Community empowerment and capacity building. -Establishment of National committee to coordinate activities of all aquatic environments	All relevant ministries including provincial council and local government.

b) Sustainable Resource Management

Sustainable Resource Management (Working group discussion: 30 mins)		
Issues/barriers that exist within the sector for sustainable fisheries resources management	Proposed types of processes/actions or changes to address those issues/gaps	Responsible agents/stakeholders
Lack of knowledge about the ecosystem approach to resource management (EAF).	Comprehensive studies to be carried out on EAF	NARA, Universities, Funding organizations and MFARD
Lack of political commitments to enforce rules and regulations.	Political support to conduct National level awareness and monitoring programmes for sustainable resource management.	MFARD
Absence of appropriate rules, regulations and policies.	Proper regulations based on properly designed studies.	MFARD and relevant policy makers (NASTEC)
Non-recognition of scientific research output and lack of facilities to conduct research.	-Translate research knowledge in to policies and allocate of sufficient funds to fill the research gaps. -Establishment of National committee to coordinate research activities of all aquatic environments.	MFARD

c) Establishing co-management Platforms

Co-Management Platforms			
Existing Co-management platforms	Issues/deficiencies associated with them	Suggestions to address those issues and upgrade/improve these platforms	Actors/fisheries stakeholders whose involvement/inclusion is most critical
Provisions to declare fisheries management areas and fisheries management committees have been made in Act No. 35 of 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of funds for implementation of co-management practices. - Inadequately functioning national advisory committees. - Inadequate community consultation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Separate budgetary allocation on co-management -identify the areas where co-management could be implemented. 	MFARD, Treasury. All stakeholders in the fisheries sector, District secretary

d) Community Organisations

Community Organisations			
Existing community organizational structures	Role of a community organizations within a Co-management platform	Issues/barriers towards fulfilling that role	Suggestions to address those issues and upgrade/improve them
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -FCS (Fisheries Co-operative Societies). -RFO (Rural Fisheries Organization). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Assisting co-management system. -Inland fisheries co-management. 	Fish. Coops. Not under the control of DFARD	Empowering stakeholders.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -FLMC (Fisheries Lagoon Management Committee) (for lagoons) -FMCC (Fisheries Management Coordination committee) (for marine) 	Co-management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lack of state intervention. -lack of fishers' participation for the co-management. -lack of funding sources. -inadequate awareness among stakeholders. 	Awareness building programme

e) Monitoring, Control and Surveillance

Monitoring, Controlling and surveillance (MCS) system		
Role of a Monitoring, Controlling and surveillance (MCS) unit	Issues/gaps that exist related to it	Suggestions towards upgrading/improvement
National level monitoring (MCS) for SSF	Non- existence of National level monitoring (MCS) for SSF	Establish National level monitoring (MCS) for SSF

Group B

c) Social Development, Employment and Decent Work

d) Gender Equality

a) *Social Development*

Social development (Working group discussion: 30 mins)		
Gaps and issues related to social development of fishing communities	Proposed processes/actions to address those gaps and to promote social development	Responsible agents/stakeholders
Inadequate drinking water.	-Salt water purification. -Introducing RO plants.	Water board, DFARD Local government
Poor sanitation.	-Implementing sanitary projects.	DFARD, Ministry of health, Local government.
Inadequate housing	-Implementing housing development schemes. -housing loan schemes.	-DFARD, NAQDA -/National Housing Development Authority -Central Government

b) *Employment and Decent Work*

Employment and decent work (Working group discussion : 30 mins)	
Proposed processes/actions to promote decent work for small scale fisheries workers	Responsible agents/ Stakeholders
Introducing communication, search and rescue mechanism.	DFARD, NAQDA, Navy, Coast guard, DMC
Introducing latest weather update system.	Meteorology department, DFERD, DMC

Implementing awareness programs on labour laws.	DFARD, NAQDA, Labour department
Introducing safety gears and boats.	DFARD, NAQDA, CEYNOR
Introducing standard policy for the boats. (what a board should be equipped with. Ex. Life jackets)	DFARD
Introducing standard first aid kit.	DFARD, MOH
Introducing a health check programmes.	MOH
Introducing training institution to train fishers on technology, fishing skills and good and responsible practices.	DFARD, MFARD

c) Gender Issues

Gender Equality (Working group discussion: 1 hour)		
Issues related to gender equality	Proposed processes/actions to address those issues and to promote gender equality	Responsible agents/stakeholders
Cultural barriers	Awareness and educational programmes	DFARD, CBO, NAGDA
Personal influences (individual behaviour)	Awareness and educational programmes	DFARD, CBO, NAGDA
Lack of safety and security	Awareness programme	DFARD, Navy, coast guard, police
Lack of gender mainstreaming	Introducing a policy for 25% representation of women in all decision making bodies	Ministry of Women and Child affairs, MFARD, Ministry of Policy Planning
Discrepancy of wage for Men and women	Imposing rules and regulations	Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Women Affairs
Lack of implementation of labour laws	Conducting awareness programs	Department of Labour, DFARD
Drug addiction	Conducting awareness programs	DFARD, NAQDA, Police, NGOs

