



## Session 4 Principles of EAFm

Essential EAFm training  
Date | Place



## Session objectives

**After this session you will be able to:**

- Examine the principles of EAFm and their link to the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF)



# Group Timelines

## Horizontal line represent 'time'

1. Go back in time 30 – 40 years (e.g. 1980). Think of events that have affected or been affected by your fisheries (political, environmental, social, etc.)  
Events can be from local to national to global
2. Draw/write each event (with dates) on a separate card
3. Plot your cards onto the timeline



# Key Principles of EAFm

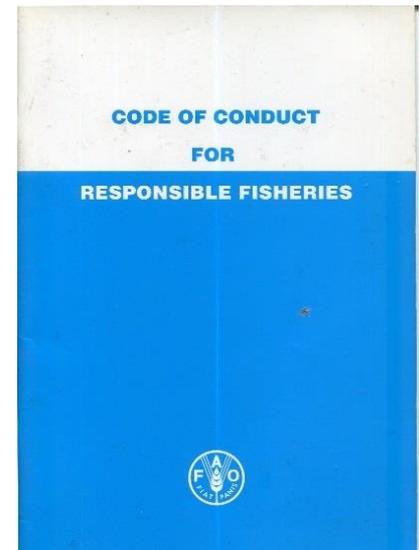




## Principles are not new

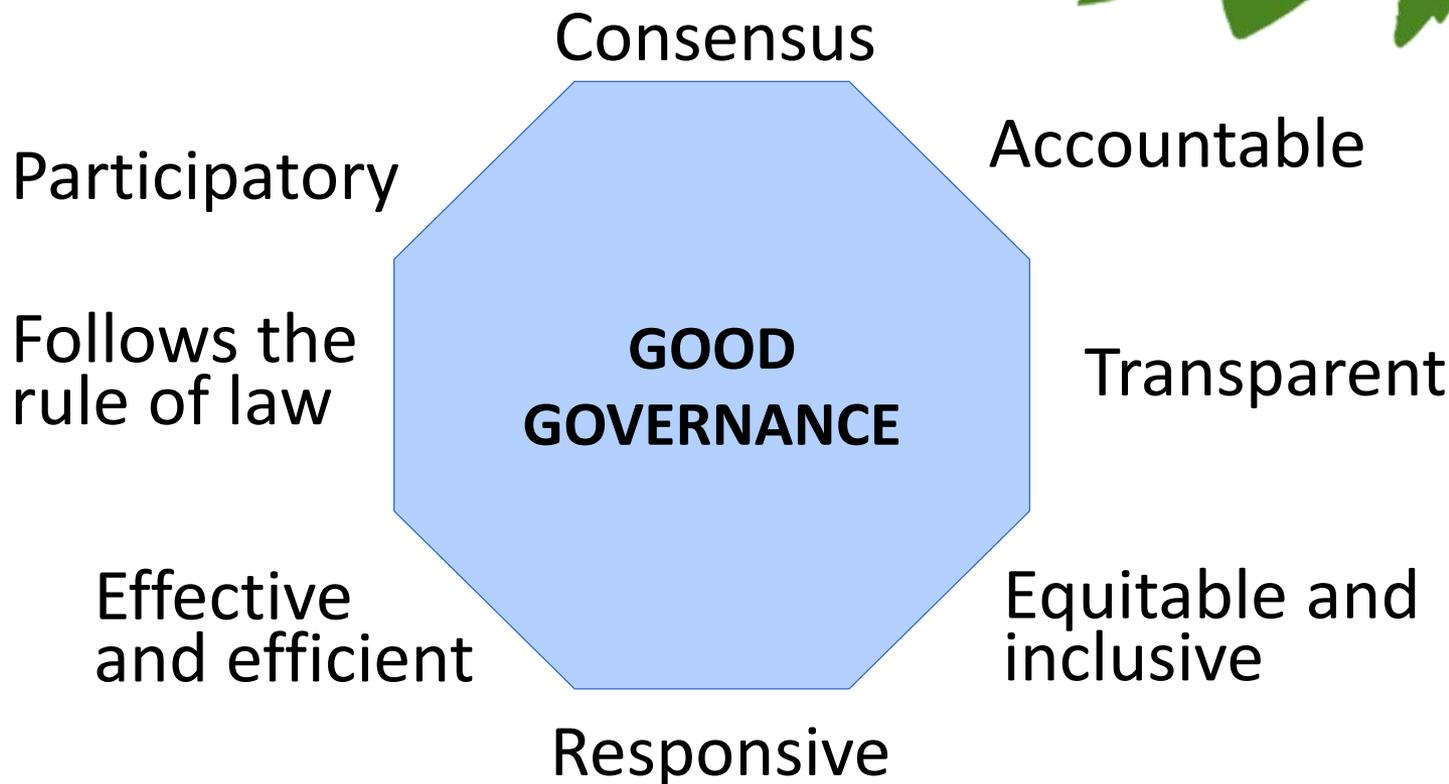
The principles of EAFm are not new but were set out in the **FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF)**

