

# FisherFolk Net

Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations



Photo Credit CNFO

## COVID-19

Regionally CNFO members have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The High-Level Panel of Experts of Food Security and Nutrition of the UN Committee on World Food Security has recommended that all governments have to “support local communities and citizens to increase local food production through appropriate stimulus packages (in cash and kind) to enhance food resilience”.

All governments should support the functioning of local markets and direct sales with the new norms for protection or all persons. They should also strengthen decentralized and mobile public procurement programs that can guarantee sales for small scale producers and make food available for those that need it. New social protection programs must be implemented for millions who face hunger or loss of their livelihoods.

Fisherfolk need to be creative and adapt to the new norm.

## OTHER STORIES INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

STEWARDFISH  
PROJECT- CNFO  
Leadership Institute

More on the impacts  
of COVID-19 on  
fisherfolk

Fisherfolk Feature



# LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The CNFO is coordinating with University of the West Indies Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (UWI-CERMES) in the delivery of activities under STEWARDFISH project and the CNFO being responsible for promoting and mobilizing its members in the seven project countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and Grenadines).

One major excitement for the CNFO is the building of a CNFO Virtual Leadership Institute. Assessments of fisherfolk organisations (FFOs) have highlighted that a number of FFOs are dormant and many others are weak with limited organisational capacity. The identified weaknesses include, poor management skills, weak leadership, inadequate communication and limited advocacy skills. The CNFO seeks to address the leadership capacity gap by developing a LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE. The institute is divided into four pillars: training, mentoring, forum and a library.

On April 1, 2020 the online leadership training was piloted. Please see the schedule for upcoming training.

*Leaders in fisherfolk organisations are often leaders and managers, however they must be aware that these are two separate and distinct responsibilities.*

## REGISTER FOR UPCOMING ONLINE LEADERSHIP TRAINING:

*Training Module 1: Exploring leadership (Facilitated by Mitchell Lay, 1st April 2020)*

*Training Module 2: Working with groups (Facilitated by Mitchell Lay, 3rd June 2020)*

Training Module 3: Facilitating the development of group vision, mission and goals (Facilitated by Winsbert Harry, **1st July 2020**)

Training Module 4: Advocacy, representation, negotiation and conflict resolution (Facilitated by Kaygianna Toussaint, **5th August 2020**)

Training Module 5: Relation management (Facilitator TBA, **2nd September 2020**)

Training Module 6: Communications and Networking (Facilitated by Nadine Nembhard, **7th October 2020**)

Training Module 7: Institutional identity and integrity (Facilitator TBA, **4th November 2020**)

Training Module 8: Administration and operation (Facilitated by Susan Hodge, **2nd December 2020**)

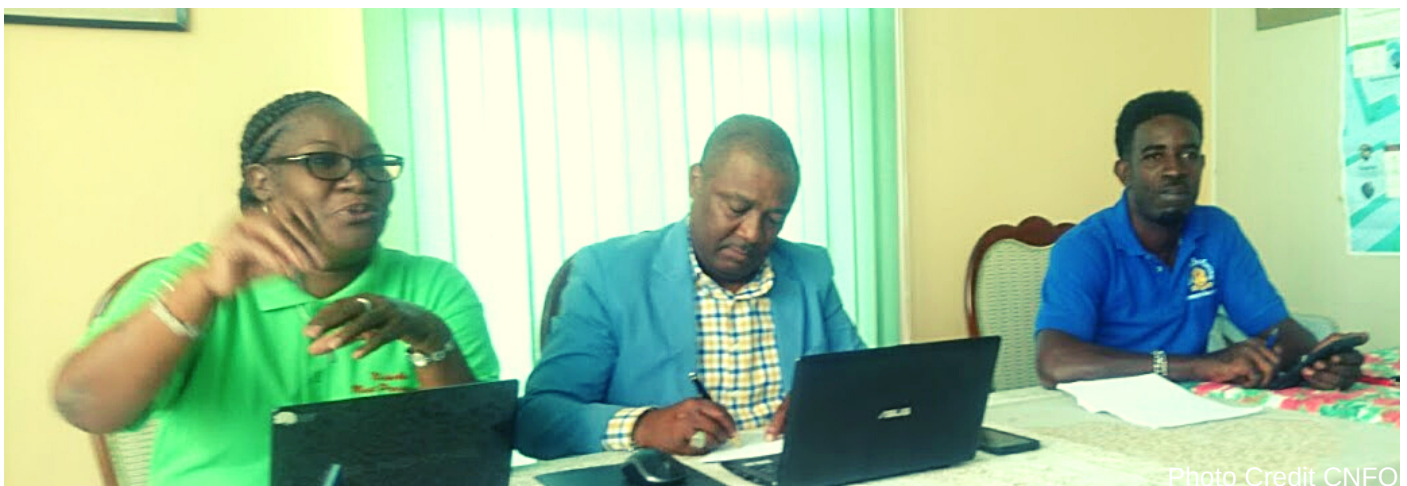


Photo Credit CNFO



# STORIES FROM CARIBBEAN FISHERFOLK ON COVID-19



PHOTO CREDIT CNFO BOARD MEMBER

## ANGUILLA

Sailor from Dominica begs for travel clearance to leave Anguilla after being stuck there for several months.

