



CARIBBEAN NETWORK OF FISHERFOLK ORGANISATIONS

Princess Margaret Drive
c/o CRFM Secretariat
Belize City, Belize
Tel: 501-223-4443 ext. 225
cnfo_cu@yahoo.com
<https://cnfo.fish/>

Questionnaire on fisher's concerns in St. Kitts and Nevis

The Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO) is a network of small-scale fisherfolk and their organisations, operating in the Caribbean Community, to improve the lives of small-scale fishers and their communities, through networking, capacity development and representation.

The CNFO has participated in the development of the both the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP), and the Voluntary Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication (SSF). The network was instrumental in having the SSF guidelines adopted as the first protocol of the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP). Although the SSF guidelines is imbedded within the fisheries policy of the Caribbean Community, there is limited focus on active implementation while SSF fishers are increasingly being challenged by NGO agendas, climate change, ecosystem degradation, MPAs and marine spatial planning, and so called "Blue Economy" initiatives.

The CNFO regards the SSF guidelines and the CCCFP as important guides towards the realisation of participatory fisheries governance and sustainable fisheries for the Caribbean Community, promoting regional food and nutrition security and providing livelihoods. The network intends to spearhead the active implementation of these policy documents as one of the means to improve fishers lives in the region. Recognising that the SSF guidelines places the people (SSF fishers) at the centre of development in a clearly synergistic manner to the Sustainable Development Goals, the CNFO seeks to develop the capacity of its members, in relation to understanding the SSF and CCCFP guidelines, and to actively promote their implementation at the national and regional levels, working with national and primary fisherfolk organisations, national and regional fisheries bodies, and other partners.

In an effort to further promote its objectives, the CNFO has partnered with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in support of the GCP/GLO/965/SWE project 'Creating an enabling environment for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries', to facilitate national meetings in three CNFO member states.

The National Meetings seek to:

- Build awareness and understanding of regional and global fisheries policy, namely the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP), and the Voluntary Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication (SSF).
- Develop draft advocacy plans for fishers, to address major concerns
- Develop draft plans for fisher-led implementation of the SSF guidelines
- Build awareness of the CNFO's Regional Code of Conduct

The following questionnaire seeks to:

1. Obtain input of fisher's knowledge of regional and global fisheries policy.
2. Gather feedback on issues impacting fishers and their livelihoods.

Male, 60+

Questions:

1. Are you aware of the following fisheries policies?

Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy. **No**

Voluntary Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication. **No**

2. Are fishers (yourself/other fishers) actively participating in fisheries management in St. Kitts & Nevis?
 - a. If yes. How is this done?
 - b. If no. Is there space/opportunity for this? **No, fishers are told about changes without any discussions with them. Example, sandmining in Sandy Point has impacted the landing and the government has not done anything to address this issue. Another example is the cooperatives building and pier is being built without fisher's input.**
3. Are there concerns from fishers, regarding access to fisheries resources?
 - a. Please indicate concerns/issues/conflicts.
Fishers would like to gain a bigger fishing zone in Sandy Point, currently there is only five miles of fishing space for the fishers. The fishing ground is bordered by Statia and fishers only have 5 miles of fishing grounds in the area
4. Are there social safety nets that include fishers? **Yes**
 - a. Old age pension- **yes, social security**
 - b. Medical insurance- **No, fishers need access to health insurance**
 - c. Education opportunities- **yes, but the opportunities are limited for fishers**
 - d. Other-**not to my knowledge**
5. Are there opportunities for livelihood diversification along the fisheries value chain?
Business plan has been drafted to diversify fishing for the fishers of the sandy point cooperatives. for example underutilized species.
6. Is there support for the development of fishers' organisations?
 - a. How is this support offered? **Not aware of any right now. But there are international foundations that provide funding.**

7. Do the issues of fisheries sustainability and responsible stewardship in fisheries resonate with you, or the fishers that are in your network? **Fishers are not practicing sustainable fishing. Fishers are at the view that fish will be available all the time. They do not understand the benefits that would arise from sustainable fishing.**
8. Do women and youths have equal/equitable opportunities in fisheries? **Yes**
 - a. Are there inequalities that require attention? **no**
 - b. Should greater involvement of women/youths be promoted? **More can be done; the females and youth should get more assistance to increase their involvement**
9. Do you have any concerns relating to climate change and disaster management in the fisheries sector?
Climate change-fishers have noticed a delay in certain species of fish such as gar. It is not available during the season they accustom.
 - a. Are you aware of disaster management plans, that are specific to fisheries? **Only plan is the plan to remove boats and pots before hurricanes**
 - b. Is there support for/to the fishers pre, during and post disaster situations? Examples?
Pre – government will provide trucks to help remove boats
Post-some assistance is given to relaunch boats
10. Are there any concerns surrounding the fisheries sector, that you wish to share?
-Piers and marina construction in sandy point is needed.
-complex for fishers' storage, fuel, ice and processing and meeting/training room