



**Report of the BARNUFO/CERMES/FAO
information sessions on developing the capacity to
implement the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines
held in Barbados, 3 Jan 2015**



*Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
The University of the West Indies
Cave Hill Campus, Barbados
2015*

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1 OPENING SESSION

The *Workshop on Strengthening Organisations and Collective Action in Fisheries: Towards the Formulation of a Capacity Development Programme* was held at the Accra Beach Hotel from 4–6 November 2014 in Barbados. Following the workshop, the Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk Organisations (BARNUFO) took advantage of an opportunity to share more information on the Voluntary International Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF Guidelines) with the fishing industry in Barbados. BARNUFO also shared information on its plans to re-build its capacity and to focus attention on the SSF Guidelines in 2015 with the assistance of partners. Two of the major partners in this, and that helped to organise the information sessions, are the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) of The University of the West Indies (UWI) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations. This is a brief report of the information sessions held on 3 January 2015.

1.1 Welcome remarks

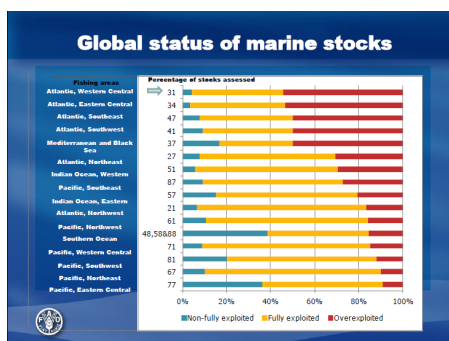
Chair of the event, Patrick McConney of CERMES, introduced Vernel Nicholls, President of BARNUFO, to give welcoming remarks. In welcoming participants (Appendix 1) she noted that the event was a high point for BARNUFO. She said that local fisherfolk needed to make every effort to participate in the activities of BARNUFO and know what is happening in fisheries at regional and international levels. This was especially true of the SSF Guidelines.

1.2 Feature address



McConney then introduced Raymon van Anrooy, Fishery Planning Officer in the FAO Subregional Office for the Caribbean to give the feature address. The address provided the background to a number of regional fisheries initiatives and informed participants of important regional fisheries bodies, particularly the Western Central Atlantic Commission (WECAFC) and the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) of which Barbados is a prominent member. He mentioned that it was important for fisherfolk to know that the President of BARNUFO had been actively participating in these regional bodies and helping to secure the rights of Caribbean fisherfolk.

Van Anrooy described the regional fisheries bodies and the working groups on lobster, conch, flyingfish, recreational fisheries, Fish Attracting Devices (FADs), and shrimp and groundfish. He told industry stakeholders that they were welcome to join the working groups, and he encouraged them to indicate their interest to the Chief Fisheries Officer (Stephen Willoughby) and BARNUFO's President. He emphasised that the working groups comprise technical people as well as fishing industry stakeholders. Information was shared on upcoming regional capacity building and fisheries management meetings and activities.



He also emphasised worldwide concern over the global status of marine fish stocks. Too many of the species targeted were overexploited or fully exploited. The WECAFC area has suffered the common trend of reduced major commercial catches. There are more fisherfolk depending on fewer resources. However, in terms of fishery production in this FAO Area 31 only 0.1% (about 1,800 tonnes of fish) came on average annually from Barbados. Participants were told that they could get information on regional fishery initiatives from the FAO, UWI-CERMES and the Fisheries Division.

1.3 Sessions' objectives, outcomes and agenda

McConney reminded the group of over 50 industry stakeholders that the idea behind the sessions was to share information available on various fisheries initiatives and BARNUFO plans with the fishing industry. The sessions were arranged by FAO, CERMES and BARNUFO as part of a global FAO project on the SSF Guidelines. McConney took participants through the agenda (Appendix 2) while reiterating their role in sharing information through feedback and perspectives. The outcomes were to have fisherfolk:

- better informed about fisheries initiatives in the Caribbean region and their significance
- informed on how to participate in, and benefit from, implementing the SSF Guidelines
- informed of BARNUFO capacity development and their role in achieving its success
- social networking and information exchange strengthened to facilitate collective action

1.4 Participant introductions

McConney asked those present to indicate their affiliation e.g. BARNUFO CERMES, FAO, Fisheries Division and the primary fisherfolk organisations, as well as where on the island they operated from.

2 SSF GUIDELINES PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION SESSION

The purpose of this session was to introduce participants to the SSF Guidelines, describe their relevance and importance to fisherfolk, discuss what BARNUFO and UWI had done to prepare for their implementation, and set out steps towards implementation in Barbados and the Caribbean.

2.1 Why are Small-scale Fisheries Guidelines (SSF) important to fisherfolk?

Raymon van Anrooy provided an overview of the SSF Guidelines including what they are, how they were developed by FAO through global consultations, what they say, next steps, the way forward and why they are important for fishery stakeholders.



