

**Too BIG To
IGNORE**

Global Partnership for Small-Scale Fisheries Research

NEWS AND UPDATES

MARCH 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

TBTI Activities

TBTI pledges
commitment to 'Blue
Justice for Small-
Scale Fisheries'

2019 International Women's Day

Bringing attention to
gender equality &
equity in SSF

Article

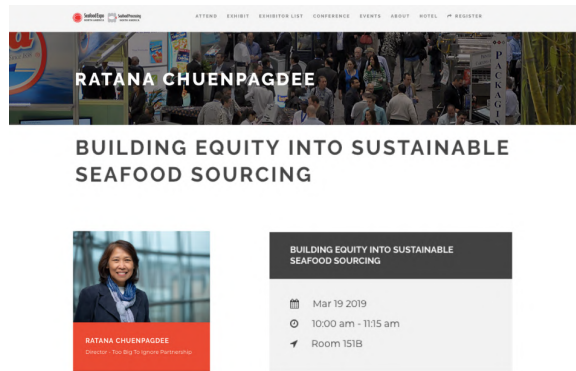
Situating human
rights in the context
of fishing rights

TBTI UPCOMING EVENTS

TBTI participating in the Boston Seafood Expo

'Building Equity into Sustainable Seafood Sourcing'

March 19, Boston, USA



TBTI is participating in a special session at this year's Seafood Expo North America in Boston. The session encourages critical thinking and discussions on the opportunities that the SDGs provide for responsible businesses to engage with the world's traditional, small-scale fisheries and the ways that businesses can demonstrate their commitment and contribution to the SDG.

Panelists:

Adam Baske - Director, Policy & Outreach at International Pole & Line Foundation

Poull Brien - Partner / Co-Founder - Wild Fish Direct, LLC

Nola Martin - Vice President Marketing at Ocean Brands

Ratana Chuenpagdee - TBTI Director

Joe Zelasney - Fishery Officer at Food and Agriculture Organization

This session will pose three important questions to seafood businesses:

- 1) Have you fully evaluated both the environmental and social impacts of your procurement policies;
- 2) Can you increase your support for small-scale fisheries and the many livelihoods that depend upon them;
- 3) Can you contribute more to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

The session is organized by International Pole & Line Foundation.



For more information about the session **CLICK HERE.**

TBTI UPCOMING EVENTS

REMINDER: Call for applications

Training workshop: Transdisciplinarity in Fisheries & Ocean Sustainability

April 12-15, Iloilo City, Philippines



Hurry up!

There are a few spots left for the training workshop 'Transdisciplinarity in Fisheries & Ocean Sustainability' that will be held in Iloilo City, following the 12th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (AFAF).

This unique training program, developed by TBTI, is rooted in the transdisciplinary (TD) approach. The 3.5 days TD training workshop will include a series of lectures, accompanied by exercises and practical to facilitate learning.

The TD training workshop in Iloilo is organized in conjunction with the 12AFAF, in order to facilitate participation of scientists, practitioners, students and others who are already planning to attend the 12AFAF. The training workshop is opened, however, to anyone interested in learning about transdisciplinarity. Background and knowledge about fisheries, ocean and environmental issues are required.

There is no lecture fee and the teaching/learning materials will be provided to the participants free of charge. However, participants need to pay nominal fee to cover breaks and lunches, and the field trip. They are also expected to cover their own travel, accommodation and meals not covered during the workshop.



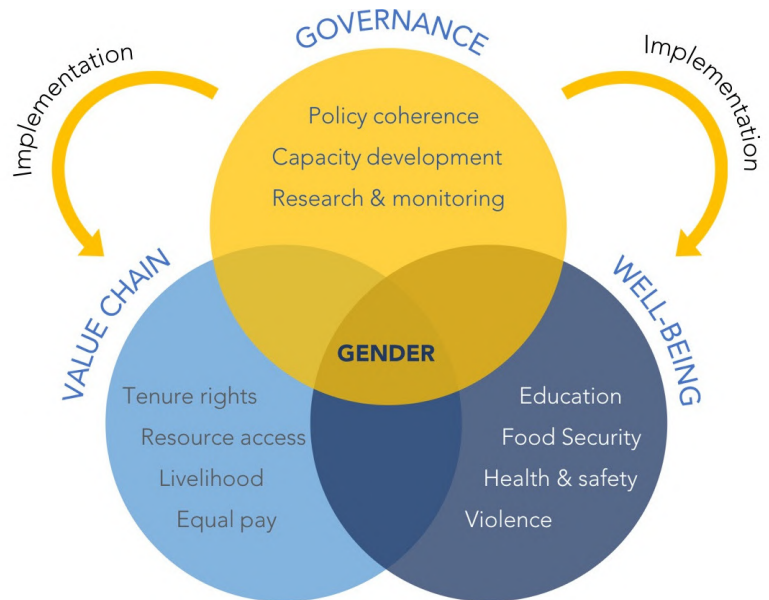
For more information about the workshop click **HERE**.

