

RIO+20

## UN Secy-Genl urges integrating environmental, social and economic aspects of development

United Nations (UN) Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, has urged governments to consider setting up a new global arrangement that integrates environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development, stressing the need to mobilize public support for an approach that guarantees the wellbeing of humanity while preserving the planet for future generations.

Presenting the report prepared by his High-level Panel on Global Sustainability to an informal plenary of the General Assembly, Ban said the team's recommendations address three main topics – empowering people to make sustainable choices; working towards a sustainable economy;

and strengthening institutional governance.

“The panel's vision is to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality, to make growth inclusive, and production and consumption more sustainable, while combating climate change and respecting a range of other planetary boundaries,” Ban told the Assembly.

The 22-member panel, established by Ban in August 2010 to formulate a new blueprint for sustainable development and low-carbon prosperity, was co-chaired by former Finnish President, Tarja Halonen, and South African President, Jacob Zuma.

The group's final report, Resilient People, Resilient Planet: A Future Worth Choosing, which was formally

launched in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, on 30 January, contains 56 recommendations to put sustainable development into practice and to make it a part of mainstream economic policy as quickly as possible.

The Secretary-General highlighted the “nexus approach” of the report that underlines the fact that food, water and energy security are inextricably linked and must be pursued together.

He stressed that the recommendations that can be acted on immediately should be included in the Outcome Document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to be held in Brazil in June.

Ban also noted that some of the recommendations relate to initiatives that he has already set in motion, including the Sustainable Energy for All initiative and a sustainable development strategy for the UN system. Others will be included in a new sustainable development index or set of indicators for sustainable development goals, he added.

“I also see the value of a periodic global sustainable development outlook report, and I will explore the modalities, including the availability of resources, for such an important and ambitious undertaking,” he said.

He promised to strengthen ties between the global scientific community and the UN so that science occupies the central place in policymaking.

“We need everyone to work together to create a future worth choosing, the future we want,” he added.

[www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?page=view&nr=980&type=230&menu=38](http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?page=view&nr=980&type=230&menu=38)

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### ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

## Local Sea Fisheries Committees in France

Local Sea Fisheries Committees in France (CLPMs), which have served the interests of fishermen for over 65 years, are to be streamlined and merged into Departmental Committees. The rationale is essentially political and economic. Politically, the CLPMs have often been a thorn in the flesh of governments as a mouthpiece for fishermen's grievances. There is a desire, therefore, to transform them into structures that are more administrative in nature to serve governmental requirements.

The economic scenario today is also very different compared to the 1940s post-war era when the CLPMs were set up. These decades-old structures set up to serve and provide a voice for several tens of thousands of fishers were in need of modernization and downsizing, it was felt. In 1950, there were around 60,000 fishermen in France. Today, there are around 12,000. A

recent study by IFREMER shows that over the last 20 years the fishing fleet has reduced by half in metropolitan France, from around 11,000 in the 1990s to around 5,000 today.

## CLPMs

However, although the number of vessels may have decreased, the actual work undertaken by fishermen's organizations has increased. In particular, the number of tasks associated with inshore fisheries management, including integrated coastal zone management (ICZM), has increased. This is due to the devolution of fishery-management tasks as well as the increasing use of coastal areas by other interests, including offshore wind farms, aggregate extraction, dredging, etc.

The July 2010 Law on the Modernization of Agriculture and Fisheries (LMAP) called for the professional fishermen's organizations to be modified. It demanded far-reaching reforms that would have a major impact on how fishermen are represented, and the services they would receive. Nowhere is this more apparent than in Brittany, a region where around one-third of the French fishing fleet is based. Thus, in the Department of Finistere, the five CLPMs of Concarneau, North Finistere, Douarenez, Audierne and Guilvinec (which are in fishing harbours) are now merged into a single Departmental Committee for Fisheries and Aquaculture situated far from the sea.

For more information see: [www.comitedespeches-finistere.fr/?lang=fr](http://www.comitedespeches-finistere.fr/?lang=fr); [icsf.net/icsf2006/uploads/publications/samudra/pdf/english/issue\\_57/arto4.pdf](http://icsf.net/icsf2006/uploads/publications/samudra/pdf/english/issue_57/arto4.pdf)

### VERBATIM

To increase the shipping and naval power of Great Britain by the extension of the fisheries of our colonies is an object which the legislature seems to have had almost constantly in view. These fisheries upon this account have had all the encouragement which freedom can give them and they have flourished accordingly.

— FROM *THE WEALTH OF NATIONS* (1776) BY ADAM SMITH

## The State of World Fishery Resources: Inland Fisheries

Marine catches have stabilized around their 1996 peak of about 87 mn tonnes to the present (2009) value of just over 89 mn tonnes. This FAO publication also shows the rapid growth of aquaculture production since 1990 to its present level of about 36 per cent of the total production.

