Welcome to this September 2012 edition of the FAO Aquaculture e-bulletin, covering our most recent news, publications, technical workshops and projects for the period March 2012 to August 2012. 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 to find out more or to contact by e-mail the officers of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department’s Aquaculture Service (FIRA) responsible for the various activities.

**Highlights**

- **30th session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI 30)** - convened at FAO Headquarters (Rome, Italy, 9-13 July 2012) with participation from 540 delegates, including from COFI member states, UN agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and civil society groups.

  During the week-long meeting, participants considered: world fisheries and aquaculture: status, issues and needs; progress in the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and related instruments; decisions and recommendations of the 13th session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade, and the 6th session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture; ocean governance and relevant outcomes from the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20); major developments and future work of FAO on fisheries and aquaculture since the last COFI session; FAO’s programme of work in fisheries and aquaculture; and revised Rules of Procedure of the Committee and related changes in practice. (Information: www.fao.org/cofi/cofi2012, including Advanced Copy of the report).

- **Sixth session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture** was successfully held in Cape Town, South Africa (26-30, March, 2012) with participation from 47 FAO Members as well as observers from 7 intergovernmental and 3 international non-governmental organizations. The meeting debated on important agenda items such as efforts in implementing the recommendations of the last SCA session, progress in the implementation of aquaculture-related sections of the Code of Conduct questionnaires, aquaculture certification, assessing and monitoring of aquaculture performance, aquaculture data and information, feeding the aquaculture sector and plan of action for the Sub-Committee. A special event on genetic resources and technologies in aquaculture development was also held. The Seventh session of the Sub-Committee will take place in St. Petersburg, Russia in 2013. (Information: www.fao.org/cofi/aq/73970)

**Recent publications**


- **FAO Aquaculture Newsletter – FAN 49** - The June 2012 issue of FAN contains an editorial on “Rio+20 Aquaculture for sustainable development and its credentials for green growth”; aquaculture highlights on the 6th Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture and the 13th Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade; thematic/lessons learned section containing articles on Eat more fish – a healthy alternative; Implementing the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries and Aquaculture: a case study in Nicaragua; Testing and training the new aquaculture CCRF compliance questionnaire; Enhancing capacity on risk analysis as a decision-making tool for aquaculture development; Emergency response to transboundary aquatic animal disease outbreaks; and A success story: establishment of Central Asian and Caucasus Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CACFish). Projects/Programme updates section provide information on new and/or ongoing aquaculture projects in various world regions. The final section of FAN is dedicated, as usual, to new aquaculture publications.


Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries: Moving the Agenda Forward. Special Issue Publication Volume 25S (2012). Asian Fisheries Science. Papers from the Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries 3rd Symposium, Shanghai, China, 21-23 April 2011. This publication was supported by FAO. (Information: M. Hasan)

IMPACT: Turning knowledge into action. Seven focus areas where FAO’s comparative advantage contributes to impact include: controlling biosecurity risks related to fisheries and aquaculture. (Information: M. Reantaso)

Newly-translated publications


Web-based products

National Aquaculture Legislation Overview (NALO)

A new Fact Sheet, Turkey and five new French translations, Algeria, Greece, Papa New Guinea, Seychelles and Spain.

Projects

TCP/JOR/3401 - Project formulation mission for the improvement of fish aquaculture production in Jordan. Following an official request for technical assistance by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kingdom of Jordan, a field mission was undertaken last April to identify the developmental constraints affecting the aquaculture sector. The objective of the mission was to gather information on the status and potential of the sector, meet the relevant authorities and visit potential farming areas and ongoing commercial projects. The mission engaged a wide range of stakeholders including government officials, researchers and entrepreneurs to identify and agree on actions needed to strengthen the aquaculture sector and to increase fish supply. (Information: A. Lovatelli and V. Crespi)

