

Experiences and good practices in the use and application of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security

This document presents, in original language, the inputs provided following the call for submissions to inform the global thematic event at the CFS 43rd session in October 2016. The following document provides an overview of those inputs: [CFS 2016/43/8- Experiences and Good Practices in the Use and Application of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security \(VGGT\) - Summary and Key Elements](#)

S10. SIERRA LEONE: Supporting the application of the VGGT to fisheries in Sierra Leone (SL)

Country(ies)/ Region(s)/ Organization/ Entity	Sierra Leone
Contact person	Rebecca Metzner – Chief, FIAP
Brief description of the successful experience (location, geographical coverage, main actors/ activities, timeframe)	<p>Engagement and active participation of stakeholders, in line with the principles of the VGGT, has improved knowledge of governance of tenure and the use of rights based approaches in fisheries in Sierra Leone.</p> <p>Overarching results: The result is bottom up, stakeholder driven integration of the VGGT into the Draft Development Strategy for fisheries and Aquaculture in Sierra Leone, which covers <u>all</u> fisheries in Sierra Leone. This policy will shape and facilitate fisheries governance based on tenure and rights based approaches for poverty eradication and food security.</p> <p>On the ground results: The involvement and participation of fishing communities, organizations, and the government in prioritization of fisheries governance activities has resulted in a compilation of realistic and achievable fisheries management activities that will allow for on the ground use and application of the VGGT in Sierra Leone.</p>
Location	Sierra Leone
Geographical coverage	Marine and inland fisheries in Sierra Leone (country-wide)
Main actors	Government, fisheries stakeholders, fishing communities and fisheries industry
Main activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultative and community-oriented Workshops and Focus Groups comprised of fishers, fish processors, Community Management Association members, fish farmers, fish traders, local authorities and interested community members; • Key informant interviews with individuals identified as very knowledgeable on the issues of aquaculture, inland and marine (artisanal and industrial) fisheries;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desk studies of relevant Sierra Leone fisheries policies and their alignment to the VGGT.
Timeframe	One year within a larger three year multi-sector project
Results obtained	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VGGT text was incorporated into the revised Draft Development Strategy for fisheries and Aquaculture in Sierra Leone 2. Recommended actions for improved fisheries management and governance, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving gender equality • Advancing capacity development • Creating conflict resolution mechanisms
Key catalysts and factors that influenced the results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical capacity in-country: presence of fisheries economist and biologist in-country • Donor support from GIZ (\$55,000) • Sufficient time allowed for effective stakeholder consultation (3 months)
Constraints and challenges faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited technical capacity in-country • Limited consultant availability • Ebola: changed schedule, despite donor time constraints
Good practices that helped to make the experience successful	<p>Good practices were based on the principles of implementation outlined in the VGGT, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking positive action and empowering individuals and communities to promote equitable tenure rights and access to fisheries as well as ensuring equal rights of men and women in the inclusive stakeholder-driven participatory consultative process • Recognition of the interconnectedness of natural resources by utilizing an integrated approach to assess land tenure issues with regards to fish farming and inland fisheries access rights in Makali and Tonkolili Districts. • Skilful facilitation by national consultants • Degree of good governance in marine and inland fisheries sectors
Quantitative aspects—estimate number of people, households and communities positively affected by the successful experience	<p>Approximately 144 people representing households and entire communities, this included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 Communities and • 24 Groups/ Fisheries Organizations
Link to additional information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft report “Supporting the application of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security to the fisheries sector in Sierra Leone” • Draft Development Strategy for fisheries and Aquaculture in Sierra Leone
Catalytic Effects	<p>Sharing of information and experience with others through the AU-IBAR Pan-African Governance Group in collaboration with FAO has attracted interest in replication of the process and sharing of efforts, including by LVFO and the riparian countries of Lake Victoria (Republic of Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, and Republic of Kenya).</p>