The SSF Guidelines are voluntary guidelines for securing small-scale fisheries. They provide a global outcome on fisheries governance. They were developed in a participatory process facilitated by FAO and endorsed by the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI). The guidelines are divided into three parts – the introduction, responsible fisheries and sustainable development, and ensuring an enabling environment and supporting implementation.

Van Anrooy said it was important that fishing industry stakeholders read through the SSF guidelines and let government know if they are following the guidelines. He appealed to the group to do so and reiterated that the guidelines should be seen as “something you can use to your benefit.” He noted that many international instruments and processes were related to, or referred to, the guidelines.

The SSF Guidelines now have to be implemented worldwide. FAO has initiated a Global Assistance Programme (GAP) to support implementation of the guidelines. “There is a continuing need that you work together with the scientific experts to make sure policy processes benefit the sector”, said van Anrooy. He told those in attendance to make sure that they are involved in these governance processes because if they don’t get involved then stakeholders from tourism, environment and other sectors will do so to look after other sectors interests, sometimes to the detriment of the fisheries sector. Fisherfolk needed to let everyone “know how important this sector is for you, for your livelihood, for your family...let us know what you want and we can work together with you.”

McConney then further supported the FAO presentation by telling participants: “You can be a player on the international stage. This is an opportunity now to make a difference. It is in your interest and not just words on paper.”

2.2 What BARNUFO and UWI have done to prepare for the SSF Guidelines

McConney talked about what BARNUFO and UWI have done to prepare for the SSF Guidelines. Since 2012, BARNUFO and UWI had participated together in meetings on the SSF Guidelines often held in association with regional organisations such as the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO) and the Caribbean Natural Resource Institute (CANARI). Together these organisations represented the interests of most fisherfolk in the region.



The reports are available for reference should persons be interested. He informed the gathering that CANARI in partnership with the above organisations has a project in the region dealing with fisheries and fisherfolk organisations (on Enhancing food security from the fisheries sector in the Caribbean: Building the capacity of regional and national fisherfolk organisation networks to participate in fisheries governance and management) that saw the SSF Guidelines as central to advancing fisheries.

McConney told participants that over the past decade he had been engaged in interesting fisheries research related to governance at the global and regional levels. He stated, “What would excite me more is if people in Barbados were engaged in fisherfolk organising and making their voices heard regionally and globally. We want to see if we can liven up the industry here and get things on the world stage.” He said that CERMES is willing to provide mentors to work with BARNUFO. He noted that in countries as far apart as Costa Rica and Indonesia the SSF Guidelines are front and centre in their national fisheries policy. Some countries may also turn them into law. McConney closed by asking participants to consider how important the SSF Guidelines could also be to them.

2.3 Fisherfolk implementing the SSF Guidelines in Barbados and Caribbean

Vernel Nicholls used this session to inform fishing industry stakeholders about what fisherfolk in the region are doing to implement the SSF Guidelines. Nicholls highlighted meetings relevant to the Guidelines in which she participated through the CNFO whose mission is to build the capacity of fisherfolk regionally. BARNUFO is on the coordinating unit of the CNFO. Participants were told to visit the CNFO website at www.cirp.org.tt/cnfo to learn more about what it has been doing such as mainstreaming the SSF guidelines into its work and is creating awareness about them through its website and more. Nicholls told everyone that the CNFO is actively getting fisherfolk voices heard on their priorities for the Global Assistance Programme.



In terms of BARNUFO activities locally, she said that:

- A lot had focused on strengthening partnerships through the hosting of national workshops in collaboration with CERMES, FAO and the Fisheries Division.
- A CARICOM Caribbean Working Group had been formed to prepare for implementing the Guidelines – fisherfolk are involved in this working group on the GAP.

Concerning raising awareness and providing policy support, fisherfolk want to take information to schools to raise awareness so as to bring young blood into the fishing industry to build capacity and carry forward the work.

Concerning strengthening the science-policy interface, fisherfolk need to say what type of research is needed so the research will benefit them. Research needs to be driven by the industry. When the research is completed the information should be given not only to the policy makers, but to the industry as well. The results also need to be represented in policies governing the industry.

Concerning empowering stakeholders, fisherfolk said there should be funding for national fisherfolk organisations (NFOs) to attend different forums. There should also be fisherfolk representation on regional committees.

Concerning supporting implementation of monitoring, evaluation, adaptive management and learning, she said: “We cannot sit down and wait for anyone to implement anything for us. We need to take the lead. We need to be at the table when decisions are made about our livelihoods.”

At the national level BARNUFO was supporting the SSF guidelines in principle. An example was the fish handling training programme in 2013. Nicholls played a video on what BARNUFO did on fish handling which showcased efforts to address quality assurance. The video, *Misconceptions, Beliefs or Myths*, is on You Tube on the GIS channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/thebgis/videos>.

