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**The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) Trust  
Report of Activities for the period: April 2021 to March 2023**

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## 1. **Introduction**

ICSF has undertaken a diverse range of activities during the year spanning from 2021-2022. Many of the activities planned for the year 2021 was marred by the Covid-19 pandemic and have been undertaken in the year 2022. However, conscious efforts have been made by the team to continue the work, especially with regard to information sharing so as to benefit the fishing communities. This report details the activities undertaken by ICSF during the period April 2021-March 2023.

## 2. **Communication**

ICSF recognizes and acknowledges the empowering effect of information sharing to benefit fishing communities. ICSF's engagement through SAMUDRA Report, SAMUDRA News Alerts, Yemaya Newsletter, South Asia News Alerts, and ICSF Website continue to share and disseminate information. Efforts undertaken during the reporting period have aimed at enhancing understanding, among a wide range of stakeholders and decision-makers, about the importance of SSF and issues of concern to fishing communities, as well as to highlight their aspirations and demands for the future. Special care has been taken to give visibility to the role of women in fisheries and the varied challenges they face. In particular, the collective knowledge work can be seen as a potential input to local, regional and national processes of fisheries policy development. The details of the communication strategies and their reach are detailed in the following section

### 2.1 **SAMUDRA Report**

<https://www.icsf.net/samudra-report/>

During the period 2021-23, ICSF published four issues. Articles in SAMUDRA Report are made available on the ICSF website in a searchable format, as well as in other academic repositories online.

#### ***SAMUDRA Report No. 85, May 2021***

<https://www.icsf.net/samudra-articles.php?id=8873>

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) has just published the latest issue of SAMUDRA Report, its triannual journal on fisheries, communities and livelihoods. The current edition, SAMUDRA Report No. 85, dated May 2021, features a range of articles from Africa, Asia, South America and the Caribbean, specifically from Turkey, Cambodia, South Africa, Brazil, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Mozambique, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Costa Rica, India, France, the Philippines, Brazil and Thailand. The issue carries articles that analyze the Blue Economy, destructive fishing, small-scale fisheries (SSF) and the SSF Guidelines, among other topics. The issue had three articles on food security (from Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Cambodia) and five articles on social development and sustainable fisheries (from Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Costa Rica, India, the Philippines and

Thailand). The editorial Comment in SAMUDRA Report No. 85 discusses how the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the global inadequacy of social-protection measures in safeguarding marginalized communities, in the process exacerbating poverty and vulnerability.

***SAMUDRA Report No. 86, December 2021***

<https://www.icsf.net/samudra-articles.php?id=8886>

The 86<sup>th</sup> edition of SAMUDRA dated November 2021, features a range of articles from Africa, Asia and South America, specifically from Ghana, Kenya, Thailand, the Philippines, India, Bangladesh and Chile. The issue carries an analysis of the Blue Economy and small-scale fisheries, as well as articles on the UN Food Systems Summit. An obituary notice celebrates the life of Brazilian fisheries engineer and researcher Fábio Hissa Vieira Hazin, who succumbed to COVID-19 on 8 June 2021, World Oceans Day. The editorial Comment in SAMUDRA Report No. 86 argues that negotiations on subsidies at the World Trade Organization (WTO) should lead to an agreement whose primary goal is transparency and universality in fisheries conservation and management measures.

***SAMUDRA Report No. 87, March 2022***

<https://www.icsf.net/samudra-articles.php?id=9152>

The current edition, SAMUDRA Report No. 87, dated March 2022, features a range of articles from Africa, Asia and Europe, with a special focus on the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022). The editorial Comment in the issue calls for collective and collaborative actions of all stakeholders to develop coherent and meaningful policies and legislation for the sector. Pointing out that IYAFA 2022 is a chance to create greater awareness about the role of small-scale fisheries in food production, and about the traditional knowledge and rich cultural diversity of fishing communities, the Comment hopes the year becomes a historic watershed for the sector and its communities.

