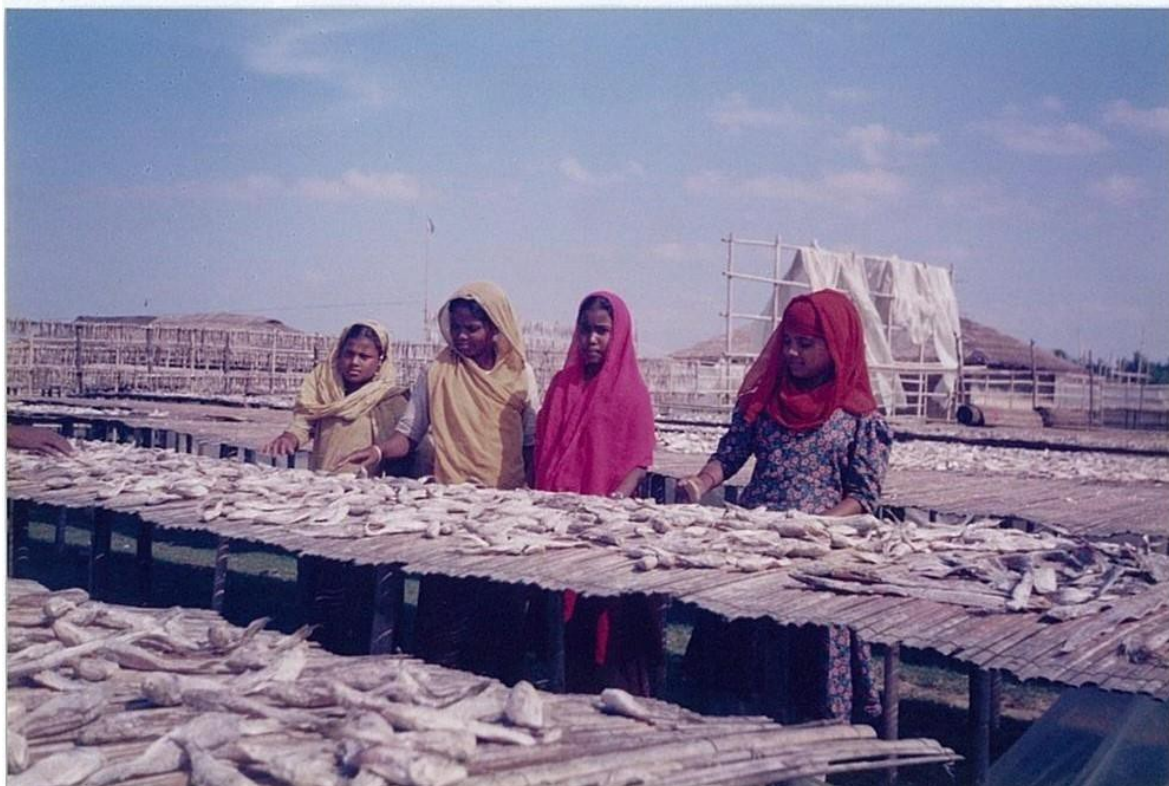




**Global Network for capacity building to increase access of small-scale fisheries to financial services (CAFI SSF Network)**



**Webinar**

**Guidelines for microfinance and credit services in support of small-scale fisheries**

**8 April (12.00 noon Bangkok, GMT +7) and (9.00 am Kenya, EAT)**



## WEBINAR SCHEDULE:

**Date & Time:** 8 April (12.00 noon Bangkok, GMT +7) and (9.00 am Kenya, EAT)

## PARTICIPANTS:

Financial Service Providers (FSPs), Fisher-folk Organizations including cooperatives, Fisheries organization, Fisheries Training & Development Organizations

## WEBINAR OBJECTIVE:

The fisheries and aquaculture sector produces annually 179 million tonnes of fish and fishery products for human consumption. The sector provides worldwide employment to 59 million people (39 million in fisheries and 20.5 million in aquaculture) in fish production and to many more people in value chain activities. Fishers produce 96 million tons of fish and fisheries products for human consumption and therefore play a very important role in achieving global food security (FAO, 2020). For instance, the sector supplies an average 20.5 kg of fish/capita/year and contributes 17 percent of total animal protein, and 7 percent of all proteins, consumed globally (FAO, 2020). The role of fisheries and aquaculture in providing food, nutrition and employment is significant and growing. Employment in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors has grown faster than the world population and faster than employment in traditional agriculture.

