



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

FISH-ADAPT: Transforming climate resilience
and sustainability in Saint Lucia's fisheries
communities

Supporting Saint Lucia's strategic approach to address the adverse impacts of climate change on different sectors, including fisheries while providing a framework for planning and implementing adaptation measures.

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Introduction

Saint Lucia's fisheries sector plays a vital role in the country's economy, food security, and cultural heritage. The sector provides employment opportunities, contributes to the gross domestic product (GDP), and is a source of affordable protein for the population. However, climate change poses significant challenges to the fisheries sector, including changes in fish migration patterns, increased storm damage, rising sea levels, and ocean acidification. These impacts can affect fishers' livelihoods, catch rates, income, and ability to provide for their families.

To address these challenges, the Government of Saint Lucia has developed the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2018-2028, which provides a strategic framework for planning and implementing adaptation measures in various sectors, including fisheries. The NAP includes key cross-sectoral and sectoral adaptation activities, complemented by Sectoral Adaptation Strategies and Action Plans (SASAPs).

In addition, the National Policy for the Fisheries Sector (NPFS) 2020 guides the planning and development of the fisheries sector for the period 2020 to 2030. The NPFS prioritizes ecosystem health and integrity, managing climate and disaster risks, social and cultural development, stakeholder capacity and role in decision-making, institutional support, and capture fisheries.

The FISH-ADAPT Project

The proposed Green Climate Fund (GCF) project, "FISH-ADAPT: Transforming climate resilience and sustainability in Saint Lucia's fisheries communities," will target Saint Lucia's main fishing communities and implement four key components:

1. **Fishing systems transformed and reoriented for safety in a changing climate.**
2. **Climate resilient coastal fish grounds & aquaculture systems.**
3. **Increased financial resilience for fishing sector stakeholders.**
4. **Strengthened institutional structures for participatory climate adaptation.**

The proposed GCF project will target Saint Lucia's main fishing communities and has four main outcomes, each with several mutually-reinforcing outputs:

Outcome 1: Fishing vessels and practices transformed and reoriented for safety in a changing climate
Output 1.1 - Fishers and other actors are able to access and act upon weather and climate data
Output 1.2 - Fishing vessels improved to respond to shifting fishing grounds, and landing sites more resilient to climate related weather impacts
Output 1.3 - Coastal and inland aquaculture enhanced and made resilient against extreme weather
Outcome 2: Climate resilient coastal fish grounds & aquaculture systems
Output 2.1 - Fisher communities adopt improved practices to manage and sustain fish stocks and habitat
Outcome 3: Increased financial resilience for fishing sector stakeholders
Output 3.1 - Improved access to financial mechanisms for sustainable and climate resilient fish production and income diversification

Output 3.2 - Artisanal fisheries, and value chains and markets strengthened to sustainably diversify and stabilize incomes

Outcome 4: Strengthened institutional structures for participatory climate adaptation

Output 4.1 - Effective policy implementation and enhanced technical and institutional capacity at the community and department levels to support resilient fishing, aquaculture and fish value chain practices

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

This Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) outlines the project's strategy for engaging with stakeholders throughout the project lifecycle, but mainly during its implementation. It aims to ensure that the project is implemented in a participatory, transparent, and accountable manner, and that the needs of all stakeholders, particularly vulnerable groups, are considered and addressed.

The SEP is guided by the following principles:

- **Inclusiveness:** All stakeholders, regardless of their background or social status, will have the opportunity to participate in the engagement process.
- **Transparency:** Information about the project will be shared with stakeholders in a timely and accessible manner.
- **Accountability:** The project will be accountable to stakeholders for its decisions and actions.
- **Meaningful engagement:** Stakeholder engagement will go beyond one-off consultations and will be integrated into the project's decision-making processes.
- **Gender and social inclusion:** The SEP will specifically address the needs of vulnerable groups, including women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

The SEP includes detailed plans for stakeholder engagement the implementation, as well as mechanisms for grievance redress, monitoring and reporting, and budget allocation for engagement activities. It is a living document that will be regularly updated based on stakeholder feedback and project needs.

Methodology

This section provides an overview of the methodologies that will be used for stakeholder engagement in the FISH-ADAPT project. To meet best practice approaches, the project will continuously apply appropriate principles and processes for stakeholder engagement, while tailoring the approach to maximize results and ensure inclusivity.

1. Public Consultations

Public consultations will be carried out throughout the project lifecycle in an open and transparent manner, free of external manipulation or intimidation. These consultations will provide individuals and communities with the opportunity to participate in decision-making and provide valuable contributions to the project's development and implementation. Public consultations may take many forms, including:

- **Community meetings:** Meetings will be held in fishing communities to discuss the project, its objectives, and its potential impacts.

- **Focus group discussions:** Focus groups will be conducted with specific stakeholder groups to gather in-depth feedback on project activities and engagement approaches.
- **Workshops:** Workshops will be held to bring together stakeholders from different sectors to discuss key project issues and develop solutions collaboratively.
- **Online consultations:** Online surveys and forums will be used to gather feedback from stakeholders who may not be able to attend in-person consultations.

2. Information Dissemination

The project will ensure that timely and widespread information about the project is disseminated to the community through various channels, including:

- **Project website:** The project website will serve as a central repository for project information, including project documents, updates, and consultation materials.
- **Newsletters:** Regular newsletters will be distributed to stakeholders to provide updates on project progress and upcoming engagement activities.
- **Social media:** Social media platforms will be used to share project information and engage with stakeholders in real-time.
- **Community radio:** Community radio will be used to disseminate project information to fishing communities and other stakeholders who may not have access to the internet.
- **Public meetings:** Public meetings will be held to share project information and gather feedback from stakeholders.

3. Site Visits and Local Consultations

The project will conduct site visits to fishing communities and other project locations to engage with stakeholders on the ground and gather firsthand feedback. Local consultations will be led by community members with support from project officers and partners. These consultations will ensure that the voices of local communities are heard and that their concerns and interests are addressed in the project's design and implementation.

4. Inclusive Approaches for Vulnerable Groups

The FISH-ADAPT project will adopt inclusive approaches to ensure that vulnerable groups are meaningfully engaged in the project. These approaches will include:

- **Tailored engagement methods:** Engagement methods will be tailored to the specific needs of each vulnerable group, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity.
- **Capacity building:** The project will build the capacity of vulnerable groups to participate effectively in the engagement process.
- **Gender-sensitive approaches:** The project will adopt gender-sensitive approaches to ensure that the voices of women and other marginalized groups are heard and that their concerns and interests are addressed.

5. Monitoring and Reporting

The project will monitor the effectiveness of its engagement efforts and report on its progress to the GCF. This will include tracking the number of stakeholders reached, the level of satisfaction with the engagement process, and the number of grievances received. The project will also adapt its engagement approaches as needed based on stakeholder feedback and monitoring data.

Stakeholder identification and analysis

Stakeholder Identification

Stakeholder engagement is crucial in the fisheries sector due to the complex interplay of environmental, social, and economic factors. It fosters collaboration, builds trust, and enables informed decisions that consider the needs and interests of all parties involved. Effective engagement helps prevent misunderstandings, conflicts, and negative impacts, promoting sustainability, equity, transparency, market access, and adaptive management.

For the FISH-ADAPT project, stakeholders are defined as individuals, groups, or entities who are impacted or likely to be impacted directly or indirectly by the project, may be of interest to the project, or may be affected by the project outcomes. They may also have the potential to influence project outcomes. To ensure effective engagement, stakeholders have been divided into the following core categories:

- **Primary stakeholders:** Those directly affected by the project, such as fishers, fishing communities, mariculture farmers, and coastal communities.
- **Secondary stakeholders:** Those who may not experience direct impacts but may have interests that are affected, such as government agencies, NGOs, private sector companies, and research institutions.
- **Vulnerable groups:** The FISH-ADAPT project is committed to inclusivity and ensuring that the needs of vulnerable groups are specifically addressed. Several vulnerable groups have been identified as part of this project:
 - **Women:** In Saint Lucia, women often face a range of challenges, including teenage pregnancy, primary responsibility for children (frequently as single mothers), low levels of child support payments, high youth unemployment, limited access to childcare, gender-based violence, and unequal pay.
 - **Youth:** The youth in Saint Lucia are confronted with high unemployment rates and negative societal perceptions.
 - **Elderly:** The elderly population often faces challenges with inadequate pensions and limited income.
 - **Persons with Disabilities (PWDs):** PWDs may experience difficulties in accessing training and information due to the lack of formats and infrastructure that meet their specific needs.
 - **LGBTQ+ Community:** Individuals who identify as LGBTQ+ may face discrimination in employment opportunities, particularly in male-dominated sectors.

The FISH-ADAPT project will take specific measures to ensure that these vulnerable groups are meaningfully engaged in the project and that their concerns and interests are addressed. This will include:

- **Specific engagement plans:** Engagement plans will be tailored to the needs of each vulnerable group, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity.

