

# NEWS AND UPDATES MARCH 2018

## HIGHLIGHTS

3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress

Registration is now open!

### New paper

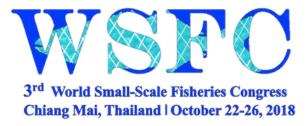
Mobilising adaptive capacity to multiple stressors: Insights from small-scale fisheries in Western Region of Ghana

## Big question

Are small-scale fishing gears generally less destructive than their large-scale counterparts?

#### **TBTI ACTIVITY**

# 3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress (3WSFC)



Want to add your voice to the discussion about the future of small-scale fisheries?

Then be sure to participate in the upcoming 3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress (3WSFC), which will be held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, on 22-26 October 2018.

#### REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Early bird registration fee: \$325 USD

Regular registration fee: \$450 USD

Discounted registration fee - \$200 USD

Discounted fee is applicable to students, fishers' organizations, community-based organizations, and others who fall under special considerations. Limited number available, so early registration is encouraged.

3WSFC is the premier forum for researchers, students, young professionals, practitioners, fishers and fishers' organizations, environmental groups, and policymakers to share information about all aspects of small-scale fisheries and to formulate action plans and capacity development programs to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

For more information about the congress, visit the 3WSFC website.



#### **TBTI ACTIVITY**

The time is now:
The pivotal role of women in small-scale fisheries



March 8 marked the International Women's Day, which was run this year under the theme 'Time is now: Rural and urban activists transforming women's lives'.

In the wake of a sweeping global movement for women's rights, equality and justice, International Women's Day 2018 was an opportunity to highlight the progress done with regards to gender equality and equity and celebrate the achievements of women in all settings, rural and urban, who are working relentlessly to claim women's rights and realize their full potentials.

This day was also an opportunity to bring further attention to the pivotal role women play in small-scale fisheries sector. Indeed, the recent years have seen an increased recognition of the multiple roles and vital contributions of women in small-scale fisheries, most notably with the inclusion of gender in the SSF Guidelines, the first international document recognizing women contribution in fisheries and calling for gender equity and equality.

TBTI cluster 'Women and Gender' contributes to the implementation process of the SSF Guidelines by collecting examples from around the world about women equity and equality in small-scale fisheries. It does so by identifying barriers, challenges and opportunities in order to highlight the approaches that can be used to implement gender equity and equality.

We compiled a short overview of some of the recent activities done by TBTI and other organizations around the globe on the issue of women equity and equality in small-scale fisheries. To find out more about these activities, **click here**.

#### **TBTI ACTIVITY**

#### Big question

#### Small-scale, smaller footprints?

Are small-scale fishing gears, generally less destructive than their large-scale counterparts? Past efforts to assess relative impacts of fishing gears do not distinguish fishing gears used in the small-scale fishery and large-scale fishery, leaving this seemingly straightforward question unanswered. TBTI research now aims to fill this knowledge gap.

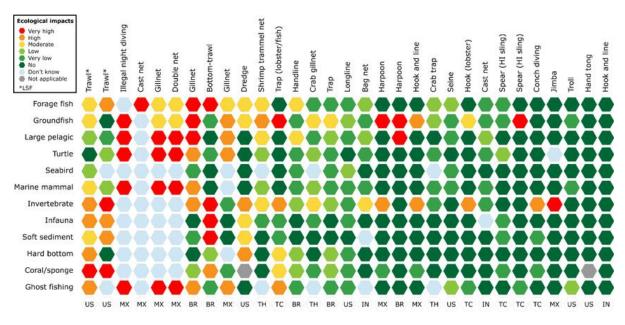
The preliminary results from an expert workshop in 2016 show that active gears cause higher levels of habitat and bycatch impacts than passive gears. Simultaneously, large-scale, midwater active gears have more impact on large pelagic, mammal, turtle, groundfish, and seabird than the passive gears used in the midwater column.

Needless to say, as the gears become highly selective and smaller in size they cause fewer impacts to both habitats and bycatch.

Our study shows different fishing gears used in small-scale fisheries and demonstrates that, while some small-scale fishing has relatively high impacts on habitats and bycatch, many are much less damaging. So are small-scale fishing gears less destructive? Many studies suggest that, especially when we take into consideration the amount of fish caught by small-scale fisheries, compared to large-scale fisheries.

If we also take into consideration the utilization of fish, there are also ample evidences to suggest that fish from small-scale fisheries are well used for household consumption, further emphasizing their importance to local food security and nutrition.

For more details, click here.



#### **NEW PUBLICATIONS BY TBTI AND MEMBERS**

#### Article

Mobilising adaptive capacity to multiple stressors: Insights from small-scale coastal fisheries in the Western Region of Ghana

Authors: G. Freduah (past TBTI student), P. Fidelman, and T.F. Smith (TBTI member)

The processes by which adaptive capacity is mobilised in response to multiple stressors are yet to be fully understood. This study addresses this pressing research gap by drawing on the capitals framework and empirical data from small-scale coastal fisheries in the Western Region of Ghana.



For more details, click here.

#### Article



#### **Differences Matter**

Author: Svein Jentoft, TBTI cluster coordinator

Using Norway as an example, the paper discusses the importance of the two way transfer of small-scale fisheries technology and knowledge between the North and the South, with a particular focus on the SSF Guidelines. The author argues that while the strong emphasis on food security and poverty eradication in the SSF Guidelines means they are particularly meant for the global South, they are also increasingly more relevant for the North.

For more details, click here.

#### OTHER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Congratulations



Congratulations to Bernard Owusu for successfully completing his Master's degree on 'Understanding the conflict between the oil and gas industries and small-scale fisheries in the western region of Ghana'.

Bernard studied the conflict between the oil and gas industries over ocean space once used by small-scale, food fisheries in the western region of Ghana. Through toponymy of maps of the region, texts, and images, he explored how ocean space in the Western region of Ghana is understood, represented and transformed over time.

Bernard was studying at the Memorial University, Canada under the supervision of Dr. Dean Bavington, TBTI member.

For more information about his research, click here.

# Meet TBTI member of the week



Kristen Lowitt is Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and Environment at Mount Allison University. Her research explores the impacts of environmental, economic, and social change on the food security of rural and coastal regions. This research asks how the food systems of coastal and rural regions are being transformed and how communities are responding to these changes.

For more information about her research, click here.

## ABOUT

Too Big To Ignore is a global research network and knowledge mobilization partnership that focuses on addressing issues and concerns affecting viability and sustainability of small-scale fisheries.

If you have any comments or feedback you would like to share with us, send us an email to **toobigtoignore@mun.ca**. We also encourage you to visit our website to find out more about the project and how to engage.

Written by: Vesna Kerezi, TBTI Project Manager

EXPLORE

CONTACT

JOIN

