

The State of Subsidies: Small-scale Fisher Perceptions on Subsidies in Karnataka, India

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Abstract

The discourse linking fisheries subsidies to over fishing and environmental degradation has gained momentum globally and influences trade and environmental geopolitics. Subsidies and state intervention are essential for the sustenance of small-scale fisheries across the world and are also necessary to promote sustainable practices. This study aimed to assess the effectiveness of fishery subsidies and to identify whether the subsidies meant for small-scale fishers had achieved their putative purpose of providing social security to fishers in the coastal state of Karnataka, India. Semi-structured interviews with small-scale fishers from four fishing villages in two main coastal districts show that although a large share of the sampled population (90%) is aware of the existence of subsidies only 42% have availed of them. Results pointed to technical, political and social factors that inhibit small-scale fishers from relying on state welfare measures as a security against vulnerabilities. The study identified areas for reform in the information dissemination processes as also towards more ecologically sustainable fisheries. Introduction of new subsidies which facilitate the phasing out of small mesh size nets, high-speed engines and destructive gears can encourage better management of depleting resources.

Introduction

Government interventions in fisheries in the developed maritime nations, through a range of social security measures and subsidies have contributed to strengthening capabilities and reducing

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vulnerabilities among fisher communities (Kurien 2006). It is believed that livelihood security and social security can be achieved by reducing deprivation or vulnerability through state instruments such as subsidies (see Kurien and Paul 2001; Kurien 2006). However, it is also argued that subsidies in fisheries produce unfair production distortions and contribute to unsustainable fisheries across the world (Rosenberg et al. 1993; Munro and Sumaila 2001; OECD 2000). According to Sumaila et al. (2010), subsidies are not only a major driver of overfishing but also promote other destructive fishing practices such as high seas bottom trawling, which would not be profitable without its large fuel subsidies. Hence subsidies are broadly perceived as an important reason for resource over-exploitation, over-capacity and negative environmental, social and economic effects (Clark et al. 2005; Beddington et al. 2007).

A highly diverse group, the 'small-scale' sector has many descriptions. Mathew (2003) states that the terms 'traditional', 'small-scale' or 'artisanal' fisheries are used to characterise those fisheries that are mainly non-mechanised (crafts that use non-mechanical power in gear operation although they might use motorised power for propulsion) with a relatively low scale of production and capital investment. We draw from this description and distinguish between categories of fishers in Karnataka based primarily on capital investment, technological inputs and production capacity. Thus the small-scale sector in Karnataka includes crafts such as dugout canoes, plank built boats and also fibreglass reinforced beach landing crafts with outboard motors. These craft use near-shore gillnets, shore seines, purse seines and drag nets and are operated only with human power. By contrast, the mechanised sector comprises of single-day and multi-day trawlers and purse seine boats whose engine power may vary from 60-235 BHP (Boopendranath and Hameed 2007). In India the percentage contribution of the small-scale fishers towards marine fish production is low compared to the mechanised sector. During 2011-2012 the mechanised vessels accounted for 79% of the total catch while the small-scale sector accounted for 21% despite its proportionately high population [0.80 million out of 0.86 million marine fisherfolk (CMFRI 2012)].

Small-scale fishers in most parts of the world now face a range of scenarios that threaten to heighten their levels of insecurity (Jentoft and Eide 2011), including disturbances in trophic levels due to fishing down food webs (Bhathal and Pauly 2008) and dwindling returns as shown by catch per unit effort trends (Mohamed and Zacharia 2009). Kurien (2006) has argued for a range of actions that governments in developing countries should adopt to build the capabilities of their fishing communities, particularly the small-scale and artisanal sectors. What meaning do the subsidies hold for the small-scale fisher under present-day contexts of heightened vulnerability from social, economic and natural risks? In this paper, we seek to examine how small-scale marine fishers respond to government fisheries subsidies by examining their awareness and perception of the same. We present the findings of our investigations in the coastal districts of Karnataka, on the west coast of India. The study was conducted in four villages of Karnataka, and is a preliminary enquiry towards an empirical understanding of the role of subsidies in small-scale fisheries. Such studies need to be scaled up in subsequent research to understand the meaning and operation of subsidies in the developing world and their role in fisheries management.

Fisheries subsidies in India

Fisheries development in the newly independent nation was planned as the aquatic extension of the agricultural productivity challenge. The Indian government entered into international technical cooperation programmes starting in the 1950s seeking to modernise its fisheries (Klausen 1964; Kurien 1985). Since then, there has been a steady increase in capital-intensive and mechanisation-dependent fisheries. Soon non-fishing caste groups entered marine fisheries as investors and a new fishing class emerged which is distinct from the small-scale sector, by virtue of their income from fisheries, their investments in the sector and ownership of mechanised craft.