- **Capacity building:** The project will build the capacity of vulnerable groups to participate effectively in the engagement process.
- **Accessible engagement activities:** The project will adopt specific measures to ensure that engagement activities are accessible to all stakeholders, including those with disabilities or limited access to technology.

Table 1. Main stakeholders identified

Coordination Mechanisms	Main agencies	Description	Proposed role in the project
Key Government Institution	Fisheries Department	Lead project executing entity.	Focal government institution for this project. Chair of Steering Committee; Beneficiaries of capacity building support
National Government Institutions	Department of Sustainable Development. Ministry of Agriculture. Meteorological Services. Department of Energy. National Emergency Management Office. Ministry of Planning. Water Resources Unit. Ministry for Social Equity. Ministry of Infrastructure. Department of Economic Development, Transport and Civil Aviation. St Lucia Marketing board. Export Saint Lucia	National agencies and policymakers responsible for designing policy and programmes. Key technical partners	Supporting every part of the project from inception to end. Contribution to policy design and implementation. Consultation
CSOs & NGOs	Saint Lucia National Conservation fund St Lucia National Trust SMMA Laborie Development Foundation Raise Your Voice Saint Lucia Red Cross National Youth Council	Civil Society organizations and Non-profit organizations supporting communities through developmental and climate change adaptation projects, resource management projects, awareness programs, capacity building programs. Beneficiaries of capacity building support.	Supporting every part of the project from inception to end. Contribution to policy design and implementation.
Communities	Community Leaders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parliamentary Representatives (especially fishing communities) ▪ Constituency Council Chairpersons Associations and cooperatives	Main project beneficiaries who also play implementation and coordination support roles at the community level. Members of Steering Committee	Supporting every part of the project from inception to end. Contribution to policy design and implementation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fisher's Cooperatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dennery ▪ Vieux Fort ▪ Micoud ▪ Castries ▪ Anse La Raye ▪ Soufriere ▪ Gros Islet ▪ Choiseul ▪ Praslin Sea moss Association ▪ Praslin Sea moss Women Assoc ▪ Aupicon Sea moss Producers ▪ Belle Vue Farmers Cooperative 		
Development Partners	UNDP IUCN FFI UNEP OECS Commission Global Affairs Canada World Bank InterAmerican Foundation Japan International Cooperation Agency Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) TNC Eastern Caribbean Sir Arthur Lewis Community College University of the West Indies UNESCO ISP WMO GIZ WaterWays CYEN CANARI CEPF	Long term development partners in resource management, climate change and sustainable livelihoods, with ongoing portfolio of projects relevant to fisheries management, critical for project development coordination and synergies	Participation in partner coordination activities and support mechanisms. Alignment in supporting policies and mechanisms, Co-financing. Consultation.
Private Sector & Authorities	Chamber of Commerce Credit Union League St Lucia Development Bank Bank of Saint Lucia 1 st National Bank Saint Lucia Insurance Council Massy Supermarket Choice Farms Riviere Doree Ltd (aquaculture farm)	Support improving the resilience of key value chains through improved market access, processing and storage facilities; availability of supplies; avenues for sale of fish/aquaculture/mariculture products; increase financial returns while reducing losses due to CC impact.	Possible collaboration and participation in partner coordination activities. Co-financing. Consultation

	St Lucia Premium Sea Moss Amazona Sea Moss Corporation CPJ Supermarket Saint Lucia Hotel and Tourism Agency Renwick and Company Groo Farm Supplies Tropical Farm Supplies Aplough's Supermarket "Fish Fry" vendors		
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Stakeholder Analysis

During the project design phase, the team used the Serra methodology (2014) to analyze stakeholders based on their power/influence and interest/willingness (see Figure 1). This analysis helped to determine the appropriate engagement approach for each stakeholder group and ensure that all stakeholders have the opportunity to participate meaningfully in the project.

The Serra methodology involves classifying stakeholders into four categories based on their level of power/influence and interest/willingness:

- **High power/influence, high interest/willingness:** These stakeholders are key players who need to be actively involved in the project's decision-making processes.
- **High power/influence, low interest/willingness:** These stakeholders need to be kept satisfied and informed to prevent them from becoming opposed to the project.
- **Low power/influence, high interest/willingness:** These stakeholders need to be kept informed and consulted to ensure their concerns are addressed.
- **Low power/influence, low interest/willingness:** These stakeholders need to be monitored but may not require extensive engagement efforts.

Figure 1. Matrix Power/interest by Serra 2014

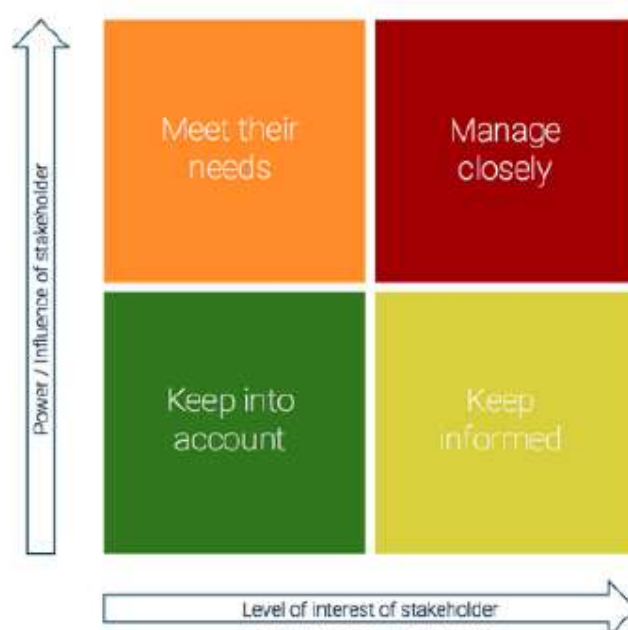


Table 2. Stakeholder group by level of interest and influence on the project

Stakeholder Group	Type	Role	Interest	Influence	Engagement Approach
Green Climate Fund (GCF)	Primary	Funder	High	High	Manage Closely: Actively involve in project monitoring and evaluation, ensure compliance with GCF requirements, and maintain open communication.
Department of Fisheries	Secondary	Government agency	High	High	Manage Closely: Actively involve in project planning, implementation, and monitoring, and seek their input on key project decisions.
Ministry of Agriculture	Secondary	Government agency	Medium	High	Keep Informed: Regular updates on project progress and opportunities to provide feedback through meetings, workshops, and written communication.
Ministry of Sustainable Development	Secondary	Government agency	Medium	High	Keep Informed: Regular updates on project progress and opportunities to provide feedback through meetings, workshops, and written communication.

Stakeholder Group	Type	Role	Interest	Influence	Engagement Approach
Fishing Communities	Primary	Beneficiaries	High	High	Manage Closely: Continuous engagement throughout the project lifecycle, including consultations, workshops, focus groups, and site visits.
NGOs	Secondary	Partners	High	Medium	Keep Informed: Regular updates on project progress and opportunities to provide feedback through meetings, workshops, and written communication.
Private Sector	Secondary	Partners	Medium	Medium	Keep Satisfied: Regular communication and opportunities to provide feedback, but may not require extensive engagement efforts.
Research Institutions	Secondary	Partners	Medium	Medium	Keep Informed: Regular updates on project progress and opportunities to provide feedback through meetings, workshops, and written communication.
Vulnerable Groups	Primary	Beneficiaries	High	Low	Meet Their Needs: Specific engagement plans tailored to the needs of each vulnerable group, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity.
General Public	Secondary	General public	Low	Low	Monitor: General information dissemination through the project website, social media, and community outreach.

Stakeholder engagement plan and strategy

Stakeholder Engagement and Consultations in Project Development

The FISH-ADAPT project recognizes the importance of stakeholder engagement throughout the project lifecycle. From project inception, consultations have been constant and wide-reaching, including workshops and one-on-one meetings in the communities. These consultations have engaged local stakeholders and served as an important component in crafting the design of this funding proposal.

