RECCOM WG 223

MEANINGFUL INCLUSION OF FISHING COMMUNITIES IN RECREATIONAL MARINAS - GUIDELINES FOR PLANNING

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Historical background - Definition of the problem

Commercial fishing and recreational navigation have a contentious history sharing spaces in ports and waterfront areas around the world. In many cases, old fishing port got converted to recreational uses, but only infrastructure modifications have been discussed in the international marina literature. PIANC WG 147 “Guidelines for Management of Recreational Navigation Activities within Fishing and Commercial Ports” address this issue extensively.

However, no planning guidelines exist to provide an approach to seek the inclusion of the fishing community in a tourist marina project. Fishermen have the potential to participate in the tourism economy that marinas generate, but for different reasons, they often are excluded. One of those reasons is arguably that marina planning does not take existing traditional activities in consideration.

Pioneer work on the concept of merging fishing ports and communities with tourism was done in Japan, where the concept of “Fisherina” was introduced. Other efforts have been documented in proposed resort projects in Latin America, the Caribbean, Middle East and China under the framework of Social Sustainability. Additionally, some observations suggest that isolated efforts have been undertaken, but not documented under a comprehensive framework.

More recently, proposals of implementation of PIANC’s Working with Nature to marina projects have argued that much greater benefits to traditional fishing communities can be achieved with a different approach to planning. The most recent publications that specifically address marina projects in coastal resorts, highlight the project value enhancement by delivering authentic and unique guest experiences, in addition to the direct benefit to the local community. However,

implementation challenges that exceed the facility planning have also been identified.

More ample and detailed literature exists in the field of sustainable tourism, eco-tourism and community inclusion in tourism, which address similar issues, but not for the case of marinas.

2. Objectives

This working group report will collect publications and case studies on this topic and develop preliminary recommendations for marina planning to incorporate fishing community members in tourist marinas.

3. Earlier reports to be reviewed

PIANC WG 147 “Guidelines for Management of Recreational Navigation Activities within Fishing and Commercial Ports” should be reviewed to identify if any of its case studies has dealt with this issue.

PIANC Conference papers have address this topic, and should be reviewed.

4. Scope

The proposed scope of work is to:

- Collect and review publications that have studied fishing communities and the inclusion of fishermen in tourist marinas.
- Consider also publications relative to sustainable tourism and eco-tourism that propose approaches to maintain local communities in their lands and promote their participation in new tourism economies in a sustainable manner.
- Collect and review case studies that illustrate the inclusion of fishing community members in tourist marina project.
- Summarize marina planning criteria that are common to successful examples or have strong fundamentals.
- Develop general recommendations for marina planning to incorporate fishing community members in tourist marinas.

5. Intended product

The working group report is intended to serve as a guideline for planning of tourism marinas – either new projects in undeveloped coastlines or refurbishment of existing facilities - in areas where fishing communities exist.

Additional products may include: recommendation of planning approach and methodologies, identification of team members or partners, identification of benefits that can be listed in environmental impact studies, challenges reported by practitioners, etc.

6. Working Group Membership

Membership includes:

- Marina designers and engineers.
- Architects, landscape architects, urban and resort planners with experience including local communities in tourism projects
- Practitioners in sustainable tourism
- Private Foundations and NGOs that work with local communities, especially fishing communities, in tourism projects
- Port authorities, municipal authorities, and waterway authorities that have experience dealing with fishing communities
- Hospitality developers and operators (hotel, resorts, etc) of eco-tourism projects

7. Target Audience

The primary target audience of this working group report will be resort marina designers and developers, environmental impact study specialists, and government authorities involved with marina planning.

The report should be beneficial for architects, landscape architects, urban and resort planners interested in socially sustainable marinas.

The report should also serve as a reference for NGOs and foundations that work with fishing communities, economic development agencies.

8. Relevance

8.1. Relevance to countries in transition

This report can assist countries in transition to implement strategies for growth of recreational navigation that maximize social benefits.

It is common that marina developers in countries in transition prefer to relocate fishermen from the site. This report may encourage some to reconsider that approach or to provide a reference to local authorities to induce more sustainable development.

8.2. Climate Change and Adaptation Implications

Some solutions can incorporate dock space for local fishermen's tour boats in a more natural setting, which can be designed as part of an adaptive coastal protection strategy.

Conversion of traditional fishermen to tourism activities can reduce green house emissions by providing cleaner and more efficient engines for small boats.

8.3. Reference to WwN

Meaningful inclusion of the local community is a fundamental element of the WwN Philosophy

8.4. Reference to UN Sustainable Development Goals

This report is intended to directly contribute to the following SDG's"

- Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable