

Gladding Memorial Award Regional Fishers Summit: *Fishers Working for Sustainable Fisheries*

62nd Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute
Cumaná, Venezuela, 2-6 November 2009

REPORT



United Nations Environmental Program

November 2009

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Acknowledgements

The organizers of the Gladding Memorial Award Regional Fishers Summit wish to acknowledge the many contributions made by numerous individuals and organizations towards the successful hosting of this event at the 62nd Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Beyond the members of the GMA Summit steering committee and the award winners themselves we wish to thank:

- Emma Doyle and the Embassy of Finland in Venezuela
- Freddy Arocha and others at Universidad de Oriente, Cumaná

- Georgina Bustamante and others associated with CaMPAM
- Hyacinth Armstrong and others at the Buccoo Reef Trust
- Patrick McConney and others from the CERMES-UWI MarGov project
- Reuben Penott, local GMA winner for 2009
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP), SPAW Regional Activity Center (RAC) and LifeWeb project, and their funders

1. Project Summary

In 2004, the Gulf Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (I think it was the Ken's Environmental Defense Fund) and other partners developed the Gladding Memorial Award (GMA), named in honor of patriarch fisherman Peter Gladding. The award annually recognizes fishers who demonstrate, through word and action, their commitment to sustainable use and conservation of marine resources in the Greater Caribbean region. To date, thirteen fishers have received the award (see list at Annex 1), representing 11 countries around the region. Visit the GCFI web site at <http://www.gcfi.org/PGMA/PeterGladdingMemorialAward.html> for more information on the award and the winners.

The GMA is a fundamental part of GCFI's Fisheries for Fishers Initiative which provides capacity and empowers fishers to participate in the regional marine resource governance process, which also includes successful Fishers Forums held at the 2007 and 2008 GCFI annual meetings (CERMES and CRFM 2007, CERMES 2009). The ethic of long-term sustainability endorsed by GMA recipients in concert with their accomplishments and commitment to engage fishers and other stakeholders in the wise use and conservation of regional marine resources attest to the success of the GMA program.

In addition, and as part of the activities implemented in partnership with the Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Management Network and Forum, the GCFI has coordinated the UNEP-CEP's Small Grants Program aiming at promoting sustainable fishing practices and alternative livelihoods for fishers (visit <http://gcfi.org/SGF/SGFEng.php>).

Momentum has grown around the GMA, fueled by the fishers themselves, and the reality that there are no other initiatives in the region that are attempting to support fisher best practices at this scale. The GMA Committee and the GCFI Board of Directors has initiated a controlled expansion of the GMA initiative to utilize more of the award's growing potential. To actualize these opportunities, the *Gladding Memorial Award Regional Fishers Summit*, with the sub-title '*Fishers Working for Sustainable Fisheries*' was planned and implemented as a principal component of the 62nd Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) that took place in Cumaná, Venezuela from 2-6 November 2009.

Informed approaches to the restoration and long-term sustainability of fisheries resources in the region must include input from fishers. The Summit was based on the premise that sustainable livelihoods and use of marine resources in the region depend on responsible fishers being 'at the table' for discussions on how best to achieve these goals. To help achieve this, the GMA Summit Steering Committee met in Miami, Florida, from May 11-13 to coordinate Caribbean-wide planning (GCFI 2009). The committee allocated responsibilities of program development, funding, communication, travel and logistics to be addressed from May to October.

The GCFI web site announcement of the Summit (Annex 2) set out the **Purpose** of the Gladding Memorial Award (GMA) Regional Fishers Summit as "to bring together all GMA recipients and other fishers that represent the wide cultural diversity of the region with managers, scientists, educators, students, and members of the private sector to:

(a) develop priorities for the long-term sustainability of fisheries resources and fisheries-related livelihoods, and

(b) develop specific strategies and plans to follow up and act on the identified priorities.

The announcement also summarized the process and schedule, outputs and outcomes.

Process and schedule

- Fishers Field Trip: (Monday 2/11; afternoon) to fishing industry sites and organisations in the Cumaná area.
- Fishers Summit Plenary: (Tuesday 3/11; 8:30 am – 12:00 pm) a general session in which fishers raise issues of general concern about the sustainable management of Caribbean marine resources. Fishers will serve as keynote speakers, presenters and panelists. The session will be attended by at least 200 leading fishers, marine scientists, fisheries and coastal area managers, and other stakeholders. Simultaneous interpretation (English, Spanish, French) will be provided.
- Fishers Forum: (Wednesday 4/11; 8:00 – 10:00 am) an intimate session attended by up to 20 leading fishers who will make decisions on priority issues and actions raised at the Fishers Summit general session.

Outputs (by year end)

1. Priorities for Caribbean marine resource conservation action identified using a bottom-up, fisher-lead process.
2. Specific follow-up strategies and action plans for implementation developed following the priorities identified above. At a minimum, these will include:
 - a sustainable fishery ambassador program
 - an expanded fisher exchange program
 - a media campaign to promote the priorities and actions identified during the Summit.

Outcomes (within 3 yrs)

1. Better involvement of leading fishers in local to regional scale decision-making on fisheries resources.
2. Evidence of improvement in the health of coastal and marine ecosystems and in the prosperity of the fishers that rely on them.

The remainder of this report provides details on project implementation at the Summit and an assessment of the extent to which outputs and outcomes were, or will be, achieved.

2. Organization

The 62nd GCFI was held at the Nueva Toledo Suites and Hotel in Cumaná, Venezuela. A number of GMA winners and Summit participants were sponsored by organizations previously acknowledged who arranged travel and logistics. Transportation between Caracas and Cumaná was especially challenging for both organizers and participants but all worked out in the end and the Summit program (Annex 3) proceeded according to plan. These activities are described next.

3. Activities

Fishers Field Trip

Reuben Penott, local GMA winner for 2009, was the main organizer of the Fishers Field Trip to the biological station at the beautiful Mochima National Park and the town of Mochima. Over 30 fishers and other GCFI participants on this field trip visited the aquaculture project for rearing spadefish at the station. Brood stock is captured from the wild and reproduction is induced in tanks ashore. Juveniles are later placed in cages for grow-out to market size. Feed is locally produced (micro-algae and protein enriched sardine). This aquaculture venture is

intended to provide additional income for fishers, but is not yet at the stage of fishers operating their own cages.

The fisher participants also held discussions with about a dozen local fishers in Mochima. The artisanal fisheries mainly use open pirogue-type wooden boats powered by twin outboard engines. Fishers typically engage in both fishing (Monday to Friday) and tourism (Saturday and Sunday). Main tourism activities include recreational fishing trips and day trips to beaches. Some fishers also own guest houses so their households have multiple income sources. Marketing is by word of mouth and has reached both local and foreign tourists. The tourism institute provides training and government offers micro-credit. There are fisher organizations.

Fishers Summit Plenary

This was the flagship event of the Summit. The program is at Annex 3. Plenary co-chairs Anderson Kinch and Will Heyman introduced the short and longer term goals, process for achieving them, the priorities and partnerships to be considered at the Summit (see Annex 4). Key information from leading fishers is typically not “brought to the front” in fisheries meetings, but the Summit was intended to provide an environment within which fishers, scientists and others could genuinely work together on shared interests. It was emphasized that, except for co-chair Will Heyman, all presentations and the panel discussion to follow featured only fishers who were GMA winners. In addition, GMA winners had multiple opportunities to contribute to the Summit planning processes in addition to the earlier Miami meeting via planning updates distributed for their opinions at several intervals in mid and late 2009 leading up to the Summit. They and the audience benefited from simultaneous interpretation in English, Spanish and French.

Presentations

The keynote address was delivered by Jaime Medina (President of the Regional Federation of Quintana Roo Fishing Cooperatives, Mexico) who spoke on the “Challenges and opportunities for sustainable fisheries” (Annex 5). He described the success fishers had achieved in Quintana Roo, using the the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve as one example. By organizing essentially all of the state fishing cooperatives (>20) into one federation, authorities can now hear the voices of fishers who are better empowered to strive for sustainable fisheries. The benefits of protected areas and alternative livelihoods in ecotourism were fundamental factors of success.

Mitchell Lay) spoke next on “Ecosystem based management and fishers’ vision for sustainability” (Annex 6). He introduced ecosystem-based management (EBM) from a fisher’s perspective, articulating why fishers were interested in EBM by using the example of his own engagement with the concept. He was optimistic that the Caribbean could come to serve as a model for a people-centred approach to marine EBM and the ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF). The Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO had already articulated a vision for fisheries that incorporated EBM along with livelihoods, empowerment and resilience.

The presentation by Claudio Gonzalez on “Enforcement and compliance: priority issues for fishers” was especially engaging (Annex 7). He described the small scale fisheries of the Dominican Republic, paying attention to both the marine resources and the people involved. In passionate language he stressed the need for fishers to take advantage of education opportunities in order to better appreciate their working environment and the reasons behind conservation measures. He talked about the future and the need to engage educated young people in fishing.

Eloy Cuevas addressed “Vision of sustainable fishing and fishers livelihoods”, drawing heavily upon his experience as a successful commercial fisher, flyfishing guide and collaborator with marine scientists. In describing multi-stakeholder initiatives to protect critical habitats, nursery areas, spawning aggregation sites and other features along the Belize barrier reef he showed that fishers had diversified their livelihoods to make both commercial fishing and the alternatives (diving, sport fishing, fishing guides, reserve rangers, research assistants, etc.) more sustainable. He strongly favoured fishers being allocated property rights in fisheries as a means to further enhance sustainable fishing.