The strategy employed to ascertain stakeholder engagement during project implementation includes:

- **National and local-level consultations:** National-level consultations will be held bi-annually in Castries, Vieux Fort, and Soufriere, involving relevant government ministries, local institutions, civil society organizations, private sector companies, and other concerned stakeholders. These consultations will serve as platforms for discussing project plans, progress, and addressing any emerging issues.
- **Community-level consultations:** Community-level consultations will be conducted quarterly in key fishing communities throughout Saint Lucia, including Anse La Raye, Canaries, Dennerly, and Micoud. These consultations will focus on specific project activities, the Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP), the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), and the Gender Action Plan (GAP), ensuring that community feedback is incorporated into project implementation.
- **Consultations with vulnerable groups:** Recognizing the unique needs and challenges faced by vulnerable groups, the project will conduct separate consultations with these stakeholders, including women, youth, and persons with disabilities. These consultations will be held bi-monthly in various locations convenient to the respective groups, focusing on specific project activities relevant to their needs and concerns. The project will ensure that these consultations are conducted in accessible formats and locations, with appropriate language and communication strategies to facilitate effective participation.
- **Engagement with women and women-focused organizations:** The project acknowledges the crucial role of women and women-focused organizations in the fishing communities and will conduct gender-specific consultations and activities, as detailed in the Gender Action Plan (GAP). These consultations will address the unique challenges and barriers faced by women in the fisheries sector and ensure their perspectives, needs, and concerns are incorporated into the project's adaptive management strategies. The intersectionality of gender with other factors such as ethnicity, economic status, and household structure will also be considered during these consultations.
- **Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (SEAH):** The project has a zero-tolerance policy towards manipulation, interference, coercion, or intimidation against stakeholders who share their views about the project. The Project Grievance Redress Mechanism is in place to address such occurrences. The inclusion of civil society and private sector organizations in the project steering committee will contribute to ensuring that consultations remain free, open, inclusive, and well-documented.

Engagement Plan during Project Implementation

The following table lists the key stakeholder groups, and the engagement approaches for each during the project implementation:

Stakeholder Group	Level of Engagement	Engagement Approach	Engagement Tools	Frequency	Responsibility
Primary stakeholders (fishers, fishing communities, mariculture	Manage closely	Continuous engagement throughout the project lifecycle, including consultations,	Surveys, interviews, focus group discussions, community meetings, site	Regular (at least quarterly)	Project Management Unit (PMU) and Community

farmers, coastal communities)		workshops, focus groups, and site visits.	visits, and participatory mapping.		Liaison Officer (CLO)
Secondary stakeholders (government agencies, NGOs, private sector companies, research institutions)	Keep informed	Regular updates on project progress and opportunities to provide feedback through meetings, workshops, and written communication.	Meetings, workshops, newsletters, email updates, and project website.	Quarterly or as needed	PMU and relevant government agencies
Vulnerable groups (women, youth, persons with disabilities, elderly)	Meet their needs	Specific engagement plans tailored to the needs of each vulnerable group, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity.	Focus group discussions, community meetings, one-on-one interviews, and participatory mapping.	Regular (at least bi-monthly)	PMU, CLO, and relevant NGOs

Continuous Stakeholder Feedback Mechanisms

The FISH-ADAPT project will establish continuous feedback mechanisms to ensure that stakeholders have ongoing opportunities to provide input and feedback throughout the project lifecycle. These mechanisms will include:

Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM): As detailed in the ESAP, the project will establish a grievance redress mechanism (GRM) to address any complaints that may arise during implementation. The GRM will be a system by which queries or clarifications about the programme will be responded to; problems with implementation will be resolved, and complaints and grievances will be addressed efficiently and effectively. The GRM will consist of four parallel systems. These systems are: (i) a community-based system; (ii) a formal system designed specifically for the project (project-level GRM); (iii) the FAO's approach to the GRM (FAO-level GRM), and (iv) GCF independent Redress Mechanism (IRM). When an aggrieved person declares a grievance, they may elect to take the community-based route or the more formal one.

- **Regular Communication:** The project will maintain regular communication with stakeholders through various channels, including newsletters, email updates, social media, and community meetings.
- **Feedback Surveys:** Regular feedback surveys will be conducted to assess stakeholder satisfaction with the project and its engagement efforts.

- **Focus Group Discussions:** Focus group discussions will be conducted with specific stakeholder groups to gather in-depth feedback on project activities and engagement approaches.

Roles and Responsibilities

Clear roles and responsibilities for stakeholder engagement will be assigned to ensure accountability and effective implementation of the SEP. The PMU will be responsible for overall coordination and implementation of the SEP, while the National Stakeholder Engagement Consultant will be responsible for day-to-day engagement with communities, with support from the National ESS consultant. Relevant government agencies and NGOs will also play a key role in stakeholder engagement, particularly with vulnerable groups.

Responsibilities of the National Stakeholder Engagement Consultant:

- **Stakeholder Analysis and Mapping:** Conduct a comprehensive review of the stakeholder analysis and mapping exercise to identify and categorize stakeholders, assess their interests and influence, and develop targeted engagement strategies.
- **Engagement Planning:** Further develop a detailed stakeholder engagement plan that outlines specific engagement activities, timelines, responsibilities, and resources required.
- **Facilitation of Consultations:** Facilitate national and community-level consultations, focus group discussions, and workshops, ensuring that all stakeholders have the opportunity to participate meaningfully and that their feedback is captured and incorporated into project decision-making.
- **Communication and Outreach:** Develop and implement a communication and outreach strategy to ensure that stakeholders are kept informed about project activities and progress. This will include developing communication materials, managing social media platforms, and organizing community events.
- **Grievance Redress Mechanism:** Support the establishment and implementation of the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to address stakeholder grievances and complaints in a timely and transparent manner.
- **Capacity Building:** Provide training and capacity building to PMU staff and relevant implementing agencies on stakeholder engagement principles and best practices.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Contribute to the project's monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework by providing input on stakeholder engagement indicators and data collection methods. This includes collaborating with the PMU M&E Officer to prepare relevant sections for annual reporting, mid-term, and final evaluations.

The National Stakeholder Engagement Consultant will play a critical role in ensuring that the FISH-ADAPT project is implemented in a participatory and inclusive manner, maximizing stakeholder involvement and ensuring that project activities are responsive to the needs and priorities of the beneficiaries.

Responsibilities of the ESS Specialist:

The FISH-ADAPT project will have a dedicated Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) Specialist within the Project Management Unit (PMU). This specialist will be responsible for ensuring the project adheres to the ESAP throughout its duration. The responsibilities will include:

- **Environmental and Social Assessments:** Conduct comprehensive environmental and social assessments for all project activities, utilizing FAO's ESS Screening Checklist and preparing Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) for sub-projects as needed. This will involve collaboration with technical experts, including the Ministry of Agriculture technical advisor, fisheries specialist, gender specialist, and relevant service providers.
- **Training and Capacity Building:** Provide training to PMU staff and relevant implementing agencies on the ESAP, including stakeholder engagement processes and the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). The ESS Specialist will collaborate with the Gender Specialist to ensure training incorporates gender-sensitive approaches.
- **ESAP Validation:** Present and explain the ESAP, including the GRM, to stakeholders during consultations, gather feedback, and incorporate it into the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) process. This ensures stakeholder input is central to the project's environmental and social safeguards.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Contribute to the project's monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework by providing input on environmental and social safeguards aspects. This includes collaborating with the PMU M&E Officer to prepare relevant sections for annual reporting, mid-term, and final evaluations.

The ESS Specialist will play a crucial role in ensuring that the FISH-ADAPT project is implemented in an environmentally and socially sustainable manner, minimizing potential negative impacts and maximizing positive outcomes for the fisheries sector and communities in Saint Lucia.

Monitoring and Reporting

The purpose of the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan is to track the effectiveness of the stakeholder engagement process and ensure that it is contributing to the project's overall objectives. The M&E plan will also help to identify any challenges or issues that may arise during the engagement process and to adapt the project's engagement approaches as needed.

Objectives

The objectives of the M&E plan are to:

- Track the progress of stakeholder engagement activities.
- Assess the level of stakeholder satisfaction with the engagement process.
- Identify any challenges or issues that may arise during the engagement process.
- Adapt the project's engagement approaches as needed.
- Ensure that stakeholder feedback is being incorporated into project decision-making.

Indicators

The following indicators will be used to monitor and evaluate the stakeholder engagement process:

- **Number of stakeholders reached:** This indicator will track the number of stakeholders who have been engaged in the project.
- **Level of stakeholder satisfaction:** This indicator will assess the level of satisfaction among stakeholders with the engagement process.
- **Number of grievances received:** This indicator will track the number of grievances and complaints received from stakeholders.
- **Timeliness of grievance resolution:** This indicator will track the timeliness of grievance resolution.
- **Incorporation of stakeholder feedback:** This indicator will assess the extent to which stakeholder feedback is being incorporated into project decision-making.

Data Collection Methods

The following data collection methods will be used:

- **Stakeholder surveys:** Surveys will be conducted to gather feedback from stakeholders on their satisfaction with the engagement process.
- **Focus group discussions:** Focus groups will be conducted with specific stakeholder groups to gather in-depth feedback on project activities and engagement approaches.
- **Interviews:** Interviews will be conducted with key stakeholders to gather their perspectives on the engagement process.
- **Document review:** Project documents, such as meeting minutes, consultation reports, and grievance logs, will be reviewed to track the progress of engagement activities and the resolution of grievances.

Reporting

The project will report on its engagement efforts to the GCF on a regular basis through the GCF Annual Performance Report, the inception report (after six months of GCF effectiveness) and the completion report. The reports will include information on the indicators listed above, as well as any challenges or issues that have arisen during the engagement process.

