

A light blue silhouette of a world map is centered in the background of the slide.

Blue Justice: A unifying concept for TD towards “multi-dimensional” sustainability

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What is the challenge?

Disciplinary compartmentalisation of approaches: prevents many scientists and others from understanding that traditional fishing communities identify themselves as belonging to a socio-halieuical morphology.

That's why SSF are claiming certain traditional rights: free access to coastal zones, connecting to cultural services rendered by the ocean, resources, etc.

They see themselves as more than actors in an economic sector, refuse to fit the technocratic mould.



Blue Economy, the great fix?

The Blue Economy concept spreading rapidly has blurred contours that can transport a broad range of meanings even though it is generally conceded that marine and coastal ecosystems are being heavily degraded, largely as a result of industrial business sectors.

Its applications tend to strengthen the gap between technical and scientific disciplines with little or no regard to the rights of traditional communities.

The major problem is that it is based on an ideology of **accelerated economic growth** and a combination of **private investment and public debt** barely acknowledging the resulting of **skewed appropriation of benefits**.

Disciplinary and institutional silos

Sectoral ministries, agencies and strongly disciplinary academic institutions tend to be overconfident in their ability to analyse and control their respective areas of competence. Competition between overlapping mandates.

The further from overarching perspectives actors operate, the more they need to find a balance between such disciplinary lenses and many other influences, conditions and demands at provincial and even more at local levels.

SSF perceive this as a threat, resist and place emphasis on social, cultural and other needs, affirm their rights and make efforts to maintain room for manoeuvre.



Effects on ocean and community sustainability

Increased **competition for space and access to resources** between petroleum and gas industries e.g. in Senegal and neighbouring countries, also with marine tourism etc.

Vulnerability of SSF to infrastructures and pollution from industrial developments.

Lack of transversal social policies and equitable spatial management accentuates tensions for SSF already under pressure from globalised markets, price competition with sinking profitability, climate change effects with low access to support services, credit and other enabling conditions.



Challenge to fisheries and ocean governance

These tensions and conflicts between competing goals leave SSF vulnerable and accentuate their de facto marginalisation.

