

Too Big To Ignore Report

Number R-02/2017



TBTI DAY @ MARE

July 4th, 2017, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

toobigtoignore.net

RESEARCH

POLICY

MOBILIZATION

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List of Acronyms

EU - European Union

CFP - Common Fishery Policy

CSOs - Civil Society Organizations

ITQs - Individual Transferable Quotas

FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

IUU - Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated fishing

LAC - Latin America and Caribbean

LIFE - Low Impact Fishers of Europe

LSF - Large-Scale Fisheries

TBTI - Too Big To Ignore research network

SSF - Small-Scale Fisheries

The SSF Guidelines - The Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication

WSFC - World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress

I. Summary

The **TBTI DAY @ MARE** was organized by the Too Big To Ignore project (TBTI, www.toobigtoignore.net), a global research network aiming to elevate the profile and importance of small-scale fisheries (SSF) around the world. The one-day meeting attracted interest of about 50 academics and non-academics across Europe and beyond.

The event was free and open to everyone interested in TBTI and SSF. During the morning session the participants had an opportunity to hear the latest news about TBTI, including detailed updates about the research clusters, regional activities and the 'Transdisciplinarity in Fisheries' training program. The afternoon session focused on the issue of sustainability and what needs to happen in order to achieve SSF sustainability. Last session of the meeting was dedicated to a roundtable discussion about the upcoming 3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress. Overall, the meeting was an excellent opportunity to discuss future research programs and activities, both within TBTI and beyond, in order to achieve viable and sustainable SSF.

Discussion highlights that emerged from the meeting:

Global synthesis. Social sciences research has increased attention to SSF and now the focus needs to be put on synthesizing the SSF knowledge at a global level.

Building capacity through transdisciplinarity. Transdisciplinary work is part of the TBTI capacity building activities and is being developed within the ambit of the SSF Guidelines. TBTI transdisciplinary training course can help develop real, effective, long-term capacity for SSF, and empower people to take ownership of the resources as well as actively participate in the decision-making processes.

Bridging the science-policy interface. There has never been so much information on SSF and yet stakeholders have not noticed that. It is crucial we make the messages accessible and informative for policy makers if we want to trigger change. We need to bridge the science-policy interface and think of ways to make this body of knowledge on SSF relevant to other audiences.

Leadership and collaboration. We need to look at the different ways to engage with fishing people, and see if we can assist them in their own

agendas. The role of researchers is to provide the framework for empirically-based knowledge and help fishers communicate these arguments in a way that resonates with the politicians' knowledge systems.

Knowing your audience. To capture the attention of a politician you need to convey your message in no more than five bullet points. The key is in segmentation: extracting different bits of this massive body of knowledge and making it available to different audience. In other words, know what works in your system and have a specific toolkit for specific audience.

Division of labour. CSOs are better at engaging politically. Academics are not directly involved in the political process in the same way as civil society is; academics, through their research and production of knowledge, work in the long run and are part of the process of building competence. TBTI can help inform people and influence governments via partnerships with CSOs. In TBTI we have people with different skills and it's important that each can play a different role and find where to make the most impact.

Achieving SSF sustainability:

- When it comes to SSF sustainability we must take into account multiple issues such as integration between natural and social aspects; the cause-effects hailing from a variety of drivers; the realities that compose the local context; such that we adopt a scale-sensitive approach.
- Some of the key factors that are considered as fundamental for achieving sustainable SSF comprise strong leadership and fishing organizations; clearly defined standards for sustainable fisheries; non-monetary incentives for sustainable fishing; and decentralized governments.
- It's important to look at SSF as a contested area framed by questions of equity, justice, who's winning, who's losing, and who is defining the narrative of sustainability. A lot of disempowered people in SSF are losing out mainly because their narrative remains untold.
- SSF sustainability is determined by the success of the SDGs. SDGs could really facilitate or hinder the process of achieving SSF sustainability as compromises and trade-offs between achieving different SDG goals are inevitable.
- Governments and fishing communities are the key actors for achieving sustainable SSF. As scientists and practitioners, we need to enable and empower SSF communities and see what we can do, within TBTI and beyond, to make this happen.

II. Program Agenda

Morning session	
9:00-09:15	Welcome and introduction
9:15-11:00	TBTI updates and discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Svein Jentoft (SSF Guidelines) ➤ Derek Johnson (Values & Wellbeing) ➤ Katia Frangoudes (Women & Gender) ➤ Moenieba Isaacs (Fish as Food) ➤ Evelyn Pinkerton (Rights & Access) ➤ Rashid Sumaila (Economic Viability) ➤ Andrew Song (Inland & Transboundary Fisheries) ➤ Cristina Pita (Markets)
11:00-11:30	Break
11:30-13:00	TBTI updates and discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Patrick McConney (Stewardship) ➤ Jose Pascual-Fernandez (SSF Europe) ➤ María José Barragán Paladines (SSF LAC) ➤ Ratana Chuenpagdee (Global Synthesis, 'Transdisciplinarity in Fisheries,' and other activities)
13:00-14:15	Lunch (on your own)
Afternoon session	
14:15-15:45	Perspectives on what needs to happen in order to achieve SSF sustainability and discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Prateep Nayak ➤ Xavier Basurto ➤ Nicole Franz ➤ María José Espinosa Romero Roundtable discussion
15:45-16:45	General discussion about what's next for TBTI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress Announcement
16:45	Adjourn