- The CCRF was developed by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- All FAO Member countries agreed to CCRF in 1995
- Your country is a Member of FAO





# Good governance





## Appropriate scale

### Four dimensions:

1. Ecological scales
2. Socio-economic scales
3. Political/governance scales
4. Temporal scales



Note: These align with the three components of EAFm



## Scales – extremes

1. Single species → multiple species
  - Small areas → large areas (e.g. basin, watershed or transboundary water body)
  - Ecological
2. Socio-economic
  - Village → Floodplain/Lake/Basin (rural & urban)
3. Governance
  - Single jurisdiction → Multiple jurisdictions
4. Temporal
  - Short-term → Long-term



## Realities of scale

- Take a practical approach
- Begin working with what exists e.g. jurisdictional boundaries (district, province), or a particular water body or river

## Challenge:

Getting the scale correct for the four dimensions

(Ecological, socio economic, political/governance & temporal)

This often requires increased cooperation and coordination across jurisdictions, agencies and stakeholders.



## Discuss

In many countries, fisheries management has been devolved down to the district/municipality level.

In your groups, answer the question:

*“Is the district/municipality the correct scale to manage all fisheries?”*



## Increased participation



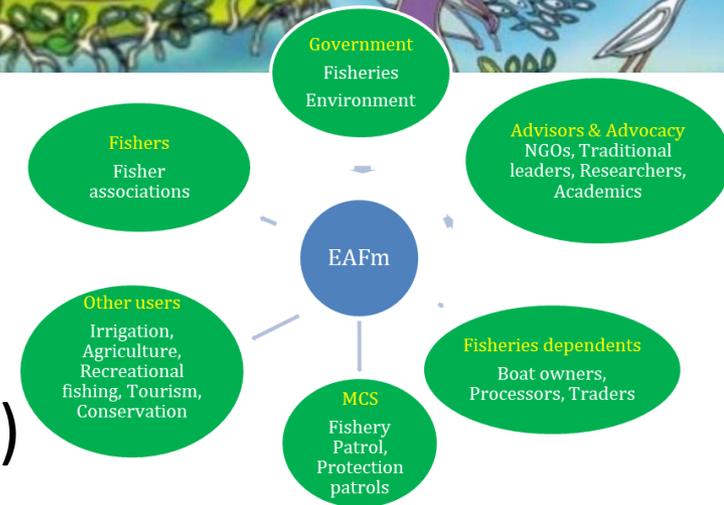
3. Increased participation

Participation is central to the process



## Many stakeholders

1. Fishers and fisher associations
2. Governments (district – national)
3. Fishery related (e.g. boat owners, fish traders, money lenders)
4. Compliance and enforcement agencies (e.g. inspector)
5. Other users (e.g. tourism, irrigation, hydropower)
6. External agents (e.g. NGOs, researchers)

