



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

FOOD LOSS AND WASTE IN FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

Global Fishery Forum & Seafood Expo

15 September 2017, St. Petersburg, LENEXPO EC

FAO Secretariat

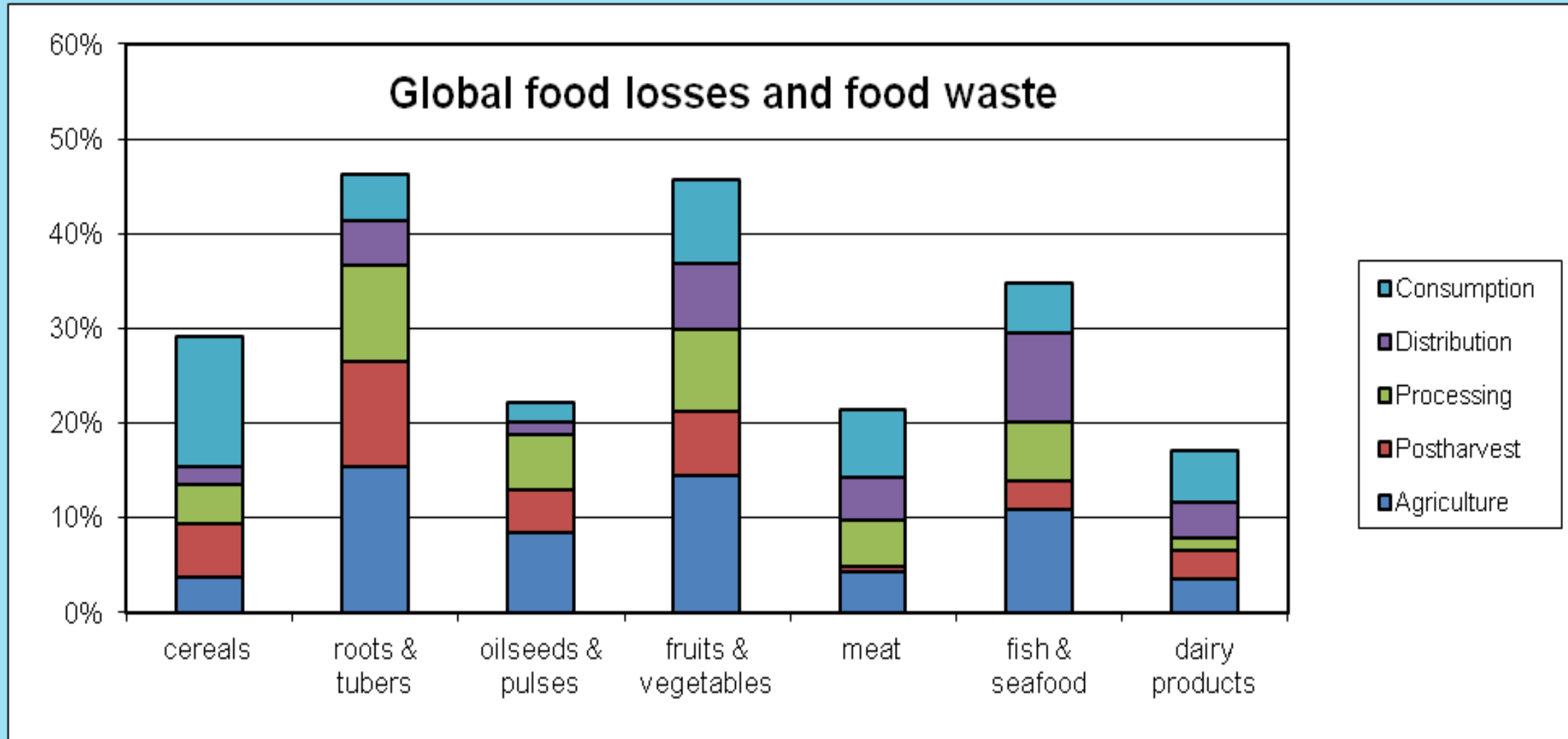
Global dynamics of food loss & waste (1/2)

- ▶ Loss in food encompasses any substance whether raw, processed or semi-processed (including drinks) that can be consumed
- ▶ FAO Definition of Food Loss (*Save Food*): “the decrease in quantity or quality of food”; it includes both food loss and food waste:
 - ▶ Loss takes place from the point of maturity up to - but excluding - the retail stage
 - ▶ Waste occurs from retail to the final consumption stage (i.e. physical removal from the supply chain)
- ▶ FLW is a renowned high priority on the global development agenda
- ▶ RIO +20, United Nations Conference on sustainable development in 2012:
 - ▶ Pillars 3 & 5 of the Zero hunger Challenge
- ▶ UN SDG (2015):
 - ▶ SDG 12 “Sustainable consumption and production”
- ▶ Global visibility to FLW thanks to the work of FAO, including the 2011 groundbreaking study “Global food losses and food waste - Extent, causes and prevention”

