



# 2nd Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue

13 October 2022

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CBFD Information paper 1

## Overview of the purpose and format of the Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue

FAME



# Overview of the purpose and format of the Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue

## Background

1. The First Regional Fisheries Ministers Meeting (RFMM1) in August 2020 endorsed a mechanism for increasing the engagement of Civil Society Organisations<sup>1</sup> (CSOs) and other Non-State Actors<sup>2</sup> (NSAs) to give effect to the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' decision in September 2016 in relation to coastal fisheries (paragraph 10, 47th Leaders Communiqué)<sup>3</sup>.
2. The new mechanism involves convening a two-day<sup>4</sup> dialogue dedicated to community-based fisheries (CBF) within the Regional Technical Meeting on Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture (RTMCFA) and is called the Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue (CBFD). The Dialogue provides CSOs and other NSAs the opportunity to share experiences and lessons-learned on community-based fisheries initiatives and to provide advice on key needs and issues associated with the sustainable access and use of coastal fisheries resources across the Pacific islands' region.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue

3. The First Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue (CBFD1 – see *CBFD.BP1: Outcomes Report from the 1st Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue*) focused on laying the foundation of future dialogues through the consideration of the provisional CBFD Terms of Reference (ToR). The Heads of Fisheries 14 (HoF 14) considered and endorsed<sup>5</sup> the agreed ToR, which include the appointment of a Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue Convenor to work with the Pacific Community's (SPC) Division of Fisheries Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) and the Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue Advisory Group (CBFD-AG) in organising logistics for future CBFD and the facilitation of the actual CBFD.

## CBFD Convenor and Vice-Convenor

4. The purpose of appointing the CBFD Convenor is to oversee the facilitation of the CBFD which will be convened within the SPC Regional Technical Meeting on Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture (RTMCFA). The Convenor will work closely with the SPC FAME and the Community-Based Fisheries Advisory Group (CBFD-AG) in co-ordinating the following activities:
  - Be the Convenor of the CBFD to be held within the Regional Technical Meeting on Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture (RTMCFA);

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<sup>1</sup> [Working definition only:] "A civil society organisation (CSO) is a group of people that operates in the community in a way that is distinct from both government and business." Wikipedia ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil\\_society\\_organization](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_society_organization))

<sup>2</sup> [Working definition only:] "A Non-State Actor (NSA) is a legal entity that represents the interests of civil society including the private sector, academia and the media. NSAs are not established of, nor do they belong to, a structure or institution of the state." Pacific Islands Forum (<https://www.forumsec.org/civil-society-4/>)

<sup>3</sup> [Forum Communiqué, 47th Pacific Islands Forum, Pohnpei, FSM: 8-10-Sept, 2016](#)

<sup>4</sup> The 2-day CBFD duration is based on a full in-person 5-day RTMCFA at SPC. The CBFD will be reduced to 1-day for hybrid and/or online RTMCFA which require much shorter and more focused sessions over a maximum duration of 4 days.

<sup>5</sup> [Outcomes of the Fourteenth SPC Heads of Fisheries Meeting](#)



- Lead with the support of the CBFD-AG and SPC FAME (as secretariat), the development of meeting documents including but not limited to:
    - i. Detailed CBFD agenda
    - ii. Working papers, information papers and background papers (if required)
    - iii. Presentations
    - iv. CBFD outcomes report
  - Contribute to the administrative and logistical arrangements to support the CBFD;
  - Guide the development of the format and arrangements for the running of the CBFD plenary and any breakout groups (if required);
  - Report on the outcomes (including decisions and recommendations) of the CBFD back to the SPC RTMCFA and contribute to the final RTMCFA Outcomes report, focusing on the CBFD outcomes;
  - Report on the outcomes of the CBFD to the SPC Heads of Fisheries (HoF) meeting and contribute to the final HoF Outcomes report, focusing on CBF Dialogue outcomes;
  - Liaise with the vice-convenor on the facilitation of the CBFD;
  - Liaise with the CBFD-AG, SPC FAME (secretariat), Chair of the RTMCFA and HoF meetings in the administrative and logistical arrangements to support the CBFD; and
  - Other roles specified in the CBFD ToR (see CBFD.BP3).
5. *Vice-Convenor*: The role of a Vice-Convenor will include providing support to the convenor in all aspects of preparing for the next CBF Dialogue in the RTMCFA including:
- liaising with key stakeholders;
  - identifying potential participants;
  - formulating the draft agenda;
  - drafting and reviewing meeting documents;
  - facilitating small group brainstorming sessions; and
  - assuming the role of convenor in the event the convenor is not available.
6. Unless there are no alternatives, the Convenor and the Vice-Convenor will be from different PICTs, and the roles rotated between the three sub-regions of Micronesia, Melanesia and Polynesia.



