



# StewardFish

**Report on the adaptation of the international guidelines to priorities of fisherfolk to achieve EAF objectives**



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**The University of the West Indies - Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (UWI-CERMES)**



**Developing organizational capacity for ecosystem stewardship and livelihoods in Caribbean small-scale fisheries**

**StewardFish Project**

# StewardFish

StewardFish is focused on empowering fisherfolk throughout fisheries value chains to engage in resource management, decision-making processes and sustainable livelihoods, with strengthened institutional support at all levels in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME+) region.

The project is being funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), implemented by the Food & Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) Sub-Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, and executed by five (5) regional partners - Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (UWI-CERMES), Caribbean ICT Research Programme (UWI-CIRP), Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations (CNFO), and the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism Secretariat (CRFM Sec.) in Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines

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# Abstract

To support operationalization of EAF principles in the Caribbean, StewardFish recommends the development of both regional and national-level practical EAF Codes of Conduct by and for persons in the fishing industry. Following a methodology previously used in Barbados to develop a local fisheries code of conduct, we outline an iterative social learning process of development for these codes, which emphasizes industry engagement, formal endorsement, implementation and participatory monitoring and evaluation. This report sets out the development process by CNFO, CERMES and other regional partners in the co-production of the Regional Code of Conduct for Caribbean Fisheries. We also address the monitoring and evaluation framework that supports successful implementation of the Code. Next steps and recommendations suggest actions to inform the implementation of the regional code and adaptation to the national contexts of the seven StewardFish countries. Appendices end this report.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

The University of the West Indies, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (UWI-CERMES) is a partner with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in the implementation of its project on ‘Developing organisational capacity for ecosystem stewardship and livelihoods in Caribbean small-scale fisheries’ (StewardFish). The seven-country project (for Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines) aims to empower fisherfolk throughout value chains to engage in resource management, decision-making processes and sustainable livelihoods, with strengthened institutional support at all levels. This includes the activities in Table 1 that among which adapting international guidelines to produce codes of conduct is prominent.

**Table 1. Adapting international guidelines to produce codes of conduct is a prominent StewardFish activity**

COMPONENT/OUTCOME/OUTPUT	ACTIVITY
<p>Component 2: Enhancing ecosystem stewardship for fisheries sustainability</p> <p>Outcome 2.1: Increased participatory Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) application with focus on healthier habitats and pollution reduction</p>	<p><b>Activity 2.1.2.2 Adapt international guidelines to produce codes of conduct and ethics based on EAF for local and national FFO</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a participatory approach to examine international guidelines with fisherfolk</li> <li>• Report on the examination of the ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) related international guidelines</li> <li>• Adapt international guidelines to priorities of fisherfolk to achieve EAF objectives</li> <li>• <b>Report on the adaptation of the international guidelines to priorities of fisherfolk to achieve EAF objectives</b></li> <li>• Report on participatory monitoring and evaluation of guidelines implementation</li> </ul>

This report documents an important activity under StewardFish which aims to enhance ecosystem stewardship for fisheries sustainability. The report is delivered for Activity 2.1.2.2 in Component 2 of the project. The expected outcome is increased participatory EAF application for healthier habitats and pollution reduction. This report outlines the process toward developing a regional code of conduct and offers guidance on adapting the code to the national context of the seven project countries.

## 1.1 About this report

This report documents an important process under StewardFish to promote the adaptation of international guidelines to produce codes of conduct and ethics based on EAF for local and national fisherfolk organisations (FFOs). These codes will be tailored to the priorities of fisherfolk to achieve EAF objectives.

The next section of this report sets out the development process by CNFO and CERMES in the co-production of the Regional EAF Code of Conduct (hereafter the Code) for Caribbean Fisheries. This process followed an iterative participatory methodology detailed in the section that follows.

We then address the monitoring and evaluation framework that supports successful implementation of the code. This section highlights indicators for tracking progress and guidance on multiple approaches that can be used to sensitize fisherfolk and coastal communities to the code. Next steps and recommendations suggest actions to inform the implementation of the regional Code and adaptation to the national contexts of the 7 project countries. Appendices end this report.

## 2 DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Enhancing ecosystem stewardship for fisheries sustainability is one of the four components of StewardFish (FAO and GEF 2016). Given that the EAF approach to natural resource management is focused on the conservation and sustainable use of the whole ecosystem, the promotion of this approach under the project was a useful mechanism to support ecosystem stewardship in fishing communities across the region. In the Caribbean, there is a supportive policy foundation for EAF, however, most countries are making incremental progress (Cox and Alleyne 2020). To support operationalization of EAF principles in the Caribbean this project sought to develop both regional and national-level EAF Codes of Conduct. After much discussion, it was determined by regional project partners that it was prudent to develop the regional Code first. It was anticipated that the regional Code would offer guidance for the development of national-level EAF Codes of Conduct and could be easily adapted to the local context in the seven project countries.

The process used to develop the Code was guided by the methodology in the development of the Local Sustainable Fisheries (LSF) Code for Conset Bay, a small fishing community in Barbados (Blackman et al. 2013). This process was selected as a model because it was participatory in nature and it had been used successfully in the past to develop a code of conduct for the fishing community. With this methodology as a guide, the process and timeline for development of Regional, National and Local EAF Codes was formulated and included in the *Examination of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) related International Guidelines* report (Hassell and Cox, 2020; see Table 1).

Below we describe the development of the Code from November 2019 - 2020 to provide the deliverable (Table 2, Figure 1):

1. **Convene the Advisory Committee:** A Regional Advisory Committee was established, with representation from the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO), national fisherfolk organizations, the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), researchers and regional non-governmental organisations (NGOs) involved in fisheries or coastal/environmental management. Individuals were sensitized to StewardFish through outreach by both the StewardFish Team and the CNFO and were invited to contribute their knowledge and experiences to the development of the regional EAF code. The CNFO played a large role in ensuring that there was representation from all StewardFish Countries in the Advisory Committee. A total of 29 persons participated in the Advisory Committee, including 16 males and 13 females between the ages of 26-82.
2. **Review relevant information:** Over the course of the first two online consultations (19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020), the StewardFish Team shared information with the Advisory Committee as to what the EAF concept entails through the review of existing international and regional instruments as well as processes and regional initiatives related to EAF. The following management instruments, agreements and declarations were discussed:
  - FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (FAO 1995);
  - Canadian Code for Responsible Fishing Operations (Fisheries and Ocean Canada 1998) ;
  - FAO Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Guidelines (Garcia et al. 2003);
  - Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (FAO 2015);
  - Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CRFM 2011);
  - Protocol on Securing Small-scale Fisheries under the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CRFM 2018);
  - Protocol on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management in Fisheries and Aquaculture under the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CRFM 2018); and
  - Code of conduct for captains: Guyana seabob fishery (Maison 2015).
3. **Determine principles of the Code:** During the third online consultation (21<sup>st</sup> May 2020), the Advisory Committee began articulating a shared understanding of what EAF entails at the regional and national levels and determining what articles should be included in the code of conduct. As part of this process, the results of a survey which had been disseminated by CERMES and CNFO in 2017 under the SSF Guideline



