

FisherFolk Net

Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations

Anguilla Fisher-Folk Association at High School Careers Day Fair

The Anguilla Fisher-Folk Association (AFFA) is a vital organization dedicated to promoting sustainable fishing practices and supporting the livelihoods of local fishermen in Anguilla. As part of their commitment to fostering diverse career opportunities for our youth, on 7 February, they participated in the Careers Day Fair at the Albena Lake Hodge Comprehensive School (ALHCS). This event aims to educate students about various professions, including fishing, often overlooked as a viable career path.

Ms. Susan Hodge assisted with the preparations for the booth. She explained that she had materials that included the CNFO's FisherFolk Net newsletter on display. The Anguilla's Fisheries Department was also at the event to give additional information to the students who attended the fair.



World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP) Youth Training in Sri Lanka

The WFFP Youth Working Group (YWG) will convene for a crucial five-day training and coordination meeting from 11–15 March 2025 at the NAFSO Training Centre in Sri Lanka. The training will focus on addressing key global challenges faced by fisher youth, including the climate crisis, coastal development, marginalization, and cultural disruptions.



CNFO Chair Mr. Devon Stephen is representing the Caribbean region

STORIES FROM CARIBBEAN FISHING SECTOR



sea moss

BELIZE

Some fishers from the southern part of Belize are working on sea moss for exportation as a means of livelihood in the closed season for lobster. The lobster season opened on 1st July 2024 and is closing on 28th February 2025. Currently, they use the seaweed to make a drinking shake to sell in the community.



Portsmouth, Dominica

<https://www.vecteezy.com/>

DOMINICA

Portsmouth, Dominica:

A co-management project for the management of artificial reefs (lobster nursery) and sea moss along with improved sanitation of the fish market facility. The co-management component is primarily between the fisherfolk (St. John's Fisheries Cooperative) and the Ministry responsible for fisheries (the Fisheries Division)

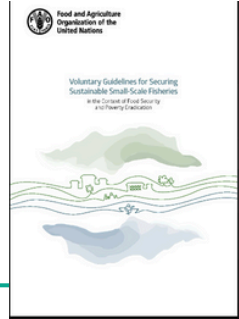


Fisherfolk in Guyana

GUYANA

WWF-Guianas is implementing Phase II of the Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Development (BIODEV2030) project in Guyana. Fisherfolk leaders were invited to a national dialogue held on 22nd January 2025. Fisherfolk also discussed the impacts of oil and gas exploration and extraction on the fishing industry.

Small-Scale Fisheries GUIDELINES CORNOR



About SSF Guidelines

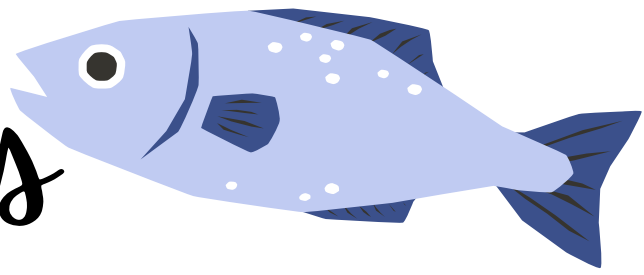
The principles in the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) address policies, strategies and legal frameworks concerning small-scale fisheries, but also other matters affecting lives and livelihood in fishing communities. They have a clear human rights-based approach, and they put people, rather than fish, in focus. The SSF Guidelines are global in scope, and they guide dialogue, policy processes and actions at national, regional and international level.

