



Global FISH Alliance Annual Meeting Summary December 9, 2011 – Washington, DC

The Global FISH Alliance (G-FISH) held its third Annual Meeting on Friday, December 9, 2011, at the FHI 360 Offices in Washington, D.C. Members and associates of the Alliance participated in a one-day meeting to provide updates on current work and to affirm the Alliance’s common goals and commit to collaborative actions and engagement going forward. Representatives from eight alliance partners attended the meeting including Conservation International (CI), Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), FHI 360, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP), USAID, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), The WorldFish Center, and World Wildlife Fund (WWF), as well as a representative from the Clinton Foundation.

The meeting began with participants presenting updates on current work. Presentations on partner work were given by:

- WorldFish Center by Blake Ratner
- FHI 360 Cambodia by Patrick Papania
- EDF by Denise Stetten
- FHI 360 Mozambique by Zach Fonner
- SFP by Andrei Klimenko
- WCS by Liz Lauck
- WWF by Wendy Goyert
- FHI 360 SLI Honduras by Jimmy Andino

Following the presentations, a series of self-guided exercises focused on building collaboration between Alliance partners in 2012. An outcome of these exercises was the establishment of common goals for the Alliance. These common goals centered on biodiversity conservation and promoting healthy populations and ecosystems through fisheries management. The **Common Goals** in no particular order are:

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| Improve knowledge sharing and collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing among G-FISH partners • Collaboration in the field • Capturing lessons learned • Production of more case studies |
| Stabilize fisheries-based livelihoods | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved MPA enforcement • Stopping overfishing • Increase the adoption of sea tenure and rights based management • Promote marine spatial planning including reserves and MPAs |
| Identify and improve options for sustainable alternative livelihoods that reduce fishery pressure | |
| Increase capacity for Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) throughout the value chain | |
| Increase awareness and access to information on the importance of fisheries to ecosystem-services, food security, and the economy to decision-makers | |
| Increase sustainable fisheries and markets | |

After reflecting on the goals, the next exercise was to identify specific actions to be taken to help Alliance partners achieve some of the goals in 2012. Commitments to actions from participants focused on improved knowledge sharing and increased dialogue among Alliance partners. These actions are:

- Develop curriculum for a **USAID Training** on fisheries for USAID staff with a focus on rights-based management and increased fisheries awareness. G-FISH would like to establish a **Task Force** to develop the curriculum for the training and will follow-up with partners in January 2012.
- Host topic-specific gatherings for Alliance partners, such as a **fish and food security brown bag** series. Determining topics and agendas can be done through establishment of an **Alliance Knowledge Management Working Group**. G-FISH will follow-up with partners about this in January 2012.
- Improve G-FISH Tales newsletter distribution and partner material in the newsletter. The **next addition of G-FISH Tales** will be published in **January 2012**. Please send any information about your work to be included in the newsletter so we can improve knowledge sharing among Alliance partners.
- Collaborate on **case studies/ lessons learned**; this includes sharing tools and technical knowledge in the field.
- Develop **Alliance Panel Presentations** at fisheries conferences. In particular, the **Seafood Summit** being hosted in September 2012 will issue a solicitation for abstracts in early January. G-FISH will be organizing a call as soon as the full list of topics is released to organize a submission among partners. Topics currently under consideration include:
 - Seafood and global food security
 - Sustainable Seafood 101 track
 - Consumer demand and awareness
 - Production and processing—embedding sustainability in the Asian supply chain
 - Keystone species, including sharks, tuna, and salmon
 - Live seafood trade
 - Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing and associated supply chain traceability issues
 - Sustainable aquaculture



The meeting concluded with closing remarks by USAID representative, Dr. Barbara Best. Dr. Best encouraged participants to remain committed to collective action and work closely together in the pursuit of the common goals. Furthermore, Dr. Best requested partners to work together on developing a training course for USAID staff on biodiversity conservation and fisheries. G-FISH closed the meeting by reiterating a commitment to better collaboration and leveraging the experience and expertise of partners going forward. G-FISH will continue to act as a neutral convener to provide a platform for working together and leveraging resources. Any further ideas or suggestions for ways to improve the effectiveness of G-FISH are encouraged.

For more information about the Global FISH Alliance Annual Meeting and a full attendance list please contact:

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