

# REPORT



## WORKSHOP OF INFORMATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING ON THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABLE SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES FOR PRESENTERS AND JOURNALISTS OF SENEGALESE COMMUNITY RADIO

Place:

Date:

Hotel: Cap Saint-Louis

June: 02 - 03 - 2021



# Introduction

In the perspective of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Artisanal Fisheries, CAOPA considers that it is essential to involve the actors of communication to allow them to better know and understand them in order to popularize them and better appropriate the stakes and challenges of the implementation.

It is in this context that CAOPA organized an information and awareness-raising workshop on the Voluntary Guidelines for sustainable artisanal fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication for the Association of Fisheries Presenters and Journalists of community Radio (ACPRCG) of Senegal on 2 and 3 June 2021 in Saint Louis (Senegal).

## 1. Objectives of the workshop

### ❖ The objectives of this workshop are

- General: To enable participants to know and understand the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Artisanal Fisheries;
- Specifically, it is about :
  - To build the capacity of participants on the Guidelines so that they are better able to inform and raise awareness grassroots actors and local communities on the issues and challenges of implementation;
  - To guide participants to produce press materials for publication related to the issues developed by the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries.

### ❖ The expected outcomes of this workshop are

- To sufficiently equip the participating communicators and journalists to contribute, through their radio programs, to identifying the challenges in Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries;
- Produce articles and make thematic broadcasts related to the issues and challenges of implementing the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries.

## 2. Participants

The workshop was attended by around 40 participants, including members of the ACPRCG from all the country's maritime regions, representatives of the Directorate of Maritime Fisheries, including the national coordinator for the implementation of the Guidelines and the legal adviser, the Head of the

Saint Louis Regional Fisheries and Surveillance Service and his deputy, a fisheries consultant, the administrative team and technical support from CAOPA.

## Day of 02 June

### 3. Opening ceremony :



The President of ACPRCG on behalf of his colleagues thanked CAOPA and its team for helping them to create their association and for the support and assistance they provide. He stressed the importance of the Guidelines for Sustainable Artisanal Fisheries which, drawing on a set of international agreements on the development and sustainable management of fisheries, are an instrument that promotes wealth creation for fishing communities.

As communicators and very close to the fishing communities, they believe that they can participate in raising their awareness so that they are in a position to advocate at the level of political decision-makers in order to work and encourage them to implement the Guidelines for the benefit of these job-creating sub-sectors.

In his speech, the President of CAOPA highlighted the resilience of the fisheries sector in the face of the pandemic through the activities of professional artisanal fisheries actors who have been able to mitigate the health and nutritional crisis of the population by providing them with healthy food.

He believes that the recovery of the post-Covid economies of the countries should be an opportunity for the governments to resolve the empirical challenges of artisanal fishing, particularly with regard to the living and working conditions of professionals (men and women).

In this regard, he invited journalists and community radio presenters to fully assume their role with responsibility in the popularization of the Guidelines at the level of all fishing communities to enable them to know, understand and appropriate this instrument in order to participate effectively in its implementation as well as in the preparation of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture planned for 2022.

Then, the Head of the Regional Fisheries and Surveillance Service of Saint Louis congratulated CAOPA and the association of journalists and community radio communicators for the initiative of organizing this sharing workshop on Guidelines, which are an important tool for improving fisheries governance and management.

He believes that the workshop is a platform for exchange and capacity building of actors and constitutes a support to the resolution of the numerous problems of the fisheries sector. He thanked CAOPA for its commitment to the FAO for the popularization of the Guidelines and welcomed the willingness of journalists and community radio communicators to carry this commitment.

The Prefect emphasized the importance of fishing in general and artisanal fishing in particular in the national economy at the economic, social and nutritional levels by contributing to the food self-sufficiency of the population.

With regard to the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries, she emphasized that they consist of a set of international agreements, which are tailored to the needs of developing countries, specific to artisanal fisheries in maritime and inland waters, reconciling responsible fishing and social

development in coastal and inland fishing communities.

Wishing full success to the work, she declared open the information and awareness-raising workshop on the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries for the benefit of Senegalese community radio hosts and journalists.

A coffee break is observed to allow the authority to withdraw.

At the resumption, the agenda was adopted unanimously, after presentation by Mr Alassane SAMBA, technical support of CAOPA, designated facilitator of the workshop.

#### **4. Presentation of introductory documents and discussion**





In 2019, the artisanal fishing sector in Senegal had about 100,000 fishermen using more than 20,000 pirogues who landed 451,963 tons and industrial fishing with 131 canoes and about 1,310 sailors produced 114,729 tons. The total production landed is estimated at the first sale at 263 billion CFA francs.