BARNUFO is proposing by mid-2015 to have a national working group for the SSF Guidelines to work together to implement them at the national level. Nicholls stated that van Anrooy has indicated his interest in participating and she was confident that McConney would also participate.

After the session a few comments were made and questions raised by participants:

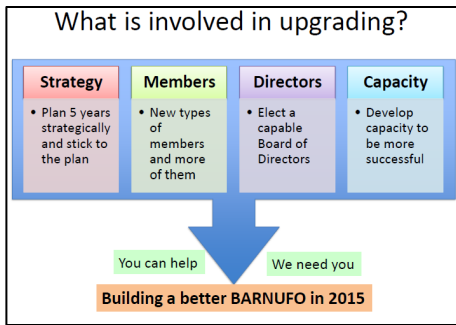
- One participant commented that he has noticed differing activity levels of fisherfolk groups in Barbados, some are dropping off and some are popping up. His concern is that he is not sure how BARNUFO will get these other small groups “fired up and back on stream.” This is one of the biggest challenges. Out of the perhaps 4,000 people engaged in fishing, the representation is far too small and that is what is killing BARNUFO activity. He wanted to hear from some of the people from smaller organisations about what could be done. Nicholls said that subsequent presentations in the information sessions would outline ways of improving BARNUFO in the future and would probably help to answer his query.
- Another participant raised the question, “What would a fisherman say when he asks what do the SSF guidelines mean to me?” Nicholls said fishermen needed to understand what the guidelines speak to. That is why BARNUFO was proposing the meeting in mid-2015 to raise awareness about them. McConney gave the example of tenure and physical development — many people say that they have less space to haul up boats since they are competing with hotels and restaurants for beach space. In the case of tenure the SSF Guidelines support the right to continue to use the space they have customarily been using. Examples like this are needed to promote the guidelines.

3 BUILDING BARNUFO CAPACITY PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION SESSION

This second information session dealt mainly with developing BARNUFO capacity more generally. The agenda was altered to allow the presentation on upgrading BARNUFO to precede the others.

3.1 Upgrading BARNUFO: constitution, membership, elections and more

This session lead by McConney provided fishing industry stakeholders with a sample of what can be or is being done to upgrade BARNUFO in 2015. McConney provided a brief history of BARNUFO’s development, noting that the organisation had not been as adaptive or as effective as it could have



been. He said however that BARNUFO has lots of friends. He stated, “A lot of people in the room have stuck with BARNUFO through the years both inside and out of the industry.” Participants were told that four “buckets” are needed to build a better BARNUFO in 2015 – strategy, members, directors and capacity. The strategy is the direction and plan; the membership is you (many there were members or could become members); a set of directors is needed to drive activities; and CERMES can help build capacity.

What is a strategic plan?

- the plan is a living document communicating:
 - the organisation's vision
 - the organisation's goals
 - the challenges to be overcome
 - the directions and actions needed to get over challenges and achieve goals, vision

developed during a participatory planning process



Strategic planning is vital for shaping the direction in which BARNUFO wants to go and what it wants to achieve. The road is not always smooth but strategic planning keeps you on the road you want to go. McConney gave an overview of strategic planning prepared by Maria Pena, drawing attention to the 2002 strategic plan and noting that it is still relevant today. CERMES would work with BARNUFO on updating and revising elements of the 2002 strategic plan for use during 2015-2019.

Membership is a critical area for upgrading BARNUFO.







McConney reviewed its membership structure. During the slide show he asked the group how many of the fisherfolk organisations are working well in terms of elections, meetings, projects. The group indicated that only Weston and Conset Bay seem to be doing well. McConney said that based on this BARNUFO effectively had a membership of two and that this was clearly insufficient compared to 1999 when there were 14 fisherfolk organisations registered.

Out with the old; in with the bold

Original in 1999 = old	Amended in 2006 = bold
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership comprised only primary organisations At the time there were 14 Each organisation had two “delegate” representatives Primary organisations failed BARNUFO lost membership Became impractical by 2005 Addressed by amendment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership range from organisations to individuals New categories of members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full Members Associate Members Affiliate Members Sponsoring Members Meets organisational needs Wider scope for developing strong membership base

By 2006 BARNUFO decided that membership had to be improved. This resulted in amendments to the constitution to include individuals in new categories of members with a wider scope for developing a strong membership base. The new membership categories have not been implemented. McConney wanted members to be thinking: “What can I do for BARNUFO?” Neetha Selliah of CERMES is helping to develop a membership database. The database will allow people to work together, to network.

