Implementing the SSF Guidelines: A perspective from FAO

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SSF Guidelines

• Bring together social development and responsible fisheries

• Support individuals and communities to develop their capabilities to actively and meaningfully participate in decision-making

• Complement important international instruments
  – Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
  – Right to Food Guidelines
  – Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests

→ Instruments that guide governments and others in improving food security and poverty eradication policies and in advancing sustainable development
## SSF Guidelines: Content

### Part I: Introduction
1. Objectives
2. Nature and scope
3. Guiding principles
4. Relationship with other international instruments

### Part II: Responsible fisheries and sustainable development
5. Governance of tenure in SSF and resource management
6. Social development, employment and decent work
7. Value chain, post-harvest and trade
8. Gender equality
9. Disaster risks and climate change

### Part III: Ensuring an enabling environment and supporting implementation
10. Policy coherence, institutional coordination and collaboration
11. Information, research and communication
12. Capacity development
13. Implementation support and monitoring
Towards implementation

**30th COFI:** need to develop implementation strategies for SSF Guidelines + Global Assistance Programme

**Workshop** on *Strengthening Organizations and Collective Action in Fisheries, March 2013, Rome*

**E-consultation** on *Implementing the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication*, November – December 2013

**First Regional Symposium** on *Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea*, General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, November 2013, Malta
Strategic approach

Mainstream SSF Guidelines in policies/strategies/actions at all levels + in FAO’s work
- FAO to advocate for inclusion of SSF perspective in international arena (e.g. food security; ocean management)
- Collaboration with implementation of other instruments (VG Tenure, Right to Food Guidelines)
Global Assistance Programme

Raising awareness and providing policy support:
Knowledge products and outreach

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

Empowering stakeholders:
Capacity development and institutional strengthening

Supporting implementation:
Programme management, collaboration and monitoring
1: Raising awareness and providing policy support: Knowledge products and outreach

Why?

SSF Guidelines can only be implemented if those concerned and able to make a difference are aware of their existence and understand their contents

→ Strategic engagement with partners to influence policies and funding priorities towards supporting SSF Guidelines
1: Raising awareness and providing policy support: Knowledge products and outreach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples of activities</th>
<th>Expected outputs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development of implementation guides</td>
<td>Create awareness and understanding of the SSF Guidelines, across regions as well as among different stakeholders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Translation of SSF Guidelines into local languages; publication via various media (radio, videos etc.)</td>
<td>→ Fundamental for continued action and basis for other impact-oriented implementation support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use of social media, including blogs and discussion groups, ‘champions of change’ and ‘SSF Guidelines ambassadors’.</td>
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<td>Information at relevant meetings, conferences, etc. at all levels</td>
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2: Strengthening the science-policy interface: Sharing of knowledge and supporting policy reform

Why?

Need for a strengthened knowledge base and promotion of policy reforms – using available knowledge – for sustainable resource management combined with social and economic development

→ Holistic approaches to include the full range of perspectives, e.g. value chain analysis, gender equality, and disaster risk and climate change consideration: will need strong support from partners!
## 2: Strengthening the science-policy interface: Sharing of knowledge and supporting policy reform

### Examples of activities

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Best practices/lessons learnt on participatory management systems and holistic approaches (including traditional knowledge)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case studies on practical examples of human rights based approaches to fisheries management and local development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collaboration/exchange of experiences between different research initiatives on SSF issues + increased interaction between researchers and fishing communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical support for reviews of policy and legal frameworks</td>
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### Expected output

- Increased understanding of issues, challenges, opportunities and approaches to achieving sustainable use of aquatic resources and secure livelihoods

  → Policy documents at national and regional levels make reference to SSF Guidelines
3: Empowering stakeholders: Capacity development and institutional strengthening

Why?
SSF actors and their communities should be effective partners in implementation (planning and when carried out)

→ Requires attention to organizational structures and modalities for fair and effective representation

Developing capacity

Empowerment

Ensures that SSF actors/communities actively shape future of the sector
### 3: Empowering stakeholders:
Capacity development and institutional strengthening

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<tr>
<td>Identification of needs for organisational development + strengthening and provision of support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistance to communities/their organizations to establish cross-sectoral linkages (e.g. with government agencies, research institutions) to address development and resource management needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sensitization and training of government officials/development partners in issues related to SSF Guidelines implementation</td>
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<td>Create key building blocks for long-term process of continuous improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>➔ Governments and fishing communities enabled to work together and with other stakeholder groups to ensure secure and sustainable SSF</td>
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## 4: Supporting implementation:
Programme management, collaboration and monitoring

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<td>Development of results-based programme management framework (including baseline information)</td>
<td>Transparent and efficient programme management</td>
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<td>Promotion of implementation experience exchanges + collaborative planning (e.g. meetings; web-based information sharing applications)</td>
<td>Strengthened collaboration leading to overall more effective implementation</td>
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<td>Establishment of mechanism for participatory + inclusive discussions on best practices</td>
<td>Publicizing implementation outcomes to raise awareness of the SSF Guidelines → create virtuous circle of events</td>
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<td>Development of monitoring and reporting system</td>
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Implementation modalities

**Programme Secretariat**
- Plan and oversee programme activities in close collaboration with partners
- Encourage/facilitate partnerships
- Support preparation of project proposals
- Needs dedicated staff and funding!

**Programme Steering Committee**
- Guide the Programme Secretariat
- Partners, including representatives from various stakeholder groups
- How many members? How to be chosen? Frequency of meetings?
Monitoring

Programme Secretariat
- Develop monitoring mechanisms
- Support reporting on implementation progress to FAO members

Programme Steering Committee
- Programme oversight to ensure transparency and accountability

Based on FAO standards for results-based monitoring + Compliant with donor requirements

Support through CFS + UN Human right system?
Next steps

**IMPLEMENTATION:**
Strategy, plan of action and activities

- Committee on World Food Security side event, Rome, Oct 2014
- Workshop on implementation, Rome, December 2014
- 2. Congress on Small-Scale Fisheries, Merida, Mexico, Sep 2014
- GEF Coastal Fisheries Programme workshop, Rome, December 2014
- Reply to country requests

- This meeting!
- ...