It is worth noting that fish from all inland sources (capture and aquaculture combined) make up about 28 per cent of all fish produced as against the combined production of capture and culture from marine waters of 69 per cent. The remaining three per cent comes from brackishwater aquaculture. It is, perhaps, legitimate to combine the inland sources because of the many practices that are intermediate between capture and culture in inland waters, including various types of enhancement, gears such as fish parks, capture-based aquaculture, culture-based capture fisheries, and fisheries in rice fields and in small dams and reservoirs, which may be reported either as culture or capture, depending on local usage.

Inland capture fisheries currently contribute 6.5 per cent to total fish production, which is only about 2.3 per cent of the global protein production; they differ somewhat from other fisheries in that all produce is eaten either fresh, as some form of salted or dried product, or as a variety of fish sauces and pastes that are essential ingredients to many local cuisines. With few exceptions, such as the Amazonian large-boat fishery, the Lake Victoria fisheries, the *sábalo* fishery of Argentina and the fishery concessions of the Mekong and Ayerwaddy, inland fisheries are small-scale, involving large numbers of artisanal or subsistence fishers, and their products are usually marketed and consumed locally at the point of capture.

Catches of fish and other organisms from inland waters appear to have increased linearly by 2.93 per cent per

year since 1950 to the present (2009) total of 10,323,905 tonnes.

Production of fish by capture from inland waters remains relatively low, compared with other sources of fish at 6.46 per cent of the total. However, it is still the sixth major supplier of animal protein globally. This global figure conceals considerable local variation, and, in some countries, fish caught from inland waters is the major source of animal protein available to the local population. For example, in Bangladesh, the inland catch of 1,006,761 tonnes in 2007 represents over 64 per cent of all animal protein produced. Similar high figures apply to Uganda (66 per cent), Cambodia (64 per cent) and Malawi (44 per cent). Slightly lower, but still very important, contributions are made in many other countries.

Nearly 38 per cent of the inland fish captured comes from the 71 low-income food deficit countries (LIFDCs) as defined by FAO. While the unweighted mean level of production for all countries is equivalent to only 1.48 kg/ha globally, some countries depend heavily on inland fish for their protein needs.

Table 1 shows the consumption equivalents in kg per capita per year (2007) for all countries with over 3 kg per capita per year.

Of the 220 countries and political groupings reporting fish catches from all sources in 2009, 72 mostly arid or small-island countries did not report any inland catches; fairly complete lists of species are available for 52 (of which FAO estimated eight); restricted lists, including identification of important fish groups are available for 26 (of which FAO estimated six); and no breakdown at all were available for 34 (of which FAO estimated 21).

The majority of organisms caught (over 90 per cent) were finfish throughout most of the 50+ year period. However,

**Table 1: Contribution of Inland Fish to Diets for Countries with Over 3 Kilograms per Capita/Year in 2007**

Country	Annual consumption (kg/capita)
Cambodia	31.37
Uganda*	15.29
Myanmar	14.35
Republic of the Congo	8.18
Mali	7.69
Finland	6.78
United Republic of Tanzania	6.50
Gabon	6.44
Chad	6.25
Bangladesh	6.21
Zambia	5.03
Mauritania	4.56
Malawi	4.36
Lao People's Democratic Republic	4.26
Senegal	3.99
Cameroon	3.81
Thailand	3.53
Democratic Republic of Congo	3.48
Central African Republic	3.39
Paraguay	3.15
Ghana	3.15
Egypt	3.14
Kenya	3.12

\*Not all fish produced in some countries is consumed locally. For example, the Lake Victoria countries export a significant proportion of their Nile perch catch to Europe.  
Source: FAOSTAT

the relative proportions of the groups changed during the evolution of the fishery since 1950, with a slight decrease in the proportion of finfish and increases in the proportion of crustaceans and molluscs. There are indications from a range of detailed surveys and studies on consumption patterns that actual catches of crustaceans and molluscs have been considerably under-reported, at least in the Mekong basin and parts of China and

Southeast Asia. This is probably driven by a tendency to focus on fish catches rather than on other species in official reporting systems. These other aquatic animals, therefore, probably comprise a far greater proportion of actual catches in other parts of the world where they form part of the informal, subsistence and artisanal fisheries that are frequently unreported.

In 2009, Asia contributed the greater part of the

**Table 2: Catch by Continent in 2009**

Continent	Catch (tonnes)	%
Asia – inland waters	6 962 672	67.44
Africa – inland waters	2 423 711	23.48
Europe – inland waters	379 958	3.68
America, South – inland waters	359 948	3.49
America, North – inland waters	179 532	1.74
Oceania – inland waters	18 084	0.18
Total	10 323 905	100.00

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production, at 67.4 per cent, followed by Africa at 23.5 per cent (see Table 2). Note that the countries that formerly comprised the USSR only began reporting their data as individual States after 1987. The Russian Federation is included under Europe after 1988.

—These excerpts are from the *State of the World Fishery Resources: Inland Fisheries* by R Welcomme appeared in *FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular* No. 942, Rome, FAO, 2011.

