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Svein Jentoft, Arne Eide (Eds.)

Poverty Mosaics: Realities and Prospects in Small-Scale Fisheries

- Addresses how small-scale fisheries contribute to poverty alleviation, community development and food security around the world.
- Presents a remarkable mosaic of small-scale fishers' stories, situations, coping strategies, and continued vulnerability.
- Provides a clear understanding of the many dimensions of poverty and vulnerability; and the complex political, economic, social, cultural and ecological contexts that small-scale fisheries operate in around the globe.

Small-scale fisheries are a major source of food and employment around the world. Yet, many small-scale fishers work in conditions that are neither safe nor secure. Millions of them are poor, and often they are socially and politically marginalized. Macro-economic and institutional mechanisms are essential to address these poverty and vulnerability problems; however, interventions at the local community level are also necessary. This requires deep understanding of what poverty means to the fishers, their families and communities; how they cope with it; and the challenges they face to increase resiliency and improve their lives for the better. This book provides a global perspective, situating small-scale fisheries within the broad academic discourse on poverty, fisheries management and development. In-depth case studies from fifteen countries in Latin America, Europe, South and Southeast Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa, demonstrate the enormously complex ecological, economic, social, cultural and political contexts of this sector. Conclusions for policy-making, formulated as a joint statement by the authors, argue that fisheries development, poverty alleviation, and resource management must be integrated within a comprehensive governance approach that also looks beyond fisheries.

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