

Ensuring access to fish and markets for sustainable development of small-scale fisheries: An agenda for IYAFA 2022



International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)
World Fisheries Day 2021: Stand up for sustainable small-scale fisheries
African Confederation of Professional Organizations of Artisanal Fisheries
(CAOPA)

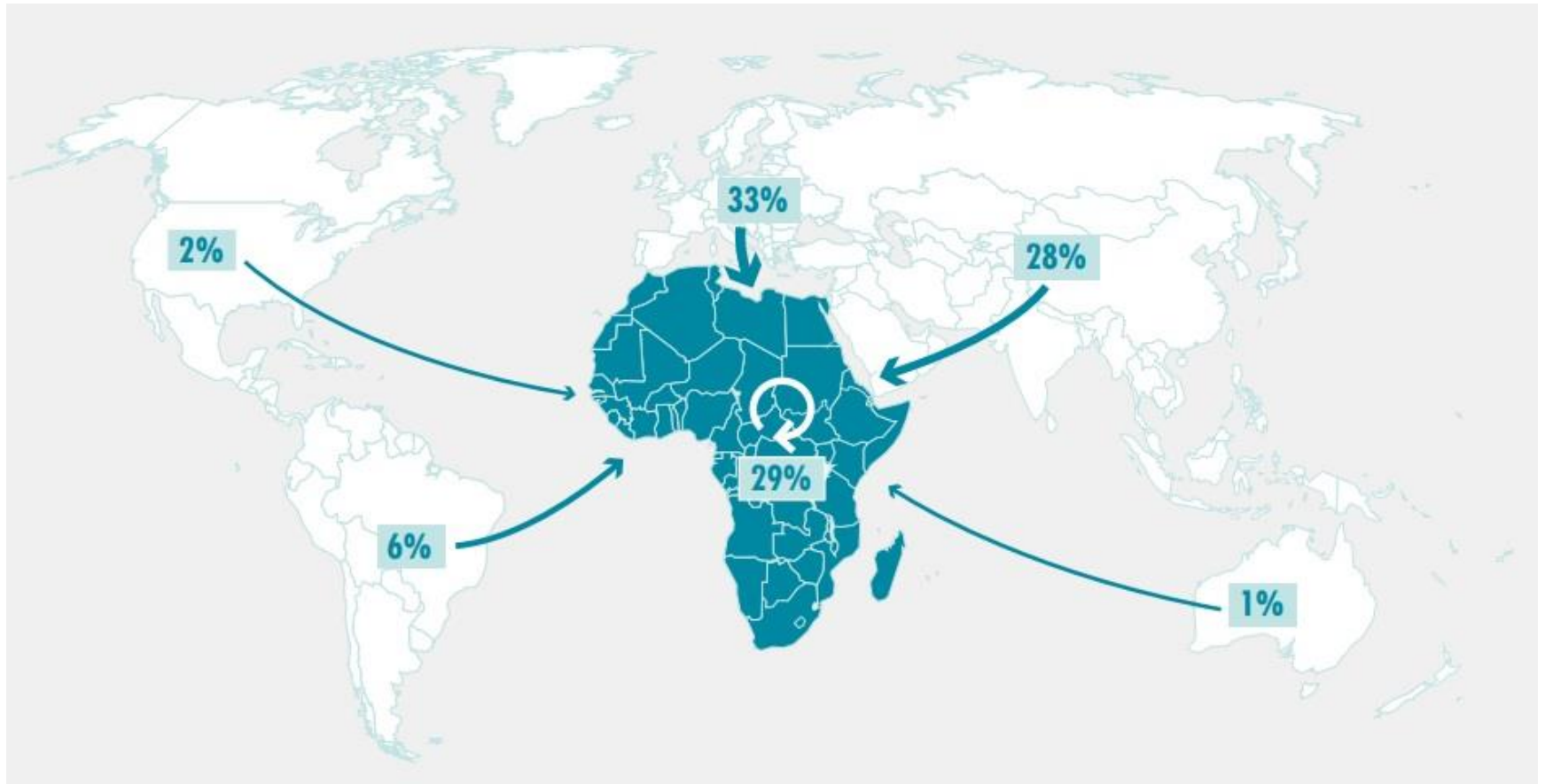
Mbour, Senegal | 19 November, 2021

Fisheries & Aquaculture in Africa

(and CAOPA member countries)