GROUP C

c) Value Chains, Post Harvest and Trade

d) Disaster risk and climate change

a) Value Chains, Post-Harvest & Trade

Value chains, post-harvest and trade (Working group discussion: 1 hour)		
Issues/gaps among SSF value chain, post-harvest subsector and trade	Proposed processes/actions to address those issues	Responsible agents/ stakeholders
<p><u>At fishing</u> Lack of awareness on post harvest handling and the use of certain fishing nets² Dislike to change attitudes Use of illegal fishing gears (dynamite for example) ICE –lack of quality ice & timely availability³ Lack of anchorage facility for boat Lack of standard Boat design⁴ Low supply of labour (especially for beachseine fisheries)</p>	<p>i. Provision of infrastructural facilities (ice storage, anchorage facilities, etc.) ii. Design boats to suit the needs iii. Promote fishing activities as a family business (engage in diverse links in the value chain, adopt new technology, etc.)⁵ iv. Strengthen MCS activities v. Strengthen Community organisations</p>	<p>i. Rural Fisheries Organizations NARA/ DFARD/ MFARD ii. DFARD iii. DFARD, Coast Guard iv. Ministry of Health</p>
<p><u>Landing site</u> Lack of infrastructure facilities (ice, water, toilet) Fish handling problems (careless handling, lack of clean water, etc.) Lack of appropriate fish grading system and market (auctioning) Lack of auctioning & Middlemen exploitation Inadequate involvement of women at landing ⁶ Weakness of extension service</p>	<p>i. Easy access to credit facilities ii. Strengthening extension services</p>	<p>CFHC/ private sector Ceynor foundation NARA Boat owners CHFC Community organizations DFARD/CFC</p>
<p><u>Training and value addition</u> Lack of market access and information</p>	<p>i. Establish proper marketing and</p>	<p>i. Community organization ii. CFC/DFARD</p>

² For example, keeping bottom set gill nets too long in the sea, leading to fish quality deterioration

³ Leading to exploitation by merchants, who provide ice

⁴ A good boat design that has facilities for ice storage

⁵ This will also keep the young within the sector

⁶ Fishers say that a change of attitude is required. Women should be allowed to help them on the beach!

Dependence on informal credit Lack of technology, infrastructure and knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. information systems Introduce micro finance system iii. Introduce technology and awareness building programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Private sector iv. Financial institutes v. NARA/DFARD/private sector
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b) Disaster Risk and Climate Change

Disaster risks and Climate change (Working group discussion: 1 hour)			
Implications of natural and human-induced disasters and climate change for small scale fisheries	Issues or gaps in the existing policies, plans, risk management and monitoring systems	Proposed processes/actions to address those issues and to strengthen resilience of SSF communities	Responsible agents/stakeholders
Uncertainty of weather forecast and negative attitudes towards them	Inaccuracy of weather information.	Strengthening the weather information systems. Awareness building	Meteorological department, disaster management centre, DFAR, community organizations
No proper communication systems to disseminate weather information	Lack of modern technology	Improve coordination among all stakeholders	-DO-
Lack of comprehensive fisheries insurance scheme	Lack of coordination.	Introduce appropriate insurance scheme / awareness building. Introduce and strengthen insurance schemes through community organizations	Private sector
Disaster Insurance is not made through	Human errors/irresponsibility	Introduce disaster control plan	DMC and other

community consultation		with the involvement of all stakeholders.	stakeholders
No proper disaster contingency plan			NARA Finance ministry, Universities CCD, DFARD
Lack of research on fishery resources affected by Climate Change		Allocation of more funds for research	
Impact of beach erosion on SSF; Ex: landing sites beach seine etc	No legal framework for establishing rights of fishers	Establish / implement proper legal framework	

GROUP D

c) Policy Coherence, institutional coordination and collaboration

d) Information, research and communication

a) Policy Coherence, Institutional Coordination and Collaboration

Policy Coherence, institutional coordination and collaboration (Working group discussion: 1 hour)			
Concerns that need to be taken in to account for work towards policy coherence	Issues or gaps related to existing institutional structures and linkages	Proposed processes/actions to establish and promote institutional structures and linkages	Responsible agents/ stakeholders
Development of rules, regulations and policies after discussing with relevant institutes (ex. about fishing in wildlife reserves)	Government officers working beyond the regulations of the act	Develop attitudes of government officers/ make communities aware about rules/ empower the community	All relevant government and non-government institutes including department of fisheries, wildlife conservation department, NAQDA, NARA, CEA, CCD, Irrigation Department, defence forces,
Construction of a common responsible structure/platform or institute covering all institutes related to small scale fishing industry	Wrong usage of the law by government officers	change and develop attitudes of government officers	
Give the authority to wildlife department to take action under Wild Life law when fishing	Inefficiency of corporate communication	Develop a common/corporate management plan between all	