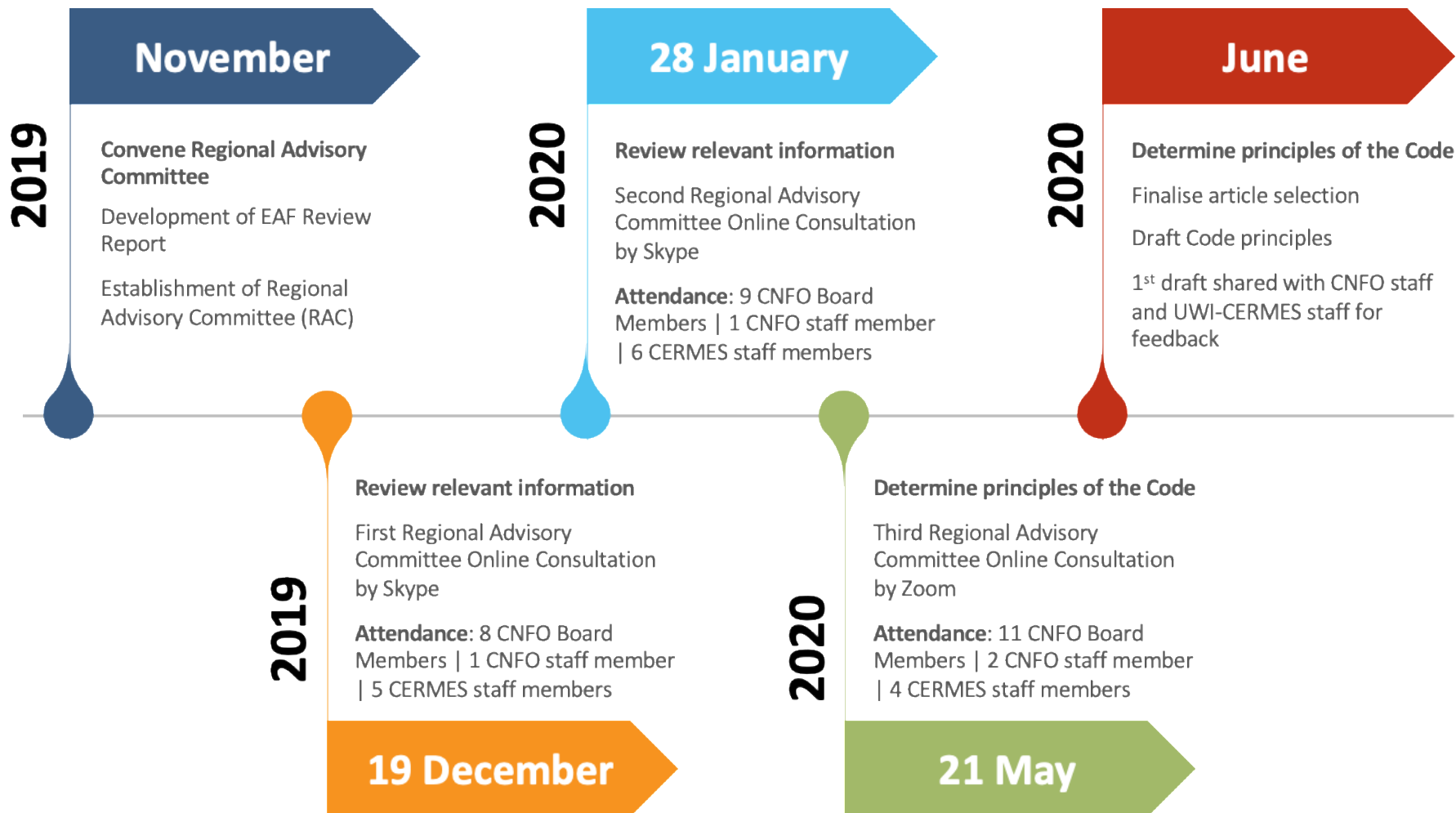
protocol for the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP) project (Compton et al. 2019) were presented. This survey asked respondents (57 persons from 14 countries, 70 % M | 30 % F) to rank the importance of some key fisheries management principles. The results of this survey were shared for validation by the group, to gain consensus around what key principles should be used to guide the development of the code. The EAF Advisory Committee was expanded in the fourth and fifth sessions (16<sup>th</sup> July and 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020), to include representation from the FAO, CANARI and the CRFM who could provide more technical input to the articles of the Code.

4. **Formally endorse the Code:** In the fifth and final consultation session (30<sup>th</sup> July 2020), members of the Advisory Committee voted on the adoption of the final articles of the Code, and discussed the requirements for monitoring and evaluation of the code's implementation, as well as, which agencies, organisations and platforms should champion the code at both regional and national levels. The final code of conduct (See Appendix I) includes 10 articles. The articles were heavily influenced by the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the Small Scale Fisheries Guidelines, the Small Scale Fisheries Protocol under the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy and the Sustainable Development Goals.

**Table 2: Planned process and timeline for development of Regional, National and Local EAF Codes.**

PROCESS	LEVEL		
	Regional Code	National Code	Local Code
<b>A. Convene Advisory Group</b>	Form a special regional advisory committee (RAC) with representation from Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO), Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), fisheries management officials, academia and regional non-governmental organisations (NGOs) involved in fisheries or coastal/environmental management.	Form a national advisory committee (NAC) with representation from National Fisherfolk Organisations, national fisheries management authority, national Fisheries Advisory Committee (FAC) or national intersectoral coordinating mechanism (NIC), Academia and NGOs. <b>(July 2020)</b>	Local committee includes representation from members of the local fishing community, Board of the local fisherfolk organisation, and heads of community groups.
<b>B. Review relevant information</b>	Review existing international/regional instruments/processes and initiatives related to EAF. <b>(Dec 2019-March 2020)</b>	Review Regional Code of Conduct with respect to national context: policy, legislation, ecosystems, cultural norms, and national plans/ongoing initiatives. <b>(August 2020)</b>	Review National Code in relation to unique practices and sensitive ecosystems in the area.
<b>C. Determine principles of code</b>	Virtual (Dec 2019-March 2020) and in-person consultations. <b>(April 2020)</b>	In-person and virtual national consultations. <b>(August-October 2020)</b>	In-person consultations in communities.

PROCESS	LEVEL		
	Regional Code	National Code	Local Code
<b>D. Formally Endorse Code</b>	Formal endorsement by RAC, Caribbean Fisheries Forum and CRFM Ministerial Council. <b>(May 2020)</b>	Formal endorsement by relevant Government entities (e.g., Ministers) and erection of signs which outline code. <b>(21 November 2020)</b>	Code endorsed by local Government representatives or community leaders.
<b>F. Implement Code</b>	Code of Conduct disseminated to national contacts/FAC. <b>(June 2020)</b>	Develop a plan for implementation and begin implementing; establishment of new instruments or mainstream into existing national plans. <b>(December 2020)</b>	Develop a plan for implementation and begin implementing new activities/mainstreaming into existing activities.
<b>G. Monitor and Evaluate Implementation</b>	Undertaken at the national levels, with reporting to RAC.	M&E Framework created with country specific indicators. Monitoring and evaluation undertaken by national contacts in project countries, in collaboration with fishers/local community members. Updates on code implementation should be provided at NAC monthly meetings.	Participatory Monitoring and evaluation by community members with support from national contacts. Community leaders update NAC at monthly meetings.
<b>H. Review progress, revise approach and codes as necessary</b>	Every 4-5 years, the EAF-RAC led by CNFO, receives a national summary from each participating country which outlines their success and challenges towards integrating an EAF approach. Based on feedback and further consultations, the regional Code is amended accordingly. The amended regional Code should be endorsed by the Caribbean Fisheries Forum and CRFM Ministerial Council.	Review progress yearly, to produce a national summary that can be shared with Regional EAF Advisory Committee.	Summary of successes, challenges and lessons learned to be shared annually with NAC.



