

Introduction

The Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) are the first international instrument dedicated to the immensely important small-scale fisheries sub-sector. They are the result of a participatory and intensive global bottom-up consultative process.

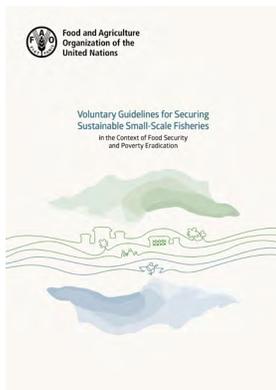
The SSF Guidelines inform policies, strategies, and legal frameworks for small-scale fisheries, impacting not just the fisheries themselves but the entire fishing communities. They embrace a clear human rights-based approach. These guidelines are comprehensive and global, designed to inspire dialogue, inform policy processes, and guide action at national, regional, and international levels.

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the SSF Guidelines in 2024 this publication provides a summary overview of related global FAO guidance and information materials. It is not exhaustive and does not include region or country-specific materials.

Please visit the [SSF Guidelines website](#) to access more and updated information and materials.

§2.3 These Guidelines are addressed to FAO Members and non-Members, at all levels of the country, as well as to subregional, regional, international and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and small-scale fisheries actors (fishers, fish workers, their communities, traditional and customary authorities, and related professional organizations and CSOs). They are also aimed at research and academic institutions, the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and all others concerned with the fisheries sector, coastal and rural development and the use of the aquatic environment.

Did you know?
The SSF Guidelines are available in more than 20 languages



[Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication.](#)



[Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication - At a glance.](#)

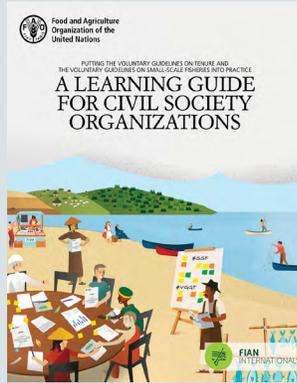


Responsible governance of tenure

55.3 States, in accordance with their legislation, should ensure that small-scale fishers, fish workers and their communities have secure, equitable, and socially and culturally appropriate tenure rights to fishery resources (marine and inland) and small-scale fishing areas and adjacent land, with a special attention paid to women with respect to tenure rights.



[Linkages between the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests](#)

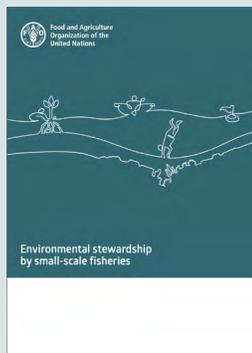


[Putting the Voluntary Guidelines on Tenure and the Voluntary Guidelines on Small-Scale Fisheries into practice - A learning guide for civil society organizations](#)

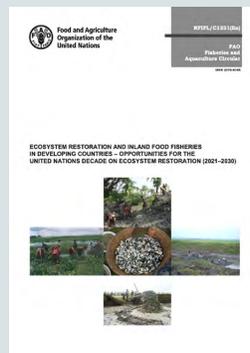
Sustainable resource management



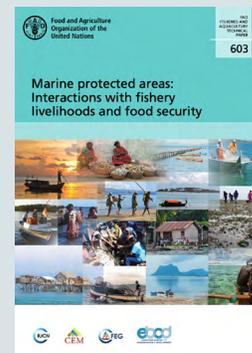
55.14 All parties should recognize that rights and responsibilities come together; tenure rights are balanced by duties, and support the long-term conservation and sustainable use of resources and the maintenance of the ecological foundation for food production. Small-scale fisheries should utilize fishing practices that minimize harm to the aquatic environment and associated species and support the sustainability of the resource.



[Environmental stewardship by small-scale fisheries](#)



[Ecosystem restoration and inland food fisheries in developing countries – opportunities for the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration \(2021-2030\)](#)



[Marine protected areas: Interactions with fisheries livelihoods and food security](#)

Social development, employment and decent work



56.1 All parties should consider integrated, ecosystem and holistic approaches to small-scale fisheries management and development that take the complexity of livelihoods into account. Due attention to social and economic development may be needed to ensure that small-scale fishing communities are empowered and can enjoy their human rights.