It is a sector that provides employment, i.e. 17% of the active population, which in its evolution is marked by different stages from 1960 and beyond 1998. From 1960 to the mid-1970s, a development policy focused on increasing production was promoted with incentives for the modernization of artisanal fishing with the introduction of motorized canoes and the tax exemption for fishing gear and fuel.

**Between 1975 and 1998**, with the development of commercial fishing, a management policy was introduced with restrictive measures defined in regulations such as the Fishing Code and its implementing decree.

From 1998 onwards, the Bottom-Up Sustainable Resource Management Policy is introduced in cooperation with stakeholders with management plans, as well as the ecosystem approach.

**Speaking about the issues and challenges of fishing in Senegal**, Mr FAYE highlighted those relating to food security, the creation and securing of jobs which are essential aspects of social stability, foreign exchange earnings via exports in particular, the conservation of biodiversity, good governance and adequate management measures.

To conclude, Mr FAYE said that in view of all the above and other aspects related to fisheries, the Guidelines indicate the ways and means to provide appropriate solutions for a sustainable development of artisanal fisheries generating a prosperity shared by all stakeholders.

#### **4.3 The FAO process for the development and implementation of the Guidelines by Mr Gaoussou GUEYE President of CAOPA**

Introducing his presentation, Mr GUEYE stressed that the Guidelines are the first instrument adopted at international level entirely devoted to sustainable artisanal fisheries. They set out consensual principles and guidelines for the management and development of small-scale fisheries, which were developed through a participatory process. They aim to bring social development closer through responsible fishing.

He notes that in addition to fisheries, they refer to other international instruments including: the

FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of Food Security, the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Land Tenure, Fisheries and Forests which have a common basis in human rights principles, and set out principles related to Social Development, Employment and Decent Work, Value Chain, Post-harvest Activities and Trade, Gender Equality, Disaster Risk and Climate Change.

It reviews the process of developing the Guidelines, which began in 2008 at the first Global Conference on Small-scale Fisheries, Bangkok, and culminated in the Civil Society Organization (CSO) declaration.

In 2009 at its 28th session, COFI identified the need for an international instrument on sustainable artisanal fisheries. This was followed by a series of technical consultations, workshops, national, regional and international events that registered more than 4,000 directly concerned stakeholders (governments, artisanal fisheries stakeholders, NGOs, universities, regional organizations, donors and others).

It was in 2014, during the 31st session of COFI that the Guidelines were adopted. For the implementation, FAO has developed an Action Plan articulated on four (04) axes of intervention relating to:

- 1- Awareness raising: knowledge and outreach ;
- 2- Strengthening the science-policy interface: sharing knowledge and supporting policy reform ;
- 3- Stakeholder empowerment: capacity development and institutional strengthening ;
4. Implementation support: collaboration and monitoring.

Regional initiatives and actions undertaken around the world are brought to the attention of participants, particularly in the Caribbean, Central America, South East Asia, Latin America, the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.

The same is true for the African Union, which has referred to the Guidelines in one of the principles of its "Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa", which has the objective of "*Improving and enhancing the contribution of small-scale fisheries to poverty reduction, food and nutrition security and the socio-economic benefits of fishing*

*communities*".

This reform is reflected in:

- The preparation of a ten-year action plan for the development of artisanal fisheries in Africa ;
- The establishment of non-state actor platforms (in collaboration with regional partners and RECs (Regional Economic Communities)).

For the correct implementation of the Guidelines, Mr. GUEYE insisted on the essential prerequisites that the stakeholders must have. In this case, he insisted on the attributes that organizations, especially artisanal fisheries organizations, must have. These must be: legal, democratic, representative, responsible and transparent. In this respect, they need to have good leaders, administrative competence and a good communication system (horizontal and vertical).

To achieve this it is essential to:

- Strengthen the capacity of artisanal fisheries stakeholders to participate effectively in decision-making and actions at local, national and regional levels;
- Further develop the Guidelines and the Guide as a partnership mechanism;
- Develop national action plans to steer the implementation of the SSF guidelines at national level (with the support of the mechanisms).

It is within this framework, he said, that this workshop is being held to enable journalists and community radio presenters to know and understand guidelines with a view to popularizing them within the artisanal fishing communities.

The two Guidelines documents developed under the auspices of FAO were distributed to all participants.

**4.4 The process of implementing the Guidelines in Senegal by El hadj Abdoulaye COUME of the Directorate of Maritime Fisheries, Coordinator of the Senegalese project for the implementation of the Guidelines.**

**In his presentation, Mr. COUME first emphasized that the Senegalese authorities, through the**

sectoral policy and development letter for fisheries and aquaculture (LPSDPA) 2016-2023, are committed to a process of fisheries policy reform, for better governance and by paying greater attention to artisanal fisheries because of its important role in food security and poverty eradication.