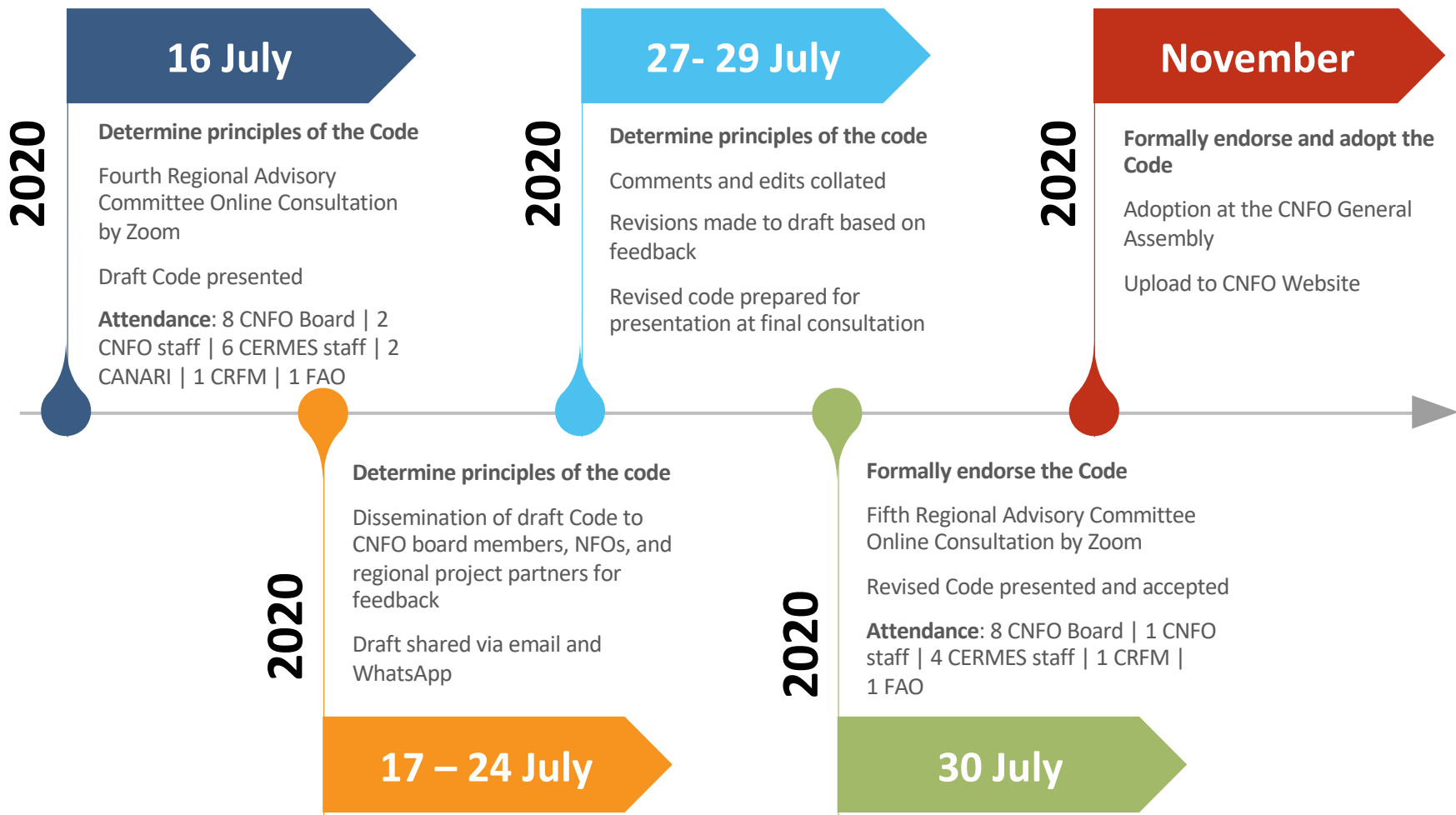


Figure 1. One year timeline for development of the Regional Code of Conduct

While the process used to develop the Code largely aligned with what was planned, some adjustments were required. The initial plans for the development of the Code included the development of the articles through online consultations with formal endorsement taking place at the CNFO General Assembly, Caribbean Fisheries Forum and CRFM Ministerial Council in May, 2020 (see Table 2). The development of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020 led to governments across the region instituting both shelter in place and travel prohibitions. As a result, all consultations had to be conducted virtually, including the final endorsement of the Code. In addition, the team recognized that more attention needed to be paid at the outset to raise awareness around the concept of EAF and, as such, an extra consultation session was added to the schedule. As a result, the consultation process included five online meetings and the technical agencies (FAO, CANARI, and CRFM) did not join until the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> sessions, to provide feedback on the articles of the Code.

The StewardFish Team used several tools to make the consultation sessions as interactive and engaging as possible. The team relied on both Skype and Zoom videoconferencing software which is relatively user-friendly and allowed the meeting organizers and participants to interact through a number of features. The Team took advantage of these options to share information and gather participant feedback through presentations, participant polls and small group breakout sessions. Appendices II-IV include all the PowerPoint presentations, meeting agendas and participants lists from the consultations. The team also took advantage of other digital communication means such as email and WhatsApp messenger to gather feedback and communicate with the EAF RAC outside of the scheduled consultations. In total 29 persons attended the consultations. Figures 2-3 include a sampling of the key persons who participated in the consultations.

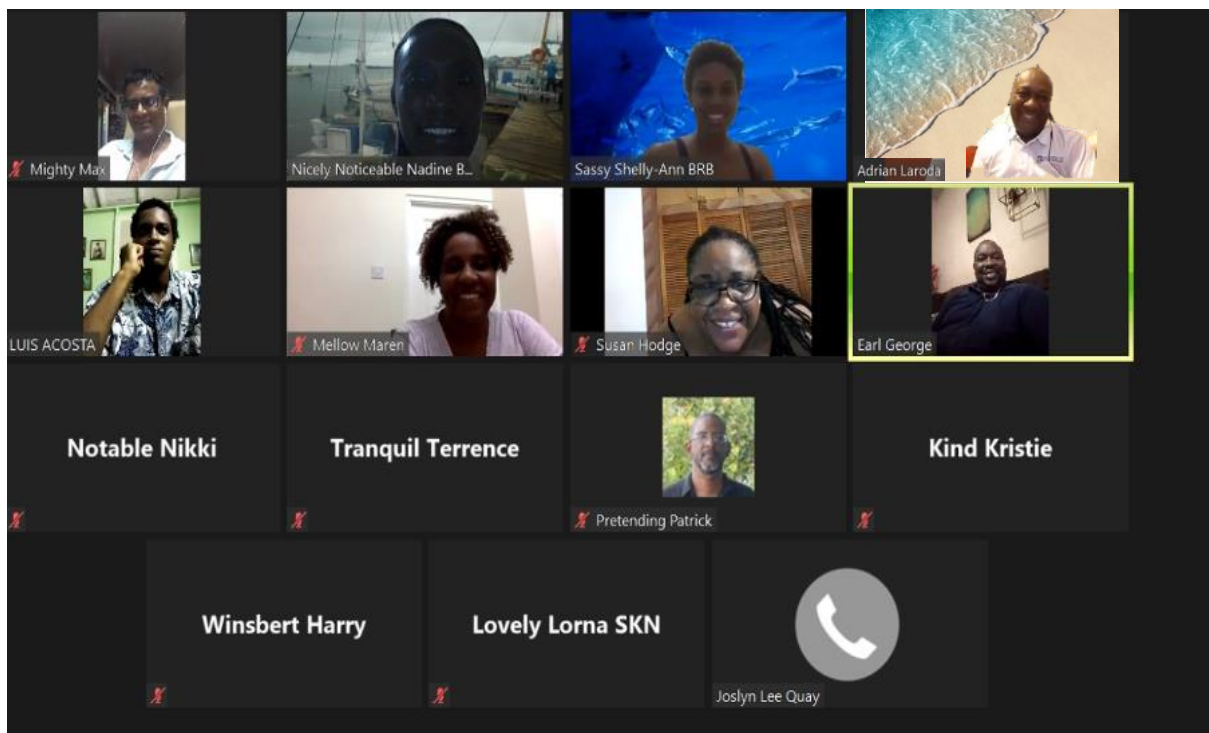


Figure 2. Screenshot of the participants on the call from the fifth EAF consultation on 30th July 2020