Panel and discussion

The panel session on “Fishers involvement in fisheries management and policy” involved all of the previous speakers and the several other GMA winners present who joined them at the head table (see cover photo). The fishers who had not made presentations were invited to give their perspectives, followed by the others and then open discussion with the audience. Among the many points raised, some of those that stood out or attracted dialogue are set out below.

Co-chair Anderson Kinch pointed out that much of the “gloom and doom” of Caribbean fisheries concerned nearshore resources. In his opinion, the situation was not so dire with some offshore pelagic resources, and hence the distinctions among fisheries and the reasons for variations in stock status and fishery outlooks needed more detailed attention and explanation by scientists. Carlton ‘Jack’ Young noted with irony that in his over 40 years of commercial fishing it was only now, due to resource depletion, that scientists were more willing to listen to and work with fishers to address the issues that fishers had flagged as problems years ago. While he welcomed greater fisher involvement, he suggested that conservation measures (such as the quota systems for lobster and conch being tackled in Belize) be put in place once there was majority agreement rather than await consensus. He appreciated the importance of demonstration to win support.

As an illustration of demonstrated success, Ceylon Clayton said that in Jamaica fishers had set up areas for nursery grounds on their own, and in three years time they had seen success in fish stock recovery. This prompted further interest in protected areas and now they were asking the government of Jamaica to help fishers to rehabilitate the inshore fishery. Don de Maria added that in the southern USA individual quota systems are marginalizing smaller fishers while fishers who’ve used unsustainable gears (e.g., traps and longlines) were being awarded the primary shares in the fishery because of their past high volumes of capture. While it would be good to keep some fisheries traditional and small-scale, as Daniel Pauly argued in his keynote address, this does not seem to be happening in the USA. DeMaria also called for a renewed US focus on spawning aggregation protection using reserves and was not sure if there will be commercial fishing in South Florida at all soon, noting that fishing was a more respectable profession in the Caribbean than in Florida.

Harvey Robinson echoed Claudio’s call for education of younger fishers in conservation measures by taking them to see as apprentices and letting them see for themselves the benefits of responsible fishing. He was skeptical about older fishers changing their irresponsible ways. Not only did Reuben Penott agree about the importance of conservation demonstration, but he added that the same applied to alternative or complementary livelihoods such as the aquaculture being tried at Mochima. He noted that industrial fisheries were a major threat to small-scale fishing, and that fishers around the region share the same issues of fish depletion from poor management and the lack of will of governments to enforce legislation.

In Puerto Rico some fishers see biologists and scientists, in general, as their enemies but Andres Maldonado is trying to improve relationships between these parties. Greater trust and collaboration is being achieved by fishers reporting problems such as sponge diseases for scientific investigation and him using underwater images to substantiate requests for shifting the conch season. However, he noted that fisheries enforcement needs to be more active and visible.

In the discussion period, members of the large audience supported the call for greater enforcement and compliance, reinforcing the GMA committee's observation that this was a key issue around the Wider Caribbean regardless of fishery, country or language. Venezuelan fishers were especially concerned that the industrial fleets seemed to have more power to flout the law. Another participant warned that the tendency to pay less attention to land-based sources of pollution and physical habitat degradation was also an exercise of power in tourism locations where fisheries received disproportionate blame for resource declines compared to tourism.

A fisher in the audience maintained that fishers have to set good examples with responsible fishing and reach out to other marine stakeholders rather than expect others to look after their interests because they were perceived as disadvantaged in various ways. In the USVI there was increasing involvement of fisheries in making fisheries legislation and then also helping to ensure compliance once enacted. In the Gulf of Nicoya, Costa Rica, there was an initiative of fishers to collaborate with a university to establish a "well managed area". Together they got a conservation decree passed. A portion of the catch profit from the area is reinvested into the management arrangements. An international NGO is assisting the initiative in different ways, including the development of a preferential market for sustainable harvested products in the country, and promoting more examples like this.

There was a call for better partnerships to improve the overall quality of life of fisherfolk in part by ensuring other economic sectors were more aware of their links to fisheries in the context of EBM. Fisheries contribute to food security, but fishers also need access to social security for when they can no longer contribute. Others spoke about increasing the involvement of fishers in science, especially working with young scientists, and the importance of improving data quality from multiple knowledge sources. Gender issues also need to be considered.

In terms of ecology, some noted that alien invasive episodes (e.g. lionfish) are likely to be repeated and pose as significant a threat as overfishing unless more proactive approaches were taken. Another participant cautioned against taking successful interventions out of context and either scaling up or transplanting them without adequate information. Property rights to allow community managed areas, more certain markets for value-added products, and more marine managed areas were among the recurrent recommendations of participants.

The GCFI was encouraged to support and equip the GMA winners as ambassadors for sustainable fisheries. They need this support because fishers who promote conservation and responsible fishing are often viewed skeptically by their peers; they need to be backed up by more powerful actors to effect change in national, regional, and local fisheries policy and management.

The coordinator of the Caribbean MPA Management Network and Forum noted that the crisis of the fisheries industry in the Caribbean has contributed to increase awareness among fishers on the needs to make radical changes in the way fisheries resources are exploited. She pointed out some of the suggestions made by fishers during the session, namely a) granting exclusive fishing rights to traditional local fishermen in "areas of responsible fishing" conducive to a community-based management; b) the creation of bigger and more

numerous no-take areas (sanctuaries and reserves) within areas of multiple use (conservation, fisheries, tourism, etc.); c) The need to build capacity among fishers on the ecological functioning of marine resources and the creation of small business complementary or alternative livelihoods with best management practices; and d) the potential of increasing the market value of sustainable harvested fish as a way to raise income with less catches.

Fishers Forum

The last major component of the Summit was the Fishers Forum chaired by Mitchell Lay with Patrick McConney assisting. A background document entitled “Main points from the Plenary for use in the Fishers Forum, and approach to the outputs” (Annex 9) was compiled to guide this session. The chairman presented the information from the Plenary presentations and discussion plus the forum working group instructions to a gathering of about thirty-six people that included all of the GMA winners and other interested parties.

They divided themselves into the five working groups each taking on one of the theme topics and then attempting to develop project outlines using a standard format. Although this was attempted, no group was completely successful. They all shared partial outlines at the end of the forum, with group-selected speakers communicating in both Spanish and English to ensure that everyone understood. The group outputs are shown in Annexes 10 to 14 and summarized below.

Collaboration between fisherfolk and scientists to improve lobster knowledge (Annex 10) concerns fishers and scientists working together to improve the knowledge available on spiny lobsters and their fisheries, especially in Belize, Jamaica and St. Lucia. Ecosystem consideration in reduction of fisheries (Annex 11) also focuses in improving knowledge, but this time more broadly on an ecosystem scale in relation the depletion of fish stocks for various reasons. Fisher-driven compliance in marine managed areas (Annex 12) is mainly about the conservation-focused empowerment of fishers and fishing communities to set aside locations as community conservation areas for which they set compliance standards and enforcement processes rather than any external entity. It is essentially community-based management. Fisher exchanges for education, diversified livelihoods (Annex 13) is a wide ranging recommendation for exchanges that build the capacities of fisher groups through learn-by-doing or at least seeing and experiencing the successes of others within similar contexts. Participatory data collection and fisheries decision-making (Annex 14) is also about empowering fishers while improving data.

4. Project Completion Report

Implementing Organization: Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI).

Project No.:

Project Title: Gladding Memorial Award Regional Fishers Summit

I. TECHNICAL REPORT AT COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT

1. Summarized description of the project and mechanism for its implementation
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See Project Summary, Organization and Annexes 1 to 3.

2. Summarized description of the project implemented and the mechanisms for its
--

implementation, including explanations of modifications made on the original project
See Project Summary, Organization, Activities and Annexes 1 to 16. No modifications made.

3. Proposed objectives, results and activities and level of completion		
General Objective Anticipated Indicators	General Objective Achievement of Indicators	% Level of Achievement
(a) develop priorities for the long-term sustainability of fisheries resources and fisheries-related livelihoods	Multiple priorities were developed and stated at the November Summit and May planning meeting (see this document and appendices)	100%
General Objective Anticipated Indicators	General Objective Achievement of Indicators	% Level of Achievement
(b) develop specific strategies and plans to follow up and act on the identified priorities	Multiple follow up plans were developed and stated at the November Summit and after (this document and	100%

II. RESULTS

Expected Results Anticipated Indicators	Results Obtained Achievement of Indicators	% Level of Achievement
<p>Outputs</p> <p>1. Priorities for Caribbean marine resource conservation action identified using a bottom-up, fisher-lead process.</p> <p>2. Specific follow-up strategies and action plans for implementation developed following the priorities identified above. At a minimum, these will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a sustainable fishery ambassador program • an expanded fisher exchange program • a media campaign to promote the priorities and actions identified during the Summit. <p>Outcomes (within 3 yrs)</p> <p>1. Better involvement of leading fishers in local to regional scale</p>	<p>1. Achieved, see above and appendices.</p> <p>2. Follow up strategies developed, action plans under continued development.</p>	<p>100%</p> <p>85%</p>

decision-making on fisheries resources. 2. Evidence of improvement in the health of coastal and marine ecosystems and in the prosperity of the fishers that rely on them.		
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III. PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

Planned Activities	Achieved	Not Achieved	Partially Achieved (%)	Rejected
Fishers Field Trip	Yes			
Fishers Summit Plenary	Yes			
Fishers Forum	Yes			

IV. OBJECTIVES, RESULTS, AND ACTIVITIES REALIZED, BUT NOT ANTICIPATED IN THE ORIGINAL PROJECT

Unanticipated objectives: N.A.
Unanticipated results: N.A.
Unanticipated activities: N.A.

V. OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THE ACCESSIBILITY, RELIABILITY, AND SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED SOURCES TO VERIFY OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS

Source for Verification	Observations
Objectives: Fishers Summit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage GMA winners and other fisher as discussion leaders and vocal participants in Summit field trip, plenary and forum Leadership of topics at Summit sessions 	All Summit participants were successful in their roles of generating quality Summit products.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a plan of work for following up on Summit outputs 	
<p>Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishers participated as leaders and produced recommendations from their perspective • Summit goals and objective outputs were achieved; outcomes are being pursued 	<p>Fishers and other committee members participated at high level of commitment to the Summit processes.</p>

II. RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations about other similar projects presented to the UNEP-CAR/RCU Program:

CONTINUE with similar proposals, but review the following points:

Justification for the problem

Objectives

Methodology

Budget

DO NOT CONTINUE with similar proposals

IV. LESSONS LEARNED (In this section, indicate the most important points of the project that can serve as a basis for future proposals. Indicate the encountered problems and the proposed solutions, focusing on the appropriate use of the resources available for the project.)

Fishers served in prominent roles during the planning meeting and the Summit. They took full advantage of opportunities to articulate their opinions and share personal experiences on a broad scope of critically important local and regional fisheries issues. All GMA winners expressed great appreciation for the opportunity to gather for such an important Summit. These are ambassadors for fisheries conservation in the Caribbean. Stakeholders in sustainable fisheries place great value on their knowledge of fish, fishing and fisheries and their willingness to share that knowledge.

The Summit identified priority areas for follow-up, developed details on how best to optimize GMA recipients and other fishing leader inputs. The Summit brought together all GMA recipients, other fishers representing a wide cultural diversity, managers, scientists, educators, students and the private sector. All participants agreed that the Fishers Summit was critical to sustainable fisheries development.

5. References

CERMES. 2009. Report of the Fishers Forum: “Climate change and small-scale fisheries in the Caribbean” at the 61st Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI), Gosier, Guadeloupe

10-14 November 2008. CERMES MarGov Project Document 12. Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies, Barbados. 19 pp

CERMES and CRFM. 2007. Report of the Fishers Forum: “Fisher folk and fisheries scientists linking and learning together” at the 60th Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI), Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, 5-9 November 2007. CERMES MarGov Project Document 6. Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies, Barbados. 16 pp.

GCFI 2009 Final Report of the Gladding Memorial Award Regional Fishers Summit Fishers Working for Sustainable Fisheries Steering Committee Meeting, 11-13 May 2009, Miami, Florida. 29pp.

6. Annexes

Annex 1: GMA recipients and Summit steering committee members

GMA Winner	Affiliation, Country	Year Won	Phone	E-mail
Don DeMaria	Sea Samples, Summerland Key, Florida, USA	2004	305. 745.3045	dondemaria@ aol.com
Eloy Cuevas	Fisherman, Monkey River, Belize	2005	C 501 661 2363 H 609 3071	cuevas_elay@ya hoo.com
Anderson Kinch	Barbados Fishing Cooperative Society, Oistins, Barbados	“	C 246-824-1456 246.428.2783	<u>captainrogie@</u> <u>live.com</u>
Harvey Robinson	Fish and Farming Cooperative, Providencia, Columbia	“	(57) 8 5148839	blackcrab48@ hotmail.com
Jack Young	Placencia Fishermans Cooperative, Placencia, Belize	2006	C 501 621 2902 H 501 503 3127	<u>seahorse@</u> <u>btl.net</u> (Brian - Son/Grandson)
Ceylon Clayton	Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society, Little Bay, Jamaica	“		<u>Jeanpbb2000@y</u> <u>ahoo.com</u> . Jean Brown NCRPS
Linwood Outerbridge	Bermuda Marine Resources Board, Hamilton, Bermuda	2007	441-293-1117	<u>marvlin@northroc</u> <u>k.bm,nsimmon@</u> <u>gov.bm</u>
Claudio Gonzalez	Jaragua National Park, Jaragua, Dominican Republic	“		
Toribio Mata	Los Roques Archipelago National Park, Los Roques, Venezuela	2008		
Jaime Medina	Federation of Quintana Roo Fishing Cooperatives, Cancun, Mexico	“	O: 52 998 880- 17-94	federacionpesqu era@ hotmail.com
Mitchell Lay	Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations, Antigua	2009	C: 268. 784.4690	mitchlay@ yahoo.co.uk
Andy Maldonado	Fisherman, Puerto Rico	“		
Reuben Penott	Fisherman, Mochima, Venezuela	“		

GMA Summit steering committee

(* = present at the Summit)

<u>Fishers:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Anderson Kinch* - Barbados- Don DeMaria* - USA- Jaime Medina* - Mexico- Mitchell Lay* - Antigua- Toribio Mata - Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Alejandro Acosta* - USA- Georgina Bustamante* - USA- Juan Posada* - Venezuela- Ken Lindeman* - USA- Mel Goodwin - USA- Patrick McConney* - Barbados
<u>Others:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Bob Glazer* - USA- James Franks - USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Terry Gibson* - USA- Will Heyman* - USA- Barbara Reveles* - Mexico

Annex 2: Fishers Summit Announcement

Purpose

The purpose of the Gladding Memorial Award (GMA) Regional Fishers Summit (hereinafter called the Fishers Summit) is to bring together all GMA recipients and other fishers that represent the wide cultural diversity of the region with managers, scientists, educators, students, and members of the private sector to:

- (a) develop priorities for the long-term sustainability of fisheries resources and fisheries-related livelihoods, and
- (b) develop specific strategies and plans to follow up and act on the identified priorities.

The Summit will provide the unique opportunity to address major issues of regional concern from the bottom-up, by highlighting the experiences and opinions of respected fishers from around the region. The goal is to develop priorities and actions to address the identified issues, again, by fishers and in consultation with other stakeholders. The long-term goal is that fishers will play an increasing role in local and regional fishery management decision-making which will improve the status of both the resources and the fishers' livelihoods.

Process and Schedule

- Fishers Field Trip: (Monday 2/11; afternoon) to fishing industry sites and organisations in the Cumaná area.
- Fishers Summit: (Tuesday 3/11; 8:30 am – 12:00 pm) a general session in which fishers raise issues of general concern about the sustainable management of Caribbean marine resources. Fishers will serve as keynote speakers, presenters and panelists. The session will be attended by at least 200 leading fishers, marine scientists, fisheries and coastal managers, and other stakeholders. Simultaneous interpretation (English, Spanish, French) will be provided.
- Fishers Forum: (Wednesday 4/11; 8:00 – 10:00 am) an intimate session that will be attended by up to 20 leading fishers who will make decisions on priority issues and actions raised at the Fishers Summit general session.

Outputs (by year end)

3. Priorities for Caribbean marine resource conservation action identified using a bottom-up, fisher-lead process.
4. Specific follow-up strategies and action plans for implementation developed following the priorities identified above. At a minimum, these will include:
 - a sustainable fishery ambassador program
 - an expanded fisher exchange program
 - a media campaign to promote the priorities and actions identified during the Summit.

Outcomes (within 3 yrs)

3. Better involvement of leading fishers in local to regional scale decision-making on fisheries resources.
4. Evidence of improvement in the health of coastal and marine ecosystems and in the prosperity of the fishers that rely on them.

Annex 3: Fishers Summit Program

Monday 2 November: Fishers Summit Field Trip

Afternoon excursion for fishers to visit fish plants and harbours, fishing cooperatives and fishing villages near Cumaná

Tuesday 3 November: Fishers Summit Plenary

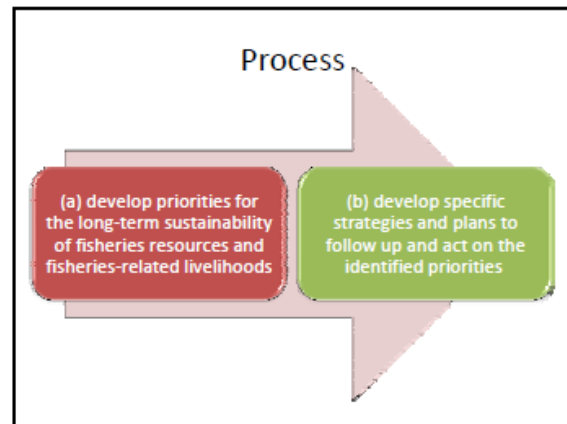
0830	Welcome and introduction -- Anderson Kinch, Chairman and GMA winner, Barbados with Will Heyman, Co-chairman and scientist, USA
0840	Keynote: Challenges and opportunities for sustainable fisheries -- Jaime Medina, GMA winner, Mexico
0900	Ecosystem Based Management and fishers' vision for sustainability -- Mitchell Lay, GMA winner, Antigua and Barbuda
0920	Enforcement and compliance: priority issues for fishers -- Claudio Gonzalez, GMA winner, Dominican Republic
0940	Opportunities to diversify fisheries to sustain fishers' livelihoods -- Eloy Cuevas, GMA winner, Belize
1000	BREAK
1020	Fishers involvement in fisheries management and policy -- GMA panel of keynote speaker, topic presenters and other GMA winners Harvey Robinson (Colombia) Ceylon Clayton (Jamaica), Carlton 'Jack' Young (Belize), Toribio Mata (Venezuela) plus Anderson Kinch (Barbados and panel chair)
1050	Discussion between panel and audience on presentations, priority actions and partnerships -- GMA winners panel with discussion moderated by the Chair and Co-chair
1150	Closing summary and follow-up action -- Chair and Co-chair
1200	Close