TBTI UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinar on 'Gender Equity & Equality in the SSF Guidelines - Indicators for Governance Capacity & Capability'

April 16 & 17, 2019

Organized by: TBTI, GAFs & WorldFish



Effective implementation of the gender aspects of the SSF Guidelines will require fisheries governing institutions that have the capacity and capability to integrate gender research and best practices in their policy and practice.

The purpose of this webinar is to summarize the findings from the recent GAF7 workshop that focused on identifying gender integration capacity and capability indicators for fisheries institutions. The goal is to further define and refine these indicators and measures that can be used in multiple contexts.

The expected outcome of the webinar will be a set of indicators and measure that can be used by academics and practitioners to assess the gender capacity and capability of their national fisheries institutions.

Please join us if you have an interest in gender, the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, and the assessment of governance.

This will be an interactive webinar so come ready to participate!

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For more information about the webinar, **CLICK HERE.**

TBTI ACTIVITIES

'TBTI for Blue Justice' campaign

'Blue Justice for Small-Scale Fisheries' commitment

February 20, 2019

On the World Day of Social Justice, TBTI submitted its 'Blue Justice for Small-Scale Fisheries' commitment, as a Voluntary Commitment towards fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. Our pledge joins more than 1,400 other voluntary commitments to save our oceans, all registered on a UN platform.

The commitment, which is part of our ongoing 'Blue Justice' campaign, calls attention to the current discourse about Blue Growth/Blue Economy that poses potential risks to the rights of small-scale fisheries to the fishing livelihoods, which include access to fisheries resources, to coastal and ocean space, and to local, national and international markets. The campaign is urging for the social justice of small-scale fisheries be recognized not only as a basic right, but also an important condition for the realization of the UN Sustainable Goals and implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

For more information, visit TBTI website.



Blue Justice for Small-Scale Fisheries by TBTI Global

The majority of the world's fisheries are small-scale. They employ millions of people - men and women, providing them with income, jobs and livelihoods, make significant contribution to local and national food security, and are integral to the social fabric, cultural identity and heritage of many coastal communities around the world. In recent years, the values of small-scale fisheries have increased with the increased public awareness about the benefits of locally sourced and sustainable seafood and the growing interest on cultural or experience-based tourism. Small-scale fisheries are clearly not only 'too big to ignore' but are also 'too important to fail'.

The importance of small-scale fisheries has been promoted in the 'Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication' (SSF Guidelines). Yet, the current discourse about Blue Growth/Blue Economy poses potential risks to the rights of small-scale fisheries to the fishing livelihoods, which include access to fisheries resources, to coastal and ocean space, and to local, national and international markets. As the largest research partnership on small-scale fisheries, Too Big To Ignore (TBTI) is committed to rectify the inconsistency between the development agenda and Target SDG-14 through 'Blue Justice for Small-Scale Fisheries' program.

TBTI has developed the online information system (OIS), conducted in-depth research and built capacity that helps elevate the profile of small-scale fisheries, enhance values, improve visibility, reduce vulnerability, address key concerns affecting fisheries sustainability, and argue against marginalization of small-scale fisheries in policies and governance. For 'Blue Justice for Small-Scale Fisheries', TBTI is committed to:

- Share stories and case studies that illustrate how policies, decisions and development agenda affect access and rights of small-scale fisheries and challenge "social justice" principles
- Facilitate science-policy dialogue to recognize the rights, values and concerns of small-scale fisheries in the discussion about sustainable development at all levels
- Build "transdisciplinary capacity" among governments and non-governmental organizations, researchers and community of practices to improve governance of small-scale fisheries, for fisheries sustainability worldwide

TBTI Global 'Blue Justice for Small-Scale Fisheries' commitment is part of the wider TBTI campaign on Blue Justice. To learn more about the campaign and find out how to contribute, **CLICK HERE**.