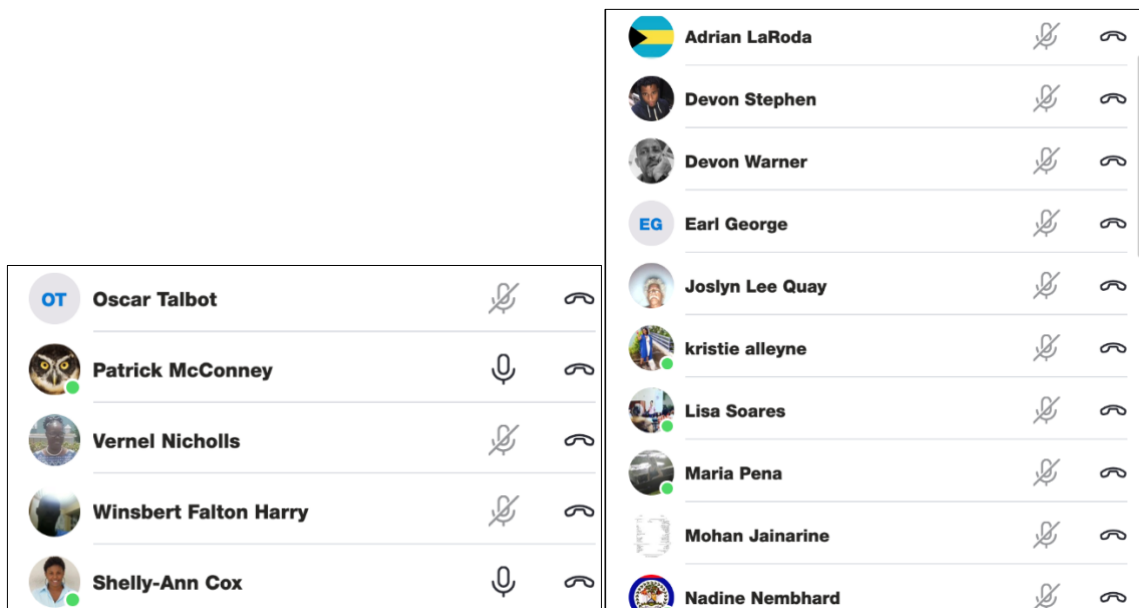


Figure 3. Screenshot of the participants on the call from the first EAF consultation on 19th December 2020

As seen in Figure 4, developing codes of conduct at the regional, national and local should be considered an iterative process, and not a one-time endeavor. Following a period of implementation, there should be time taken to review progress and revise the articles as necessary to maintain the relevancy of codes which are linked and nested at multiple levels of governance. This report documents the right half (purple arrow) of the process used to develop an EAF Code of Conduct at the regional level (Figure 4). Subsequent reports will document the left half of the process.

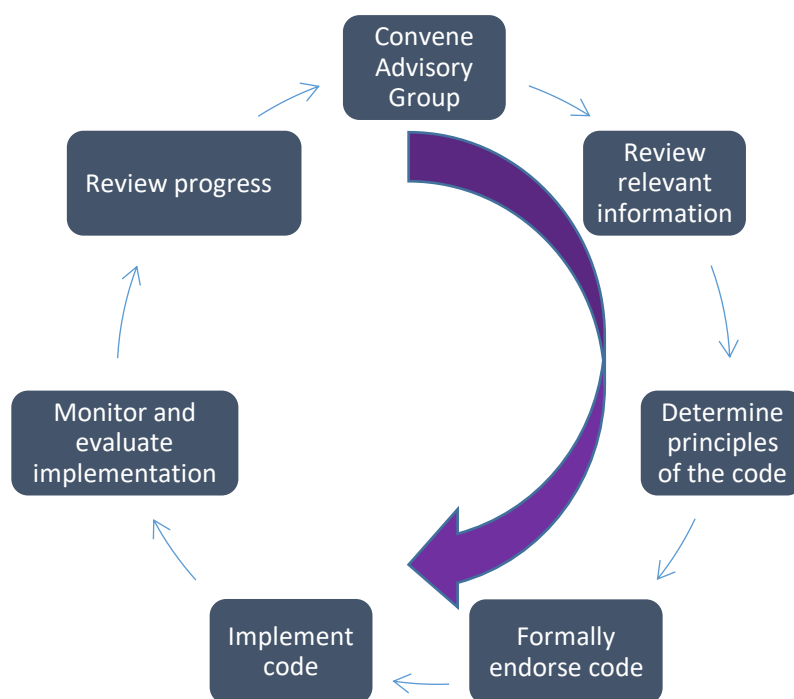


Figure 4. Process for developing an EAF Code of Conduct at the regional, national and local levels in the Caribbean.

### 3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation of the Code will be necessary to track its uptake within the region and its efficacy in promoting EAF principles at the national and local levels. During the final consultation, participants discussed various aspects in relation to the monitoring and evaluation of the Code and the following points were agreed.

- 1) Member states should report on the implementation of the Code every six months, with more frequent reporting during the initial roll out of the Code.
- 2) Several platforms should be used to provide progress updates on the Code's implementation, including
  - a. CNFO General Assembly
  - b. Caribbean Fisheries Forum
  - c. Caribbean Ministerial Council
  - d. Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute
  - e. World Forum of Fisher Peoples
- 3) The code should be reviewed and adapted every 5 years.

Guided by the above agreements, the Team will need to develop a formal monitoring and evaluation plan, to support the implementation of the Code. There are several indicators which may be incorporated into this plan, to measure the impact of the Code:

- ✓ The Code is formally adopted by the Caribbean Fisheries Forum and the CRFM Ministerial council;
- ✓ Equitable implementation of the Code or its interpretations is incorporated into national fisheries policies; the Code is mainstreamed into existing national fisheries/coastal management plans and policies, bearing in mind linkages with gender;
- ✓ Exemplary EAF pilot projects are developed which support the implementation of the Code;
- ✓ Discussion of the Code and progress in terms of its implementation are included as standing agenda items for regional conferences; and
- ✓ Code prompts the development of National Codes of Conduct.

During the final consultation, there was also much discussion regarding the most effective means of sensitizing fishers, fishing community, policy advisors and decision makers to the Code. It was agreed that employing multiple approaches would be useful, including:

- Face to face meetings, both scheduled and ad hoc, at fish landing sites;
- Distribution of brochures;
- Production of radio and television announcements; and
- Identification of local leaders who can champion the regional Code through their everyday interactions with the fishing community.

## 4 NEXT STEPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is critical that the development of the Code does not occur solely as a conceptual exercise; the Code will need to be translated to practice to truly become effective. Below we offer some recommendations on the next steps in this process.

The Code should be endorsed at the highest levels, through relevant marine and fisheries governance and stakeholder groups, as well as regional projects. The Code should be reviewed and adopted by the Caribbean Fisheries Forum and the CRFM Ministerial Council. In addition, it can be promoted by the CNFO at the Council for Trade and Economic Development and the World Forum of Fisher Peoples for endorsement. Promotion and awareness raising of the Code can also be incorporated through the GCFI Fishers Virtual Fisheries Forum and regional activities leading up and during the 2022 International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA). The Code will continue to be promoted under StewardFish and synergies with other activities in the project will be explored. The Code can be integrated into activities such as:

- Component 1: the leadership institute, gender analysis and policy engagement activities;
- Component 2: EAF innovation pilot projects, and the EAF awareness social media campaign;
- Component 3: Livelihood and value chain analyses;
- Component 4: National Intersectoral Coordination Mechanisms (NICs) activities which include monitoring and evaluation, and communication.

The Code will also be promoted under the new “Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus” (BE-CLME+) Project to be implemented through the CRFM.

Following the endorsement and promotion of the Code, the next step is to adapt it to different country contexts. Adaptation of the Code should occur through the development of National Codes of Conduct in all seven StewardFish project countries with the support of the CNFO and the Fisheries Advisory/Ocean Governance Committees. These national codes of conduct should be mainstreamed into existing national fisheries/coastal management plans and policies. This may be a separate exercise which is undertaken at the request of the relevant policy maker. There is a current opportunity in Barbados for mainstreaming a national code into updated fisheries policies and plans, legislation review and marine spatial planning activities.

Alternatively, a separate plan for implementation of the national codes of conduct could be developed. In some countries, there may be a need for regulatory instruments that echo the specific requirements for compliance with the national codes of conduct. Whatever the



mechanism, a clear idea of how the national code of conduct will be applied and implemented needs to be articulated prior to the formal adoption of the Code.

The Code can also be integrated into the national level training curriculum provided by National Fisherfolk Organisations (NFOs) and government agencies for fishers and the fishing community. This should occur in alignment with local practices and policies. National codes of conduct should be prominently displayed at fish landing sites, marketplaces and fisheries management authorities. The development of local codes of conduct is outside the scope of the project but their development should be encouraged and supported by national stakeholders.