III. Morning session

Welcome and introduction

Ratana Chuenpagdee

Too Big to Ignore

Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

The importance of SSF is recognized around the world. Yet, knowledge about this sector is neither comprehensive nor systematic, making it difficult for SSF to realize their potentials. A large-scale effort is required, not only to understand SSF in their own context but to connect them globally, in order to elevate their profile and to strengthen their contribution to food security, poverty alleviation and ecosystem stewardship. The 'Too Big To Ignore' partnership (TBTI) is one such effort that aims at conducting local research, improving regional and global governance, and providing information about SSF of the world.

Back in 2012 when the project was established, there were 15 partners. Since then the network has expanded significantly to more than 400 members. At the start, the goal was to come up with the big five research questions that the partnership will tackle. TBTI developed the five questions through a consultation with the stakeholders, and this has been the basis of the TBTI work. These five questions include:

- *Strengthening the base*: achieving economic viability
- *Broadening the scope*: in terms of understanding values, importance and contribution of SSF
- *Enhancing the stewardship*: being able to understand the contribution that fishing communities have to the environment
- *Defending the beach*: fishing communities are displaced from their territories, so it's important to secure their rights
- *Governing the governance*: thinking about different ways to govern SSF

Moving the agenda forward, TBTI thought of organizing the partnership around research clusters, initially starting with 12, and then expanding to 14 clusters. Many aspects of the five big questions fall into these clusters. What follows next is the description of the TBTI work within each of the cluster.

TBTI updates and discussion

3.1 SSF Guidelines

Svein Jentoft

The Arctic University of Norway, Norway

'[SSF Guidelines](#)' cluster coordinators: **Svein Jentoft, Nicole Franz, María José Barragán Paladines & Ratana Chuenpagdee**

The cluster focuses on the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) and their implementation. The SSF guidelines were endorsed by FAO in 2014 although the whole process started much earlier in 2008 at a conference that FAO held with the civil society organizations in Bangkok, Thailand. SSF Guidelines is a remarkable document that was developed through rounds of consultations, which involved thousands of people through a bottom-up process from 2011 and 2013.

Cluster activities:

- In 2015 TBTI published a book on '[Interactive Governance for Small-Scale Fisheries: Global Reflections](#)' edited by S. Jentoft and R. Chuenpagdee. The book is an edited volume of 35 case studies from around the world, written by 70 authors, all applying the same theoretical governance framework to examine challenges facing SSF and explore avenues for improved governance.
- Now, 2 years later TBTI has published a book specifically on the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. The book '[The Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines: Global Implementation](#)' is edited by S. Jentoft, R. Chuenpagdee, M. J. Barragán Paladines & N. Franz. Through 32 case studies written by 94 authors, the book explores the extent to which the SSF Guidelines can help improve the realities of small-scale fishing men and women globally and make their livelihoods and communities more secure.

3.2 Values & Wellbeing

Derek Johnson

University of Manitoba, Canada

'[Diverse SSF values](#)' cluster coordinators: **Derek Johnson, Alan White, Julián Idrobo & Ratana Chuenpagdee**

The cluster aims at bringing out the overlooked dimensions of SSF, and overcoming narrow economic and biological understandings of SSF. It applies multidimensionality through a social wellbeing perspective important for emphasizing relationality in SSF.

At the moment, we are examining connections and other approaches to values (the way ecosystem services works with values, more classical economic approaches, Latourian approach, etc.), and relational vs. objective distinction. Throughout this, we foster transdisciplinary engagement.

Cluster activities:

- A **book** on '[Social Wellbeing and the Values of Small-scale Fisheries](#)', edited by D. Johnson, T. Acott, N. Stacey, and J. Urquhart will be released in August 2017. The book uses social wellbeing as a lens to critically reflect on the ways in which SSF are valued. The book's 14 chapters explore theoretical, methodological, and applied implications of the book's approach in relation to global set of cases.
- **Future activities:** a chapter on transdisciplinary values in SSF in the TBTI 2018 'Small-Scale Fisheries Governance: Transdisciplinary Analysis and Practices' textbook. There will also be other outputs on conceptualizing values intersections in the social economy of SSF.

3.3 Women & Gender

Katia Frangoudes

Université de Brest, UMR AMURE

OSU-IUEM, France

'[Women & Gender](#)' cluster coordinators: **Katia Frangoudes, Siri Gerrard & Danika Kleiber**

The main objectives of the cluster are to document the status of women and gender issues in SSF in different contexts, encourage women and gender research and international publications, and build on the SSF guidelines to develop a policy agenda dedicated to women and gender.