And while you're there, be sure to check our recent video about #BlueJustice4SSF. In it, Naseegh Jaffer from the World Forum for Fisher People and Masifundise Development Trust in South Africa speaks about the concept of Blue Justice and its relevance for small-scale fishing communities.

TBTI ACTIVITIES

Think Equal - It's International Women's Day

These are our stories

March 8, 2019

This year's International Women's Day was run under the theme 'Think equal, build smart, innovate for change'. This day was highlighted around the globe through rallies, marches, film festivals, art performances, panel discussions, social media activities and many other events. Here at TBTI, we marked this day by bringing attention to gender equality and equity in small-scale fisheries.

We have compiled a number of short stories from TBTI members about women in small-scale fisheries. These excerpts provide intriguing glimpses into what it's like to be a woman in small-scale fisheries today, as well as what it's like to be a woman studying small-scale fishing-women and men. To read the stories, [CLICK HERE](#).

Happy International Women's Day!

"I love fishing"

says Zubaida Ani from Teluk Bahang Kampung village, Penang, Malaysia, with a smile. While many women work in small-scale fisheries, few go out to sea, but there are exceptions like Ani. She and her husband Abdul Rahim fish together since many years. She is the mother of seven children, aged between 15-30 years old. Some of them have moved out, obtained higher education and started working outside of fisheries. But for those who remain at home, Ani cooks in the morning before going off with the boat to pull the nets. Ani and her husband share the revenue from their catch equally; he pays the bills and she shops for food items. Although to be honest, Ani admits she is typically the one making sure to put some money aside for family needs, like the children's education or unforeseen events. "I'm the treasurer!" as Ani puts it, laughing.



“ Ani and her husband share the revenue from their catch equally; he pays the bills and she shops for food items.

Zubaida Ani and her husband Abdul Rahim from Malaysia go fishing together. Photo by Asa Ljusenius/FAO.

"How do we open these spaces so that the voices of women's lived experience can become part of the decision-making processes? So that girls and women can have more choice about how they want to participate in the activity of fishing? We start one girl, one program, one place at a time! And it grows!"[Kimberly Orren - a founder & volunteer project manager of Fishing for Success.]

Some of these stories might inspire you while some paint a troubling picture of marginalization and injustice faced by small-scale fishing women. Ultimately, they all call on us to take action and be part of building a just & equitable small-scale fishing sector.

For more information on International Women's Day, visit [TBTI website](#).



"I love fishing": a story about Zubaida Ani from Teluk Bahang Kampung village, Penang, Malaysia.



Broken system: a story about Fatiema Poppie Kok, a fisherwoman from Ocean View, South Africa and her struggle for accessing the fishing rights.



#BalanceForBetter: opening spaces for girls and women to participate in fishing in Newfoundland, Canada.



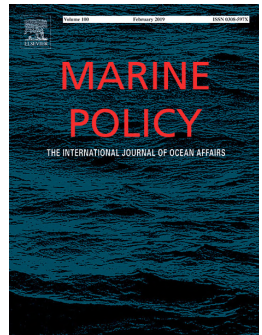
You will not regret it!: inspiring women to pursue careers in research and academic careers.

NEW PUBLICATIONS BY TBTI MEMBERS

Situating human rights in the context of fishing rights - Contributions and contradictions

Authors: *Andrew M. Song and Adam Soliman*

Marine Policy, Volume 103, May 2019, Pages 19-26



Human rights have become a salient topic in fisheries governance. This paper clarifies key terms involved in a human rights-based approach as they pertain to fishing rights. The authors argue that the human rights-based approach to fisheries will be most effective when a human rights-based approach is used to support (1) communal fishing rights rather than individual rights, assuming the community strives to ensure the basic dignity of all members by distributing fishing rights in a manner consistent with human rights principles;

and (2) the fishing rights of small-scale fisheries against those of larger industrial fleets, rather than using it between two small-scale fishing groups.