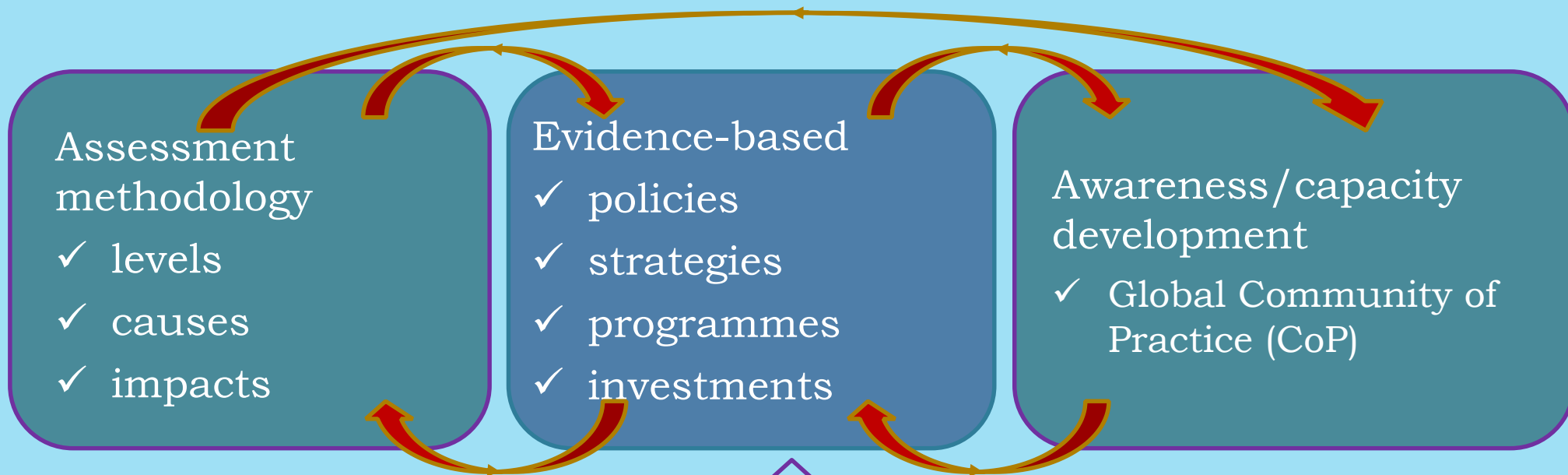


Global dynamics of food loss & waste (2/2)

Roughly one third of the food produced in the world for human consumption every year gets lost or wasted: around 1.3 billion tonnes



The Global Initiative on FLW Reduction (aka SAVE FOOD)



Coordination, collaboration and partnership with public and private sector, academia, civil society, IFAD, WFP, UNEP; FAO multi-disciplinary working group (HQ & Sub/Regional/ National/Liason Offices)