activities violate such law wildlife reserves	system among organizations	organizations and the community	DS offices and Ministry of Tourism
Make new laws (about the right to use irrigation water for agriculture and fishing)	Not having a good corporation and coordination between organizations (fisheries, tourism and agriculture)	Update laws to improve corporation and coordination among organizations	
Change or relax existing laws and regulations	Competition between institutions for the authority	Update laws ⁷	
Not implementing existing laws as it is	Influence of political authority	Empower the community	

b) Information, research and communication

Information, research and communication (Working group discussion: 1 hour)		
Issues/gaps in the existing information, research and communication mechanisms	Proposed processes/actions towards establishing proper information, research and communication mechanisms within the SSF sector	Responsible agents/stakeholders
Lack of sufficient information related to small scale fisheries	Make a special unit to collect information related to small scale fishing field (including traditional knowledge) with continued updating of information	MFARD and all institutes under the ministry Universities and technical institutes Non-government organizations
Modes of Information collection not working properly and are not being updated	Establish a system to develop communication among institutes and the community	

⁷ It was suggested to update the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act of 1996, so that responsibilities of different institutes are clearly specified

Legal barriers for getting information	Reduce the barriers for accessing information	
Not having a demonstration 'farm' related to small scale fishing industry (including aquaculture)	Develop a demonstration farm for small scale fishing industry (including aquaculture) ⁸	
Hiding information to a chive personal ends of individuals	Appoint officers to collect information and develop their facilities, knowledge and abilities Use new technology to collect and store data	
There is no system to collect traditional knowledge related to small scale fisheries		
Inadequate number of data collecting officers		
Scarcity of facilities for officers to collect data		
Distance between information collector and information provider		
Lack of communication and collaboration among institutes	Implement programs to develop the collaboration and communication among institutes	
Lack of proper system to disseminate information	Make a technical unit to disseminate information	
Lack of a mechanism to identify research problems related to small scale fisheries	Develop a mechanism with universities and all institutes to identify research issues of small scale fisheries	
Lack of sufficient funds for research	Allocate sufficient funds for research	
Distance between information collector and information provider		

Prepared by:

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Assisted by:

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⁸ To disseminate new knowledge and to train people

ANNEX 3

POSTERS

(in Sinhala and Tamil Language)

සුළුපන්හි ධීවර කර්මාන්තය තුළ
සිවිල්යයෙන් හූමිකාවේ
වටිනාකම හඳුනාගනිමු !

සුළුපන්හි
ධීවර කර්මාන්තයේ
සුරක්ෂිතතාව සඳහා වන
මග පෙන්වීම් මාලාව
බලගන්වමු!

ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සුළුපරමාන ධීවර ඒකමුතුව

SFFSL

(Sinhalese)

சிறு மீன்பிடி தொழிலினுள்
பெண்களின் வகிபங்குக்கான
பெறுமதியை அறிமுகப்படுத்துதல்!

சிறு மீன்பிடி தொழிலின்
நிலைபேறான தன்மைக்கான
தன்னார்வ வழிகாட்டலை
பலப்படுத்துவோம்!

SLFSSF

சிறுமீன்பிடி தொழிலுக்கான இலங்கை ஒன்றியம்



TAMIL

Message:

**Recognize the important role played by
women in small scale fisheries**

**Let us enforce SSF Guidelines for securing sustainable small
scale fisheries**



සහ-කළමනාකරණය
හඳුන්වාදීම මගින්
සියළු පාර්ශවකරුවන්
ධීවර කළමනාකරණය
සඳහා හවුල් කරගනිමු !

ධීවර කළමනාකරණයේ
නිරසරඛව සුරකිමු

මේ සඳහා අපි එකතුවෙමු
කැපවෙමු...!

සුළුපරිමාන ධීවර කර්මාන්තය සඳහා වූ ශ්‍රීලාංකීය එකමුතුව

SLFSSF


Sinhalese



இணை முகாமைத்துவத்தை
அறிமுகப்படுத்துவதனுடாக சகல
தரப்பினரையும் மீன்பிடி முகாமைத்துவச்
செயற்பாட்டிற்குள்
இணைத்துக்கொள்ளல்!

மீன்பிடி முகாமைத்துவத்தின்
நிலைத்திருக்கக்கூடிய

இதற்காக நாம் ஒன்றிணைந்
அர்ப்பணத்துடன் செயற்படுவோம்...!

சிறுமீன்பிடி தொழிலுக்கான இலங்கை ஒன்றியம்

SLFSSF

(Tamil)

Message:

**Let us ensure participation of all
stakeholders in a co-management
Platform**

**Make Fisheries Management Process
Sustainable**

ANNEX 4

FFACT SHEETS


FACT SHEET

	<p>වෙරළාසන්න ඉඩම් සඳහා ඇති අයිතිය;</p> <p>කුමන අයිතීන්ද?.. අයිතීන් උල්ලංඝනය වීම?</p>	
<p>ප්‍රමාණවත් ආහාර, අධ්‍යාපනය, සමාජ සුබසාධන වැඩපිළිවලක් සහ ශිෂ්ට ජීවන තත්වයක් සඳහා ඇති අයිතිය.</p>	<p>ධීවර ජනතාවගේ අයිතීන්</p>	<p>සම්පත් සඳහා ඇති අයිතිය:</p> <p>කුමන සම්පත් සඳහා කා හට අයිතියක් ඇත්ද?</p>
<p>කෙසේ නමුත්, අයිතීන් හා වගකීම් එකට බැඳී පවතී</p>	<p>මබේ අයිතීන් හඳුනාගැනීමට, වාර්තා කරගැනීමට සහ ඒවාට ගරු කිරීමට සුළුපන්න ධීවර මගපෙන්වීම උත්සාහ දරයි.</p>	

