



Final Report for Public Consultations among Key Stakeholders in Fisheries Sector in Belize for BL-LI 042: Promoting Sustainable Growth in the Blue Economy

Submitted by:
Stakeholder Engagement Consultant: Dr. Minerva Pinelo

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BACKGROUND

Public consultations, aligned to the Joint Publication of the Multilateral Financial Institutions Group on Environmental and Social Standards' Meaningful Stakeholder Engagement, were conducted in three (3) communities in Belize – Sarteneja Village on April 11, 2023; Belize City on April 13, 2023; and Independence Village on April 18, 2023. The public consultations engaged a registered total of one hundred and seventy-eight (**178**) **participants** with one hundred and forty-two (**142**) **fisherfolks**, four (**4**) **fishing cooperatives and associations**, eleven (**11**) members of **civil society organizations (CSOs)**, members of **academia, private sector and representatives of the financial institutions**, and twenty-one (**21**) **Government officials**. The public consultation process was co-led by the Blue Economy Unit (BEU) and the Belize Fisheries Department (BFD) within the Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation (MBECA) and the Central Executing Unit (CEU) under the Ministry of Economic Development. See [table 1](#) for breakdown of participants per session and [Annex I](#) for attendance records. [Annex II](#) and [III](#) provide a breakdown on demographics of participants by gender and ethnicity.

All sessions exceeded the two (2) hours initially projected as participants were highly engaged in the sessions and time to provide clarification on the proposed project was warranted. In all sessions, time had to be allocated to clarify the purpose of the public consultation as participants were often ready to make public complaints against the Government of Belize (GoB) instead. Each session allowed for initial presentations by CEU in support of the project overview and the environmental and social considerations for the *BL-L1042 Promoting Sustainable Growth in the Blue Economy* (see [Annex IV](#) for the public consultation agenda).

After each presentation, questions were addressed by Government officials leading the process; these are pertinent to environmental and social performance standards (ESPS). Time for small group discussions were also allotted during the sessions in Belize City and Independence (see [Annex V](#) for guide for small group discussion). In Sarteneja, a large group discussion was conducted instead as participants shared their queries and concerns openly instead.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

As part of the Inter-American Development Bank's (IDB) requirement, the Government of Belize (GoB), as the Borrower, rolled out a full disclosure of relevant project information, including project design and associated activities, as well as project-related environmental and social risks and impacts. Forty (40) participants (per session) were invited directly but the GoB at least one week prior to each session (see [Annex VI](#) for copy of invitation flyer). During the sessions, the GoB was able to provide explanations of intended project impact.



The objectives of the public consultations included:

- (1) assessing the level of risks as perceived by key stakeholders' (such as fisherfolks', with particular focus on women, youth, indigenous and afro descendants (IPADs), cooperatives, associations or other independent or organized groups in fisheries);
- (2) engaging key stakeholders directly in identifying priority issues;
- (3) building and maintaining constructive relationship with all stakeholders in the fisheries sector;
- (4) identifying where possible, feasible investment opportunities in the fisheries sector and within the scope of the proposed BL-L1042 loan.



Table I: Number of Key Stakeholders Per Public Consultation

Group No.	Type of Stakeholder	Description of Stakeholder	# of participants in Sarteneja Village	# of participants in Belize City	# of participants in Independence Village
G1	Fisherfolks	The stakeholders in this group are considered potential beneficiaries of the project. This group includes fishermen and places specific focus on other vulnerable groups such as women, youth, indigenous peoples, and afro descendants (IPADs).	60 ¹	20	62
G2	Fishing cooperatives, associations, independent groups and other organized groups	The stakeholders in this group are considered potential beneficiaries of the program (i.e. executive members of cooperatives). This group also includes the different organized groups that may have an interest in the project's actions but are not registered.	2	2 ²	1
G3	Support Organizations	The stakeholders in this group are considered drivers of value chains for the fishing sector as they play an important role in the research, processing, distribution, trading, and marketing of products. Examples of these key actors include but are not limited to regional organizations, academia, civil society groups, the private sector, and representatives of the financial institutions.	0	11	0

¹ Please note the number only reflects those who signed the attendance voluntarily. Approximately 20 fisherfolks refused to sign the attendance sheet.

² Please note the executive member of National Fisheries Producers Cooperative attended both sessions in Sarteneja and Belize City; as such for purpose of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) only 4 associations are counted.



G4	Government or Statutory Bodies	The stakeholders in this group support the direct implementation of development projects and may include but are not limited to government agencies, line ministries and other quasi-government bodies.	5	13	3
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Total Participants: 178



Key Elements Considered for Public Consultations

Methodology Used

The stakeholder engagement preparation process commenced on April 11, 2023 and were co-led by the Central Executing Unit (CEU), the Blue Economy Unit (BEU) and Belize Fisheries Department (BFD) under the Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation (MBECA). The consulting firm, Right Insights, was present to record questions, queries, and concerns of participants as well as to document the Government of Belize (GoB's) responses as part of its requirement as the Borrower.

The public consultation sessions, conducted via face-to-face modality, allowed GoB to disclose relevant project information, including project design and any associated activities. During the first presentation, the project overview, activities under both components and explanations of intended project benefits were discussed. During the second presentation, project-related environmental and social risks and impacts, proposed mitigation measures and action plans (or management plans) under the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) were disclosed. The participants present shared many grievances, queries, and concerns on past projects but more importantly confirmed their agreement to proposed project activities under both components 1 and 2.

