

# LETTER OF INVITATION



## Dear Sir / Madam

Its time to hear the voices of African, Indian and Philippine small-scale fisheries experts! On Saturday 12th of September, we will host a one day conference on small-scale fisheries. There will be five presentations by our colleagues from the South with time allocated for debating and exploring solutions to the challenges facing millions of people working in the small-scale fishing sector globally. There will also be time allocated for key invitees, including your self, to respond and present.

The themes of the conference covers: perspectives on EU-ACP fishery trade agreements; corruption in fisheries at state levels as a precursor for overfishing; the importance of civil society in sustainable management of marine resources; and, securing the rights of fishers and fishworkers as a government obligation.

Please see the attached Conference Programme including summaries of presentations and biographies of our colleagues from the South.

The Conference is funded by Danida under the Project Fund for Small Interventions. The list of invitee includes the Norwegian, Swedish and Danish Ministers of Development Cooperation and Fisheries, and the EU Commissioners of Development and Fisheries.

Join us for this conference and see how small-scale fisheries provide the solutions for environmental sustainability, social and economic development, and democratisation processes.

We kindly ask you to confirm your attendance as soon as possible by sending an email or a letter to Africa Contact. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Carsten Pedersen, Africa Contact or Einer Lyduch, PUGAD.

Best regards,

Einer Lyduch, Chairperson  
 People Uniting and Generating Aid for Development  
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# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME\_01

**SUPPORT AND PROMOTE GLOBAL SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES  
TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES + SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

## A CONFERENCE ON SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES

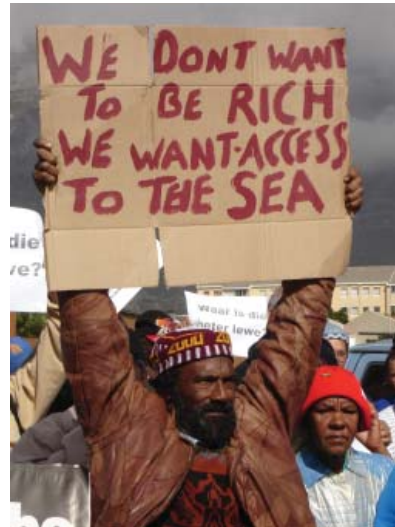
**SATURDAY 12TH OF SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 10h00 - 17h00**

**Venue: Borups Højskole\_Frederiksholms Kanal 24\_1220 Kbh K**

On the one hand, the EU embarks on democratisation around the world and prioritise poverty reduction through Development Cooperation and Trade. On the other hand, the fishery related policies of the EU are also known to counteract these goals by undermining livelihood opportunities and food security outside the EU. This paradox will be debated at the conference, experiences from the South will be presented by key speakers from Africa and the East, and solutions to the challenges will be proposed.

On behalf of the organising bodies,

**Einer Lydich  
Chairperson, PUGAD**



# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME\_02

We proudly present five guest speakers from the South:

**Mrs. Nancy Gitonga**, Senior Fisheries Advisor, the African Union Commission, will speak of pros and cons of fisheries trade agreements.

**Mr. Andre Standing**, Senior Researcher, Institute for Security Studies, South Africa will speak about corruption in fisheries as the primary driver for overexploitation of fish resources.

**Mr. Ephraim Patrick Batungbacal**, Campaigns and Advocacy Specialist, Tambuyog Development Centre, the Philippines will speak of fisher movements and organisations, and their paramount importance in the process of attaining sustainable fisheries and development.

**Mrs. Chandrika Sharma**, Executive Secretary, International Collective in Support of Fish Workers, India, will speak of small-scales fishers' rights and how the fulfilment of these rights will contribute to sustainable fisheries and social and economic development.

**Mr. Hahn Goliath**, Chairperson, Coastal Links, South Africa will speak of small-scale fisheries in South Africa from a local perspective, and how mobilisation contribute to strengthening democratic practises.