The cluster focuses on the following issues:

- Recognition of opportunities for fisheries labour and capacity development
- Human rights, equity and equality: women and access to resources, women and sea tenure, women and access to markets and marketing resources
- Women well-being: education, food security, occupational safety and health, violence and women in fisheries
- Women and governance: women participation in the decision making process related to resources management, establishment of women's autonomous organizations
- Gender sensitive public policies (recognition and inclusion of women needs and gender equity and equality related issues)
- Women's responses to extreme events and environmental changes

Cluster activities:

- A **survey** documenting women and gender issues by gathering and questioning knowledge on gender relations in SSF in different parts of the world. So far, they received 13 responses.
- **Special panel at the MARE conference** on gender & women relations within coastal and fisheries communities, from past to present (12 presentations in 3 sessions).
- **Special issue in MAST or an edited book.** They received 41 abstracts for their call for contribution to a special issue/book on '*Women and gender in fishery-related work and communities*'. The abstracts cover various themes such as changing roles, pre-harvesting, post-harvest activities, value chain, resource management, environment & climate change, value chain & food security, employment in fisheries, why women don't fish, methods & techniques, and others.

3.4 Fish as Food

Moenieba Isaacs

University of Western Cape, South Africa

[‘Fish as Food’](#) cluster coordinators: **Moenieba Isaacs, Kungwan Juntarashote, Lindsay Aylesworth & Philip Loring**

The cluster focuses on food security and nutritional security, looking specifically at small pelagics, which is a critical source of nutrition for humans. The cluster is interested in the issues of access, availability, and affordability of fish-as-food. Methodological approaches used in the cluster consists of a short survey on fish consumption in SSF fishing communities and in-depth case studies, transdisciplinary in nature.

Moenieba has been conducting a study on coastal small pelagics in Tanzania as well as a study on inland small pelagics in Lake Victoria (Tanzania and Uganda). In both cases it is evident that a lot of the fish that could go towards fish consumption goes towards fishmeal. It's important to advocate why it is crucial to keep small fish for human consumption.

Cluster activities:

- **Special issue** on '[Fisheries and Food Systems: Cross pollinations and synthesis](#)' in [Agriculture and Food Security journal](#) (7 papers in total). The special issue provides a survey of the current state of science on fisheries, food security and food systems, and brings forth perspectives on how to better link and integrate fisheries in food systems discourse.
- **Session** at the TBTI '[Symposium on small-scale fisheries in Asia-Pacific and beyond](#)' in Thailand in summer 2016. The discussion centered on the questions of 'What does malnutrition mean?, What measurements are we using?, Culturally, what is accepted in terms of malnutrition?'. It is important to look at social values in understanding what malnutrition means.

- **Next step:** to look at contributions of fish-as-food in terms of socio-cultural values. Africa is not the dark continent, there is a lot of exciting and cross-cutting issues happening there. We will maintain the methodology and look at different issues. We also encourage contributions from other regions, especially from LAC.

3.5 Rights & Access

Evelyn Pinkerton

University of Simon Fraser, Canada

[‘SSF Rights’](#) cluster coordinators: **Evelyn Pinkerton, Reade David, Moenieba Isaacs & Ratana Chuenpagdee**

The ‘SSF Rights’ cluster is closely related to the TBTI ‘Defending the Beach’ working group. This working group explored the challenges SSF face in response to new movements toward privatization and enclosure, starting with North America and then expanding into other regions.

World bank & FAO report from 2008 (*The sunken billions*) gave a message that “we don’t want SSF”. Overall, neoliberal agenda is the reason SSF tend to get deprived of access rights, as described, for example, by Fiona McComarc in 2017 (expropriation of SSF considered necessary to increase efficiency) and by Pinkerton and Davis in 2015 (SSF in British Colombia, Canada). The problem is that SSF don’t operate on self-interest basis.

There are several facilitating strategies that could be implemented to restore SSF sustainability in neoliberal scenarios in line with the main principles of this cluster. These strategies can be implemented through governance systems, and below are a few examples highlighted by specific case studies:

- *National institutions hold and lease out access rights according to place-based and sustainability criteria*
 - Wealthy NGOs in North America (e.g. Cape Cod Fisheries Trust)
 - Morro Bay (California) community quota fund
 - British Colombia groundfish license (quota) bank
 - ALaska CDQ Program (national and state allocation)
 - Namibian government: government allocates quotas instead of the markets
 - What is important in these examples is that privileges can be allocated based on what you want your fisheries to look like and have fair price.
- *Closing a fishery when it is not sustainable*
- *Prohibit access rights to non-fishers:* limit sale of access rights to certain kinds of buyers using geographical or occupational criteria
 - Fleet operation policy in Canada

- Norwegian fleet separation that prohibits ownership of fishing licences to processors
- *Use of non-market mechanisms to limit and transfer licenses*
- *Resistance by SSF to invasion of larger gear or development projects*
 - Torres Straits Islanders
 - Malawi on Lake Chiuta: traditional chiefs persuaded the Malawi government to 'kick out' outsiders using destructive gear
 - Dominican Republic (Stoffles)
 - Lummi Tribe in Washington State, US: social movements organized by SSF
- *SSF exercising market power, either directly or through community supported fisheries; connecting directly fishers to the market*
 - ThisFish movement in the East Coast of Canada
- *Government regulation or re-regulation which dampens neoliberal control mechanisms*
 - Norwegian example – pushback against ITQs
 - Iceland

3.6 Economic Viability

Rashid Sumaila

University of British Columbia, Canada

[‘Economic Viability’](#) cluster coordinators: **Rashid Sumaila, Anna Schuhbauer, Jyothis Sathyapalan & Ratana Chuenpagdee**

Finding variables to assess economic viability is quite challenging and the indicators would need to include landings, proportion of SSF versus large scale fishing (LSF), employment, degree of economic dependency, distribution of benefits, consumption per capita, etc.

