

Using wellbeing to assess social impacts of change in the fisheries sector.

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Northern Ireland

Key changes: Recession; restrictive EU regulations; growing dependency on foreign crew.

Future fishery aspirations: Regular income, less bureaucracy from ‘Brussels’, recognition in decision-making process, trust building, more fuel efficient boats, locally managed fisheries.



Items important for living well in fishing communities (Northern Ireland)	Availability 1 = impossible to access ☹ 5 = easy to access ☺
Sustainable and regular employment	3
Affordable boat fuel	2
Proactive community	4
Incentives for youth to fish ‘Young blood’	2
Meaningful participation in fisheries policy	1
Fewer regulations	1

South Africa

Key changes: Redistributing fishing rights post-apartheid.

Future fishery aspirations: Better gears, fishing rights, marketing and processing infrastructure, a voice in decision-making



Items important for living well in fishing communities (South Africa)	Availability 1 = impossible to access ☹ 5 = easy to access ☺
Alternative employment	1
Secure land rights	2
Fish market/ buyers	2
Fishing permits	2
Electricity /water	2

Kenya

Key changes: More Marine Protected Areas, growing competition between fishers, conflicts over access.

Future fishery aspirations: Better gears and bigger boats; training; legal recognition; leadership; fair sharing of MPA benefits



Items important for living well in fishing communities (Kenya)	Availability 1 = impossible to access ☹ 5 = easy to access ☺
Alternative employment	2
Good fishing gears	2
Good house	2
Education for children	2
Good neighbours	2
Role in decision-making	2
Good health	4

Aspects of wellbeing in fisheries which seem to travel

- i) **Secure employment** (additional & reliable income sources and reduced dependency on fishing)
- ii) **Secure access/rights** to fish and land (natural resources)
- iii) **Participation** in management and decision making;
- iv) **Social relations** – high dependency on other people – crew members, other fishers, traders, family members
- v) Aspirations for greater fishing capacity, but less conflict.

Method: Focus group discussion with fishermen, selected by gear type:

- Qu. 1. What do you need to live well in this coastal community (and why)?
- Qu. 2. For each wellbeing component, state how accessible it is for your group / people like you.
- Qu. 3. What are the key changes/ events that have affected your ability to meet these wellbeing criteria (over last 10 yrs)?
- Qu. 4. What would a future (ideal) fishery look like for your group to be doing well?

Sri Lanka

Key changes: growing mechanized sector and competition between fishers, tsunami, erosion of traditional law and custom.

Future fishery aspirations: better gears, infrastructure (harbours), technology, & training, resolved competition over fish.



Items important for living well in fishing communities (Sri Lanka)	Availability 1 = impossible to access ☹ 5 = easy to access ☺
Money	2
Family happiness	4
Good health	5
Good manners	5
Good relationships with neighbours	4
Education of children	3
Vehicle	3