The project will also use the M&E data to adapt its engagement approaches as needed.

Budget

The FISH-ADAPT project recognizes the critical importance of stakeholder engagement and has allocated a significant portion of its budget to support these activities. This budget will cover the costs of hiring dedicated staff, conducting consultations, developing communication materials, and implementing the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).

Cost description	Total budget
National project coordinator	\$220,999
National stakeholder engagement consultant	\$114,450
National ESS consultant	\$105,350

Summary of consultations

1. Consultations during Project Preparation

Extensive consultations were conducted during the project preparation phase to ensure that the project design reflects the needs and priorities of stakeholders. These consultations involved a wide range of stakeholders, including government agencies, fishing communities, NGOs, and private sector companies.

Key consultations during this phase included:

- **National stakeholder workshops:** Two national stakeholder workshops were held to discuss the project's objectives, components, and potential impacts.
- **Community consultations:** Consultations were held in fishing communities to gather feedback on the project design and identify potential environmental and social risks.
- **Gender consultations:** Consultations were held with women's groups and other stakeholders to ensure that the project design incorporates gender considerations.

Below are extracts from some of the reports which helped in the design of the project proposal design.

- **Formulation inception Meeting (February 2022)**

A meeting was held at the Fisheries Conference Room with title - **Improving the Capacity of the Fisheries Sector in Saint Lucia to Enhance Resilience to Climate Change**

Participants

Name	Organization
1. N.T (M)	Dept. of Fisheries
2. P.P (F)	
3. P.C. (M)	
4. C. M (F)	

5. F.M. (M)	
6. S.V (M)	
7. M.D (M)	
8. E.Y. (F)	
9. H.R. (F)	
10. C.D. (F)	Dept. Economic Development
11. W.N (F)	Dept. Economic Development
12. P.R (F)	Dept. of Sustainable Development
13. K.C. (F)	Goodwill Fisher Cooperative, National Fisherfolk Organization (NFO)
14. J.M (F)	Gros Islet Fishers Cooperative
15. J.F (M)	Soufriere Fishermen Cooperative
16. J.T (F)	Micoud East Coast Fishers
17. G.B (F)	St. Lucia National Trust
19. B.F (F)	Laborie Fishermen's Cooperative
20. M.M (F)	National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO)
21. D.G. (F)	
22. C.J (M)	GEF Southeast Coast Project Coordinator
23. L.V (M)	Manager, Vieux-Fort Fisheries Market
24. C.F (M)	Police Marine Unit

- **Consultations/training report. FAO supported Fisheries Readiness Project (2022)**

A series of training workshops to improve fisherfolk understanding and knowledge of climate change and its impact on the fisheries sector, fisherfolk livelihoods and coastal communities. (See Appendix 1)



- **Climate change and Fisheries Training (November 1st to 17th, 2022)**

A series of training workshops (November 1st to 17th, 2022) to accelerate Saint Lucia's readiness and capacity to access climate finance and share best practices a training curriculum on Climate Change and Fisheries was developed.

The training curriculum focused on enhancing fisherfolk understanding of the impacts and stressors of climate change to build resilience and adaptation toward a more sustainable sector. Based on the training curriculum, training sessions were conducted with fisherfolk from across the value chain including seamoss farmers from each of 10 major landing sites throughout Saint Lucia.

Participants' Profile

Landing Site	Total number of participants	Number of Males	Number of Females
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Gros Islet	16	14	2
Castries	15	11	4
Anse La Raye	27	23	4
Canaries	22	20	2
Soufriere	16	11	5



Additional **E Co.** scheduled activities

E Co. organized focus group meetings, direct interviews with key informants and open discussions with fishers, representatives of the cooperatives, credit unions and banks that are engaged directly or indirectly with the sector

- Focus Group with fishers and boat owners

A focus group meeting was conducted in one of the primary fishing communities. Invited were boat owners, boat captains plus the manager of the fish landing facility. (See transcript as **Appendix 4**)

- Key Informant Interviews

Key Informant interviews were conducted with the following individuals so as to gain insight into how their institutions operate and any advice on how project can help fishers benefit or participate in whatever they offer.

- Dennerly Cooperative Credit Union General Manager
- Fon St Jacques Cooperative Credit Union General Manager
- Cooperative Credit Union League General Manager

FAO/E Co. Field mission (November 15th - 19th 2023)

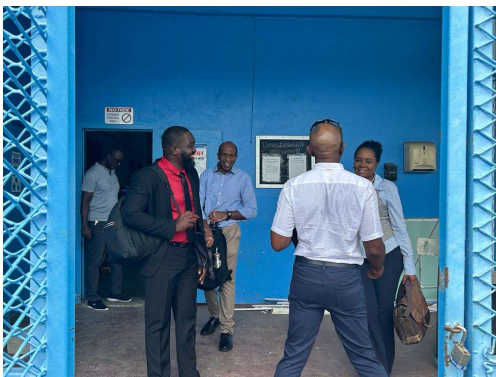
To date there has been one joint field mission by E Co and FAO personnel to the country, However, local consultants have ensured that whether virtually or in person, there were adequate consultations, whether through key Informant Interviews, virtual calls, or focus group meetings, with stakeholders at national and local levels.

Day 1.

FAO and E Co. team meeting with National Designated Authority



FAO and E Co Meeting with manager of Lucian Blue Oceans



Day 2

Touring the Fish Landing Facilities around Saint Lucia



This tour allowed firsthand view of facilities, complementary interviews with fishers, traders, and other project partners working in these sectors.

Day 3

Stakeholder/Validation Workshop

The main objective of this stakeholder workshop was to build country ownership by exposing a wider group of stakeholders to the project idea, and by ensuring a shared understanding of the pros and cons of the proposed approach.

Venue: Union Orchid Gardens, Saint Lucia

Host: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Rural Development

Agenda

Session Title	Presenter/ Methodology
Welcome Remarks	Plenary: Comments by FAO
Workshop Objectives	Plenary: Comments / presentation by Department of Fisheries representative
Alignment of the project with Government of Saint Lucia Climate Change Agenda	Plenary: Presentation by NDA representative
Introduction to the Project: The role of the GCF	Plenary: Presentation by Consultant team members, followed by questions and answers
Overview of the Project Design, followed by presentation of the four technical studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate context: hazards and impacts on the Fisheries sector • Fisheries data and communications • Aquaculture and mariculture • Financial services and market analysis for the fisheries and aquaculture sector 	Plenary: Brief presentation by Consultant team members, followed by 5-10 minutes of questions and answers after each presentation
Break	
Briefing and organization of discussion groups	Plenary: Presentation by E Co. representative or Facilitator with key questions and breakout group instructions
Interactive Session: Exploration of the project design, collection of additional insights and information	Group work: Facilitated interactive discussions with all participants establishing small breakout groups. At least one E Co. / FAO and one DoF representative in each group. Stakeholder representative to be nominated to report back on findings from group.
Interactive Session: Exploration of the project design, collection of additional insights and information	Group work: Facilitated interactive discussions with all participants establishing small breakout groups. At least one E Co. / FAO and one DoF representative in each group. Stakeholder representative to be nominated to report back on findings from group.
Lunch	
Interactive Session: Exploration of the project design, collection of additional insights and information	Group work: Facilitated interactive discussions with all participants establishing small breakout groups. At least one E Co. / FAO and one DoF representative in each group. Stakeholder representative to be nominated to report back on findings from group.
Working Break	
Interactive Session to explore key issues related to the project design	World-Cafe style interactive poster sessions facilitated by E Co. team members to get further comments and ideas

Session Title	Presenter/ Methodology
Wrap-up discussion	Plenary: Facilitated interactive open discussion
Recap, next steps and Closing Remarks	Ministry of Agriculture and FAO representatives

Participants were allowed to share their views on all matters that they believe affect the Fishing industry.



Below are some of the highlights which were discussed in plenary as relates to finance.

Question: Are cooperatives equipped to prepare fishers to be best placed to benefit from banking institutions and insurance company's needs?

Responses by participants

- Trust issues are major as relates to cooperatives.
- Older fishers are reluctant and unable to adopt new technologies.
- Many fishers not affiliated with cooperatives.
- Some cooperatives managed by boards who are not as enlightened as should be
- Many fishers don't see this as a business, "they just go fishing...something to take them to tomorrow".
- Need some 'maverick" or champions; some demonstrable models!
- Innovation required in approach.
- Record keeping is needed.
- Fishers don't see big picture.
- Communication specifically targeting change in behaviour is needed.

Question: What can be done to help fishers?

- Need to get fishers to understand for finance purposes they need keep paper trail. They need better bookkeeping/accounting.
- Fishers may need to see some sort of pilot.

Question: Why does it appear that fishers can't manage themselves?

