POLARITIES in the FISH FOOD SYSTEM

In management, polarities are interdependent opposites that must often be balanced for an enterprise to function at its best. The system we rely on to provide us with fish to eat also contains polarities, many of which are highlighted in this info graphic. We need to manage and balance these polarities if the fish food system is to meet the world’s demand and need for fish in a sustainable way and ensure secure employment and livelihoods to those who provide them.

Within EEZ’s and high seas
Fishing occurs both within national jurisdiction and beyond them on the high seas. Approximately 90% of marine catch comes from areas within national jurisdiction.[5]

Fish are produced for both direct human consumption and reduction for animal feed
Total fish production in 2011 (mT)[1]
- 130.8 Human consumption
- 23.2 Non-food use

Fishery production supplies both domestic and international trade
39% of fish production entered international markets in 2008[1]

Freshwater and marine
Wild capture and farmed fish production occurs both in freshwater and marine systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of fishers in developing countries (m)</th>
<th>Number employed in post-harvest in developing countries (m)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inland</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>41.2</td>
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2011 Fish Production (mT)[1]
- 19.3 Marine
- 44.3 Inland
- 78.9 Inland

[1] Fish are produced by both aquaculture and wild capture (hunting)

Wild Capture 90.4 mT
Aquaculture 63.6 mT

Fish are an essential source of food for food security and luxury consumption for the wealthy

The most expensive Bluefin Tuna sold for at Tokyo’s Tsukiji fish market in January, 2012. [3]

$550 /kg

[4] The average price of low value fish in retail markets in Bangladesh is

$1 /kg