These elements, which are the fundamentals of the Guidelines, have led the Republic of Senegal, a signatory to the Guidelines, to carry out a process of implementation of this far-reaching instrument to improve the sustainable development of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sectors.

In describing the process, he indicated that it went through different stages from the **organization of a national workshop to raise awareness of the guidelines, through the creation and installation of a national technical committee, the creation of the national platform to monitor the implementation of these guidelines, to the preparation of the document of the national action plan, of which two flagship actions are broken down into projects for the implementation of the guidelines for sustainable small-scale fishing in Senegal.**

This project, for which the amount of financing is one hundred and forty-eight million three hundred and thirty thousand francs (148,330,000 F CF) for duration of eighteen (18) months, is being executed by:

- FAO: Implementing Agency
- The Directorate of Maritime Fisheries (DMF): Coordination
- Participating Institutions: Ministries of Fisheries, Environment, Trade, etc.
- CAOPA, CONIPAS, REFEPAS, RCLPA, RGIEI, Aquaculturists, ADEPA, APRAPAM
- Beneficiaries: State, Coastal Communities, Professional Artisanal Fisheries Organisations

It should be noted that in Senegal, all stakeholders concerned by the guidelines have been involved since the beginning of the process.

## **5. Summary of discussions**

The afternoon was devoted to discussions and exchanges on the papers presented in the morning and focused on the following issues

- **Food and nutritional security:** It emerges that food and nutritional security of the populations must be one of the priorities in the implementation of the Guidelines. Indeed, the contribution of artisanal fisheries to the creation of jobs, the generation of income allows the satisfaction of the needs of the actors of the value chain and contributes significantly to food and nutritional security;
- **Sustainable management of the fisheries sector:** In this respect, it emerged from the discussions that good management of small-scale fishing makes it possible to achieve the objective of food security. The observation is that currently, the demographic concentration is accelerating on the coast, and many actors are involved in fishing-related activities. The result is an increase in pressure on the resource, with the corollary of a drop in production, the disappearance of many species, pressure on young fish and pollution.

This situation requires the adoption of drastic and appropriate management measures to ensure the sustainability of the sector, as it has been observed that the resource is currently disappearing.

In this context, a good involvement of the Local Artisanal Fisheries Councils (CLPA) is necessary. For this involvement to be effective, contracts must be signed between the State and its decentralized bodies with specifications on the mode of intervention and the setting of expected results, accompanied by permanent monitoring and periodic evaluation of the actions undertaken with the participation of grassroots actors;

- **The impact of environmental problems on the availability and sustainability of artisanal fisheries:** The pollution of the sea was highlighted and denounced. It was noted that the sea has become a dumping ground for both solid and liquid waste from various sources, notably domestic waste from the local population and industrial and artisanal fishing activities. Hydrocarbon waste from ships and plastics dumped by artisanal fishermen are causing significant damage that is destabilizing marine ecosystems. The proliferation of fishmeal and fish oil factories as well as artisanal workshops involved in this activity has been raised. Their impact on the accessibility of the resource by women processors and fish-traders and their consequences on employment and food security, the environment and public health were analyzed. Another concern is the forthcoming exploration and

exploitation of oil and gas, which could lead to pollution risks and the reduction of fishing areas, not to mention the effects of climate change. Journalists are asked to inform the fishing communities concerned so that they can approach the mayors of their localities to have their concerns and expectations taken into account in order to benefit from the spin-offs generated by the operating companies within the framework of the provisions of the *"Corporate Social Responsibility"* system.

- **The responsibility of the actors in the sustainable exploitation and use of fisheries resources:** The problems of availability of resources and the progressive remoteness of fishing areas have led some fishermen to adopt irresponsible fishing methods and behavior. In this respect, it is agreed that there is an urgent need for a paradigm shift and the adoption of responsible behaviors with regard to fishing modes and methods, non-compliance with laws, indiscipline and lack of civic-mindedness;
- **Fisheries governance:** at the State level, it appears that these abuses stem from the deficiency of the governance of the sector, and for the professional artisanal fisheries organizations; it is strongly recommended that democracy be strengthened within the fisheries organizations, federations and other groups of actors for the taking of good consensual decisions for good advocacy in order to bring the State to improve the management of the sector, in particular the reconciliation of the voluntary nature of the Guidelines and its implementation by the State by integrating it into the legislative and regulatory corpus.

