



Challenges in the Implementation of SSF Guidelines in South Asia

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Why SSF GuideLines are Important to SSF ?

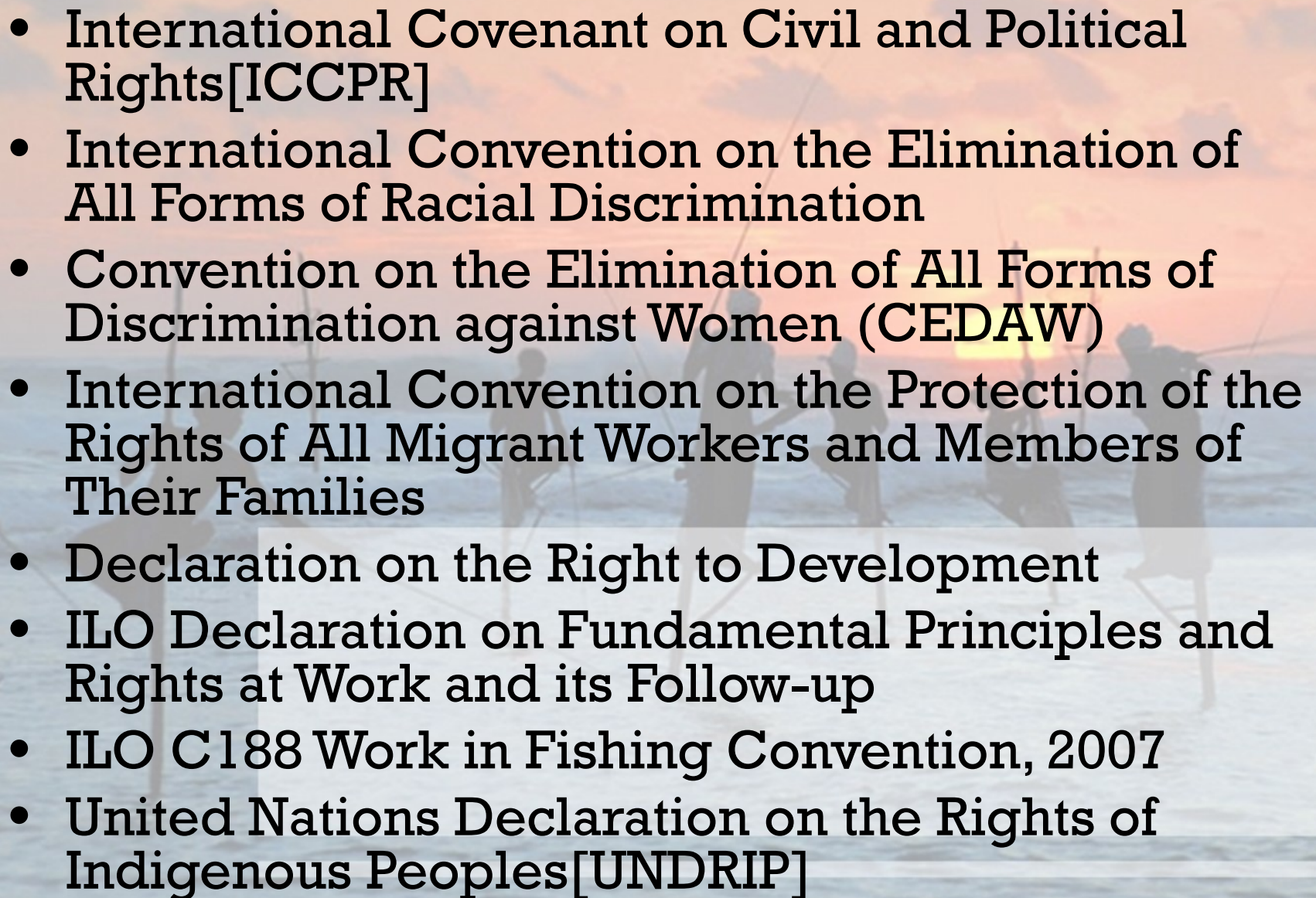
- **First ever UN instrument for SSF**
- **Promote Human Rights Based Approach**
- **Intended to support visibility, recognition and enhancement of SSF on support of eradication of Hunger & Poverty,**
- **Relevant to Marine and Inland fishery**
- **Formulated with wider participation of SSF**

Why Guidelines are Important to SSF?

