

International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)
IYAFA: Small-scale Fisheries, Tenure Rights and Global Food Security and Nutrition
PARTICIPANT QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questions aim to identify key issues for small-scale fishers and fishworkers in Asia. In line with the Small-scale Fisheries Guidelines and the objectives of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) 2022, the questions cover the environmental, economic, and social aspects of small-scale fisheries, with particular emphasis on strengthening governance and organizations. The thematic areas identified by participants will guide the development of the workshop agenda. Brief country fact sheets, based on the responses provided in this questionnaire, will be circulated at the beginning of the workshop to facilitate discussions.

Please provide a maximum of **100 words** for each response.

Personal Experience

- 1) How are you linked to small-scale fisheries in your country? Can you describe the major characteristics of the sector in terms of:
 - Fishing grounds (marine, inland)
 - Fishing methods (type of boat, gear)
 - Fish processing methods
 - Contribution to local and international markets

- 2) What makes you proud to be involved with small-scale fisheries?
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Environmental Sustainability

- 1) Do you think that some of your fishing practices are sometimes detrimental to fisheries resources and the environment (e.g. aquatic species, flood plains, mangroves)? If yes, how?

- 2) Have you been involved in conserving or managing (marine or inland) fisheries resources? Are there any lessons that you would like to share?

Economic Viability

- 1) What challenges do small-scale fishers face in getting boats, gear and engines in your country? How do they deal with these challenges?

- 2) What challenges do small-scale fishers and fishworkers face in accessing local/regional/international markets (e.g. competition from sellers, infrastructural

issues, poor access to loans)? Do they receive any support (e.g. from the government) to facilitate access to these markets?

- 3) Do you think the income generated from small-scale fisheries is adequate to meet small-scale fishers and fishworkers' basic needs?

Social Sustainability

- 1) What are the main government programmes available in your country for addressing poverty and improving the standard of living of fishing communities (e.g. education, health insurance, pension scheme, housing, sanitation)? What are the barriers to accessing such programmes?
- 2) What are the most common fisher and fishworker organizations in your country (e.g. trade unions, cooperatives, community-based organizations)?
- 3) Are many fishers and fishworkers members of these organizations? Are women active in these organizations? How do these organizations help fishers and fishworkers improve their lives and livelihoods?

Governance

- 1) Do fishers and fishworkers in your country have rights to fishing grounds granted by the government? Do they have traditional rights? Are their human rights protected?
- 2) What government legislation and policies are relevant to small-scale fisheries in your country (e.g. both inland and marine)? Are they developed in consultation with fishing communities? Is there an official definition of small-scale fisheries?
- 3) Have you heard of the *Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication* (SSF Guidelines)? If yes, how can the SSF Guidelines improve your well-being?

Gender Equality and Equity

- 1) What are the major challenges faced by women in fisheries in terms of access to resources, markets and participation in fisher and fishworker organizations in your country?
- 2) Are there laws or policies that benefit or protect the rights of women in fisheries?

- 3) What are the major programmes, policies, initiatives or organizations that help to improve the visibility and participation of women in the fisheries sector?

Food Security and Nutrition

- 1) Is there any legislation or policy recognizing food security and nutrition as a human right in your country (e.g. right to food act, nutritional guidelines)?
- 2) How do small-scale fisheries contribute to local food security and nutrition?
- 3) Are there similarities between fishing and farming communities in your country (e.g. in terms of challenges, opportunities, culture, social organization)?

Resilience

- 1) What kind of changes did the COVID-19 pandemic cause in small-scale fisheries in your country? How did fishers and fishworkers respond to these changes? Did they receive any support from the government or other organizations during the pandemic?
- 2) What are the major threats fishers and fishworkers face and what are their impacts? These may include environmental threats (e.g. cyclones, typhoons, coastal erosion and degradation) and other threats (e.g. eviction, aquaculture development, sand mining, river diversion, land reclamation, infrastructure development, industrial activities, pollution). #
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- 3) How are fishers and fishworkers adapting to or responding to the above threats (e.g. through advocacy, impact assessments, early warning systems, life-saving equipment, insurance schemes)? #

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Are there any other national, regional, or international issues relevant to small-scale fisheries that the workshop should address?

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