- They don't have the know-how.
- Cooperatives not providing the sort of support that they could/should.
- Record keeping is a major problem.
- Major trust issues between fishers and some cooperatives
- Information not shared between fishers and cooperatives.
- Some data collection processes are inadequate. Very important data missing.
- Difficult for older fishers to embrace new technology.
- Many fishers not associated with cooperatives.
- Coop structure demonstrates approach could work. But as most persons are uneducated, non-business minded, it is a challenge.
- The structure of cooperatives needs to change as presently it impedes ability of cooperatives to evolve.
- Need to show fishers the entire value chain. Need demonstrate that greater success can happen with improved value chain.

Question: "One word that captures what we want to see in fisheries sector."

- Innovate
- Champions
- Re-think
- Re-construct
- Transformative
- Togetherness
- Role Model

Question: What are some of the barriers preventing fishers from accessing finance.

- No traditional history of record keeping.
- Entities not working collaboratively for teaching financial literacy.
- Need sensitization workshops.
- "If fishers not interested in growth, why would they come to a workshop?"
- Should be umbrella body running training everywhere. One body with one strategy.
- Need a new entity to train etc.
- Lack of supervision by regulatory body

Question: What do we need for the banking sector to take fishers more seriously?

- Business plans
- Citizenry must understand the cost of search and rescue and how it plays out in national budget. Let the people see how much it costs when Marine Police have to be deployed when not following laws and being reckless.
- Fishers do not understand big picture regarding finance/banking.
- Sector don't need to wait for majority of stakeholders to get on board to begin training programs etc.
- Use an influencer.
- Survey fishers to find out individual expectations of sector.

Question: How do we move forward?

- Better alignment between credit unions and cooperatives
- The problem may have started when started dividing cooperatives between “financial” and “non-financial” members.
- Cooperatives lost a lot of training opportunities that went to credit unions.

Question: How do we train fishers to be better businesspeople?

- Success stories needed and shared.
- Need communication program to change mindsets of fishers and citizenry.
- Fishers must be part of cooperatives (not boat owners and financial members)
- Demonstrable models.

Beyond the Validation workshop several of the consultancies commissioned for this proposal have also added additional insight from their respective engagements

These consultancies ensured that the project design best represents insights from relevant government organizations, among them being the Department of Fisheries and by extension the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, the Department of Gender Affairs, Department of Sustainable Development, and the Ministry of Education, civil society organizations including those that represent persons with disabilities, women, and LGBTQ+ persons, as well as development partners and of course fishers in particular and civil society in general.

Government of Saint Lucia/FAO/E Co – Virtual meeting to discuss updates regarding the Funding Proposal (May 10, 2024)

A meeting was convened with the government stakeholders to discuss the updates regarding the development of the funding proposal, executing arrangements for the project and other matters. Updates included:

- A complete draft of the funding proposal (full package) was submitted by E Co Ltd, to the FAO team, for review
- The draft full package was reviewed and feedback was provided to E Co Ltd
- A Capacity Assessment was completed for the Ministry of Agriculture and a copy of the final report was sent to the focal point, via email, on 23 April 2024
- E Co Ltd is in the process of revising the package and is expected to submit the revised funding proposal (full package) by May 31, 2024

It was agreed to that:

- The logframe, budget and activities, of the revised full package (FP) proposal will be shared, for review and feedback
- A meeting will be arranged, by the FAO, to discuss comments on the logframe, budget and activities
- The FAO SLC will be the main executing partner, based on the result of the HACT assessment, and will transfer funds to partners through Letters of Agreement (LOAs)
- The PMU unit will be established in SLU
- Draft ToRs for the technical committees to be shared by the FAO, for review and feedback

Participants included:

Name	Organization
P.S (F)	Department of Fisheries
C.D (F)	Department of Economic Development (NDA)
N.W (F)	Department of Economic Development (NDA)
Duncan, Martina	E Co.
Salmon, Beverley	E Co.
Gore, Jamal	E Co.
Felix, Marie-Louise	Independent consultant
Buenfil, Jacinto	FAO
Diei Ouadi, Yvette	FAO
Solano, Lizzy	FAO
Lewis-Clarke, Danielle	FAO

Government of Saint Lucia/FAO/E Co – Virtual meeting to discuss draft logframe and budget (June 07, 2024)

The meeting was convened to discuss the draft logframe with budget, and draft Terms of Reference (ToR) of the project governance structure. It was agreed to that formal feedback on the logframe/budget and governance structure would be provided by 10 June 2024 and that the funding proposal, specifically, project structure, justification of GCF financing, implementation arrangements, budget and co-financing per activity, would be reviewed and feedback provided within the week of 10 June 2024. Once all revised and accepted, no objection and co-financing letters will be drafted shortly thereafter.

Participants included:

Name	Organization
P.S (F)	Department of Fisheries
P.P (F)	

C.D (F)	Department of Economic Development (NDA)
Duncan, Martina	E Co.
Micozzi, Mariana	
Salmon, Beverley	
Gore, Jamal	
Buenfil, Jacinto	FAO
Alleyne, Stephen	
Solano, Lizzy	
Lewis-Clarke, Danielle	

Government of Saint Lucia/FAO – Virtual meeting to discuss the full package and co-financing requirements (July 18, 2024)

Meeting Attendees:

Fisheries Department

- Deputy Chief Fisheries Officer, Fish-Adapt Project Focal Point, Fish-Adapt Project Alternate Focal Point, UBEC Project Focal Point

National Designated Authority (NDA)- Ministry of Economic Development

- N.W. (Chief Economist), D.C (Economist)

Unleashing the Blue Economy of the Caribbean (UBEC) Project (Saint Lucia)

- S.C (Project Manager)

FAO

- Jacinto Buenfil (Policy Officer), Miguel Montoute (Water Management Specialist), Lizzy Solano (Green Climate Fund Project Task Manager), Danielle Lewis-Clarke (Portfolio Support Specialist)

Meeting Summary:

The meeting, chaired by FAO Policy Officer Jacinto Buenfil, focused on providing an overview of the FISH-ADAPT budget document, with particular attention to the co-financed activities that require funding from the Government of Saint Lucia (GoSL), represented by the Department of Fisheries, the UBEC Project, and the Department of Economic Development. The primary objective was to ensure budget alignment between the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of

Fisheries) and the Ministry of Finance (UBEC Project) and to secure agreement on the co-financed activities. Additionally, the meeting aimed to plan a follow-up session involving the Department of Fisheries, the Department of Finance, and the FAO to thoroughly review and finalize the co-financing portions of the project budget.

Key decisions and next steps included organizing a GoSL team meeting to review the budget documents and communicate the meeting schedule to the FAO. The review would focus on assessing the appropriateness of budget allocations, especially for activities co-financed by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Finance, ensuring alignment with the project timelines for both FISH-ADAPT and UBEC, and confirming the overall co-financing amounts. After receiving feedback, the FAO team would determine which changes could be accommodated. The finalized proposal, jointly approved by the GoSL through submitted co-financing and no-objection letters, and the FAO, would then be submitted to the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

Government of Saint Lucia/FAO – Virtual meeting to discuss co-financing agreement (July 30, 2024)

Meeting Attendees:

Department of Fisheries

- Y.E. (Fish-Adapt Project Focal Point)

National Designated Authority (NDA)- Ministry of Economic Development

- N.W. (Chief Economist), D.C (Economist)

Unleashing the Blue Economy of the Caribbean (UBEC) Project (Saint Lucia) S.C. (Project Manager)

FAO

- Miguel Montoute (Water Management Specialist), Ericka Espino (Project Specialist)

Meeting Summary:

The virtual meeting, held via Google Meet, was chaired by the Department of Fisheries, the Focal Point of the FISH-Adapt project (as a follow up on discussions from July 18, 2024, Overview of the Full Package and Co-financing Requirements between the Government of Saint Lucia and the FAO). The primary objective was for the Ministries of Agriculture and Finance to agree on the co-financing amounts outlined in the draft FISH-Adapt Project Budget document. During the meeting, participants conducted a line-by-line review of the co-financed budget activities. This allowed representatives from the Department of Fisheries and the UBEC project under the Department of Finance to agree on the retention, removal, or modification of these activities and the corresponding allocation of funds. Additionally, the participants ensured that the co-financed activities under the UBEC project aligned with the project's established timelines.

The Department of Fisheries agreed to review the discussion points from the meeting and provide feedback to the FAO on how to adjust the co-financed activities to better align the Department's objectives with those of the UBEC project. Furthermore, FAO representatives reminded the Saint

Lucia government counterparts to prepare and submit the co-financing and no objection letters once the agreed-upon budget was finalized.