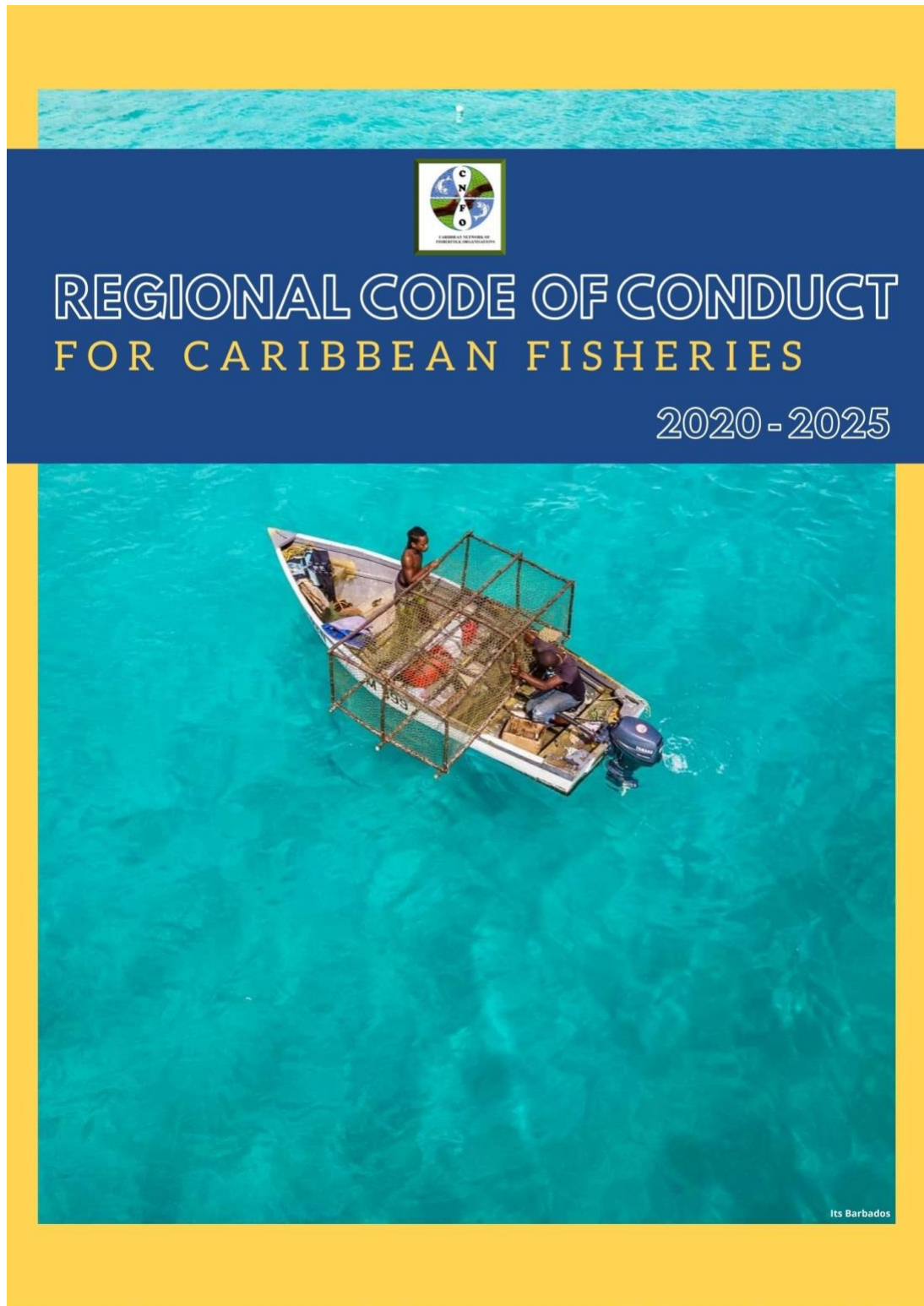
An excerpt from the foreword of the Code sums up the intended goal beautifully: “This code may be published as a document, but it’s more than that, it is a legacy we wish to pass on to our children, grandchildren and future generations.”

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## 6 APPENDICES

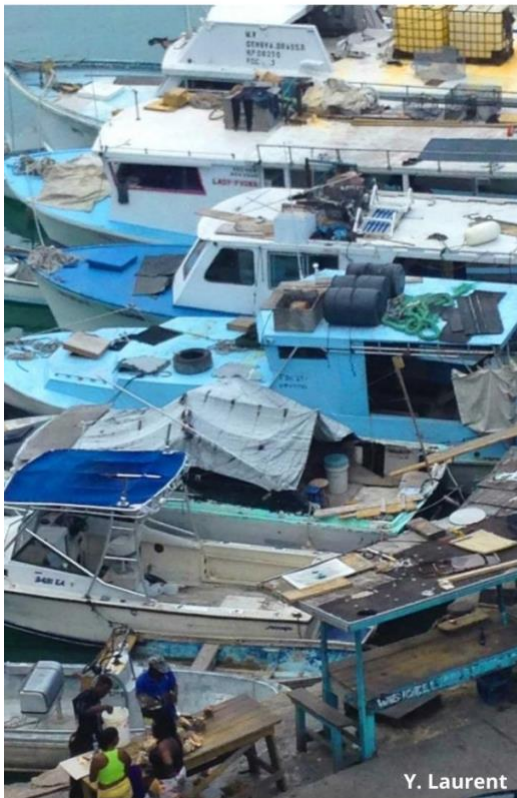
### 6.1 Appendix I: CNFO Regional Code of Conduct for Caribbean Fisheries



Please click on the image above to download a high resolution PDF of the Code



S. Cox



Y. Laurent

# Foreword

## ODE TO THE CODE

The Caribbean's marine environment and fishing industry shape the region's lifestyle and cultural heritage, with small-scale fisheries (SSF) forming a large part of the social fabric and economy of many coastal communities.

We, Caribbean fisherfolk, are the heartbeat of the region. We risk our lives on a daily basis to provide an essential service that supports food security.

We've spent time in and around the ocean, and have personally seen the beauty, the fragility, and even the degradation of our planet's blue heart.

We highly value our traditional knowledge and see the importance of unlocking its potential to address significant challenges in the present and future.

We find ourselves on the frontline in the battle against climate change. Witnessing first hand real environmental and social changes that result in a decline in catches and incomes. Yet we remain resilient, despite the various adversities encountered, including the current COVID-19 pandemic.

We strive to 'think outside the net' by exploring alternative fisheries and promoting technological innovations that could revolutionize our sector.

As ecosystem stewards, we have positioned ourselves as important actors in the blue economy and will continue to advocate for blue justice.

# Foreword

## ODE TO THE CODE

In the words of Jacques Yves Costeau, "perhaps the time has come to formulate a moral code which would govern our relations with the great creatures of the sea as well as with those on dry land".

A code that promotes ecosystem stewardship to foster the social-ecological sustainability of a rapidly changing planet.

We solemnly pledge our commitment to uphold the articles of the code and ensure its successful implementation at regional, national and local levels in our 17 member states.

This code may be published as a document, but it's more than that, it is a legacy we wish to pass on to our children, grandchildren and future generations.

~Members of the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO).



N. Norris



JFCU



C. Gittens

# BACKGROUND

## EAF CODE OF CONDUCT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The development of the regional code of conduct was guided by the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF). The concept of EAF is used as a means of balancing both fishery and ecosystem-level goals, by taking into account the complexities, uncertainties and strong connections between human and environmental systems.

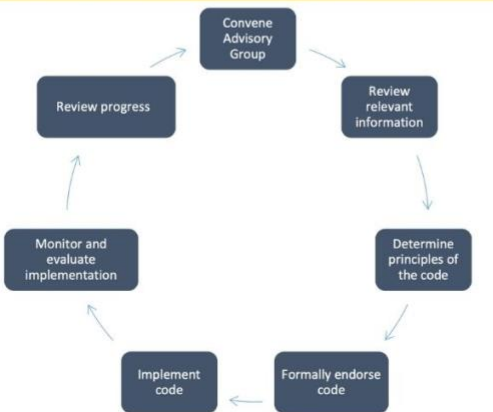


Figure 1: Regional code of conduct development process



In order to advance EAF management in the Caribbean, there is the need for a code of conduct which articulates a shared understanding of what EAF entails at the regional and national levels.

