

FISHFOREVER

Empowering local fishers, restoring global fisheries



64%
of the world's
fisheries are
overfished



89%
of the world's 37
million marine
fishers work in
small-scale fisheries



3 billion
people rely on fish
as an important
source of protein

Billions of people depend on fish as their main source of protein. In developing countries, small-scale fishers account for half of all fish catch – 90 to 95 percent of which is consumed domestically. Most of these coastal fisheries are unmanaged and overexploited or even collapsed. Very real tragedy looms if action is not taken now.

Fish Forever is an innovative global initiative that empowers the world's most vulnerable coastal communities to sustainably manage their fisheries and realizes the potential of a comprehensive, locally-led conservation opportunity, where people can simultaneously strengthen local fisheries, increase food security and protect nature.

The Fish Forever partnership – between Environmental Defense Fund, Rare and the Sustainable Fisheries Group at the University of California, Santa Barbara – draws on distinct expertise, proven solutions and acclaimed research. Over the next five years, the partnership will advance and scale these successful fisheries solutions.

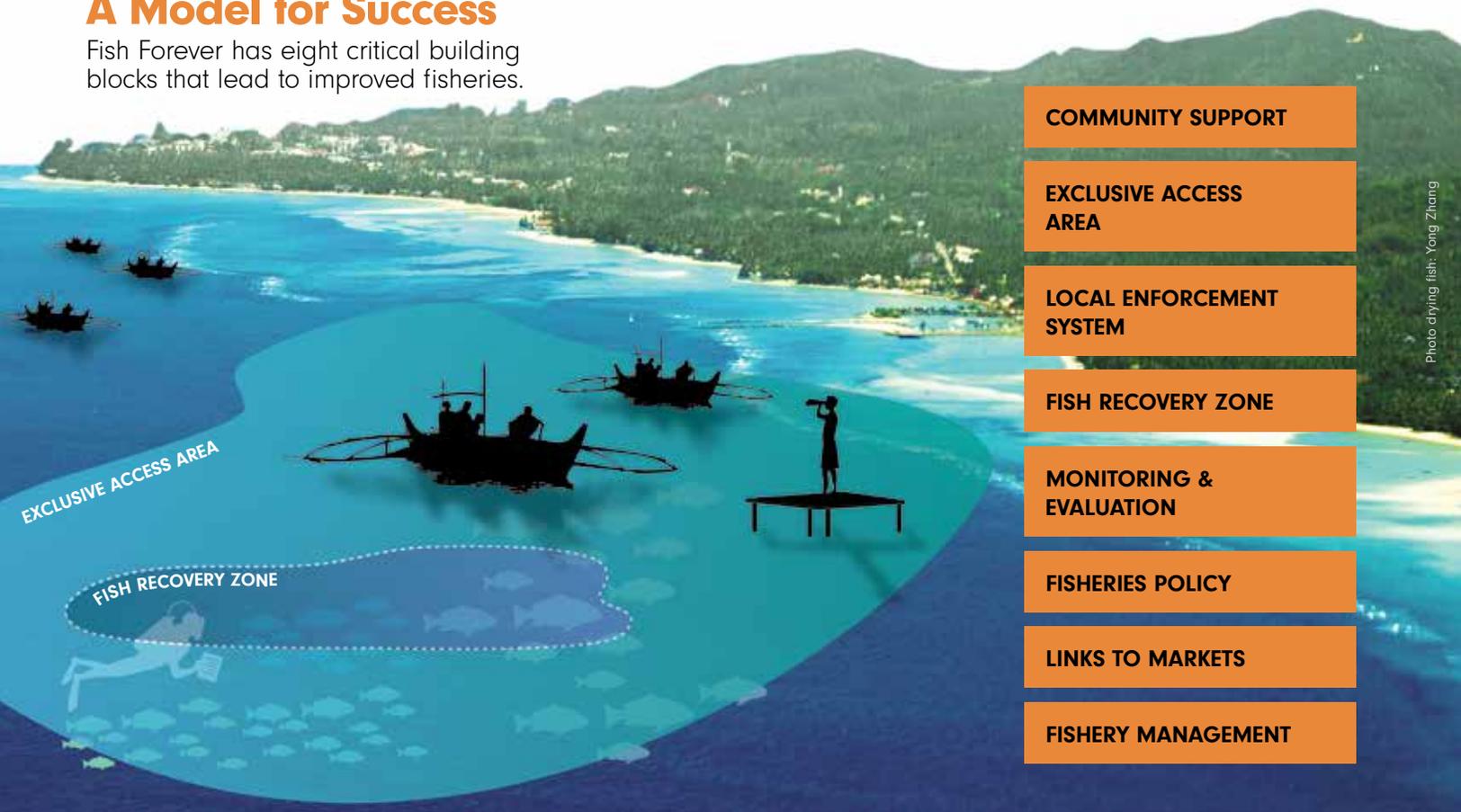
The Fish Forever Approach

- Work with local communities to create fishing areas that provide fishers with exclusive access.
- Build community capacity to set up and manage fish recovery zones – protected areas where fish stocks can recover unharmed.
- Use proven marketing techniques to cultivate lasting community support for sustainable fishery management.

Fish Forever is a story of hope for the world's oceans and those who depend on them.

A Model for Success

Fish Forever has eight critical building blocks that lead to improved fisheries.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

EXCLUSIVE ACCESS
AREA

LOCAL ENFORCEMENT
SYSTEM

FISH RECOVERY ZONE

MONITORING &
EVALUATION

FISHERIES POLICY

LINKS TO MARKETS

FISHERY MANAGEMENT

Hope for the Oceans: A Scalable Solution

Fish Forever brings together three experienced organizations uniquely positioned to bring lasting, scalable conservation benefits to multiple communities and countries. All have strong track records of success.

Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) is a global leader in transforming fisheries through building and replicating rights-based management systems. EDF also has extensive experience creating the enabling environments for fisheries reform through policy change.

