



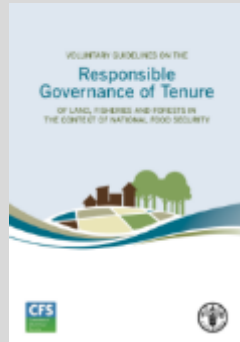
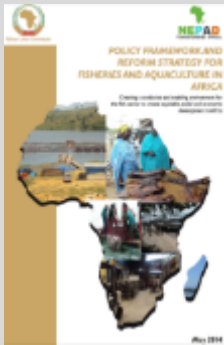
Fisheries  
Transparency  
Initiative

# **Increasing transparency and participation for the benefit of a more sustainable management of marine fisheries**

**5<sup>th</sup> meeting of ACP Ministers in charge of fisheries and aquaculture  
(Senior Officials meeting), 19 September 2017**

# The necessity of transparency in fisheries

## International efforts (Examples):



European Union



## Lack of transparency (Examples):

- **Undermines quality and credibility of public decision-making**
- **Diminishes effective oversight and accountability**
- **Marginalizes certain fisheries sub-sectors or actors**
- **Increases uncertainty for investors and consumers**

# About the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI)

The FiTI provides governments, large-scale and small-scale fishers, and civil society with a comprehensive and credible way to achieve and maintain high levels of transparency on the management of the marine fisheries sector and the activities of fishers and fishing companies.



Global, voluntary initiative

Country-centered initiative

Part of global good governance agenda (e.g. EITI, CoST)

Not owned or operated by one organization, nor representing a single interest group

Supports implementation of SDG 14 and SDG 17



# Scope of the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI)



## The FiTI is ...

- ... **demanding credible information in the public domain to manage fisheries sustainably**
- ... **focussing on marine fisheries**
- ... **focussing on a country's marine jurisdictional waters**
- ... **including both large-scale and small-scale fisheries**



## The FiTI is not ...

- ... **focussing on inland fisheries**
- ... **focussing on aquaculture**
- ... **a technology-driven MCS initiative**
- ... **a seafood traceability initiative**
- ... **an advocacy initiative**

## 3 overarching questions



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**CONTENT:** What information on marine fisheries should be provided in the public domain?



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**PROCESS:** How can transparency be achieved so that it is perceived as credible?



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**GOVERNANCE:** How can the integrity of the initiative be safeguarded?

# 2-year conceptual phase: Laying the groundwork for the FiTI



# Information in the public domain to manage marine fisheries sustainably

## FiTI Transparency requirements (FiTI Standard, section B.1):

1. Public registry of national fisheries laws, regulations and official policy documents
2. Summary of laws and decrees on fisheries tenure arrangements
3. Publication of all foreign fishing access agreements
4. Publication of existing national reports on the state of fish stocks
5. Public online registry of authorised large-scale vessels, as well as information on their payments and recorded catches
6. Information on the small-scale sector, including the numbers of fishers, their catches and financial transfers to the state
7. Information on the post-harvest sector and fish trade
8. Information on law enforcement efforts, including a description of efforts to ensure compliance by fishers and a record of offences in the sector
9. Information on labour standards in the fisheries sector
10. Information on government transfers and fisheries subsidies
11. Information on official development assistance regarding public sector projects related to fisheries and marine conservation
12. Information on the country's status regarding beneficial ownership transparency



# Progressive improvement of transparency

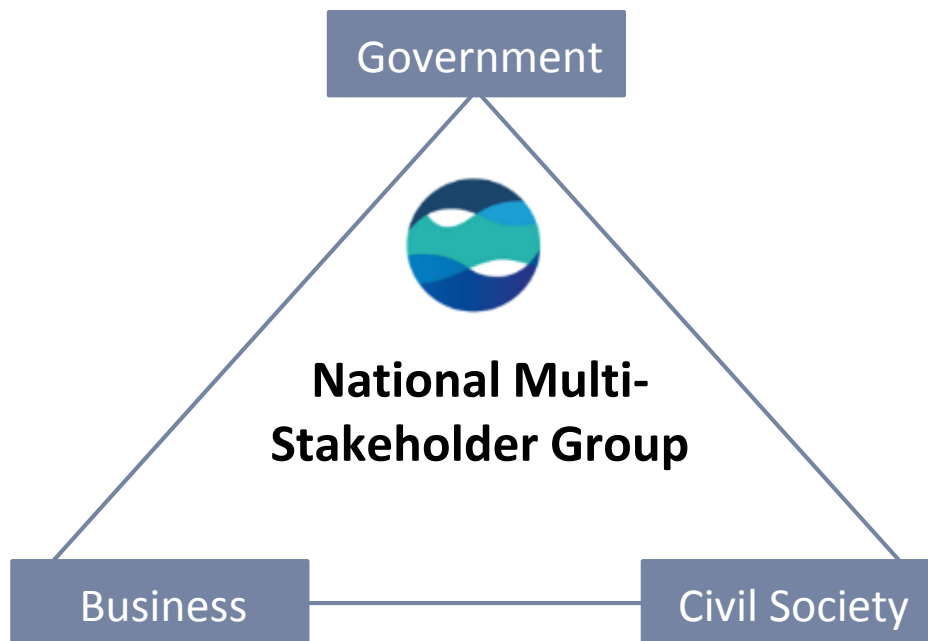
- **Countries do not need to have complete data for every transparency requirement from the beginning.**
- **Public authorities must disclose the information they have, and where important gaps exist, demonstrate improvements over time.**
- **Complying with the FiTI is not intended to be a burdensome and costly research activity.**
- **FiTI is particularly beneficial to support national authorities in their efforts to organise and present information.**