[Strengthening coherence between social protection and fisheries policies – Framework for analysis and action](#)



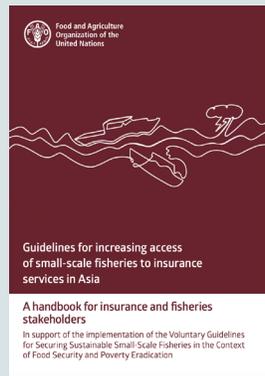
[Strengthening coherence between social protection and fisheries policies – Diagnostic tool. fisheries to sustainable development](#)



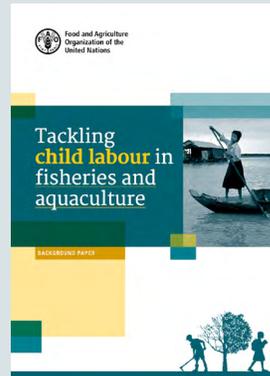
[Safety at sea for small-scale fishers](#)



[Linkages between the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries and the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems](#)



[Guidelines for increasing access of small-scale fisheries to insurance services in Asia. A handbook for insurance and fisheries stakeholders.](#)



[Tackling child labour in fisheries and aquaculture](#)



[Blue finance guidance notes. Insurance for small-scale fisheries](#)



[Blue finance guidance notes. Microfinance for small-scale fisheries](#)



Value chains, post-harvest and trade

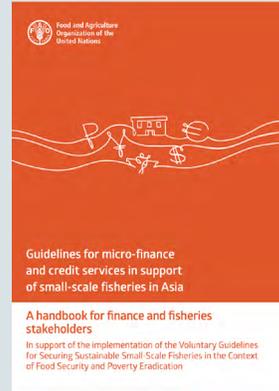
57.1 All parties should recognize the central role that the small-scale fisheries post-harvest subsector and its actors play in the value chain. All parties should ensure that post harvest actors are part of relevant decisionmaking processes, recognizing that there are sometimes unequal power relationships between value chain actors and that vulnerable and marginalized groups may require special support.



[Take care of your catch. A guide to fish handling on board small boats. Sustainable fish value chain development series](#)

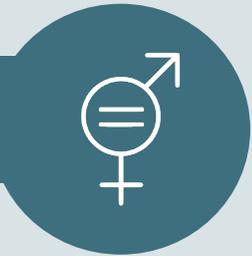


[Securing sustainable small-scale fisheries: Showcasing applied practices in value chains, post-harvest operations and trade](#)

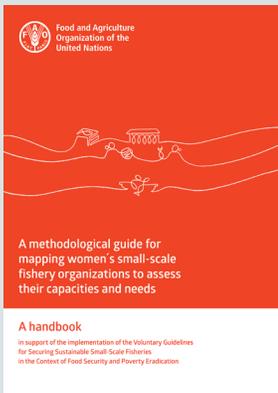


[Guidelines for micro-finance and credit services in support of smallscale fisheries in Asia - A handbook for finance and fisheries stakeholders](#)

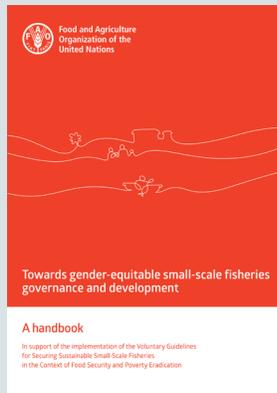
Gender equality



58.1 All parties should recognize that achieving gender equality requires concerted efforts by all and that gender mainstreaming should be an integral part of all small-scale fisheries development strategies. These strategies to achieve gender equality require different approaches in different cultural contexts and should challenge practices that are discriminatory against women.



[A methodological guide for mapping women's small-scale fishery organizations to assess their capacities and needs](#)



[Towards gender-equitable small-scale fisheries governance and development - A handbook](#)



[A Review of Women's Access to Fish in Small-Scale Fisheries](#)

Disaster risks and climate change



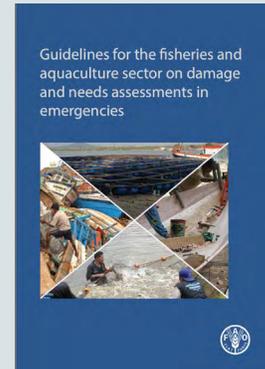
§9.2 All parties should recognize and take into account the differential impact of natural and human-induced disasters and climate change on small-scale fisheries. States should develop policies and plans to address climate change in fisheries, in particular strategies for adaptation and mitigation, where applicable, as well as for building resilience, in full and effective consultation with fishing communities including indigenous peoples, men and women, paying particular attention to vulnerable and marginalized groups.