In the paper [‘How subsidies affect the economic viability of small-scale fisheries’](#) by Schuhbauer et al. (2017) the authors present the results of a first bottom-up analysis of the proportion of global marine fisheries subsidies to SSF. Results reveal a major imbalance in subsidy distribution, with SSF receiving only about 16% of the total global fisheries subsidy amount of \$35 billion in 2009. Furthermore, almost 90% of capacity-enhancing subsidies, which are known to exacerbate overfishing go to LSFs, increasing the unfair competitive advantage that LSF already have.

3.7 Inland Fisheries

Andrew Song

James Cook University, Australia

[‘Inland Fisheries’](#) cluster coordinators: **Andrew Song, Steven Cooke, Paul Onyango & Shannon Bower**

By taking a global perspective, the 'Inland Fisheries' cluster aims to identify and analyze some of the prevailing social, cultural and political hurdles to sustainable utilization of inland SSF, and in doing so, it seeks to raise the profile of inland SSF and generate insights that can lead to effective governance.

Cluster activities:

- **E-book:** '[Inter-Sectoral Governance of Inland Fisheries](#)' edited by Song et al. : as part of a broader effort to generate a more coherent understanding of the sector's integral functions as well as the key factors that pose threats to its maintenance, this compilation aims to create a global-level survey of governance challenges that inland fisheries around the world are facing. In the process, it highlights useful lessons for alleviating challenges and improving governance.
- The e-book includes 4 case studies about lake systems, 3 about rivers, 2 about the land-sea interface (delta and lagoon), and 2 about wetlands.
- The cluster is currently working on a **synthesis paper**, and on combining these chapters in the e-book.

3.8 Transboundary Interactions

Andrew Song

James Cook University, Australia

['Transboundary Interactions'](#) cluster coordinators: **Joeri Scholtens, Johny Stephen, Andrew Song & Maarten Bavinck**

SSF and their governance are intrinsically connected to natural, social and political processes that occur outside the domain of a 'fisheries system'. This connection is arguably nowhere better seen than in the case of transboundary fishing, where local, regional, national and international interests and identity are deeply interconnected and play a crucial role in influencing the wellbeing of small-scale fishers and their fishing strategies. This cluster takes a comprehensive and critical look at how small-scale fishers are implicated in dynamics of fishing across and disputes over international maritime boundaries and transboundary fishing spaces.

'Transboundary Interactions' cluster takes into account the fluid characteristics of fishing and fisheries; geo-political and political economy angle; and scope limited to spatial, jurisdictional, administrative boundaries.

Cluster activities:

- **Paper** on '[Transboundary research in fisheries](#)' by Song et al. (2017). The paper explores:
 - What transboundary means, why is there need for this term and what kind of research exist

- Typology of transboundary research: resources, fishing, trade, and governance
- **Roundtable session at MARE 2017:** exploring the effects of anti-IUU policies/measures on SSF by looking at whether combating IUU fishing is a blessing or a threat.

3.9 Market Opportunities

Cristina Pita

University of Aveiro, Portugal

'[Market Opportunities](#)' cluster coordinators: **Jose Pascual, Cristina Pita, Helga Josupeit & Joonas Plaan**

SSF are faced with a lack of profitability and encounter challenges with accessing markets:

- Although SSF produces high quality products, they are not sufficiently recognized within the market systems.
- SSF compete with LSF and aquaculture products, which often sell the same type of product in high volumes and thus reduce the market price of the fish. In some locations SSF compete with products from recreational fisheries as well.
- SSF products are fresh, unprocessed, of high quality, have a low footprint but challenges in accessing the market. SSF compete with well-established market channels and low prices of imported products, predominantly caught by LSF.
- Cultural changes: in some countries eating fish is no longer a tradition.

The cluster aims to develop a better understanding of market channels (who sells the fish, to whom, the role of women etc.) and current strategies adopted by SSF to market their fish. The objective is to analyse existing market initiatives and explore possibilities for developing alternative marketing strategies and opportunities.

Plans for the future: increase the number of case studies that will contribute to the synthesis papers, have a new call for contributions to increase case study profiles from the cluster members; connect the market cluster to ongoing projects focused on markets.

3.10 Stewardship

Patrick McConney

University of West Indies, Barbados

The '[SSF Stewardship](#)' cluster is closely related to the former TBTI 'Enhancing the Stewardship' working group. Because SSF are large in number, and often operate in remote areas, in the absence of monitoring systems, assessing the impacts of this

sector on the environment, and of the changing environment on SSF, is a major challenge. 'Enhancing the Stewardship' working group was aimed at understanding what alternatives are available for minimizing impacts on, and of, the environment. It fostered stewardship within SSF, focusing on monitoring, shared learning and adaptive decision-making.