***SAMUDRA Report No. 88, December 2022***

<https://www.icsf.net/samudra-articles.php?id=9537>

SAMUDRA Report No. 88, dated December 2022, has a special focus on the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022), with reports from several regions of how the year was celebrated as well as the ICSF Statements made at the IYAFA 2022 Asia Workshop. The editorial Comment points to how the abiding message of IYAFA 2022 should be that the social pillar of sustainable development ought to be strengthened to protect the future of lives and livelihoods in the small-scale fisheries subsector.

## **2.2 Yemaya**

<https://www.icsf.net/yemaya-newsletter/>

Four issues of Yemaya, ICSF's newsletter on gender and fisheries were published during 2021-23. The details are as follows

***Yemaya Newsletter No.63, May 2021***

<https://www.icsf.net/yemaya-articles.php?id=8875>

Yemaya No. 63, dated May 2021, features articles from US, The Netherlands, Myanmar, Senegal, and an article on women in fisheries and human rights. The articles revolve around themes on recognition of small-scale community-based fishers, SSF in the emerging markets, labour rights, struggles of women in SSF and social protection among a few more.

***Yemaya Newsletter No.64, November 2021***

<https://www.icsf.net/yemaya-articles.php?id=8888>

Yemaya No. 64, dated November 2021, features articles from Sri Lanka, The Gambia, Gender dialogue took place in Central America, issues of gender seafood industry, meditative reflection on gender equity and social justice from India, and posters released on World fisheries day from Brazil, Ghana, The Netherlands, and Thailand.

***Yemaya Newsletter No.65, March 2022***

<https://www.icsf.net/yemaya-articles.php?id=9111>

The articles in this issue are drawn from the presentations and discussions at the webinar organized by GAF, Women Work in Fisheries, Too! held on 29 November 2021. The webinar identified areas that respond to the inaccurate and inadequate portrayal of women's work in Asian countries. The newsletter features articles from Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, India, Malaysia, Philippines and Uganda, on decent work, small-scale fisheries and gender issues in the seafood industry.

***Yemaya Newsletter No.66, March 2023***

[https://www.icsf.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Yemaya\\_66\\_March\\_2023\\_ICSF.pdf](https://www.icsf.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Yemaya_66_March_2023_ICSF.pdf)

The articles of the 66<sup>th</sup> issue of Yemaya reflected on the IYAFSA Asia and the Women in Fisheries workshop conducted in Chennai, India. The importance of organisation is brought out clearly in all the articles in this issue of Yemaya. In addition to this, the articles also focused on host of new disasters including climate-induced variabilities in weather and escalating environmental pollution faced by women in fisheries.

**2.3 Information services**

ICSF's News Alerts, website, social media channels and other information services seek to increase awareness about developments of relevance to artisanal and small-scale fishers and fishworkers, particularly in the South and to enhance their support organizations to access information to protect their right to life and livelihood.

***SAMUDRA News alert (English)***

<https://www.icsf.net/news/>

SAMUDRA News alerts carried news items focusing on fisheries, biodiversity and livelihood related issues of concern, interest and consequence to small-scale fishers and their communities across the world.

Number of Alerts sent from April 2021 to March 2023	Number of news items added	Number of subscribers
450	3152	6278

### ***South Asia News Alert***

<https://www.icsf.net/news/>

The South Asia News Alerts, initiated in October 2011, carry news articles on India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Myanmar Nepal, Bhutan and Afghanistan. South Asia alerts carried news items focusing on fisheries policy issues, press releases, petitions and other reports from fishworkers organizations and civil society organizations.

Number of Alerts sent from April 2021 to March 2023	Number of news items added from April 2021 to March 2023	Number of subscribers
491	3891	6029

### ***Dissemination of Publications and Films Alert***

ICSF Publications and Films are periodically disseminated to its subscription base of persons/institutions through email alerts. The number of subscribers has increased during this period.

Total subscribers: 4565

### ***Website***

<https://www.icsf.net/>

ICSF's redesigned website is now live online.