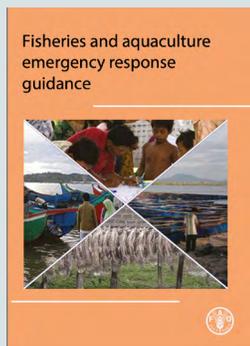
[Building resilience to climate change and disaster risks for small-scale fisheries communities: A human-rights-based approach to the implementation of Chapter 9 of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication](#)



[Linkages between the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication and the Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises](#)



[Guidelines for the fisheries and aquaculture sector on damage and needs assessments in emergencies](#)



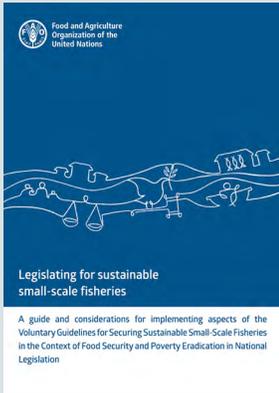
[Fisheries and Aquaculture Emergency Response Guidance](#)





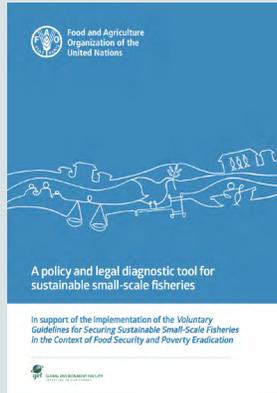
Legal tools / Human rights-based approach

§1.1 The objectives of these Guidelines are: e) to provide guidance that could be considered by States and stakeholders for the development and implementation of ecosystem friendly and participatory policies, strategies and legal frameworks for the enhancement of responsible and sustainable small-scale fisheries.



[Legislating for Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries – A guide on how to align national fisheries legislation to the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication](#)

Also available in French and Spanish

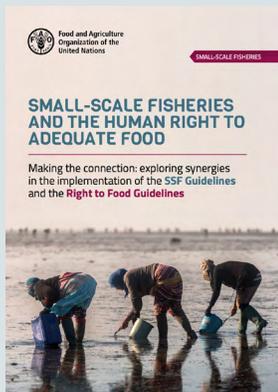


[A policy and legal diagnostic tool for sustainable small-scale fisheries – In support of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication](#)

Also available in French and Spanish



[Applying coherently the human rights-based approach to small-scale fisheries for achieving multiple Sustainable Development Goals](#)



[Handbook to support the joint implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the Right to Food Guidelines: Small-Scale Fisheries and the human right to adequate food. Making the connection: exploring synergies in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the Right to Food Guidelines.](#)



[SSF-LEX: A legal and policy database on small-scale fisheries that contributes to the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication.](#)



[Elearning: Legal and policy considerations for sustainable small-scale fisheries](#)

Food security and nutrition



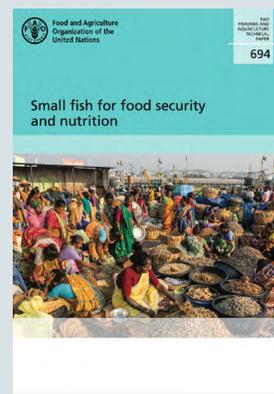
§1.1 The objectives of these Guidelines are: a) to enhance the contribution of small-scale fisheries to global food security and nutrition and to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food.



[The relationship between the governance of small-scale fisheries and the realization of the right to adequate food in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals](#)



[Small-scale fisheries and the human right to adequate food: Making the connection: exploring synergies in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the Right to Food Guidelines](#)



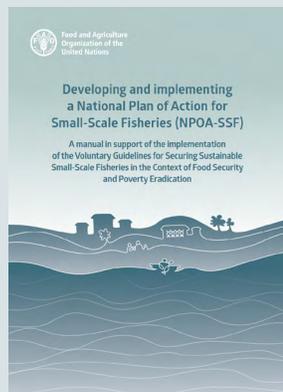
[Small fish for food security and nutrition](#)