TCP/VIE/3304 – Emergency assistance to control the spread of an unknown disease affecting shrimps - this emergency TCP project (April 2012 until March 2013) is aimed at reaching a comprehensive diagnosis of this unknown disease in the Mekong Delta, currently called Acute hepatopancreatic necrosis syndrome (AHPNS) or Early mortality syndrome (EMS) affecting Penaeus vannamei and P.
monodon with mass mortalities reaching up to 100% during the first 30 days of culture. The TCP involves a systematic collection of shrimp, water, sediment and feed samples for laboratory analysis, an active surveillance (cross sectional and cohort studies) and an environmental assessment to identify both biotic and abiotic risk factors and training to affected shrimp farmers in selected provinces on farm level biosecurity and best management practices.

(Information: M. Reantaso, K. Yamamoto)

- **TCP/SUR/3401** – Strengthening aquatic animal health protection systems in Suriname – this TCP (June 2012 to December 2013) has 4 major outputs, namely: (1) an updated Aquaculture Development Strategy and action plan finalised and approved by the Competent Authority; (2) a National Strategy on Aquatic Animal Health Management in Suriname approved; (3) a surveillance system for aquatic animal pathogen established and functional including an aquatic animal health information systems; and (4) capacity of aquaculture and aquatic animal health professionals in both public and private sectors strengthened through trainings and workshops.

(Information: R. van Anrooy, M. Reantaso, R.Subasinghe)

- **TCP/TON/3401** – Risk assessment in Aquaculture Development – this TCP facility will assess aquaculture development in Tonga and conduct a risk assessment training course will be conducted for government officials and other stakeholders using a specific translocation scenario, i.e. introduction of barramundi for aquaculture to the Vava’u Island group.

(Information: M. Izumi, M. Reantaso)

### Aquaculture and aquaculture-related events (2012-2013)

- FAO Scoping Workshop: Regional Cooperation Programme for Responsible Aquaculture and Fisheries Development in the Central Asian and Caucasian countries, 4-8 June 2012, Urumqi, Xinjiang, China.

(Information: M.R. Hasan)

- Mainstreaming Gender in Fisheries and Aquaculture: Consultation and Action Planning Workshop, 11-12 June 2012, Rome, Italy.

(Information: M. Reantaso)

- Inception Workshop of the EC-funded FP7 project Aquaculture for Food Security, Poverty Alleviation and Nutrition (AFSPAN), 11-13 September 2012, Penang, Malaysia.

(Information: R. Subasinghe and K. Yamamoto)

- The FAO-Government of Uganda Capacity-Building Workshop on Conducting Aquaculture as a Business was held from 30 July to 03 August 2012 in Uganda.

(Information: N. Hishamunda and J. Cai)

- FAO/SPC Regional Workshop on Aquatic Biosecurity and Aquaculture Data and Statistics in the Pacific Region, 1-6 October 2012, Nadi, Fiji.

(Information: M. Izumi)

- FAO/MARD Joint Technical Consultation on an Unknown Disease (AHPNS/EMS) affecting Cultured Shrimp in Viet Nam, 7-8 November 2012, Hanoi, Viet Nam.

(Information: M. Reantaso)

- Introductory Training Course on Aquatic Animal Health Management for Central Asian Countries, 3-6 December 2012, Turkey.

(Information: H. Fersoy and M. Reantaso)

- Training course on Aquaculture zoning and carrying capacity Managua, Nicaragua, 5-9 November 2012.

(Information: D. Soto and J. Aguilar-Manjarrez)

- RECOFI Regional Spatial Planning Development Programme for Marine Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture Egypt, Cairo. 25–27 November 2012.

(Information: J. Aguilar-Manjarrez and F. Carocci)

- Technical training and terminal workshop for TCP project on Aquaculture information management system in Thailand (TCP/THA/3304), Bangkok, Thailand, 08–16 January 2013.

(Information: W. Miao and J. Aguilar-Manjarrez)

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