Roles in a nutshell

 <p>President The Face of the organisation The leader of the group</p>	 <p>Vice President Acts on behalf of the President Chairs special committees</p>	 <p>Treasurer Book keeping, provides financial report Good numeric skills</p>
 <p>Secretary Record keeping Good organizational skills</p>	 <p>Public Relations Officer Interacts with the Media Good public speaking skills</p>	 <p>Membership Officer Liaises with all members Recruits new members People oriented</p>

See handout for full description of roles & responsibilities

Katherine Blackman briefly explained the Board of Directors of the organisation and explained the roles of the Directors, skills required, nominations and election process. The 2006 constitution provides for seven board members with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. She showed participants a draft brochure that she had prepared on the Board of Directors and encouraged them to familiarise themselves with the information. She also asked participants to look at the sample nomination form that she had developed along with by-laws for an improved election process.

Topics tailored to organisation needs

- Self- evaluation of board effectiveness (baseline)
- Responsibilities of board, staff and members
- Structure of the board and various committees
- Recruiting, maintaining and removing members
- Operations manual, board procedures, by-laws
- NGO fundraising and financial management
- Conflict of interest and management of conflict
- Performance monitoring and evaluation by board
- Networking and communication with members

McConney continued the session by briefly going through the next steps after the election of Board members. Elections are not the end, but the beginning, of a person's duty. The idea is that you can get more things done if organisational capacity is developed. He mentioned that CERMES has run a course on Enhancing Board Effectiveness elsewhere in the region but not yet in Barbados. The topics in the course are tailored according to organisation needs. The course can be found online on the CERMES website at www.cermes.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes. He concluded his

presentation with additional ideas for capacity-building activities that BARNUFO could easily undertake.

3.2 What BARNUFO has done in 2014, and the draft strategy for progress

BARNUFO President, Vernel Nicholls, outlined the activities that BARNUFO had done in 2014, much of which included attendance at regional and international workshops, meetings and conferences. Nicholls noted that, with respect to local BARNUFO activities, a serious issue was very poor fisherfolk participation. She stated this was an embarrassing situation and advised fisherfolk that they have to participate fully in activities if they want to know what is happening in the industry – "Your participation in BARNUFO allows you to represent BARNUFO in workshops and meetings." She further stated that BARNUFO has had its challenges in the past but intends now to move forward.

BARNUFO is participating in seafood traceability and quality assurance, fishing vessel tracking and fisherfolk training. Nicholls announced BARNUFO plans for 2015 including:

- Holding the annual general meeting
- Developing a strategic plan for 2015-2019
- Hosting workshops to increase the awareness of fisherfolk about the SSF Guidelines
- Increasing membership by at least 10% through a membership drive
- Planning Fishermen's Week activities
- Development of a BARNUFO Youth Arm
- Conducting a training programme in collaboration with the Fisheries Division. Past trainings have included fish handling, safety at sea, financial management, first aid training and engine maintenance.
- Continued participation in regional and international workshops and conferences, and
- Continued development of the BARNUFO website and social media platform.

At the end of the session Nicholls asked participants if these activities met their needs. Participants were not vocal but there were no objections.

3.3 Hot issues that interest Barbados fisherfolk for a 2015 action agenda

This topic generated discussion on what some in the audience wanted to achieve via fisherfolk organisations in 2015. Comments and questions included the following:

- The sessions have been enlightening. I have always believed BARNUFO had potential for developing fisherfolk in Barbados and improving how fisherfolk ought to be seen in Barbados. I am glad to see that good things will continue to happen...There is scope for information sharing between BARNUFO and the Fisheries Division. I hope that I can see the membership base of BARNUFO widened so it can give the organisation more purpose, be more highly visible and achieve more.

- Can we get some training on a DVD? For example on engine maintenance? This was a possibility but another, less costly, way of approaching it may be to find a few You Tube videos that explain some of the fundamentals that are of interest to people in the industry and provide the links to these. Fisherfolk need to use internet resources more.
- The fish handling issue that occurred in 2013 is still affecting the market. What measure could be put in place to prevent the monopolising of the market? Is there a process in place when purchasing a large quantity of fish to ensure proper handling? A first step is to use seafood standards. Deputy Chief Fisheries Officer Joyce Leslie added that the Fisheries Division was moving towards an Act for fish quality and safety. Fisherfolk need training in fish handling plus legislation to enforce standards. There are international standards, but training is needed so people will be aware of them and market use should be granted only to people trained to handle fish. A strong fisherfolk organisation could help to resolve this matter.
- How can you make it mandatory to attend a training session? In most countries the quantity of fish being handled does not matter but persons must be trained to be issued with a licence to work and there must be regular validation to make sure it is up to date. Legislation makes it mandatory and training brings enlightenment. There is no reason why it cannot happen here.
- I would like to see more public awareness on what happens in the fishing industry before the fish goes to market since most people want to offer fishermen nothing for the fish. There is already material for that. There is a booklet available on an evaluation conducted on the fishing industry from hook to cook identifying the players and their roles along the value chain. Maybe a search can be done on You Tube for an example.
- Encountering problems getting fish off the jetty due to its condition in Oistins. There is no need to use a forklift on the jetty. In other countries fish are offloaded using manual labour and planked jetties – it is efficient and timely. There are examples in the Caribbean of the right equipment to use as an alternative to a forklift.
- There are several people in here that are longliners and exporters. The US is soon going to adopt EU standards in fish trading and we cannot ship fish to EU. How prepared are we for this? Joyce Leslie said that the Fisheries Division has to speed up meeting with the longline group to identify the issues as well as work on forming a body to address issues. The Fisheries Division will meet with longliners early this year.
- We need to attract young people to the fishing industry. The Bridgetown market is not up to standard technologically. There is only one digital scale. If we want to attract young people to the industry we need to upgrade the tools we use, the facilities etc. For us to get younger people interested in the industry we have to glamourise it. There are no murals to tell stories of fishing. Nothing to encourage young people to fishing. Others noted that the participant's call for a fishing industry makeover would be strongly supported.
- There is a lack of cooperation among workers. The Fisheries Division has provided training but through a lack of cooperation, people in the industry are not operating in the ways they should. People need incentives to change their attitudes and practices. The incentive could be new technology, public image etc. Those are things we need to focus on. We need to look at that path now as it relates to the call for a makeover.
- Raymon van Anrooy revealed that a few years ago FAO conducted a fisheries infrastructure review. There were a lot of good recommendations on what should be done in the sector. The report can be shared with the sector. One of the points that came out strongly was the