## **2.4 Social Media**

ICSF is active on social media such as Facebook and Twitter. The ICSF pages have seen an upward growth in terms of engagement and certain trends have emerged as to what seem to work better than the others: Presentations, publications and reports by ICSF seemed to do well in terms of engagement (likes, replies and retweets). The viewers seemed to respond more to visual content (images and videos) and tagging relevant organizations in ICSF's posts further increased our reach.

**Facebook** (<https://www.facebook.com/ICSF>)

The number of followers for ICSF facebook page has increased from 1631 to 1751 during the period. On an average the page has around 70 posts per month

**Twitter** (<https://twitter.com/ICSF1>)

The number of followers of ICSF twitter page has increased from 2838 to 3545 during the period. On an average the page has around 70 posts per month

## **2.5 Repositories of ICSF Publications**

All articles of ICSF publications, including SAMUDRA Report and Yemaya Newsletter are deposited in repositories such as [AquaDocs](#), and [FAO Family Farming Knowledge Platform](#) and [Academia.edu](#).

### ***ICSF Digital Library***

<http://icsfarchives.net/>

ICSF's Archives/Digital library is a one-stop-shop for all stakeholders with an interest in information and knowledge pertaining to small-scale and artisanal fisheries. The archives have ICSF's collections from the past 33 years. It offers more than 2,000 original documents and 12,000+ curated links. The archive have information and material from a variety of sources. They include peer-reviewed journals, books, conferences and meetings, newspapers, websites, fisheries databases, fishworkers organizations, NGOs, and governmental and multilateral agencies.

The archives has a special collection of 'grey publications'— unpublished or out-of-print material relating to fishing communities, demands of fishworkers organizations, fisheries policy, and fisheries trade etc. All of these are collated from the perspective of its relevance to small-scale fisheries. All ICSF publications are available in the archives, including the triannual publications like SAMUDRA Report and Yemaya. Add to this over 2,000 resources published by other organizations, including infographics and films pertinent to fisheries issues. The goal is to digitize remaining fisheries grey literature documents within a year.

As of March 2023, we have total 13959 items in the Repository.

## **2.6 Publications**

***A Case for a Human Rights-based Approach to Indian Aquaculture Systems: A Literature Review by Neena Elizabeth Koshy***

<https://www.icsf.net/resources/a-case-for-a-human-rights-based-approach-to-indian-aquaculture-systems-a-literature-review/>

This study is an effort to bring focus on this void and the facets that need to be examined if aquaculture is to become sustainable and is able to contribute towards various sustainable development goals as envisaged. As the human dependence on the sector is very high, the study emphasizes the need and importance of placing a human rights-based framework at the centre stage of future growth of aquaculture in India.

*A review of governance and tenure in inland capture fisheries and aquaculture systems of India* by Nachiket Kelkar, Robert I. Arthur

<https://www.icsf.net/resources/governance-of-inland-fisheries-and-aquaculture-in-india/>

This situation paper is a background document that summarizes the diversity, complexity, and relevance of tenure systems, rights, and the institutional management of inland fisheries in India. The paper is prepared on the occasion of the ICSF Workshop on Improving Inland Fisheries Governance in India, held at Seva Kendra, Kolkata, on 6th-7th September 2019, in which the objective was to discuss the draft National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy, Govt. of India, 2019, in relation to the human-rights focus of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Small-Scale Fisheries.

*The Invisible Informal Workforce: Women Fishworkers and their Right to Social Security (draft)* by Aswathy Senan

<https://www.icsf.net/resources/the-invisible-informal-workforce/>

This study intends to locate fishworkers within the International Labour Organization (ILO) framework of labour rights and social security which guarantees “income security and health protection, thereby contributing to the prevention and reduction of poverty and inequality, and the promotion of social inclusion and human dignity.