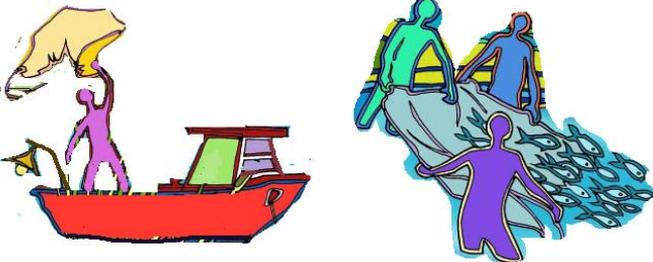




## 4. Multiple objectives

# Multiple objectives

EAFm deals with interactions within the fishery sector and with other users



Each sector and user group usually have their own objectives

- Need to balance these objectives
- Requires stakeholder engagement and negotiation



## 5. Cooperation & coordination

# Cooperation and coordination

EAFm involves cooperation and coordination among many stakeholders e.g.

**Fishers**  
**Fisher**  
**associations**

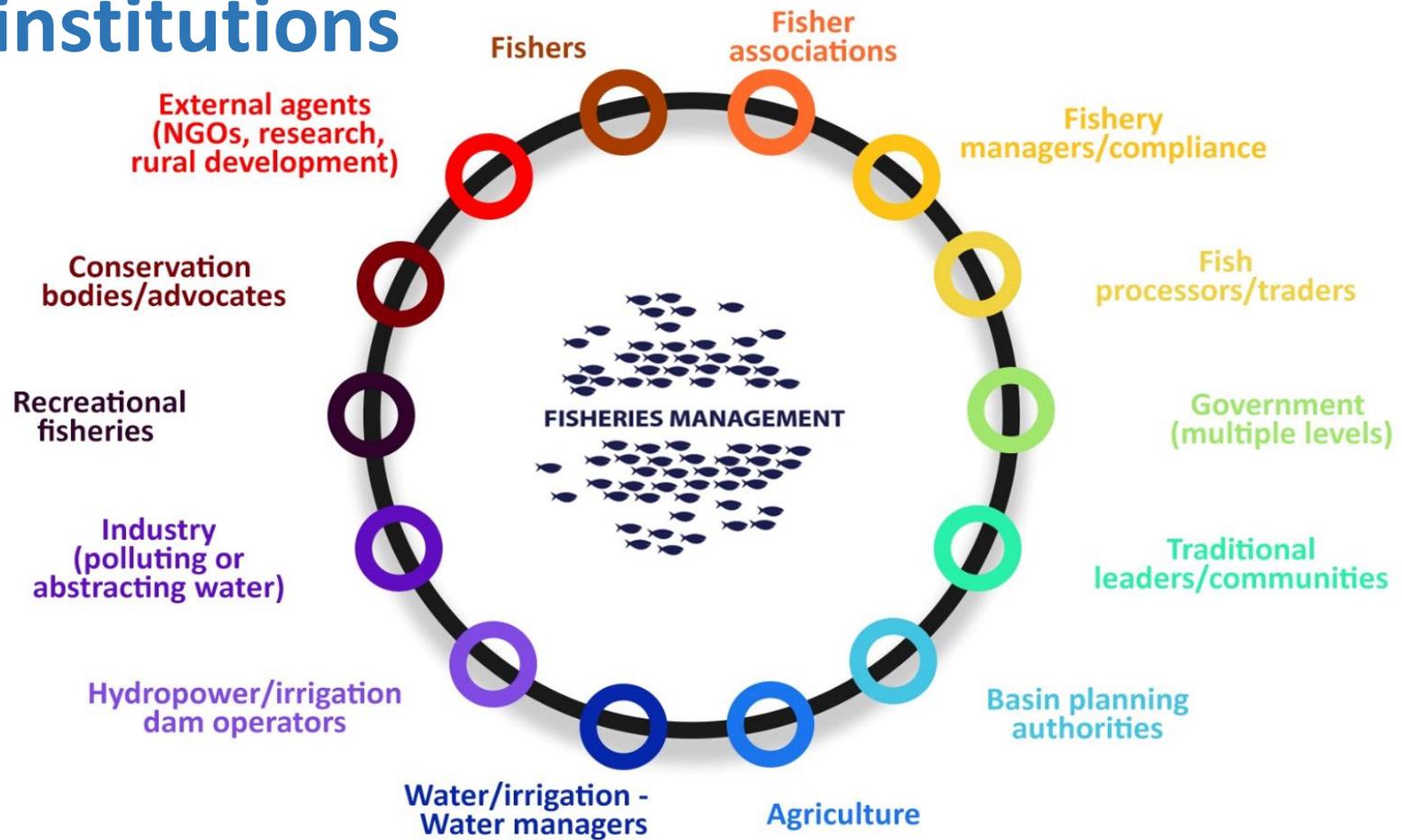
**External agents**  
Water managers  
Traders  
NGOs  
Researchers