behavioural side – fish handling and sanitary issues. Some people need to take a leading role in addressing these issues.

- We have seen that so few primary fisherfolk organisations are active. Is there a role for BARNUFO, CERMES, and the Fisheries Division to make a renewed effort to strengthen these organisations or should these partners focus on strengthening BARNUFO? There was no consensus sought on the response but several participants said that the emphasis must be on BARNUFO while keeping afloat the couple of organisations that were surviving. There was no enthusiasm for starting up new organisations as priority.

4 CLOSE

There being no further business the information session closed and participants engaged in social networking over refreshments. The event also attracted a high level of media coverage (Appendix 3).

5 SURVEY

Once the information sessions had closed participants were asked to fill out a double-sided survey instrument that sought to determine whether the vision elements and challenges identified in the BARNUFO 2002-2006 strategic plan were more, just as or less relevant on a 5-point rating scale. A couple of open-ended questions invited them to list additional matters and their outlook for the future. About 38 people answered either all or most of the questions. The results are shown below.

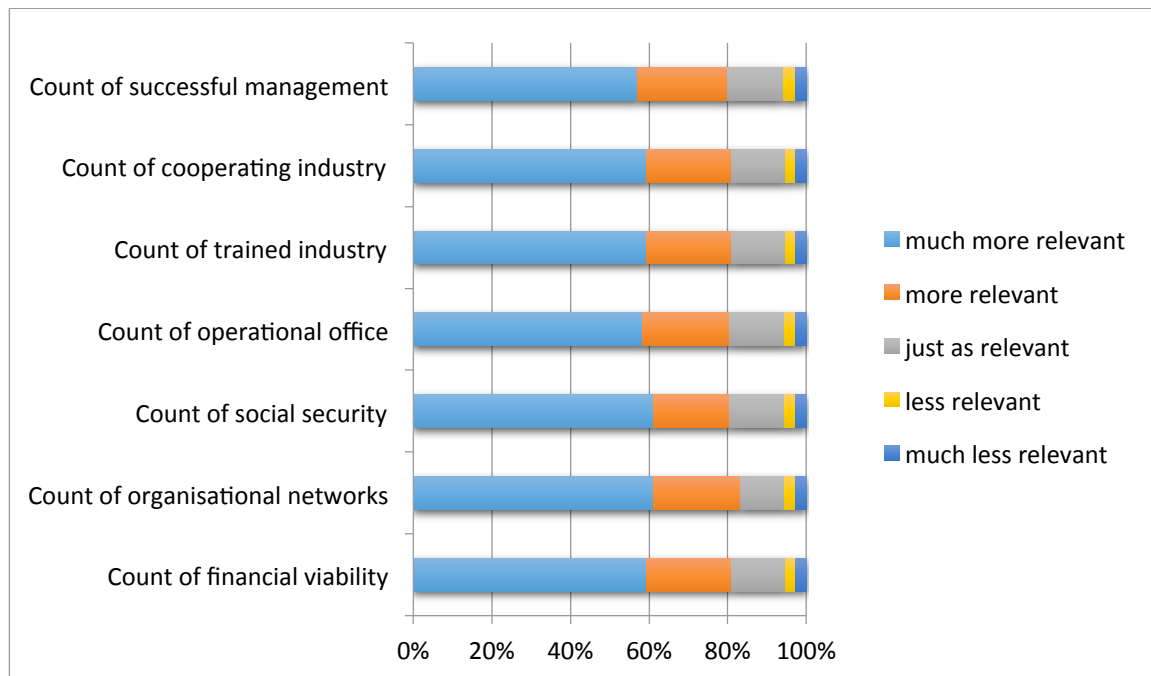


Figure 1. The vision elements rating

There was very little variation in the results. Around 60% of the respondents reported that each of the vision elements were much more relevant today than in 2002. The only suggestions for new vision elements related to improving awareness of the relevance of fisheries to food security and to improving communication in the fishing industry.