Once presentations had been completed, Right Insights sought to identify priority issues from the participants' experiences, opinions and insights, during a small group activity (see [Annex V](#) for questions used to guide the discussion). During such discussions, participants formed groups of 4-5 persons and discussed key questions. A rapporteur, from each small group, was selected to then report back to the larger group. At least five (5) Government officials were present at each public consultation, namely one (1) representative from the BFD, one (1) representative from the BEU, one (1) representative from MBECA and two (2) representatives from CEU. Via stakeholder engagement during small group discussions, Right Insights was better positioned to understand the following questions:

- **Identification of priority issues:** What are the likely risks and opportunities arising from the project, and that are of concern or interest to fisherfolks and other stakeholders in coastal communities in Belize?
- **Stakeholder analysis and engagement plan:** Who is affected by the project, and who has an interest that can influence outcomes? How can the project engage with all stakeholders?
- **Appropriate forums and methods for the consultation process:** How should consultation events be organized during project implementation? How should the project ensure that the voices of vulnerable or marginal groups are heard and considered throughout the project's life cycle? Have measures been taken to protect stakeholders from retaliation where relevant?



Communities Pre-Selected for Public Consultations

In order to achieve meaningful public consultations with fisherfolks and other stakeholders in coastal communities in Belize, it was important to identify at least three (3) communities to cover the northern, central and southern coast of Belize. As such the following communities had been pre-selected:

Northern Belize: Corozal District

- April 11th, 2023: Sarteneja Village
- Venue: Village Community Center

Central Belize: Belize District

- April 13th, 2023: Belize City
- Venue: Belize Biltmore Plaza

Southern Belize: Stann Creek District

- April 18th, 2023: Independence Village
- Venue: The SENter (managed by Village Council)

Diversity Characterization

The consulting team, Right Insights, had expected to engage both indigenous peoples, namely Yucatec Mayas in northern Belize and afro descendants (Creoles and Garifunas) in central and southern Belize. In addition, a registry (dated July 2022) from the BFD indicates that the largest number of women fishers are found in the Stann Creek District, followed by the Belize District so it was expected that a greater number of women would be engaged in both districts. The highest number of women's participation was recorded in southern Belize; **10 female fishers participated with 9 being from southern Belize and 1 being from northern Belize** (see [Annex I](#) for breakdown by gender).

It must be noted, however, that very few Mayas, Garifunas and Creoles were engaged in the process as many participants described themselves as **Mestizos³ (105 fisherfolks)**. See [Annex II](#) for breakdown by ethnicity.

Translation

In order to accommodate the language preferences by participants, the session in Sarteneja was conducted in Spanish and translation was provided by BEU, the CEU and the consulting team at Right Insights. In addition, Right Insights translated handouts from English to Spanish in order to provide participants with information in their language of preference. The BEU and Right Insights also worked collaboratively on translating the PowerPoint presentations to ensure that information shared was also easily available for native Spanish speakers, should the need arise. The above considerations were in direct support to ESPS7 and ESPS10. See copies of handouts [here](#) and PowerPoints™ [here](#).

³ In Belize, there are two salient issues when discussing ethnicity; (i) Belizeans may define themselves as belonging to one ethnic group given their orientation to identity and community (e.g. Mayas in Belize will define themselves as Mopan or Ke'kchi (Ketchi / Q'eqchi') more often than Yucatec Mayas) and (ii) Belizeans may choose not to ascribe to one ethnic group only as they consider themselves a mixture of two or more ethnic groups (e.g. a few participants at the public consultations chose not to disclose their ethnicity).



MAIN FINDINGS VIA PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS FOR BL-L1042

The sessions yielded great participation from fisherfolks who were very vocal about their past experiences on the lack of transparency in decision-making through documentation, public disclosure, and feedback to stakeholders during past projects by GoB and non-profit organizations (NGOs). Their concerns ranged from aspects of mismanagement of funds by past implementing agencies, lack of trust between the GoB and/or NGOs and fisherfolks, security concerns while out at sea given the increase of sea piracy, increase in the number of fishing licenses approved and lack of pension scheme for aging fishers. Below is a summary of concerns recurrent at all three (3) consultations and highlighting possible areas for reviewing in the project design.

Mismanagement of funds by past implementing agencies

Fisherfolks expressed grave concern on past experiences with both governmental and non-profit organizations' implementation of projects that yielded little to no benefits; there were many anecdotes of support promised that remained unfilled. The Marine Conservation and Climate Adaptation Project (MCCAP) was one of the examples cited. Fisherfolks reported that various components on diversification from fishing such as pig rearing did not provide equitable benefits for communities and few fishers benefitted from the funding received. In addition, an example was that of OCEANA's promise to engage youth in marine conservation. In the opinions of fisherfolks, it did not provide any support to participants who had been recruited and had collected data on behalf of that non-profit organization. Fisherfolks were in consensus that the BL-L1042 must ensure that funds benefit fisherfolks directly and were in full support and agreement with component 2 which will provide matching grants.

Lack of trust between fisherfolks and the Government of Belize (GoB)

Fisherfolks expressed frustration and disillusionment after repeatedly being consulted by the GoB and not obtaining sufficient follow-ups once project designs were finalized in the past. Many reported having little to no say in project designs that often adversely impact their livelihoods. There were many instances when participants became confrontational with GoB officials claiming that the corruption inherent in the government agencies continue to silence their cry for regulatory changes such as the increasing no-take zones listed under the Managed Access Program (MAP)⁴. There were recurrent concerns on the inability to access Area 9 as artisanal fisherfolks. Fisherfolks from southern Belize, expressed concern about the limited access to productive zones resulting from the demarcation under the MAP.

⁴ This program aims to reduce fishing pressure and the incentive to fish illegally by providing traditional fishers with secured fishing grounds.