- Gender, equality and equity given high importance hence role of women in Fisheries give high recognition in SSF Guidelines,
- Promote to Acceptance of Traditional and Customary Rights of SSF
- All the stages of fishing, Pre-Harvest, Harvest and Post Harvest are considered as important aspects,
- Based on several binding UN HR Instruments

International HR Conventions/ Instruments associated to the SSF Guidelines

- **Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security – 2005**
- **Voluntary Guidelines to improve the governance of tenure of land and other natural resources**
- **Universal Declaration on Human Rights[UNHRD]**
- **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[ICESCR]**

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- The background of the slide features a photograph of several fishermen on a boat, silhouetted against a bright sunset or sunrise over the ocean. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, and the water is dark with some white foam from the boat's wake.
- **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[ICCPR]**
 - **International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination**
 - **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**
 - **International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families**
 - **Declaration on the Right to Development**
 - **ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up**
 - **ILO C188 Work in Fishing Convention, 2007**
 - **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[UNDRIP]**

Guiding Principles

- HR & Dignity ! Holistic & Integ App
- Respect of Cultures ! Social Responsibilit
- Non-discriminations
- Gender Equality & Equity
- Equity and equality
- Rule of Law
- Transparency ! Social & Economic Viab
- Accountability
- Economic, Social & Environmental Sustainability

Who is Responsible for the Implementation?

- Primarily it is the States / Policy Makers
- Fisheries Officials/ Govt. Bureaucrats
- Fisher Communities
- Fisheries Organizations/ Coops/ Trade Unions
- Fisheries Researchers
- Academia
- Civil Society Organizations/ NGOs

State As the Primary Responsible player of Implementation

- In all most all the clauses of SSF guidelines begin with emphasizing the role of the State,
- States is the solely responsible agency to formulation of national policies based on the SSF Guidelines,

What is the State response?

- What is the Vision for future of SSF in our country?
- How the States are ready to include SSF Guidelines in the National Fisheries Policy Formulation?
- SSF Vs Other Industries [Tourism/ Aquaculture/ Coastal Industrial Zones/ Port Cities and Infra Structure Develop.]
- What is the development priorities in the coastal development projects?

Fisheries Officials/ Bureaucrats

- SSF are no more consider as important contributor to the national economy,
- SSF is not viable any more hence no importance,
- Coastal lands are important for business purposes than SSF landings, anchorage points etc.
- SSF support schemes are burden to national economy hence less attention for the develop the sector,

What is the involvement of SSF / TU/ Coop. themselves?

- Poor or lack of knowledge of the SSF Guidelines,
- Even after getting the basic knowledge on SSF guidelines, no interest to engage the dialogue with concerned parties,
- Benefits of SSF guidelines are not immediate and no long term vision to understand how the SSF guidelines could contribute to well being of SSF

What is the involvement of SSF organizations?

- Fisher women are not adequately represent at consultation processes hence they are not consulted and available knowledge is not recognized,
- Fisheries trade unions, cooperatives are busy with subsidy schemes and other welfare schemes and no attention on SSF guidelines,

What is the role of Academia?

- No/ poor govt schemes provided for research work on SSF sector,
- Universities are not able to fund for SSF education activities, researches for develop the SSF sector,
- As the main focus on deep sea large scale industrial fisheries, those business people invest on research work on deep sea fishery industry and not for SSF any more,

What is the role of CSOs/ NGOs?

- Translation of SSF Guidelines in to Local Languages, [Sinhala/ Tamil in Sri Lanka]
- Prepare people's manuals for understand the SSF guidelines better,
- Conduct education/ Awareness programs at grass root groups,
- Dialogues with the policy makers to implementation of SSF guidelines,
- Lack / poor funding sources to engage the awareness campaigns on SSF

Some Important aspects to Consideration!

- It is emphasized that these Guidelines are **Voluntary**, Global in Scope and with focus on needs of the developing countries,
- In Part 1, at **Clause 2.5 says**, “These Guidelines should be Interpreted & Applied in accordance with national legal systems and their institutions” ??????
- No clear **monitoring mechanism** adopted to report back the level of implementation.