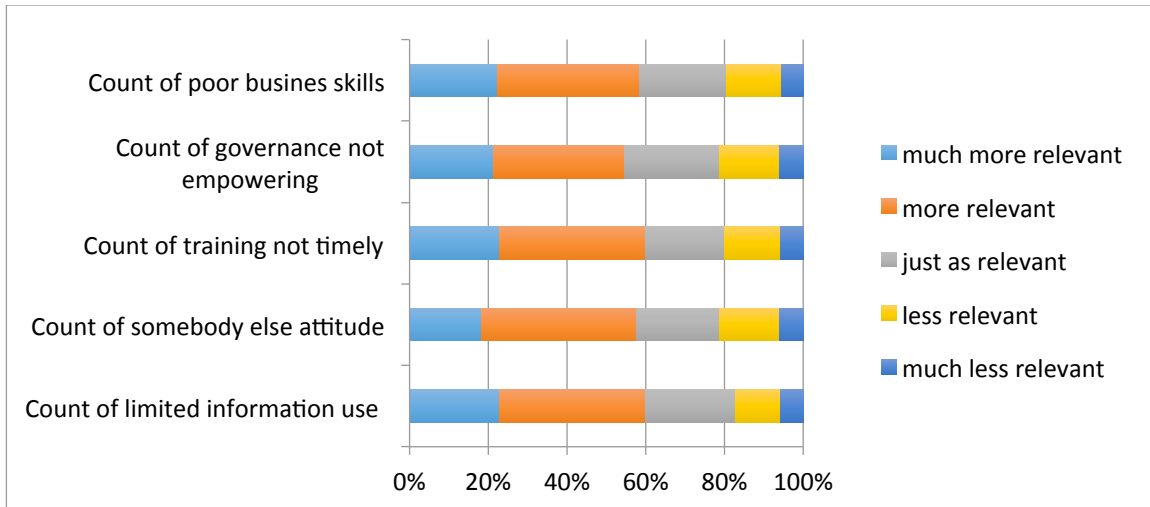


Figure 2. The challenges rating

Regarding the challenges facing the industry in 2015 compared to 2002 in meeting the vision elements, there was again relatively little variation with around 60% saying that they were either more or much more relevant today. The additional challenges suggested dealt with bringing youth into the industry, empowerment, communication and deteriorating physical infrastructure. For the future the focus was upon achieving greater levels of cooperation within the industry.

The conclusion from the completed survey, which was not intended to be representative, but merely exploratory, is that overall the participants did not perceive improvement in the areas mentioned in the 2002-2006 strategic plan. Hence BARNUFO may reasonably proceed to update this plan rather than start from scratch if it wishes. It should definitely still attend to the matters identified in 2002.

6 APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Participants

FIRST NAME	SURNAME	ROLE IN INDUSTRY	PHONE
Sharon	Almerigi	People Dynamics Associates	432-2011
Joseph	Barrow	Fisherman, Tent Bay	433-9148
Kurt	Baynes	Vendor, Oistins	261-8512
Katherine	Blackman	GEF SGP, UNDP	467-6037
Steven	Bourne	Boat owner, Silver Sands	428-1883
Allan	Bradshaw	Fisherman, Conset Bay	235-6065
Kelvin	Carter	Boat owner, Shipper	417-9241
Juliette	Chapman	Vendor, Pile Bay	
Felicia	Corbin	Chair FAC, Boat owner	256-3791
Shelly-Ann	Cox	CERMES	823-3587
Steven	Cox	Fisherman, Oistins	250-0573
Mandisa	Downes	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	431-2249
Geoffrey	Griffith	Boat owner, BOFA leader	423-3244
Dian	Harding	Vendor, Central	237-6564
Ashton	Harris	Fisherman	821-7448
Jemma	Harris	Vendor, Central	258-9880
Alex	Hinds	Fisherman, (BARNUFO V-P), Weston	422-1465
Alex	Ince	Fisherman/boat owner	836-5625
Henderson	Inniss	Boat owner/BOFA	423-4473
Grace	Jones	Vendor, Oistins	242-2651
Challenor	Jones	Boat owner, Bridgetown	427-3237
Elvis	Layne	Boat owner	
Ruth	Layne	Vendor, Conset Bay	420-4170
Joyce	Leslie	Fisheries Division	426-3745
Dave	Mason	Fisherman	423-7982
Egbert	Mason	Boat owner	249-5068
Patrick	McConney	CERMES	417-4725
Donna	Moore	Vendor, Conset Bay	236-2527
Owen	Moore	Boat owner	239-8225
Therese	Moore	Fisheries Division	426-3745

