

Small-scale fisheries in Sisal, Mexico

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Ecosystem type	Marine
Main Gear	Gillnet, harpoon, hook & line, Jimbas
Target species	Octopus, grouper & yellowtail snapper
Vessel type	Fiberglass & wooden (alijos)
No. of small-scale fishers	942
No. of small-scale fishing vessels	1302

Small-scale fisheries in Sisal face similar situation to other fishing communities in Mexico, mostly because their marginal political power at the state and federal levels. Generally, there is a high diversity and complexity of actors interacting in a dynamic natural and social system. The local governing system creates conditions in which fishers must deal with poor bargaining power and lack of access to markets or market monopolization on a daily basis. Existing subsidy programs and initiatives aim at improving different aspects of the fishing fleet and the fishing people's livelihoods (e.g. fishing fuel, modernization



Type of justice: social, economic, market, infrastructure/wellbeing, regulatory, procedural

of vessels and engines). However, they are mainly allocated to 'legal and organized' fishers that belong to fishing cooperatives, leaving those who either lack fishing permits, or work independently, in disadvantage. At the post-harvest component, there is a lack of support and recognition of women, since capacity building incentives focus mostly on fishers at sea. Furthermore, a weak capacity of the governing system and the poor quality of interactions among actors and institutions can also be found, which further exacerbate fishing people's marginalization.

