**High-level guiding questions:**

* What are the direct and indirect social, economic, and environmental effects of distant water fishing vessels (specifically nearshore industrial trawlers) on Liberian coastal communities?
  + Is “Ocean Grabbing” occurring? Is physical dispossession, regulatory dispossession, or pre-emptive exclusion occurring? (i.e scarcity of fish, lower CPUE)
  + Are DWF affecting community food security and sovereignty, livelihood security? [(3.1.1b Indicator 3.1.1b: Food and nutrition security for small-scale fishing communities)](https://media.riseseafood.org/resources/SRAT_Guidance_20210317_FINAL.pdf)

**Interview Guide : FISHERS**

**I. Demographic Questions**

1. Age
2. Gender
3. Education level
4. Race / Ethnicity

**II. Role in fishery**

1. Tell me about how you came to work in this fishery. What is your role?
   1. How long have you been working in the fishery?
   2. What did you do before becoming a fisherman / entering the fish selling business?
   3. Has your role changed since you started fishing / fish selling?

**III. For Fishers:**

1. What type of fishing net(s) and canoe do you use?
2. What type of fish species (or mix of fish species) do you target/catch?
3. Where do you fish / how far do you travel to fish?
   1. How much time is your normal fishing trip per day?
   2. How many days do you fish in a week?
4. Have you noticed any changes in the fish that you catch and land?
   * 1. Yes - big change
     2. Yes - small change
     3. No - no change
   1. If answered yes (i. or ii.) – Tell me more about what specifically has changed? (e.g. size of fish, species, quality, quantity, etc. and whether it has increased/decreased, improved/worsened).
5. What do you do with your catch when you return from fishing?
   * 1. To feed you and your family
     2. To sell and get money to support you and your family
     3. Both a & b

*If they fish for income (answers ii and iii):*

* 1. Where do you sell your catch?
  2. How much do you sell your fish for (e.g. a bucket of fish)?
  3. Has the price changed since 2010?
     1. Yes - Increased
     2. Yes - Decreased
     3. No - No change
        1. If answered Yes: What do you think is the reason for the change in the fish price?
  4. Is fishing the only work you know and do? Do you know and/or have any other jobs?

**IV. Food & Livelihood Security (for all interviewees)**

1. How often do you eat fish? (Select one)
   * 1. everyday
     2. Every other day
     3. Once a week
     4. Other:
   1. What types of fish do you prefer? (Select one)
      1. Fresh fish
      2. Dried fish
      3. Both i & ii
   2. Where do you obtain the fish that you eat? (Select all that apply)
      1. From the beach
      2. From the market
      3. From your own catch
      4. From big vessels
      5. Other:
         1. Which is your primary source?
2. What have you noticed changed over the past ~10 years (*E.g., when the World Bank West African Regional Fisheries Project started; when President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf started her second term; before the Ebola epidemic*)?
   * 1. Price of fish
     2. Size/weight of catch
     3. Size of fish species
     4. Type of fish species
     5. All of these
     6. Other:
3. What do you think is important about fishing?
   1. For this fishing community?
   2. For the future of this fishing community?
4. What challenges have you been facing as a local fisher, processor, vendor (stories are good if they can be elicited)?
5. What do you love about your fishing business?
6. What would you like to see change about your fishing business?

*The following questions pertain specifically to your experiences, feelings, and perceptions of industrial trawl fishing vessels from China (“big boats” or “big trawlers”) that fish in Liberia’s waters under a license from the government. [interviewer show photo or provide any other necessary descriptive information]*

**V. Impacts of foreign fishing vessels**

1. Have you ever seen or interacted with a big trawler?
   1. *If yes:* Can you tell me about your experience?
   2. *If not:* Have you heard of a fisherman who has interacted with a big trawler?
2. What are your feelings about big trawlers?
   1. Do you think they come inside the IEZ (do they come close to shore)? (Select one)
      1. Yes
      2. No
   2. Do you think the way they fish has an environmental impact?
   3. Do you think they impact you or your community in any way? How?
3. Have big trawlers affected where or how you do your fishing business?
   1. *If yes:* Can you tell me about it?
   2. Do you think the big trawlers are having impacts on the fishery resources?
   3. Do you travel farther or longer than before to catch fish?
4. Do you ever buy “Africa Mix” from “big boats”?
   1. If so, how often?
   2. Do you sell it or consume it within your household?
5. Does the sale of Africa Mix ever affect market prices for your personal catch?
6. Please rate your level of concern about big trawlers from 1-5, 1 being not at all concerned, 5 being extremely concerned. (Select One)

1 2 3 4 5

* 1. Please explain

**VI. Change Pathways**

1. What specific things (e.g. measures, regulations, policies, or other factors) do you think are needed to improve the fishing business?
   1. Who do you think should be responsible for making those changes to happen?
2. Are you aware of any unions, associations, or cooperatives in the fishery or community?
   1. *If yes:* are you a member?
   2. Do you feel that they are working?
   3. Do you feel that they represent your interests and rights?
   4. Would you suggest any changes to improve them?
3. Is there anything else you would like to share with me or add?