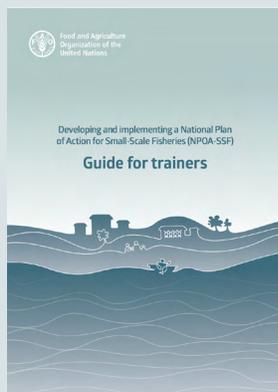


Policy coherence, institutional coordination

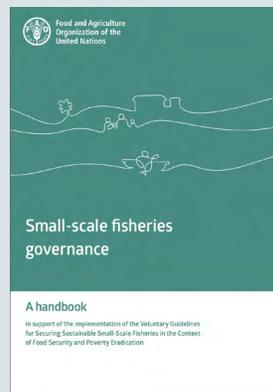
§10.5 States should establish and promote the institutional structures and linkages – including local–national–regional–global linkages and networks – necessary for achieving policy coherence, cross-sectoral collaboration and the implementation of holistic and inclusive ecosystem approaches in the fisheries sector.



[Developing and implementing a National Plan of Action for Small-Scale Fisheries – A manual in support of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication.](#)



[Developing and implementing a National Plan of Action for Small-Scale Fisheries – Guide for trainers.](#)



[Small-scale fisheries governance – A handbook in support of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication.](#)



[Elearning: Developing and implementing National Plans of Action for small-scale fisheries](#)

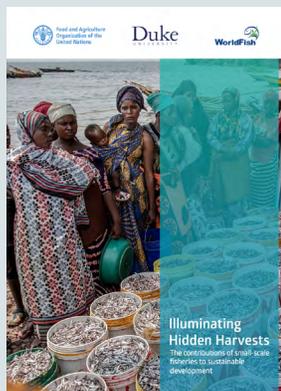


[Elearning: Governance in small-scale fisheries](#)

Information, research and communication



§11.2 All stakeholders and small-scale fisheries communities should recognize the importance of communication and information, which are necessary for effective decision-making.



[Illuminating Hidden Harvests – The contributions of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development](#)

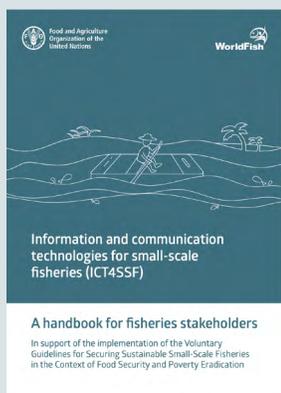


[Applying the Illuminating Hidden Harvests approach – Compiling data on the contributions of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development](#)

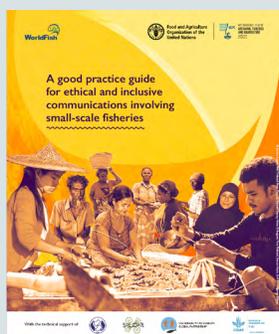


[Illuminating Hidden Harvests: The contributions of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development – Executive summary](#)

Also available in French and Spanish



[Information and communication technologies for small-scale fisheries \(ICT4SSF\) - A handbook for fisheries stakeholders. In support of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries.](#)



[A good practice guide for ethical and inclusive communications involving small-scale fisheries.](#)

Also available in French and Spanish





Implementation support and monitoring

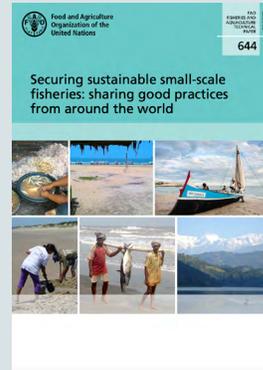
§13.1 All parties are encouraged to implement these Guidelines in accordance with national priorities and circumstances.



[Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework. A handbook in support of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication](#)



[Involving the People – Democratizing the implementation and monitoring of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication.](#)



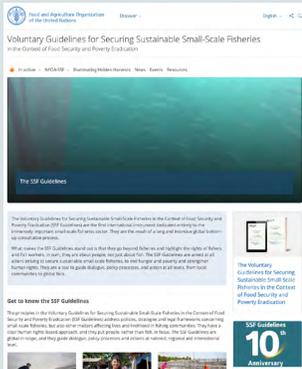
[Securing sustainable small-scale fisheries: sharing good practices from around the world](#)



[Elearning: SDG Indicator 14.b.1 - Securing sustainable small-scale fisheries](#)