The working group published several publications, including:

- **E-book:** '[Enhancing Stewardship in Small-Scale Fisheries: Practices and Perspectives](#)' by McConney et al. (2014).
- **Special issue:** '[Fortalecendo o ecosystem stewardship na pesca artesanal](#)' edited by Medeiros et al. (2014).
- **Special Issue:** '[Enhancing Stewardship in Latin America and Caribbean Small-Scale Fisheries](#)' edited by M. Gasalla and F. Castro. (2016).

The '[SSF stewardship](#)' research cluster focuses on synthesizing a global view of small-scale fishing impacts and contributions of SSF to conservation and stewardship. Specifically, the cluster looks at:

- relative magnitude and types of impacts from various types of SSF gear,
- actual and potential role of SSF communities in the stewardship of fisheries resources and marine ecosystems

3.11 Global Change Responses

Prateep Nayak

University of Waterloo, Canada

'[Global Change Responses](#)' cluster coordinators: **Alida Bundy, William Cheung, Ahmed Khan, Ratana Chuenpagdee & Prateep Nayak**

Globally, SSF are going through major changes and there are various kinds of responses in terms of coping, adaptation, etc. The cluster aims to understand how SSF communities respond to changes; identify factors and conditions that allow coping and adapting; and learn from experiences to take it forward.

Specifically, the cluster focuses on the following objectives: What are the changes?; What are the coping mechanisms?; Learning and replicating the successful mechanisms; and What kind of policies could be implemented using the knowledge from experiences around the world?

The approach looks at changes at different levels and takes into account a variety of responses to the change, such as technical, knowledge, market responses, responses focused on strengthening institutions.

Cluster activities:

- **Rapid appraisal:** a complete and comprehensive assessment of what is taking place around the world

- **I-ADApT in-depth analysis:** the analysis captures different kinds of changes and responses. It incorporates background information about the SSF, provides description of various drivers and stressors, vulnerability assessment, governance and governability, response and appraisal.
- **Global change in small pelagic fisheries:** implementing I-ADApT in-depth analysis to explore changes, local or large-scale, climate-related or others in small-scale small pelagics fisheries.
- **Publications:**
 - *Global Change Responses chapter in the SSF governance – transdisciplinary analysis and practice:* looks at the strengths, drivers, responses, and outcomes
 - All work that has been done by all TBTI clusters could provide basis for understanding global change responses. We need to come up with a framework that extracts the knowledge from this knowledge.
 - Possible book for the future: *‘Global change response as it matters – reflections from SSF’* in which each cluster leader could contribute a chapter to this book

3.12 SSF Europe

Jose Pascual-Fernandez

University of La Laguna, Spain

The number of SSF is in decline. That being said, SSF are not only fleets, but people and communities linked to these boats. Traditionally, SSF communities had control over fishing areas but nowadays they are struggling for resources due to ocean grabbing (e.g. aquaculture, coastal tourism, LSF, urban development, ITQs etc.).

There is a variety of definitions of SSF. In the EU, coastal SSF are defined as those fisheries that use boats of less than 12m in length that don't use towed gears. But this definition does not encompass everything, such as, for example, Galician shellfish gleaners. It also excludes the vessels that use trawling during part of the year.

SSF are organized and integrated in institutions, in some cases with a century-long history (e.g. cofradías in Spain). Still, voices of LSF remain to be stronger. SSF don't receive enough attention from EU and other non-member states but there are some opportunities for the local development of SSF.

Activities:

- **TBTI research brief** (2013): [‘Giving small-scale fisheries a place: Research priorities and opportunities the knowledge and governance challenges’](#) by Britton et al. The brief looked at ways of improving knowledge on SSF, new market opportunities, and enhancing economic viability and resilience.
- **MARE conference policy day** (2013) that centered on the following questions:

- What is the future of SSF in Europe? And how is the new CFP going to affect this sector?
- What are the key governance challenges of SSF in Europe today, and what action is required to enable this sector to play its role?
- How can better knowledge be developed with and about SSF?
- **Various conference sessions** (MARE 2013; 2015; 2017, WSFC 2014 and others)
- **Book on SSF in Europe** (upcoming, 2018) '*Small-scale fisheries in Europe: Status, resilience and governance*'. With coverage of more than 25 European countries, its goal is to increase the visibility and knowledge of SSF in Europe. The book is relevant for understanding the factors that are shaping SSF in each of the European countries and for highlighting the socio-economic importance of SSF in Europe.
- **TBTI symposium in Tenerife (2016)** - '[Symposium on European Small-Scale Fisheries and Global Linkages](#):' that covered the following topics:
 - Current knowledge on SSF in Europe
 - Governance challenges for SSF in Europe, including issues related to tenure and access rights
 - European small-scale fishing communities, with a focus on diversity, livelihood diversification and tourism, roles of women, and engagement of youth in fisheries
 - Market opportunities for SSF within a global context
 - Synergies between SSF, marine protected areas, stewardship, and other conservation efforts

3.13 SSF Latin America and Caribbean (LAC)

María José Barragán-Paladines

Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research, Germany

Book on LAC: *Viability and sustainability of small-scale fisheries in Latin America and Caribbean*'. The book has been developing since 2014 and will be published in early 2018

- The book provides a comprehensive representation of ecosystems (e.g. Atlantic, Caribbean, Pacific and Amazon), target species, countries in LAC, and themes.
- The chapters, written by more than 65 authors, offer lessons learned and ways forward in addressing the sustainability, vulnerability, and viability of SSF and fishing communities in the region.

