



Actors

Everyone is welcome. This initiative engages fishers, women in fishing, processing and marketing, wholesalers, retailers, social regulatory bodies and connected professions, including administrators and scientists.

Participants are individuals who are part of a group, such as members of a marketing association or extended family.

The Academy connects these fisheries actors with professional, academic and civil society organisation with different backgrounds. That enables active learning, knowledge sharing and search for robust solutions to challenges faced by many artisanal fisheries.



Join Us

Join Mundus maris – Sciences and Arts for Sustainability asbl in this Initiative. Whether you are an individual or a civil society group, whether you are a professional or an interested amateur, be part of the change.

Contact us and discover different ways in which to get involved. Among the many opportunities, you may wish to be a resource person, write a joint proposal for upscaling activities in Senegal and elsewhere, carry out accompanying research, support curriculum development for different local contexts and much else.

We thank those who can donate to make a difference by supporting the small scale fisheries academy.



Mundus maris account at Belfius Bank in Brussels
IBAN BE54 0688 9178 6297 BIC GKCCBEBB

Get in touch
Mundus maris asbl,
3, ave. de Tervueren
1040 Brussels, Belgium
Registration Nr. 083.0328314

www.mundusmaris.org
info@mundusmaris.org



The Small-Scale Fisheries Academy is a safe multi-actor platform for respectful dialogue, joint learning, co-creation of knowledge and innovation for the recovery, protection and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources and prosperous artisanal fisheries.

Purpose

The Small-Scale Fisheries Academy provides an operational support for the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication.



Principles

The SSF Academy articulates the Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and action respectful of local populations concerned. It therefore

- celebrates local culture
- promotes active learning giving equal opportunity to all actors and communities in the fisheries value chain
- contributes to the co-production of adapted knowledge and local innovations
- catalyses synergies for tangible changes towards gender and social blue justice
- connects local concerns to global issues and vice-versa with a view to enable robust solutions that work for people and planet

Approach

The Academy promotes dialogue with and for women and men in SSF recognising their knowledge and experiences and fostering interaction with others who provide complementary perspectives through e.g. scientific information and policies.

The active and inclusive learning methods combine visual thinking and participatory leadership so as to enable scaling up positive results from individual to collective levels.

The training methodology applies a socio-ecological model inspired by a communication approach supporting social behavioural change. It engages participants in a gradual and multi-level change process touching on individual, family, peer group and societal spheres.

What constitutes a happy life?

The SSF Academy launched in November 2018 in Dakar was followed by a pilot phase in two fishing communities, Yoff and Hann in Senegal. The academy workshops provided a framework for participants to reflect on and analyse their reality, starting with a vision of what constituted a happy life for them.

How to get there?

The inclusive visual exercises support the exploration of individual and collective pathways for change. The change journey allows each participant to define a one-year action plan for improving livelihoods and identifying priority actions for a positive change.

By establishing trimester targets and stating new ways to carry out their activities they also think about how to tackle challenges and embrace opportunities along the road. Among the low-hanging fruits participants were able to make progress in their activities and increase income.

Dialogue

Dialogue between different actors in the SSF value chain allows the identification of opportunities for improvement of working conditions, especially for the most vulnerable actors, enabling negotiation of terms.

The dialogue together with participatory visual exercises had brought to the fore important social and gender issues. Previously considered taboo topics, couples and families were able to identify, discuss and prioritise desired behavioural changes.

Being better prepared

In addition, the Academy allowed participants and their leaders to go through an exploration of socio-environmental adversities in their activities. By achieving a better understanding of the factors that contribute to their resilience to such effects they focused on the opportunity for collective action at community level.