*ICSF’s Questionnaire: Migrant fishers and fishworkers during Covid-19, India – Responses from Andhra Pradesh*

<https://www.icsf.net/resources/icsfs-questionnaire-migrant-fishers-and-fishworkers-during-covid-19-india-responses-from-andhra-pradesh/>

A total of 14 respondents from three major locations, Srikakulam, BCV Palem and Visakhapatnam responded to the survey. They spoke both for themselves and for their groups. They migrate to Malpe (Karnataka), Paradeep (Odisha) and Veraval (Gujarat) working as crew in mechanised boats. Almost all have worked in all three locations. All the fishermen are from Andhra Pradesh. In general, they go because of better wages/ income. The migration is largely fuelled by family/ kinship contacts.

*Profits and Perils of Farming Fish: Case Studies of Shrimp and Carp Aquaculture in West Bengal, Santanu Chacraverti, 2022*

<https://www.icsf.net/resources/profits-and-perils-of-farming-fish-case-studies-of-shrimp-and-carp-aquaculture-in-west-bengal-santanu-chacraverti-2022/>

This study tries to discuss issues relating to both internal and external cost. Through information gleaned from literature, onsite observation, and actual discussion with stakeholders, this study attempts to draw attention to the impacts of aquaculture on the environment, on the lives of the people dependent on these environments, and how aquaculture has impacted the social fabric at the site of production.



***Making Small-scale Artisanal Fishing Zones Work!: Research study on the tenure rights of the most vulnerable and marginalized fishers in Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam and East Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh by Vishakha Gupta***

<https://www.icsf.net/resources/icsf-campaign-andhra-pradesh-tenure-rights/>

This study documents the relationship between small-scale non-towed fishers and the SFZ and the integral role the SFZ plays in the lives of the small-scale fishing community. Establishing secure tenure rights to marine and coastal spaces and resources can be considered sine qua non for equity and justice. It is essential to rejuvenate existing mechanisms and bolster them through the principles of human rights and the SSF Guidelines to protect and support small-scale fisheries in our future.

***Report on Asia Workshop – IYAFA 2022: Celebrating Sustainable and Equitable Small-scale Fisheries, 4 – 8 May, 2022, The Berkeley Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand***

<https://www.icsf.net/resources/asia-iyafa-2022/>

International collective in support of fishworkers (ICSF) in partnership with Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF) Thailand had organized an International Workshop titled “IYAFA 2022-Celebrating Sustainable and Equitable Small-scale Fisheries: Asia” from 4 to 8 May 2022 at Bangkok, Thailand. The Asia workshop had participation from NFF, NPSSFW, DAKSHIN foundation. The discussions of four day workshop resulted in the formulation of a ‘The Asian regional action plan: Women and gender in fisheries’ and the ‘The IYAFA Asia statement’. For more information about the workshop, please check: <https://www.icsf.net/resources/asia-workshop-iyafa-2022-celebrating-sustainable-and-equitable-small-scale-fisheries/>

***Report on National Workshop on SSF Guidelines and Women in Fisheries, India, 8 -10 April, 2022, Asha Nivas Social Service Centre, Chennai, India***

<https://www.icsf.net/resources/wif-india-2022/>

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) Trust organized a national workshop on the SSF Guidelines and Women in Fisheries, India at Asha Nivas Social Service Centre, Chennai, India, on April 8-10, 2022. There were sixtyone participants from five coastal states of Goa, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. The national workshop facilitated in building a platform of women in fisheries to promote gender equality and equity, to recognize livelihood space and to improve the participation of women in decision making processes through various discussions that were held during the three days.

***Report on National Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop on the SSF Guidelines (Marine Fisheries) October 13-15, 2022, Asha Nivas Social Service Centre, Chennai, India***

<https://www.icsf.net/resources/report-tot-marine-fisheries/>

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) Trust organized a National Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop on the SSF Guidelines (Marine Fisheries), India at Asha Nivas Social Service Centre, Chennai, India, on October 13-15, 2022. There were sixty seven participants from the coastal states of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh,

Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. The sessions had presentations by resource persons along with practical exercises and group work to help the trainers address their concerns.