The Rights of Fishing Populations

- Rights to coastal land: what rights? Violation of rights?
- Rights to resources: who has rights to which resources?
- Rights to adequate food, education, social welfare measures and a decent standard of living
- However, Rights come with responsibilities!!

The SSF guidelines attempt at recognizing, recording and respecting your rights





සුළු පන්ත
ධීවර කර්මාන්තය

ඔබේ,

- 1. පෝශණයට**
- 2. ආහාර සුරක්ෂිතතාවයට**
- 3. සේවා නියුක්තියට**
- 4. තිරසර ජීවනෝපායට**
- 5. දුප්පත්කම දුරලීමට**
- 6. ආර්ථික වර්ධනයට**

ශක්තියක් වීම සඳහා අති අන්රස ඉඩ ප්‍රස්ථාවකි.

ඔබගේ ධීවර සංවිධානය, ධීවර සමුපාකාරය හරහා මෙම හැකියාව යථාර්ථයක් කරගනිමු.



Sri Lanka Forum for Small Scale Fisheries

Small Scale Fisheries

You have a great potential to make contribution towards:

1. Nutrition
2. Food Security
3. Employment
4. Sustainable Livelihoods
5. Poverty Alleviation
6. Economic Growth

**Let us realize this potential, through your organisations –
Fisheries Cooperatives**

FACT SHEET 3

සුළුපන්හ ධීවර මගපෙන්වීම් මූලධර්මයන් 13ක් මත ගොඩනැගී ඇත

01. මානව අයිතීන් සහ අභිමානය.
02. සංස්කෘතීන්ට ගරු කිරීම.
03. වෙනස්කොට නොසැලකීම.
04. ස්ත්‍රී පුරුෂ සමානතාවය හා සාධාරණත්වය.
05. සාධාරණය හා සමානතාවය.
06. තොරතුරු විමසීම සහ සහභාගීත්වය.
07. නීතියේ ආධිපත්‍යය.
08. විනිවිධ බව.
09. වගකීම.
10. ආර්ථික, සමාජමය සහ පාරිසරික නිරසර බව.
11. සාර්ව සහ සාකලය ප්‍රවිශ්ඨය.
12. සමාජ වගකීම.
13. සාධයතාව සහ සමාජ ආර්ථික ශක්‍යතාව.



SSF GUIDELINES ARE BASED ON 13 PRINCIPLES

- 01. human rights and dignity;
- 02. respect of cultures;
- 03. non-discrimination;
- 04. gender equality and equity;
- 05. equity and equality;
- 06. consultation and participation;
- 07. rule of law;
- 08. transparency;
- 09. accountability;
- 10. economic, social and environmental sustainability;
- 11. holistic and integrated approaches;
- 12. social responsibility; and
- 13. feasibility and social and economic viability.

FACT SHEET 4

තීරසර සම්පත් කළමනාකරණය පිළිබඳව

අප ඉලක්ක කළ යුත්තේ සම්පත්වල දිගුකාලීන තීරසර බව පිළිබඳවයි.

පරිසරයට අවම හානියක් සිදුවන ධීවර ක්‍රම භාවිතා කිරීමට වගබලා ගතයුතුය.

සම්පත් කළමනාකරණය පිළිබඳ වගකීම ද ධීවරයින් විසින් ගතයුතු වේ.

සම්පත් කළමනාකරණ ක්‍රියාවලියට ජනතාව සම්බන්ධ විය යුතුය.

කළමනාකරණ තීරණ ගැනීමේ ක්‍රියාවලියට ධීවර ප්‍රජාව ක්‍රියාකාරීව සම්බන්ධ වීම වැදගත් වේ.

සක්‍රීය ලෙස අන්‍යෝන්‍ය ක්‍රියාකාරීත්වය සඳහා සහ කළමනාකරණ තීරණ ගැනීමට වේදිකාවන් ස්ථාපිතකරවා ගැනීම සඳහා රාජ්‍ය ක්‍රියාකාරීන් ප්‍රජා ක්‍රියාකාරීන් සමඟ එක්ව කටයුතුකළ යුතුය.