Rare specializes in sourcing conservation solutions and building the community capacity and support necessary for adopting

and adapting those solutions. Rare trains local leaders to mobilize communities through its signature Pride campaigns, which engage local communities in building pride around unique natural assets with innovative marketing techniques.

The Sustainable Fisheries Group at University of California, Santa Barbara, brings expertise in bioeconomic modeling and fisheries science to help guide the siting, design and sustainable management of exclusive access areas for long-term fisheries sustainability. This expertise includes the development of models for fisheries recovery and data-limited fisheries analyses.

“What is particularly appealing about Fish Forever is how it brings together three strong partners that represent different competencies of work that needs to be done, but has never been combined in such a robust way,” -Kate Barnes, MacArthur Foundation

The Fish Forever partners are initially working in Belize, Brazil, Mozambique, Indonesia and the Philippines because of each nation's high level of marine biodiversity, important coral reef habitat and the dependence of coastal communities on their fisheries for food and livelihoods.

MOZAMBIQUE

Half of the animal protein in a Mozambican diet comes from fish. Their fisheries are vulnerable to natural disasters and overfishing. Fish Forever will help restore and sustain small-scale fisheries.

INDONESIA

The largest tracts of mangroves in the world grow in Indonesia, but over half of these have been lost in the last 30 years. Since 2010, Rare has worked with 20 coastal regions in Indonesia to establish and strengthen fish recovery zones.

PHILIPPINES

With perhaps the richest concentration of marine life on the planet, the Philippines claims 25 percent of the world's marine protected areas, but most are still mere “paper parks.” Since 2009, Rare has partnered with 26 coastal municipalities to increase effectiveness.

BELIZE

Belize boasts spectacular corals and mangroves, but overfishing threatens habitat health and has dramatically decreased catch of key economic species. In 2008, EDF began working to restore Belizean fisheries.

BRAZIL

Despite having one of the longest coast lines in Latin America, Brazil is the area's largest fish importer. With 80 percent of Brazilian fisheries at unsustainable levels, Fish Forever will work with the government and local NGOs to help fisheries recover.

FISHFOREVER

A partnership of:

