



Too **BIG** To
IGNORE

Global Partnership for Small-Scale Fisheries Research

NEWS AND UPDATES
DECEMBER 2018

**2ND SPECIAL ISSUE ON
THE THIRD WORLD SMALL-SCALE
FISHERIES CONGRESS**

TBTI ACTIVITIES - HIGHLIGHTS FROM 3WSFC



3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress
Chiang Mai, Thailand | October 22-26, 2018

Last month we brought you some of the highlights from the 3WSFC in Thailand where over 350 participants gathered to discuss transdisciplinary strategies to sustain small-scale fisheries.

The congress was filled with insightful presentations and engaging discussions, many of which have been recorded and made available online. If you missed these or would like to re-watch some of your favourite moments from the congress, you can do that by visiting the TBTI YouTube channel.

Our goal at the Congress was to engage a wide spectrum of individuals and interests groups in conversations around the viability and sustainability of small-scale fisheries worldwide by focusing on knowledge, innovation and capacity in the context of science, community, and policy. For those of you who were at the congress, we hope you've enjoyed the event and we truly appreciate the time, insights and perspective that you brought to the discussion.



In the last months' special issue of the TBTI Digest, we highlighted some of the most interesting moments from the first four days of the congress. This month we're focusing on 'Action Day', the last day of the congress, which included presentations of the TBTI regional synthesis reports, regional roundtables, and action circles on moving forward.

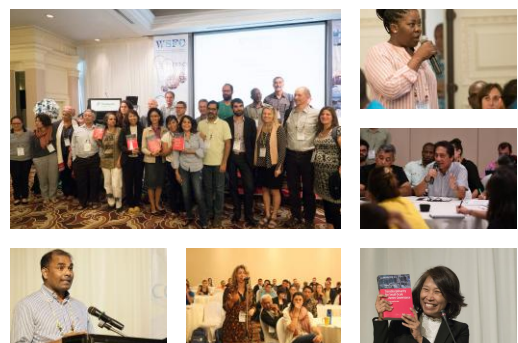
A significant portion of this day was placed on the question of what we want to see for small-scale fisheries by the year 2022, the International Year for Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture, and how to get there.

WSFC

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In order to facilitate interaction, information sharing, cross-fertilization of ideas and networking opportunities for congress participants, the congress followed a dynamic format with activities organized around the themes of science, community, policy and action. 'Action Day' began with the presentations of the five regional synthesis reports that TBTI team prepared as a quick overview of what's going on in each region, what small-scale fisheries look like, how important they are and what kind of challenges they face. Participants were then invited to join the regional roundtable to discuss the report and to center their discussion around the five cross-cutting questions:

- 1) What is the major knowledge gap in small-scale fisheries?
- 2) What are the major challenges facing small scale-fisheries?
- 3) What kind of change in science, community, markets and policy is required to improve viability of small-scale fishing communities, reduce their vulnerability and to promote small scale-fisheries sustainability?



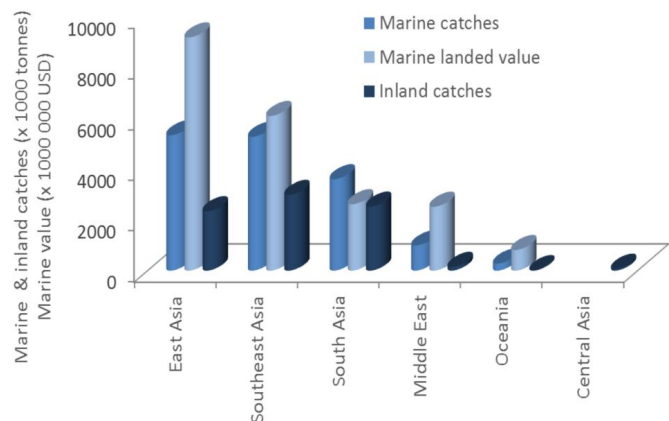
- 4) What actions are required from civil society organizations, research community and policy people in order to implement the SSF Guidelines?
- 5) How to strengthen the policy science interface?

The highlights from these discussions are presented below.

For more general information about the congress, [CLICK HERE](#).

Small-Scale Fisheries in Asia and Oceania

Regional report and roundtable



"The Asia and Oceania region encompasses the world's major fish producing countries with small-scale fisheries generating over a half of the global small-scale fisheries production. It is estimated that the 90 percent of the region's small-scale fisheries landings are retained locally for human food consumption, indicating an important role for food security and poverty alleviation. In all reality, the actual importance of small-scale fisheries for the Asia and Oceania region is even greater, when we take into account that these numbers are likely underestimates."