- ➔ **Is information available at all?**
- ➔ **Is information provided in the public domain (i.e. online)?**
- ➔ **Is information in the public domain accessible?**
- ➔ **Is information in the public domain complete?**



# Quality and credibility of information through inclusive stakeholder participation

**Countries intending to implement the FiTI must establish a National Multi-Stakeholder Group (National MSG).**



- **Oversee the implementation of the FiTI in the country**
- **Produce annual FiTI Reports by jointly assessing the availability, accessibility and completeness of information in the public domain**
- **Make recommendations for progressive improvement**
- **Disseminate information to contribute to the public debate**

# Benefits of the FiTI



**Demonstrates clear commitment to sustainable and accountable fisheries**

**Enables meaningful participation in fisheries decision-making**

**Establishes trust**

**Supports the fight against IUU fishing as well as corruption**

**Enhances a country's investment climate**

**Supports countries in implementing SDG 14 and SDG 17**

# Challenges of the FiTI



- **Funding and human resources**
- **Implementation “fatigue” due to a myriad of initiatives**
- **“Transparency mindset”**
- **Stakeholder participation and capacity building**

# 2nd International Conference, 27 April 2017, Bali



**The 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES  
TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE (FiTI)**  
**Conference 2017**  
**Launching A New Era of Transparency in Fisheries**  
April 27, 2017 | Padang Puri, Gianyar, Bali Indonesia

REGISTER

Co-organized with

115

Web site of the Conference: <http://2ndfiticonference.kkp.go.id/>

Marked the official transition  
from the conceptual phase to  
ongoing implementation phase

Key  
outcomes

- Established global FiTI Standard
- Launched 1<sup>st</sup> FiTI International Board
- Presented status of FiTI pilot countries

# Outlook: The FiTI in the next three years



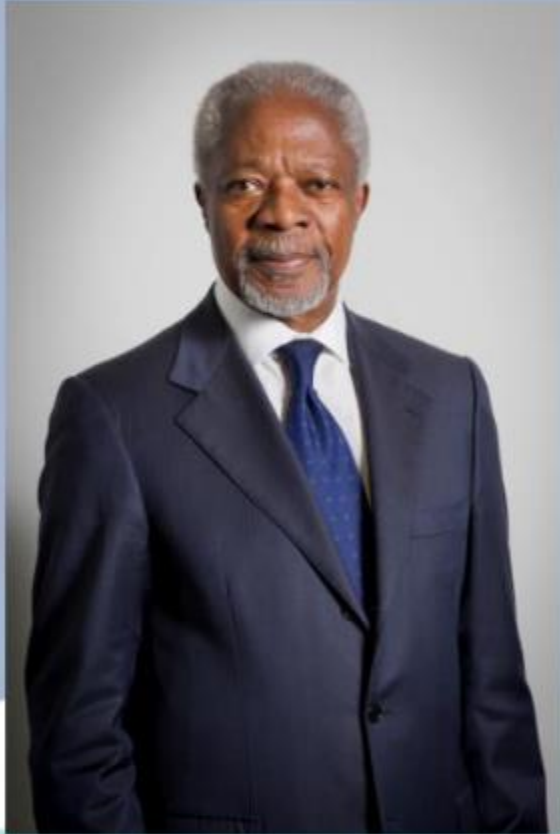
- ➔ **Obtain first FiTI Reports (starting in 2018)**
- ➔ **Engage 20+ countries in the FiTI process**
- ➔ **Establish international governance structure**
- ➔ **Transition the FiTI International Secretariat to Seychelles**

# Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI) – Summary

- 1. Sets transparency requirements for marine fisheries**
- 2. Permits progressive improvement of transparency in the public domain**
- 3. Enhances quality and credibility through multi-stakeholder participation**
- 4. Stimulates public debates on fisheries governance**
- 5. Yields benefits for all stakeholders**



# Thank you for your attention!



*“In Africa and around the world, fisheries play a crucial role in supporting livelihoods, providing employment and driving social economic development. However, the future of the world’s fisheries is seriously threatened and this global challenge is far greater than any country can handle on its own.*

*The Fisheries Transparency Initiative, with transparency and participation as its cornerstones, makes an invaluable contribution to safeguard what is amongst the most vital resources on the planet.”*

**Kofi Annan**

Chair of the Africa Progress Panel, Former Secretary-General of the United Nations and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate





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