

Empowering Women in Small Scale Fisheries for Sustainable Food Systems: FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Date

Date

yyyy-mm-dd

1.1 Interview Details: Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) – these are meetings that are generally of no more than 8 to 10 people. Predominately these FGDs will be women only. Questions should be asked of the group as a whole and a majority answer should be taken as reflective of the group. If there is a general feeling that there is no consensus then up to two different views need to be captured in the answer.

1.1.1 Country

- ☐ Uganda
- ☐ Malawi
- ☐ Tanzania
- ☐ Ghana
- ☐ Sierra Leone

1.1.2 Region

1.1.3 District

1.1.4 Sub-District or Town

1.1.5 Name of Respondents

1.1.6 Name of Interviewer/FGD Facilitator

1.1.7 Are you willing to participate in this survey?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Introduction: Good Morning/Afternoon/Evening. My name is, I am from the project "Empowering Women in Small Scale Fisheries for Sustainable Food Systems". We are currently conducting a survey to identify and obtain a better understanding of how women who are involved in small scale fishery (also known as SSF) activities currently are engaging in this livelihood particularly with respect to health and nutrition, access to fish, access facilities to process fish and how fish is sold in the market. We are also looking at fish consumption of women at home and fish consumption of children at school. The results of this survey will be used as knowledge to help managers implement the project. All information will be kept confidential and will be used for the purposes of our survey only. Note to Enumerator: 1: Where respondents are not able or wish not to answer a question the Enumerator should insert "No Answer". 2: The enumerator should try and elicit an agreed response from the group to record. This may mean having to confirm if one FG members voice represents the group. If there is disagreement then two views may be recorded.

1.2 Group Details

1.2.1 Number of attendees (count of women | count of men)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Men	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Women	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

1.3 General

1.3.1 Which fish do you regularly catch, process, sell?

1.3.2 What fish do you deal with in your activities? [list the vernacular names of the fish]

Please list for the top ten fish species. Local names may be different to species name.

1.3.3 Which activities do you participate mostly when we talk about fish? Count number of responses per category but only once per person)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Catch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Processing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marketing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

1.3.4 Which activities do you participate mostly when we talk about fish? (How many in each category from the question 1.3.3)?

1.4 Food, Diet and Food Access

1.4.1 What foods do you regularly eat? Do you regularly eat fish? (please ask the group say what regular means e.g. every day, every week or ??)

1.4.2 What types of fish do you eat? What parts of the fish do you eat?

1.4.3 From where do you source your fish? Is it from local small-scale fishermen? Commercial fisheries? Or perhaps is it imported?)

1.4.4 Where are the fish kept that you buy? (e.g. in a cold store, open at the place where the fish are caught? Or other place?)

1.4.5 What are the main problems with where you get your fish from? (e.g. access problems to the site, limited choices, distance to where you can select fresher fish?)

1.5 Decision-Making/Empowerment: This section is divided into 6 sub-sections to ascertain the degree of female empowerment, their roles at any point in the value chain and degree of decision-making taken within the chain. General responses – more or less a count as a proxy for the whole group.

» 1.5.1 Role in household decision-making around fish-related and other activities

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1.5.1.1 Do you think the role of women in household decision-making is very strong?

» 1.5.2 Access to productive assets

1.5.2.1 Who controls the assets that are important in small scale fishing? (Examples are items such as baskets, smoking units, other equipment)

1.5.2.2 Is there a difference between what men and women have access to or use in small scale fishing?

» 1.5.3 Access to fisheries extension or technical or other services

1.5.3.1 Have you met with a fisheries extension service officer in the past 12 months?

This may be quite a large number if the extension services are very active.

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.5.3.2 How many times did you meet with a fisheries extension service officer in the past 12 months? (enter number)

This may be quite a large number if the extension services are very active.

1.5.3.3 Have you received any training on fishing practices, fish processing and storage methods, fish trading and marketing, or food safety in the past 12 months?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.5.3.4 Are you able to put what you learn in trainings into practice?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.5.3.5 Are fisheries officers and extension agents accessible to women?

1.5.3.6 Are fisheries officers or extension agents knowledgeable about gender issues and responsive to women's specific needs?

1.5.3.7 Are there any issues related to women's access to extension or support services from fisheries officers not already discussed (add the general responses)?