A number of government agencies (Central and State) such as National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), the State Fisheries Departments and Fisheries Development Corporations provide subsidies to fishers. (See Annexure 1). However, there are few public assessments of the direct or indirect impact of these subsidies on fishers and fisheries.

Fisheries subsidies in Karnataka

In Karnataka, both the small-scale and the mechanised sector have an almost equal number of subsidies (both state and central government subsidies). Currently, 11 subsidies related to capture fishing (excluding culture fisheries), can be availed by small-scale marine fishers. Some of these are directly related to fishing activities (such as the motorisation of craft), purchase of fishery requisites (such as nets and floats) while the others are more general in nature (such as Matsyashraya [housing] scheme, group accident insurance scheme, Matsyavahini scheme [provision of fish transport vehicle], distress relief funds etc.). The goal of our study was to see if these 11 subsidies had achieved their putative purpose of providing social security to fishers of the small-scale sector by examining how fishers perceived them. The 'success' of such state interventions can be measured in a number of qualitative and quantitative ways. We selected a mix of these methods and conducted a preliminary assessment of fisheries subsidies in Karnataka by investigating a) the degree or nature of information small-scale fishers possessed on each subsidy, b) the extent to which small-scale fishers of Karnataka availed of these subsidies and c) the efforts made for information dissemination on fisheries subsidies targeting small-scale fishers. We administered a questionnaire with a few open ended questions exploring each of these items and also conducted semi-structured personal interviews with government officials and fishers.

Methodology

Study area

The state of Karnataka (Fig.1) has a 300 km long coastline (Mohamed et al. 1998) and lies between the state of Kerala to its south and Goa to the north.

Karnataka was one of the first maritime states in India to introduce mechanised fishing, through the Indo-Norwegian project (Dharmaraja and Jacob 1980). The state has eight coastal *talukas*¹ with a total of 144 fishing villages (CMFRI 2012). These 144 fishing villages are distributed within three coastal districts (Dakshina Kannada [DK], Udupi and Uttara Kannada [UK]). We identified two villages each from DK and UK districts to conduct the study. Since Udupi district comes under the jurisdiction of DK fisheries Deputy Director (DD), the promotional measures for subsidies followed in DK and Udupi are the same. Hence villages from Udupi were not sampled in our study. The details of the selected villages are shown in table 1.

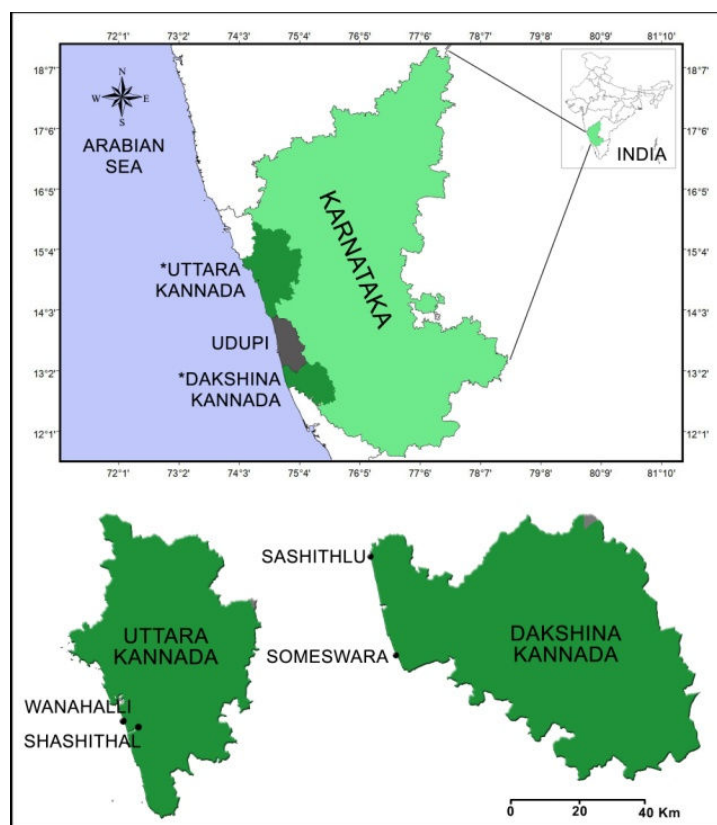


Fig. 1. Map of the study area showing coastal districts (sampled coastal districts with asterisk).

Table 1. Details of the fishing villages sampled in the coastal districts of DK and UK (*source: CMFRI 2012).

Coastal districts	Coastal villages	No. of fishing families*	No. of SSFF*	No. of SSFF representatives interviewed	Percentage of the SSFF representatives interviewed
Dakshina Kannada	Someswara	142	47	11	24%
	Sashithlu	878	877	80	9%
Uttara Kannada	Shashithal	145	145	15	10%
	WanaHalli	279	279	30	11%

¹ An administrative division smaller than the district.

