



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Small-Scale Fisheries Summit 2024 - The Pacific Voice

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Presentation Outline

1. Background
2. SSF Summit 2024 Concept note for engagement and progress to date
3. Invitation for feedback from the Pacific (CBFD3):
 - i. SSF Summit 2024 Concept note for engagement
 - ii. Possible support from the region

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

- A specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger.
- In the Pacific, the FAO Sub-regional Office for the Pacific is located in Apia.
- FAO members (Pacific/Oceania): Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, Australia (Associate member: Tokelau).



The 2022 International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) highlighted the vital contributions of small-scale fisheries in supporting equitable, resilient and sustainable food systems and promoted a global wave to amplify the voices of small-scale fishers, and enhance global awareness, understanding and action.



SSF Summit 2022

- The 1st SSF Summit was held on 02nd-04th September 2022 in Rome, Italy.
- Aimed to promote dialogue between small-scale fisheries actors, key partners and decision-makers, just prior to the 35th Committee of Fisheries (COFI) meeting.
- >140 participants from > 40 countries joined.



SSF Guidelines

- The Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines).
- A negotiated international instrument entirely dedicated to small-scale fisheries and is grounded on human rights principles.
- Complements other international instruments and has synergies with regional instruments.



So what happened Next?

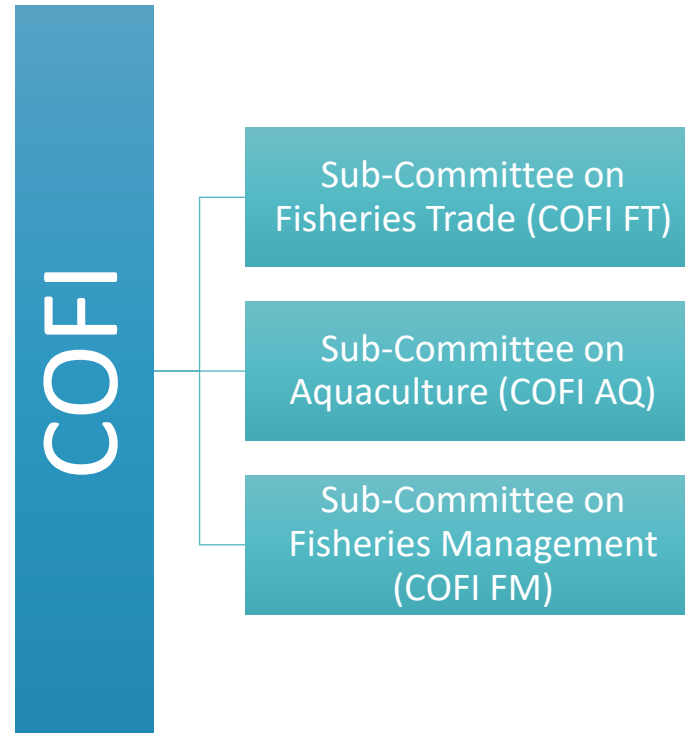
The 35th Session of the Committee of Fisheries (COFI) was held from the 05th-09th September 2022:

- highlighted the unique opportunity to gather commitments and recommendations at a Summit on small-scale fisheries.
- encouraged that the SSF Summit be held every 2 years prior to COFI, subject to resourcing, to sustain and inform further support.

COFI is an Inter-governmental global forum where FAO members meet to review and consider issues related to fisheries and aquaculture. The 36th COFI is scheduled for 8-12 July 2024.

Committee on Fisheries (COFI)

- A subsidiary body of the FAO Council, established in 1965.



1st Session (virtual):
15-18 Jan 2024

Sailing to the SSF Summit 2024



Planning for 2nd SSF Summit need to ensure a participatory and transparent planning process. Thus, in the participatory spirit of the SSF Guidelines, a Concept note for engagement was developed for a collective planning process for the next Summit in 2024.

SSF Summit 2024: Concept note for engagement



To promote collective
design of the event



To ensure engagement
of key actors



To raise funds

<https://ssfhub.org/ssf-summit-engagement-process>

SSF Summit 2024: Concept note for engagement

- Questions under 5 main sections:

1. Objectives &
Expected
outcomes

2. Summit
format

3. Topics or
Themes

4. Participants

5. Pathways
between
Summits

What do we
know so
far?