Over 90 percent of small-scale fishers (SSF) and aquaculture farmers live in developing countries and often they are fully dependent on the sector for their livelihoods. SSF is emerging as a dynamic and evolving sub-sector of fisheries that employs labor intensive harvesting, processing, and distribution technologies to harness inland and marine water fishery resources. Small-scale fisheries are generally profitable and are key to the environmental, economic, and social well-being of many coastal and inland communities, yet access to financial services is still a challenge as compared to small-holding agriculture farming communities.

The Food and Agriculture Organization has been proactively promoting and advocating for supporting the SSF. In Member countries of FAO, together with thousands of SSF stakeholders, have developed and adopted in 2014 the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication ([SSF Guidelines](#)). These SSF Guidelines recognize the limitations in financial access and dearth of investments in the SSF sector and call upon States to support access of small-scale fishing communities to savings, credit, and insurance schemes.

FAO collaborates with fisheries agencies, Financial Institution's, and fisher-folk organization to increase access of fishers and fish workers to credit, micro-finance, and insurance services.

To further facilitate and deepen the efforts, involve and engage more stakeholders across the Asia Pacific and Africa regions, the FAO supported initiative CAFE SSF - **Global Network for capacity building to increase access of small-scale fisheries to financial services (CAFI SSF Network)**<sup>1</sup> is organizing a webinar on “**Guidelines for microfinance and credit services in support of small-scale fisheries**”, in association with its nodal regional partners [APRACA](#) and [AFRACA](#).

## PURPOSE OF THE WEBINAR

- **To increase awareness** about the financial service needs of small-scale fishers (SSF) for more sustainable and inclusive access to finance,
- **To guide policy and decision makers** in the Asia-Pacific, Africa region and elsewhere, to help introduce and incentivize financial services to small-scale fishers, with the ultimate objective to encourage investment in the industry and by doing so influence and strengthen sustainability and ecological and economic viability of these fisheries,
- **To build capacity** among financial service providers, fisher-folk organizations, NGOs, and concerned government agencies, to design and implement financial service products and programmes that suit the needs of small-scale fishing communities and enhance social protection, and
- To promote financial services that **incentivize and reward a responsible and sustainable conduct** of fishing, fish processing and marketing operations.

**This CAFE SSF Webinar is organized for all stakeholders involved with SSF and finance  
Please join us in this webinar!**

The webinar agenda is as below. Please RSVP to the CAFE SSF Coordinator: [cafi-ssf@fao.org](mailto:cafi-ssf@fao.org) or [suchitra.upare@fao.org](mailto:suchitra.upare@fao.org)

## AGENDA: (1.30 HOURS)

Speakers	Topic	Time
Suchitra Upare CAFI SSF Network Coordinator	Welcome Note Network Talk Series- Objective & Plans	5 mins
Dr. Raymon van Anrooy FAO - Senior Fishery Officer	Blue finance for SSF	15mins
Lorna Grace FAO - Consultant	Guidelines for microfinance and credit services in support of SSF	45 mins
Dr. Prasun Das APRACA - Secretary General	APRACA- FAO- CAFE SSF Partnership for enhancing SSF Network in AP region	5 mins
Dr. Thomas Essel AFRACA – Secretary General	AFRACA- FAO- CAFE SSF Partnership for enhancing SSF Network in Africa region	5 mins
	Q & A - Participants	10 mins
	Closing Remarks	

<sup>1</sup> For more information on CAFE SSF Network, please refer <http://www.ruralfinanceandinvestment.org/node/3867>