Beneficiaries: the global agricultural and food system stakeholders

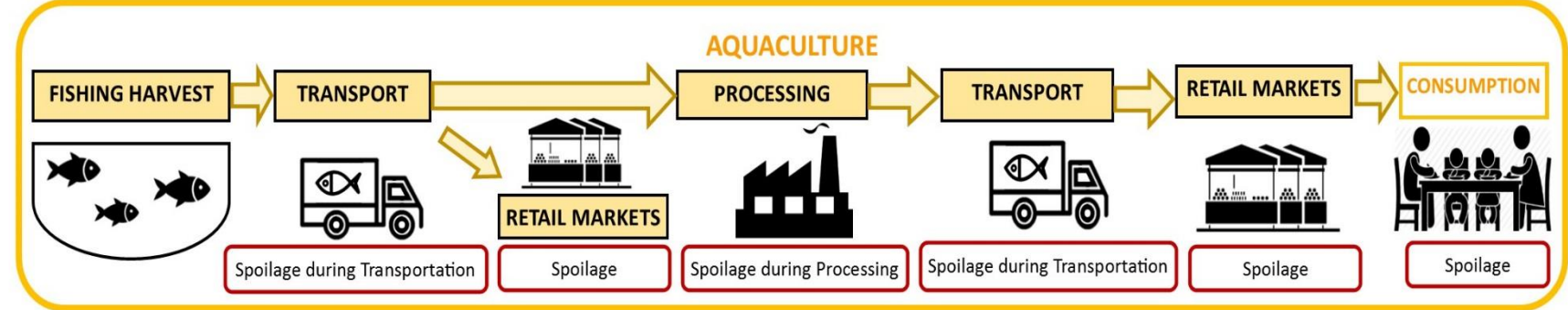
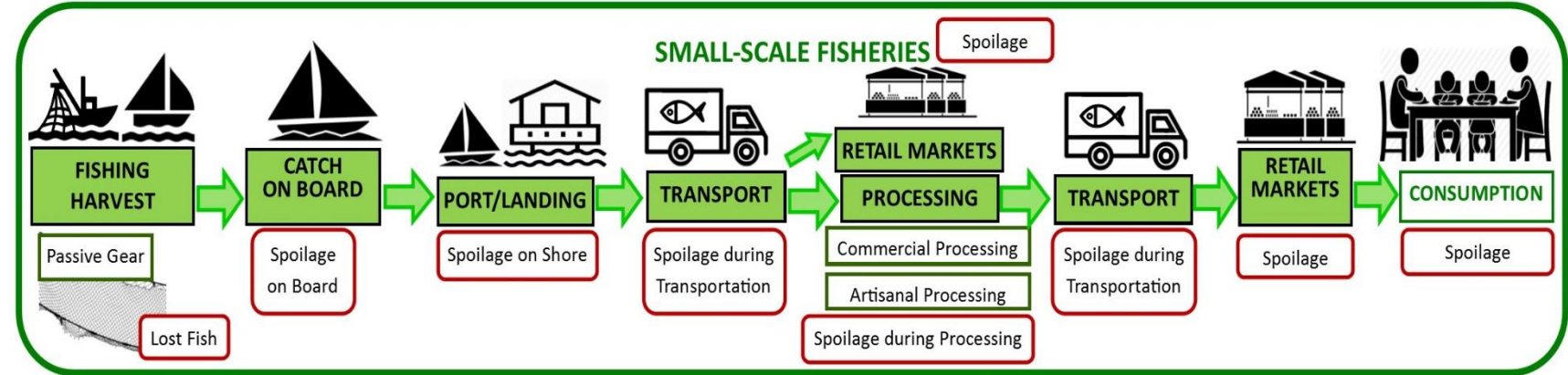
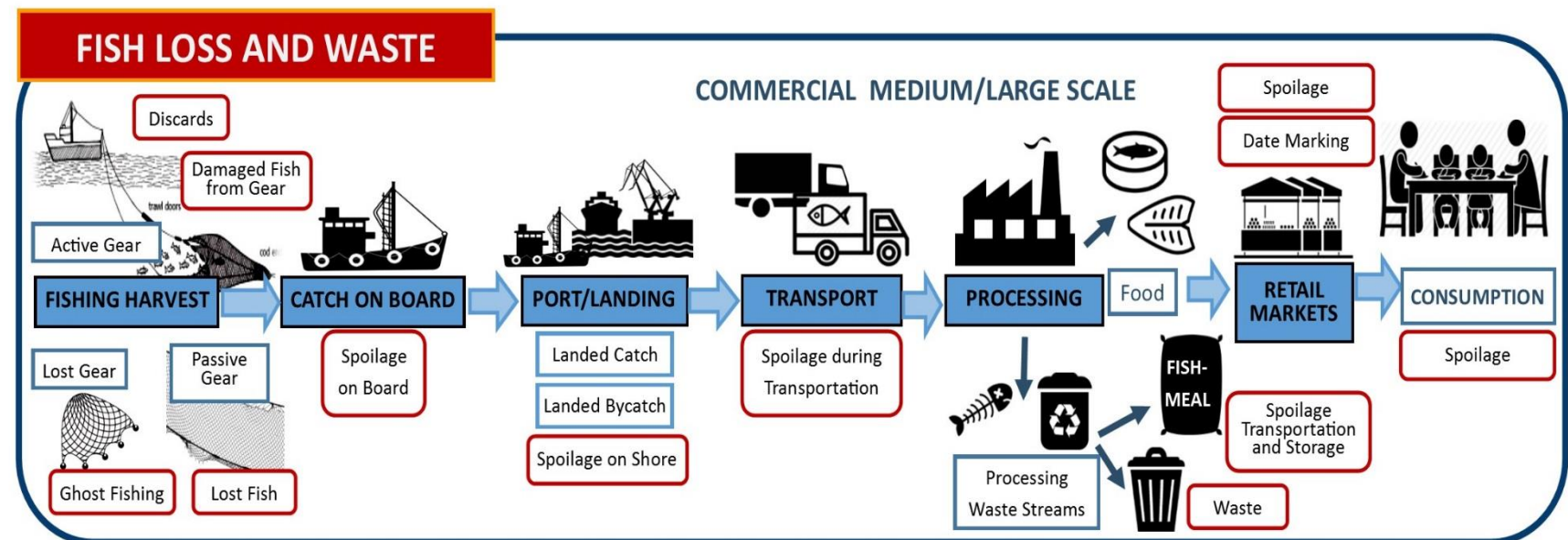
Primary production → Post-harvest handling → Processing → Distribution → Sales → Consumption