**Report on the three-day National Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop (inland fisheries): Seva Kendra, Kolkata, West Bengal, 22 to 24 December 2022**

<https://www.icsf.net/resources/icsf-tot-inland-fisheries-2022/>

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) Trust organized a National Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop on the SSF Guidelines (Inland Fisheries) to discuss access rights and challenges pertaining to inland fisheries and the schemes and programmes available to support inland fisheries. Key fishworker representatives from Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha and West Bengal, attended the workshop. The session on national policies and welfare schemes, drew special interest among the participants and a request was made for similar workshops at the state level.

## **2.7 Video Documentation**

***The Silent Wave / A fisheries cooperative in India responds to Covid-19***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4YgGlyV62U>

Shot during the peak of the first wave of Covid-19 in India, this documentary tells the story of how the fishermen and women of Kollam coped with the lockdown and the widespread disruptions in their fisheries. Responding to the crisis, the local fisheries cooperative introduced a major change to the prevalent auction system. The innovation was aimed at both ensuring the safety of the coastal fishing community, and correcting the power imbalance between fishers and traders. But the new system had some unforeseen consequences.

***Unseen Faces Unheard Voices: Women and Aquaculture (Purba Medinipur, West Bengal, India)***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8EzITPhLVYM>

The documentary opened a window to the aspects in aquaculture which is mostly not dealt with when aquaculture is discussed. The video highlighted that if a human rights approach is applied in aquaculture, it will meaningfully contribute towards achieving many of the SDGs namely 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 3 (good health and wellbeing), 5 (gender equality), 8 (decent work and economic growth), 12 (responsible consumption and production), 13 (climate action), 14 (life under water), 15 (life on land) etc.

***Shescapes: Women in Small-scale Fisheries***

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2I8dvsA7\\_R0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2I8dvsA7_R0)

The 32-minute film *Shescapes: Women in Small-scale Fisheries* shows the changes that have occurred over a decade in different countries across the world in terms of women's role in

fisheries. It highlights invisible voices from the South Pacific and Caribbean SIDS as well as from Asia, Africa and Latin America. The film was screened during GAF 8 at Kochi.

### 3. **Processes**

ICSF continue to engage with the UN processes (FAO, ILO, CBD, WTO) and other fishers movements (IPC, WFF, WFFP, ULAPA, CAOPA). ICSF attended the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of COFI at Rome, Italy in September 2022 and the CBD process in Montreal in December 2022. ICSF is also in constant communication with fishers' movements and organizations globally and continue to collaborate with them on different projects and capacity building activities.

### 4. **ICSF Campaigns**

#### ***Creation of non-towed fishing gear zones to benefit small-scale artisanal fisheries (India)***

ICSF has initiated the Making the Small-scale Artisanal Fishing Zones Work! campaign to enforce/create small-scale artisanal non-towed fishing gear zones (SFZs) to benefit fishing communities using these gears and practices in a sustainable manner. In this context, ICSF has finished the study in the state of Andhra Pradesh, with the most disadvantaged (fisher and fishworkers engaged in the harvest of fish employing no craft or non-motorized traditional craft), paying special attention to the SFZs that are adjacent to the low tide line and earmarked for small-scale artisanal fishing communities. The result of the study is published as "*Making Small-scale Artisanal Fishing Zones Work!: Research study on the tenure rights of the most vulnerable and marginalized fishers in Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam and East Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh*" and is available in the ICSF website.

#### ***Enhancing the contributions and rights to nutrition and food security of small-scale fishing communities: to work on SSF issues at CFS and multimedia work***

ICSF has been engaging with the CFS process for quite sometime. The CFS' High-Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) is conducting an online consultation on their draft report 'Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition'. The draft report had minimal attention to fisheries, which was confined only to one section on 'Fisheries Policy and Investment' and didn't have any mention of small-scale fisheries. In this context, ICSF has compiled its work on food security and nutrition involving small-scale fishers and have shared it with the HLPE in attempt to bring visibility to SSF in the context of food security and nutrition.

#### ***Thematic multimedia products on decent work, women and fisheries value chain, Indigenous peoples and sustainable fisheries and threats.***

ICSF have produced a 32-minute film *Shescapes: Women in Small-scale Fisheries* that shows the changes that have occurred over a decade in different countries across the world in terms of women's role in small-scale fisheries.