1.5.3.8 What prevented you from putting skills learned in training into practice?

1.5.3.9 What would be needed to ensure that information learned in training could be put into practice?

1.5.3.10 Any other general discussion on the access of women to training (add the general responses)?

» 1.5.4 Individual leadership and influence over in institutions that affect your livelihoods

1.5.4.1 How many of you feel comfortable speaking at fisheries governance meetings (e.g. BVCs or BMUs) to help decide on projects and issues affecting any element of to do with fish? (add total in each category)

1.5.4.2 How many of you feel comfortable speaking in public spaces on projects and issues affecting any element to do with fish?

1.5.4.3 Women makeup what proportion of the leadership in fisheries governance bodies (e.g. BVCs or BMUs)?

- ☐ 0% to 10%
- ☐ 11% to 20%
- ☐ 21% to 30%
- ☐ 31% to 40%
- ☐ 41% to 50
- ☐ 51% to 60%
- ☐ 60% or more

1.5.4.4 Are women in leadership roles treated with equal respect as men in fisheries governance bodies (e.g. BVCs or BMUs)? (count each response for Yes or No)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

1.5.4.5 When and where did any of you speak in public events (add the general responses)?

1.5.4.6 Is your voice heard when speaking up in public fisheries governance bodies and has speaking up led to any changes (have your needs been addressed)?

1.5.4.7 Are there any other issues related to your ability to influence fisheries governance bodies?

» 1.5.5 Gender attitudes and Relations**1.5.5.1 Do women face any gender-based discrimination or hardships in their work in the fishing sector?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

1.5.5.2 Describe any forms of discrimination or hardships women experience in the fishing sector.

1.5.5.3 Do women face any gender-based violence when working in the fishing sector?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

1.5.5.4 Are there any systematic efforts to address these issues [any described above] by local, district or central government?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

1.5.5.5 Are there any systematic efforts to address these issues [any described above] by non-state actors?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.5.5.6 Describe any systematic efforts to address these issues [any described above].

1.5.5.7 Have gender relations (roles, norms, and expectations for men and women) changed in ways that affect the fishing sector?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.5.5.7 Describe any changes that have occurred in gender relations and how they impact women's work in the fishing sector.

1.6 Responsible Post Harvest Practices : These questions have to do with post-harvest practices and activities especially relate to fish loss and waste and infrastructure (after fish catch and up until point of sale). Please ask one of the group to speak for the others.

1.6.1 Did you sell any fish for a lower price than usual? Can you describe what these price differences might be? Do prices rise and fall quite often?

1.6.2 On average what was the low price you received for your fish? Why was this?

1.6.3 How much fish did you sell for a reduced price? Could you sell more?

1.6.4 How much fish did you lose (waste)?

1.6.5 Why did you lose/throw away fish?

1.6.6 Please describe the facility where you bought your fish? Did it have a landing site or other structure?

1.6.7 Is the place you bought your fish different to the place where you prepare and also sell fish?

1.6.8 If you process and sell in a different place how do you transport the fish from one place to another?

1.6.9 Of the fish you buy:

All

Most

Same

None

How much of this do you try to sell fresh?

☐☐☐☐

How much of this do you try to process and sell?

☐☐☐☐

How much do you take home for home consumption?

☐☐☐☐**1.6.10 If you process your fish for sale in a different place to where you sell what are the facilities like there?**

1.6.11 At the places where you sell what facilities do have access to?

1.7 Women Fishery Organisations: This section is designed to ascertain the degree of female empowerment and the roles at any point in the value chain and degree of decision-making taken within the chain.**1.7.1 How many of you are members of local fisheries organizations? (enumerator counts and then ticks the number)**

1.7.2 Are organised groups especially important or advantageous for women in the fishing sector? (Majority for "Yes" or "No")☐ Yes☐ No**1.7.3 If yes was selected above: Why is it especially important for women to be organized into groups in the fishing sector?**

1.7.4 What internal factors (i.e. within the group) are critical to the success of women's organizations in the fishing sector?

1.7.5 What external factors (i.e. the environment that the group operates in) are critical to the success of women's organizations in the fishing sector?

1.8 Knowledge and Communication: The Project aims to empower women to participate and be representatives within local and regional small-scale fisheries organizations. It will also facilitate women in different localities, countries and regions to learn from each other. The Project intends to inform stakeholders beyond direct beneficiaries of the Project of the benefits of fish in food and the need for sustainable small-scale fisheries value chains. It will share, regionally and globally, lessons learned and good practices in this respect.

1.8.1 Do you think training from projects has been useful (for those of you whom have received such training in this and other projects)?

1.8.2 What in particular did you find most useful from the training? What do you learn?

1.8.3 Are there any training styles you particularly liked? (styles can vary such as role play, demonstrations or class room based teaching)