<https://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/en/>

SOME CNFO WORK:

- Developing and implementing an advocacy campaign to address identified fisheries challenges in three CNFO member states, in the context of implementing the SSF Guidelines (Anguilla 8th, 10th, and 15th March 2022); (Jamaica 13th, 16th, and 30th June 2022); and St. Kitts and Nevis 24th, 25th August and 22nd September 2022). FAO/SIDA funded project.
- Another three members will develop an advocacy campaign between 2025 and 2026. CSFUND funded project.
- The CNFO will Conduct training with provisions of the SSF Guidelines and the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP), at the national and regional levels.
- Participate in the annual CRFM Caribbean Fisheries Forum. (Virtual, March 2025)

Project Updates



CSFUND/TIDES FOUNDATION

January 9, 2024 Tides Foundation, on the recommendation of CSFund, gave the CNFO a grant of USD\$60,000.00. This grant is for the CNFO's Just Transitions. The grant period is from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2026



RAG-LAC

The RAG LAC Project aligns with the objectives of the SSF Guidelines. This project aims to enhance the livelihoods of small-scale fishers in Latin America and the Caribbean. If you would like to financially support the advisory's group, contact the CNFO office.



CANARI PROJECT

Promoting the ecosystem approach to fisheries

Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Caribbean Biodiversity Fund, co-financed by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection through KfW.

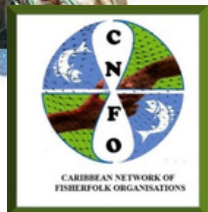
January 2024 and July 2026

WHYHUNGER/CNFO

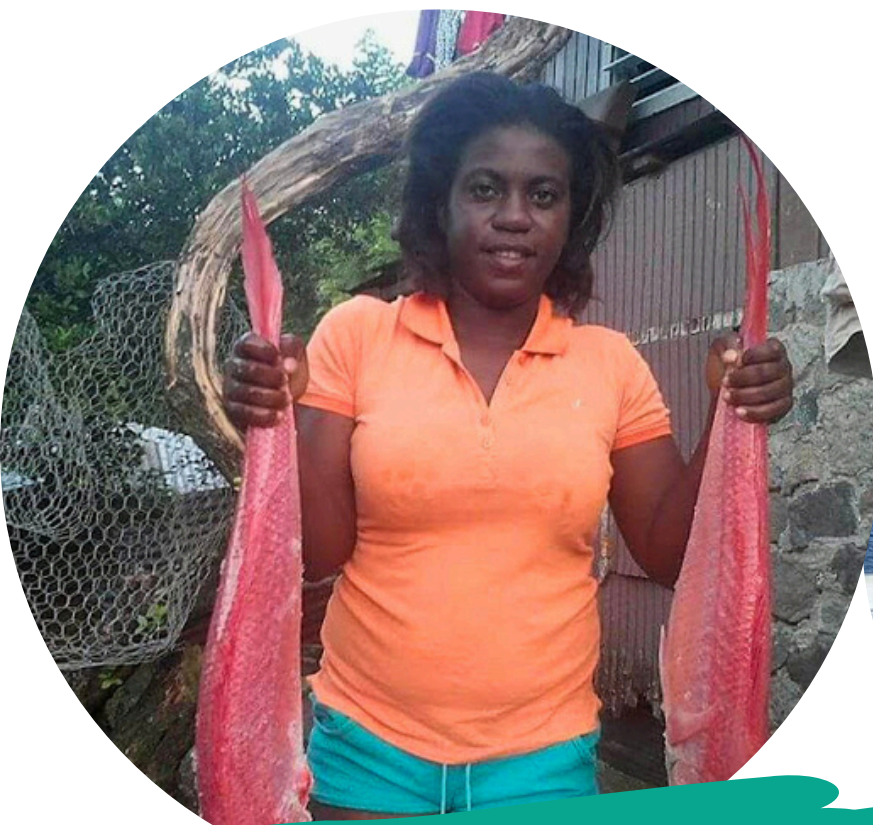
WHYHUNGER is supporting the CNFO with twelve (12) communication products to share in Fisherfolk Net which are to:

Build Awareness of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines).





CONTRIBUTING TO ACHIEVING THE 25% BY 2025 REDUCTION IN THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY FOOD BILL



CNFO/CRFM SSF ACTION PLAN LINK:

[HTTPS://CNFO.FISH/CNFO-CRFM-SMALL-SCALE-FISHERIES-ACTION-PLAN-2023-2025/](https://cnfo.fish/cnfo-crfm-small-scale-fisheries-action-plan-2023-2025/)

ABOUT RAG-LAC

REGIONAL ADVISORY GROUP- LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Regional Advisory Groups were then created in 2020 to ensure a coherent implementation of policies, strategies and actions in support of the SSF Guidelines implementation at the regional level, and to inform the AG SSF-GSF regarding the status of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and of the fulfillment of the small-scale fisher and Indigenous peoples' rights.