This code will serve as a guideline for current and future activities, as well as a benchmark against which it can be measured. The iterative process for code development is illustrated in Figure 1.

The articles of the code have been heavily influenced by the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), SSF Guidelines, the SSF Protocol under the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Specifically SDGs 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 13 and 14.



# INTRODUCTION

## OVERALL OBJECTIVES

The regional code of conduct was formulated by the board members of the CNFO, with input from their membership, in an effort to increase participatory application of EAF. This may be achieved by enhancing ecosystem stewardship for fisheries sustainability.

This code sets out principles and standards of behaviour to ensure the well-being of fisherfolk through sustainable use, management, and development of both marine and freshwater living aquatic resources in the Caribbean.

The objectives of this code are:

- (a) to promote the contribution of SSF to an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable future for the Caribbean;
- (b) to enhance ecosystem stewardship for fisheries sustainability;

- (c) to provide guidance for the development and implementation of participatory policies, strategies and legal frameworks for the enhancement of responsible and sustainable small-scale fisheries;
- and

- (d) to enhance public awareness and promote the advancement of knowledge on the culture, role, contribution and potential of SSF, considering traditional knowledge, and related constraints and opportunities.

# Governance of Tenure and Resource Management

## ARTICLE I

### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

I.I Advocating for secure tenure rights to the resources that form the basis for our social and cultural well-being, our livelihoods and our sustainable development.

I.II Utilizing fishing practices that minimize harm to the aquatic environment and associated species and support the sustainability of the resource.

I.III Promoting participatory management systems, such as co-management arrangements that encourage equitable participation of women, vulnerable and marginalized groups – in the design, planning and, as appropriate, implementation of management measures.

I.IV Supporting monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) systems suitable for SSF, and participating in the collective management of the activity

I.V Ensuring that we are well represented in relevant local and national fisheries bodies and actively take part in relevant decision-making and fisheries policy-making processes.

I.VI Advocating for tenure rights of fisherfolk in marine managed areas by establishing fishing priority areas.

I.VII Advocating for tenure rights of SSF communities where transboundary and other similar issues exist.



H. Oxenford





H. Oxenford



P. Burke

## Social Development, Employment, Decent Work

### ARTICLE II:

#### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

II.I Employing integrated, ecosystem and holistic approaches to SSF management and development that take the complexity of our livelihoods into account.

II.II Promoting decent work for all SSF workers, including both the formal and informal sectors.

II.III Creating conditions for men and women of small-scale fishing communities to fish and to carry out fisheries-related activities in a safe environment.

II.IV Addressing occupational health issues and unfair working conditions of fisherfolk by ensuring that the necessary legislation is in place and is implemented in accordance with regional and international standards.

II.V Promoting social security and healthcare protection for workers in small-scale fisheries along the entire value chain.

II.VI Supporting the development of and access to other services including savings, credit and insurance schemes, with special emphasis on ensuring the access of women to such services.

II.VII Promoting investment in human resource development such as health, education, literacy, digital inclusion and other skills of a technical nature that generate added value to the fisheries resource.

# Value Chains, Post-harvest and Trade

## ARTICLE III

### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

III.I Ensuring that all actors in the value chain are engaged in relevant decision-making processes, including vulnerable or marginalized groups.

III.II Recognizing the important role that women play in the post-harvest sub-sector and supporting improvements to facilitate women's participation in such work.

III.III Minimizing food loss and wastage throughout the value chain.

III.IV Seeking ways to create value addition through environmentally sustainable means.

III.V Supporting activities, programmes and policies to ensure that benefits from international trade are fairly distributed.

III.VI Safeguarding our natural resources to ensure local nutritional needs are met, while advancing international trade access.

III.VII Exploring alternative fisheries e.g. lionfish, diamondback squid, and facilitate trade access for the associated value-added products.

III. VIII Supporting fishing cooperatives in the marketing and trade of quality seafood.



I. Monnereau



L. Richardson



# Gender Equality

## ARTICLE IV

### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

IV.I Promoting the equitable participation of women and women's groups in decision-making processes for fisheries management (both conservation and development).

IV.II Improving women's access to, and incentives for, training and information on the fisheries sector.

IV.III Enhancing awareness, sensitivity and commitment to gender equality and women's economic empowerment within the sector and at the regional policy level.

IV.IV Encouraging more women fisherfolk to get involved in fishing cooperatives or women's fisherfolk groups, assuming leadership roles to advance their collective interest and be represented at local and national forums.

IV.V Strengthening efforts to achieve food security, nutrition and develop marketing by improving women's access to markets and storage facilities.

IV.VI Improving the economic empowerment of women in the fisheries value-chain in the Caribbean by supporting entrepreneurship and facilitating access to fish resources and decision-making bodies.

# Youth participation in SSF

## ARTICLE V

### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

V.I Fostering intergenerational partnerships that encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences, mutual learning, and meaningful action across generations.

V.II Institutionalising youth engagement into fisheries and aquaculture both at regional and national levels through integration of related subjects in school curricula.

V.III Engaging youth at policy-making and decision-making levels on issues that are related to youth involvement in fisheries and aquaculture development.

V.IV Appointing youth to decision-making organs, such as Fisheries Advisory Committees (FACs) and Ocean Governance Committees and allowing leadership in the daily running of youth related activities

V.V Advancing the use of technology in the industry by encouraging youth to innovate and pursue entrepreneurial activities.

V.VI Tailoring fisheries related information for youth audiences.

V.VII Mentoring youth to be leaders, so they are included in everything eventually and not just positions related to youths.





H. Billingsy



J. Defoe

# Disaster Risks & Climate Change

## ARTICLE VI

### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

VI.I Accepting that climate has and will continue to change and we will adapt accordingly through wise use of strategies and pursuing stronger collaborations.

VI.II Ensuring emergency procedures are updated, adhered to and executed efficiently and collaboratively both as individuals and as communities.

VI.III Actively participating in efforts to combat climate change, through applying energy efficiency strategies throughout the value chain.

VI.IV Participating in efforts to collect and analyze information on climate variability and climate change, including through sharing our experiences and perceptions.

VI.V Engaging in strategies to reduce our risk from climate hazards and natural disasters at the individual, community and sector levels, for example through livelihood diversification and insurance.

VI. VI Adopting sustainable fishing practices and technologies as a means to build climate resilience within our industry.

# Policy Coherence, Institutional Coordination and Collaboration

## ARTICLE VII WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

VII.I Recognizing the need for policy coherence with regard to existing policies, plans, actions and investments in climate-sensitive sectors of the Caribbean, in order to promote holistic development in small-scale fishing communities.

VII.II Ensuring that fisheries policy provides a long-term vision for sustainable SSF using an ecosystem approach.

VII.III Advocating for specific policy measures to ensure the harmonization of policies affecting the health of marine ecosystems.

VII.IV Promoting approaches which take into account the SSF interests and role in integrated coastal zone management.

VII.V Promoting collaboration among fisherfolk organisations, cooperatives and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) by establishing networks and platforms for exchange of experiences.

VII.VI Taking a lead role in implementing the People Managing Oceans civil society action programme (CLME+ C-SAP).

VII.VII Establishing and promoting the institutional structures and linkages necessary for achieving policy coherence, cross-sectoral collaboration and the implementation of holistic and inclusive ecosystem approaches in the fisheries sector.



Now Grenada



CCCCC

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## Information, Research and Communication

### ARTICLE VIII

#### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

VIII.I Recognizing the importance of both traditional knowledge and good science to guiding our approaches to managing our resources and local governance.

VIII.II Accessing appropriate information to help us cope with existing problems including Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and to guide future decision-making, including information from other economic sectors.