## **Partnerships**

ICSF has been partnering with fishworker organizations on multiple levels. ICSF has actively participated in the National Council Webinar Regarding NPSSFW National Conference, 8-10th November 2022, Delhi, India and the South Zone Regional Meeting of the National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (NPSSFW) from 7-9 June 2022 at Chennai. ICSF also had virtual meetings with NFF representation discussing future collaborations. ICSF has conducted the state level workshops in Kerala, Odisha, West Bengal and Goa in consultation with NFF and co-organized state level ToT workshops in Maharashtra and Gujarat along with NFF.

## **5. Projects**

ICSF has collaborated with the Food and Agriculture Organization to develop strategies to support the implementation of SSF guidelines in the country contexts. An LoA was signed between Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations and ICSF Trust in this regard in April 2021. Thereafter, workshops were held at national and state level dealing with different aspects of the SSF Guidelines between April 2022 and March 2023. The details of the workshops are as follows.

### **6.1 National level workshops**

Three National level workshops were designed and organized by ICSF during the period. In addition to bringing fishworkers across the country together, the national workshops also intended to identify themes of interest and importance for the state level workshops.

#### ***National Workshop on SSF Guidelines and Women in Fisheries, India, Asha Nivas, Chennai, 8 to 10 April, 2022***

International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) Trust organized a national workshop on building a platform of women in fisheries to promote gender equality and equity, to recognize livelihood space and to improve the participation of women in decision-making processes. Sixty one women fishworker representatives from the states of Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal attended the workshop. The participants constituted women fish vendors, fish harvesters and members of civil society organizations, among others.

*Feedback/Reflections: The workshop provided a space for women from fishworkers' organizations in coastal states to follow-up on key issues relevant to their lives and livelihoods, and develop a working agenda for the Women in Fisheries Platform in India. The workshop was also a vital source of information. It enabled many women fishers to raise questions at community meetings. The session on "Rights at work of women fishworkers in light of Labour Codes and the ILO Convention 190" was interesting to many of the participants, and they voiced that more details on the same could be shared with them. One suggestion was that field visit/practical exposure could be dedicated a separate day, where all participants could be a part of. Few participants also felt that there were too many sessions, a lesser number of sessions would enable more time for deeper discussion.*

More details of the workshop at <https://www.icsf.net/resources/india-national-workshop-the-ssf-guidelines-and-the-platform-for-women-in-fisheries/>

***National Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop on the SSF Guidelines (Marine Fisheries), Chennai, 13 to 15 October 2022***

International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) Trust organized a three-day National Training of Trainers (ToT) Workshop (Marine fisheries). Key fishworker representatives from Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal attended the workshop. The participants included 23 members of fishworkers' organizations, 13 from civil society and community-based organizations, 10 resource persons from key fisheries research institutes, academia etc.

*Feedback/reflections: The participants felt their awareness levels on the SSF Guidelines, government schemes and subsidies had been raised. Through this workshop they could widen their network and understand the various challenges that the SSF community face in different parts of the country and came to an understanding about various good practices followed. The participants requested the fisheries budget and schemes be translated to respective regional languages for better understanding and reach. Some presentations were suggested to be made more generic, as not many of the participants might be able to interpret statistical/data-based information. There were also suggestions that the workshop be held in a hybrid mode. One of the common suggestions was to ensure better time management.*

More details of the workshop at <https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot-ssf-guidelines-india-2022/>

***National Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop on the SSF Guidelines (Inland Fisheries), Seva Kendra, Kolkata, 22 to 24 December 2022***

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) Trust organized a three-day National Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop exclusively for inland fisheries. Key fishworker representatives from Assam, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Rajasthan and West Bengal, attended the Workshop. There was a total of 47 participants, of which 27 were from FWOs, 7 resource persons, 1 facilitator and 1 co-facilitator, the documentation team and the organizing team from the ICSF secretariat.