To ascertain fishers' perception on subsidies, personal interviews were conducted and group discussions were held between 2012 and 2013. We tried to sample a minimum of 10% of the total small-scale fishing families (SSFF) from each of the villages.

The village of Shashithlu is a heterogenous village with both Hindu and Muslim fisher families. The villages Someshwara and Sashithal are homogeneous with Hindu fishers and the fourth village – Wanahalli, is a Muslim fishing village. In each of the above villages, personal interviews were conducted. A semi-structured questionnaire was used to acquire information on fishery subsidies, their appropriateness and accessibility and fishers' perceptions of social security programmes of the government. The survey was conducted during the months of October 2012 and February 2013.

Results

Nature of information among fishers regarding subsidies

We began by investigating how many fishers were aware that subsidies for fishers and exclusively pertaining to fisheries existed. We asked questions that explored their awareness of the existence of subsidies but not awareness of their detailed content. A majority of the respondents (90%) from all the sampled villages were aware of the existence of at least some subsidies while very few (10%) knew about all subsidies. It is interesting to note here that those aware of all the subsidies belonged or were affiliated to some *village level institution*² which could have helped them access such information. Ten percent of the sampled respondents stated that they had absolutely no knowledge of the existence of fisheries subsidies.

Some subsidies were more popular than others (Fig. 2) Subsidies that provide direct benefits to fishers such as “Matsyashrya” (aimed at providing a house for fishers), savings-cum-relief subsidy (financial assistance during the lean fishing seasons), motorisation and insurance subsidies are widely recognised by fishers compared to other recent subsidies such as Matsyavahini [monetary assistance to purchase fish transporting vehicles], free life jackets and the installation of life saving equipment.

² Such institutions include cooperative societies, the *Mahila Sabha* (a social group of all women voters of a village) and the *Grama Panchayat* (village level self-governance institution created by the 73rd amendment to the Constitution of India. The elected head and ward committee members of the Grama Panchayat are often the village elite).

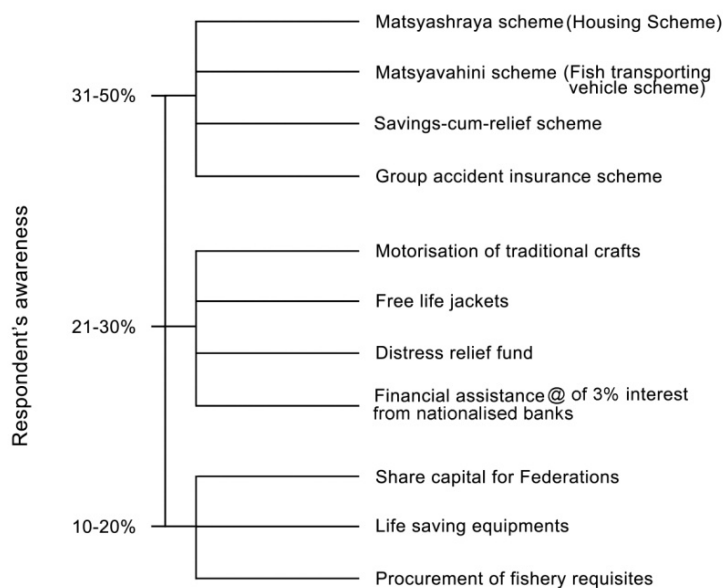


Fig. 2. Awareness of the subsidies among fishers.

Extent to which fishers avail of subsidies

The schemes that are most availed of are among the most recognised subsidies (Fig. 3). We found that 58% of fishers have not availed of any subsidies, while the rest (42%) have availed of some.

