

**CFS**COMMITTEE ON  
WORLD FOOD  
SECURITY**CFS 47**

08 - 11 February 2021

**SIDE  
EVENT**

## Exploring the application of CFS instruments to address gender, youth, inequality and data systems in small-scale fisheries

8 February 2021

13:00-14:15 CEST

**Speakers:**

John Kurien  
Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted  
Manas Roshan  
Ragnhild Overå  
Molly Ahern

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United Nations



### [Pre-register here](#)

In 2014, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) published HLPE 7 on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for Food Security and Nutrition. The same year, the [Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication \(SSF Guidelines\)](#) were endorsed to the Committee on Fisheries (COFI).

This side event will build upon the CFS HLPE 7 recommendations and will draw attention to the mutually reinforcing nature of the SSF Guidelines and four related CFS instruments:

- 1) [CFS Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security](#) and its [linkages to the SSF Guidelines](#)
- 2) [CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forest in the Context of National Food Security](#) and its [linkages to the SSF Guidelines](#)
- 3) [CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems](#) and its [linkages to the SSF Guidelines](#)
- 4) [CFS Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis](#) and its [linkages to the SSF Guidelines](#).

Through practical examples it will explore the [synergistic implementation of these tools](#) to address the issues of gender, youth, data systems and inequalities in small-scale fisheries to enhance their contribution to sustainable food systems.

This event will also explore how CFS can engage in the celebrations of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) in 2022 to highlight the role of small-scale fisheries as provider of highly nutritious food for healthy diets for all.

## Speakers

**John Kurien** started professional life in the early 1970s helping small-scale fishers to organise their fish marketing cooperatives. His later academic career was primarily at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, India for where he retired as Professor. He was founder member of the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) and also served as Vice-Chair of the FAO/UN Advisory Committee for Fisheries Research (ACFR) for a decade from 1997. His academic interests include work on fish trade and food security and analysis of the extent to which fish is integrated into food policies of developing countries. Co-management and youth training are two of his sustained passions which he put into practice in India, Cambodia and Indonesia. Currently he is Visiting Professor at the School of Development, Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, India and also Honorary Fellow of the WorldFish Centre with headquarters in Penang, Malaysia.

**Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted** is Research Program Leader, Value Chains and Nutrition at WorldFish, stationed in Penang, Malaysia. Her work focusses on nutrition-sensitive fish agri-food systems, in particular the potential of increased production and consumption of nutrient-rich small fish in combating and preventing vitamin and mineral deficiencies in low- and middle-income countries. She works with developing and testing fish-based products for women and children in the first 1,000 days of life. She plays a pivotal role in promoting the agenda of fish for nourishing nations as well as the importance of the fisheries sector in contributing to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in many international, regional and national fora. She has recently been selected to join the Steering Committee of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) of the United Nations Committee on World Food Security.

**Manas Roshan** is a programme officer with the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), based in Chennai, India. ICSF is an international non-governmental organization that works towards the establishment of equitable, gender-just, self-reliant and sustainable fisheries, particularly in the small-scale, artisanal sector. ICSF strives to influence decision-making processes at international, regional and national levels in favour of these fisheries and fishing communities.

**Ragnhild Overå** is a Professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Bergen in Norway. She is a human geographer with extensive research experience from Ghana and other African countries. Her research interests include gender, entrepreneurship, informal economies, food and nutrition security, small-scale fisheries, and natural resource governance. Currently, in the multi-disciplinary project 'Small Fish and Food Security: Towards innovative integration of fish in African food systems to improve nutrition (SmallFishFood)', she focuses on informal market traders' skills, constraints, and agency in supplying affordable, safe, and nutritious fish in Ghana.

**Molly Ahern** is a food security and nutrition specialist in the FAO Fisheries Division, where she provides technical support on linking fisheries, food systems and nutrition. She coordinates and supports projects in designing data systems, implementing and interpreting data on nutrition and food systems in the small-scale fisheries sector, and has previous experience consulting for CGIAR centers such as WorldFish and Bioversity International, where she worked to develop fish products for the first 1 000 days through nutrition-sensitive value chains for fish in rural Africa, implemented dietary assessments, and developed and implemented methodologies for participatory rural appraisal of food systems.

## 8 February 2021

13:00-13:05h CET	Welcome and Introduction	Moderator: <b>Nicole Franz</b> , FAO
13:05-13:20h CET	Keynote speech	<b>John Kurien</b> Visiting Professor, Azim Premji University, India and Honorary Fellow, WorldFish Center
13:20-13:30h CET	Q&A discussion	
13:30-14:00h CET	Panel Interventions	<p><i>Applying the Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis and the Right to Food Guidelines to tackle inequalities in small-scale fisheries</i> <b>Shakuntala Thilsted</b>, WorldFish</p> <p><i>Operationalizing the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (RAI Principles) and the SSF Guidelines to promote Youth empowerment in small-scale fisheries</i> <b>Manas Roshan</b>, International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)</p> <p><i>Utilizing the Tenure Guidelines and the SSF Guidelines to address gender issues in Fish Value Chains</i> <b>Ragnhild Overå</b>, University of Bergen</p> <p><i>Increasing Recognition of the Right to Food in Small-Scale Fisheries through Data Systems</i> <b>Molly Ahern</b>, FAO</p>
14:00-14:10h CET	Q&A discussion	
14:10-14:15h CET	Closing	