Security concerns while out at sea

Fisherfolks from northern Belize, expressed concerns about confronting illegal fishing by both foreign fisherfolks as well as native fisherfolks. There are grave concerns on danger while being out at sea (sea piracy) and fisherfolks reported having lost many relatives due to lack of security for fishers by the Belize Coast Guard. Belize Coast Guard representatives provided clarification about their own limitations – i.e. fuel shortage which hinders their security role during the closed season making it increasingly difficult to patrol and detain illegal fishers along the coast of Belize.

Increased number of approved fishing licenses

Fisherfolks from central Belize, expressed concerns on the growing number of licenses being issued by the Belize Fisheries Department (BFD) and requested a reassessment of carrying capacity (i.e. number of fishers) per area. It was noted that an assessment of fishing area activities to efficiently utilize areas in alignment with Fisheries legislations and policies must be conducted. This would address the issue of overfishing. Thus, the management plans proposed under component 1 can support in addressing such concern of possible overfishing and saturating the market with additional fisherfolks.

Lack of pension scheme for aging fishers

Fisherfolks expressed concerns about the lack of social protection via a pension scheme for aging fisherfolks. While Social Security Board (SSB) offers the option to pay self-employed, a few fishers reported paying towards a pension scheme or having had the opportunity to apply for self-employed contributions. This aspect warrants clarification with SSB on encouraging fisherfolks to pay under self-employed option and would necessitate a direct relationship between fishing cooperatives, associations, independent groups and the SSB.



RESPONSES SHARED BY GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE OFFICIALS BASED ON PARTICIPANTS' QUERIES & CONCERNS

It is important to note that while GoB officials responded to questions posed by participants during each consultation, there were also recurrent themes of concerns raised by stakeholders. Most of these concerns were less project-related and linked to a lack of redress via a structured grievance mechanism at BFD. It is key that GoB officials design a plan for reporting back to participants, on how participants' feedback will be incorporated into future project and mitigation design and activities, and into the environmental and social action plans, to improve the quality, sustainability, and acceptability of the BL-L1042 project and any other future projects.

The questions that were specifically related to the proposed BL-L1042 are listed below along with responses provided by CEU, BFD or BEU respectively. These questions are aligned to ESPS1 (*Assessment & Management of Environmental & Social Risks & Impacts*), ESPS2 (*Work & Working Conditions*), ESPS3 (*Efficiency in the Use of Resources & the Prevention of Contamination*), ESPS4 (*Community Health & Safety*), ESPS6 (*Conservation of Biodiversity & Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources*), ESPS8 (*Cultural Heritage*) and ESPS10 (*Participation of Stakeholders & Information Disclosure*).

1. How will eligible fishers be selected?

Response by BEU: Fisherfolks will apply and a committee will be formed to select successful fishers under the matching grant process. The composition of the committee has not been finalized.

2. Which group or committee will select eligible fishers?

Response by BEU: The committee to select eligible fishers will certainly be disclosed to all fisherfolks. Perhaps this is the time to make your recommendations on such composition.

3. Can duty exemption be granted to fishers under matching grant for importation of equipment, etc.?

Response by CEU: There is no exemption agreed upon, but it would be a request that would have to be reviewed by the Ministry of Economic Development.



4. Will Area 9 be opened to artisanal fishers?

Response by BFD: The Managed Access Program (MAP) was designed to ensure that a healthy fish stock is secured. Area 9 is open to those with permits to fish within this area and conduct deep sea fishing.

5. What measures are in place for security of fishers accessing Area 9?

Response by BFD: Presently the Belize Coast Guard (BCG) are tasked with security at sea and supporting with patrols once complaints are made.

6. How can environmental laws address solid waste pollution in these communities and enforce sanctions?

Response by BEU: The Department of the Environment is responsible for enforcement of environmental laws and this information will be shared with DoE.

7. What regulatory changes/amendments can be made to sanction fishers who fish undersized species?

Response by BEU: The Ministry of Blue Economy & Civil Aviation (MBECA) is the body in charge of reviewing regulations to sanction fishers. This is an issue being discussed at the Ministry level given frequent cases of fisherfolks caught during closed season and with undersized species.



ADDITIONAL INSIGHTS – RESPONSES SHARED BY PARTICIPANTS DURING SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Additionally, during the small group discussions, fisherfolks were asked to share examples of priorities/needs, challenges/limitations and suggest mitigation actions. Copies of their responses (verbatim) can be found [here](#). Below is a brief summary of their responses.

Priorities/Needs of Fisherfolks

When asked what support would be needed by fishers in their communities, the following responses, which include but are not limited to, were provided by fisherfolks:

- increased catch by securing availability of healthy fish stocks;
- increased security for fisherfolks, their catch and their equipment (to minimize theft of equipment – e.g. boat engines);
- increased financing for equipment (e.g. freezers, fishing gears, boat engines or boat repairs) and particularly to offset low/closed seasons;
- operational and technical support from inter-government agencies;
- introduction of pension scheme for fisherfolks as many are working beyond retirement;
- reassessment of number of fishers per area to determine/project the demand on fish stocks per area;
- diversification of livelihoods into hospitality, particularly expressed by the few women participants (e.g. creation of restaurants, bed and breakfast, etc.)