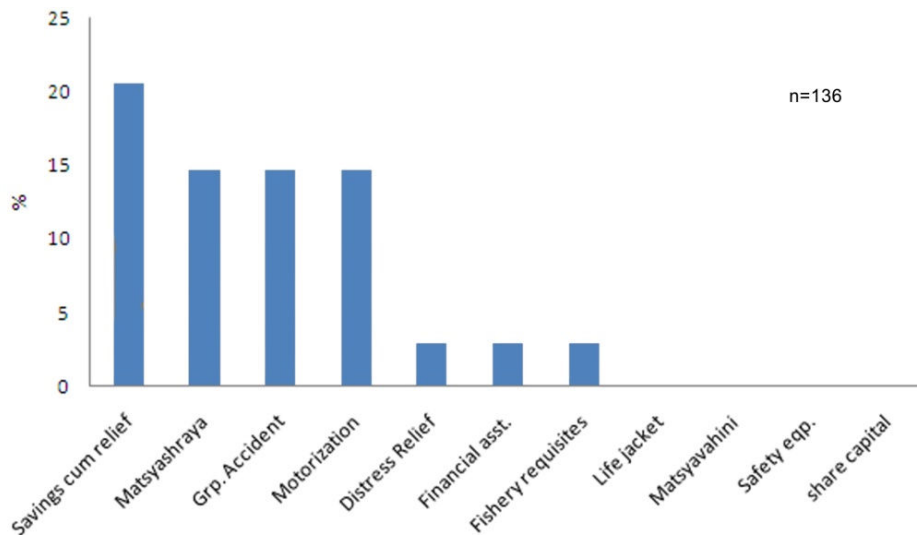


Fig.3. Subsidies availed by the fishers.

Fishers offered a range of reasons for why they did not avail of subsidies. With regard to the subsidies offered for procuring safety equipment, some respondents pointed out that since they were

all small-scale fishers and operated in the near shore shallow waters, they do not feel the need for life jackets and other safety equipment.

Moreover, while deploying their nets and hauling them in, they find it cumbersome to wear life jackets and the bulky life jackets eat up storage space meant for fish on the deck. From our study sample, we found that the subsidy “Matsyavahini” has virtually no takers even though all the respondents expressed a desire to have some mode of transport, especially women fish vendors. When asked why, the respondents stated that most women vendors do not drive and perhaps find the initial investment and extra expense of hiring a driver to be a deterrent in availing themselves of this subsidy. Failure or success of a scheme routed through *state fisheries federations*³ (e.g. in the share capital subsidy, a Fisher Cooperative Society [FCS] gets financial assistance from the affiliated federation which disperses funds to its members) depends on how well the respective FCS leader is able to navigate through difficult political terrain within the federation (we discuss this in later sections). They state that the total fund allocated by the government to the umbrella federations of FCSes under this scheme is grossly insufficient.

Information dissemination on fishing subsidies

All the four villages were of unanimous view that they were not adequately informed by either government or non-government agents about the details of existing subsidies and newly introduced subsidies.

The Karnataka state fisheries department has taken a few measures to disseminate information on fisheries subsidies through newspaper and radio advertisements, and the publication and distribution of booklets containing information on subsidies to FCS representatives. However, fishers we interviewed stated that the information shared through these media were inadequate, inappropriately communicated and often simply useless to help an average small-scale fisher comprehend how to go about availing the schemes. It should be noted that many of these dissemination activities are not consistently followed each year. For example, the idea of producing and distributing a booklet with basic information on all fisheries subsidies was initiated by the DK fisheries office but fishers from UK were unaware of its existence. Most of these advertisements provided only the title of the subsidies, without providing any information on how to avail of them. The fisheries department relies largely on the FCS to inform fishers about newly introduced subsidies and hands out pamphlets or information booklets to FCS representatives. Respondents (33%) stated that their source of information on the existence of subsidies was the FCS (Fig. 4). Detailed interviews revealed this dissemination strategy to be problematic.

³ In Karnataka, the fisheries federation is an elected autonomous body that functions with partial government funding. There are three such federations (two for marine and for one inland fisheries). Fisher Cooperative Societies (FCSs) must have an affiliation with any one of these three federations to avail benefits.

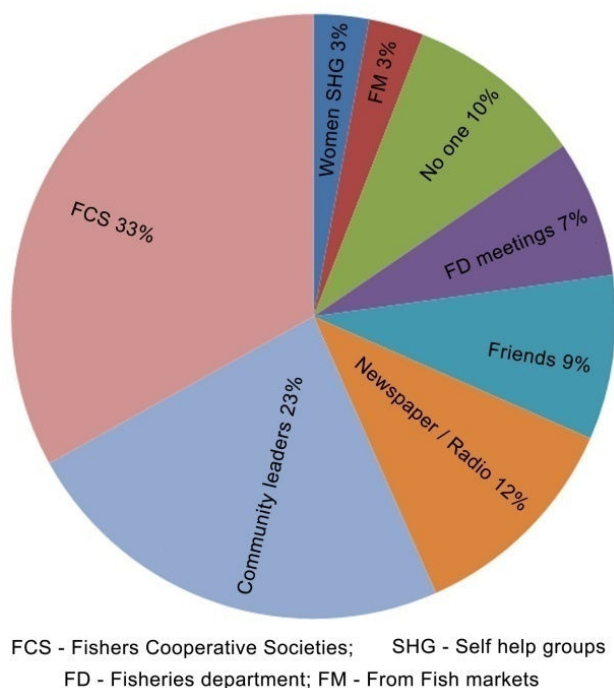


Fig.4. Sources of information on fisheries subsidies (n=136).