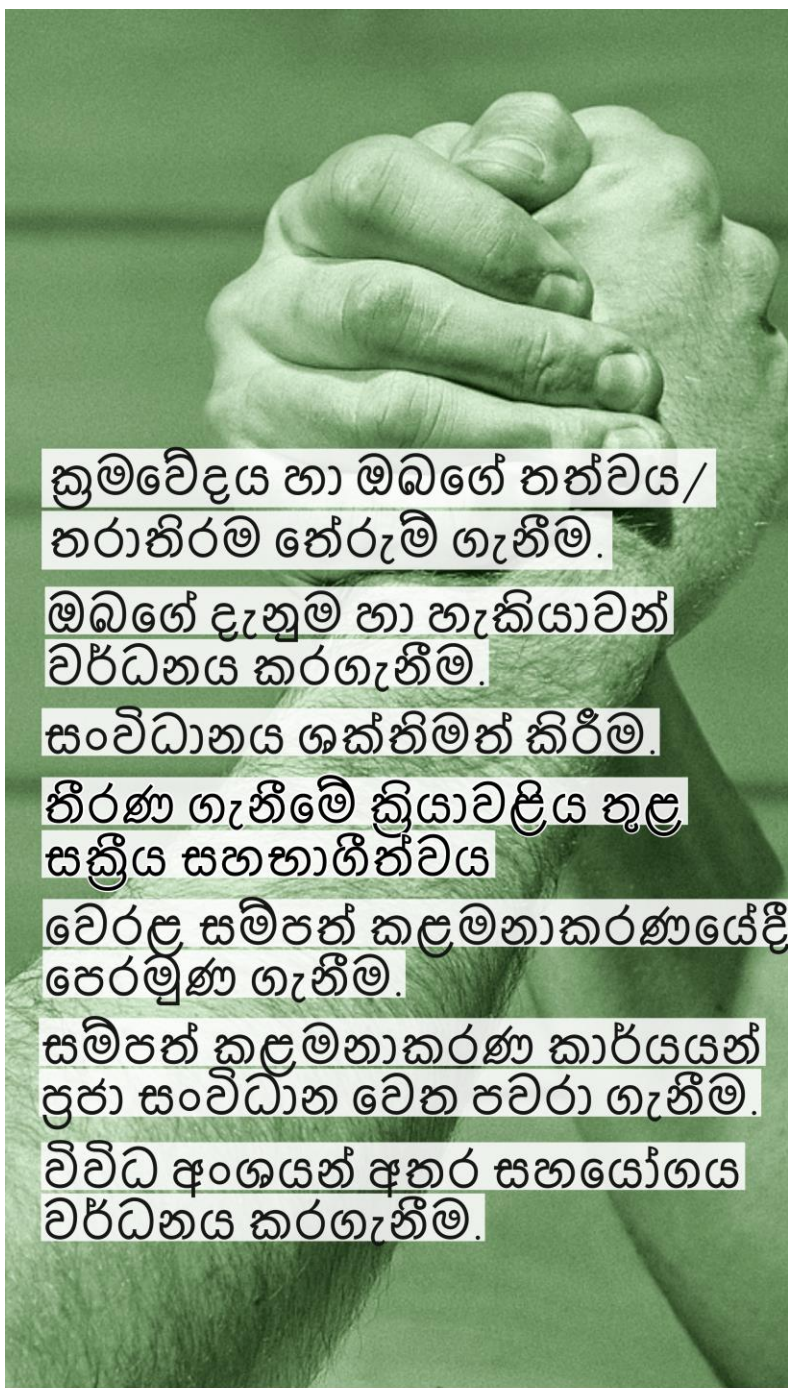
කාන්තාවන් ඇතුළු සියළුම කොටස් කරුවන්ගේ සහභාගීත්වයෙන් යුත් ඵලදායී සහ-කළමනාකරණ වේදිකාවන් අපට අවශ්‍ය වේ.



ON SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- We should aim at long term sustainability of resources.
- Use fishing practices doing least harm to the environment
- Fishers should also take responsibility of resource management
- Communities should be involved in the process of resource management
- Active participation of fishing communities in management decision making is important
- State actors should join hands with community actors in establishing platforms where they actively interact and make management decisions
- We require effective co-management platforms with the participation of all stakeholders including women

FACT SHEET 5



ක්‍රමවේදය හා ඔබගේ තත්වය/
තරාතිරම තේරුම් ගැනීම.

ඔබගේ දැනුම හා හැකියාවන්
වර්ධනය කරගැනීම.

සංවිධානය ශක්තිමත් කිරීම.

තීරණ ගැනීමේ ක්‍රියාවලිය තුළ
සක්‍රීය සහභාගීත්වය

වෙරළ සම්පත් කළමනාකරණයේදී
පෙරමුණ ගැනීම.

සම්පත් කළමනාකරණ කාර්යයන්
ප්‍රජා සංවිධාන වෙත පවරා ගැනීම.

විවිධ අංශයන් අතර සහයෝගය
වර්ධනය කරගැනීම.

ටීවර අවශ්‍යතා හා අයිතීන් සාක්ෂාත් කරගැනීම
සලකා බලවේ හැඬ අවධිකරන්නේ කෙසේද?



