

April 2011

	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	联合国 粮食及 农业组织	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture	Продовольствен ная и сельскохозяйств енная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación
---	--	--------------------	---	---	---	--

## CONFERENCE

### Thirty-seventh Session

Rome, 25 June - 2 July 2011

### Presentation of the Edouard Saouma Award 2010-2011

#### Executive Summary

The Edouard Saouma Award pays tribute to Edouard Saouma, FAO Director-General from 1976 to 1993. The Award is presented biennially to a national or regional institution, which has implemented with particular efficiency a project funded by the Technical Cooperation Programme. The Award for 2010-2011 has been granted jointly to the State Veterinary Office, Bosnia and Herzegovina for the implementation of TCP/BIH/3101 - "Strengthening capacity on aquaculture health management", and to the Forest Management Bureau, Philippines for the implementation of TCP/PHI/3101 - "Advancing the Application of Assisted Natural Regeneration for Effective Low-cost Forest Restoration".

1. The Edouard Saouma Award, a biennial award conferred on a national or regional institution which has implemented with particular efficiency a project funded by the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) was established under FAO Conference Resolution 2/93. The award bears the name of Dr Edouard Saouma, Director-General of FAO from 1976 to 1993.
2. The Award consists of: (i) a medal inscribed with the name of the recipient institution; (ii) a scroll describing its achievements; (iii) a cash prize of USD 25 000; (iv) travel to FAO headquarters in Rome by a representative of the winning institution to participate in the Award Ceremony and to receive the award on behalf of the institution.

#### Selection of the Winning Institution

3. The Edouard Saouma Award Selection Committee, chaired by the Director-General and comprising the Independent Chairperson of the Council, and the Chairpersons of the Programme and Finance Committees, selects the winning institution. The selection is made from a short-list drawn up by an Ad Hoc Interdepartmental Screening Committee, chaired by the Deputy Director-General (Operations) and comprising the Assistant Directors-General of all the headquarters departments, the Legal Counsel, the Director of the Office of Knowledge Exchange, Research and Extension, and the Senior Officer of headquarters TCP Support Team, as Secretary.

*This document is printed in limited numbers to minimize the environmental impact of FAO's processes and contribute to climate neutrality. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and to avoid asking for additional copies. Most FAO meeting documents are available on the Internet at [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)*

4. Nominations are submitted by national or regional institutions to FAO Representatives or UNDP Resident Representatives, for endorsement and eventual submission to the FAO department in charge of the project's backstopping.

5. This year, the Award is being granted jointly to two national institutions that excelled equally in the implementation of their respective TCP projects and will thus share the cash prize.

**State Veterinary Office (SVO), Bosnia and Herzegovina**

(TCP/BIH/3101 - "Strengthening capacity on aquaculture health management")

6. The project was launched to improve national capacities to support sustainable and healthy aquaculture production, for domestic consumption and trade. Capacity development activities targetted various administrative levels and the private sector on: policy and national aquatic animal health (AAH) strategy, European Union (EU) trading and AAH, risk analysis in aquaculture, product safety and quality assurance, and diagnostics, surveillance and reporting of aquatic animal diseases. A draft national AAH management strategy, a disease diagnostic manual for extension workers and a veterinary inspector's checklist for aquaculture farms and fish processing plants were developed, published in local language and disseminated. The national AAH reference laboratory was strengthened through overseas training and provision of equipment.

7. SVO, working beyond its mandate, assisted the country in acquiring a licence to export fish and fish products to the EU market. Four fish processing facilities were listed as EU import approved establishments in 2008. Aquaculture production increased by 12 percent during the project and export of fish products to the EU commenced. Compliance efforts of veterinary administration, inspectors, laboratories and producers to international animal health, food safety and quality requirements and practices were enhanced.

8. Despite limited resources, the SVO actively involved and coordinated various stakeholders of the country's multistructured administration, mediated differing views and built consensus towards a harmonized approach. The risk-based approach developed by the project is now applied by SVO when drafting monitoring plans for aquaculture, aquatic animal health and food safety as well as for decision-making concerning domestic and international movements of live aquatic animals and their products.

**Forest Management Bureau (FMB), Philippines**

(TCP/PHI/3101 - "Advancing the Application of Assisted Natural Regeneration for Effective Low-cost Forest Restoration")

9. The project aimed to promote Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) application. Demonstration-cum-training sites were established in Bataan, Bohol and Davao del Norte and practical hands-on ANR training was provided to more than 200 foresters, NGO staff and local community residents/leaders. Assessments of cost-effectiveness of ANR approaches conducted by the project confirmed that ANR techniques could reduce the costs of forest restoration by as much as 50 percent compared with conventional reforestation approaches, while successfully preventing destructive forest fires and enhancing local biodiversity.

10. The project influenced major policy revisions prohibiting the clearing of natural vegetation in degraded natural forests. The *Upland Development Program* of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) allocated 20 percent of its total funding of approximately USD 32 million to support ANR practices on more than 9 000 hectares. DENR is currently negotiating a new USD 150 million loan from the Asian Development Bank for watershed rehabilitation that will include ANR as a key component. The Danao Municipality in Bohol and Limay Municipality in Bataan have included ANR-based forest restoration in their local municipal development strategies. Long-term monitoring of ecological parameters and vegetation changes has been put in place.

11. The FMB officers were actively involved in field activities and engaged with communities. With the support of the Bagong Pagasa Foundation Inc., the FMB developed a range of innovative local partnerships to secure follow-up support for maintaining and expanding the ANR project model sites. The FMB, in collaboration with local partners, maintains the project sites and is preparing a nationwide training of stakeholders under the *Upland Development Program*.