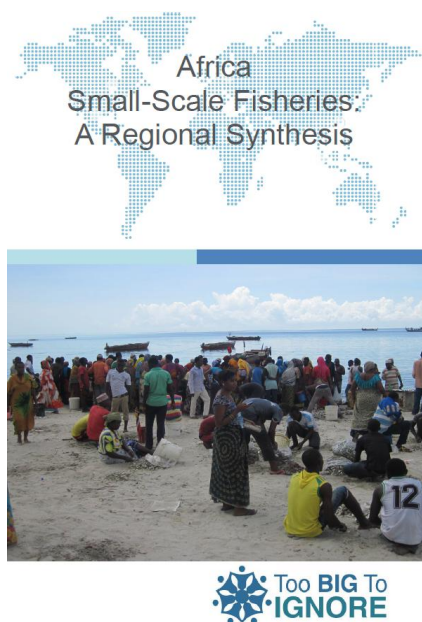
(excerpt from the TBTI synthesis report)

Figure: Marine and inland catches and marine landed value for the five sub-regions in Asia and Oceania. Data is based on the FAO 2016 FishStat and Pauly and Zellar 2015 data.

To read the full report as well as the summary from the regional roundtable, **[CLICK HERE](#)**.

Small-Scale Fisheries in Africa

Regional report and roundtable



"Small-scale fisheries in Africa are important for the food security of more than 200 million people, and for the employment of around 2.3 million fishers targeting fisheries in the various marine, brackish and freshwater environments. As one of the world's richest regions in terms of biodiversity and species exploited for livelihood and subsistence purposes, Africa has a long history of catching, trade and consumption of fish with fishing practices and know-how transferred from one generation to another."

(excerpt from the TBTI synthesis report)

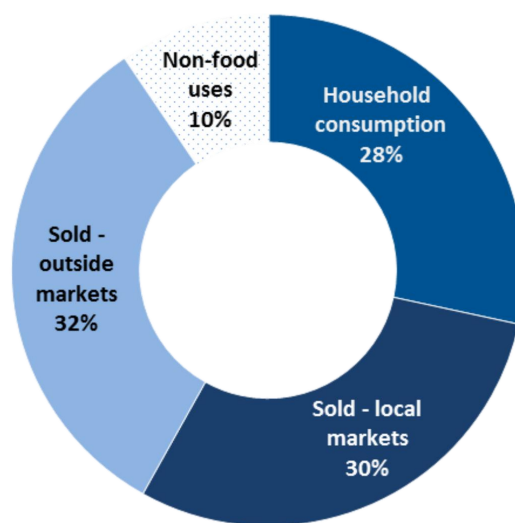
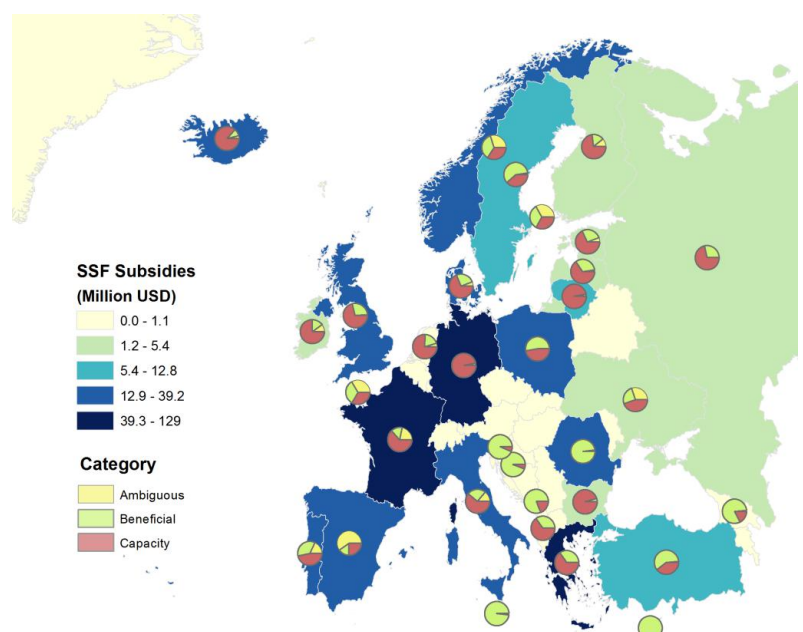
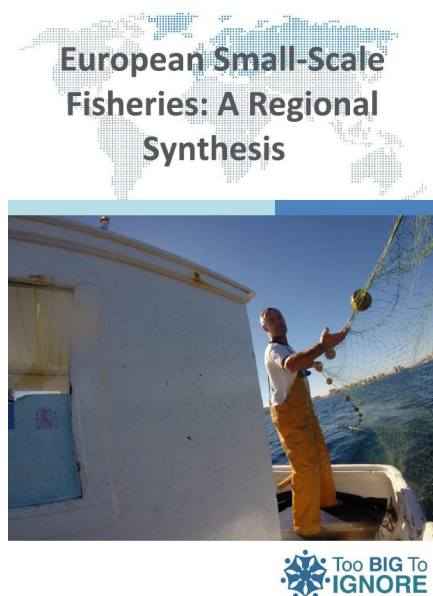


Figure: Market distribution of small-scale fisheries catch. Source: Data is based on ISSf (Chuenpagdee and Devillers 2015).