How can you raise your voice to realize your rights and meet your needs-

- Understanding the status: yours and the system's
- Developing your knowledge and skills
- Strengthening your organisations (cooperatives)
- Actively participating in the decision making process
- Taking leadership in coastal resources management
- Community organisations undertaking resource management functions
- Cross sectoral collaboration

FACT SHEET 6

පාලනයේ දී,

සුළුපන්න ධීවර මග පෙන්වීම් ධීවර ගැටළු ගණනාවකට විසඳුම් සපයමින් තිරසර සුළුපන්න ධීවර කර්මාන්තය සුරක්ෂිත කරනු ලබයි.

එය ඔබ සෘජුවම තීරණ ගැනීමට දායක කරවන, පහලින් ඉහලට එන ක්‍රියාවලියක් වේ.

මෙය ක්‍රියාවට නැංවීමට නම්, ඔබේ කේවලකිරීමේ ධාරිතාවය වර්ධනය කරමින් අයිතිවාසිකම් හා අවශ්‍යතා වෙනුවෙන් හඬනැගීමට ඔබේ සංවිධානයන් ශක්තිමත් කිරීමට සිදුවනු ඇත.

සියළුම කොටස්කරුවන් හට සහභාගීත්වයේ සම අවස්ථා ලැබෙන "සහ-කළමනාකරණය" නම් වූ යාන්ත්‍රණය හරහා එය සිදුවේ.

එවැනි සහ-කළමනාකරණ වේදිකාවක්, කොටස් කරුවන් අතර ඇති විවිධ අන්තර් සම්බන්ධතා ඇතුළු මුළු ක්‍රියාවලියම සමස්ථයක් ලෙස දැකීමට සලසමින් ගැටුම් නිරාකරණය සහතික කරනු ඇත.

එවැනි වේදිකාවකදී ගනු ලබන තීරණ සියළු දෙනාටම එකඟ විශ්වාසයක් එවා වනු ඇත.



ON GOVERNANCE.....

- SSF guidelines will provide answers to major SSF issues and secure sustainable small scale fisheries.
- This will be a bottom up process, where you will actively participate in decision making
- To do this, you may require to build up your capacities to negotiate and strengthen your organisations to voice your rights and needs
- This is done through a mechanism called ‘co-management’, where all relevant stakeholders are provided with equal opportunity of participation.
- Such a co-management platform, will ensure looking at the system as a whole, various interactions among stakeholders, and resolving conflicts among them.
- Decision taken at such a platform will be acceptable to all.

FACT SHEET 7

කාන්තාවන්...!

සුළුපන්න ධීවර මග පෙන්වීම් ඔබට සමාන ඉඩප්‍රස්ථා සලසා දෙනු ලබයි.

ගේ දොර කටයුතු කළමනාකරණය, දරුවන්ගේ අධ්‍යාපනය, සමාජ වගකීම්, පසු අස්වනු වටිනාකම් දාමයේ ක්‍රියාකාරීත්වය, අතිරේක ආදායම් ඉපයීම ඇතුළුව ධීවර කර්මාන්තය තුළ කාන්තාවන් ප්‍රධාන භූමිකාවක් ක්‍රියාවට නංවනු ලබයි.

කාන්තාවගේ භූමිකාව බොහෝ විට අවතක්සේරුවට ලක් වේ.

කාන්තාව සුළුපන්න ධීවර කර්මාන්ත සංවර්ධනය පිළිබඳ තීරණ ගැනීමේ ක්‍රියාවලියේ ප්‍රධාන ධාරාව බවට පත්කළ යුතු වේ.

සියළුම තීරණ ගැනීමේ වේදිකාවන් හි කාන්තා නියෝජනය ප්‍රමාණවත්ව පැවතිය යුතුයි.

වෙළඳපල මැදිහත් කරුවන්ගෙන් කාන්තාව ආරක්ෂාකළ යුතු අතර වෙළෙන්දන් සමග කේවල් කිරීමේ ඔවුන්ගේ හැකියාව වර්ධනය කළයුතුයි.

ඉඩම් සඳහා සහ ධීවර සම්පත් වලට ඇති අයිතිය මෙන්ම, තීරණ ගැනීමේ අයිතිය තහවුරු වියයුතුවාක් මෙන්ම ධාරිතාවය වර්ධනය සහ බලගැන්වීම තුළින් එය යථාර්ථවත් කරගත යුතුය.