Other issues discussed included the implementation of the Guidelines project in Senegal. The discussions covered :

- Intervention methodology, identification of constraints in relation to the specificities of the zones, the diversity of the professions and the proposal of means to ensure a participatory and inclusive approach integrating the gender aspect in the implementation of the Guidelines;
- The methodology for monitoring and evaluating the activities carried out under the action plan.

## Day of 03 June

### 6. Group work:

The presentations and discussions of the previous day paved the way for the examination of the themes of the working groups thus established:

**Group 1:** *The role of community radios in the governance of the fisheries sector in Senegal with a view to the sustainability of artisanal fisheries* with Omar DIAW as Chairman, Seyni DIOP as reporter.

**Group 2:** *Involvement of community radio stations in fisheries in the implementation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines in Senegal* with Matar SALL as Chairman, Assane DEME as Rapporteur.

**The issues that emerged from Group 1's work include**

- The choice of the facilitator, who must be well equipped;
- Continuous training for the facilitator to keep up with the realities of the sector;
- The choice of the time of day of the program in order to have a large audience with the target listeners;
- Better popularize the fisheries code and push for its application;
- To make program on the problems facing the fisheries sector, including issues related to overfishing, use of prohibited gear, IUU fishing, juvenile fishing, etc.
- Facilitate cross-sectoral discussion (between actors and administrations) ;
- Promote transparency in the management of the sector, equity in the management of resources;
- Encourage the application of the sectoral policy letter for fisheries and aquaculture;
- Impulse a dynamic of co-management ;
- Push actors to advocate for the emergence of Protected Fishing Areas (PFAs), Protected Marine Areas (PMAs), etc.
- Impulse a synergy between the different parties (fisheries, environment, economy ministries);
- Denounce the evils of fishmeal factories;

- Advocate for the inclusion in the regulations of measures contained in the directives that are not taken into account by the fisheries code (e.g. subsidizing engines is prohibited in the directives and yet the state continues to do so).

Following this feedback, amendments were made. Group 1 was asked to:

- Include in fisheries management other stakeholders such as populations, companies (to benefit from the resources generated by the CSR system);
- Promote synergy between actors including the ministries (Urbanism, Environment, Land Registry, Tourism...etc.) within the framework of the integrated management of the coastal environment to preserve the coastal zone with a view to the availability of working spaces for artisanal fishing activities;
- To get closer to the actors of the maritime environment to better understand their working and living conditions;
- Invite and encourage stakeholders to participate in participatory monitoring;
- To increase the information of fishing communities and populations on the situation of fishing and the Guidelines by using the most used national languages in the respective coverage areas of the community radios.

**Group 2** identified three areas for reflection on the involvement of community radios in the implementation of the FAO Guidelines in Senegal:

- The state of play (to take stock of the fishing industry in Senegal to better understand the situation);
- Capacity building for facilitators to be well equipped to speak and/or report on the



### Voluntary Guidelines;

- Participate in advocacy to raise awareness on fisheries issues and the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries;
- Addressing specific themes on gender (women) and youth;
- Advocate for the professionalization of the artisanal fishing industry;
- Advocacy to encourage the application of the texts in force; this requires a good knowledge of these texts by journalists;
- Raise awareness about the protection of endangered species.

### Amendments to the Group 2 report included

- Consumer awareness of the situation of artisanal fisheries and the Guidelines. This category of actors, because of their capacity to influence, can play a positive role in the sustainable management of resources;
- The development of a communication strategy to reach out to migrant fisheries actors operating in border countries in order to comply with the regulatory provisions in force in these host countries and avoid the recurrent conflicts that arise;
- consider the most appropriate channels for more effective communication;
- Capacity building of journalists on other related sectors to better appreciate their induced effects on fisheries.

### 7. Simulation of radio transmission

To top it all off and to test the level of training, a radio show simulation was organized on the spot.



The simulation of the programme was done under the cover of the community radio station "Baatu Mool" (The fisherman's voice), located in Cap-Saint-Louis on the frequency: CF program.

The theme discussed was: "Promoting FAO's Voluntary Guidelines". The program was conceived by Lamine Diakhaté and Aly Ngoné Ciss and produced by Meïssa Ndao and Omar Diaw, with Lamine Diagne, Head of the Saint Louis regional fisheries and surveillance service, and Ibrahima Niang, coordinator of the Ndayane local artisanal fisheries council (CLPA) as guests.

The phone calls and interviews were pre-recorded. The program lasted about 20 minutes.

The objective was to test the capacity of community radio journalists and presenters to conduct broadcasts in the context of popularizing the Guidelines on the one hand and on the other hand, to participate effectively in the awareness-raising and education of fisheries stakeholders on the problems of the fisheries sector in general and the artisanal sub-sector in particular.