- Africa accounts for 7 percent of global fish production (F&A) and 9 percent of fishers and fish farmers (primary sector)
- Inland catches (important for food security in Africa) accounts for 25 percent of global inland catches
- Twenty-five CAOPA countries account for 7.50 percent of global population; 8 percent of capture fisheries production; and <1% of aquaculture production
- Over 7 million people are employed in fishing and fish processing in Africa (inland and marine)
- 5 million are employed in fish processing (69% in inland, 44% in marine artisanal and 71% in marine industrial fish processing are women)

Share of international trade in fish and fish products in Africa (2018)



[Source: [FAO SOFIA 2020](#)]

Genesis of SDG 14.b

(Provide access of small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets)

- **1992 Agenda 21** recognizes the **rights** of small-scale fishworkers to **utilize fishery resources** and to **protect their habitats** on a sustainable basis
- **1995 UNFSA** recognizes **access** of subsistence, small-scale artisanal fishers, as well as indigenous people and women fishworkers, in developing countries to **highly migratory fish stocks**
- **1995 CCRF** recognizes **preferential access rights** of subsistence, small-scale fishers and fishworkers to their **traditional fishing grounds and resources**
- **2012 The Future We Want**: Seeks to ensure **access to fisheries and access to markets**, by subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisherfolk and women fish workers, as well as indigenous peoples and their communities
- **2014 SSF Guidelines** (i) reiterates **preferential access** to **fishery resources and land**; (ii) recognizes the need for **secure tenure rights** of small-scale fishing communities to **marine and inland fishery resources**, to **fishing grounds**, and to the **adjacent land** with **special attention paid to women** in regard to tenure rights; and to (iii) **restore access to traditional fishing grounds**
- **2014 SSF Guidelines**: Facilitate **access to local, national, regional and international markets** and promote **equitable and non-discriminatory trade** for small-scale fisheries products

SDG Indicator for 14b

([FAO CCRF questionnaire](#))

- Are there any laws, regulations, policies or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector?
- Does your country have a specific initiative to implement the SSF Guidelines?
- Does your country have mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes?

FAO: Composite score of implementation has moved from 3/5 in 2018 to 4/5 in 2020. At regional level, Northern and West Africa has contributed to this leap

Reporting on SDGs (incl. 14.b):

CAOPA members countries

- No frequency for reporting is mandated, but generally countries seem to follow a two-three year cycle
- All CAOPA Member countries, except **Guinea Bissau** have submitted Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) as of November 2021
- **Nigeria** (2020 and 2017) is the only country that has not specifically reported on SDG 14 in its VNRs
- Only **Seychelles** (2020) has reported on SDG 14.b

Elements supporting SDG14.b in VNRs:

Proposed or existing initiatives

- Fuel incentive scheme; sickness benefit scheme; production and sale of ice and bait; value addition in fish processing; co-management plans for some artisanal fisheries ([Seychelles](#))
- Promotion of blue crab and clam fisheries through research, management and market support; No new bottom trawl vessels and increased regulations on vessels over 15m ([Tunisia](#))
- Subsidy for purchase of engines granted to artisanal fishermen ([Senegal](#))
- Increased number of processing units for export-oriented fishery products ([Senegal](#))
- Enact or amend laws to regulate and develop marine fisheries ([Ghana](#) and [Gambia](#))
- Monitoring, control and surveillance to minimize illegal fishing ([Ghana](#))
- Enhance infrastructure and improve fisheries and aquaculture value chains ([Gambia](#))
- Increase in budgetary allocation to aquaculture development will lead to increase in quantities of fish resources exported ([Gambia](#))

Recommendations

- **Effective participation** of fishworker organizations and fisheries authorities in the development of VNRs and reporting on SDGs
- **Enhance existing mechanisms** or initiatives to grant preferential access to resources for SSF, and to improve livelihoods of fishworkers, recognizing benefits from achieving other goals and targets
- CSOs can **raise awareness** and seek protection from States for **small-scale fishing practices and management systems** and support for **informal processing and marketing** arrangements