OTHER COURSE PROPOSALS

Course proposals covering a range of other fisheries topics are under consideration. These include: commercial raising of African catfish/tilapia; use of geographical information systems in fisheries and aquaculture planning and management; fisheries statistics; public administration of fisheries; product quality assurance for inspectors; regulating access in small-scale fisheries; and product development and marketing.

Proposals for courses in other topics that can be addressed through one to two-week short courses are welcomed by the Project.

FUNDING

The Icelandic Ministry of Foreign Affairs has provided initial funding for the CTC Project. Further donor contributions are invited.

COOPERATION WITH THE UNU/FTP

The FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department works closely with the United Nations University’s Fisheries Training Programme (UNU/FTP) in order to ensure a coherent and cohesive relationship and maximum synergies between FTP and CTC Project activities. Since 1997 Iceland has hosted, staffed and financed the UNU/FTP (<www.unuftp.is>). The CTC Project is thus an extension of Iceland’s support for training and capacity building in fisheries for developing countries.

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The CTC Project is currently supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Iceland

Further donor partner contributions are invited

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WHAT IS THE CTC PROJECT ABOUT?

The FishCode Custom Training Courses (CTC) Project contributes to the enhancement of human capacity by supporting the development and delivery of well-targeted short courses, customized to the needs of trainees in selected developing countries.

The CTC Project has the dual objectives of delivering short-courses in fisheries and aquaculture and of upgrading the skills of fisheries trainers.

The Project works interactively with trainers in identifying needs and then designing, developing, organizing and running the courses.

Once a course topic is selected for a particular country, a work programme is agreed and implemented with in-country trainers together with experts from the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department and the United Nations University’s Fisheries Training Programme (UNU/FTP).

COURSES UNDER DEVELOPMENT

1. Fisheries co-management in Indonesia

The course principally addresses an approach to fisheries management and associated institutional arrangements that will facilitate community participation and ownership of fisheries management. It is designed to assist Provincial and District Fisheries Officers to recognize that, without the active support and involvement of fishers, governments can do little to achieve sustainable, equitable and resilient fisheries management, particularly in small-scale fisheries. The course is intended to develop the capacity of aquaculture enterprises in Cuba to make such assessments. The course is being developed in cooperation with the Ministry of Fishing Industry, Seafood Industry and Distribution Association (INDIPES), and the University of Havana.

2. Profitability assessment in Cuba

A fundamental assessment needed when considering establishing an aquaculture or fishing enterprise is whether it will be profitable or not to do so. All too often this does not happen, with the result that many such enterprises collapse or only survive when supported by subsidies. This course is intended to develop the capacity of aquaculture enterprises in Cuba to make such assessments. The course is being developed in cooperation with the Ministry of Fishing Industry, Seafood Industry and Distribution Association (INDIPES), and the University of Havana.

3. Fishing vessel stability in Sri Lanka

There is an urgent need in Sri Lanka for fishers to be better informed about stability risk factors in both the construction and use of vessels. This course will initially train, and then support six sets of instructors to develop and deliver a half-day awareness raising course on fishing vessel stability. They will then replicate the course for local fishers’ groups around the country. The course is being developed in cooperation with the Sri Lanka’s National Institute for Fisheries and Nautical Engineering (NIFNE).

4. Policy and planning for Pacific Island countries

Provision of a course on policy and planning for the coastal fisheries of the Pacific Island countries was part of an agreement reached between the UNU/FTP and the Commonwealth Secretariat. The CTC Project was invited to collaborate in the development and delivery of the course. Other partners in this initiative are the University of the South Pacific and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.