

## Dr Diego Valderrama



Dr Diego Valderrama, a Colombian national, earned in 2008 a Ph.D. degree in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics from the University of Rhode Island (USA). He has an M.Sc. in Aquaculture/Fisheries from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (USA) and a B.Sc. in Marine Biology from the Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano (Bogotá, Colombia). His expertise is on the economics of aquaculture and marine resources. For his M.Sc. work, he conducted studies on the production economics of shrimp farming in Central America (Honduras and Nicaragua). His research, funded by the Pond Dynamics/Aquaculture CRSP, USAID and WB/NACA/WWF/FAO, tackled a variety of issues of vital importance to the industry, including the economic optimization of production practices and the economic analysis of Best Management Practices (BMPs). As part of his doctoral degree work, he conducted research on a number of issues in marine resource economics, including an analysis of rotational management for sea scallop fisheries in the U.S. Northeast and Mid-Atlantic coasts,

a study of market interactions between the world salmon aquaculture industry and Alaskan salmon fisheries, and a formal examination of the effectiveness of targeted tariffs in the recent antidumping case against imported shrimp in the U.S. market.

He has also conducted extensive research on the production economics of catfish farming in the southeastern U.S., the economics of aquaculture effluent regulation, the economic potential and implications of offshore aquaculture development in the U.S., and the international shrimp market. His research has been published in a number of peer-reviewed journals; in addition, he has co-authored three book chapters on aquaculture economics issues.

In October 2008, he was appointed a Fishery Planning Analyst (Aquaculture Economics) at the Development Planning Service (Fisheries & Aquaculture Economics & Policy Division) of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department at FAO. In his new position, he will contribute to the Division's work on social and economic aspects of policy and strategy development to ensure sustained livelihoods for all beneficiaries in aquaculture. He can be reached at [diego.valderrama@fao.org](mailto:diego.valderrama@fao.org) and at +39-06-570-56505.

## Dr Alejandro Flores-Nava



Dr Flores-Nava is a Mexican national with a B.Sc. in Aquaculture Engineering (1982) from the Marine Technologies Institute of Veracruz, Mexico, an M.Sc. in Aquaculture and Fishery Management (1983) and a Ph.D. in Aquaculture (1990), both from the Institute of Aquaculture of the University of Stirling, U.K.. His doctoral research focused on assessing the potential for aquaculture development in karstic freshwater bodies of Yucatan, Mexico, from the limno-biological, social and economic perspectives.

He has spent more than 25 years carrying out research on a range of topics in aquaculture which included aquaculture engineering and systems design, aquaculture systems ecology, culture of marine shrimp, native fish of Central America and anurans of commercial importance. The results of his research have been published in many peer-reviewed papers, book chapters and books in aquaculture-related fields. He has also been full professor, Head of the Marine Resources Department and Director of the Centre for Research and Advanced Studies (CINVESTAV) of the National Polytechnic Institute in Merida, Mexico. Also, he has been the founding Director of the School of Natural Resources and the M.Sc. in Aquaculture Business Management Programme of the Marist University of Mexico, where he was Rector (President) from 2004 to December 2008.

Dr Flores-Nava has served as technical cooperation expert on aquaculture of the Government of Mexico in a number of missions to Central America and a consultant to the EU-funded PRADEPESCA programme, aimed at building capacity in aquaculture and fisheries in all of the Central American countries. He carried out a number of regional reviews and analysis of key aquaculture issues in Latin America, as an FAO consultant. Recently, he participated as an FAO international expert in the formulation of the National Aquaculture Development Plan of Uruguay.

He was the Technical Director and share holder of an export-oriented aquaculture farm based in Southeast Mexico for six years. As a private consultant, he has provided technical assistance in aquaculture in countries of Central America, the USA and Spain.

In October 2008, he was appointed Fishery and Aquaculture Officer for Latin America and the Caribbean, based in the Sub Regional office of Santiago, Chile. He can be contacted by email: [Alejandro.Flores@fao.org](mailto:Alejandro.Flores@fao.org).