VIII.III Participating in research efforts which seek to improve the development and management of fisheries.

VIII.IV Ensuring that the perspectives, experiences and concerns of marginalized and vulnerable persons are reflected in our communications and are represented in our negotiations.

VIII.V Establishing appropriate communication platforms at the community, national and regional level to promote our shared values through the use of communication tools which are accessible to all.

VIII.VI Promoting consumer awareness regarding the fishing industry and fisheries products and imparting local knowledge.



# Capacity Development

## ARTICLE IX

### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

IX.I Participating in and creating democratic and representative structures to enhance our capacity to participate in decision-making process.

IX.II Taking advantage of knowledge, opportunities and training which become available to us in order to enhance our livelihoods.

IX.III Ensuring that actors at all stages of the value chain, as well as vulnerable and marginalized groups have access to and can fairly participate in capacity building opportunities.

IX.IV Recognizing that capacity development occurs as a two-way process of knowledge transfer and should build on existing knowledge.

IX.V Taking initiative to build capacity in our own communities through sharing of knowledge, experiences and resources, particularly to disadvantaged groups and individuals.

IX.VI Supporting the capacity development of young persons in the fisheries sector especially, as the next generation of the industry.

IX.VII Using our virtual leadership institute to develop the capacity of fisherfolk in areas of leadership, governance, and sustainable livelihoods.



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Unknown



Thomas

## Implementation, Support and Monitoring

### ARTICLE X

#### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

X.I Ensuring the adoption and implementation of this code at the community, national and regional levels, in accordance with national priorities and circumstances.

X.II Developing plans of action or other strategic guidance to support the application of this code, as necessary.

X.III Supporting the incorporation of the code into existing policy, legislation or management frameworks at regional and national levels.

X.IV Monitoring the implementation of this code through regular communication with representatives.

X.V Facilitating the formation of regional and national-level platforms, with cross-sectoral representation and representation of strong CSOs, to oversee implementation of the code.

X.VI Reviewing and adapting this code every five years, in accordance with new information and shifts in priorities.

X.VII Sharing information about this Code widely at the international level with fisherfolk groups and networks committed to practicing similar codes.

X.VIII Ensuring that this code always reflects our commitment to the inclusive and sustainable development of the fishing industry.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

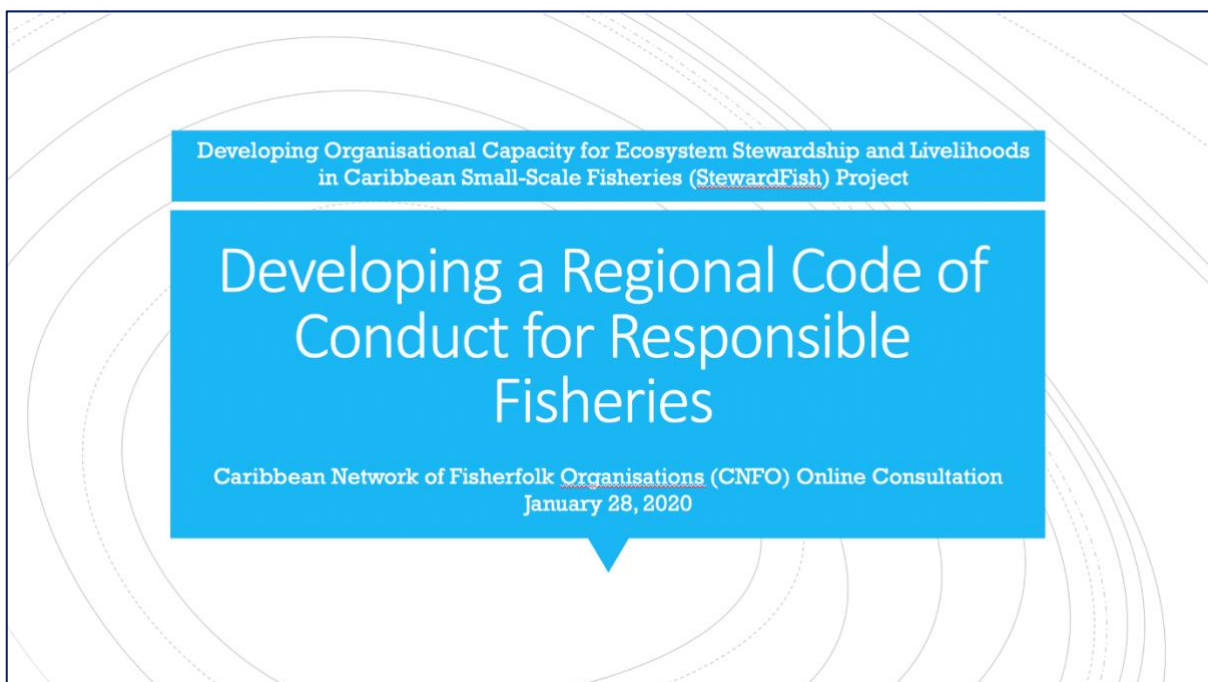
## OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE

The development of this code of conduct has benefited from the generous support of the 'Developing Organizational Capacity of Ecosystem Stewardship and Livelihoods in Caribbean Small-scale Fisheries' (StewardFish) project of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

We would also like to express our gratitude to our regional partner, The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (UWICERMES) for their support and assistance in finalizing the code. We're also grateful to our membership for their participation in consultations and feedback on earlier drafts.

## 6.2 Appendix II: PowerPoint Presentations (Screenshot of PPT Title slide and hyperlink)

Click on the images below to download presentations.



Developing Organisational Capacity for Ecosystem Stewardship and Livelihoods  
in Caribbean Small-Scale Fisheries (StewardFish) Project

# Developing a Regional Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO) Online Consultation  
21 May, 2020 | 2030 hrs AST | Zoom Conference Call

Developing Organisational Capacity for Ecosystem Stewardship and Livelihoods  
in Caribbean Small-Scale Fisheries (StewardFish) Project

# Developing a Regional Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO) Online Consultation  
16 July, 2020 | 1930 hrs AST | Zoom Conference Call





### 6.3 Appendix III: Meeting Agendas

**DRAFT REGIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT  
CONSULTATION WITH CNFO BOARD MEMBERS  
19 December 2020 | 2030 HRS AST  
MEETING AGENDA**

TIME	ACTIVITY	FACILITATOR
2030 - 2045	Welcome and Brief Introductions	Shelly-Ann Cox (UWI-CERMES)
2045 - 2100	EAF Awareness Exercise	Shelly-Ann Cox
2100 - 2115	Participatory Development Process	Shelly-Ann Cox
2115 - 2145	Discussion	
2145 - 2200	Wrap up and next steps	Shelly-Ann Cox

**DRAFT REGIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT  
CONSULTATION WITH CNFO BOARD MEMBERS  
28 January 2020 | 2030 HRS AST  
MEETING AGENDA**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>FACILITATOR</b>
2030 - 2045	Welcome and Brief Introductions	Shelly-Ann Cox (UWI-CERMES)
2045 - 2100	EAF Awareness Recap	Nikki Hassell
2100 – 2130	Reviewing Relevant Information	Shelly-Ann Cox
2130 - 2145	Determining the Principles of the Code	Shelly-Ann Cox
2145 - 2155	Discussion	
2155 - 2200	Wrap up and next steps	Shelly-Ann Cox

**DRAFT REGIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT  
CONSULTATION WITH CNFO BOARD MEMBERS  
21 May 2020 | 2030 HRS AST  
MEETING AGENDA**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>FACILITATOR</b>
2030 - 2045	Welcome and Brief Introductions	Shelly-Ann Cox (UWI-CERMES)
2045 – 2055	Brief EAF Awareness Recap	Shelly-Ann Cox
2055 – 2115	Reviewing Relevant Information	Shelly-Ann Cox
2115 - 2130	Determining the Principles of the Code	Shelly-Ann Cox
2130 - 2155	Discussion	
2155 - 2200	Wrap up and next steps	Shelly-Ann Cox

