

## **Narrative report on Nigeria**

### **Implementation of the SSF Guidelines**

ICSF has collaborated with the FAO globally and nationally on the implementation of the SSF guidelines. A three-country project to strengthen small-scale fishing communities and to produce global information product in the context of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines was commissioned in Brazil, Ghana and Nigeria (<https://www.icsf.net/resources/icsf-fao-three-country-project-brazil-ghana-nigeria-2021-2023/>). The project has been successfully completed and the final products are getting ready for publication.

Nigeria conducted a series of capacity-building workshops on the SSF Guidelines with a wide range of state and non-state actors. These included a two-day national workshop for state and non-state actors to sensitize and raise awareness of the state and non-state actors on the SSF Guidelines, a training workshop on media and advocacy for the youth and representatives of community-based organizations and one on shared experiences and mobilized resources along with synergies developed and efforts coordinated for advocacy of policies and approaches with the regional Global Strategic Framework.

The capacity development and advocacy workshop was held on May 10 and 11, 2022 and focused on human rights through two presentations and advocacy through two presentations. The violation of the rights of fishing communities in Nigeria focusing especially on oil spills was presented through case studies and forceful evictions of waterfront communities were also described. The second presentation was on law as tool for balancing land tenure right interests in small scale fisheries drew attention on advocacy for Human Rights Approach (HRA) as the basis for fisheries development and governance. On the advocacy angle, the speaker addressed the topic from a media point of view and the various communication strategies that can be used for implementing advocacy. The role of advocacy and the intertwining of the human rights approach with natural resource management was discussed. The SSF Guidelines as an important tool for advocacy was also elaborated upon. There was also sharing of experiences on advocating for small scale fisheries.

A communiqué was finalized based on technical sessions conducted by two Working Groups with objectives of identifying the challenges, benefits, pathways and actions, and recommendations to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in Nigeria.

A background (synthesis) paper with information on the country case study for Nigeria was prepared under Illuminating Hidden Harvests. This was done towards incorporating relevant elements of the SSF Guidelines to enhance fisheries governance, food security and poverty reduction in local communities.

Various communication tools including a brochure on small-scale fisheries and the Guidelines in four languages, English, Yoruba, Hausa and Pidgin English, were prepared. The project supported the establishment of Nigeria SSF Guidelines Alliance Network.