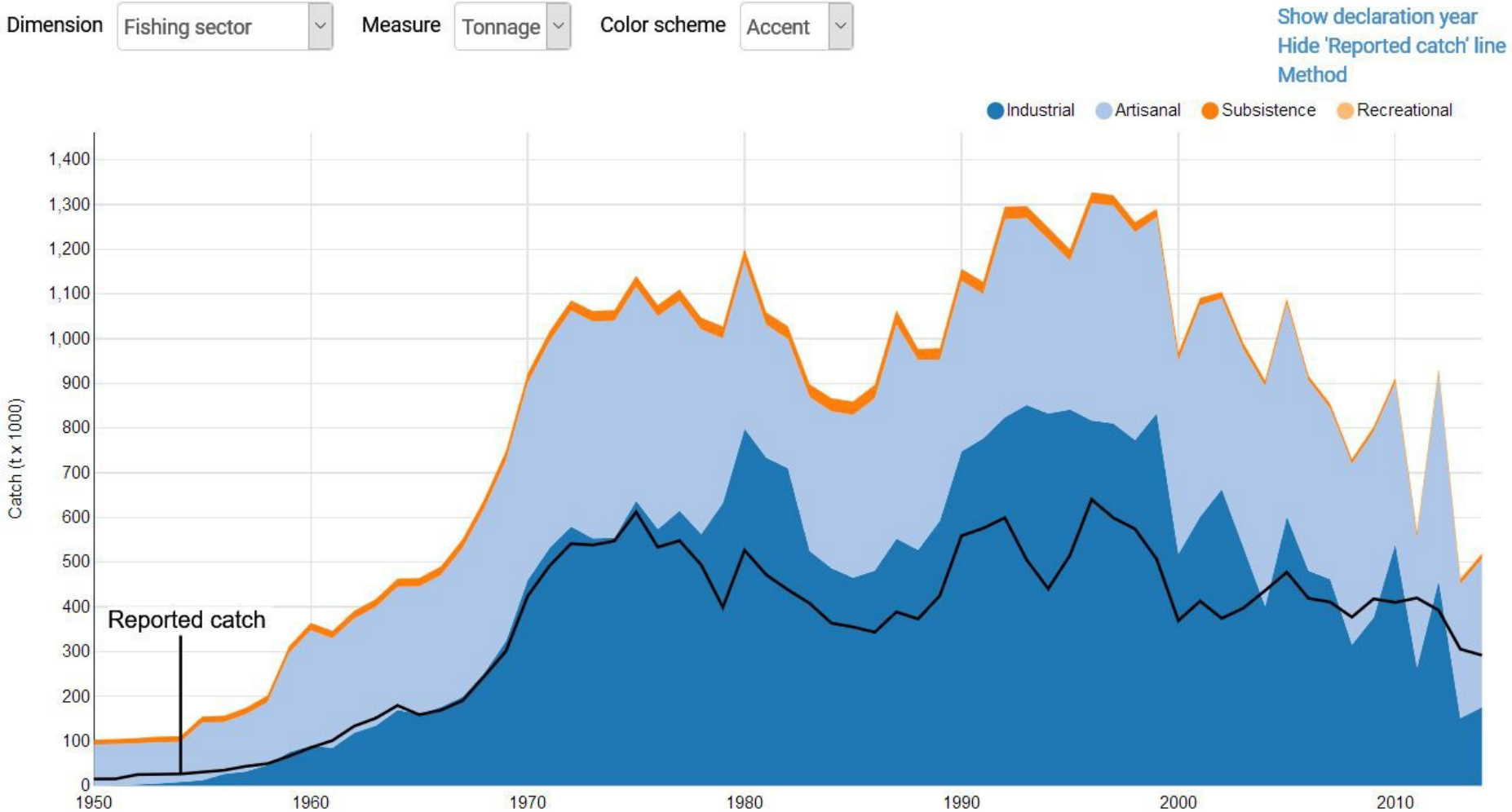
Competition between departments with different, sometimes overlapping mandates and prerogatives

New insights and knowledge formation as a collective process are often more influenced by foreign expertise than fed by local critical thinking and blending different sources of expertise from academia and practice for better grounding.

Gap between declarations and ground realities and weak documentation of structure and dynamics of entire system.

More thorough look is revealing

Catch reconstructions by fishery for Senegal by SAU:



Better data, better use of data, incl. gendered data and openness for NEW lenses

- Recent empirical evidence (gender lens) of changes in social status, e.g. in the light of further globalised markets
- How to promote overcoming continued discrimination and marginalisation in order to harness greater effectiveness in defending SSF interests as a whole?
- How to mend often broken relations between men and women along value chains and within communities for enhanced capacity for both genders to operate sustainably and successfully and bring about the structural changes required for their futures?



Open platform for co-production of knowledge

Respectful multi-stakeholder platform (celebrate diversity)

Suspend judgement – accept participants as they are

Listen, seek solutions together

Promote local leadership, trust

Empower, build capacities, ♀



Excellent frame conditions

National SSF Action plans, university training, favourable policies for implementation of SSF Guidelines and SDG14 globally

Stop subsidies to industrial fishing and make IUU fishing unprofitable – condition for Blue Commons, **Blue Justice**

Operationalise SDG using TD

Revive earlier work on the ecosystem approach to fisheries

Support cultural diversity, cultural heritage and its evolution to keep relevant with changing conditions

Protect marine and coastal biodiversity

Scale up and accelerate cooperation, including I nternationally, among coastal communities around **Blue Justice**

Bring SDGs and SSF Guidelines to ground level;

Operationalise individual dreams and global objectives.





Thanks for your attention

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