Welcome to this edition of the FAO Aquaculture e-bulletin, covering our most recent news, publications, technical workshops and projects for the period February to May 2011. We hope that this information can be also useful to you in your own aquaculture work.

This newsletter presents just a selection of what we do and we encourage you to visit our Web site www.fao.org/fishery/aquaculture/en to find out more or to contact by e-mail the officers of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department’s Aquaculture Service (FIRA) responsible for the various activities.

Awards/Recognition

- **2010-2011 Edouard Saouma Award**: The State Veterinary Office (SVO), Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina, has received the **2010-2011 Edouard Saouma Award** for its outstanding contribution to the implementation of a Technical Cooperation Project for strengthening capacity on aquaculture health management (TCP/BIH/3101). Officers involved were: M. Reantaso, R. Subasinghe, R. Van Anrooy, L. Ababouch, B. Karunasagar, A. Skonhoft). This year’s award is shared with another TCP project in forestry.

- **Margarita Lizárraga Medal Award**: nominated by the Fisheries and Aquaculture
Department’s Aquaculture Service, the Network of Aquaculture Centres for Asia and the Pacific (NACA) is the 2011 recipient of the Margarita Lizárraga Medal Award.

- **Gold Medal Award**: The FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department received the Gold Medal Award from the Asian Fisheries Society during the 9th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum, Shanghai, China in April 2011 in recognition of its role in the development of aquaculture and fisheries in the Asian-Pacific region and its active support to AFS activities.

### Recent publications

- **FAO Aquaculture Newsletter – FAN 46** - The December 2010 issue of FAN contains an editorial on “Introduced species in fisheries and aquaculture” which represents an issue of concern for genetic implications of native species; a large part of this issue is dedicated to the outcomes of the Global Conference of Aquaculture held in Phuket, Thailand (22-25 September 2010) and the Fifth Session of the COFI-Sub-Committee on Aquaculture (27 September-1 October 2010); the recently-established NASO map collection Web site; articles on strengthening aquaculture biosecurity capacity in Southern Africa; ecolabelling, certification and responsible fisheries and aquaculture; on-farm feeding and feed management in aquaculture; an expert workshop in enhancing the contribution of small-scale aquaculture to food security, poverty alleviation and socio economic development; fifth meeting of the RECOFI Working Group on Aquaculture; and RECOFI Technical Workshop on Spatial Planning for Marine Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture. Other articles and FAO aquaculture publications are also featured.

Soon online at the [FAN Publications](#) page.

### Web-based products

- National Aquaculture Sector Overview (NASO)
One new Fact Sheet: **United States of America**

One updated Fact Sheet: **Islamic Republic of Iran**

National Aquaculture Legislation Overview (NALO)

- Two new Fact Sheets: **Seychelles, Algeria**
- Eleven new versions in Arabic and Chinese

Cultured Aquatic Species Fact sheet:

- One new Fact Sheet: **Japanese sea cucumber** (*Stichopus japonicus*)

New Google-based maps for **China, United States of America, Colombia, Brazil** and **Ecuador** showing where aquaculture is taking place at the national level are now available in the **National Aquaculture Sector Overview map collection** Web site.

**Aquaculture projects**

- **TCP/DJI/3301(D)** – Support to the development of marine aquaculture in Djibouti. The project was officially launched on May 27 in the city of Djibouti. The project will assist this northeastern African country in looking into its potential in developing a competitive aquaculture industry. The project will focus mainly on shrimp aquaculture, particularly along the northern coastal shores of Djibouti, and the potential of establishing an artisanal finfish cage sector. The project will also look at the potential of seaweed farming (*Eucheuma*) in the coastal flats. Capacity development of the Department of Fisheries staff is an important component of the TCP which will include hands-on study tours to a selected country in
Southeast Asia. The main consultants (shrimp and cage culture) are currently in the country and they will continue providing the technical inputs until the end of the project (December 2012). (Lead officer: Alessandro Lovatelli)

- **GCP/HAI/022/OPF** – Promotion of small-scale poultry farming and aquaculture for the improvement of food security in Haiti. The overall objective of the project executed from January 2009 to February 2011, was to assist the Haitian government in promoting the development of rural aquaculture and poultry production in selected sites located in the Southern and Artibonite Districts. (Lead officer: Valerio Crespi)

- **GCP/HAI/024/EC** – Support to food security and livelihood of rural populations affected by food prices increase and technical assistance for environment rehabilitation and agriculture sustainable development. The project executed in the northeast District of Haiti from April 2009 to June 2011, has an aquaculture component with two main objectives: (i) extensive fish production in small lakes; and (ii) grow-out red tilapia in floating cages. (Lead officer: Valerio Crespi).

**FAO meeting workshops** (including those under Technical Cooperation Programmes, Unilateral Trust Funds and other Extra-Budgetary Funded projects).

- Future Directions for Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries Action, Research and Development: A Special Workshop, 23-24 April 2011, Shanghai (Lead officers: Melba Reantaso and Rebecca Metzner).
- Third Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF3), 21-23 April 2011,
Shanghai: FIRA has supported this symposium through a Letter of Agreement with Asian Fisheries Society (AFS) (Lead officers: Melba Reantaso and Rebecca Metzner).


- FAO Special Session at the 9th Asian and Pacific Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum, AFAF-9, on the Role of aquatic genetic resources in sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, 21-22 April 2011, Shanghai, China (Lead officers: Matthias Halwart, Devin Bartley, Kathrin Hett and Ruth García).

- Technical training on the Regional Aquaculture Information System (RAIS) for the Regional Centre staff based in the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAFR) Institute, Kuwait City, Kuwait 13-17 March 2011 (Lead officer: Valerio Crespi).

- Training and testing of FAO CCRF Aquaculture Questionnaires with government officers in Viet Nam and China (Lead officers: Doris Soto and Jiansan Jia).

- FAO Special Session on Climate Change and Aquatic Genetic Resources: mitigation and adaptation, 24 April 2011, FAO Headquarters, Rome (Lead officers: Matthias Halwart, Doris Soto, Devin Bartley, Kathrin Hett and Ruth García).

**Coming Meetings/Workshops**

- Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Special Session on “The Role of Genetic Resources in Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change”, 16 July 2011, FAO Headquarters, Rome (Lead officers: Matthias Halwart, Doris Soto, Devin Bartley, Kathrin Hett and Ruth García).

MoU between FIRA and FFRC

- A Memorandum of Understanding between FIRA and the Freshwater Fisheries Research Center (FFRC, based in Wuxi) of the Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences was signed on April 2011 in Rome by Jiansan Jia (Service Chief FIRA) and Xu Pao (FFRC) covering 4 areas of cooperation: (1) development of training curricula, modules and manuals, (2) participation in regional meetings and application of lessons learnt, (3) training, visits and consultations involving FFRC specialists and FAO experts, and (4) training needs assessment and post-training evaluations.

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