Challenges & Limitations

The greatest barriers faced by fisherfolks in Belize, as reported during the consultations, include but are not limited to:

- areas restricted by the Belize Fisheries Department under the MAP;
- lack of patrols to minimize poaching in all areas and sea piracy;
- natural disasters such as hurricanes which destroy their traps and boats;
- conflict created by free dives versus trap fishers;
- lack of access to credit (i.e. ineligibility for small loans);
- lack of transparency among association members;
- corruption in the Belize Fisheries Department (BFD);
- lack of use of technology;
- lack of addressing the needs of the majority of fisherfolks via projects that have a short to medium term implementation phase (i.e. there is little to no sustainability built into projects);
- lack of mechanism for proper evaluation of damages (e.g. after shocks from natural disasters);
- increased pollution in coastal communities with little support from community to minimize such;
- fuel subsidies for fisherfolks similarly to those provided to cane farmers and tour operators post-COVID-19;



- non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are given too much power (e.g. OCENA's ban on gill nets continues to be a point of contention among fisherfolks);
- unregulated prices for lobster and conch.

Possible Risks

The following risks, which include but are not limited to, were underscored by fisherfolks and must be considered for future projects:

- the impact of natural disasters and loss of traps, fishing camps and other investment; there is no contingency line item at the national emergency level to offset damages for the fishing sector; fisherfolks reported that after Hurricane Lisa in October 2022, there was little to no direct support in the recovery process for the fishing sector;
- with fisherfolks working beyond retirement age, there is a likelihood to increase health and safety risks for aging fisherfolks; working in senior years is necessitated by the lack of pension schemes for fishers;
- persistent issues between the GoB and fisherfolks are not being addressed before project implementation or proper consultation processes which continues to fuel tension and cynicism among these key stakeholders;
- if more reserves are demarcated, it is perceived that this will lessen access to productive zones by fisherfolks;

Mitigation Actions

When asked about their suggestions for specific programs, services or support to assist fishers in overcoming the barriers identified, the following, which include but are not limited to, were provided:

- creation of management plans for regulating each type of fishers;
- proper consultations and knowledge management via outreach from key stakeholders; this may address the lack of trust fisherfolks have expressed when engaging with GoB;
- regulation on use of equipment (e.g. pots versus shades);
- regulation on the number of shades;
- support for business plans from BELTRAIDE⁵;
- project impact must ensure that fisherfolks are supported directly (e.g. matching grants) and that there is adequate financing to fully equip fisherfolks to new fishing methods;
- emergency plans for the fishing sector with direct input from stakeholders (e.g. hurricanes);
- waivers for fisherfolks such as duty exemption on boat engines; this would be requested via the Ministry of Economic Development;
- increase patrols at sea, particularly during closed seasons;
- increased involvement of fisherfolks at all levels (during project design and implementation) for greater opportunity to voice concerns and describe direct impacts;

⁵ Belize Trade and Investment Development Service is the official Trade and Investment promotion agency of the country of Belize



Fisherfolks Feedback to Proposed Components of BL-L1042

Fisherfolks are generally both in agreement with components 1 and 2 of the proposed BL-L1042 project and made a specific request under component 1. Fisherfolks requested to be included when conducting the exploratory fishing studies as they would like to shadow the scientists who will be undertaking these studies. One of the rationales of fisherfolks is that many studies do not include direct consultation with fisherfolks and end up making recommendations that alter their livelihoods significantly and even threaten their ability to provide for their households.

Fisherfolks are in full agreement of component 2 and willing to apply for matching grants. A request made by fisherfolks, and one already included in the proposed project, is technical assistance. Many fisherfolks have asked that support be given for development of business plans. The GoB officials assured fisherfolks that support for the development of the individual or group plans has been considered under technical assistance which will be provided during project implementation.



RECOMMENDATIONS

During all consultations sessions, fisherfolks voiced concerns, tabled queries and sought clarification on a number of issues. The sessions allowed for GoB officials to answer questions directly or to reiterate regulatory aspects. The relationship between GoB and fisherfolks requires a delicate balance of providing information to dispel misconceptions and at the same time provide follow-up to queries. There were many questions asked that were not within the scope of the proposed project and so it became important to underscore the purpose of the consultation session. However, it is important that the MBECA with direct support from BEU and BFD provide responses to any grievances or concerns raised and documented by the BFD in follow-up outreach activities.

Fisherfolks demonstrated a great need for more outreach activities to ensure that information on BL-L1042 is clearly communicated. As such, a **stakeholder engagement plan** prior to the project launch as well as a **communications strategy** must be developed and rolled out with sufficient time to educate fisherfolks on the benefits of the project and their eligibility for matching grants. The stakeholder analysis and engagement plan will respond to the following questions: (i) Who is affected by the project, and who has an interest that can influence outcomes? (ii) How will the project engage with all stakeholders? (iii) Is the process disaggregated by gender and potentially vulnerable groups (i.e. economically disenfranchised by the degree of accessibility to goods and services, and the things that limit or restrict that accessibility)? The communication strategy will ensure that potential beneficiaries are kept abreast of the project's launch and implementation phases with support from the Project Manager, Environmental and Social Specialist and the hire of a Communications Officer. It should also ensure that vulnerable groups, once defined, are informed in a timely manner and engaged throughout the project.

The concept of matching grants, while not a new concept for fisherfolks, has been implemented via their communities or organizations and not directly to fisherfolks. The GoB officials provided examples to clarify and going forward specific examples of this model must be included in future **information sessions**. Fisherfolks have also requested information on the criteria and mechanism to be used when selecting beneficiaries. It will be important the GoB provides follow-up to such questions during subsequent information sessions. Transparency in decision-making through documentation, public disclosure, and feedback to stakeholders can mitigate against lack of trust expressed by fisherfolks. In order to sustain a meaningful relationship with fisherfolks the following questions must be considered by GoB:

- How will the stakeholders be informed about project decisions and how will their views and inputs be addressed?
- How will systematic records of consultation events be kept and shared with stakeholders?