Please see programme details on the following pages. More information at [www.fiskeri.org](http://www.fiskeri.org).  
On behalf of the organising bodies,

Einer Lydch  
Chairperson, People Uniting and Generating Aid for Development





# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME\_03

## Conference Programme\_Saturday 12th September 2009:

10h00                    \_**Registration**

10h15                    \_**Welcome by Einer Lydich, Chairperson of PUGAD**

10h30 - 11h10         \_**First session**

Mrs. Nancy Gitonga, Senior Fisheries Advisor, the African Union, will speak of positive and negative sides of Fisheries Trade Agreements with particular focus on EU-ACP agreements.

11h10 – 11h50         \_**Second session**

Dr. Andre Standing, Senior Researcher, Institute for Security Studies, South Africa will speak of corruption and the exploitation of marine resources with a particular focus on Africa.

11h50 – 12h10         \_**Tea Break**

12h10 – 12h50         \_**Third session**

Mr. Ephraim Patrick Batungbacal, Tambuyog Development Centre, Philippines, will speak about the necessity of empowered small-scale fisher movements and democratic governance of marine resources in order to achieve sustainable fisheries.

12h50 – 13h50         \_**Lunch Break**





# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME\_04

## Conference Programme\_Saturday 12th September 2009:

13h50 – 14h20      **\_Mr. Hahn Goliath**

Mr. Hahn Goliath, Chairperson of Coastal Links, South Africa, will speak of life in local fishing communities, hardship under current fishing policies, and the way forward.

14h20 – 15h00      **\_Mrs. Chandrika Sharma**

Mrs. Chandrika Sharma, Executive Secretary, International Collective in Support of Fishworkers, will speak of human rights in fisheries, with particular importance on women.

15h00 – 15h15      **\_Tea Break**

15h00 – 16h00      **\_Presentations**

Presentations by Politicians

16h00 – 16h45      **\_Discussion**

Final discussions

16h45                **\_Closure**



# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME\_05

## Summaries of Presentations \_Saturday 12th September 2009:

### MRS. NANCY GITONGA

Foreign fishing in Africa and Fisheries Trade Agreements with particular focus on the EU.

The fisheries potential in the African continent cannot be overstated. The vast marine resources are rich with resources, yet the coastal communities in Africa remain poor while the distant fishing nations seem to derive wealth from the same resources. The current African Union renewed focus on fisheries is due to the realization that fisheries has a potential to improve livelihoods of the people of Africa, not only through poverty reduction but also through economic empowerment by developing fisheries as a business rather than for subsistence. The AU commitment to development of fisheries is demonstrable through various initiatives that have taken place during the last five years, which have received the attention of highest-level policy organs. It all started in 2004, during the extra-ordinary Summit, which was held in Libya, during which a decision was taken by the African Heads of State and Government to promote the development and protection of fishery resources in Africa. This being the highest policy decision body of the AU, fisheries moved from the periphery and obscurity in the Agriculture sector and started being given prominence in the AU planning.

Due to its economic value, the fisheries sector in Africa has many challenges that include; policies and governance; globalisation of the fish industry, post-harvest losses, over-exploitation of fish species, Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fishing (IUU) and access to resources. Demand for fish products and per capita fish consumption in the developed world and other nations is putting great pressure on fisheries resources, yet African states do not have capacity to control access by both local and foreign vessels.

Due to lack of capacity to carry their own fishing operations, most African coastal and Island States have resorted to allowing foreign vessels to access their resources through agreements as provided under Article 61 and 62 of UNCLOS, such as the EU-ACP Fisheries Partnership Agreements. This provision notwithstanding, these agreements do not strictly adhere to the spirit of articles. The Fisheries Access Agreements whether by the EU or other fishing entities to access fish stocks from African waters are usually not transparent and the benefits from such arrangements are not certain. The AUC has commissioned a study to look into these Agreements and the initial indication is that governments are not very forthcoming with information on Agreements. It is also interesting to note that almost all of the foreign fishing nations in Africa do not readily consider joint ventures with African countries, although this is what would be most beneficial for the African countries. This skewed situation of the African countries' fisheries can only change if there is development of a common African Fisheries Policy. The African Union through various initiatives such as the DFID supported Partnership for African Fisheries (PAF) through NEPAD and the GEF Partnership Investment Fund (PIF) are looking into policy and governance issues within the fisheries sector with a view to developing a common stand among African States.



# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME\_06

## Summaries of Presentations \_Saturday 12th September 2009:

### DR. ANDRE STANDING

Corruption and the exploitation of marine resources with a particular focus on Africa.

