

Bringing the insights of wellbeing to bear on the complex challenge of governing small-scale fisheries

Derek Johnson and the *Governing
Small-scale Fisheries* team
People and the Sea VI
July 9, 2011

The GSF project

- 'Governing small-scale fisheries for wellbeing and resilience: A Canada-WorldFish Centre Collaborative Research Program' (2009-2012)
- CGIAR-Canada Linkage Fund Program (CIDA)

The GSF project: Purpose

“The collaboration aims specifically to utilize a novel poverty reduction policy perspective – that of wellbeing – to improve the effectiveness of fisheries governance reforms, particularly in relation to climate change and economic globalization.”

The GSF project - Objectives

1. SSF appropriate conceptualization
 - Relevance and value of wellbeing
 - Priority linkages:
 - Resilience
 - Drivers (economic globalization and climate change)
 - Gender
2. SSF appropriate operationalization
 - Priority linkage:
 - Fisheries management instruments

The GSF project - methodology

- Think tank
- Field consultations
 - St. John's and Placentia Bay, Newfoundland
 - Tam Giang Lagoon, Vietnam
 - West Coast, Vancouver Island (to be finalized)
- Cross-fertilization

Wellbeing perspective

- Objective and approach

- Primary influence:
 - U of Bath's Wellbeing in Developing Countries Group

 - 'Wellbeing is a state of being with others and the natural environment which arises where human needs are met, where individuals and groups can act meaningfully to pursue their goals, and where they are satisfied with their way of life.' (adapted from Gough et al. 2007)

- Context sensitivity

Conundrums in SSF

- Attachment
- Subjectivity
- Scale, change and class



Conundrums

- GSF argues that dealing with these (and hard choices/trade-offs) requires nuanced social science approach
 - Wellbeing brings it

Strategy

1. SSF appropriate conceptualization

- Relevance and value of wellbeing
- Priority linkages:
 - Resilience
 - Drivers (economic globalization and climate change)
 - Gender

2. SSF appropriate operationalization

- Priority linkage:
 - Fisheries management instruments

Strategy - conceptualization

- Relevance and value of WB to SSF
 - Build on Coulthard et al. (GEC 2011)

Output	Lead author	MARE?
Position paper (conundrums and drivers)	Johnson	taste
Genealogy WB in fisheries	Weeratunge	Panel 1
Micro-level resilience	Coulthard	No
Macro-level resilience	Armitage	Panel 1
Trade-offs	Coulthard	Panel 1

- Gender perspective underlies all

Strategy - Operationalization

Theory Matrix



Case analysis
matrix

Instruments
reference

Data gathering
tools

Strategy - operationalization

Output	Lead author	MARE?
Matrix approach to governance	Chuenpagdee	Panel 2
Trade-offs	Coulthard	Panel 1
WB and fisheries instruments	Charles	Panel 2
Case 1: Northern Ireland	Britten	Panel 1
Case 2: Paraty/Piriapolis	Trimble	Panel 2

Conclusion

- Novelty of package rather than elements
- Value of wellbeing as signifier