The paper, written by TBTI cluster coordinator A. Song and TBTI member A. Soliman, can be [accessed here](#).

The global information system on small-scale fisheries (ISSF) – A crowdsourced knowledge platform

Authors: *R. Chuenpagdee, D. Rocklin, D. Bishop, M. Hynes, R. Greene, M.R. Lorenzi & R. Devillers*

Marine Policy, Volume 101, March 2019, Pages 158-166

The final version of this TBTI article is now available online. The article describes the conception of the Information System on Small-scale Fisheries (ISSF) and its key features has recently been published by TBTI members. The paper presents some results extracted from the analysis of ISSF data, illustrating the importance of such a global database on small-scale fisheries.

ISSF is a Web-based, open data portal to collect and disseminate knowledge on various aspects of small-scale fisheries. It is built on crowdsourced knowledge and is designed to be open, interactive, flexible, and comprehensive.

Don't miss it!

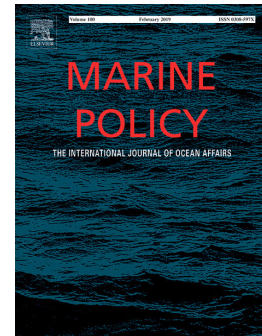
Until April 12, this article is available for download, free of charge on [THIS LINK](#).

NEW PUBLICATIONS BY TBTI MEMBERS

Fisheries crime, human rights and small-scale fisheries in South Africa: A case of bigger fish to fry

Authors: *Moenieba Isaacs* (TBTI cluster coordinator) and *Emma Witboi*

Marine Policy, January 2019



Marine fisheries plays an important role in ensuring food security and providing livelihoods in South Africa, as in many other developing coastal States. Transnational fisheries crime seriously undermines these goals. Drawing on empirical research this contribution highlights the complexity of law enforcement at the interface between low-level poaching and organised crime in the small-scale fisheries sector with reference to a South African case study.

Specifically, this article examines the relationship between a fisheries-crime law enforcement approach and the envisaged management approach of the South African Small-Scale Fisheries Policy.

The paper can be **accessed here**.

OTHER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Join the Community of Ocean Action on Sustainable Fisheries



To this date, more than 1,400 voluntary commitments for concrete action to advance implementation of SDG 14, *Life below water*, have been made. More than 250 of these commitments are in support of SDG 14.b - *Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets*.

Have you already registered your voluntary commitment to support achieving SDG target 14.b?

If not, find out how by **clicking HERE**.

Once you registered the voluntary commitment on the UN platform, you can also **join the Community of Ocean Action #9 - Sustainable Fisheries** to stay informed and take part in supporting activities.

For more information about the Community of Ocean Actions # 9 and how to get involved, **CLICK HERE**.

OTHER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENT



UN scholarships 2019-2020

One of the goals of the United Nations is to prepare future generations for careers in human rights, economic justice, and more. This means providing resources and funding for programs that give people essential experience and education. Often times, that takes the form of scholarships with the United Nations University, which represents the research and academic branch of the UN. There are also occasionally opportunities within the offices of the UN itself. Here are five scholarships for your consideration:

- The United Nations University Japan / PhD in Sustainability Science
- The United Nations University Iceland / The UNU Fisheries Training Programme
- The United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research / Visiting PhD Fellowship Programme
- United Nations Office of the High Commissioner / Fellowship Programme for People of African Descent
- Codification Division of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs / International Law Fellowship Programme

For more details, [CLICK HERE](#).

TBTI Member of the Week



Linda Behnken is the Executive Director of Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association (ALFA). She has BA from Dartmouth College and a Masters in Environmental Science from Yale University. Linda has been a commercial fisherman in Alaska since 1982, and currently fishes with her spouse and their two sons on their 38-foot boat.

Linda helped launch the Alaska Sustainable Fisheries Trust, which invests in fishing access opportunities for community-based fishermen committed to sustainable fishing practices, and Alaskan's Own, the first Community Supported Fisheries program in Alaska. In 2016 she was recognized as a White House Champion of Change for Sustainable Seafood by President Obama.

For more information about her work, [click here](#).



Too BIG To IGNORE

Global Partnership for Small-Scale Fisheries Research

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



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toobigtoignore.net
toobigtoignore@mun.ca