**High-level guiding questions:**

* What are the direct and indirect social, economic, and environmental effects of distant water fishing vessels (specifically nearshore industrial trawlers) on Liberian coastal communities?
  + Is “Ocean Grabbing” occurring? Is physical dispossession, regulatory dispossession, or pre-emptive exclusion occurring? (i.e scarcity of fish, lower CPUE)

Are DWF affecting community food security and sovereignty, livelihood security? [(3.1.1b Indicator 3.1.1b: Food and nutrition security for small-scale fishing communities)](https://media.riseseafood.org/resources/SRAT_Guidance_20210317_FINAL.pdf)

**Interview Guide: FISHMONGERS / TRADERS**

**I. Demographic Questions**

1. Age
2. Gender
3. Education level
4. Race / Ethnicity

**II. Role in fishery**

1. Tell me about how you came to work in this fishery. What is your role?
   1. How long have you been working in the fishery?
   2. What did you do before entering the fish selling/trading business?
   3. Has your role changed since you started fish selling/trading?

**III. For fishmongers / vendors:**

1. Where do you buy the fish that you sell/process?
2. Do you ever sell “Africa Mix” from “big boats”?
   1. If so, how often?
   2. What percentage of your total sales does the Africa Mix comprise?
3. Does Africa Mix affect market prices for other fish?
4. Have you noticed any changes in the fish that you buy and sell / process?
   * 1. Yes - big change
     2. Yes - small change
     3. No - no change
   1. *If answered yes (i. or ii.)* – Tell me more about what specifically has changed? (e.g. size of fish, species, quality, quantity, etc. and whether it has increased/decreased, improved/worsened).

**IV. Food & Livelihood Security (for all interviewees)**

1. How often do you eat fish? (Select one)
   * 1. Everyday
     2. Every other day
     3. Once a week
     4. Other:
   1. What types of fish do you prefer? (Select one)
      1. Fresh fish
      2. Dried fish
      3. Both i & ii
   2. Where do you obtain the fish that you eat? (Select all that apply)
      1. From the beach
      2. From the market
      3. From your own catch
      4. From big vessels
      5. Other:
         1. Which is your primary source?
2. What have you noticed changed in the past ~10 years (*E.g., when the World Bank West African Regional Fisheries Project started; when President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf started her second term; before the Ebola epidemic)*?
   * 1. Price of fish
     2. Size/weight of catch
     3. Size of fish species
     4. Type of fish species
     5. All of these
     6. Other:
3. What do you think is important about fishing?
   1. For this fishing community?
   2. For the future of this fishing community?
4. What challenges have you been facing as a processor / vendor?
5. What do you love about your fishing business?
6. What would you like to see change about your fishing business?

*The following questions pertain specifically to your experiences, feelings, and perceptions of industrial trawl fishing vessels from China (“big boats” or “big trawlers”) that fish in Liberia’s waters under a license from the government. [interviewer show photo or provide any other necessary descriptive information, as needed]*

**V. Impacts of foreign fishing vessels**

1. Have you heard of a fisherman who has interacted with a big trawler? Can you tell me that story?
2. What are your feelings about big trawlers?
   1. Do you think they respect the IEZ (do they come close to shore)? (Select one)
      1. Yes
      2. No
   2. Do you think the way they fish has an environmental impact?
   3. Do you think they impact you or your community in any way? How?
3. Have big trawlers affected where or how you do your fishing business?
   1. *If yes:* Can you tell me about it?
   2. Do you think the big trawlers are having impacts on the fishery resources?
4. Please rate your level of concern about “big boats” from 1-5, 1 being not at all concerned, 5 being extremely concerned. (Select One)

1 2 3 4 5

* 1. Please explain

**VI. Change Pathways**

1. What specific things (e.g. measures, regulations, policies, or other factors) do you think are needed to improve the fishing business?
   1. Who do you think should be responsible for making those changes to happen?
2. Are you aware of any unions, associations, or cooperatives in the fishery or community?
   1. *If yes:* What role do these organizations play?
   2. Do they advocate for fisher/worker interests and rights?
3. Is there anything else you would like to share with me or add?