### *CBFD Advisory Group*

7. The CBFD-AG is an advisory group composed of CSOs and other NSAs actively involved in community-based fisheries that will advise SPC FAME, in its role as the secretariat for the CBFD, to ensure efficient and effective organisation and running of CBFD that facilitate inclusive participation of CSO and other NSA representatives deliberating on CBF priority issues that are of importance to the Pacific region.
8. *Roles and responsibilities:* The CBFD-AG will assist SPC FAME in (see CBFD.BP5):
  - Ensuring appropriate selection of convenor and vice-convenor as per the CBFD ToR;
  - Developing detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) for the convenor and vice-convenor;
  - Developing a set of criteria for guiding the selection process of the CBFD participants by the national focal point to ensure a transparent and inclusive national selection process;
  - Developing the CBFD reporting / outcome template to be used on all CBFD meetings in a format that allows effective dissemination of outcomes by participants to communities;
  - Assisting the convenor and vice-convenor in developing CBFD materials / documents (meeting agenda, papers, presentation, etc);
  - Review and propose changes to the ToRs of the CBFD-AG and its operations as necessary in order to maximise its efficiency over time, to be considered by the CBFD;
  - Review and propose changes to the CBFD ToR and its operations as necessary in order to maximise its efficiency over time, to be considered by the CBFD;
  - Other tasks relevant to the purpose and logistics of the CBFD, as deemed appropriate by the Chair with the support of the members.

### *Second Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue*

9. The Second Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue (CBFD2), is being held in conjunction with the Fifth Regional Technical Meeting on Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture (RTMCFA5).
10. RTMCFA5 will be the second meeting to include the one-day Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue, convened by and focused on Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and other Non-State Actors (NSAs) engagement.
11. The CBF Dialogue will be held as a hybrid meeting on 13 October 2022. The CBF Dialogue is being led by an independent Convenor, with input and guidance by the interim CBFD-Advisory Group, with the representatives of the CSO and other NSA communities invited to fully engage in plenary and breakout group discussions. In the CBF Dialogue the SPC member fisheries and aquaculture agency participants and observers are invited to observe the CBF Dialogue plenary sessions and engage in the CBF Dialogue breakout session.
12. The purpose of the CBF Dialogue is to provide the CSO, NSA and CBF practitioner communities with an opportunity to provide information, advice and key needs, through the RTMCFA, to Heads of Fisheries to assist with informing Leaders on priority issues and needs associated with the sustainable use of



coastal fisheries resources. It also presents an opportunity to share experiences and lessons from community-based initiatives to strengthen efforts to maintain productive and healthy ecosystems and their associated fisheries resources that are critical to the wellbeing of coastal communities. The discussion supported by this dialogue will focus on issues of common regional significance to community-driven coastal fisheries generally. SPC provides the secretariat support to the CBF Dialogue, the CBFD Convenor and the CBFD Advisory Group.

13. As this will be the second CBF Dialogue, it will primarily focus on engaging the voices of the CSO and other NSA representatives on identifying and discussing priority community-based fisheries issues of concern, but will allow further discussion from the first CBFD on the appropriate administrative foundation for future CBF Dialogues. CBFD participants are invited to continue to advise and make recommendations for future CBF Dialogue arrangements.

### *Reporting*

14. The formal report of the Dialogue will consist of a summary of decisions, outcomes and recommendations identified by the Convenor, and agreed by consensus of the CBFD participants, called the “Outcomes Report” of the Dialogue. The Outcomes Report will include a limited number of specific, high priority Dialogue recommendations that need to be presented to HoF15 for the consideration and decision by the Heads of Fisheries.
15. The CBF Dialogue outcomes will be reported back by the CBF Dialogue Convenor to the RTMCFA5 plenary on 14 October, and will be included in full in the record of the RTMCFA5 Outcomes.
16. The RTMCFA5 and CBFD2 will report to the 15th Heads of Fisheries meeting in March 2023. The outcomes of the Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue, which will be presented to the Heads of Fisheries by the CBFD Convenor.
17. The outcomes from the Heads of Fisheries will be presented to the 4th Regional Fisheries Ministers Meeting (RFMM4) for their update and endorsement of key actions.

### *Provisional agenda overview*

18. The CBFD2 is a hybrid meeting, with in-person participation where possible, with an option to participate virtually for those unable to travel. The format and agenda have been modified to meet the hybrid meeting format. For virtual participation, the meeting will use the Zoom platform.
19. The CBFD2 will be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022. To accommodate the hybrid format, the CBFD2 will consist of two 2-hour sessions, with a break between sessions: 09:30-11:30 and 13:00-15:00 (UTC+11). The second session will involve breakout groups in addition to the plenary sessions.
20. The following is an overview of the provisional agenda, with the latest full Provisional Agenda available on the [RTMCFA5 meeting website](#)<sup>6</sup>:

Day 3 of RTMCFA5 (Thu 13 Oct) – CBF Dialogue:

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<sup>6</sup> RTMCFA5 website – English: <https://fame1.spc.int/en/meetings/261> or French: <https://fame1.spc.int/fr/meetings/261>



- Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue – Session 1: *“Community-Based Fisheries: Engaging the Voices of Non-State Actors”* [plenary]
- Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue – Session 2: *“Hearing the Voices: Community-Based Fisheries Priority Issues for NSAs/CSOs”* [plenary and breakout groups]

Day 4 of RTMCFA (Fri 14 Oct) – Joint RTMCFA5 and CBFD2:

- CBFD2 report to RTMCFA5 [plenary]
- Review and adoption of meeting Outcomes and Actions report: RTMCFA5 with CBFD2 [plenary]