3.13 Discussion highlights from the morning sessions

- **Global synthesis:** social sciences research has increased attention to SSF; now we need to focus on synthesising the SSF knowledge at a global level.

One way of doing this is through the TBTI textbook '*Small-Scale Fisheries Governance: Transdisciplinary Analysis and Practices*'. Research on SSF is also going to continue through the upcoming projects led by Derek Johnson and Prateep Nayak.

- **TBTI network:** TBTI allows researchers to make SSF visible again and the network keeps counting on the contribution from everybody. Students get fellowships to study, but most of the contributions are voluntary. The network is really ours, for everybody.
- **Contributions from COBI:** COBI is interested in helping to further promote the TBTI platform, and introduce it to Mexican civil society organizations and the government. COBI could also contribute their existing information on SSF, such as the assessment about women's contribution to SSF in Mexico and the impacts of investing in leadership.

IV. Afternoon session

4.1 Global Synthesis, 'Transdisciplinarity in Fisheries,' and other TBTI activities

Ratana Chuenpagdee

Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

Global Synthesis:

Information System on Small-scale Fisheries (ISSF) is the first interactive global repository of SSF that provides information on key characteristics of this sector in various locations around the world, as well as synthesized knowledge about their importance, contributions and potentials.

The data is gathered and represented through several layers, including: Who's Who, State-of-the-Art in SSF Research (SOTA), SSF Profiles, Organizations, Case Studies, Capacity Development, Experiences, SSF Guidelines, and Country Statistics.

Regional Synthesis Report Europe:

The Regional Synthesis Report Europe is the first in a series of five reports that bring together information on SSF, drawing from TBTI's global repository of SSF data (ISSF) and research publications, both within and outside TBTI. The synthesis report is divided in four main sections: Importance of SSF; SSF Characteristics; Issues and Challenges; and Prospects and Opportunities.

Transdisciplinarity in fisheries training course:

- TBTI textbook '*Small-Scale Fisheries Governance: Transdisciplinary Analysis and Practices*' and the transdisciplinary training materials will be launched in October 2018 at the 3rd WSFC.
- The goal is to offer the training as an on-site capacity development and through online collaboration platform as part of open education. The distance learning education platform will be offered through Memorial University.
- Governability analysis of SSF looks at fisheries from all different things:
 - Natural, social, and governing system and its properties
 - Interactions between systems
 - Transition to different governance modes
 - Capacity
- Transdisciplinary approach is analog to the relation between a patient and a doctor: figuring out how to co-identify the problem and co-develop a solution.

4.2. Discussion highlights

- **Course audience:** The course should be available to as many people as possible. On-site capacity development could be targeted to government employees and local communities. The online course will be available to anyone interested in the topic of SSF but could also become part of a degree requirement for university courses. For instance, we could make this a mandatory to university 1st year students. We should not underestimate the importance on the social science and how crucial it is to make the social science mandatory for all researchers.
- **Course design:** Online course will be interactive, include different modules, assignments, and offer a certificate. The participants could be self-taught or be taught by instructors. TBTI is in the early development stage and open to contributions from our members on how to develop the course material and best ways to disseminate it.
- **Language:** The course will be offered in English but we could integrate a Google translate bar or some other mechanism to translate portions of the course. We could also ask for help with translating through crowdsourcing.
- **Ocean literacy:** Ocean literacy is one of the main objectives for some governments so the material in the course could be prepared within the ocean literacy framework.
- **Building capacity through course:**
 - Transdisciplinary work is a final stage of TBTI1 and part of its transitions into TBTI2. Transdisciplinary work is part of the capacity building mentioned in the SSF Guidelines and the course can be the TBTI contribution towards capacity implementation.

- The course would help develop real, long-term capacity and allow for people to take ownership of the resources, and the decision-making process. This approach would also facilitate a meaningful interaction with other actors.
- **Attracting the audience:** We can organize a naming contest with a good logo to attract people. In general, given the current competition for the audience, we should define the audience instead of waiting for them to come to us. One of the first people we will invite to the course will be ISSF contributors.