FIRST NAME	SURNAME	ROLE IN INDUSTRY	PHONE
Vernel	Nicholls	Vendor, BARNUFO President	268-7168
Andrea	Nicholls Belgrave		820-5323
Maria	Pena	CERMES	417-4727
Gabriella	Perryman-Jordan	Vendor, Oistins	242-5580
Bernard	Seale	Boat owner, Oistins	423-4317
Neetha	Selliah	CERMES	417-4568
Bertha	Simmons	FAO consultant	257-9066
Travis	Sinckler	Minsitry of Environment and Drainage	622-1601
Rollins	Skeete	Boat owner/fisherman, Six Men's	439-2710
Rolerick	Sobers	Fisheries Division	426-3745
Melissa	Taitt	Vendor	831-2012
Rodney	Taylor		
Cecil	Thorne	Boat owner	269-3596
Raymon	Van Anrooy	FAO	426-7110
Angela	Watson	Past President, BARNUFO	257-7280
Sylvia	White	Vendor	
Stephen	Willoughby	Fisheries Division	423-2077
Adrian	Wiltshire	Vendor	425-1736
Arlette	Worrell	Vendor, Weston	422-0871
Eulene	Young-Haynes	Vendor, Paynes Bay (BARNUFO Secretary)	259-8538

Participants were asked to confirm their contact information, but this was not possible in all cases. We regret any errors or omissions

Appendix 2: Agenda



BARNUFO/CERMES/FAO information sessions on developing the capacity to implement the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines

Fisheries Division Training Room, Bridgetown, Saturday 3 January 2015

AGENDA

Purpose

To inform the Barbados fishing industry about recent fisheries initiatives and prepare BARNUFO to implement the international Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines by developing organisational capacity

Output

A report of the sessions will be produced along with documentation related to capacity development

Outcomes

- Fisherfolk better informed about fisheries initiatives in the Caribbean region and their significance
- Fisherfolk informed on how to participate in, and benefit from, implementing the SSF Guidelines
- Fisherfolk informed of BARNUFO capacity development and their role in achieving its success
- Fisherfolk social networking and information exchange strengthened to facilitate collective action

Time	Event or activity
2:00pm	<p><u>Opening session</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vernel Nicholls, President, BARNUFO • Feature address: <i>Important fisheries initiatives in the Caribbean region</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Raymon van Anrooy, FAO Subregional Office for the Caribbean • Sessions' objectives, outcomes and agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Patrick McConney, CERMES, UWI Cave Hill Campus • Participant introductions and expectations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Participants introduce themselves and say what they want to achieve
2:30pm	<p><u>SSF Guidelines presentations and discussion session</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are Small-scale Fisheries Guidelines (SSF) important to fisherfolk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Raymon van Anrooy, FAO Subregional Office for the Caribbean • What BARNUFO and UWI have done to prepare for the SSF Guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Patrick McConney, CERMES, UWI Cave Hill Campus • Fisherfolk implementing the SSF Guidelines in Barbados and Caribbean <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vernel Nicholls, President, BARNUFO
4:00pm	<p><i>Refreshment break</i></p>
4:30pm	<p><u>Building BARNUFO capacity presentations and discussion session</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What BARNUFO has done in 2014, and the draft strategy for progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vernel Nicholls, President, BARNUFO • Upgrading BARNUFO: constitution, membership, elections and more <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Patrick McConney, CERMES, UWI Cave Hill Campus • Hot issues that interest Barbados fisherfolk for a 2015 action agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Participants share what they want to achieve in 2015 via BARNUFO
6:00pm	<p><i>Close of sessions and start of BARNUFO banquet</i></p>

BARNUFO holding seminar on small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines today

FISHING plays an important role in food security for Barbados and steps are being taken to ensure that those on the frontline of the industry help to sustain it for the benefit of future generations.

The Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk

Organisations (BARNUFO) is preparing itself and the industry to play a more direct role in the global implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries recently approved by the Food and Agriculture

Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

These Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines mark the first ever international instrument entirely dedicated to small-scale fisheries. BARNUFO is holding an information session on these guidelines today,

co-hosted by the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) of the University of the West Indies (UWI) and the FAO's sub-regional office for the Caribbean.

The guidelines recognize the role of small-scale fish-

eries in feeding the world and the need to improve awareness among the public and decision-makers of the role that this industry also plays in social, economic and environmental sustainability.

The information session at the Bridgetown Fisheries Division is designed to draw out the importance of the guidelines to the fishing industry and the opportunities for the local industry to be a global leader in implementing the guidelines as part of a Caribbean network. UWI-CERMES is among the organizations assisting BAR-

NUFO to build capacity to operate better at national, regional and global levels. Plans for new initiatives in 2015 will be shared at the session that is by invitation only.