Wednesday 4 November: Fishers Summit Forum

0830	Introduction to Forum aims, outputs and organization
0840	Summary of main discussion topics from summit plenary and field trip
0900	Small group discussions for final fisher agreement on priorities, actions and means of implementation
1000	Summary presentations; recording all recommendations for the report
1030	Close

Annex 4: Welcome and introduction -- Will Heyman and Anderson Kinch

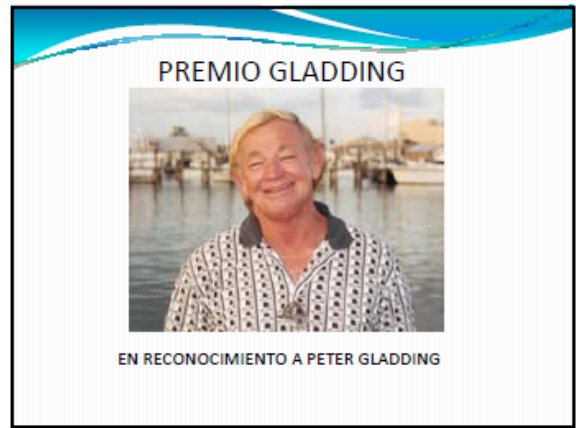
Summit goal	Summit long-term goal
<ul style="list-style-type: none">to develop priorities and actions to address the identified issues by fishers in consultation with other stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">fishers will play an increasing role in local and regional fishery management decision-making which will improve the status of both the resources and the fishers' livelihoods



Priority actions, partnerships for...

Challenges and opportunities for sustainable fisheries
Ecosystem Based Management and fishers' vision for sustainability
Enforcement and compliance: priority issues for fishers
Opportunities to diversify fisheries to sustain fishers' livelihoods
Fishers involvement in fisheries management and policy

Annex 5: Challenges and opportunities for sustainable fisheries -- Jaime Medina



ATRÁS QUEDARON LOS DIAS EN QUE TODOS AFIRMABAMOS QUE EL "MAR ERA FUENTE INAGOTABLE DE RIQUEZAS" O DE QUE EL MAR PODIA ABSORBER TODA LA CONTAMINACION QUE SE LE VERTIERA.
 MAYOR PECADO LLEVAN LOS GRANDES EMPRESARIOS DE LA PESCA, QUE CON BARCOS DE ARRASTRE Y OTRAS ARTES NOCVAS, BARREN LOS FONOS MARINOS SIN IMPORTARLES, POR IGNORANCIA O AMBICION, LOS DAÑOS CAUSADOS



NOSOTROS, LOS PESCADORES RIBEREÑOS O ARTESANALES, A PESAR DE NUESTRA IGNORANCIA BIOLÓGICA, SIEMPRE HEMOS ESTADO CONCIENTES DEL RESPETO A LAS TALLAS MÍNIMAS O LAS HEMBRAS CON HUEVA Y NO PORQUE NOS LO DIJERAN LOS BIÓLOGOS SINO QUE ES UN CONOCIMIENTO DE GENERACION EN GENERACION. ESTO LO HABIAMOS RESPETADO CUANDO PESCAVAMOS PARA NUESTRA SUBSISTENCIA Y PARA SOLVENTAR LOS GASTOS MAS INDISPENSABLES, PERO A MEDIDA QUE LA MODERNIDAD NOS LLEGABA, NUESTRAS NECESIDADES CRECIAN Y TENIAMOS QUE PESCAR MAS Y COMO DICE EL DICHO: "LA LEY ES PODEROSA, PERO LA NECESIDAD ES MAS."

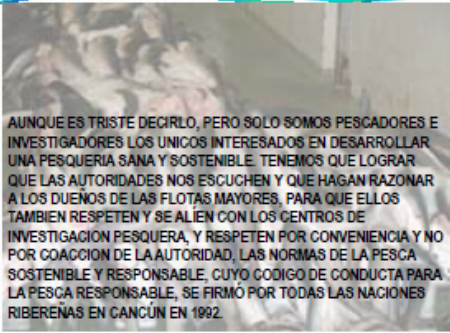


UNA FORMA DE AUMENTAR LAS CAPTURAS ES UTILIZAR ARTES Y EQUIPO DE PESCA MODERNOS Y DE TECNOLOGÍA DE VANGUARDIA QUE MEJOREN Y SEAN MAS EFICIENTES EN LA CAPTURA. PERO ESTO, LEJOS DE AYUDARNOS EN NUESTRO DESARROLLO PESQUERO FUTURO, HARA QUE ACABEMOS MAS RAPIDO CON LO POCO QUE AUN NOS QUEDA. POR ELLO, ES MEJOR ADENTRARNOS EN LA INVESTIGACION DE CÓMO SACARLE MEJOR PROVECHO A LO QUE ACTUALMENTE PESCAMOS, EN LUGAR DE PENSAR EN COMO PESCAR MAS.



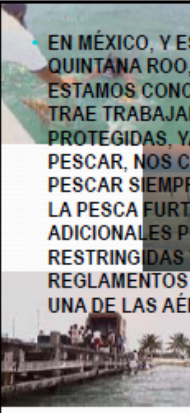

ES EN BASE A ESTE NUEVO PENSAMIENTO QUE AHORA RECONOCEMOS QUE LOS INVESTIGADORES Y CIENTIFICOS QUE ESTUDIAN LO RELACIONADO CON LA PESCA, NO SON NUESTROS ENEMIGOS QUE TRATAN DE QUE NO PESQUEMOS, SINO AL CONTRARIO, SON GENTE QUE NOS SUGIERE O RECOMIENDA LO QUE ES MAS SEGURO PARA QUE LAS PESQUERIAS NO COLAPSEN, Y NOS DICEN QUE DEBEMOS HACER PARA PESCAR POR MUCHO TIEMPO.

NO ES TARDE PARA DARNOS CUENTA QUE LOS PESCADORES Y LOS INVESTIGADORES, PERTENECEMOS A UN MISMO SECTOR PRODUCTIVO Y QUE UNIÉNDONOS AMBOS, PODEMOS LOGRAR REVERTIR LAS TENDENCIAS ALARMISTAS DE LAS BAJAS CAPTURAS. NECESITAMOS MAS INVESTIGACION APLICADA Y DE MERCADOTECNIA, QUE SE REALICEN ESTUDIOS PARA QUE NOS INDIQUEN COMO DARLE MAYOR VALOR AGREGADO A NUESTRAS CAPTURAS, QUEREMOS SABER COMO COMERCIALIZAR MEJOR NUESTRO PRODUCTO.

AUNQUE ES TRISTE DECIRLO, PERO SOLO SOMOS PESCADORES E INVESTIGADORES LOS UNICOS INTERESADOS EN DESARROLLAR UNA PESQUERIA SANA Y SOSTENIBLE. TENEMOS QUE LOGRAR QUE LAS AUTORIDADES NOS ESCUCHEN Y QUE HAGAN RAZONAR A LOS DUEÑOS DE LAS FLOTAS MAYORES, PARA QUE ELLOS TAMBIEN RESPETEN Y SE ALIEN CON LOS CENTROS DE INVESTIGACION PESQUERA, Y RESPETEN POR CONVENIENCIA Y NO POR COAGCION DE LA AUTORIDAD, LAS NORMAS DE LA PESCA SOSTENIBLE Y RESPONSABLE, CUYO CODIGO DE CONDUCTA PARA LA PESCA RESPONSABLE, SE FIRMO POR TODAS LAS NACIONES RIBERENAS EN CANCUN EN 1992.

EN MÉXICO, Y ESPECIFICAMENTE EN EL ESTADO DE QUINTANA ROO, LA MAYORIA DE LOS PESCADORES ESTAMOS CONCIENTES DE LOS BENEFICIOS QUE NOS TRAE TRABAJAR EN AÉREAS NATURALES PROTEGIDAS, YA QUE LEJOS DE PROHIBIRNOS PESCAR, NOS CAPACITAN COMO HACERLO PARA PESCAR SIEMPRE. HAY MAS VIGILANCIA PARA EVITAR LA PESCA FURTIVA Y SE RECIBEN APOYOS ADICIONALES POR NO PESCAR EN AÉREAS RESTRINGIDAS Y POR RESPETAR LAS NORMAS Y REGLAMENTOS QUE SE DAN EN EL MANEJO DE CADA UNA DE LAS AÉREAS NATURALES PROTEGIDAS.








FUE EN 1996, CUANDO SE CONSTITUYÓ LA PRIMERA RESERVA DE LA BIOSFERA EN NUESTRO ESTADO. LA DE SIAN KA'AN, EN PALABRA MAYA QUE QUIERE DECIR "TRIGALO DEL CIELO". EN EL COMIENZO DE QUINTANA ROO, AL PRINCIPIO NOS DABAMOS FUERZAMENTE PORQUE CONSIDERABAMOS QUE ÍBAMOS A HACER PERJUDICADOS, YA QUE SE PRETENDIA HACER ZONAS NUCLEO O DE PROHIBICION TOTAL PARA LA PESCA A GRANDES AEREAS EN DONDE SOLIAMOS PESCAR.