Therefore, it is important that GoB develops a mechanism for reporting to stakeholders on how stakeholder feedback was incorporated into project and mitigation design and activities, and into the environmental and social action plans.



In addition, the development of business plans will require extensive technical assistance to ensure that all communities receive the same level of support. This may warrant **agreements with service providers** such as but not limited to BELTRAIDE, academia (universities and junior colleges in each district) and other financial institutions (e.g. credit unions).

In conclusion, during the face-to-face consultations the Government of Belize drew from participants' opinions, experience and observations and responded to key questions as stipulated by the Joint Publication of the Multilateral Financial Institutions Group on Environmental and Social Standards' *Meaningful Stakeholder Engagement*. With such insights, the GoB can now better inform the process of stakeholder identification and analysis as the Borrower.



ANNEX I: ATTENDANCE RECORDS⁶

Sarteneja Village Participants



Attendance Sheet for Fisherfolks
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 11, 2023

Location: Sarteneja Community Centre

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	Santana Corral	M	Mestizo
	Copper Bank	M	Mestizo
	Copper Bank	M	Mestizo
	Copper Bank	M	Mestizo
	Copper Bank	M	Mestizo
	Copper Bank	M	Mestizo
	Copper Bank	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo

⁶ Records shared protect participants' right to remain unnamed



Date: April 11, 2023
Location: Sarteneja Community Centre

Attendance Sheet for Fisherfolks
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	Sarteneja Corozal	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja Corozal	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja Corozal	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja Corozal	M	Mestizo
	Corozal	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo



Attendance Sheet for **Fisherfolks**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 11, 2023
Location: Sarteneja Community Centre

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	m	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	m	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Copper Bank	M	"
	Copper Bank	m	"
	Sarteneja	M	"
	Sarteneja		
	Sarteneja	M	"
	Sarteneja	F	"



Attendance Sheet for **Fisherfolks**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 11, 2023
Location: Sarteneja Community Centre

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	Sarteneja	F	mestizo
	SARTENEJA	M	MESTIZO
	sarteneja	M	mestizo
	sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Sarteneja	M	Mestizo
	Copper Bank	M	Mestizo
	Copper Bank	M	Mestizo
	Copper Bank		



Attendance Sheet for **Civil Society, Government Officials, Statutory Bodies & Other Key Stakeholders**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 11, 2023
Location: Sarteneja Community Centre

PRINT NAME	ORGANIZATION	JOB TITLE	COMMUNITY SERVED
	Belize Coast Guard	Petty Officer Class 3	Sector North
	Min. of Finance	Economist	
	Min. of Econ. Dev.	Sr. Economist	
	Library service	Librarian	Jane Dorethe
	Belize Coast Guard	Sector North Commander	SECTOR NORTH
	MBECA	M&E officer	
	Fisheries Dept.	Fisheries Officer	National
	MBECA	PR Officer	
	CEU - MED	Env. Social Sp.	National



Attendance Sheet for **Civil Society, Government Officials, Statutory Bodies & Other Key Stakeholders**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 11, 2023
Location: Sartenga Community Centre

PRINT NAME	ORGANIZATION	JOB TITLE	COMMUNITY SERVED
			Sartenga
			SAREHA
			Sarteneja
	None	Fishermen	Sarteneja
		Fisherman	COPPER Bank



Belize City Participants



Attendance Sheet for **Fisherfolks**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 13th 2023
Location: Biltmore

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	Belize city	M	Mestizo Mestizo
	Belize city	M	Mestizo Mestizo
	Belize city	M	Mestizo
	Belize city	M	mestizo
		M	
	Belize city	M	
	Belize City	M	
	Copper Bank.	M	mestizo
	Sustenejo Village	M	Mestizo
	Belize City	M	"
	Bre	M	"
	Bre	M	"



Attendance Sheet for **Fisherfolks**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date:
Location:

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	Bze	M	Mestizo
	Bze	M	Mestizo
	Bze	M	Mestizo
	Bze	M	Mestizo
	Bze	M	Mestizo
	Bze	M	belizian
	Bze	M	belizian
	Bze	M	Belizean
	Corozal	M	Mestizo
	BZE	M	Mestizo



Attendance Sheet for **Civil Society, Government Officials, Statutory Bodies & Other Key Stakeholders**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 13th 2023
Location: B-House Plaza

PRINT NAME	ORGANIZATION	JOB TITLE	COMMUNITY SERVED
	BCCI	Policy Analyst	Belize - Private Sector
	CZMAI	Sport Fish Coordinator	Belize
	CZMAI	MSP Process Lead	Belize
	Ocean9	Outreach Director	Belize
	RECTORIO	Executive Director	Belize
	IDB	Financial Mgmt Specialist	Belize
	MED	Senior Economist	
	MOF	Economist I	
	CEU-MID	LEAD CONSULTANT	GCB



Attendance Sheet for **Civil Society, Government Officials, Statutory Bodies & Other Key Stakeholders**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 13th, 2023
Location: Belmopan

PRINT NAME	ORGANIZATION	JOB TITLE	COMMUNITY SERVED
	Galen University	Provost	Belize
	GALEN	DEAN	BELIZE
	Galen University	Program Coordinator	Belize
	Labour Dept.	Employment Officer	Belize
	University of Belize	Dean of FST	Belize
	Min. of Natural Resources	Dir. of Policy Planning	Belize
	Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit	Fishing officer	Belize
	Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit	Fishing officer	Belize
	IDB	Consultant	Belize
	Northern Fisheries	Mgr.	Belize
	Central Bank	Asst. Manager	Belize
	Belize Tourism Board	sustainable tourism coordination	Belize