President of BARNUFO, Vernel Nicholls, described the information session as timely and important. She noted that having gone on several exchange trips to other fishing communities within the Caribbean and the wider Americas, that making long-lasting improvements in the industry were most successful when they came from the ground-up.

BARNUFO to update members on UN guidelines

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FOCUS



ADVISE: FAO fishery and aquaculture officer Dr Raymond van Arroyo urging fisherfolk to use the UN guidelines to ensure they have access to fisheries resources and a say in policymaking.



SOME OF THE fishing industry representatives at Saturday's meeting. (Photos by Christoff Goffin.)

Call to exploit UN 'bait'

FISHERFOLK have been urged to help the fishing industry fully exploit new international guidelines aimed at making small-scale fisheries sustainable.

The advice has come from Vernel Nicholls, head of the Barbados Union of Fisherfolk Organisations (BARNUFO), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) fishery and aquaculture officer Dr Raymond van Arroyo, and Dr Patrick McCosker, a senior lecturer at the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) of the University of the West Indies (UWI).

The three were addressing a meeting focusing on the guidelines at the Government's Fisheries Division on Princess Alice Highway last Saturday.

McCosker, a former chief fisheries officer, said one way of helping Barbados exploit the benefits of the guideline carved out by the FAO of the United Nations was to assist in putting BARNUFO on a better basis in terms of finances, membership and its operating capacity.

He said the association, established in 1999, had done much but had not been as active or effective as it could have been.

The guidelines could be used to help fisherfolk hold on to beach areas they had been using but had been threatened by property development and other challenges, he noted.

Van Arroyo, who is based here, said fisherfolk should use the guidelines to ensure they had access to fisheries resources and should take their "rightful place" in the "fisheries governance process", including having a say in marine protected areas, which were no-fishing zones.

Nicholls said BARNUFO and its membership needed to position themselves to participate at the policy level in any meetings relating to the exploitation and implementation of the guidelines.

BARNUFO proposes to set up a national working group on the guidelines.

To combat a number of challenges in the sector, the FAO has collaborated with governments, civil society organisations and other stakeholders to develop a set of "voluntary guidelines for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication".

The guidelines offer guidance on how to deliver on the promise of sustainable small-scale fisheries in a way that is ecosystem-friendly, participatory and

sensitive to cultural context.

They give strong new impetus to the importance of inclusiveness in setting goals and designing management systems that can work for communities, with an emphasis on the key role that women play in sustainable fishing communities.

They stress, among other things, that:

- small-scale fishing communities need to have secure tenure rights, which equitably distribute benefits from responsibly managed fisheries.

- those tenure rights are balanced by responsibilities for long-term conservation and management of fishery resources, and small-scale actors must fish at levels and with practices that protect the resources over the long term.

- states must include small-scale fishing communities in the design, planning and implementation of management systems to sustain fisheries and communities – and, in particular, must ensure that women are equitably included in all aspects of the process. (FAO)



Include us

NEWS TODAY

FISHERFOLK PUSH TO HAVE SAY IN REGULATING THE INDUSTRY

With threats to their fish stocks increasing, Barbados fisherfolk are seeking to take charge to ensure they have a say on changes to regulations in the industry.

Against a backdrop of reducing quantities of some fish, President of the Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk Organizations (BARNUFO) Vernel Nicholls told a meeting of fishers that they must be at the centre of efforts to control the fishing environment and not leave it to others.

Her assertion came over the weekend at a BARNUFO-organized meeting in collaboration with UWI's Centre for Research Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), and the UN's Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).

The meeting was called to discuss regional efforts at using scientific approaches to regenerating fish stocks and implementation of guidelines on fishing. "Fisherfolk need to be involved in the process at each stage," Nicholls said.

"As industry workers we have to say what type of research we want so that they don't just do their own thing but that they will do the things that will benefit us The research agenda must be driven by the need of the industry, particularly small scale fishers."

"When the research is done, she added, the findings should not only be passed on to policymakers but to fisherfolk as well.

"We should know what came out of it. We should ensure it gets into policy decisions Many times we have the scientists doing their own thing. They do their research, come to us for information and at the end of the day sometimes we don't know what comes out of the research," the BARNUFO head said.

"Many times everybody operates in their own little box – ministers, the scientists, fisherfolk – and there is no cohesiveness

among us."

She reported that at a recent meeting of Caribbean fisherfolk there was agreement on a need to strengthen their capacity to pass on information, as well as training to promote increased awareness of proposed changes of the fishing practices.

"We are saying we want to lead in these decisions. We want to be the people to be able to sit at the table and participate in these activities because . . . in most cases some of the people making the decisions really don't know much about our activities," Nicholls said.

Also making presentations at the meeting were Dr Patrick McConney of CERMES and Dr Raymon Van Anrooy of the FAO. **(GA)**



President of the Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk Organizations Vernel Nicholls



Some of those who attended the meeting.