The quality of relations between the FCS and its members from the fishing community appears to play an important role in influencing the dissemination of information. Fishers complained that the FCS exercises partiality in disseminating information and helps a chosen few garner the benefits.

The information dissemination efforts mentioned above appears to have provided fishers with a very general idea about subsidies; they were uninformed about the content of these subsidies, namely the eligibility criteria, documents required, where to avail of them, avenues for redress and so on. There is also a marked noticeable social divide amongst those who are aware of the subsidies and those who are not. People with some social standing in the village know more about the subsidies than those lower in the hierarchy and the former are the ones who avail of the subsidies as well (Fig. 5). Fishers stated that by the time information about a new scheme trickled down to the general public from these information intermediaries (FCS leaders or influential community members) either the deadlines for submitting subsidy applications had lapsed or the allotment of beneficiaries for that financial year had reached its limit.

We found that fishers were aware of the fact that some were better informed than others and they stated that in future attempts at dissemination, information should be made available in a printed form that they could keep and refer to, rather than having to rely on other community members to inform them.

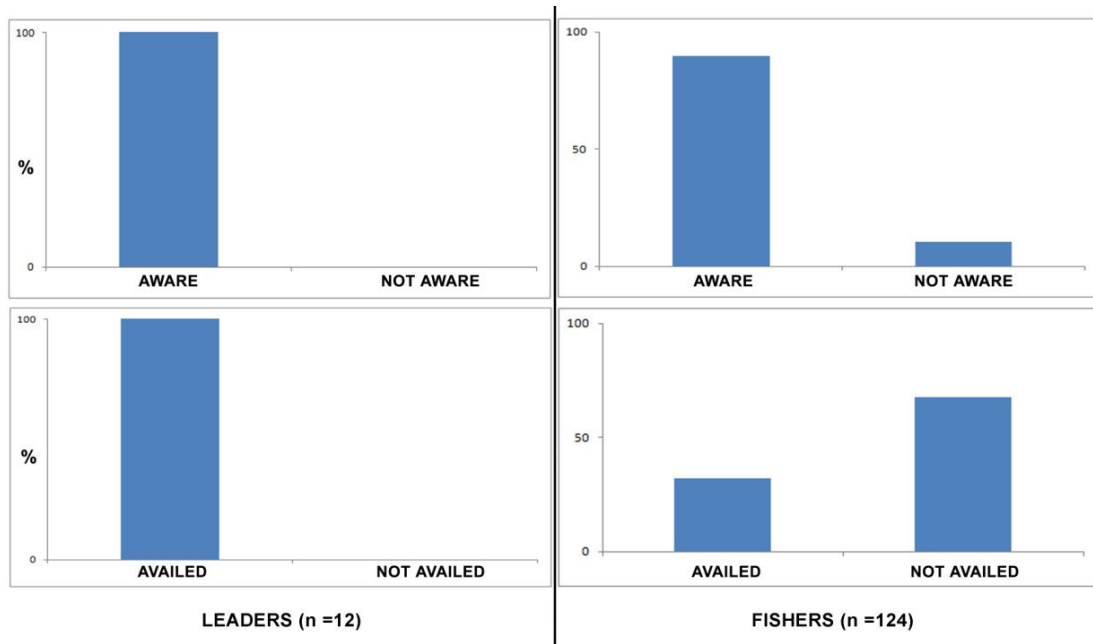


Fig. 5. Awareness and availing pattern of subsidies by leaders and fishers.

In some places, the fisheries department had distributed a limited number of booklets with information on existing and newly introduced subsidies, which did not get passed on further as most of the intermediaries had lost it and there were no replacement copies available. Of the total sampled population, 48% preferred printed media for information dissemination (Fig. 6A) and 63% did not want to rely on their local FCS representatives to get information on the subsidies but wanted it passed on to them personally (Fig. 6B).