They were established following the FAO regional division, thus facilitating the interaction with the FAO regional offices and the FAO Regional Conferences. They develop regional coordination mechanisms, strengthen civil society's efficiency to lead the implementation of the SSF Guidelines at the national level, and develop advocacy strategies.

REGIONAL ADVISORY GROUPS

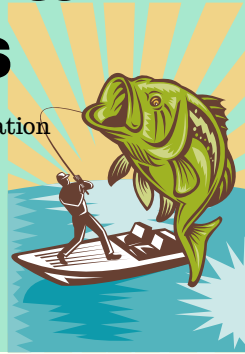
- Africa
- Asia and the Pacific
- Latin America and the Caribbean (CNFO is the Secretariat)



Picture: WFFP representative from Ecuador Mr. Lider Gongora in Belize 2024. Mr. Ramon Carcamo, facilitating a RAGLAC meeting

Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries

in the context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication



Value chains, post-harvest and trade

Involve post-harvest actors in the decision-making process. Stress the role of women. Infrastructure and technology investments, value-added activities, and post-harvest loss and waste reduction.

GOVERNANCE OF TENURE

Secure equitable tenure rights to fishery resources and coastal land. Sustainable resource management including co-management.

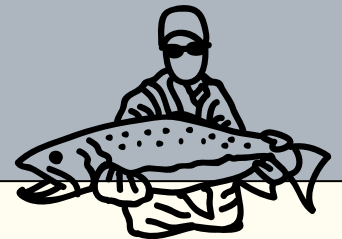
Social development, employment and decent work

Address issues such as education, health services, financial services, social protection, public infrastructure, and other public services.

Health and safety; measures to improve safety at sea.

Gender equality

Improve gender equality in the entire value chain. Equal participation of women in decision-making, mainstreaming gender issues.



DISASTER RISK AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Develop policies, strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation, and emergency response and disaster preparedness.



Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small- Scale Fisheries

in the context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication



RAISING AWARENESS: KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AND OUTREACH

Communication materials on SSF Guidelines, implementation guides, translation into local languages, promotion and awareness-raising



Empowering stakeholders:
capacity development and
institutional strengthening

Effective participation and fair representation in governance and development. Capacity development (technical skills, organizations skills, business development)

Supporting implementation:
program management,
collaboration and management

Establishment of a transparent monitoring system and strengthened partnerships and collaboration.



Strengthening the science-policy
interface: sharing of knowledge
and supporting policy reform

A strengthened knowledge base that informs a policy reform within a human rights context.

Good practices need to be identified and shared. Case Studies, technical support, and assistance for review and revisions of policy and legal framework.



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LATCHMANIE SINGH

At just 26 years old, Miss Latchmanie Singh has emerged in the fishing industry of Guyana. Coming from Richmond village on the Essequibo Coast, she is representing women in this traditionally male-dominated field.

Latchmanie Singh attended the Anna Regina Multilateral Secondary School. Starting as a librarian, she developed a passion for community engagement. After marrying, Latchmanie made a decision to enter the fishing industry.

Her involvement in the fishing industry deepened when she became a member of the Region #2 Fishermen Coop Society Ltd at the regional level. Additionally, Latchmanie joined the Seabob working group at the national level.

Fishing has become an integral part of Latchmanie's livelihood as she engages in the selling and marketing of fish. Latchmanie takes pride in representing women within this industry.



- SVG workshop under PADF project March 2025 (tentative)
- WFFP strategic planning/ youth assembly planning, Sri Lanka March 2025
- CRFM Fisheries Forum 26-28 March 2025. Virtual
- International Women's Day 8th March 2025.

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