**DRAFT REGIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT  
CONSULTATION WITH CNFO BOARD MEMBERS  
16 JULY 2020 | 1930 HRS AST  
MEETING AGENDA**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>FACILITATOR</b>
1930 - 1945	Welcome and Brief Introductions	Shelly-Ann Cox
1945 - 1955	POLL- What is EAF? POLL- What is ecosystem Stewardship?	Nikki Hassell
2000 - 2015	Overview of draft code of conduct	Shelly-Ann Cox
2015 - 2045	Breakout groups. Each group reviews 3 articles. Article X 'implementation' can be discussed at the next session in plenary.	Nikki Hassell (IV-VI) Nadine Nembhard (VII-IX) Shelly-Ann Cox (I-III)
2045 - 2055	Feedback on group discussions	Shelly-Ann Cox
2055 - 2057	POLL: Brief Evaluation of session	Shelly-Ann Cox
2057 - 2100	Wrap up and next steps	Shelly-Ann Cox

**DRAFT REGIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT  
CONSULTATION WITH CNFO BOARD MEMBERS  
30 JULY 2020 | 1930 HRS AST  
MEETING AGENDA**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>FACILITATOR</b>
1930 - 1945	Welcome and Icebreaker	Shelly-Ann Cox
1945 - 1950	Recap of the 4th consultation	Shelly-Ann Cox
1950 - 2000	Overview of revisions made to the Draft Regional Code of Conduct	Shelly-Ann Cox
2000 - 2030	Discussion on Implementation, Support and Monitoring of the Code	Shelly-Ann Cox
2030 - 2040	POLL	Nikki Hassell
2040 - 2050	Finalisation of the CNFO Regional Code of Conduct	Shelly-Ann Cox
2050 - 2055	Meeting Evaluation	Nikki Hassell
2055 - 2100	Wrap up and next steps	Shelly-Ann Cox

## 6.4 Appendix IV: Participants Lists

### 1<sup>st</sup> CNFO Consultation on the Regional Code of Conduct 19 December 2020 | 2030 hrs AST | Skype Conference Call

	NAME	ORGANISATION
1.	Adrian LaRoda	CNFO Board Member representing Bahamas
2.	Vernel Nicholls	CNFO Board Member representing Barbados
3.	Oscar Talbot	CNFO Board Member representing Turks and Caicos
4.	Pamashwar Jainarine	CNFO Board Member representing Guyana
5.	Devon Stephen	CNFO Board Member representing Saint Lucia
6.	Devon Warner	CNFO Board Member representing Antigua and Barbuda
7.	Joslyn Lee Quay	CNFO Board Member representing Trinidad and Tobago
8.	Winsbert Harry	CNFO Board Member representing St. Vincent and the Grenadines
9.	Nadine Nembhard	CNFO
10.	Patrick McConney	UWI-CERMES
11.	Maria Pena	UWI-CERMES
12.	Kristie Alleyne	UWI-CERMES
13.	Lisa Soares	UWI-CERMES
14.	Shelly-Ann Cox	UWI-CERMES

### 2<sup>nd</sup> CNFO Consultation on the Regional Code of Conduct 28 January 2020 | 2030 hrs AST | Skype Conference Call

	NAME	ORGANISATION
1.	Adrian LaRoda	CNFO Board Member representing Bahamas
2.	Aldwyn Ferguson	CNFO Board Member representing Grenada
3.	Oscar Talbot	CNFO Board Member representing Turks and Caicos
4.	Luis Acosta	Grenada NFO representative
5.	Lorna Warner	CNFO Board Member representing St. Kitts and Nevis
6.	Devon Warner	CNFO Board Member representing Antigua and Barbuda
7.	Joslyn Lee Quay	CNFO Board Member representing Trinidad and Tobago
8.	Winsbert Harry	CNFO Board Member representing St. Vincent and the Grenadines
9.	Sheldon Carty	CNFO Board Member representing Montserrat
10.	Nadine Nembhard	CNFO
11.	Patrick McConney	UWI-CERMES
12.	Maria Pena	UWI-CERMES
13.	Kristie Alleyne	UWI-CERMES
14.	Lisa Soares	UWI-CERMES
15.	Nikki Hassell	UWI-CERMES
16.	Shelly-Ann Cox	UWI-CERMES



**3<sup>rd</sup> CNFO Consultation on the Regional Code of Conduct**  
**21 May 2020 | 2030 hrs AST | Zoom Conference Call**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANISATION</b>
1.	Adrian LaRoda	CNFO Board Member representing Bahamas
2.	Vernel Nicholls	CNFO Board Member representing Barbados
3.	Armando Ramirez	CNFO Board Member representing Belize
4.	Earl George	CNFO Board Member representing Dominica
5.	Luis Acosta	CNFO Board Member representing Grenada
6.	Pamashwar Jainarine	CNFO Board Member representing Guyana
7.	Devon Warner	CNFO Board Member representing Antigua and Barbuda
8.	Devon Stephen	CNFO Board Member representing Saint Lucia
9.	Winsbert Harry	CNFO Board Member representing St. Vincent and the Grenadines
10.	Lorna Warner	CNFO Board Member representing St. Kitts and Nevis
11.	Sheldon Carty	CNFO Board Member representing Montserrat
12.	Nadine Nembhard	CNFO
13.	Mitchell Lay	CNFO
14.	Maria Pena	UWI-CERMES
15.	Sanya Compton	UWI-CERMES
16.	Lisa Soares	UWI-CERMES
17.	Shelly-Ann Cox	UWI-CERMES

**4<sup>th</sup> CNFO Consultation on the Regional Code of Conduct**  
**16 July 2020 | 1930 hrs AST | Zoom Conference Call**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANISATION</b>
1.	Adrian LaRoda	CNFO Board Member representing Bahamas
2.	Aristo Richardson	CNFO Board Member representing Anguilla
3.	Armando Ramirez	CNFO Board Member representing Belize
4.	Pamashwar Jainarine	CNFO Board Member representing Guyana
5.	Devon Stephen	CNFO Board Member representing Saint Lucia
6.	Luis Acosta	Grenada NFO Representative
7.	Lorna Warner	CNFO Board Member representing St. Kitts and Nevis
8.	Winsbert Harry	CNFO Board Member representing St. Vincent and the Grenadines
9.	Nadine Nembhard	CNFO
10.	Mitchell Lay	CNFO
11.	Melanie Andrews	CANARI
12.	Neema Ramlogan	CANARI
13.	Maren Headley	CRFM
14.	Terrence Phillips	FAO
15.	Patrick McConney	UWI-CERMES
16.	Maria Pena	UWI-CERMES
17.	Kristie Alleyne	UWI-CERMES
18.	Lisa Soares	UWI-CERMES
19.	Nikki Hassell	UWI-CERMES
20.	Shelly-Ann Cox	UWI-CERMES

Absent with apologies Sheldon Carty (Montserrat) and Vernel Nicholls (Barbados).

**5<sup>th</sup> CNFO Consultation on the Regional Code of Conduct**  
**30 July 2020 | 1930 hrs AST | Zoom Conference Call**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANISATION</b>
1.	Adrian LaRoda	CNFO Board Member representing Bahamas
2.	Susan Hodge	Anguilla NFO representative
3.	Pamashwar Jainarine	CNFO Board Member representing Guyana
4.	Luis Acosta	Grenada NFO representative
5.	Lorna Warner	CNFO Board Member representing St. Kitts and Nevis
6.	Winsbert Harry	CNFO Board Member representing St. Vincent and the Grenadines
7.	Earl George	CNFO Board Member representing Dominica
8.	Joslyn LeeQuay	CNFO Board Member representing Trinidad and Tobago
9.	Nadine Nembhard	CNFO
10.	Maren Headley	CRFM
11.	Terrence Phillips	FAO
12.	Patrick McConney	UWI-CERMES
13.	Kristie Alleyne	UWI-CERMES
14.	Nikki Hassell	UWI-CERMES
15.	Shelly-Ann Cox	UWI-CERMES

Absent with apologies Mitchell Lay (CNFO) and Sanya Compton (UWI-CERMES).