Fisherfolk vessels must be equipped with a GPS tracking device to fish during COVID.

## BARBADOS

A generous initiative in Barbados during COVID is the donation of fresh fish to the most vulnerable.

Major challenges are less sales of fish and the time restriction on persons to shop.



Photo Credit CBC NEWS



Photo Credit Norman Norris

## DOMINICA

There are no markets for sale of fish. The hospitality sector (hotels, restaurants, food courts) are closed. No tourists so the fishers have flooded the local markets.

Fish prices have dropped not because of increase in production, but because of less sales.





# GUYANA

For several years there has been good prices on the export market for products like grey snapper and swim bladder. In 2019 for a few months the price was at USD\$150 per pound for swim bladder exported to China. It is so lucrative this is one of the main product that attracts the pirates.

During COVID-19 all prices of fisheries products have reduced by 40% to 50% in Guyana.

Photo credit CNFO

# JAMAICA

The curfew is affecting the normal fishing hours. In addition, people are not coming out to purchase fish so the fisherfolk wrap up the nets on land.



Photo credit CNFO



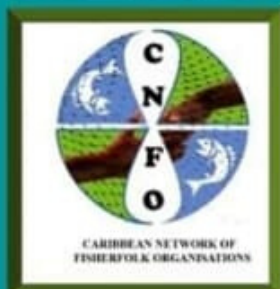
# ST. KITTS & NEVIS

Fishers originally were not on the list of essential workers and were greatly affected as they could not work and was on lock down.

That has changed and they can now fish even outside of the curfew hours.

Photo credit CNFO





## THANK YOU TO OUR ESSENTIAL CARIBBEAN FISHERFOLK!

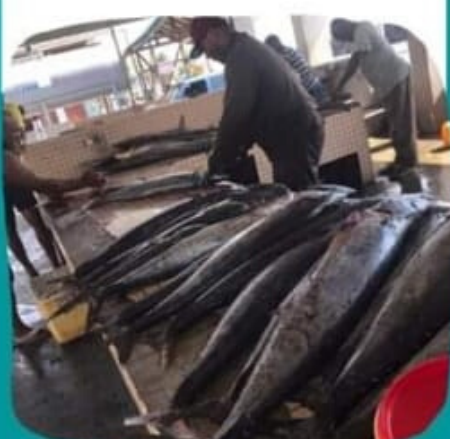
Caribbean small-scale fisherfolk continue to produce legitimately, responsibly and sustainably during this COVID-19 crisis. Much gratitude to our fishers!

With a resilient fisheries sector, fisherfolk are contributing to:

- boosting our immune system
- promoting resilient livelihoods and communities
- supporting national economy

Households, communities, organisations and the government should:

- support our local fishing communities
- buy locally harvested seafood because it is healthy
- promote responsible local fisheries



Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations • 501-624-5364 • [cnfo\\_cu@yahoo.com](mailto:cnfo_cu@yahoo.com) • <https://cnfo.fish>

Committed to the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) and the The Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP)



# Spotlight on Ms. Romatti Persaud

Born 5th  
December  
1963, her  
husband is a  
deep sea  
fisher and  
she sells the  
fish catch at  
#66 Fish  
Port, Guyana.

---

ROMAWATTI PERSAUD



# Mark Your Calendar:

Caribbean Fisherfolk Day -  
29th June 2020

Leadership Training first wed  
in each month

EAF Social Media Campaign.  
Follow us today!

CRFM  
Ministerial Council Meeting -  
25th June 2020

Ask about the  
World Forum Fisher Peoples  
(WFFP)  
Working Group Webinars

## CARIBBEAN NETWORK OF FISHERFOLK ORGANISATIONS

C/O CRFM Secretariat,  
Princess Margaret Drive, Belize City, BELIZE

Tel: 501-223-4443 Ext 225 Email: [cnfo\\_cu@yahoo.com](mailto:cnfo_cu@yahoo.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CNFO17](https://www.facebook.com/CNFO17) Twitter: @fisherfolknetwork

Instagram: CNFO17

Subscribe to yahoogroup: [fisherfolk\\_network-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:fisherfolk_network-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

[HTTPS://CNFO.FISH/](https://cnfo.fish/)