



## STEWARDFISH NEWSLETTER

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# Stewardship



Participants of StewardFish Mentors Training Workshop. The mentors assisted in developing the microgrant project proposals and will continue to support the fisherfolk organisations during project implementation.

## CATCH OF THE DAY

### StewardFish Microgrants Scheme for Caribbean Fisherfolk Organisations

By Melanie Andrews

On July 1 2020, CANARI launched the call for applications for the USD 20,000 StewardFish Microgrants Scheme for Caribbean Fisherfolk Organisations.

The overall goal of the microgrant scheme is to provide support to Caribbean fisherfolk organisations for organisational strengthening initiatives that will enhance their capacity to participate in coastal and marine resources governance and management, including ecosystem stewardship. The call targeted the following five-fisherfolk organisations participating in StewardFish:

1. Barbuda Fisherfolk Association – Antigua and Barbuda
2. Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk Organisations (BARNUFO) – Barbados
3. Guyana National Fisherfolk Organisation (GNFO)- Guyana
4. Saint Lucia Fisherfolk Cooperative Society Limited – Saint Lucia
5. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines National Fisherfolks Co-Operative Limited (SVGNFO) – Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



Each of the targeted fisherfolk organisations successfully submitted proposals to the microgrant scheme and were each awarded a USD 4,000 microgrant for their projects which will run from November 2020 to April 2021. We look forward to successful projects from these fisherfolk organisations



Developing organisational capacity for ecosystem stewardship and livelihoods in Caribbean small-scale fisheries (StewardFish) Project



## StewardFish Gender Analysis Underway

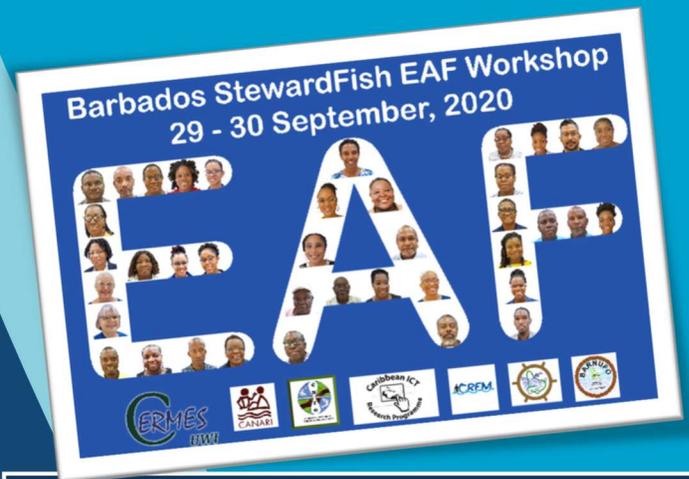
CERMES has been making consistent progress in initiating gender analyses with fisherfolk organisation (FFO) leaders. In preparation for data collection, four online Gender “Meet & Greet” sessions with FFO leaders from Jamaica, Barbados, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Guyana were initiated in September for mutual familiarisation between the CERMES project team and fisherfolk leaders; to inform fisherfolk leaders of StewardFish gender analysis project activities; and to gain support for the upcoming gender analyses required for the identification of capacity gaps of men and women, especially youth, in relation to fisherfolk leadership.

These StewardFish sessions were deliberately named, “Meet & Greet” for the purpose of attracting a sizeable number of fisherfolk leaders to participate in informal but relevant and important preludes to the gender analyses.

The response to the sessions was overwhelming and somewhat unexpected given the online mode of engagement and uncertainty associated with acceptance of this mode for meeting by the target group. Overall, 125 persons attended all sessions. A total of sixty-two fisherfolk leaders, 25 women and 37 men benefited from the sessions. This “Meet & Greet” model was an overall success in engaging the StewardFish gender analysis target group and can be replicated for use in future project activities.

Sex disaggregated and gender information on leadership have now been collected via group interviews with two FFOs, per country. These interviews were organised and facilitated by in-country gender analysis coordinators from 4-17 December 2020. The information collected will be used to develop small cases to document and understand how gender, youth and leadership combine for possible measurement. There however is more data collection to come! Additional focus groups per country are needed to collect more detailed information to: identify gender roles, assess gender needs and interests, and understand gender relations with respect to fisherfolk leadership.

*(Partial excerpt from CERMES Connections (October 2020) by Maria Pena)*



The first of a series of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) training workshops was hosted by UWI-CERMES, 29-30 September 2020 at the 3Ws Pavilion, UWI Cave Hill Campus, Barbados. This is the first of seven workshops to be delivered under the FAO-implemented StewardFish Project. The workshop entitled EAF Application for Positive Change in Coastal & Marine Habitats and Socio-economic Development is delivered for one of the project’s activities in Component 2 of the project, which aims to enhance ecosystem stewardship for fisheries sustainability.

The workshop featured presentations and breakout activities on the EAF concept, its 17 principles, EAF management and a mini EAF innovation expo. On Day 2 of the workshop participants were kept busy developing an action plan for a national EAF code of conduct for Barbados and participated in sessions on gender, policy engagement and National Inter-sectoral Coordination Mechanisms.