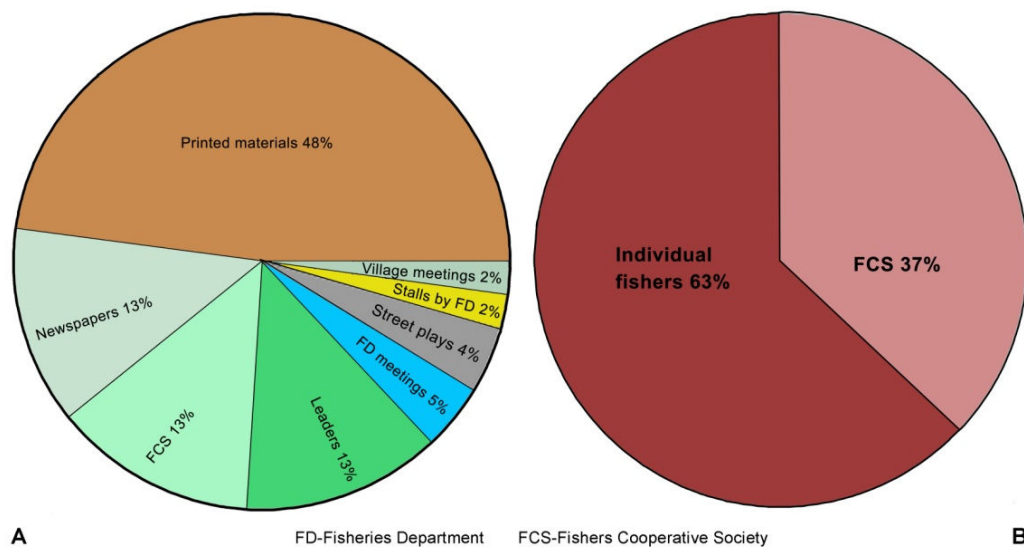


Fig. 6. Responses from fishers on how (A) and whom (B) subsidy information should be disseminated (n=136).

Reasons for not availing of subsidies

Apart from problems with information dissemination and diffusion to the general public, respondents mentioned other factors that prevent them from accessing schemes. These include cumbersome legal procedures associated with procurement of schemes (which lead to loss of fishing time and hence income), religious norms, favouritism and abandonment of fishing altogether. For instance, a scheme like Matsyashraya requires a letter of recommendation from the local elected political representative (Member of the Legislative Assembly-MLA), and a plan of the proposed house and land in the name of the fisher. These requirements are not easy to meet.

The process of getting the letter of recommendation often requires having some personal connection with the MLA. Often fishers do not have proper legal documents for making land claims. In addition, fishers are required to obtain environmental clearance as per the norms of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)⁴ notification, 2011. Some fishers own land in areas where construction is prohibited by this law. Lack of co-ordination between government agencies is another problem fishers perceive. Fishers are eligible to get 50000 INR as a loan with a subsidised interest rate of 3% from nationalised banks across the state. The fishers we interviewed stated that they did not get these benefits because the banks have not yet received any communication from the state government to disburse the money to bona fide fishers approved by the state fisheries department. Religion also plays an influential role in the success of subsidies. Some of the interviewed Muslim fishers (from Wanahalli) considered certain subsidies forbidden (*haram*) according to Islam, particularly those which involved having to pay interest for a loan. Hence they refrained from promoting such subsidies amongst their community members.

However, this was not the case for Muslim respondents who lived in the heterogeneous village. For a fisher to avail of any subsidy he or she must be a registered member of a FCS. One village can have only one FCS. In a heterogeneous village dominated by one particular caste, the dominant caste monopolises the FCS and other caste members find it difficult to obtain membership. Moreover, fishers found the process of obtaining documents of proof, registration certificates (RC) of fishing vessels etc (all required to access schemes) a frustrating process.

Respondents also pointed out that lack of community involvement in designing the subsidies is a major factor in its success. Fishers stated that small-scale fishing is not profitable anymore and outward migration to pursue other jobs is more lucrative. Such responses point to flaws in the way subsidies are designed which raise questions about the participation of fishers in the planning and dissemination of such subsidies, as well as the accountability and transparency concerns.

⁴ CRZ 2011 regulates activities in coastal stretches of the Indian mainland. It mandates a number of building rules and regulations in coastal areas for housing, industries, tourism and number of other activities.

Discussion

The achievement of welfare goals through subsidies is dependent on a range of factors. A study by Suprabha (2008) on the implications of government sponsored social security and welfare subsidies on socio-economic status of small-scale marine fishers of Kerala (south-west coast) shows that a majority of fishers are unaware about welfare subsidies. Her study revealed a simple positive correlation between the amount of information available to fishers on subsidies and their direct uptake. However, our findings prompt us to speculate that there are other factors which are far more important in deciding whether subsidies will finally be availed of by fishers or not. These include the degree of government formalities attached to the subsidies (legal documents, letters from government officials etc), political interference, religious beliefs and outward migration of fishers from fishing.

The impact of subsidies on the management of marine fishery resources, and the aquatic ecosystem, has been a rapidly increasing concern over the past decade. Many studies that relate subsidies to overcapacity and over exploitation of marine resources also call for removing fishing capacity-enhancing subsidies (e.g. Clark 2006; Sumaila et al. 2008). However, as stated by Kurien (2006), subsidies in developing countries play a crucial role in the livelihoods of marginalised communities and are miniscule in comparison to those offered in developed countries. Our study shows that many fishers appear to lose out on even these minor support systems. Kurien (2006) suggested that developing countries should be encouraged to intervene actively in sustainable fisheries programmes, capability and skill developments and encouraging greener technologies and practices.

