SubsidyExplorer is an online, interactive toolkit that allows users to learn more about fisheries subsidies and to explore potential biological and economic tradeoffs associated with subsidy reform. This tool was created to support the negotiations currently underway at the World Trade Organization (WTO), with the goal of helping negotiators to reach consensus on a final agreement for fisheries subsidies by December 2019.

SubsidyExplorer is organized into two sections. The first section allows users to view estimates global distribution and magnitude of fisheries subsidies, learn more about the fisheries sectors of individual countries, compare fishery statistics across countries, and view the global footprint of industrial fishing effort. The second section allows users to create a possible subsidy reform policy, view those flag states and fishing areas likely to be affected by that selection, consider indirect effects associated with subsidy reform, and view how fishery catches, profits, and stock health might be impacted in the future.

Brief summaries of the data and methods underlying each section are included throughout the toolkit, but users are encouraged to download the complete methodology for more information. Basic instructions for navigating the toolkit are provided on each tab, but users are also encouraged to download the user guide if they would like more detailed walkthrough instructions on how to navigate and interact with the toolkit.

**Purpose**

SubsidyExplorer is first and foremost intended to be an educational tool. While the hope is that the insights illuminated through this toolkit may be useful for WTO Members whose fisheries may be directly or indirectly affected by subsidy reform, this tool does not make any judgments or suggestions regarding a “best” course of action for negotiators.

The creators of SubsidyExplorer have strived to make the policy selections included within the toolkit as representative as possible of those that have actually been proposed to the WTO. However, in some cases this was not possible, largely due to data limitations, and these omissions are clearly noted where applicable. The presence of an omission in this toolkit does not discount the validity of the corresponding proposal, nor does it mean that it should be given any less consideration. In situations where data limitations could be overcome with reasonable assumptions, users are therefore presented with this as an option.