**Government**  
National/regional/  
provincial/state/  
municipal/  
village

- within agency/institutions
- across institutions, both government and stakeholder and with non-fishery sectors
- from global to national to district levels



# The institutions





## Institutional cooperation and coordination

### How do you achieve this?

1. Talk to others
2. Link in with existing arrangements (e.g. IWRM, water user associations, etc.)
3. Share information
4. Develop a plan through a participatory process
5. Harmonize work plans/budgets
6. Memorandums of understanding/binding agreements

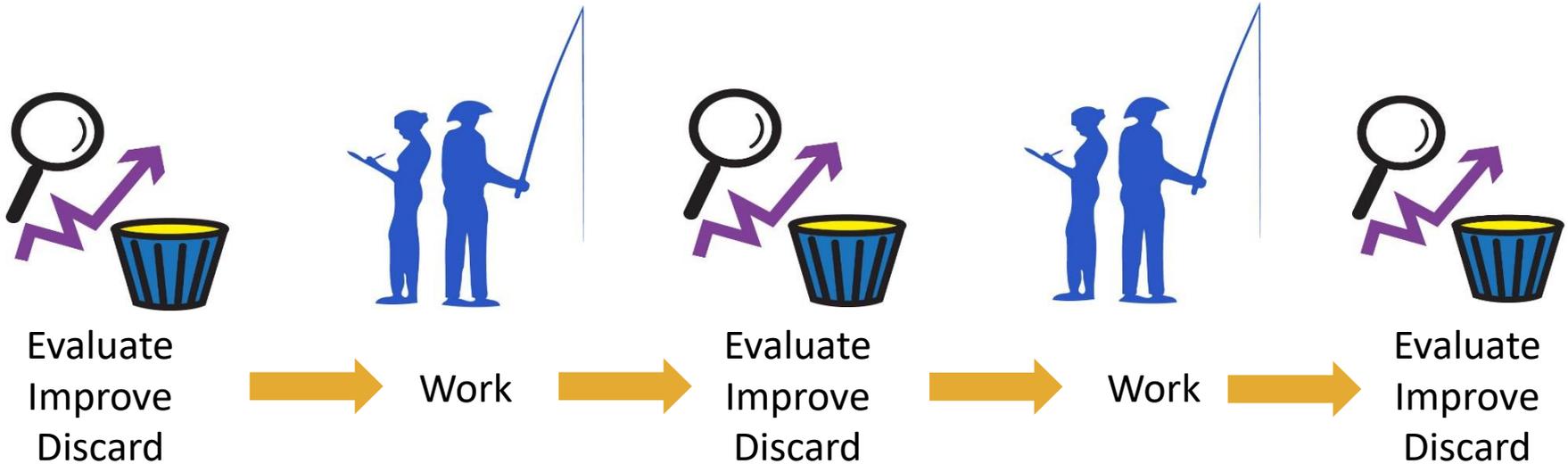
..... Any other suggestions?