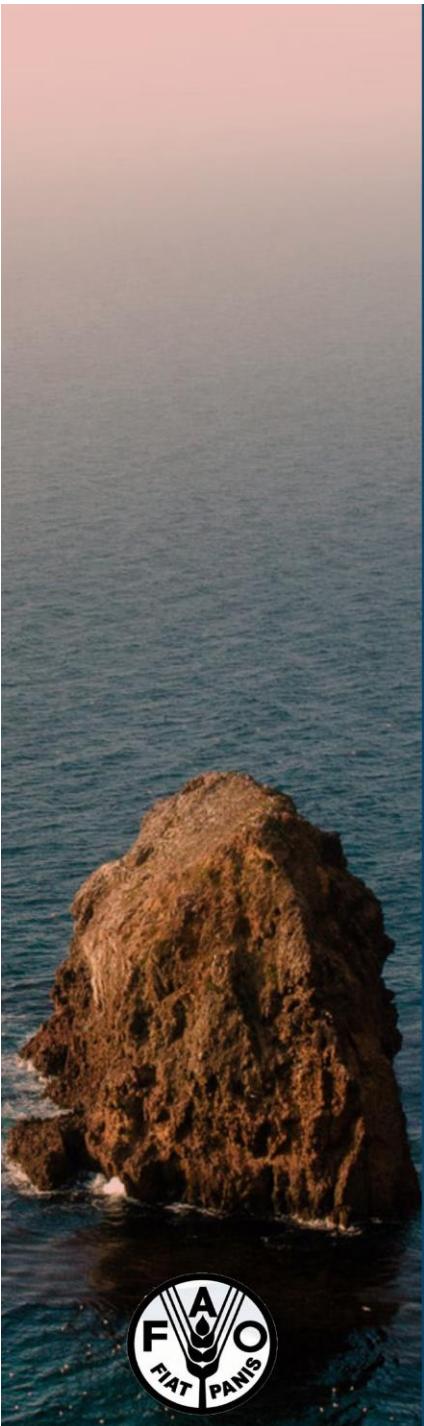
ධීවර සමූපාකාරයන් කාර්යක්ෂමව කළමනාකරණයේ කාන්තාවගේ භූමිකාව පිළිගනිමින් එය ප්‍රවර්ධනය කළයුතුය.



Ladies...SSF Guidelines provided you with equal opportunities...

- Women play a major role in fisheries; managing the household, education of children, social obligation, post harvest value chain, supplementary incomes,
- Women's role is often underestimated
- They should be mainstreamed into SSF development decision making process
- They should be adequately represented in all decision making platforms.
- They should be protected from market middlemen and their bargaining power be increased vis-à-vis merchants
- Their rights to land and fisheries resources and the right to make decisions should be recognized and realized through capacity building and empowerment
- Women's role in efficiently managing fisheries cooperatives should be recognized and promoted

FACT SHEET 8





ධීවර සමූපාකාරයේ ශක්තිය,

එය

දුහස් ගනනක් ධීවරයින් ගේ විශ්වාසය දිනූ, ඔබට නාය, ශාත්‍රා හා උපකරණ, රක්ෂණය (ක්ෂණික නාය) ඇතුළු ජීවන සහාය සපයා දෙමින්, ඔබගේ සමාජමය, සංස්කෘතිකමය සහ ආගමික අභිලාශයන් ඉටුකරන, ස්ත්‍රී පුරුෂ සමානතාව ගරු කරන, වෙරළ තීරයේ ශක්තිමත් ම, හා

ක්‍රියාකාරීව පවතින එකම ධීවර ප්‍රජා සංවිධානයයි.

- එය ඔබගේ ගැටළු පිළිබඳ හඬක් නැගීමට අතින් එකම ආකාරයයි.
- එහෙයින්, ධීවර සමූපාකාරයන්වෙත වෙරළ සමීපත් කළමනාකරණයේ දී නායකත්වය ගැනීමේ වැඩි හැකියාවක් ඇත.



The strength of Fisheries Cooperatives

- Only one The only functional fisheries community organization
- Have won the faith of thousands of fishers
- The strongest community organization along the coast
- Provide you with life support: credit, crafts and gear, insurance (instant loans)
- Meet your social, cultural and religious aspirations
- Only mode of voicing your issues
- Gender equal
- Thus, Fisheries Cooperatives have a high Potential to take the leadership in coastal resources management
- Build links (horizontally) and Vertically to expand network, access assistance, increasing bargaining power, improve livelihoods and contribute to a better future

FACT SHEET 9



සමාජ සංවර්ධනය, රැකියා සහ යෝග්‍ය කාර්මාන්ත



අධ්‍යාපනය, සාක්ෂරතාව
 හා තොරතුරු තාක්ෂණික සාක්ෂරතාව
 මෙන්ම සෞඛ්‍ය යන ක්ෂේත්‍රවල ආයෝජනයන්හට
රජය අනුබල දිය යුතුයි.

රජය විසින් සමාජ ආරක්ෂණ ක්‍රම
සංවර්ධනය කළ යුතුයි.

සම්පූර්ණ අගයදාමය තුළ ක්‍රියාත්මක
 වැඩපිළිවෙලක් සඳහා රජය
අනුබල දිය යුතුයි.

විකල්ප ආදායම් උත්පාදන අවස්ථා සඳහා
රජය සහාය විය යුතුයි.

මහමුහුදේ ආරක්ෂාව
 පිළිබඳ ගැටළු රජය විසින් සාධනීයව
 ආමන්ත්‍රණය කළ යුතුයි.

ශ්‍රමය සඳහා ප්‍රමාණවත්
 ප්‍රතිලාභ හා යෝග්‍ය සේවා තත්වයන්
සහතික කරමින් යෝග්‍ය
 කාර්මාන්ත සඳහා රජය අනුබල දිය යුතුයි.