To read the full report as well as the summary from the regional roundtable, [CLICK HERE](#).

Small-Scale Fisheries in Europe

Regional report and roundtable



"Although representing only 8 percent of the global small-scale fisheries catch, small-scale fisheries in Europe are of vital importance, particularly in terms of social and cultural heritage. Small-scale fisheries outnumber their large-scale counterparts in terms of fleet size and the number of people employed in the sector, making significant socioeconomic contributions to many coastal areas. Small-scale fisheries in Europe are traditionally comprised of family-based enterprises, and although men perform many of the fishing activities, women also play an important role."

(excerpt from the TBTI synthesis report)

Figure: Small-scale fisheries subsidies (USD) distribution across European countries. The subsidies are split into three types: beneficial, capacity-enhancing and ambiguous. Data is based on the global fisheries subsidies study Schuhbauer et al. 2017.

To read the full report as well as the summary from the regional roundtable, [CLICK HERE](#).

Small-Scale Fisheries in North America

Regional report and roundtable



"Small-scale fisheries in North America makeup a small percent of global small-scale fisheries but have great social and economic benefits to the areas in which they are located, as well as contributing to regional identities. The waters off of North America are highly productive, particularly in the Northwest Atlantic and Northeast Pacific. Small-scale fisheries of the region have a historical element, by supporting indigenous fisheries for hundreds of years as well as being a motivating factor for European settlement."

(excerpt from the TBTI synthesis report)

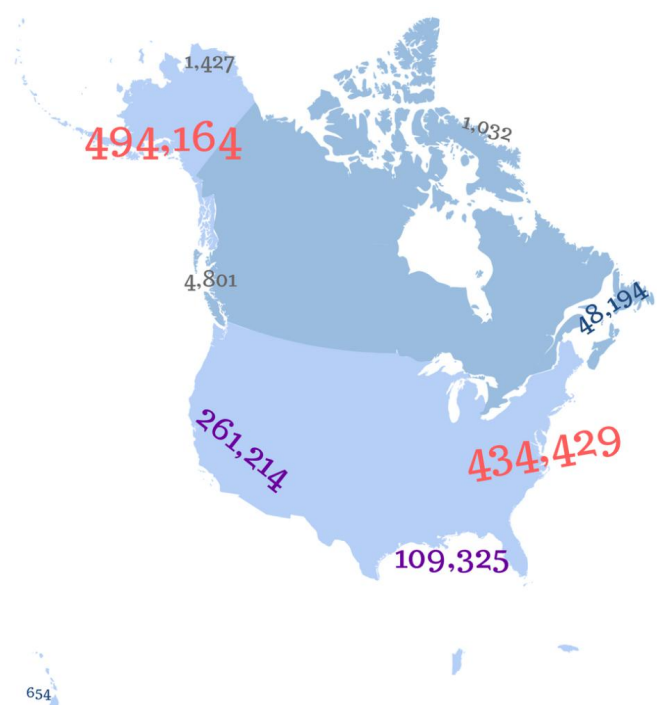
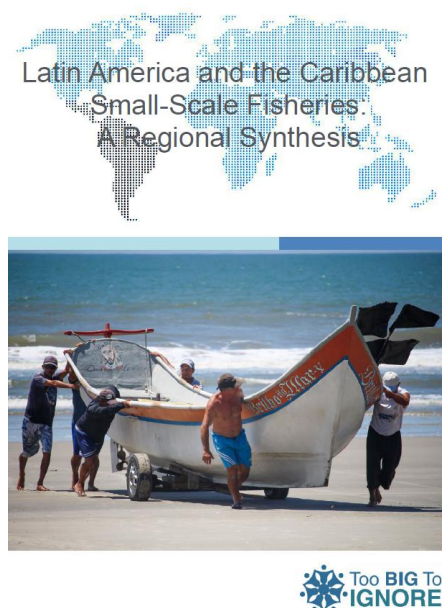


Figure: SSF landings (tonnes) by sub-region. North East to North West: Canada Atlantic Coast, US East Coast, Gulf of Mexico, US West Coast, Canada Pacific Coast, Alaska Subarctic and Alaska Arctic.