At a workshop conducted in December 2011 by the College of Fisheries, Mangalore and Dakshin Foundation, Bangalore, several participants from both mechanised and small-scale fishing communities stated the need for incentives for modifying fishing practices and for their active involvement in fisheries management (CoF and Dakshin Foundation 2012). They discussed the possibility of introducing new subsidies that would support their movement in such a direction. An important observation we made in our work is that none of the fisheries subsidies in Karnataka are directed towards sustainable resource use in an explicit and tangible way (the exception is a subsidy titled “management of marine fisheries” [See Annexure 1 # 67] is only meant for conducting outreach programmes and production of audio-visuals on over-fishing and overcapacity). One might argue that difficulties in accessing the existing subsidies by the small-scale fishers actually has a positive effect on marine resources since fishing becomes less profitable in the absence of any subsidies (Clark et al. 2005) and given that small-scale fisheries can degrade marine ecosystems (Bundy and Pauly 2001). However such degradation is incomparable to the scale of damage caused by the large scale mechanised sector (Jennings et al. 2001; Thrush and Dayton 2002). We recognise that all subsidies either directly or indirectly contribute to resource depletion but our concern is to understand what meaning this has for the small-scale sector and its access to fishery resources.

However, none of the present-day subsidies in fisheries are designed towards making critical transitions towards promoting sustainable fishing practices through redistributive or restitutive mechanisms (such as buy-backs of high speed engines or destructive fishing gears).

Despite several shifts in global fisheries management, government welfare schemes continue to favour populist handouts with little regard for its impact on the small-scale sector or ecosystems. Incentivising and supporting sustainable fisheries practices through subsidies could lead to better fisheries management. Introduction of new subsidies which facilitate the phasing out of small mesh size nets, high-speed engines and destructive gears can encourage better management of depleting resources. Such new schemes should be accompanied by institutional reforms which also draw from community expertise to design and implement fisheries subsidies and make the process of availing these more transparent and time-bound. Empowering communities with information can act as a check on the practice of favouritism and elite capture, as we see in the case of public hearings, public information display boards as mandated by other laws.

The informal nature of these fisheries with multiple entry and exit points makes monitoring by the state difficult and capital and labour intensive and this could be tackled by encouraging the communities to introduce checks in the system and be a part of not just resource use but also resource conservation and judicious extraction. Appropriate state intervention coupled with monitoring and enforcement systems could prevent the re-entry of high capacity engines and low mesh size gears back into the fishery. Studies have demonstrated ecological benefits of community-based governance (Alcala and Russ, 2006; Hamilton et al. 2011). A beginning can be made in this direction by acknowledging the serious problems with the present status of subsidy dissemination.

Conclusion

Our study has offered us insights into the operation of government subsidies and the manner in which people respond to them. From our study it is evident that, small-scale fishers have not availed themselves of existing subsidies for a number of social, political, cultural and economic reasons. Our study also shows that none of the marine fisheries schemes are designed to promote sustainable fisheries or to reverse the trends of over-harvesting by mechanised fisheries.

Thus social inequities in fisheries are exacerbated by the inattention to providing social and ecological benefits. This suggests that fisheries subsidies and their implementation need to be urgently reformed in order to be meaningful to small-scale fishers of the developing world. A step in this direction is to undertake fuller empirical investigations of the impact of fisheries subsidies on the social and economic conditions of various categories of fishers and on fisheries practices themselves over longer time spans and in various Indian coastal states. Such insights are crucial to understanding the meaning of subsidies in sustaining fisheries in developing country contexts.

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Annexure 1: Existing subsidies for fishers, societies and to allied fishery industries by various government agencies.

(National Fisheries Development Board-NFDB; Marine Product Export Authority-MPEDA; Karnataka Fisheries Development Co-operation- KFDC)