ESTE PRIMER INTENTO DE CREAR AÉREAS NATURALES PROTEGIDAS, DURÓ MAS DE CUATRO AÑOS EN REALIZARSE Y AL FINAL, PODEMOS DECIR QUE EN EL MEDIANO PLAZO, HEMOS SIDO BENEFICIADOS AL TENER UN PROGRAMA DE CONSERVACION Y MANEJO QUE NOS DICE COMO, DONDE Y CUANDO PESCAR CON ÉXITO. ESTA RESERVA DE LA BIOSFERA ESTA ACTUALMENTE CATALOGADA POR LA UNESCO COMO PATRIMONIO DE LA HUMANIDAD Y AHÍ PESCAMOS Y VIVIMOS EN UN AMBIENTE DE CONVIVENCIA CON LA NATURALEZA.

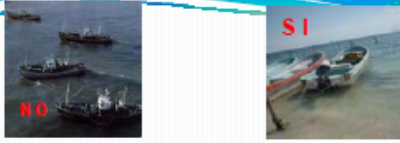
RESERVA DE LA BIOSFERA DE SIAN KA'AN

LOS PESCADORES QUE TRABAJAMOS EN EL ESTADO DE QUINTANA ROO SOMOS ALREDEDOR DE TRES MIL, Y CASI TODOS PESCAMOS Y TRABAJAMOS EN AÉREAS NATURALES PROTEGIDAS, EN DONDE HAY ZONAS DE RESTRICCIÓN TOTAL DE PESCA, ZONAS DE AMORTIGUAMIENTO, EN DONDE SE PUEDE PESCAR EN ALGUNAS EPOCAS DEL AÑO Y ZONAS EN DONDE PESCAMOS TODO EL AÑO, RESPETANDO LAS VEDAS Y LAS TALLAS MÍNIMAS DE CAPTURA.

EN EL ESTADO EXISTEN 20 AÉREAS NATURALES PROTEGIDAS, TANTO FEDERALES, ESTATALES Y MUNICIPALES CON UNA AREA DE UN MILLON DOSCIENTAS TREINTA Y CINCO MIL HECTAREAS, ES DECIR, MAS DOCE MIL KILOMETROS CUADRADOS, QUE REPRESENTAN UN POCO MAS DE LA CUARTA PARTE DE TODA LA SUPERFICIE DEL ESTADO.

OTRA COSA QUE HEMOS LOGRADO HACER COMPRENDER TANTO A LAS AUTORIDADES COMO A LOS ULTRA CONSERVACIONISTAS ES DE QUE EL PAISAJE COSTERO ESTA HECHO TANTO DE LOS RECURSOS NATURALES COMO DE LOS HABITANTES DE LOS PUEBLOS Y COMUNIDADES RIBERENAS, Y QUE NO SE PUEDE PROTEGER SOLO A LOS RECURSOS MARINOS, SIN APOYAR A LOS QUE TRADICIONALMENTE Y POR MUCHO AÑOS, HEMOS CONVIVIDO CON ELLOS.






- LOS PESCADORES SABEMOS PERFECTAMENTE QUE SI SE ACABA LA PESCA, NOS ACABAMOS NOSOTROS. SABEMOS QUE SI RESPETAMOS AL MEDIO AMBIENTE, ESTAMOS RESPETANDONOS A NOSOTROS MISMOS, QUE NOSOTROS SOMOS PARTE DE LA NATURALEZA QUE DEBEMOS PROTEGER.
- COMO SABEMOS ESTO, PELEAMOS Y LUCHAMOS PARA QUE LOS RECURSOS PESQUEROS ALEDANOS A LA COSTA, SEAN APROVECHADOS ÚNICAMENTE POR LOS QUE VIVIMOS EN LAS ZONAS COSTERAS Y TENEMOS PERMISO PARA ELLO. NOS OPONEMOS A QUE SE DEN PERMISOS DE PESCA A LOS BARCOS QUE PESCAN INDISCRIMINADAMENTE, YA QUE ELLOS, SE PUEDEN IR FÁCILMENTE A OTRAS ÁREAS Y NOSOTROS NO.

ALTERNATIVAS A LA PESCA

Excursions and activities

- AUNQUE POSIBLEMENTE NO SEA EL CASO PARA ALGUNOS DE USTEDES COMPAÑEROS PESCADORES, SI ES IMPORTANTE MENCIONAR LAS ALTERNATIVAS DE LOS PUEDEN OBIENEN EN TORNO DE BUSCAR OTRAS ACTIVIDADES COMPLEMENTARIAS A LA PESCA PARA DEJAR DESCANSAR EL RECURSO. UN CASO PUEDE SER EL TURISMO ECOLÓGICO O ECOTURISMO, EN DONDE PODEMOS LLEVAR A LOS TURISTAS A LOS LUGARES MÁS BELLOS DE NUESTRA COSTA Y QUE SOLO NOSOTROS CONOCEMOS.






- OTRO CASO ES LA PESCA DEPORTIVA DE LIBERACION, EN DONDE LOS PESCADORES SEAN LOS QUE LLEVEN A LOS PESCADORES DEPORTIVOS A LOS SITIOS EN DONDE NOSOTROS SABEMOS QUE HAY PESCA, OBTENIENDO BUENAS GRATIFICACIONES POR ELLO. EXISTEN EXPERIENCIAS EXITOSAS EN ESTE SENTIDO, YA QUE AL PESCAR UN MERO Y VENDERLO EN EL MERCADO O AL INTERMEDIARIO, OBTENEMOS DOS O TRES DOLARES, MIENTRAS QUE SI SE MISMO MERO, ES CAPTURADO POR UN TURISTA Y LUEGO LIBERADO, OBTENEMOS 50 O 60 DOLARES.

- OTRA ALTERNATIVA QUE SE ESTÁ DANDO ES LA AGUACULTURA Y LA MARICULTURA. PARA ESTAS NUEVAS OPCIONES, DEBEMOS NUEVAMENTE, HACER ALIANZAS CON LOS CIENTÍFICOS PARA QUE NOS DIGAN LOS PROS Y LOS CONTRAS DE ESTA NUEVA ACTIVIDAD. QUE AUNQUE A PRIMERA VISTA PARECE SER UN MUY BUEN NEGOCIO, TENEMOS QUE PENSAR EN LA SUSTENTABILIDAD DE NUESTROS ECOSISTEMAS, Y NO POR GANAR UNOS PESOS MÁS, VAYAMOS CON EL TIEMPO A CONTAMINAR NUESTROS MARES Y QUEDEMOS COMO EL PERRO DE LAS DOS TORTAS, QUE AL FINAL NO SE QUEDA CON NINGUNA.
- DE CUALQUIER MANERA, TANTO LA PESCA TRADICIONAL COMO LAS ALTERNATIVAS QUE SE MENCIONAN, SE DEBEN DE REALIZAR CON UN PROFUNDO SENTIDO DE COOPERACION Y DE SOLIDARIDAD ENTRE TODOS LOS MIEMBROS DE LA COMUNIDAD.



- A LOS PESCADORES DE QUINTANA ROO LES HA DADO BUEN RESULTADO TRABAJAR Y AGRUPARSE EN SOCIEDADES COOPERATIVAS, COMO UNA FORMA DE ORGANIZACIÓN SOCIAL.
- EN QUINTANA ROO, EXISTEN 25 SOCIEDADES COOPERATIVAS PESQUERAS, AGRUPADAS EN UNA SOLA FEDERACIÓN, LO QUE GARANTIZA UN MAYOR PODER DE GESTORIA ANTE LAS AUTORIDADES Y ANTE LOS COMPRADORES.

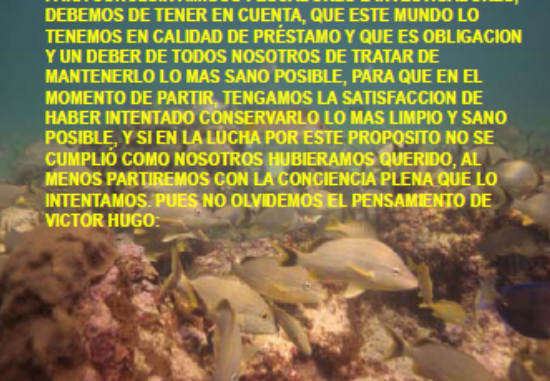


SU FORMA DE CAPTURA ES A BASE DE "SOMBRA CUBANA". LAS SOMBRA CUBANA SON ARTES DE PESCA QUE SIRVEN DE REFUGIO A LAS LANGOSTAS Y POR SUS CARACTERÍSTICAS SE ACOPLAN DE FORMA NATURAL AL MEDIO AMBIENTE. CABE HACER LA ACLARACIÓN QUE ALGUNOS GRUPOS ECOLÓGICOS HAN TRATADO DE SATANIZAR ESTE ARTE DE PESCA, DICIENDO QUE POR SER DE CEMENTO AGRADEAN AL MEDIO AMBIENTE. LA PROPIA COOPERATIVA AL UTILIZARLAS DURANTE MÁS DE 35 AÑOS EN UNA ÁREA NATURAL PROTEGIDA DESMIENTE POR SI SOLA ESTA HIPÓTESIS.