Attendance Sheet for **Civil Society, Government Officials, Statutory Bodies & Other Key Stakeholders**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 13th, 2023
Location: Belmopan Plaza

PRINT NAME	ORGANIZATION	JOB TITLE	COMMUNITY SERVED
	Fisheries Dept.	Assistant Fisheries Officer	Country
	MBECA	M&E officer	
	Conservation / Rights	Consultant	Belize
	Bze Fisheries Dept	Fisheries Officer	Belize
	MBECA	PR Officer	—
	MBECA	office Assistant	Belize
	BCG	Sector Commander	Belize
	Ministry of Tourism	Business Development Investment Officer	Country
	Central Bank of Belize	Economist	Financial Sector
	CAPM Secretariat	Advisor	—
	BFCA (Executive)	Fisheries Officer	Belize City



Independence Village Participants



Attendance Sheet for Fisherfolks
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 18, 2023
Location: Independence Village

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	P.G	M	Maya
	P.G.	M	mestizo
	P.G	M	Mestizo
	P.G	M	Mest:
	Independence	M	Mestizo
	P.G	M	Maya
	Independence	M	Creole
	Ind	M	Creole
	Independence	M	Monkey River/Creole
	Riversdale	M	Mestizo
	Riversdale	M	Mestizo
	Riversdale	M	Spanish



Attendance Sheet for Fisherfolks
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 18, 2023
Location: Independence Village

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	mango	M	español
	P.G	M	Creole
	P.G	F	mestizo
	P.G	F	Ketchi
	R.P.G	F	ketchi
	P.G	M	ketchi
	el arroyo/Independence	M	Mestizo
	Mango Creek	M	Spanish
	Punta Gorda	M	spanish
	Punta Gorda	M	Mestizo
	P.G	M	spanish
	P.G.	M	Spanish



Attendance Sheet for Fisherfolks
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 18, 2023
Location: Independence Village

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	Independence	F	Creole
	Placencia	M	Creole
	Independence	M	Creole
	Independence	M	Mestizo
	R. Dale	F	Mestizo
	R. Dale	M	Creole



Attendance Sheet for Fisherfolks
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 18, 2023
Location: Independence Village

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	P. G	M	Spanish
	P. G	M	C.R- Creole
	P. G	M	Spanish
	P. G	M	Spanish
	Rivers Dale	M	Spanish
	Independence	M	East Indian-Mix
	Independence	M	Mestizo
	Independence	M	Mestizo
	P. G	M	Maya
	Independence	M	Mestizo
	Independence	M	Spanish
	Rivers Dale	F	Spanish



Attendance Sheet for **Fisherfolks**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 18, 2023
Location: Independence Village

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	P.G.	W	Creole
	P.G.	M	Mestizo
	P.G.	M	Garifuna
	IND	M	Mestizo
	IND	M	Mestizo
	Independence	M	Mestizo



Attendance Sheet for **Fisherfolks**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

Date: April 18, 2023
Location: Independence Village

PRINT NAME	COMMUNITY	GENDER (M/F)	ETHNIC GROUP
	Dougriga	M	Mestizo
	Dougriga	M	Spanish
	Dougriga	F	East Indian
	Dougriga	F	Mestizo
	Riversdale	M	
	Riversdale	M	Mestizo
	Riversdale	F	Mestizo
	Riversdale	M	Mestizo
	Riversdale	M	Mestizo
	Riversdale	M	East Indian



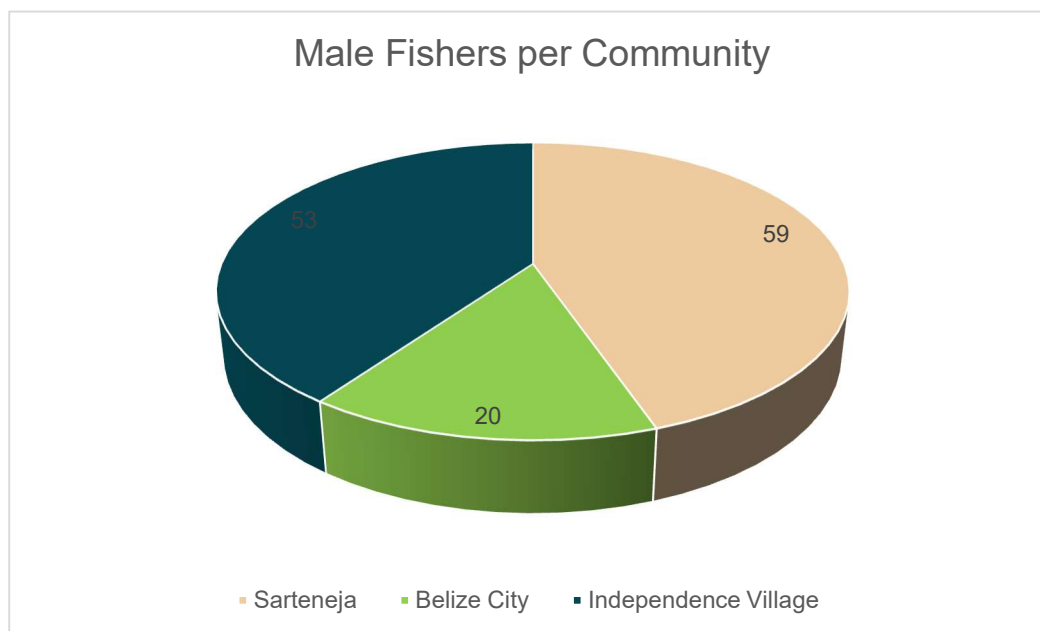
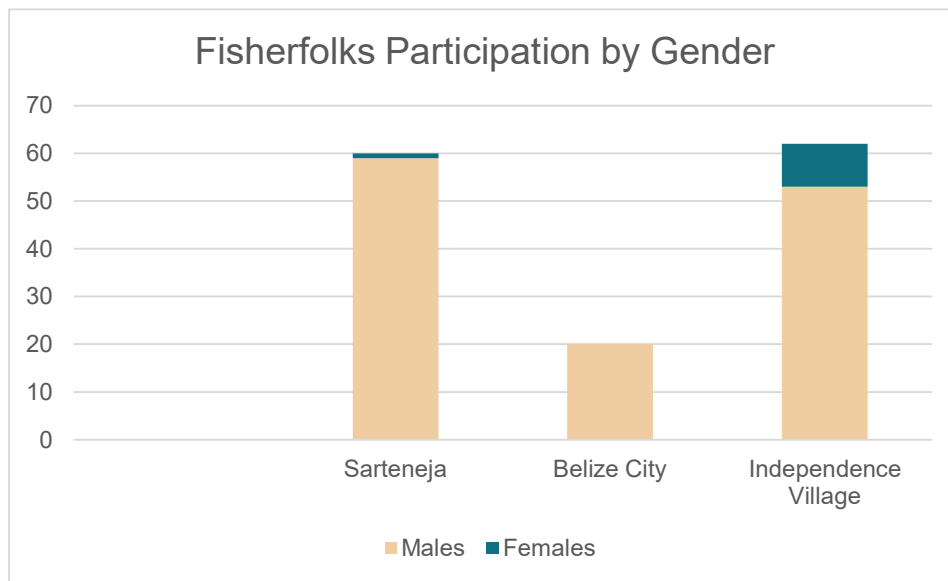
Attendance Sheet for **Civil Society, Government Officials, Statutory Bodies & Other Key Stakeholders**
Public Consultations for BL-L1042