4.3 Perspectives on what needs to happen in order to achieve SSF sustainability

Prateep Nayak

University of Waterloo, Canada

What we are hearing from all clusters: both good things that are happening regarding SSF sustainability and things that need to be done, including:

- SSF are rooted in socio-ecological aspects and the **integration between natural and social aspects** is crucial for SSF sustainability.
- Looking at a **variety of drivers** (market, economics, etc.), from across the scale and how they play out in a **local context**. Looking at synergistic and multifaceted effects of these drivers.
- Having a **scale-sensitive approach** to looking at SSF sustainability. Smaller components of SSF could be affected while other components remain intact over time; think about how we can strengthen certain components,
- Looking at **SSF as contested area**: equity, justice, who's winning, who's losing, defining the narrative of sustainability. There are going to be more actors in the scene who will be defining sustainability for everyone. A lot of disempowered people in SSF might eventually lose out as the narrative won't be in their hands.
- **Politics and the different phases of working together**: politics of blame → politics of negotiation → politics of partnership → politics of collaboration – all these things that can push the process in different directions. One actor can lead the process and our role is to not let this happen in the context of SSF.

Aspects we need to work on:

- Sustainability of SSF and the approach of achieving it is an interactive process so let's not compartmentalize SSF sustainability, because everything is interconnected.
- SSF sustainability is determined by the success of the SDGs. SDGs could really facilitate or hinder the process of achieving SSF sustainability as it's going to be hard to achieve one SDG goal and not to negatively impact another SDG

goal in some form or other. We need to be careful how the process of implementing SDGs is going to transpire in the next 15 years.

- No change is a good change unless it is a change on the ground and with a positive impact on fishing communities.
- Recognize that there are perhaps unseen, unfound, undiscovered areas that we need to explore in SSF.

Xavier Basurto

Duke University, USA

It's evident we need to **solve the tension between producing high level theory and being relevant for the society** (for example, the word academic is even used in sports as in 'academic move').

Projects like TBTI happen once in a generation. However, TBTI is going to run out of funding when it's at its best. We need to **look at the models of transitions** of how to go to the new phase.

There has never been so much information on SSF and yet stakeholders have not noticed that. We need to be very explicit on how to **achieve the mutual conversation**.

Nicole Franz

FAO, Italy

It's about **making the messages accessible and informative for policy makers** to effect change. We need to bridge the science-policy interface and think of ways to make this body of knowledge on SSF relevant to other audiences. What is our target audience? What is the role of TBTI on this?

The way forward for achieving SSF sustainability is outlined in the SSF Guidelines; there is a whole section on enabling environments, for instance. Now, we need to think of following questions:

- How do we translate principle into action?
- How can TBTI make the information relevant to other audiences?
- What is our target audience?
- What is the role of TBTI in this?
- Can TBTI do this on its own?
- How can TBTI partner with CSOs on the ground, who speak the language of SSF?

Government and fishing communities are the key actors for achieving sustainable SSF. We need to **enable and empower SSF communities** and see what can WE do to make this happen. We also need to think of ways to make governments interested in SSF. For that to happen, we need strong arguments and show the contribution of SSF.

María José Espinosa Romero
COBI, Mexico

What needs to be done to achieve sustainable SSF?

1) We need **strong leaders and fishing organizations**; this is a key to end IUU and overfishing.

- For that, we need to go beyond the technical information and apply novel ways for developing capacity. Fishers need to develop communication and negotiation skills that will allow them to sit at the decision-making table where they can negotiate and have a voice. For this to happen, fisher need the financial capacity to make that investment but then the challenge becomes the seasonality of their incomes.
- Fishers have local knowledge but they need to become skilled in collecting and disseminating the data.

2) **Standards for sustainable fisheries are not well defined.** On the ground and in the government, there exists a wide array of definitions about what sustainable SSF are. It's important to create a community of practice and find ways to measure improvement of sustainability.

3) Need to **create incentives for sustainable fishing.** Financial incentives are not the most important one, which is why COBI is launching *Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture award* in Mexico; we need to move away from sustainability as a concept and give it a face.

4) **Governments need to be more decentralized.** Government can become obsolete, staff can be very out of touch, and there are continuous budget cuts, which can all lead to capacity deficiency.

- Government needs to build alliance with CSOs. COBI uses international agreements (e.g. the SSF Guidelines, SDGs) to argue for sustainable fisheries.
- We have to try new ways to do capacity building for government, one that is based on the principle of inclusiveness.

4.4 Roundtable discussion and reflections: What needs to happen in order to achieve SSF sustainability?

- **A way forward through resistance and rule breaking.** What happens when states are not benevolent, when you are not really trying to talk to governments but instead go around or beyond governments? How can we assist marginalized groups to build sustainable fisheries through alternative means?
- **Moving forward through partnerships.** We need the support of the governments and we need to be part of other networks that do similar work as us. It's also important to think of the ways of developing a SSF panel in the same way there are climate change and biodiversity panels.

- **Indirect communication.** If we look at the language and concepts of the SSF Guidelines it is evident that these concepts were developed by academics and that there is literature that backs up these concepts. The arguments of politicians have their foundation in the literature as well. We shouldn't not think that we are not being heard; it's just that the communication is much more indirect.
- **Balancing the message.** The environmental NGOs are very strong at communicating their message and that is very threatening from the perspective of human dimensions' researchers. We as social scientists need to be able to balance those messages so that when they communicate for MPAs we need to have a message just as strong to communicate against it.
- **The role of media.** We need to think of how we communicate our work. For instance, a topic such as mental health in SSF gets attraction by media, which is a way for public to get interested in SSF. If people can be influenced by media, they mobilize grassroots movements, and politicians respond to it. People also have alternatives, such as social media (Twitter and Facebook) and we can create very valuable channels of information. We don't necessarily have to go through the mainstream media.
- **Court as a last resort.** If the media fails and the politicians are not operating, you go to court as a last resort, even if it is expensive. There are terminologies in SSF we still need to figure out and there are principles that are still unpacked but the SSF Guidelines are there to provide a toolkit.
- **A need for critical scholarship.** What is the role of an academic? Where can we get this critical scholarship? How are we going to protect the marginalized, the voiceless from fishing communities? All of us in TBTI and beyond need to be part of this.