Rest-raw materials (by-products) and waste management optimization

- In 2012, FAO estimated that the loss and waste for the whole fisheries sector amounted to **35% of global landings** and **9-15% of these losses were linked to fish discarded at sea**

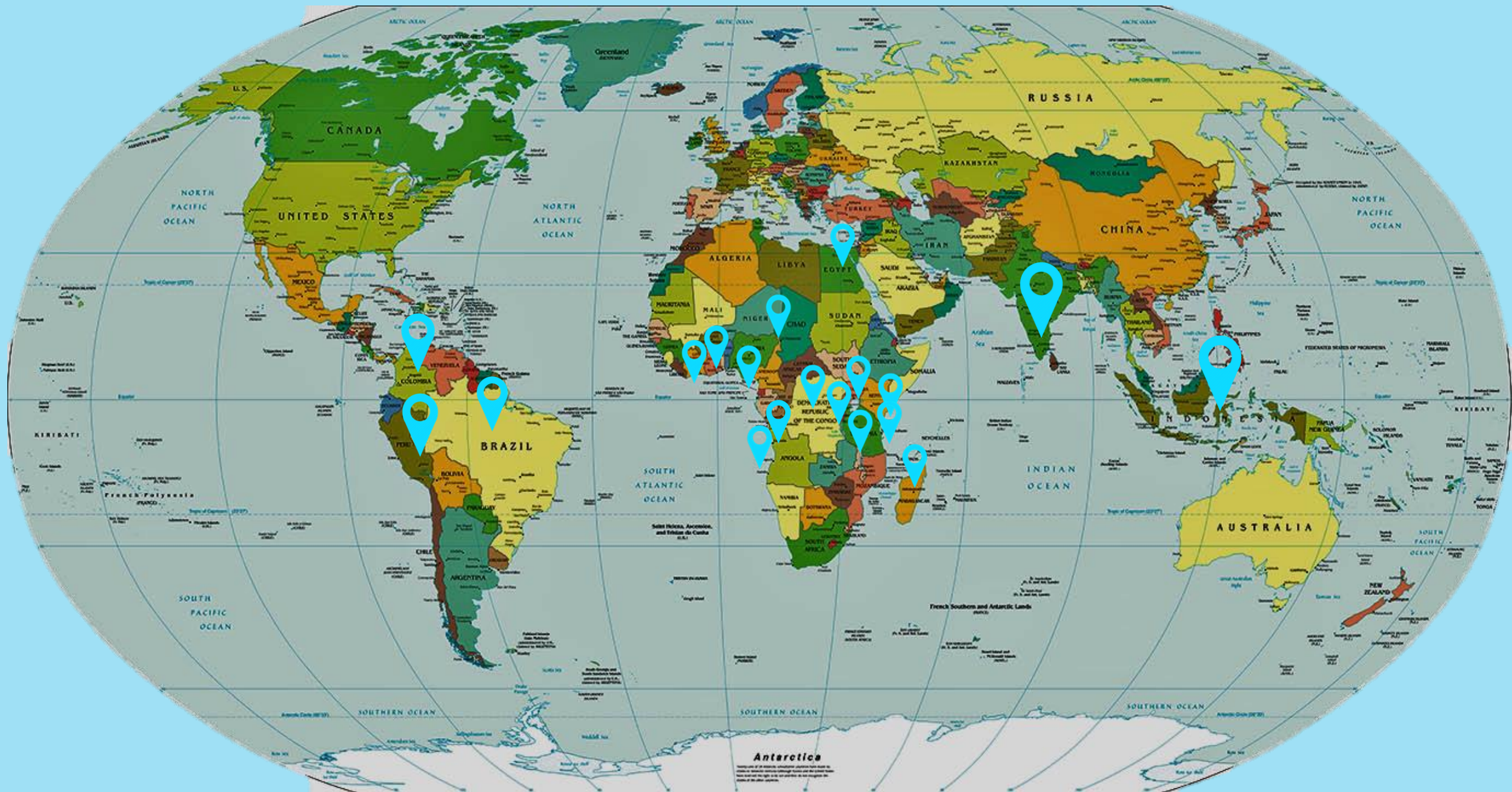
- Since the methodology to assess losses in small-sale fisheries was established in 2007, many **case studies** have been undertaken on the extent of FLW