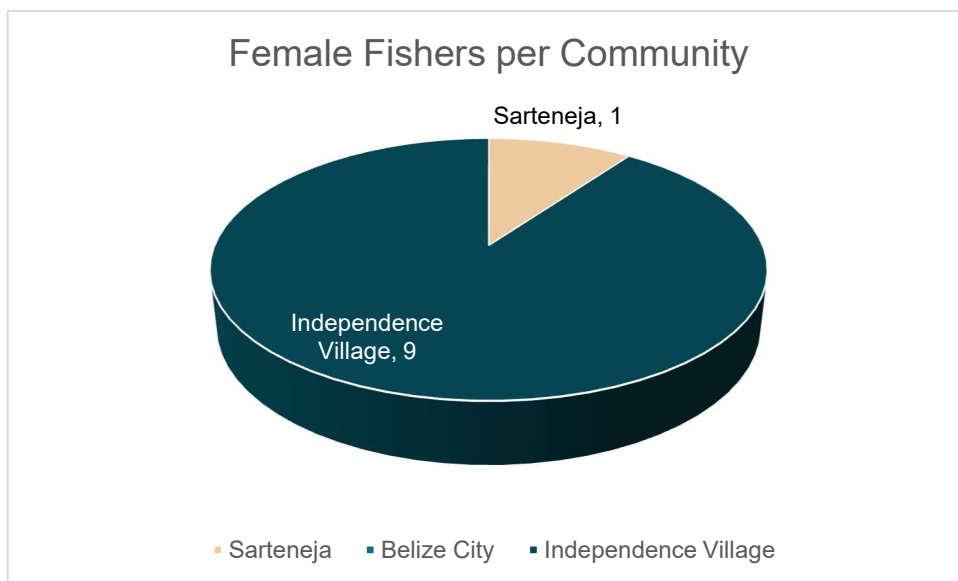
Date: April 18, 2023
Location: Independence Village

PRINT NAME	ORGANIZATION	JOB TITLE	COMMUNITY SERVED
	Fisheries Dept	Assistant Fisheries Officer	
	Fisheries Dept.	Fisheries Officer	Bze City
	Labour Department	Employment Officer	Public
	Independence Village Council	Office Admin	Ind. Village
	Environment & Development Project Manager		Punta Gorda
	IDB	Consultant	Belize
	MBECA	PR Officer	Belize City
	MBECA	M&E officer	
	CEU - MED	Env. & Social Sy	Belize