Additional resources and tools

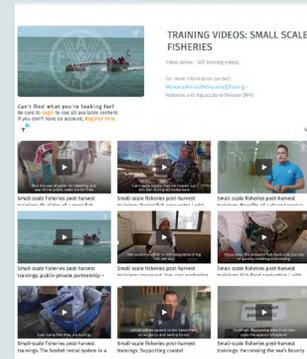


[SFSG Guidelines website](#)

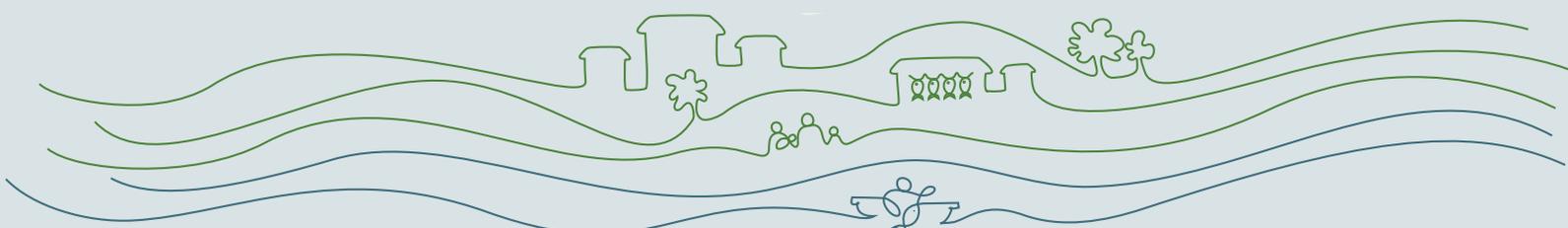
Available in French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic



[FAO Youtube playlist: Small-scale fisheries and the SSF Guidelines](#)



[FAO media hub: Improved post-harvest practices video trainings](#)



食料安全保障と貧困撲滅の文脈 において 持続可能な小規模漁業 を保障するための任意 自発的ガ イドライン

نامضل ةي عوطلا ةي هي جوتلا طوطخلا
قري غص كاسأل دي اصم ةمادتسا
يئاذغلا نمأل قاي س ي ف قاطنلا
رقفلا ىلع ءاضقل او

背景
消除贫困
和粮食安全
可持续
小模
景下保障
渔業自
愿准则

Directrices voluntarias para lograr la sostenibilidad de la pesca en pequeña escala en el contexto de la seguridad alimentaria y la erradicación de la pobreza

Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication

Directives volontaires visant à assurer la durabilité de la pêche artisanale dans le contexte de la sécurité alimentaire et de l'éradication de la pauvreté

Ndondomeko Zosakakamiza Zolimbikitsa Ntchito Zing'on-ozing'ono Za Usodzi Zokhalitsa Mogwirizana ndi Ntchito Yowonetsetsa kuti Anthu ali ndi Chakudya Chokwanira ndi

ಆಹಾರ ಭದ್ರತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಬಡತನ
ನಿವಾರಣೆ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ
ಸಮರ್ಥನೀಯ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ-ಪರಿಮಾಣದ
ಮೀನುಗಾರಿಕೆ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರತೆ ಮತ್ತು
ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಗಳು

Mwongozo wa Hiari wa Kuhakikisha Uvuvi Mdogo Unakuwa Endelevu Kwa Mukhadha wa Uhakika wa Chakula na Kuondoa Umasikini

Diretrizes Voluntárias para Garantir a Pesca de Pequena Escala Sustentável no Contexto da Segurança Alimentar e da Erradicação da Pobreza

பாதுகாப்பு
மற்றும்
ஒழுப்பு
பின்பின்பு
புத்தம்
மையுள்ள
சிறுவர்
பாதுகாப்பு
தற்கான
வழிகாட்டு
தல்கள்

Petunjuk Sukarela untuk Menjamin Perikanan Skala Kecil yang Berkelanjutan dalam Konteks Ketahanan Pangan dan Pengentasan Kemiskinan

แนวปฏิบัติที่สมัครใจสำหรับการทำประมงขนาดเล็ก
อย่างยั่งยืนโดยสมัครใจในบริบทของความมั่นคงทางอาหาร
และการขจัดความยากจน

Добровольные руководящие принципы обеспечения устойчивого маломасштабного рыболовства в контексте продовольственной безопасности и искоренения бедности



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