*Feedback/ Reflections: Participants opined that this workshop enabled them to look into fisheries cooperatives in the inland context, especially focusing on how to improve them. Some trainees put forth the idea that more state-level training workshops should be held to capacity build a larger section of the community. There was a demand that awareness programmes focussing on national policies and welfare schemes pertaining to SSF communities need to be organized. The feedback from the resource persons was that, the issues raised during the Workshop and further discussion was necessary, consequently arriving at possible solutions was required.*

More details of the workshop at <https://www.icsf.net/resources/icsf-tot-inland-fisheries-2022/>

## **6.2 State Level Training Workshops**

In continuation with the national workshops conducted in India, on enhancing capacities of women fishworkers in India for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines (2016), and a series of workshops in 2019 on SSF Guidelines. Several workshops were organized in 2022. ICSF further organized three national, three state-level and local-level workshops in India in the year 2022.

(i) The National workshop on **SSF Guidelines and Women in Fisheries: 8-10 April 2022** (<https://www.icsf.net/resources/india-national-workshop-the-ssf-guidelines-and-the-platform-for-women-in-fisheries/>) elaborated on women as an integral part of fisheries value chain at all levels and led to the formation of ‘National Platform for Women in Small Scale Fisheries’, intended to work towards strengthening the position of women in fisheries.

(ii) The three-day **National Training of Trainers (ToT) Workshop (Marine Fisheries): 13 to 15 October 2022** (<https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot-ssf-guidelines-india-2022/>) was organized in Chennai to discuss issues pertaining to access rights of small-scale fishers and to discuss the existing schemes and policies in the national context that benefit small-scale fishers and fishworkers. The workshop carried a special session on the WTO Fisheries subsidies Agreement. The workshop resulted in strengthened capacity of small-scale fishing communities at local level to engage in securing sustainable SSF.

(iii) The three-day **National Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop (inland fisheries): 22 to 24 December 2022** (<https://www.icsf.net/resources/icsf-tot-inland-fisheries-2022/>) was organized in Kolkata to discuss access rights and challenges pertaining to inland fisheries. The session on national policies and welfare schemes, drew special interest among the participants and a request was made for similar workshops at the state level.

**b.1 India: Subnational capacity-building workshops** [https://www.icsf.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/State\\_Level\\_TOT\\_Workshop\\_Consolidated.pdf](https://www.icsf.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/State_Level_TOT_Workshop_Consolidated.pdf)

Based on the National TOT workshops, state-level training workshops were organized. The intent behind this two-stage training programmes was to reach the grassroots and provide capacity development training to the SSF community at large. A detailed presentation on how to go about the state-level training workshops was provided to the participants during the national workshops. Each of the state-workshop conducted was organized with the support of a regional CSO or FWO.

(i) **Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)** [https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot\\_state\\_level-training-workshop-andhra-pradesh/](https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot_state_level-training-workshop-andhra-pradesh/)

The state-level training workshop on the SSF Guidelines was held in Visakhapatnam on 12 November 2022 and was jointly organised by the District Fishermen Youth Welfare Association (DFYWA). Over 40 people took part in the workshop discussing various tenets of the SSF Guidelines. ICSF’s study report on tenure rights of SSF in Andhra Pradesh - *Making Small-scale Artisanal Fishing Zones Work* was released during the workshop.

(ii) **Bhubaneswar (Odisha)** [https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot\\_state-level-workshop-odisha/](https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot_state-level-workshop-odisha/)

The Odisha state-level training workshop was held in Bhubaneswar on 29 November, 2022 and was jointly organized with FWOs and NGOs, both local and national. Forty participants from four coastal districts attended and discussed coastal rights and land rights for fishers. The Department of Fisheries made presentations on apps for secure fishing, weather warning and government schemes and financial assistance to marine fishers. A case study on *Commoning the Experience of Purnabandha Village* was shared. The group activity was on

listing the roadblocks in accessing the various government schemes & benefits and identifying solutions to these challenges.