- **Dates:** 5-7 July 2024, just prior to COFI 36.
- **Location:** Rome, Italy.
- **Participation approach:** Staged approach, with at least the first day reserved for small-scale fisheries actors and movements only.
- **Agenda progress:**
 - Concept note and agenda under development
 - IPC, ICSF, CAOPA - Day 1 and agenda advice for small-scale fishers (initial stage)
- **Save the date announcement** planned tentatively for 21 November, including call for expressions of interest to participate

Proposed objectives:

- a) To sustain and inform continued support to small-scale fishers and fish workers for the implementation of SSF Guidelines.
- b) To offer a space for key SSF actors at national, regional and global level to:
 - i. **Collectively plan and advise**
 - ii. **Get to know each other**
 - iii. **Share and learn**
- c) To support, where possible, the Global Strategic Framework in Support of the Implementation of the SSF Guidelines, as a partnership mechanism, where possible. This partnership mechanism intends to give SSF actors, government and other stakeholders a space to collaborate at the global level.

Proposed Expected outcomes

- a) Strengthened small-scale fishers and fish workers and their affiliated organizations
- b) Improved communication between small-scale fisheries organizations themselves, and between these organizations and other key partners implementing the SSF Guidelines
- c) All actors better prepared to contribute to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines, in line with their guiding principles and respectful of the rights of small-scale fishers

Questions for 03rd CBFD Memembers:

- **Do you agree with these suggested Objectives and Expected outcomes?**
- **Is anything crucial missing here, or should be removed?**
- **Any other suggestions?**

Proposed SSF Summit format

- The SSF Summit 2022 took place over the course of three days, using a phased approach that first provided a secure space for small-scale fisheries actors and social movements, and then opened up to other stakeholders.
- It is proposed that the next Summit will follow the same approach:
 - Day 1 (by invitation only – for small-scale fishers, fish workers, their organizations and social movements)
 - Day 2 (open to other key partners)
 - Day 3 (open to other key partners)
- It was also noted that the next Summit needs to provide space for dialogue rather than too many presentations.

SSF Summit format

Questions for 03rd CBFD Members:

- **What elements or formats would you like to see at a future SSF Summit?**
- **The SSF Summit 2022 took a staged approach, with one day dedicated entirely to small-scale fisheries actors only, followed by two days of sessions with other actors. Is this a useful approach?**
- **How long should the SSF Summit be?**

Possible Agenda Items?

The 1st SSF Summit covered a number of relevant thematic areas but there is still room for improvement to ensure future SSF Summits inform the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in a participatory manner, grounded in a human-rights based approach. In celebrating the 10th anniversary of the SSF Guidelines in 2024, key topics of interest proposed could include:

- SSF governance of tenure and sustainable resource management
- Disaster risks and climate change
- Social protection and development
- Value-chains
- Gender and youth as cross-cutting themes

Agenda Items?

Questions for 03rd CBFD Members:

- Which/what priorities or topics would you like to see addressed in the next SSF Summit in 2024?

Proposed Participation

The 1st SSF Summit created a space where small scale fisheries actors themselves could interact, complementing existing spaces where they have less direct voice, such as COFI.

For the 2nd SSF Summit, it is proposed that SSF actors are the primary participants (i.e., small-scale fishers and fish workers, their organizations and social movements), ensuring geographical balance. Other SSF partners and supporters, and more Governments should also attend.

Participants

Questions for 03rd CBFD Members:

- **Who would you like to see participate?**

(Feel free to mention specific stakeholder types and suggest names of organizations etc., and why.)

- **If funding is available, how do you think the Pacific should nominate small-scale fishers participant/s to represent your region at the next Summit?**

(also consider in your answer in the event where funding is limited for at least only 1 or up to 3 Pacific representatives).

Proposed pathway

The 2nd SSF Summit es expected to take place in July 2024.

Questions for 03rd Cbfd Members:

- Do you have any recommendations for activities or initiatives that can support engagement and dialogue among small-scale fisheries or SSF Summit participants leading up to the next Summit? For example, is the Cbfd an ideal platform for the Pacific? How about other national or regional processes or meetings? Any thoughts on studies, webinars etc.
- Is there any possible form of contribution (in-kind, financial etc) can you or your organization support to the organization or holding of the next SSF Summit? Please specify.

