

Title: **Small-scale fisheries producers and globalization**

Author(s): Audun Lem

Abstract: Developing country producers represent more than 80 % of total world fish supply and 50% of exports. A large part of this comes from small-scale producers in capture fisheries and aquaculture. In the discussion of the future role of the small-scale sector the debate has often focused on how the sector suffers the negative consequences of globalization, rather than from how it could benefit or take advantage of opportunities offered. The paper outlines some of the reasons for this, including the sector's extreme fragmentation, unclear or unrecognised access or user rights and a frequent lack of political, financial and organizational clout. The paper suggests some remedies, including institutional changes thought necessary to ensure the sustainability of the sector. It highlights how the sector cannot be seen in isolation but must be addressed within holistic policies and how the sector's problems cannot be effectively solved in the absence of economic policies for sustainable growth in the overall economy.