**(iii) Kolkata (West Bengal-<https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot-state-level-training-west-bengal/>)**

The state-level capacity building training workshop in West Bengal was organized at Seva Kendra, Kolkata on 2 December, 2022, together with the Society for Direct Initiative for Social and Health Action (DISHA), The workshop discussed preferential access of small-scale fishers to marine fishery resources and ways to overcome climate crisis and to receive climate justice.

**iv) Alappuzha (Kerala-<https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot-state-level-training-kerala/>)**

The state-level capacity-building training workshop was conducted at Alappuzha in partnership with the Coastal Education and Development Society (CoEDS) on 4 January 2023. The workshop discussed sustainable use and management of fisheries, coastal regulation zone (CRZ) notification and coastal tenure rights through the lens of the SSF Guidelines.

**V) Vasco (Goa-<https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot-state-level-training-goal/>)**

The state-level training workshop, Goa, was co-organized in collaboration with *Goenchea Ramponkaracho Ekvott* (GRE) at Velsao Panchayat Hall, Vasco, Goa, on 9 February, 2023. The workshop discussed various aspects of policy, schemes, historical timelines as well current challenges in relation to SSF.

**VI) Honavar (Karnataka-<https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot-state-level-training-karnataka/>)**

The Karnataka workshop was co-organized with Snehakunja Trust, Honavar, Karnataka, on 3 March 2023. The Workshop discussed access rights and government schemes for fishers under the *Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana* (PMMSY).

**VII) Chennai (Tamil Nadu-<https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot-state-level-training-tamil-nadu/>)**

The state-level training workshop of Tamil Nadu focusing on mapping and GIS was co-organized by FishMarc, Chennai, a local NGO, on 06 March 2023. Representatives of FWOs and CSOs were trained to use the GPS and practical field work was conducted by mapping a local fishing hamlet, south of Marina beach, Chennai, using handheld GPS. After completing the field visit, the participants learnt to transfer the GPS coordinates to their personal computers and work on Google Earth to produce desired maps. The training programme, with a couple of more dedicated sessions in learning the software would facilitate the FWOs and CSOs in understanding markets, landing centres, including beaches, settlement areas and the movement of fish landings to retail markets. GPS can also be an effective tool in mapping tenure rights.

**VIII) Bharuch (Gujarat-<https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot-state-level-training-gujarat/>)**

The state-level training workshop, Gujarat, was held in Bharuch on 12 March 2023 and co-organized with local organizations. The participants included fishers, FWOs and representatives of the state fisheries department.

**IX) Mumbai (Maharashtra-<https://www.icsf.net/resources/tot-state-level-training-maharashtra/>)**

The state-level training workshop, Maharashtra, was co-organized with the Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE) on 15 March 2023 at CIFE, Versova, Mumbai. The workshop focused on fisheries development programmes and schemes, and access rights of fishing communities.

**X) Subnational Workshop on Sea Safety and Fisheries Management: Training and Capacity Development of Local Self-Governments, Kerala, India (<https://www.icsf.net/resources/lsg-workshop-icsf-kila-kerala-india/>)**

ICSF and Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) jointly organized a sub-national capacity development workshop on safety at sea, fisheries management and social development. The workshop was held at KILA, Thrissur, Kerala, India, on 01-02 March 2023. Around fifty-six participants attended the workshop. The workshop aimed to address the challenges and opportunities related to sea safety and fisheries management while enhancing the training and capacity development of local self-governments. The workshop witnessed the enthusiastic participation of different panchayat officials, Public Service Organization (PSO) representatives, and members of the fisherfolk community. This diverse representation ensured a comprehensive and inclusive discussion on matters pertaining to sea safety and fisheries management, facilitating knowledge exchange and the sharing of experiences. The workshop raised awareness of local self-government institutions, called panchayats, about sea safety issues and equipped fishworker organizations and panchayats to engage in sustainable fisheries management. The workshop also facilitated discussions on various aspects of sea safety, including the improvement of infrastructure and facilities at fishing harbours, the enhancement of training and capacity-building programs for fishermen, the promotion of modern technology for safe fishing practices, and the implementation of effective disaster management strategies in coastal areas.