



## Global FISH Alliance Annual Meeting Summary

*December 17, 2012 – Washington, D.C.*

The Global FISH Alliance (G-FISH) promotes sustainable fisheries and aquaculture reforms. This is done through the application of a system-wide approach that integrates **governance** (fisheries management policies and strategies), **civil society** (current knowledge, attitudes, and practices of fisheries, food security, livelihoods and biodiversity issues), **private sector** (businesses engaged in fisheries issues as well as tourism and agricultural/livelihood issues), and **environmental** considerations (the most appropriate biodiversity/natural resource friendly systems, technologies, and practices, services, or other kind of issue) which are all essential to sustaining and improving livelihoods and biodiversity.

On Monday, December 17, G-FISH held its fourth annual meeting at the FHI 360 offices in Washington DC. Members and friends of the Alliance were invited to participate in a one-day meeting to provide updates on their current work and to explore possible areas of collaboration for the Alliance's fourth and final year. The meeting was well attended with representatives from the following **twelve partner organizations**; Chemonics, Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), FHI 360, International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF), NOAA Fisheries, OSPESCA (Central American Regional Fisheries Agency), Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP), the Good Foodie, the Nature Conservancy (TNC) - Honduras, University of Rhode Island (URI), USAID, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), and World Wildlife Fund (WWF). Please see the full participant list with contact information in Appendix 1.

Jennifer Barker, Director of the Global FISH Alliance, opened the meeting by welcoming all participants and expressing enthusiasm about hearing from the Alliance partners with updates of their work in the past year. Ms. Barker asked partners to provide a brief presentation on updates and highlights, and also to think about areas of possible collaboration going forward. Dr. Barbara Best, Coastal Resources and Policy Advisor for the Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment at USAID, provided some background on the Alliance and structural changes happening within USAID to focus more on knowledge management and learning. Dr. Best asked partners around the table to think about collaboration among members in the final year for the development of a course on fisheries for USAID, as well as to reflect on the Alliance as a mechanism to engage partners to foster collaboration. Dr. Best also mentioned that a survey will be sent around after the meeting to collect feedback on the Alliance; what has worked and what could have been done better. The next session included updates from partners with a Global emphasis, followed by a regional focus on Africa, Asia and Latin America. The following people provide presentations:

### Global

- ISSF, Global Alliance of the tuna industry, by Mike Crispino and Katie Matthews
- FHI 360, Global FISH Alliance, by Jennifer Barker
- NOAA, Regional and Global Agreements, by Nancy Daves
- WCS, Field-based Conservation Programs around the World, by Liz Lauck

### Africa

- URI, SUCCESS program, by Brian Crawford
- FHI 360, Pemba Bay Initiative in Mozambique, by Roberto Martin

### Asia

- Bali Seafood, Lesser Sunda Initiative, presentation by Jerry Knecht shared with group
  - FHI360, Tonle Sap Initiative in Cambodia by Jennifer Barker

### Latin America

- EDF, Oceans Program, by Scott Edwards
- WCS, Field Based Partnership with EDF in Belize, by Liz Lauck
- Chemonics, MAREA Program, by Ann Spahr
- WWF, Fisheries Improvement Projects in Honduras, by Gina DeFerrari for Wendy Goyert
- TNC, Protected Areas in La Moskitia-Honduras, by Calina Zepeda
- NOAA, Fisheries Reform by Nancy Daves
- MASPLESCA, Regional Forum on Spiny Lobster in Latin America, by Bessy Aspra
- FHI 360, Spiny Lobster Initiative, by Jimmy Andino

In the afternoon, sessions were dedicated to areas of collaboration among the partners of the Alliance. The first session was led by Glenn Ricci from URI to discuss the development of a Fisheries Course at the request of USAID. Mr. Ricci shared with the partners a draft outline of the course concept and curriculum and asked partners to contribute their expertise to the different content areas.

First, there was some discussion about the audience of the one-day course and subsequent online course. Partners asked for clarification from USAID on the appropriate audience for the course and called for a focus on the major streams of work within USAID, such as Feed the Future. It was agreed that the audience should include USAID employees other than Natural Resource Management professionals and include other sectors such as Food Security, Economic Growth, Governance, Global Health, etc. The course will focus on how fisheries relates to different technical areas focusing on stories of what has worked and how better fisheries management can have positive impacts beyond the biodiversity conservation realm.

Mr. Ricci concluded the session by thanking the partners for their input and letting them know that he will be contacting them soon about their organization's role in the course and what needs to be produced prior to the presentation of the course. He called for flexibility from partners so the course can

be responsive to the participant needs. The goal is to have a draft course curriculum by mid-January in order to hold the one-day course on **Monday, February 11, 2012**. The online module will be based on the one-day course, but will make more resources available and use the feedback from the one-day course to improve and tailor content.

The last session of the meeting focused on the common ground goals of the Alliance agreed to at the last annual meeting, as well as areas of possible collaboration for the final year of the Alliance. Partners around the table identified major areas of research and how these could fit within the USAID learning agenda. Like the previous year, it was agreed that improved knowledge sharing could benefit all members of the Alliance and collaborating on the Fisheries Course and exchanging training materials for in-person and/or online trainings could be beneficial. Collaboration on programs at the local level was highlighted as an ongoing goal and these opportunities will continue to be explored as appropriate.

After the session, Jennifer Barker summarized the next steps; providing a synopsis of the meeting and highlighting key issues discussed. It was agreed that FHI 360 would keep everyone informed on major learning and agenda goals and to send around a request for evaluation and feedback on the Alliance mechanism. In addition, it was agreed that G-FISH will organize a monthly call related to the Central American spiny lobster fishery.

**Action Points and Next steps:**

- Annual Meeting Presentations and Materials will be made available on the G-FISH website.
- Glenn Ricci from URI will be in touch with partners regarding USAID Fisheries Course contributions.
- Host monthly global conference call on Central American spiny lobster fishery.
- Survey for evaluation and feedback on the Alliance mechanism.

In closing, Dr. Best said she appreciated the opportunity for partners to come together and share ideas, and that she welcomed additional thoughts on collaboration beyond the fisheries course. Bessy Aspra from OSPESCA in Honduras then emphasized that this will be a critical year in Honduras and Nicaragua with the closure of the diving activity for lobster and the need to keep the momentum going through the continued collaboration between TNC, MAREA, SLI, and OSPESCA. Ms. Aspra emphasized that now more than ever, champions were needed to complete the work. It was agreed to re-instate a monthly conference call for all of those working on the lobster fishery in Central America starting early in 2013.

If you have any additional comments or questions, please contact Jenny Barker at [jbarker@fhi360.org](mailto:jbarker@fhi360.org). Please visit [www.globalfishalliance.org](http://www.globalfishalliance.org) for more information.

## Appendix 1: Participant List

First Name	Last Name	Organization	City, State	Country	Email
Diane	Adams	US Agency for International Development (USAID)	Washington, DC	USA	diadams@usaid.gov
Jimmy	Andino	FHI 360, Spiny Lobster Initiative	La Ceiba	Honduras	jandino@fhi360.org
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Ana	Coelho	FHI 360	Washington, DC	USA	acoelho@fhi360.org
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Liz	Lauck	Wildlife Conservation Society (WWF)	Washington, DC	USA	lauck@wcs.org
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Calina	Zepeda	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	La Ceiba	Honduras	czepeda@tnc.org