## INFOLOG: NEW RESOURCES AT ICSF

ICSF's Documentation Centre ([dc.icsf.net](http://dc.icsf.net)) has a range of information resources that are regularly updated. A selection:

### Publications

*FAO. 2011. Marine Protected Areas: Country Case Studies on Policy, Governance and Institutional Issues*

This document presents case studies of the policy, governance and institutional issues of marine protected areas (MPAs) in Brazil, India, Palau and Senegal. It is the first of four in a global series of case studies on MPAs. An initial volume provides a synthesis and analysis of all the studies. The set of global MPA case studies was designed to close a deficit in information on the governance of MPAs and spatial management tools, within both fisheries management and biodiversity conservation contexts.

[www.fao.org/docrep/015/i2191e/i2191e.pdf](http://www.fao.org/docrep/015/i2191e/i2191e.pdf)

*FAO. 2011. FAO-ILO Good Practice Guide for Addressing Child Labour in Fisheries and Aquaculture: Policy and Practice. Prelim. Version*

The document has been prepared within the framework of a current FAO and International Labour Organization (ILO) collaboration on decent work and child labour in the food and agriculture sector. It is based on the outcomes and recommendations of the FAO-ILO workshop on child labour in fisheries and aquaculture that was held in 2010, and responds to a need to better understand and address child labour in this sector. The final version of the document is due in July 2012.

[www.fao-ilo.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/fao\\_ilo/pdf/FAO-ILOGuidelines\\_child\\_labour\\_in\\_fisheries\\_and\\_aquaculture\\_Policy\\_practice\\_Preliminary\\_version.pdf](http://www.fao-ilo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/fao_ilo/pdf/FAO-ILOGuidelines_child_labour_in_fisheries_and_aquaculture_Policy_practice_Preliminary_version.pdf)

### Videos/CDs

*Stop Trawl: When Fishing Turns Deadly*

[www.ejfoundation.org.uk/shopforejf/index.php?route=product/product&path=42&product\\_id=87](http://www.ejfoundation.org.uk/shopforejf/index.php?route=product/product&path=42&product_id=87)

Industrial bottom trawling is one of the most destructive forms of fishing, destroying seabed habitats and threatening the livelihoods of local fishing communities. In Indonesia, over 60 mn people rely on the ocean for their income, but despite strict laws banning trawlers from operating, local fisherman say there is little enforcement by the authorities. The film, produced by the Environmental Justice Foundation and JALA of Indonesia, investigates the human cost of illegal trawling.

## FLASHBACK

### A Degree of Recognition

The United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development ended with declarations and agreements which did not meet the expectations generated during the preparatory process. Political compromise was the mechanism most often used by participant diplomats, while the proposals put forward by academic centres and social movements were, for the most part,

postponed for a more propitious occasion- That occasion will surely be found in those areas of struggle where action is still necessary, given that the poor continue



to become ever poorer, oceans continue to be contaminated, gases saturate the atmosphere, and species are led to extinction, while the future of humanity on this earth is uncertain.

The fishworkers of the world have, however, gained a degree of recognition in Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 and the door is open for the struggle of their organizations in each country to achieve the application of the agreements signed in the 1992 Rio Conference. Those accords require that fishworkers be respected in terms of their own cultures, that there be exclusive fishing zones, special credit mechanisms and technology transfer, representation in decision-making organisms, respect for, and participation of, women in fishing activities and fishworker organizations.

ICSF continues its struggle for those rights in diverse areas of the world, especially in meetings of fishing crews in Latin America, in Task Force activities in defense of Philippine Distant-water Vessel crews in the Taiwanese fleets, in the search for the causes of the diseases which attack the freshwater fish cultivated in Asia, and in the creation of communication networks among French, Irish and British fishworkers. The European Economic Community continues to open new fishing zones through so-called 'second generation' treaties, notably that established with Argentina in 1992, which will have significant impact both in Europe and the countries of the South, especially in Latin America and Africa.

Both Peruvian and Mexican artisan fishworkers have made progress toward new forms of organization and are seeking ways to become truly independent in their decisions. A new artisanal fishworker union has been formed in Madagascar, while others in Senegal have made progress along similar lines.

—from the *Comment in SAMUDRA Report No. 7, February 1993*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### EVENTS

**16th Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the CBD**

30 April – 5 May 2012  
Montreal, Canada

The agenda for the meeting includes marine and coastal biodiversity, specially looking at ecologically or biologically significant marine areas; and marine spatial planning, MPAs and voluntary

guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental assessments in marine and coastal areas.

**Rio + 20: United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**

20-22 June 2012  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The conference will focus on two themes: (a) a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (b) the institutional framework for sustainable development.

**30th Session of the Committee on Fisheries**

9-13 July 2012  
Rome, Italy

Discussions on ocean governance and relevant outcomes from Rio+20 is one of the agenda items of this session of COFI. The members of COFI will also be updated on the development of international guidelines for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries, and on combating IUU fishing.

### WEBSITES

**Oral history database of the human experience of US fishers**

[www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/voicesfromthefisheries/](http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/voicesfromthefisheries/)

The Voices from the Fisheries Database is a central repository for consolidating, archiving, and disseminating oral history interviews related to commercial, recreational, and subsistence fishing in the US and its territories.