**Government of Saint Lucia /FAO - Meeting seeking clarification on co-financing
(July 31, 2024 - Department of Fisheries Conference Room)**

Meeting Attendees:

Department of Fisheries

- T.N. (Deputy Chief Fisheries Officer), Y.E (Fish-Adapt Project Focal Point), M.F. (UBEC Project Focal Point)

FAO

- Miguel Montoute (Water Management Specialist)

Meeting Summary:

The meeting took place at the Department of Fisheries. Its purpose was to follow up on the discussions from the July 30, 2024, Co-Financing Agreement Meeting between the Government of Saint Lucia and the FAO. The meeting focused on clarifying how co-financing activities should be categorized within the budget. It was agreed that all co-financing activities should be listed as separate activities or sub-activities to ensure clear differentiation from activities solely funded by GCF core funds. The Department of Fisheries committed to providing feedback aligned with this criterion

2. Key Findings from Consultations

The consultations highlighted several key issues and priorities for stakeholders, including:

- **Need for climate-resilient infrastructure:** Fishers and fishing communities emphasized the need for climate-resilient infrastructure to withstand the impacts of climate change, such as storms, floods, and sea-level rise.
- **Importance of sustainable fishing practices:** Stakeholders highlighted the importance of sustainable fishing practices to ensure the long-term health of fish stocks and marine ecosystems.
- **Need for livelihood diversification:** Fishers and fishing communities expressed a desire for livelihood diversification opportunities to reduce their dependence on fishing and increase their resilience to climate change impacts.
- **Importance of gender and social inclusion:** Stakeholders emphasized the need for the project to address the needs of vulnerable groups, including women, youth, and persons with disabilities.
- **Need for effective grievance redress mechanisms:** Stakeholders highlighted the importance of establishing clear and accessible grievance redress mechanisms to address stakeholder grievances and complaints in a timely and transparent manner.

3. Incorporation of Consultation Findings

The findings from the consultations have been used to inform the project design and ensure that it reflects the needs and priorities of stakeholders. For example, the project has incorporated measures to:

- **Invest in climate-resilient infrastructure:** The project will invest in climate-resilient infrastructure, such as fishing landing sites, storage facilities, and mariculture infrastructure, to help fishing communities adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- **Promote sustainable fishing practices:** The project will promote sustainable fishing practices through training, capacity building, and the provision of alternative livelihood opportunities.
- **Support livelihood diversification:** The project will support livelihood diversification through the development of aquaculture, mariculture, and other income-generating activities.
- **Address gender and social inclusion:** The project will address gender and social inclusion through targeted interventions and capacity building for vulnerable groups.
- **Establish effective grievance redress mechanisms:** The project will establish clear and accessible grievance redress mechanisms to address stakeholder grievances and complaints.

4. Ongoing Consultations

Stakeholder consultations will continue throughout the project lifecycle to ensure that the project remains responsive to the needs and priorities of stakeholders. The project will use a variety of engagement methods, including community meetings, focus group discussions, workshops, and online consultations.

The project will also establish continuous feedback mechanisms to provide stakeholders with ongoing opportunities to provide input and feedback. These mechanisms will include a grievance redress mechanism, regular communication channels, feedback surveys, and focus group discussions.

By incorporating stakeholder feedback and adapting its approaches as needed, the FISH-ADAPT project will ensure that it is implemented in a participatory, transparent, and accountable manner, and that it contributes to the long-term resilience and sustainability of Saint Lucia's fisheries sector.

Appendix 2 – GCF Readiness Project Stakeholder Engagement

Improving the Capacity of the Fisheries Sector in Saint Lucia to enhance Resilience to Climate Change (LCA-RS-002)

Background

The FAO Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean (SLC) in collaboration with the Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB) and other FAO divisions assists member countries in policy development, planning and response regarding challenge of climate change. One of the key areas of work

is providing support and accelerating countries' capacities to access climate finance and share best practices among the countries.

Climate financing mechanisms such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund (AF) and other bilateral and multilateral climate funds have been established specifically to assist countries to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change. FAO is an accredited agency for GEF, GCF and AF.

There is growing international recognition that the agricultural sectors will play a central role in responding to climate change, as these sectors are among the foremost priorities in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) submitted by countries under the UNFCCC. FAO in the Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean has an important role to play in supporting its Member States to access and utilize climate finance, as evidenced by the growing number of requests from government counterparts.

The Government of Saint Lucia is undertaking its readiness activities for accessing Green Climate Fund (GCF) resources for addressing climate change. The project will involve strengthening capacity of the government to access climate finance through extensive stakeholder engagement, with the main objective of providing the evidence basis for climate change impacts on the fisheries and coastal zone sectors of Saint Lucia.

The activities under this readiness will provide important baseline data and information that would be useful for future decision making on climate change priorities in the fisheries and coastal zone sector and therefore a basis for concept note and proposal development.

Introduction

Fishing in Saint Lucia both recreationally and commercially is longstanding. Indeed, commercial fishing, as a venture contributes meaningfully to the overall Gross Domestic Product, GDP, of the country.

Whilst the said industry has weathered several misfortunes and a general lack of coordination, it continues to survive, with several fisherfolk cooperatives operating throughout the island.

That the fishing industry in Saint Lucia is facing unprecedented challenges as a direct result of global warming and climate change is beyond argument.

A prevailing problem, though, is the lack of data driven information that can be used to strengthen the industry and secure the livelihoods of fisher folk in an era of climate change.

For this purpose, and through financial assistance from the GCF, with oversight from the FAO, the project directly engaged critical stakeholders—fisherfolk—to obtain first-hand information as to the issues they currently face, including the economic viability of their trade, their ability to respond to and recover from climate related events, the conditions of the various landing sites, and their overall understanding and appreciation of the impacts of climate change on their livelihoods.

Approach

Fisherfolk, through assistance from the Department of Fisheries and the respective Cooperatives worked alongside consultants to organize meetings in the various communities islandwide. The strategy deployed was face-to-face interventions. The underlying thinking was to ensure that every attendee was presented with an equal opportunity to divulge information that he/she thought was important and would lead to fortifying the industry against the unpredictable nature of global warming and climate change.

Below is a sample agenda

Agenda		
9:30	Registration	
10:00	Introductions and Purpose of Workshop	MLF
10:10	Introduction to Climate Vulnerability	NE
10:20	Climate Change Impacts on Fisheries	AJ
11:00	Assessment of Vulnerability in Fisheries	NE, PJ, LD
12:30	LUNCH	
1:00	Assessment of Vulnerability in Fisheries	NE, PJ, LD
2:00	Emergency Response Planning	AG
3:00	BREAK	

3: 15	Economic Valuation of Fisheries	LM
4:00	Close of Meeting	MLF

Communities Visited

Gros Islet-September 6

	Name	M	F	Signature	Telephone	Email	Local Travel Received
1		M					\$50
2		M					\$50
3		M					\$50
4			F				\$50
5			F				\$50
6		M					\$50
7		M					\$50
8		M					\$50



Fisherfolk provide invaluable information on vulnerabilities within the fishing industry in light of climate change



Engaging participants about hazards, and emergency response and preparedness plans

Choiseul

	Name	M	F	Signature	Telephone	Email	Local Travel Received
1		M					
2		M					
3		M					
4			F				
5		M					
6		M					
7		M					
8		M					
9		M					
10			F				
11			F				
12							



Participant seeking clarification on an issue raised by the Gender Relations Consultant



Consultant documenting data on fisherfolk earnings and general socio-economic issues

Canaries

	Name	M	F	Signature	Telephone	Email	Local Travel Received
1		M					
2		M					
3		M					
4		M					
5		M					
6		M					
7		M					
8		M					
9		M					
10		M					
11		M					
12		M					



Participants listen eagerly to information on the language of climate change, climate change impacts on fisher folk, and ways to adapt to the phenomenon



Project Team Lead provides additional information on the project outcome and the way forward

Laborie

	Name	M	F	Signature	Telephone	Email	Local Travel Received
1		M					
2		M					
3		M					
4		M					
5		M					
6		M					
7		M					
8		M					
9		M					
10		M					
11		M					
12		M					
13		M					
14		M					
15		M					
16		M					
17		M					
18		M					
19		M					
20		M					
21		M					
22		M					
23		M					
24			F				
25			F				
26			F				



Consultant documenting the information providing by the fisherfolk



Laborie fisherfolk came out in full and engaged in a highly spirited discussion

ANSE LA RAYE

	Name	M	F	Signature	Telephone	Email	Local Travel Received
1		M					
2		M					
3		M					

	Name	M	F	Signature	Telephone	Email	Local Travel Received
4		M					
5		M					
6		M					
7		M					
8		M					
9		M					
10		M					
11		M					
12		M					
13		M					
14		M					
15		M					
16		M					
17		M					
18		M					
19		M					
20		M					
21		M					
22		M					
23		M					
24		M					
25			F				
26		M					



Gender Relations Consultant in animated discourse on gender inclusion in the fishing industry