Subsidies	Funded by
1. Intensive Aquaculture in ponds and tanks	NFDB
2. Reservoir Fisheries Development	NFDB
3. Coastal Aquaculture	NFDB
4. Mariculture	NFDB
5. Seaweed Cultivation	NFDB
6. Infrastructure: Fishing Harbours and Landing Centers	NFDB
7. Fish Dressing Centers and Solar Drying of Fish	NFDB
8. Domestic Marketing	NFDB
9. Technology Up-gradation	NFDB
10. Human Resource Development Programmes in Fisheries Sector	NFDB
11. Deep Sea Fishing and Tuna Processing	NFDB
12. Artificial Reefs/Fish Aggregating Devices	NFDB
13. Freshwater Ornamental Fisheries	NFDB
14. Exposure visits to Fisheries functionaries and Progressive fish farmers	NFDB
15. Cage culture of economically important species in reservoirs	NFDB
16. Other innovative activities	NFDB
17. Financial assistance for installation of insulated / Refrigerated Fish Hold, Refrigerated Sea Water System (RSW) and Ice Making Machine on board mechanized fishing vessels	MPEDA
18. Financial assistance for the conversion of existing fishing vessels to Tuna long liners	MPEDA
19. Financial Assistance for constructing New Tuna Long Liners	MPEDA
20. Scheme for conversion of small boat for preservation of Tuna catch	MPEDA
21. Subsidy for new farm development	MPEDA
22. Subsidy for small-scale hatcheries	MPEDA
23. Subsidy for medium-scale hatcheries	MPEDA
24. Registration of Aquaculture Societies	MPEDA
25. Providing financial assistance for farmers for undertaking organic farming of shrimp	MPEDA
26. Scheme for providing financial assistance for establishment of Ornamental Fish Breeding Units	MPEDA
27. Scheme for providing financial assistance for establishment of Ornamental Fish Marketing Societies (OFMS)	MPEDA
28. Financial assistance for creating basic facilities for fish curing / drying / packing / storage for export	MPEDA
29. Financial assistance for basic facilities (new) for Chilled fish / Chilled Tuna for export	MPEDA
30. Technology Up gradation Scheme for Marine Products (TUSMP)	MPEDA
31. Subsidy for setting up new modern ice plant / renovation of existing plant	MPEDA
32. Subsidy for acquisition of machinery for tuna cannery / processing of value added tuna product	MPEDA
33. Financial support for acquisition of Refrigerated Truck/Containers	MPEDA
34. Financial assistance for setting up large Cold Storages	MPEDA
35. Subsidized distribution of insulated fish boxes	MPEDA

36.	Interest subsidy assistance for seafood units to facilitate up gradation.	MPEDA
37.	Subsidy for setting up Mini Laboratory.	MPEDA
38.	Assistance to seafood processors for construction / renovation of Captive Pre-processing Centers with upgraded facilities.	MPEDA
39.	Financial assistance to pre-processors for construction /renovation of independent pre-processing centers with upgraded facilities.	MPEDA
40.	Developmental assistance for Export of Ornamental/ Aquarium fishes.	MPEDA
41.	Group Insurance Coverage for Workers Employed in the Pre-Processing and Processing plants	MPEDA
42.	Developmental assistance for Export of Ornamental/ Aquarium fishes.	MPEDA
43.	SEA FREIGHT ASSISTANCE For import of raw material for processing and export of specified value added products.	MPEDA
44.	SEA FREIGHT ASSISTANCE for export of specified value added products to EU/USA/ Japan and other countries	MPEDA
45.	Construction and maintenance of fishing harbor and LC	Central/state govt.
46.	NABARD assisted projects under RIDF for construction and maintenance of fisheries link roads, bridges and jetties	Central/state govt.
47.	Renovation of fish landing Centers and harbors	Central/state govt.
48.	Strengthening of fish marketing through KFDC under RKVY scheme	Central/state govt.
49.	Supply of sales tax exempted diesel	Central/state govt.
50.	Sea ranching stocking of prawn and fish seed in sea and estuaries	Central/state govt.
51.	Assistance to fish farmers under Prime Ministers package for suicide prone districts	Central/state govt.
52.	Subsidy for construction of fish markets	Central/state govt.
53. *	Motorization of traditional fishing crafts	Central/state govt.
54. *	Assistance of installation of life saving equipments	Central/state govt.
55. *	Free life jackets for all fishers involved in marine capture fishing	Central/state govt.
56. *	“Matsyashrya” scheme financial assistance for construction of houseless fishermen	Central/state govt.
57. *	Group Accident insurance scheme	Central/state govt.
58. *	Matsyavahini- Assistance to purchase fish transporting vehicles	Central/state govt.
59. *	Financial assistance. Bank loans of 50,000 INR for fisherfolk @ 3% interest	Central/state govt.
60. *	CSS savings cum relief scheme for marine fishermen	Central/state govt.
61. *	Assistance to fishermen for purchase of fishery requisite kits	Central/state govt.
62. *	Share capital for State Fisheries Federations	Central/state govt.
63. *	Assistance to fishermen under distress relief fund	Central/state govt.
64. **	Free insulated ice box for fisherwomen for fish marketing	Central/state govt.
65.	Introduction of intermediate craft of improved designs	Central/state govt.
66.	Provision for taking up of innovative activities, human resource development strengthening of fisheries management, monitoring, evaluation, R&D studies in fisheries	Central/state govt.
67.	Management of marine fisheries	Central/state govt.
68.	Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)	KFDC
69.	National Agricultural Innovation Program (NAIP)	KFDC

**Subsidies for small scale fishers*

***Newly introduced subsidy*

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