4.5. Roundtable discussion about the 3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress

- **There will be a lot of information coming out of the congress and we will explore what would be the best channels for generating good outputs** (not focusing only on proceedings, but have blogs, interviews, etc.). We should try to be as innovative as possible.
 - Have replicas of boats; invite dancers and singers to tell the story of their fishing place and their culture.
 - Have videos and documentaries and organize research roundtables: invite social scientists, natural scientists, humanities, artists, philosophers, and musicians to work together.
 - Explore the possibility of creating a YouTube channel and generate another type of output. We should look for a common format to go beyond the academic sphere.

- Besides the field excursion, organize other activities that can connect many people: exhibition, cultural exchange, etc.
 - Think of creating a statement about SSF: we need to ensure the congress is not merely a presence but that is impactful and meaningful.
 - It would be great if TBTI can think of creating and presenting at the conference some sort of eco-label that small-scale fishers would be able to use to sell their catches and present this at the conference.
- **Can this congress be a place where we bring policy people and funding organizations and how do we convince them this is an event they should be part of?**
- Organize a panel of policy makers and ask them to express what they want to know from the scientific community, make them part of the agenda design.
 - In science-policy debate, we need to recognize the values implicit in the SSF. There are different ways to explore the values of SSF; encounter the narratives around SSF and find the link to the policy.
 - On values, there are interfaces between policy and civil society, policy and community, etc. There should be more of the interface where community talks directly to policy makers and not through the academics.
- **Young people should have a say in what they want this congress to look like.**
- Organize opportunity for mentorships: invite scholars to sit down with graduate students in an informal discussion, maybe during lunch.
 - Involve early career people more (see the Arctic Frontier Conference and their initiative on emerging leaders) – early career people could come up with a vision for the future and represent that in front of the government.
 - Young people could use this opportunity to sit down with fishers and exchange experience.

Appendix A – List of participants

Name	Surname	Affiliation
Tim	Acott	Greenwich Maritime Centre, UK
Sahir	Advani	University of British Columbia, Canada
María José	Barragán-Paladines	Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research – ZMT, Germany
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Tony	Charles	Saint Mary's University, Canada
Ratana	Chuenpagdee	TBTI, Canada
Raquel	de la Cruz Modino	University of La Laguna, Spain
Maricela	de la Torres	Stockholm University, Sweden
María José	Espinosa-Romero	COBI, Mexico
Simon	Foale	James Cook University, Australia
Katia	Frangoudes	Université de Brest, France
Nicole	Franz	FAO, Italy
Julián	Idrobo	Los Andes University, Colombia
Moenieba	Isaacs	University of the Western Cape, South Africa
Svein	Jentoft	The Arctic University of Norway, Norway
Derek	Johnson	University of Manitoba, Canada
Matthias	Kaiser	University of Bergen, Norway
Vesna	Kerezi	TBTI, Canada

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Tanya	King	Deakin University, Australia
Danika	Kleiber	Pacific Island Fisheries Science Centre
Mirella	Leis	TBTI, Canada
Yinji	Li	Tokai University, Japan
Miguel	Lorenzi	TBTI, Canada
Patrick	McConney	CERMES, Barbados
Elyse	Mills	International Institute of Social Studies, The Netherlands
David	Mills	WorldFish
Prateep	Nayak	University of Waterloo, Canada
Jonah	Olsen	University of Manitoba, Canada
Jose	Pascual	University of la Laguna, Spain
Miguel Ángel	Peña Castellot	DG MARE, European Commission
Evelyn	Pinkerton	Simon Fraser University, Canada
Cristina	Pita	University of Aveiro, Portugal
Jim	Prescott	Independent researcher
Lina Maria	Saavedra-Díaz	Universidad del Magdalena, Colombia
Alicia	Said	TBTI, Canada
Joeri	Scholtens	University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Milena	Schreiber	Göteborg University, Sweden
Rebecca	Singleton	University of British Columbia, Canada
Lisa	Soares	CERMES, Barbados

Kumi	Soejima	National Fisheries University, Japan
Adam	Soliman	Fisheries Law Centre, Canada
Andrew	Song	James Cook University, Australia
Natasha	Stacey	Charles Darwin University, Australia
Rashid	Sumaila	University of British Columbia, Canada
Annisa	Triyanti	University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Gilles	van de Walle	Farnet Support Unit
Katrien	Verlé	Research institute for agriculture, fisheries and food, Belgium
Lena	Westlund	Independent consultant, Sweden
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RESEARCH

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