CASTRIES

	Name	M	F	Signature	Telephone	Email	Local Travel Received
1		M					
2		M					
3		M					
4		M					
5		M					
6		M					
7		M					
8		M					
9		M					
10		M					
11		M					
12		M					
13		M					
14		M					
15		M					
16		M					
17		M					
18		M					
19		M					
20		M					
21		M					
22		M					
23		M					
24		M					
25			F				
26		M					



Fisherfolk providing information on social and economic landscape in the industry



Fisherfolk's experiences captured

ENUMERATORS' WORKSHOP



Data Analyst discusses questionnaire with enumerators ahead of field visits



Enumerator in the field with fisher

Summary of Meetings

Engaging fisherfolk was rewarding as they displayed a high level of enthusiasm in providing the information being sought and a profound understanding of the environment within which they ply their trade. Below is a summary of key points emanating from interactions:

Climate Vulnerability	Climate Change Impacts on Fisheries	Assessment of Vulnerability in Fisheries	Emergency Response Planning
Storm Surge	More time spent fishing due to fish farther out at sea Reduced income due to lower fish catches	Change in fishing season	Pay attention to early warning advisories
Sea Level Rise	More money spent on fuel due to longer fishing trips	Reduction in quantity of fish caught	Never leave port without required safety and navigation equipment- (life vest, water, flashlight, vhf radio, first aid kit, flare gun)
Floods	Increase in operations cost due to higher cost of fishing equipment	Migration of fish to warmer waters	Secure your boat and gear before a storm;
Sargassum?	Loss of fishing gear due to rougher seas Difficulty obtaining insurance due to increasing cost	Change in spawning season	Consider insurance for fishing gear and vessel
	Sargassum influx affects access to fish landing sites & damages engine propellers	Change in type of fish caught	Keep fish landing sites clear of anything (debris and other materials) that can cause harm during a storm

		Invasive species threat	More efficient forms of fishing (bigger fishing vessels) Increasing post harvest production (making use of all parts of the fish)
			Protect mangroves and coral reefs

Appendix 3 – Focus group meeting with boat owners Denner

At Chateau Heritage

Thursday September 21

Attending the meeting

Participant 1 – Boat owner/fisher

Participant 2 – Boat owner/Fisher (FAD)

Participant 3 - Boat owner

Participant 4 – Boat owner

Participant 5 – Boat owner/Deep sea fisher

President – Boat Owner/ Conch fisher

Participant 6 (Denner Fishermen Cooperative Manager)

This focus group meeting was facilitated by McHale Andrew (MA) and Alleyne Regis (AR)

MA – How many of you have insurance?

Group – None

President – None of the insurance companies will insure us

Participant 1 – There is one that would do it....I am not sure what their name is but from what they are asking and the rules that are there...they will tell you something about...if the weather report gave a warning about small craft should stay on shore, and you went out, then you lose that insurance. If you leave and you go to another country like Saint Vincent... you are not insured. Quite a few factors....and then the price was about \$10,000 for the year.

MA – How is that in percentage of the cost of the boat?

Participant 1 – The cheapest for one of our boats is \$60K. If you start insuring that boat whether you have a loan to pay for or not you cannot afford to pay that.

Participant 5 – I think is mostly the trawlers that can do that. Not the way we have things. I was talking to an insurance person, and he said is mostly trawlers that get insurance here. Not the small boats

Participant 1 – You are looking at our fishing port with 80 or so boats...and even if you have a 30 to 40 that are not active, but you have about 40 that are active. They go out to sea from time to time. There are boats that are valued at more than \$120K. But when you purchase a boat coasting around 20K Euro...have to pay customs...buy engine...comes up to about 34K Euro. And that does not include gear.

MA – How many of you have had a situation after a disaster event and lost your boats?

Group – None

President – You may not lose the boat, but you will find damages.

Participant 1 – Even when they tell you bad weather is coming...in securing your boat, you get damages

MA – So the risk that the insurance companies perceive is not real?

Participant 1 – It can happen. What they are saying is that you can easily go to St Vincent sell your boat and say it was stolen. It is that simple.

MA – Have you heard of COAST insurance?

Group – No

President – I don't think that was for fishers.

Participant 1 – There was that insurance...where it affects you when there is bad weather. I have heard about that. It's a trigger. Normally you must pay for the shares. I know some people who have it. They aren't fishers. Every time it triggers, they get paid and must buy shares again.

President – I have been a fisher all my life I have never heard about this thing.

Participant 1 – Normally when you have a car you pay your insurance yearly... When you take a loan from the banks they will require you to have insurance but most fishers work with the credit unions. The banks will want you to insure it.

AR – Have you all attempted to take loans from the banks?

Participant 1 – At the banks they give higher interest rate than credit union. As fishers there are months you would make 3K and months you make 20K. At the bank they want you to pay the same thing every month. Whereas the credit unions give you six months or six years, whatever you pay you pay. The credit unions are more in your favor as a business.

President – And you can get a loan there much faster than the bank.

MA – Do you have to be a member there to get a loan?

Group – Yes

MA – What if you are the member of a cooperative and not the credit union?

Participant 1 – Well the credit union in Dennery is connected with the Cooperative.

President – As a matter of fact they manage our cooperative. Before our monies used to go to banks but all our monies now going straight to the credit union.

Participant 1 – The Dennery fishermen's cooperative has no bank account. All our monies go to the credit union.

MA – All of you have benefitted from loans from the credit union?

Group – yes

MA – And you happy with that?

Group – Yes.

AR – What would you like to see happen as far as insurance is concerned for your boats?

Participant 2 – The same way you have accidents on the road you will have accidents on the sea. Sometimes you go night fishing and can't see another boat and have an accident. We would like to get insurance, but nobody is doing it.

Participant 1 – Normally you go out fishing with a group...we all here are captains. Sometimes things happen out there...you ride a wave, and someone breaks his leg, you have no insurance to try and help compensate him for the 3 to 4 months he is down.

President – Let's say you go fishing and get a mishap...there is definitely something need thinking about.

MA – What about life insurance?

Participant 3 – Life insurance is a problem. Sometimes you are paying your policy and when time to get compensated you have to take your cutlass to go to them.

Participant 2 – There should be some way...if you can have some way when you can't work again for some reason to have something.

Participant 1 – If there was something...Let's say you want 30 boat owners to pay like 500 per month or whatever it becomes a large sum.... but you know at least those boats are insured...might be easier.

MA – What about NIC?

Participant 1 – I understand what you are saying but...NIC is something else...it would be in our best interest if we went a little private. Because I watched my mom since she was 19 and I took it on my own to go and see what her pension is like, and I realize that don't make any sense. After all that time? That's robbing you.

MA – What are you doing about that?

Participant 1 – Well we have a proposal out there. I am a board member of the cooperative...we sent something out there for our members to consider.

MA – How does the fish cooperative help with your business?

President – If you have some kind of distress, they give you something. There is a distress policy. At least there is some compensation.

Participant 1 – So there is a distress fund. Whenever you get fuel rebate, a contribution is taken for that distress fund. A percentage goes to that fund every 3 months for all boat owners who are members.

MA – Do you think there is anything the cooperative can do to make it better?

Participant 1 – There is a lot more...government put a cap on the amount in the distress fund...so it not easy for us to come up with a proper distress policy. What you think may be a distress to the fisher may not necessarily be a distress to him. Because you may be think going out there and losing engine is a distress...what if he loses his loved one..his wife...can't go to sea because of grief. When you pull your boat...you go and help a colleague out there to pull him and your boat damage...

MA – So you want to be the one to define the distress fund?

Participant 1 – Well we must come together and work on it and bring it to government.

MA – How difficult is it to sell your products?

President – Very difficult

Participant 1 – Is always demand vs supply. For example, he would go to the FAD fishing...there is high demand for big tuna...his tuna is now hot bread. I would go out deep sea fishing...there is high demand for dolphin and kingfish...it is hot bread.... But when there is a high supply for all those things...oh boy!

MA – Do you fish based on perception of demand?

Participant 2 – When we go like before December and get some big tuna that sells out in no time...when December comes now and I haul in about 8 or 10 of these same big tuna.....is only 3 or 4 of them I can sell to the wholesalers...I now have about 8 of them on my hands

MA – So what do you do with them?

Participant 2 – Go on the road to try to sell them. Sometimes I go out and only take two because I am worried about not being able to sell if I take more.

President – Then the wholesalers take advantage...they buy at a lower price because you must get rid of what you have.

MA – And you have no facilities for icing your fish?

Participant 4 – Ice is a big problem.

Participant 2 – The problem is also availability. If I need ice and I don't get ice my fish will spoil. We need ice.

Participant 1 – Even the wholesalers complain because they want to buy the fish, but they don't have ice.

Participant 2 – Then when you have that fish out for 3 to 4 hours, they complain the fish is not good.

MA – (after making reference to Oistins festival in Barbados) How does the Dennery fish fry help you all?

Participant 1 – That is on the low.

President – That not making sense anymore. Small scale now

MA – Why do you think so?

