"In towns where the fishing community had to share space with society, all too often the fisher town became an area of that town in itself, a separate quarter, usually at one end, where the councils found they were able to push the fishers, boats, gear and all. And so the fishing communities grew from their own blood, marriages between fisher families being the norm, although sometimes they mixed with other fishers from along the coast. They became apart from the rest of us, their lives wholly dependent on the sea and the shoals they sought in earnest, working by night, sleeping by day."

— From *Herring: A History of the Silver Darlings* by Mike Smylie

ICSF is an international NGO working on issues that concern fishworkers the world over. It is in status with the Economic and Social Council of the un and is on ILO's Special List of Non-Governmental International Organizations. It also has Liaison Status with FAO. Registered in Geneva, ICSF has offices in Chennai, India and Brussels, Belgium. As a global network of community organizers, teachers, technicians, researchers and scientists, ICSF's activities encompass monitoring and research, exchange and training, campaigns and action, as well as communications.SAMUDRA REPORT invites contributions and responses. Correspondence should be addressed to the Chennai office.

The opinions and positions expressed in the articles are those of the authors concerned and do not necessarily represent the official views of ICSF.

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