Social development, employment and decent work

- States should promote investments in health, education, literacy and IT literacy
- States should development of schemes on social security measures: savings, credit and insurance schemes
- State should promote social security measures along the entire value chain
- States should address effectively the 'safety at sea' issues.
- States should promote decent work; ensuring adequate return to labour and decent working conditions
- States should support alternative income generating opportunities

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දිවර සමූපාකාරයන් මගින් කළ හැක්කේ මොනවාද...?



පැවතිය හැක්කේ එක් ප්‍රජා සංවිධාන ආකෘතියක් පමණි (ග්‍රාමීය දිවර සම්මේලය අහෝසි කිරීම).



දිවර කළමනාකරණ කාර්යයන් භාර ගැනීම.



ධාරිතා වර්ධනය (පුහුණු).
වෙරළ කලාපයේ අනෙකුත් කොටස් කරුවන් සමග සහයෝගිතාවය;
අනෙකුත් සමූපාකාරයන් හා කොටස් කරුවන් සමග එකාඛද්ධ වීම.



සමෝධානික වෙරළ කලාප කළමනාකරණයේ දී නායකත්වය ගැනීම.



අන්තර් ක්‍රියාකාරී, සහ-කළමනාකරණ වේදිකාවන් ඇතිකිරීම.



ජාලයන් පුළුල් කිරීමට, ප්‍රවිණ්ඨයට සහාය වීමට, කේවල් කිරීමේ ශක්තිය ඉහල නැංවීමට, ජීවනෝපාය ක්‍රම වර්ධනය කිරීමට සහ යහපත් අනාගතයකට දායක වීම සඳහා තිරස් හා සිරස් සම්බන්ධතා ගොඩනැගීම.



What Fisheries Cooperatives can do...

- Only one form of community organisations can exist. (abolish Rural Fisheries Councils)
- Assume Fisheries Management Functions
- Build capacities (training)
- Collaborate with other stakeholders in the coastal zone; with other cooperatives and other stakeholder organisations
- Take the leadership in integrated coastal zone management
- Form Interactive co-management platforms
- Build links (horizontally) and Vertically to expand network, access assistance, increasing bargaining power, improve livelihoods and contribute to a better future

FACT SHEET 11

අපගේ
ක්ෂේත්‍රය
මුහුණ දෙන
මූලික
ගැටළු

විකල්ප
ජීවනෝපායන්
ගේ හිඟකම

අයිතීන්

අත්‍යාවශ්‍ය
සේවාවන් වෙත
ප්‍රවේශ්ඨය අපහසු
වීම

දිළිඳු කම

අඩු අධ්‍යාපන
මට්ටම

කාලගුණික වෙනස්වීම්

විනාශකාරී ධීවර ක්‍රම.

මත්ස්‍ය අස්වැන්න අඩුවීම
(අධියෙදවුම්/සම්පත්
හීනවීම?).

ප්‍රජා සංවිධාන
දුර්වලවීම

වෙරළ සම්පත් නාවිකා
කරන්නන් අතර ගැටුම්

සුළුපන්න ධීවර
කර්මාන්තය පිළිබඳව
තීරණ ගැනීමේ දී
ධීවර සහනාගීත්වයක්
නොමැතිකම

විවිධ ක්ෂේත්‍රයන්
අතර සහයෝගයක්
නොමැතිකම

ප්‍රදේශයන් දුරස්ථ වීම

බලයක් රහිත වීම

තොරතුරුමය ගැටළු

Let us identify some of the problems that our sector face

1. Low catches (high fishing pressure / resource degradation?)
2. Destructive Fishing
3. Poverty
4. Powerlessness
5. Remote areas
6. Poor access to essential services
7. Low levels of education
8. Lack of alternative livelihoods
9. Climate Change
10. Rights??
11. Informational Issues
12. Conflicts among coastal resource users
13. Lack of cross sectoral collaboration
14. Lack of participation in SSF decision making
15. Weak Community Organisations

FACT SHEET 12



**වෙරළ
කලාප
කළමනාකරණ
ඵලැඹුම්**

සමෝධානික (විවිධ අංශයන් සමග තීරස්
සහයෝගය)

සහනාභීන්ව (ක්‍රියාකාරී සහනාභීන්වය)

ඇතුලත් වූ (කාන්තාවන් හා ආන්තික
ජනතාවද ඇතුළුව සියළු
කොටස් කරුවන් ඇතුලත් වූ)

සාකලප (මුළු පද්ධතියම එක
ඒකකයක් ලෙස ගනිමින්)

Approach to Management of the Coastal Zone

- ***Integrated*** ***(cross sectoral collaboration)***
- ***Participatory*** ***(Actively participate)***
- ***Inclusive*** ***(all relevant stakeholders including women and marginalized groups)***
- ***Holistic*** ***(looking at the system as a whole)***

(all fact sheets were prepared in both languages: Sinhala and Tamil)

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Implementing Voluntary Guidelines for Securing

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State Actors Sensitizing Workshop

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Implementing Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small Scale Fisheries

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Implementing Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small Scale Fisheries

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Implementing Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small Scale Fisheries

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Implementing Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small Scale Fisheries

Policy Workshop

Date: 13th March 2019

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