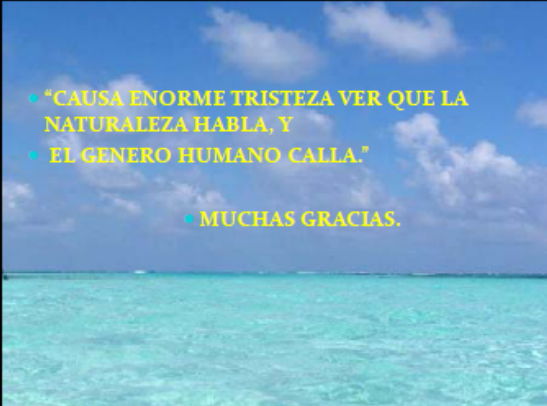


• LOS RETOS A LOS QUE NOS ENFRENTAMOS EN ESTOS TIEMPOS DE GLOBALIZACIÓN LOS PODEMOS VENCER Y SACAR PROVECHO DE ELLOS ORGANIZANDONOS Y LLEVANDO A CABO ACCIONES EN CONJUNTO COMO LAS SIGUIENTES QUE PROPONGO A TODOS USTÉDES:

1. HOMOLOGAR VEDAS Y TALLAS MÍNIMAS DE LAS PRINCIPALES PESQUERÍAS QUE COMPARTIMOS EN COMUN, COMO EL MERO, LA LANGOSTA, EL TIBURÓN, ETC.
2. DEFINIR, EN COORDINACIÓN CON LOS INVESTIGADORES LAS ZONAS DE AGREGACIÓN Y DESOVE Y RESPETAR LAS EPOCAS EN QUE ELLO OCURRA.
3. ELABORAR UN CATALOGO COMUN DE ARTES DE PESCA, QUE SEAN LO MAS SELECTIVA POSIBLE Y EVITAR LAS QUE SEAN DAÑINAS.
4. LLEVAR A CABO INTERCAMBIOS DE EXPERIENCIAS EN LAS PROPIAS COMUNIDADES PESQUERAS. NOSOTROS EN QUINTANA ROO, NOS DARÁ MUCHO GUSTO RECIBIRLOS



• PARA CONCLUIR AMIGOS PESCADORES E INVESTIGADORES, DEBEMOS DE TENER EN CUENTA, QUE ESTE MUNDO LO TENEMOS EN CALIDAD DE PRÉSTAMO Y QUE ES OBLIGACION Y UN DEBER DE TODOS NOSOTROS DE TRATAR DE MANTENERLO LO MAS SANO POSIBLE, PARA QUE EN EL MOMENTO DE PARTIR, TENGAMOS LA SATISFACCION DE HABER INTENTADO CONSERVARLO LO MAS LIMPIO Y SANO POSIBLE, Y SI EN LA LUCHA POR ESTE PROPOSITO NO SE CUMPLIO COMO NOSOTROS HUBIERAMOS QUERIDO, AL MENOS PARTIREMOS CON LA CONCIENCIA PLENA QUE LO INTENTAMOS. PUES NO OLVIDEMOS EL PENSAMIENTO DE VICTOR HUGO:



• "CAUSA ENORME TRISTEZA VER QUE LA NATURALEZA HABLA, Y
• EL GENERO HUMANO CALLA."

• MUCHAS GRACIAS.

Annex 6: Ecosystem Based Management and fishers' vision for sustainability -- Mitchell Lay

Gladding Memorial Award Regional Fishers Summit:
Fishers Working for Sustainable Fisheries
2-4 November at the 62nd Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute
Cumaná, Venezuela 2009

Ecosystem Based Management and Fishers' Vision for Sustainability

Mitchell Lay
Fisherman from Antigua and Barbuda,
Co-ordinator of the Caribbean Network
of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO)

Why are fishers interested in Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) of fisheries?

- Overview of some demands for change
 - Weaknesses in current management systems that do not emphasize how ecosystems matter
 - Recognition that fisheries interactions and habitat integrity considerations are critical
 - Governance research (e.g. MarGov) suggests limited stakeholder involvement must improve
 - Increasing awareness of EBM approaches and tools that fishers understand (e.g. FAO's EAF)

2

My involvement in EBM

- Marine EBM Symposium, UWI campus, Barbados, December 2008 (PROGOVNET project)
 - Fishers and other stakeholders looking at, and shaping, the future of EBM in the Caribbean
- CNFO workshop on Caribbean fishers collaborating on suitable gear and techniques that will contribute to sustainable fisheries, Grenada, April 2009
 - Fisher exchange workshop on responsible fishing gear
- CRFM Caribbean Fisheries Forum, St. Vincent and Dominica, respectively January and April 2009
 - Capacity building, fisherfolk advocacy and representation

3

CNFO Vision

“Primary, national and regional fisherfolk organisations with knowledgeable members collaborating to sustain fishing industries that are mainly owned and governed by fisherfolk who enjoy a good quality of life achieved through the ecosystem based management of fisheries resources.”

4



HOW WE FISH MATTERS

- CNFO fishing gear workshop in Grenada
- Caribbean fishers collaborating on suitable gear and techniques that will contribute to sustainable fisheries (GCFI small grant)

HOW WE MANAGE MATTERS

- CRFM Fisheries Forum, Ministerial Council
- CLME project Stakeholder Advisory Group (STAG) just started
- Fisher involvement at research, policy and application levels

6

Fisheries management now

- Uncertain harvest of living resources
 - Single species/multi species models used
 - Simple to complex but not as holistic as EBM
- Limited stakeholder involvement
 - Fishers involved mainly at application level
 - May omit tourism, trade, coastal communities
- Narrow habitat considerations
 - Somewhat incomplete, with few interactions

7

Fishers' view of EBM

- A fisheries management system based on the principles of good governance, taking into account marine and coastal ecosystems, involving all stakeholders with due consideration to both scientific and local or traditional knowledge.
- EAF within EBM leading to improved livelihoods and sustainable fisheries

8



Sustainable Fisheries and Secure Livelihoods

- Fishers see as critical the following areas
 - Participation in management
 - Flexibility in operation
 - Solid marketing regimes
 - Strong stakeholder ties
 - Fishers organisations with relevant skills

Fishers' participation in fisheries management

- Fishers mainly at research/application levels
 - Research assistants and knowledge base
- Policy is restricted area
 - At all levels international, regional, national
- Enforcement occurs
 - Self-enforcement and through peer pressure
- Production and marketing regimes
 - Integration needed to add value to products

11

Fisher flexibility

- Using existing investments to harvest different stocks
 - Occupational and financial flexibility
- Locally unutilised/underutilised species
 - Gear, techniques and market aspects
- Complementary livelihood options
 - Tourism, recreational/sport fishing

12

Marketing

- Equitable market structure
 - Fisher profitability
- Market access
 - Local and export
- Market stability
 - Competition is fair
 - Quality assurance

13

Relationships

- Research
- Government
- Tourism
- Coastal communities and management
- Trade and industry
- Agriculture sector
- Finance

14

Strong fisherfolk organisations

- Primary to international FFOs
 - Contributing to management
 - Building fisherfolk capacity
 - Engaged in advocacy/communication
 - Resolving/managing conflicts
 - Increasing information base
 - Opening livelihood opportunities
 - Improving fishing household life

15



Fishers' Vision

- EAF within EBM involving fishers with adequate capacities in responsible production, better marketing and effective representation would contribute to sustainable fisheries and a good quality of life for fisherfolk, ensuring a continued supply of seafood for our peoples.

17

Getting from Here to There

- Change in direction at policy level (to EBM)
 - Government, legislation
 - e.g. via FAO EAF toolbox
- Capacity building
 - Fisherfolk, managers and scientists
- Organisational
 - Development (FFOs)
 - Reorientation (FDs, Ministries, Researchers)

Annex 7: Enforcement and compliance: priority issues for fishers -- Claudio Gonzalez

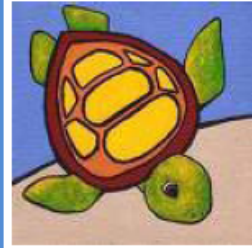






Problemas de conservación

- Sobrepesca
- Uso de artes de pesca ilegales
- Se capturan peces de pequeño tamaño
- Conflictos de uso de las zonas costeras (entre pescadores y entre estos y el sector turismo)
- Desalojos de pescadores de las playas
- Continua violación de las regulaciones pesqueras por los pescadores haitianos que pescan en la zona.



Acciones de conservación

- Monitoreo de las actividades pesqueras y de los desembarcos
- Monitoreo de anidamientos de tortugas marinas
- Monitoreo de tortugas en el agua-



Necesidades de los pescadores en términos de cumplimiento de las regulaciones

- Que se realicen programas educativos a los pescadores y sus familias dentro de su área de operación
- Formas alternativas de ganarse la vida
- Que se respeten las áreas en donde los pescadores han pescado y habitado por décadas y no se dediquen dichas áreas a turismo y otras actividades sin la participación de los pescadores
- Que se cambie la pesca de buceo a compresor por otras menos dañinas.



Gracias por su atención!

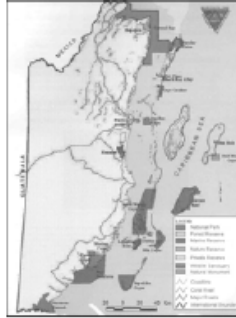


Annex 8: Vision of sustainable fishing and fishers livelihoods -- Eloy Cuevas

Vision of sustainable fishing and fishers livelihoods

Eloy Cuevas

Reserves are in place and can work



- Network of MPAs by 2000.
- Designed to protect critical habitats
 - nursery areas
 - spawning aggregation sites
- Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System encompasses 960 km² of protected waters and marine habitats.