President – Organizers

Participant 4 – I know there are companies in St Vincent that ship their blue marlin and so on directly to the US for sale. They ice it and have a plane that comes from the US once a week to get the fish there.

AR – Going back to the ice question...the facility don't make any ice anymore?

Participant 1 – The machine is down. It is also very costly to run. The solar panels that are on the cleaning area there are not in use. It functions but is not in use. The power generated there

goes to the Lucelec grid. And nobody is picking this up. So, we are generating power that goes back to lucelec and nobody getting compensated for that. It's been about 3 years that's going on.

MA – Who owns that?

President – Most likely Fisheries.

Participant 1 – It wasn't given to Oceans Blue. It was a donation to the fishers. The ice machine belongs to the building.

MA – Who installed that?

Group – Japanese

AR – And who was expected to maintain it?

Participant 1 – I am guessing whoever was running the complex. These ice machines are costly. Sometimes 20K a month for electricity. The recommendation from us fishermen would be to have crushed ice. It lasts much longer at sea

Group – True

Participant 1 – The cubed and other ice we can get now...nah.

President – in Barbados that is what they use.

Participant 4 – Before we used to get crushed ice.

Participant 1 – In Gros Islet they have crushed ice. I have been out with crush ice. The good thing about it is that you can stuff it in the belly of the fish easily and stay there.

MA – And your ice machine cannot do crushed ice?

Participant 3 – No. There are different ice machines.

St Brice – In Martinique they add a little salt to it and so it stays longer. That ice is sold directly to fishers.

MA – How do they pay for it?

Participant 1 – They have a card which they use to buy the ice. You swipe your card and take the ice you want. So there is no reason to have spoilt fish. You must take your ice before you go out.

MA – is this run by government or cooperative?

Participant 1 – Government. They don't really have cooperatives.

MA – If you were asked to name one thing that you would propose to help your situation what would you suggest?

Participant 3 – Want a market guaranteed for our catch.

Participant 2 – I'd say same thing. That is our main problem – sell our fish

Participant 4 – FAR for vehicles for fishers. When we must sell our fish...is problems

Participant 2 – Right now fishers use pick ups more than farmers. When we must sell our fish every day, we have to pay a farmer. We must hire someone.

Participant 1 – I have spoken with several parliamentarians and what government is saying is that the main necessity for a fisher is an engine for a boat, not for a vehicle. That's why they give us duty free to order engines.

MA – But if you have a ready market for your catch would you need that vehicle?

Participant 1 e – We still need the vehicle. What if we have a contract with a hotel, we still need to get it to them?

MA – But if you sell everything...

Participant 1 – Travelling purposes. I don't live in Dennery, but my boat is in Dennery. I must travel. The same way government give doctors, firemen etc concessions Nobody is thinking of the fishers. We also need more FADS...more places to catch fish. The cost of fuel is high. Yesterday I burnt almost \$700 in fuel. I didn't catch fish, but I must buy that fuel.

MA – Can you go anywhere else to fish?

Group – Yes

President – As long as your boat has a J6 registration you can go anywhere in Saint Lucia.

Participant 2 – As a matter-of-fact fisher from Praslin have fish pots all Gros Islet and not a problem.

Participant 3 – I think it is important to have a fully functioning system at the port. Ice and market. I think the FAR is also extremely important. What do you do if you come from sea and the cooperative is closed? You need a vehicle to access ice, gas...coolers etc. I don't know how we get FAR for fishers but needed.

Participant 1 – You can get it. They just say you need to demonstrate a strong reason for having a vehicle. They need proof that the FAR will be used extensively.

Participant 3 – In addition, when storm is coming a lot of guys don't want to help pull your boat to shore. You can use your vehicle for that.

Participant 1 – If you have your vehicle when a storm is coming you take your boat out of the water and park it wherever you want. When the storm is over you redeploy whenever you are ready.

MA – Would you have the same problems getting loans from the banks for those vehicles?

Participant 3 – Like what they give to the farmers, they would have to give us the same thing...age of vehicle etc. then we would have to insure comprehensive etc

Participant 1 – That being said I don't see every fisherman getting a FAR. Because you need to show how you going pay it back. We must be realistic about it. If I can barely cover fuel for an entire season and making ends meet...is not an FAR I'd be going for. There are people who need it and can afford it.

MA – And you think the duty free concessions are what's making the difference right now?

Participant 3 – It would help. It's not the cure but will bring some relief. Let me also look at spear fishing...why don't fisheries issue spear fishing license to people? About 95% of them don't have a license.

MA – I thought you had to have a license.

Participant 3 – You need a license, but they do not issue them.

Participant 6 (Coop manager) – What they do is they license the spear gun.

Participant 3 – They should really issue some licenses ...some in Dennery, some in Vieux Fort... at least to help the situation. Cause they from Fisheries will come and arrest people...that not necessary.

MA – Wasn't there some concern about fishers using spear guns as weapons?

Participant 1 – Why would you worry about a fishing gun when everybody on the streets has a hand gun?

Participant 3 - Everyone has an illegal firearm. So, if someone is going out to look for food for his family what's wrong with that? I am not saying they should give everybody one...because they are talking about, we need to protect the coral reef and so on...but nobody doing that so might as well let the guys do their thing. Just a few every year.

MA – Is spear fishing illegal?

Group – No.

Participant 1 – The issue I have is that the license they give you is on paper. I have my fishers ID and they could just endorse it. But you want to give me a piece of paper...why would I go out on the water with a piece of paper? That doesn't make any sense.

President – Since climate change is a big issue, ten to twenty years from now we won't be able to use those small boats. I think they should encourage three or four fishers to come together and get big trawlers to spend 2 or three days at sea. That is providing that the government will buy all our fish when we come back.

MA – Do you believe you have the level of cooperation within the sector that will allow 2 or 3 guys to come together to do that?

President – Of course. Sometimes it doesn't have to be fishers. Can be family.

Participant 1 – Our friend in Martinique has a trawler and have to have ice

President – In Barbados no boats would leave the port without ice. They have their own ice machines,

Participant 1 – When we must purchase ice here...its expensive. \$30 a bag of ice. Sometimes we need 5 to 6 bags. When I get about 900 pounds of fish how am I supposed to ice that?

AR – Do fishers keep records?

Participant 1 – I keep mine.

Participant 6 – Only about 5% of fishers keep records. The cooperative would have fuel purchase records.

Participant 1 – I keep records on weight and income for every given day.

Participant 4 – Once I had a problem with the credit union for a loan. Sometimes I would make 20K in a week but because I don't have papers to show how I made that...could be a problem. Because of money laundering these days...that taught me a lesson.

MA – Does the credit union help you with that?

Participant 4 – Yes, they encourage you to keep your records.

AR – Does the cooperative facilitate training or provide guidance for fishers for such matters?

Participant 6 – We have tried a few times to bring in training workshops for fishing as a business. The faces you see here are the same faces that will show up. It is not something they are interested in. They see fishing as a way of life and not really a business. On a quarterly basis we have about 65 active fishers who are registered with us. The reason I say that is because we keep their fuel purchase, and we prepare their cards for their fuel rebate.

Participant 2 – There would be four or five wholesalers purchasing, yet none of them will give you a receipt when you sell the fish to them. I sell a thousand dollars' worth of fish to them and I don't get any receipt. It is a bit difficult for the fishers too.

Participant 4 – Bringing the fishing complex up and running would help a lot. That would help with getting receipts and so on as we will be selling the fish directly to them.

MA – Availability of specific fish species when needed is a major concern for chefs, they prefer fresh fish. However, the fish isn't always available when they want it.

Participant 6 – Storage would be a factor for the fishers. We do not have storage capacity for our fishers. In the pelagic season which opens soon, they have a block of time when they get those fish. By the time the month of May comes around people will be asking for those species and none are available. The cooperatives are trying to work with the Japanese to see if we can get storage facility for fishers. I do not think the Ministry of Agriculture has understood the fish market. The other issue I have with them is they do not have sufficient data – what type of fish, etc. The last thing, when they claim whatever they feel like about the contribution of the fishing sector to the GDP...they do not have it right. That is why when aid is being given out there the fishers are being left out. The records do not adequately represent what the fishers are contributing to the GDP. This must be rectified.

MA – That can only be done with data, don't you think? Do you know how much fish was caught this week?

Participant 1 – Well there is somebody collecting data every other day from the boats.

Participant 6 – This year we had the "biggest catch" competition. We took records for everyone for five days. We collected the weight for the entire week and calculated it at the cheapest price...\$6 per pound. For that week we generated \$96,000 circulated within the community. And many of the fishers didn't participate. And this was done in a low season when Jack fish that was popular. Imagine if this was done in November or December. When I gave the Fisheries Department the figures, they were shocked! Both the chief and deputy chief was surprised that amount of fish was landed.

MA – Thank you.

