

Recommendation on Registration of fishers in the South West Indian Ocean region.

Helga Josupeit

ECOFISH

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Recommandations

- The SWIO countries need to agree on a common system of registration.
- The best idea is to start this as a pilot project in one region of one country, and then migrate this system to all regions of this country, and at a later stage to all SWIO countries.

Recommandations

- Capacity Building for
 - for both fisheries department officials and
 - fishers in fishing communities on how to register fishing boats and fishermen
- The dialogue between all stakeholders is fundamental to make the registration a success.

Recommandations

- importance of getting fishers registered is highlighted:
- without exact number on fishers and fishing effort
 - no proper management plans can be put in place,
 - co-management is not possible, and
 - overall the importance of the sector for the national economy is underestimated.
- The implementation **the registration plan** will be done through the **Registration Implementation Project,**

Registration Framework and Standard Operating Practices (SOP) for the Small-Scale Fisheries

Chapter 1 – General Provisions

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- **Section 1. Objective –**
 - The objective of this SOP is to provide Governments with a framework for implementing fisheries registration and licensing for marine capture fisheries in the context of current laws. It outlines the important elements of registration and licensing that Governments need to implement in the management of their fishery resources.
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- **Section 2. Scope –**
 - This SOP shall cover all marine capture fisherfolk, natural or juridical, their fishing vessels, gear and other paraphernalia which are operating in marine waters.
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- **Section 3. Definition of Terms –**

Chapter II – Fisherfolk and Fishing Gear Registration

- **Section 4. Fisherfolk and Fishing Gear Registration –**

- All marine fisherfolk operating on a full-time or part-time basis shall be required to register themselves and their fishing gear, with the Local Government Unit (LGU) where they reside or where they intend to fish. Registration shall cover new entrants to the fishery and returning fisherfolk.
- No person shall be permitted to engage in fishery-related activities in the marine waters unless they are listed in the registry of the LGU. Only duly registered fisherfolk, fishing gear and fishing vessels shall be qualified to secure and be issued a license pursuant to Chapter IV of this SOP.

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- **Section 5. Eligibility Requirements for Registration of Marine Fisherfolk –**

- A citizen of the SWIO country;
- Must be directly or personally and physically engaged in the taking of fishery and/or aquatic resources from the wild state or habitat with or without the use of fishing vessels;
- A resident of the registration community for at least six (6) months; and,
- At least eighteen (18) years of age.

- **Section 6. Requirements for the Issuance of a Certificate of Fisherfolk Registration (CFR) –**
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- A CFR shall be issued as proof of registration of the fisherfolk subject to the submission of the following documents:
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 - Duly accomplished Standard Fisherfolk Registration Form (Annex “B”); and,
 - Community Tax Certificate (CTC) secured from the city treasurer.
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- The LGU shall assign a CFR control number to each registered fisherfolk, which shall correspond to a code specifying the province, LGU of residence (Annex “C”). The codes for the province and the LGU shall be similar to the vessel registration codes. The code for the of residence, year of registration and number of fisherfolk shall be provided by the LGU.

- **Section 7. Period of Registration and Validity-**

- Registration shall be done only once at any time of the year. The CFR issued to the marine fisherfolk shall be valid for as long as the fisherfolk continues to fish in the community where he/she is registered. Registration for new entrants may be undertaken at anytime of the year except when a limited access scheme is in place as discussed in Section 28 of this SOP.
- Registration shall be done only once and shall be valid for as long as the fisherfolk continues to fish in the community where the same are registered. Period of registration may be at any time of the year.

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- **Section 8. Fisherfolk Registration Procedures –**

- The applicant fisherfolk shall first secure his CTC from the LGU.
- The applicant fisherfolk shall proceed to LGU to accomplish the Standard Fisherfolk Registration Form
- The applicant shall submit the accomplished registration form together with his/her CTC to the LGU who shall verify and evaluate the submitted documents.
- The LGU shall process the CFR and forward it to the mayor for approval before finally issuing the CFR to the fisherfolk.

- **Section 9. Maintenance of Fisherfolk Registry –**

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- The LGU shall keep a registry of fisherfolk and/or their organizations. Gear types and specifications shall be incorporated in the Registry of Fisherfolk inasmuch as the marine fisherfolk and his fishing gear and/or paraphernalia are registered simultaneously.
- The LGU shall maintain and update the registry of fisherfolk and their fishing gear and submit the updated registries the Central Government.
- The LGU shall regularly submit the list of fisherfolk registered and deleted/cancelled from the registry within the first quarter of the succeeding year to the Department of Fisheries for a centralized registration system.

Chapter III – Registration of Fishing Vessels 3GT and Below

Section 10. Registration of Fishing Vessels –

- All fishing vessels three (3) GT and below shall be registered with the LGU.

Section 11. Registry of Fishing Vessels –

- The LGU shall keep a registry of fishing vessels 3 GT and below. The registry shall be for purposes of information generation, monitoring and regulation, establishment of identity and ownership of vessels, maritime safety.
- The LGU shall maintain and update the registry of fishing vessels and submit the updated registries within the first quarter of the succeeding year to the DoF.

Section 12. Eligibility for Fishing Vessel Registration –

- Only those fishing vessels which are owned by SWIO citizens, single proprietorship, partnerships and/or corporations fully owned by SWIO citizens, and duly registered or accredited fisherfolk associations and cooperatives shall be eligible for registration.

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Section 13. General Registration Guidelines for Issuance of Certificate of Number (CN)

- **Section 14. Issuance of New CN**

- The LGU shall issue a new CN in case the fishing vessel changes its homeport. A change in homeport may occur in case the owner/operator decides to change residence or principal office, or sells or transfers ownership of the fishing vessel to a person or entity with domicile in another LGU, the LGU shall, upon application for change of homeport, issue a certificate of clearance and shall delete the registration of such fishing vessel from its register.
- The new homeport shall issue a new CN upon filing of an application for issuance of a new CN supported by the following documents: The original copy of the CN; and, clearance to change homeport issued by the current homeport; and Clearance to change homeport issued by the current homeport.
- Upon approval of the change of homeport, all records pertaining to the vessel shall be transmitted by the previous homeport to the new homeport.

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- **Section 15. Re-issuance of CN.**

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- The LGU shall re-issue the CN in the following instances:

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- change in ownership or transfer of the fishing vessel without change in homeports;
- change in the engine of motorized fishing vessel; and,
- change of name;

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- **Section 16. Vessel Marking or Colour coding**
- For easy identification of fishing vessels from the LGU, all duly registered fishing vessels operating in the marine waters shall be assigned an official number and a name and shall be painted a mark/ color pursuant to Annex “G”.
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- **Section 17. Deletion and Cancellation of Fishing Vessel Registration –**
- The fishing vessel registration shall be deleted or cancelled under the following circumstances:
 - Loss or decay of the fishing vessel;
 - Involvement of the vessel in a marine/maritime incident;
 - Transfer of marine area of operation of the fishing vessel; and,
 - Such other lawful causes.
- Under the foregoing circumstances, the owner/operator of the subject vessel shall immediately inform the LGU.
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