Thank you



SSF Summit 2024 Concept note for engagement:

<https://ssfhub.org/ssf-summit-engagement-process>

<https://ssfhub.org/ssf-summit-2024>

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

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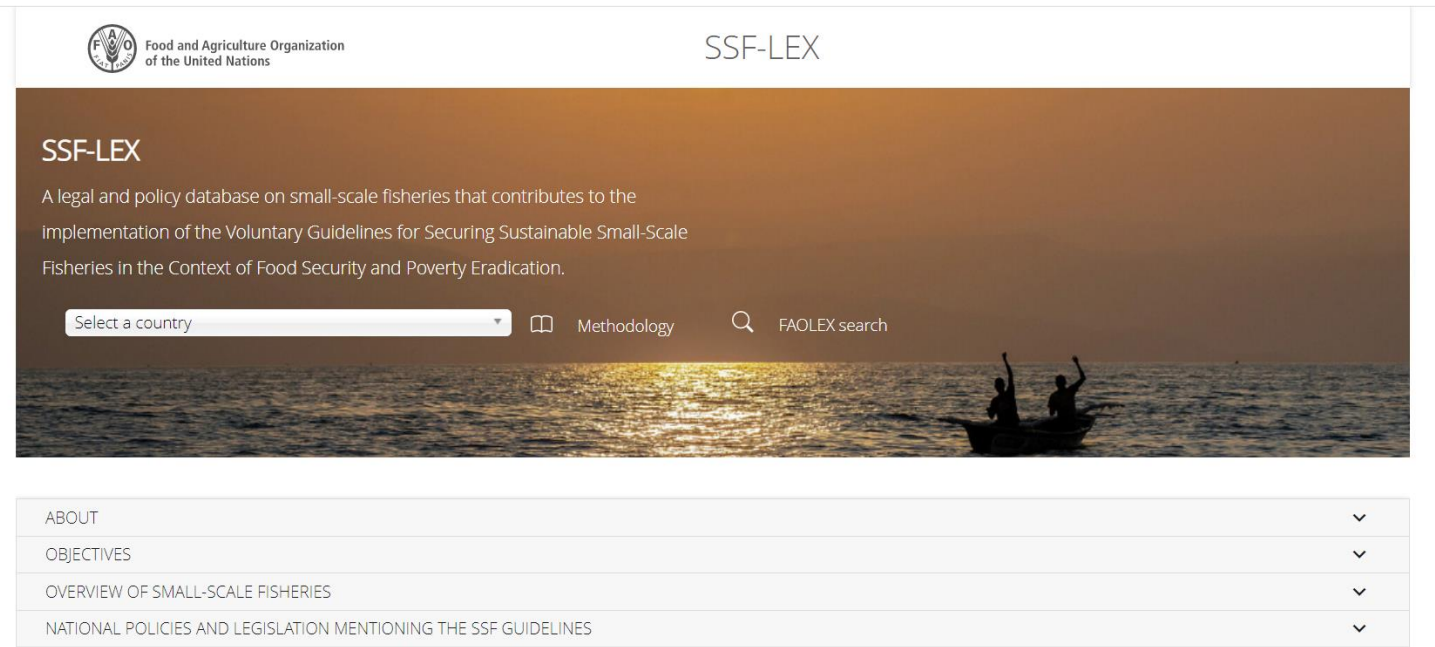
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SSF-Lex

A small-scale fisheries policy and legal database



The screenshot shows the SSF-LEX website header and navigation menu. The header includes the FAO logo and text 'Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' on the left, and 'SSF-LEX' on the right. Below the header is a banner image of a sunset over the ocean with two people in a boat. The main content area contains the title 'SSF-LEX', a descriptive paragraph, a 'Select a country' dropdown menu, a 'Methodology' link, and a 'FAOLEX search' button. Below this is a navigation menu with four items: 'ABOUT', 'OBJECTIVES', 'OVERVIEW OF SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES', and 'NATIONAL POLICIES AND LEGISLATION MENTIONING THE SSF GUIDELINES', each with a downward arrow.

- Free, user-friendly online platform to promote a better understanding of the provisions under national legal and policy frameworks relevant to small-scale fisheries.
- Comprehensive analysis of global, regional and national legal instruments relevant to small-scale fisheries.
- Offers a "Compare Countries" feature enabling users to compare specific topics.
- **Current progress:** 13 published profiles and 18 under development.
- **In the Pacific: Published:** Solomon Islands in collaboration with SPC.
Coming soon: Fiji and PNG.