- Losses can account for up to **70% of total losses in a given value chain**, which causes a loss in high quality protein and micronutrients



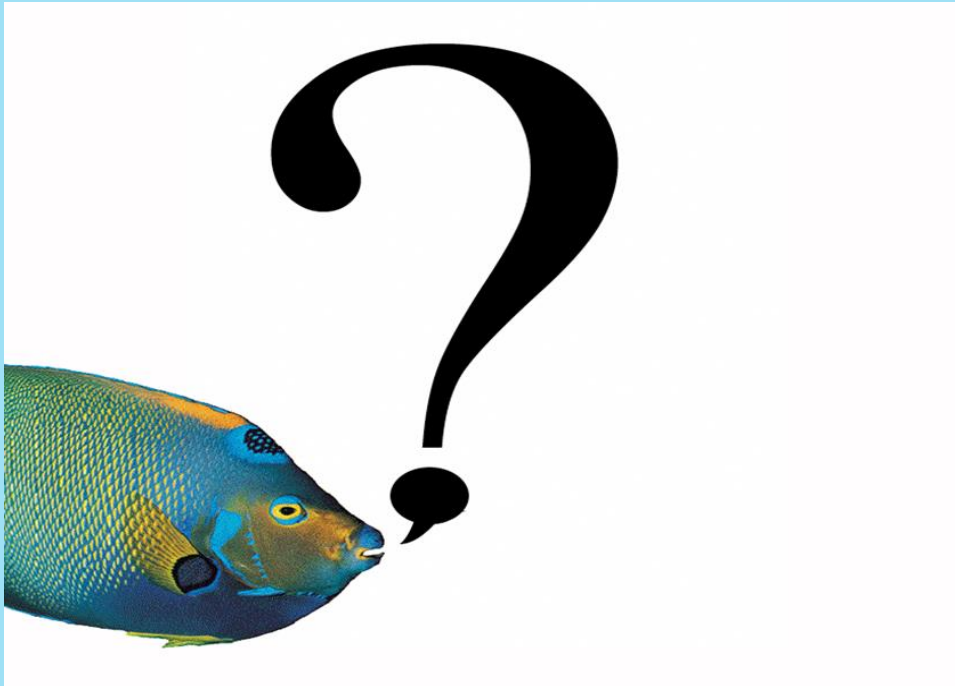
Experience from initiatives addressing FLW along the Fisheries Value Chain

- ▶ Losses in fisheries & aquaculture can be regarded as a serious breach of **Article 11 of the FAO Code of Conduct**
- ▶ As of the mid-1990s, targeted efforts to tackle FLW have taken place, including FAO sponsored or led initiatives in the framework of Save Food
- ▶ Rationale: in order to tackle the problems of FLW a systematic appraisal within any given context is required to focus on the efficiency of the entire post-harvest system
- ▶ Case studies conducted to date demonstrate that FLW impacts on the 4 dimensions of food security (i.e. **availability, access to food, stability of supply, utilization of safe food**)
- ▶ FLW occurs in all value chains in fisheries: all actors in the chain, including private sector, consumers and governments, have a key role in loss reduction and loss prevention
- ▶ Dramatic situation, which could be mitigated through a rationale utilization of resources



A plea for action by the FAO Committee on Fisheries

- ▶ COFI 32 in 2016 acknowledged the importance of reducing FLW throughout the whole supply chain and made a request for the development by FAO of guidelines on the reduction of FLW (ongoing initiative)
- ▶ Norway funded a seed project “Practical guidance to inform policy and addressing common loss scenarios from pre-harvest to consumption stages in fisheries and aquaculture”



Need to set up a single repository of loss scenarios and loss reduction options

A repository would be useful to provide guidance on policy makers on a set of common loss scenarios

Intended Beneficiaries:

- Government officials
- Policy-makers
- Traders and industries
- Researchers and academia
- International organizations

Conclusions

- ▶ FLW of global significance
- ▶ Magnitude of valuable nutrients lost within food security
- ▶ FAO has an important coordinating role through Save Food
- ▶ In fisheries there is a long established effort to raise awareness and implement sustainable reduction initiatives
- ▶ Mandate from FAO Members through COFI32 to mainstream the global challenge in the fisheries and aquaculture agenda
- ▶ Global policy guidance document (repository) as an initial step
- ▶ More funds would allow FAO to expand ongoing project work to new case studies and target beneficiaries