# 6. Adaptive management

# Adaptive management

Learning while doing





## 7. Precautionary approach

# The precautionary approach

“... States shall be more cautious when information is uncertain, unreliable or inadequate. The absence of adequate scientific information shall not be used as a reason for postponing or failing to take conservation and management measures” (UN, 1995)

**Where there is uncertainty, management actions should be less risky**

**Lack of information should not be used as reason to delay action**

# THE PRECAUTIONARY APPROACH

Source: Adapted from ICSF (2013)

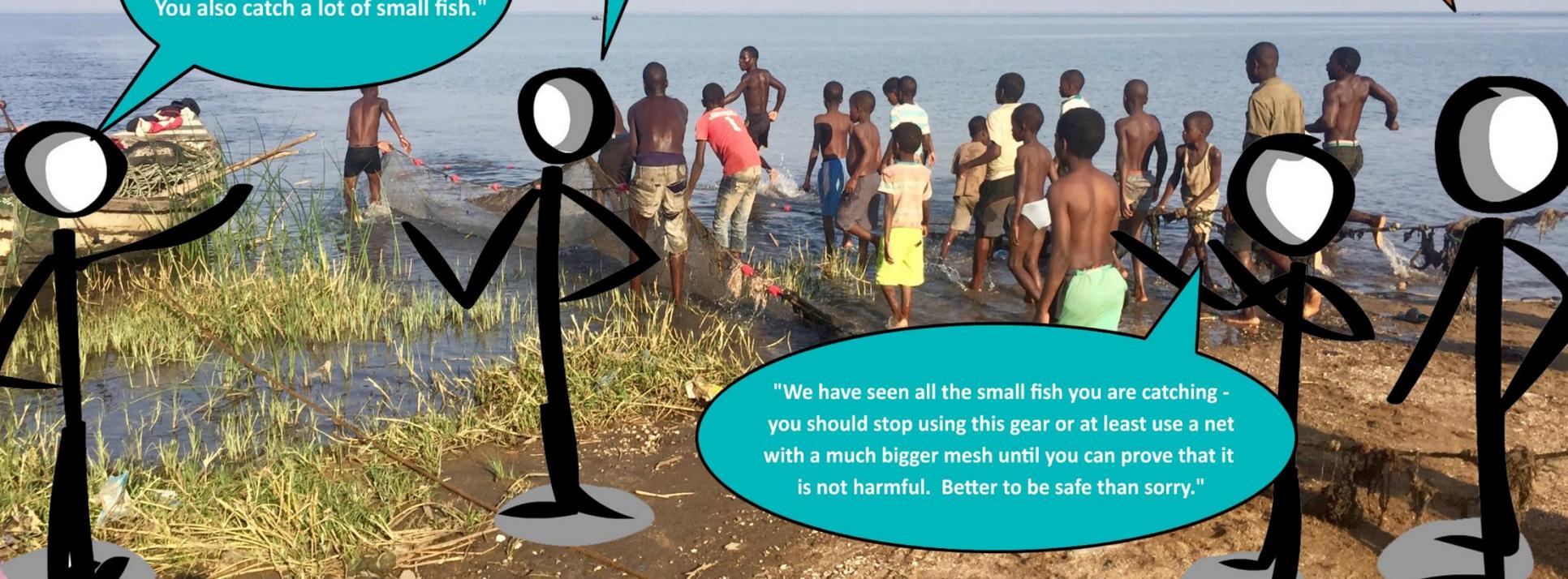
IF THERE IS POSSIBILITY OF HARM, BE CAREFUL  
(PRECAUTIONARY APPROACH)

"We have observed that the fish catch reduces in areas where you fish. You also catch a lot of small fish."

"But there is no evidence or study to say that the gear we use is destructive."

"And that is the precautionary approach."

"We have seen all the small fish you are catching - you should stop using this gear or at least use a net with a much bigger mesh until you can prove that it is not harmful. Better to be safe than sorry."





## Key messages

### EAFm principles **are not new**

- based on the FAO Code of Conduct for Fisheries (to which your country is a member)

### EAFm has seven principles

- These are all important for implementing EAFm