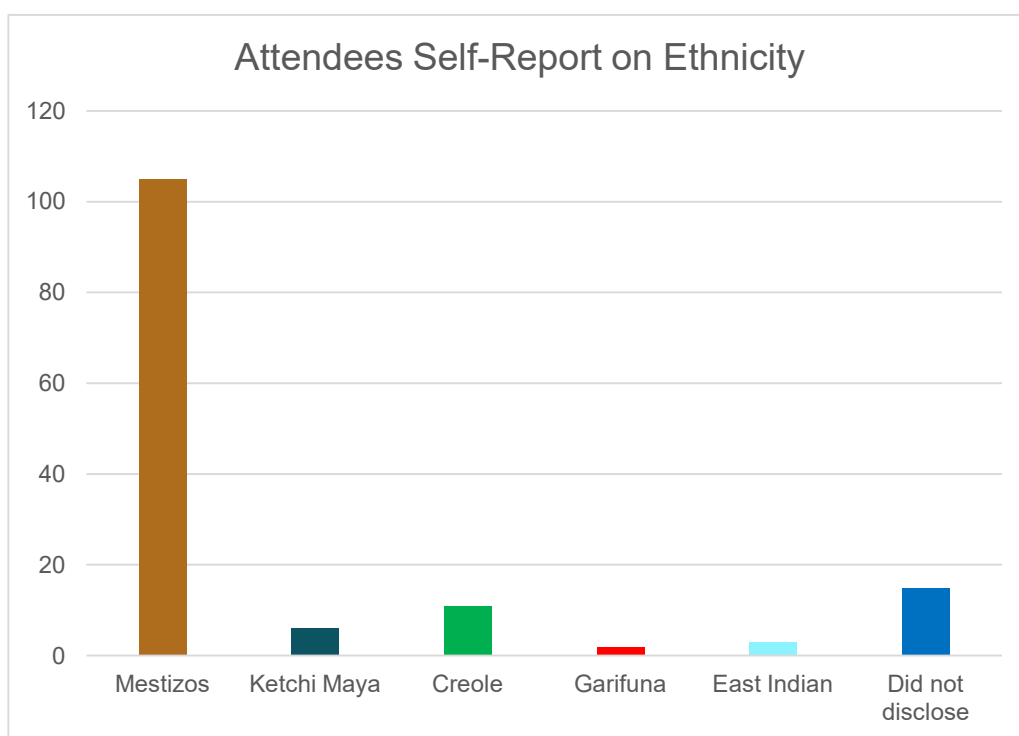
ANNEX II: DEMOGRAPHICS OF FISHERFOLKS – BY GENDER







ANNEX III: DEMOGRAPHICS OF FISHERFOLKS – BY ETHNICITY





ANNEX IV: AGENDA FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Agenda for public consultations in Sarteneja and Independence Village

Time Allotted	Topic	Presenter
2:00 – 2:15 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions 	Ministry of Blue Economy & Civil Aviation (MBECA namely Belize Fisheries Department - BFD), Blue Economy Unit (BEU) & Central Executing Unit (CEU) – Ministry of Economic Development Right Insights
2:15 – 2:45 p.m.	BL-L1042 project overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rationale • components • results of environmental & social aspects • mitigation plan • grievance mechanism 	Central Executing Unit Belize Fisheries Department Right Insights
2:45 – 3:30 p.m.	Small Group Discussion on BL-L1042: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • priorities/needs of fisher-folks • challenges & limitations • possible risks • mitigation actions 	Led by Right Insights
3:30 – 3:50 p.m.	Closing questions & answers	CEU, BFD & BEU
3:50 – 4:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Way forward • Closing remarks 	CEU, BFD & BEU



Agenda for public consultations in Belize City – 13.04.23

Time Allotted	Topic	Presenter
1:00 – 1:15 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions 	Ministry of Blue Economy & Civil Aviation (MBECA namely Belize Fisheries Department - BFD), Blue Economy Unit (BEU) & Central Executing Unit (CEU) – Ministry of Economic Development Right Insights
1:15 – 1:45 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BL-L1042 project overview • rationale • components • results of environmental & social aspects • mitigation plan • grievance mechanism 	Central Executing Unit Belize Fisheries Department Right Insights
1:45 – 2:30 p.m.	Small Group Discussion on BL-L1042: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • priorities/needs of fisher-folks • challenges & limitations • possible risks • mitigation actions 	Led by Right Insights
2:30 – 2:50 p.m.	Closing questions & answers	CEU, BFD & BEU
2:50 – 3:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Way forward • Closing remarks 	CEU, BFD & BEU



ANNEX V: GUIDE FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

To guide the small group activity participants will be divided into 4 groups and focus on the following sub-themes. Writing paper and markers will be provided to each group so that key points can be recorded by a rapporteur.

- Priorities/needs of fisherfolks
- Challenges & limitations
- Possible risks
- Mitigation actions

Each sub-theme will be discussed using specific questions suggested below and participants will be allowed 25 minutes to discuss and then use remaining time (20 minutes) to report to larger group:

1. *Priorities/Need of Fisherfolks*

- What support would you recommend for fishers in your community?
- Are there any specific areas you would like to know more about or obtain assistance with?
- What specific areas of support you would like from GoB, NGOs or private sector as fisherfolks?

2. *Challenges & Limitations*

- What are the greatest barriers faced by fisherfolks in Belize?
- Are there specific programs, services or support to assist fishers in overcoming the barriers you have identified?
- How can future projects assist fishers in addressing challenges or limitations in the sector?

3. *Possible Risks*

- For future projects that will support fisherfolks, what risks must be considered?
- Describe these risks.

4. *Mitigation Actions*

- For future projects that will support fisherfolks, what action must be considered to ensure it meets the needs of fisherfolks?
- Describe your recommendations for future approaches to meet the needs of fisherfolks.



ANNEX VI: COPY OF INVITATION TO STAKEHOLDERS ATTENDING PUBLIC CONSULTATION



You are invited!

SAVE THE DATE!

Public consultations led by the
Ministry of Blue Economy & Civil
Aviation (MBECA) and the Fisheries
Department to discuss **BL-L1042**
Project: Promoting Sustainable
Growth in the Blue Economy

Dates:

- April 11th 2023: 2 p.m. at Sarteneja Village Community Center
- April 13th 2023: 1:00 p.m. at Belize Biltmore Place (Belize City)
- April 18th 2023: 2 p.m. at The SENTER, Fadden Avenue, Independence Village



ANNEX VII: PHOTOS⁷ OF PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS AT 3 COASTAL COMMUNITIES IN BELIZE

Sarteneja Village – 11th April 2023



⁷ Photos shared protect participants' right to remain unidentified



Belize City – 13th April 2023





Independence Village – 18th April 2023