Laughing Bird Caye Reserve

- Large area
- Well enforced
- Fully no-take
- Resources are healthy and abundant



Commercial reef fish spawning sites protected in MPAs



Port Honduras Marine Reserve

- Large area
- Well enforced
- Open Access
- Resources struggling to rebound



Fishers have diversified income

- Massive effort in re-training fishers
- Dive guides
- Fishing guides
- Reserve rangers
- Research assistant
- Lobster shades





But fisheries are still being depleted

Why?

Because they remain OPEN ACCESS

Punta Allen, Mexico is our model

- Local fishermen given exclusive access for fishing and tourism
- large no-take zone
- Fishermen manage the reserve and resources cooperatively

What Can Be Done? Next Steps in Belize

- Special licenses for fishing within MPAs
- Make MPAs larger
- Include both large no-take zones and limited access fishing

Annex 9: Plenary points for the Fishers Forum and approach to the outputs

1. Challenges and opportunities for sustainable fisheries

- Improving data collection for fishery assessment is critical, but related to value of fisheries versus data cost
- Need to prepare for more alien invasive species such as the lionfish, and be better prepared to respond
- Fishers need to treat scientists in part as tools for improving their understanding of marine environment
- Fishers and older scientists need to mentor and support young scientists in more collaborative approaches
- Coastal community in Costa Rica, partnered with university to have responsible fishing area declared
- Consumers are willing to pay more for seafood from responsible fishing area; funds returned for management
- Much learned from fisher intra-regional exchanges; funds are available from CaMPAM and via UNEP (CEP and RAC) for these
- Some success stories of stock recovery in Florida are due to local/national efforts, not transboundary

2. Ecosystem Based Management and fishers' vision for sustainability

- Factors besides overfishing contribute to changes in fish abundance, but interactions are not well understood
- Scientists mainly listen to fishers when they need their help in a crisis; both need to improve communication
- Belize introducing catch quotas if there is majority support, not consensus, as you need to demonstrate benefits
- Individual quota systems and recreational fishing are reducing feasibility of small-scale fishing in South Florida
- Marine protected areas (MPAs) work but also need general marine managed areas as MPAs are not enough
- Partnerships for integrated coastal management (ICM) needed to address non-fishing reasons for depletions
- Fishers cannot explain changes in fish abundance, some species increase and others decrease; climate change?
- In some places industrial fisheries, coming nearshore, are wiping out grounds and small-scale fishing

3. Enforcement and compliance: priority issues for fishers

- Fishers setting up own nursery areas and seeing benefits in 3 years of closure; now asking government to help
- Jamaican government needs to involve the Fisheries Advisory Board, with fishers on it, in decision making

- Older fishers cannot or will not change their ways, so focus on youth and younger apprentice fishers for change
- Fishers often have informal rules, but do not take formal rules seriously if authorities do not try to enforce laws
- Fishers can use technology, e.g. video, photos, to communicate with authorities (e.g. in Puerto Rico)
- Fishers regionally share the same issues from mis-management and lack of will of governments to enforce laws
- Conservation and responsible starts at the individual and household level; no need to wait for government rules
- Need exclusive property/fishing rights with fishers authorised to enforce rules

4. Opportunities to diversify fisheries to sustain fishers' livelihoods

- Fishing is a more respectable profession in the Caribbean than in Florida
- Aquaculture, in some places, is a complementary livelihood to help fishers to leave behind their poverty
- If markets were good and stable, then fishers would catch just enough to be satisfied, and not overfish
- Not all successes can be repeated elsewhere (e.g. Punta Allen) unless issues of scaling up are addressed
- Opportunities being threatened as distant water fleets fishing closer to the Caribbean target pelagics
- Fishers need social security for their retirement or if injured; and safety at sea training to reduce risks
- Fishing needs to be diversified now to under utilised species with more attention to value-added items
- Alternative livelihood initiatives in Belize have been partly successful but not yet at sustainable fisheries
- Food security a critical consideration in the contribution that fishers' livelihoods play in national economies
- Fishing has a strong cultural basis that adds to the social well-being of communities and is a tourism asset

5. Fishers involvement in fisheries management and policy

- Fishers and scientists need to work more together and not be enemies through learning by doing and sharing
- Policy decision-makers and authorities from other economic sectors need to be invited to fisheries meetings
- Commercial fisheries of all scales are demonised by powerful recreational fisheries, so former are declining
- Fishers must be part of regulation-making process to ensure compliance, e.g. via fisheries advisory bodies
- GMA winners need to be supported by GCFI and other agencies as national and regional conservationists

- Short-term impacts on policy-makers are important to further influence policy through demonstration
- MPA co-management needs to be pursued to facilitate large no-take areas and marine managed areas
- Gender addressed comprehensively, not just the role of women, is an issue in fisheries management and policy
- The success of fishers' involvement in science needs to be upgraded to participation in management and policy

Approach to outputs from the Forum

1. Divide into 5 small working groups of roughly 5 people per group; geographic and language diversity is good
2. Using the points under the headings, or other knowledge, outline 1 or 2 proposals to address a specific issue
3. Put the outline onto the flip chart or other paper provided to share with others in the reporting back session
4. The proposal can be regional or national/local, but likely to be of interest to other places in the Caribbean
5. Use the following headings to organise the proposal:
 - a. Working title
 - b. Location/area
 - c. Problem to be solved
 - d. Objectives or outputs
 - e. Work plan/key action
 - f. Partners/participants
 - g. Funds required (USD)
6. If possible, make one of your projects fit a budget of \$10,000-\$20,000 and be achievable before next the GCFI

Annex 10: Collaboration between fisherfolk and scientists to improve lobster knowledge

Working title	Collaboration between fisherfolk and scientists to improve lobster knowledge
Location / area	Belize, Jamaica, St. Lucia
Problem to be solved	More information is needed on the life cycle, spawning catch size
Objectives or outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand critical areas • Improve population knowledge • Improve partnership with scientist at fisheries
Work plan / key action	Fisherfolk collect data with scientists on size, catch, maturity, distribution, spawning time
Partners / participants	University scientists, fisherfolk, government fisheries managers
Funds required (USD)	10,000 – 20,000

Examples of fisher participants and their roles:

Belize - Jack Young

- Data for MPA delineation

Belize – Eloy Cuevas

- Improve communication between fishing scientist
- Improve biological and economic data to examine alternative fishing strategy

Jamaica – Ceylon Clayton

- Data for MPA
- Increase fisher awareness
- Gear selectivity studies to reduce by catch of juveniles

St. Lucia – Julian

- Data for MPA delimitation

Annex 11: Ecosystem considerations in reduced fish abundance

Working title	Ecosystem consideration in reduction of fisheries
Location / area	Florida – South America
Problem to be solved	Reduction in fisheries abundance
Objectives or outputs	Inform and involve stakeholders in order to achieve a more natural distribution of fisheries.
Work plan / key action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct literature review looking at factors that contribute to changes in fisheries abundance: abiotic (pollution, temperatures, run off, etc.) and biotic (reduce trophic level through fishing) • Produce mass media communication • Present results at GCFI • Selected Stakeholders symposium
Partners / participants	Universities, scientific communities, GCFI, GCFI sponsors i.e. NOAA, CAMPAM, FFWC, etc., local government, embassies, fisherfolks
Funds required (USD)	20,000

Notes on actions that were considered:

- Develop annotated literature survey that looks at factors that contribute to changes in fisheries abundance. Also include recommendations for interactions that are not well understood.
- Increase awareness and education for scientists and fishermen with emphasis on continuous communication among groups. The purpose is to enhance dialogue between fishermen and managers so that all issues are continuously addressed.
- MPA management is needed and should be continuous ... MPAs work. All other areas need management too, and those rules and regulations need to be communicated and enforced. Also it is very important for local government and management groups to publish, circulate and notice what the rules are, where they apply and to do this on a periodic basis (2-4 times a year)

Annex 12: Fisher-driven compliance in marine managed areas

Working title	Fisher-driven compliance in marine managed areas
Location / area	To be determined mainly with fisher input and science validation
Problem to be solved	Managed areas are not being set up and operated with sufficient fisher involvement to improve their sustainability, and short term is inadequate.
Objectives or outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules/laws must be enforceable, otherwise we are just creating a limited entry system for those that want to cheat • Penalties must be severe (loss of licence, boat etc.) otherwise penalties (fines etc.) just become the cost of doing business • Fisheries must be self-regulating with backing of government
Work plan / key action	<p>Empower and educate local fishers councils to adopt standards for self-compliance to use fishers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect nursery areas and primary fished stocks for long period/perpetuity • Develop standards to ensure success (e.g. biological, social, economic) • Discussion among fisheries and scientists to identify areas • Consider socio-economic impacts on stakeholders • Community outreach to explain the aims and process
Partners / participants	Fishers, scientists, adjacent communities
Funds required (USD)	20,000