To read the full report as well as the summary from the regional roundtable, **CLICK HERE.**

Small-Scale Fisheries in Latin America and Caribbean

Regional report and roundtable



"Small-scale fisheries in Latin America and the Caribbean support livelihoods, employment and food security of more than 2.3 million people in marine, brackish, and freshwater environments. They also contribute to environmental stewardship in the region, which is known for its rich biodiversity and endemism species, through a strong leadership and collaboration among fishers' associations and cooperatives."

(excerpt from the TBTI synthesis report)

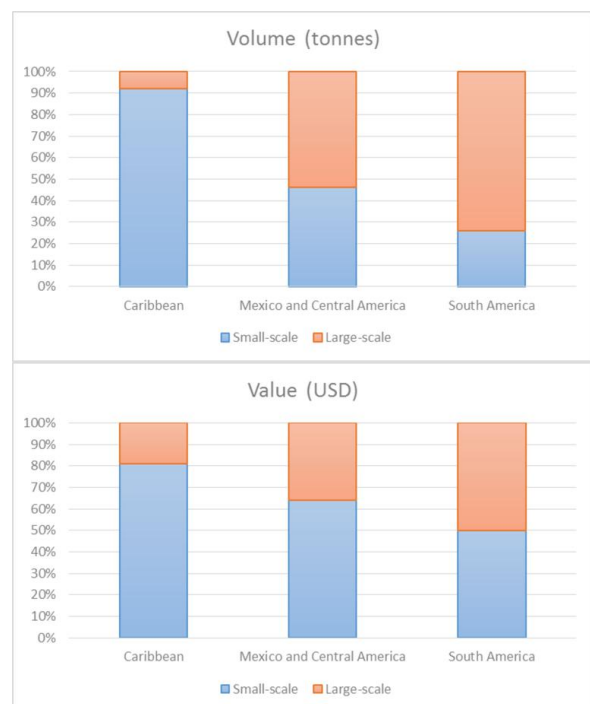


Figure: Proportion of SSF marine catches (tonnes), landed value (USD) and value per tonne (USD/tonne) compared to LSF for Mexico Central America, South America and Caribbean sub-regions of LAC in 2010 (Source: Sea Around Us).

To read the full report as well as the summary from the regional roundtable, **CLICK HERE**.

3WSFC

Ways forward - What would you like to see by 2022 and beyond and how to get there?

In the last congress session, participants joined action circles focusing on key topics that emerged during the congress, to further discuss and propose some concrete ideas about the ways forward, thinking in particular about what they like to see by 2022 – the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture, and how to get there. We have summarized the discussion in the action circles, as reported in the plenary, which offers an important starting point to build a strategic science-policy-community platform for small-scale fisheries.

TBTI will continue to facilitate conversation and discussion about these action items, promote transdisciplinarity capacity building of multi-stakeholder groups, networks and governments at local, national and regional levels, especially for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the SDGs, and coordinate research activities and produce communication strategies to keep the SSF momentum going, particularly focusing around concepts like Blue Justice and the Meaning of Small. **Stay tuned for calls to actions and get ready to contribute!**

To read the full summary of discussions, [CLICK HERE](#).



Action circles

Action circle # 1: The Meaning of Small --- definitions, conceptualization, language etc.

Action circle # 2: The Fishers' Voices

Action circle # 3: Rights/access --- what to do to secure small-scale fisheries rights, prevent privatization and ocean grabbing? Let's talk 'Blue Justice'

Action circle # 4: How to enhance value-chain to support small-scale fisheries?

Action circle # 5: Governance transformation - How to do better at SSF Governance, also for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the SDGs?

Action circle # 6: How to integrate knowledge and foster communications and sharing?

Action circle # 7: Long-term interventions --- funding and mechanisms to keep it going!

Action circle # 8: Fishery Science and the Design of Harvest Strategies in Latin-America

3WSFC

Blue Justice



Say yes to Blue Justice. Share your story. Commit today.

Social justice is a key concern of fisheries governance since many stakeholders rely on the same resources. At the 3WSFC, the concept “Blue Justice” was presented and discussed, urging all involved actors to critically examine what “Blue Economy” and “Blue Growth” initiatives mean to small-scale fisheries and their communities, in terms of distributive justice, community empowerment, human rights, food and nutritional security, gender equity, and sustainability.

In this spirit, we invite you to make commitment to “Blue Justice” and share your thought and story on the topic. Here are a few things that you can do.

(1) Take video of yourself, saying how you are committed to “Blue Justice”. We’ll collate all the submission and make it into a video that will be used for the campaign.

(2) Send us stories and experiences that you and the small-scale fisheries communities you work with have on social justice concerns and issues.

(3) Send us some thoughts about what you are committed to do, and what you think we should collectively do to ensure “Blue Justice” for the world’s small-scale fisheries.



For more information about the Blue Justice and how to contribute, [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

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