Forty-one persons including fisherfolk, representatives of government agencies, civil society and the private sector participated over the two days. Feedback from participants was very positive with many commenting that their expectations were met or exceeded in some cases. The EAF workshop was organized by the CERMES StewardFish project team – Shelly-Ann Cox, Lisa Soares, Sanya Compton and Maria Pena

*By Dr. Shelly-Ann Cox*

**For more information on StewardFish please visit the link below:**

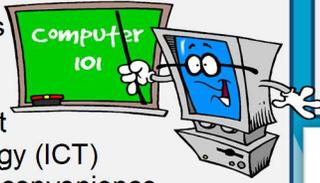
<http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca6446en>

 *Stewardship is a publication of the Regional Executing Partners of StewardFish Project*



## ICT 4 Governance Training for NFOs

Several Caribbean fisherfolk organisations stand to benefit from strengthened governance procedures and practices. At the same time, it is well established that Information and communications technology (ICT) is key to operational efficiency, reach and convenience.



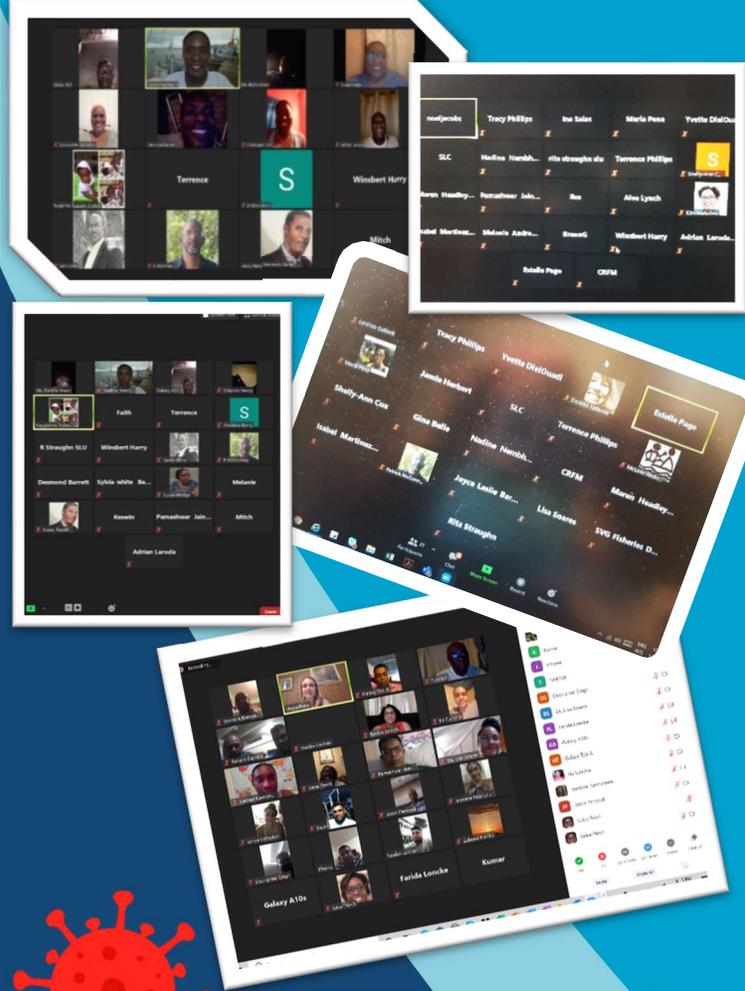
Under StewardFish, an ICT for Governance (ICT4G) course was developed to introduce national fisherfolk organisation (NFO) leaders to the role that ICT can play in enabling and enhancing good governance; and to build key competencies. The course comprises 4 modules: an introduction to ICT4G, as well as ICT4G in record keeping; meeting management, and advocacy and engagement. Content was informed by a gap analysis of NFO use of ICT in governance; and the course was designed for blended learning: content accessible at learners' pace and preference from a Web browser or Android app; and face to face group "check-in" sessions with a facilitator. When practical, check-in sessions can be held online. Supporting resources and interaction for each delivery cycle are facilitated through Google Classrooms.

A Pilot version of the ICT4G course kicked off with an online launch on October 14 and concluded on November 25. The 29 participants hailed from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Despite the use of an unfamiliar self-paced learning model, accessible through the Android or Web editions of the course; and, for many, a new channel for class interaction through Google Classroom, learners shared rich appreciation, for example: "I would really recommend [the course] to other FFOs and other NGO community groups", "There's so much to say about this course ... thankfully and luckily we're getting this course free ... there is so much it's so enriching and fulfilling!"

The Pilot was preceded by a 3-day online Training of Trainers workshop for 14 participants from the 6 pilot countries, Guyana and CNFO. Participants also expressed considerable gratitude and enthusiasm. For example: "For me as a Cooperative Officer this training here is all so important ... we are going to use it for all the cooperatives. I am definitely sure that this is something that will be incorporated in our work program. This lays a perfect platform because the challenge has been directors leaving, directors coming and we have always been establishing these basics ... This is something definitely that can be incorporated to make it part of the requirements if you want to serve on a board you have to go through this training".

By Dr. Kim Mallalieu

## StewardFish Zooming in 2020



### COVID-19 STAY SAFE

Follow the links below to get updates about coronavirus:

<https://www.carpha.org/What-We-Do/Public-Health/Novel-Coronavirus>

<https://www.paho.org/en/topics/coronavirus-infections/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-pandemic>

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