Annex 13: Fisher exchanges for education, diversified livelihoods

Working title	Fisher exchanges for education, diversified livelihoods
Location / area	The locations for these exchanges are dependent on the success stories and lessons that can be learned from various places around the region.
Problem to be solved	
Objectives or outputs	We have developed a series of proposals for fisher exchanges, designed to educate fishers on various topics but all designed to diversify fisheries to sustain fishers livelihoods.
Work plan / key action	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Train fishers in the development of large MPAs that are co-managed between government and local fishers and that include both large no-take zones as well as provisions for limited access and fisher control over management. Best location: Punta Allen in Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve 2. Train fishers to develop and link to value-added markets through which products might flow and be labeled as sustainably harvested, and carefully processed to maintain the highest quality and freshness, but also demand the highest possible prices. Specific examples include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The sale of live lobster b. Smoked fish c. Sashimi markets d. Concentrated fish, lobster, or shrimp bullion e. Community supported fisheries (following the CSA idea) 3. Train fishers to be "catch and release" sport fishing guides, particularly flyfishing. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. For coastal and flats fishing e.g. tarpon, bonefish, snook, permit, Belize and Florida can serve as good training grounds. b. For pelagics, particularly around FADs 4. Train fishers in the Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) construction, installation, use and management for <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. capture fisheries (Grenada, Dominica, Martinique) b. sport fisheries for pelagics c. diving and photography 5. Train fishers to go after under-utilized species and fisheries: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Deepwater snappers (Antigua, Belize, St. Croix)
Partners / participants	Fishers, scientists, managers
Funds required (USD)	20,000

Annex 14: Participatory data collection and fisheries decision-making

Working title	Ways and means of improving the quality and trustworthiness of data collection by involving fishers in the process
Location / area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedernales, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic • Providence, Colombia • Barbados
Problem to be solved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries data are not collected on a sufficiently consistent or comprehensive basis, and this leads to inaccurate representations of the realities • There are low levels of trust by fishermen of the data used to formulate policies and management strategies
Objectives or outputs	Data are more objective, comprehensive and trustworthy
Work plan / key action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutually agree on the problem(s) to be assessed (through pilot samples etc.) • Fishermen select appropriate fishers to be trained in data collection (respect/influence etc.) • Fisheries and scientists design data collection methods together, including traditional and historical data • Train fishers in data collection methods • Involve students to be the ongoing links or bridges between scientists and fishermen • Fishermen, students and scientists partner to cover wider and more frequent data collection exercises • Analysis and presentation of data to the fishers
Partners / participants	Scientists, students, fishermen
Funds required (USD)	20,000

Working title	Fishers in management, policy and regulation
Location / area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedernales, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic • Cayenne (French Guiana)
Problem to be solved	Fishers are sidelined when it comes to policy and formulation of regulations
Purpose	To engage fishers more effectively to be part of the policy regulation-making and management processes
Objectives or outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies • Fishers armed with more clearly defined policies and recommendations • A more clearly defined and enhanced mechanism for decision-making • Reduction in feelings of powerlessness
Work plan /	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage CERMES to conduct case studies

key action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organize fora for fishermen to foster leadership and support for community leaders
Partners / participants	Scientists, students, fishermen
Funds required (USD)	20,000

Annex 15: Press releases

Annex

(English below)

Nota de prensa. Cumaná, Venezuela, 3 de noviembre del 2009

Contacto: Georgina Bustamante

Los pescadores del Caribe demandan el establecimiento de áreas de prohibición de pesca junto con áreas de pesca responsable para restaurar los deteriorados recursos pesqueros de la región.

En el segundo día de la LXII Conferencia Anual del Instituto de Pesca del Golfo de México y el Caribe (GCFI, por sus siglas en inglés), los 10 pescadores ganadores del Premio Gladding que otorga el GCFI presidieron el Fórum de Pescadores con un activo debate e intercambio experiencias para detener la caída de los recursos pesqueros de la región. Las intervenciones de los 25 pescadores presentes y los más de 150 científicos, estudiantes, profesores universitarios y personal técnico de la planificación y manejo de recursos marinos de agencias gubernamentales y no gubernamentales reunidos demostraron que los problemas de los 38 países y territorios-islas de la región del Caribe (desde los EE.UU hasta las Guyanas) son similares y requieren de rápidas soluciones para generar un CAMBIO RADICAL que permita un uso responsable (sostenible) de sus recursos marinos en el siglo XXI. Entre las medidas sugeridas y los cambios que estas generarían se mencionaron los siguientes:

1. Otorgamiento de derechos exclusivos de pesca para pescadores locales tradicionales en ciertas “áreas de pesca responsable”. Esto permitiría reducir la intensidad de pesca de recursos deteriorados por más de 50 años de pesca descontrolada, y un clima propicio para el control de la explotación de sus propios recursos, así como para la creación de formas de manejo comunitarias que combinen pesca y turismo sostenibles.
2. Aumento del número y tamaño de las zonas de prohibición de pesca (santuarios, reservas) dentro de las áreas de manejo de uso múltiple (conservación, pesca, turismo, etc.). Esto facilitaría la recuperación el incremento de la abundancia en las áreas circundantes bajo explotación regulada.
3. Capacitación de los pescadores y las comunidades costeras para poder entender mejor el funcionamiento ecológico de sus recursos y para la creación de empleos y pequeñas empresas con formas alternativas o complementarias a la pesca.
4. Aumento de valor agregado de los productos de la pesca responsable para elevar la competitividad en el mercado nacional e internacional, y mejorar sus ingresos con menos capturas.

El GCFI y su asociado la Red y Foro de Manejo de Áreas Marinas Protegidas del Caribe (CaMPAM por sus siglas en inglés), con el apoyo financiero del Programa del Caribe del Programa Ambiental de las Naciones Unidas y otras instituciones regionales y nacionales (Buccoo Reef Trust, NOAA de los EE.UU., y otras instituciones de gobierno y privadas) están fortaleciendo su programa de asistencia técnica a pescadores y encargados de áreas

marinas de manejo (AMM) para acelerar este proceso de cambio. Entre actividades están el intercambio entre pescadores y personal de AMMs para diseminar mejor las mejores experiencias, la producción de materiales fílmicos para divulgarlas, la capacitación y apoyo para la creación de alternativas productivas y productos competitivos de alta calidad y pescados de manera responsable.

Otros temas abordados fueron las afectaciones de la contaminación y sedimentación costera por efecto de la deforestación y la agricultura mal manejada, la erradicación de la especie invasora pez león, la necesidad de una mayor representación de las mujeres entre los pescadores participantes, y el apoyo del GCFI a los pescadores líderes para enfrentar las presiones en su país y promover cambios de la legislación y la sociedad civil para la creación de áreas de pesca responsable. Algunos de los científicos participantes expresaron su admiración por la activa participación de pescadores en las reuniones del GCFI, su confianza de que la elevación de la conciencia de los pescadores como consecuencia de la crisis sea un factor decisivo en los cambios, y el compromiso de todos de fortalecer la sociedad civil para este CAMBIO.

Press release. Cumaná, Venezuela, Noviembre 3rd, 2009

Contact: Georgina Bustamante

Caribbean fishermen request the establishment of marine reserves combined with areas of responsible fishing to restore the deteriorated fisheries resources of the region.

On the second day of the Annual Conference 62ava Fisheries Institute Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean (GCFI), the 10 fishermen awarded by the GCFI Gladding Award chaired their summit meeting with an active discussion and exchange of experiences, problems and challenges to stem the decline in the abundance of fishery resources in the region. Assistance from the nearly 25 fishermen present and the more than 150 scientists, students and university professors and technical staff of governmental and nongovernmental agencies showed that the problems of more than 30 countries and territories - islands of the Caribbean region (from the USA to the Guianas) are similar and require quick solutions to generate a radical change to allow a responsible and sustainable use of marine resources of the region in the XXI century. Among the measures suggested and the changes that these would generate the following were mentioned.

Granting exclusive fishing rights to traditional local fishermen in certain "areas of responsible fishing". This would reduce the intensity of fishing resources damaged by more than 50 years of uncontrolled fishing, and a climate conducive to control the exploitation of their resources and to create ways of combining fishing community management and sustainable tourism.

2. Increased number and size of no-take areas (sanctuaries and reserves) within areas of multiple use management (conservation, fisheries, tourism, etc.). This would facilitate the recovery of abundance in the surrounding areas under regulated fishing.

3. Training of fishermen and coastal communities to better understand the ecological functioning of its resources and the creation of jobs and small businesses with complementary or alternative livelihoods.
4. Increase the added value of fishery products responsibly harvested for boosting competitiveness in domestic and international markets, and increase their income with lower catches.

The GCFI and its partner the Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Network and Management Forum (CaMPAM), with financial support from the Caribbean Environmental Program of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-CEP) and other regional and national institutions (Buccoo Reef Trust, U.S. NOAA and other government and private institutions) are providing technical assistance for fishers and marine managed areas (AMM) to accelerate this process of change. Among activities include the exchange between fishermen and AMM staff to better disseminate best practices, the production of film materials to disseminate the training, and the creation of economic alternatives and high quality and fish responsibly fished products.

Other topics included the damages of pollution and coastal sedimentation effect of deforestation and poorly managed agriculture, the eradication of invasive species such as lionfish, the need for greater representation of women among the fishermen involved, and the support GCFI fishermen leaders to face the pressures at home and promote changes in legislation and civil society for the creation of responsible fishing areas. Some of the participating scientists expressed their admiration for the active participation of fishers in meetings of GCFI, confidence that raising the awareness of fishermen as a result of the crisis is a decisive factor in the changes, and the commitment of all strengthen civil society for this change.

16: Photographs of the Summit



Fishers Forum in session



Forum group on EBM



Forum group on compliance



Forum group on policy



Forum group on livelihoods



Forum group on sustainability



Mochima (Photo credit H. Oxenford)



Aquaculture at Mochima station



Daniel Pauly takes note at the Forum



GMA winners after the Forum