Marine fisheries support the livelihoods of millions of citizens in Africa's coastal countries. However, throughout the continent, unsustainable fishing practices are threatening the long-term viability of marine ecosystems. If the stocks of fish in African waters continue to decline, the result will be highly detrimental, impacting on food security, poverty, and human development. To maximise the developmental potential of fisheries, democratic governance is a critical requirement. Yet the governance of commercial fisheries, particularly relating to industrial fishing by foreign boats supplying markets in Europe and Asia, is frequently undermined by a lack of transparency and accountability. In this environment, revenues from commercial fisheries can be wasted and fishing boats are allowed to break rules and regulations with impunity. Policy decisions can also be captured by domestic elites and foreign stakeholders to the detriment of local communities and small-scale fishermen. This presentation provides an overview of corruption and the exploitation of marine resources in Africa. Policy reforms that may reduce incentives and opportunities for corruption in fisheries' management are also discussed.

### MR. EPHRAIM PATRICK BATUNGBACAL

Empowerment of small-scale fisher organisations and sustainable management of marine resources – with a particular focus on the Philippines.

Most of the municipal fishers in the Philippines are not organized. Municipal fishers are those using boats 3 gross tons or less. Only 888 are organized into cooperatives and the remaining 1.4 million are registered as individuals. Of the 1.4 million, only 14 percent finish high school. Thus, it is not surprising that an estimated 441,000 fishermen are below the poverty line. The purpose of this presentation is to give a brief overview of the situation of fisheries in the Philippines with emphasis on the organisational capacity of the small-scale fishers as a function of sustainable fisheries. It highlights the need for capacity building for the small-scale fishing sector both as an informal sector, an organized stakeholder, and a partner in nation building and sustainable management of marine resources. It builds on the vision of empowered communities of women and men responsible for and enjoying benefits from the sustainable management of fisheries resources. Finally, the presentation concludes with a synthesis of various recommendations crafted through processes initiated by Tambuyog at the national and international arena.



# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME\_07

## Summaries of Presentations\_Saturday 12th September 2009:

### MR. HAHN GOLIATH

Life in local fishing communities in South Africa, hardship under current fishing policies, and the way forward.

Goliath will take us to the very local and rural fishing communities in the Western Cape Province and explain how the South African Government has denied thousands of community families from their right to live of the Sea. He will tell stories of how the fishing policies under the Democratic Government have divided communities among the fortunate few and the many who been instructed not to fish any more – even though they have done so in their entire life. As a result hereof, families and neighbours in the previous homogenous communities have been ripped apart. The stories will be coupled to the thoughts and visions of the Coastal Links leadership on how to mobilise, gain political power, and take action. Since its establishment in 2004, Coastal Links has conducted numerous protest campaigns and taken the minister to Court – a case which it won. It has also been charged in Court by the large scale fishing industry – a case it also won, but is appealed to High Court. Finally, the results of Coastal Link's effort at local to national level will be presented.

### MRS. CHANDRIKA SHARMA

The importance of small-scale fisheries and recognising the rights of fishworkers - with a particular importance on women.

This presentation briefly highlights the important role of fisheries, particularly of small-scale fisheries. It outlines the rationale for adopting a human rights-based approach to development of fisheries, pointing out that the principle of non-discrimination inherent in such an approach requires a special attention on those presently disadvantaged within the sector, whether in large- or small-scale fisheries. A specific focus on small-scale fishing communities, particularly on women, is warranted given available evidence of their vulnerability as well as their importance in any vision of sustainable development. The presentation further highlights the growing recognition of issues of social development and human rights in fisheries, as in the deliberation of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI). It points to the need to clarify the content of a rights-based approach to development in fisheries--the key elements that need to be reflected in policy, legislation and practice. Taking guidance from the issues being articulated by a growing movement of small-scale fishworkers and support organizations, it outlines the possible content of this approach, pointing out many of the rights seen as important by small-scale fishworkers are already recognized in existing international law, including customary law. It concludes by stressing the imperative of adopting and implementing such an approach, whether in domestic and external fisheries policy, or in development cooperation. Fundamentally, the successful implementation of this approach requires strengthening the capacity of rights holders—fishing communities in this case—to be aware of, and to claim and exercise their rights effectively, and of duty-bearers to fulfill their human rights obligations.



# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME\_08

## CURRICULUM VITAE\_KEY SPEACKERS\_Saturday 12th September 2009:



**MRS. NANCY GITONGA**, is currently employed at the African Union as the Coordinator of the Regional Advisory Committee for a Sub Saharan Large Marine Ecosystems Fisheries project. She has worked in senior fisheries management positions in the Kenya Government for over 30 years and was the Director of Fisheries in the Kenyan Fisheries Department from 2000 to 2006. As the Director of Fisheries, Mrs. Gitonga has served as a technical expert and negotiator in relation to the development of the EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreements. Her academic qualifications include a Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) and a Post Graduate Diploma in Food Science and Technology. Mrs. Gitonga has contributed with a large number of publications, including contributions in a number of FAO publications and a book entitled "Public Participation in the Governance of International Fresh water Resources". She has also received three Merit Awards, namely; "Government Inspector of the Biennium" by International Association for Fish Inspectors (IAFI) in 2005; the Kenyan Presidential Award "Order of the Grand Warrior" – OGW in 2005; and Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization Appreciation Award, June 2006, in recognition of her positive contribution towards sustainable management of Lake Victoria fisheries.

**DR. ANDRE STANDING** is a senior researcher at the Institute for Security Studies, an African research organisation. He currently works for the Danida supported Corruption and Governance programme at the Cape Town office of the ISS, with the main focus of his research being on natural resources. In terms of research dealing with fisheries, he has authored reports and essays on issues including corruption, illegal fishing, European access agreements and the certification of marine fisheries. He has also organised several international meetings on fisheries, including events aimed at strengthening civil society engagement in fisheries governance. In 2009 he is implementing an access to information survey on fisheries in seven African countries and will continue his research for a forthcoming book on the political economy of fisheries management in Africa.

Dr Standing obtained his PhD in 2007 from Middlesex University, with his thesis being based on a study of organised crime in South Africa. Born in London, Andre spent most of his life in England, before moving to South Africa in 2000, where he now lives with his partner and son.



# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME\_09

## CURRICULUM VITAE\_KEY SPEACKERS\_Saturday 12th September 2009:



**MR. EPHRAIM PATRICK BATUNGHACAL** currently works a Campaigns and Advocacy Specialist at the Tambuyog Development Centre, the Philippines. The main focus on his research is related to participatory fisheries management including the importance of communities' ownership, control and management of the coastal resources. Over the last 15 years, he has contributed to more than thirty publications in international journals and the grey literature, and assisted in just as many national and international fisheries conferences and workshops. He has worked as an Associate Professor at the University of the East. Mr. Batungbacal obtained his M.Sc. in Environmental Science in 1999 at the University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City.



**MRS. CHANDRIKA SHARMA** is the Executive Secretary of the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), an international NGO based in Chennai, India. ICSF draws its mandate from the International Conference of Fishworkers and their Supporters in Rome in 1984. Founded in Trivandrum, India, in 1986, the organization has members in 18 countries, two thirds of whom are from countries of the South. Since then ICSF has been acting as a catalyst to influence decision-making processes in fisheries and to support small-scale and artisanal fishworker organizations. As part of its efforts towards disseminating information for and about small-scale fisheries, particularly in countries of the South, ICSF brings out the SAMUDRA Report and Yemaya three times a year, as well as the SAMUDRA News Alerts on a daily basis.



**MR. HAHN GOLIATH** is the chairperson of Coastal Links, a fisher movement with more than 1500 members in the Western and Northern Cape Provinces in South Africa. As a leader, Goliath has contributed enormously in the mobilisation and organisation of Coastal Links and been very influential in the lobbying processes of securing legal access to the Marine resources for more than 1000 traditional fishers. His commitment has strengthened local democracy and contributed to social and economic development in more than 20 fishing villages. Mr. Goliath is still living in his home village, Doringbaai, where he learned the trade of traditional fishing as a child. He is still making his living of fishing, and when not at sea, he spends endless hours in his endeavour to improve quality of life for the youth and fishermen. In 1998 he finished secondary school and he has a vision of attending University.