The listeners either contributed or asked questions via telephone calls. At the end of the program, an evaluation of the stimulus was carried out.

## - Evaluation of the simulation

At the end of the simulation, the radio hosts and journalists evaluated it. The objective is to measure the level of understanding to ensure a good dissemination. The aim is to equip radio presenters and other journalists to have good results in their various interventions.

The expected result should be a good understanding by the auditors of the Guidelines and their appropriation as well as the realities of artisanal fisheries for their involvement and effective participation in the system of sustainable management of the sub-sector.

The points examined relate to the adequacy of the questions with the principles of the Guidelines and the reality on the ground of the artisanal fisheries sub-sector in Senegal as well as the interview technique. Relevant criticisms and recommendations were made to improve the conduct of future programs. It was noted that:

- Introduce the program and the guest before the introduction of the topic;
- That the moderator must have a good understanding of the topic in order to re-launch some questions that the interviewee has not asked;
- The neutrality and objectivity of the facilitator whose questions and comments must be limited to reality;
- The importance of managing airtime to capture the attention and interest of listeners.

The journalists and presenters agreed that the mistakes they discovered during the simulation are very positive because they will be able to correct them for future programs. In addition, they are aware of their need to complete and deepen their knowledge of the Guidelines and emphasize in their communication the concepts of food security and poverty eradication.

## 8. Closing of the workshop

The closing ceremony of the workshop was presided over by the Head of the Regional Fisheries and Surveillance Service of Saint-Louis on behalf of the Prefect who was unable to attend. Speeches were made respectively by Gaoussou GUEYE, President of CAOPA, the women's representative and the Head of the Regional Fisheries Service.

**Mr Gaoussou GUEYE**, referring to the simulation of the radio program, congratulated the host for his humility in relation to the criticisms and recommendations made by his colleagues, a quality

he considers difficult to ensure.

CAOPA's satisfaction is that this simulation has enabled all of us to identify our shortcomings which can be corrected in the preparation of future programs.

For the Association of Community Radio Presenters and Journalists of Senegal, he asked them to identify their priorities based on their strategic action plan and to invest in seeking funding for their implementation. CAOPA is ready to support them within the limits of its possibilities or to put them in touch with other partners if necessary.

This invitation is also valid for the other actors concerned and particularly the fisheries service. He reaffirmed CAOPA's commitment to maintain collaboration with the association and invited its members to assume full responsibility for their destiny and the development of their association.

He ended his speech by thanking all the participants in the workshop for the quality of their services, particularly the Prefect of the department of Saint-Louis and the Head of the regional fisheries service and his collaborators for their availability, which made the workshop a success.

**The women's representative** thanked CAOPA for its collaboration with their association, which has resulted since its creation in the organization of a series of information and sharing workshops on various themes in the field of fisheries in general and artisanal fisheries in particular, enabling them to have a better knowledge of the sector. This further strengthens their capacities to enable them to better cover events and to properly host programs through community radios for good information, awareness and education of listeners on fisheries problems.

**Mr DIAGNE, Head of the Regional Fisheries and Surveillance Service**, undertook to report to his colleagues, Heads of Regional Services, on the holding of this workshop and the resolutions and expectations formulated.

He argues that for the Guidelines as well as for other future programs, community radios must play their role. Their intervention is justified by the fact that the fisheries sector has more than 600,000 stakeholders and it is impossible to reach or bring them all together.

He recalled that the fisheries service being the focal point, all actors can access it, but communication through radios can give them the useful information they need without them having to travel. In this respect, he believes that community radios are essential and unavoidable.

Regarding the workshop process, he noted the important lessons learned through the presentations, exchanges, the simulation of the radio show and its evaluation.

He highlighted the key words that often came up in the discussions: *Advocacy, Strengthen, Raise awareness*, all important concepts that justify the important place and role that community radios can play.

He also invited the association's presenters and journalists to collaborate with the administration, because, he said, *"if the fisheries administration wants to reach and exchange with all the actors, it cannot leave the community radios in the lurch."*

In this regard, he believes that it is essential to study the partnership with these media organs by organizations and institutions such as CAOPA, the Directorate of Fisheries, the Local Artisanal Fisheries Councils (CLPA), etc. with the support of their partners to sign protocols in support of community radios in order to help disseminate the messages

With these words, he declared closed, on behalf of the Prefect of the Department of Saint-Louis, the workshop on *"Information and sensitization on the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Artisanal Fisheries..."*.

**At the end of the closing ceremony, participation diplomas were awarded to the association's facilitators and journalists.**

