

## Examples of FishCode-STF field activities and capacity building

### Regional:

- Support to the FAO regional project on Addressing the Quality of Information on Inland Fisheries (FAO-AQUIIF)
- Support to the newly established OSPESCA Working Group on Fisheries Statistics
- Improvement of statistics of queen conch and development of technical guidelines for the monitoring of queen conch catches (Central America and Caribbean)

**Indonesia:** Study on the implications of IUU fishing in the Arafura Sea for Indonesian fishery statistics in collaboration with the Indonesian Agency for Marine and Fisheries Research.

**China:** Pilot studies on sample based fisheries surveys.

**Nicaragua:** Increasing the profile of artisanal fisheries in the national policies.

**Brazil:** Support to the improvement of fisheries statistical monitoring systems.



### Further information:

FAO Strategy-STF  
<http://www.fao.org/fi>

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*Further donor partner contributions are invited through the FishCode Trust*

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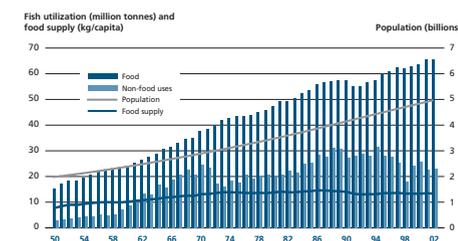
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## FAO FishCode-STF Project

### Implementation of the FAO Strategy for improving information on status and trends of capture fisheries



World fish utilization and supply, excluding China



## FAO STRATEGY-STF

The need for good information on status and trends of fisheries is stated in the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and in other international instruments concerning fisheries.

Accurate and appropriate knowledge of fisheries and fishery resources, including socio-economic aspects, is a prerequisite for sound policy-making and responsible fisheries management and governance.

On request of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) FAO developed the "Strategy for improving information on status and trends of capture fisheries". The Strategy was adopted by consensus at the twenty-fifth session of COFI and endorsed by the hundred and twenty-fourth session of the FAO Council and by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2003.



The Strategy-STF was developed within the context of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and its main objective is "to provide a framework for the improvement of knowledge and understanding of fishery status and trends as a basis for fisheries policy-making and management".

Within the Strategy-STF, high priority is given to capacity building and the provision of technical assistance to developing countries. Furthermore, the particular requirements of the small-scale fisheries sector are emphasized because of its importance to food security and poverty reduction.

The Strategy-STF supports the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation agreed on at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) by contributing better information for monitoring the time-bound goals set for fisheries, i.e. regarding the implementation of the IPOAs on illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and capacity, restoration of depleted stocks, application of an ecosystem approach, and the establishment of "representative networks" of marine protected areas.

## The FishCode-STF Project

To assist implementation of the Strategy-STF, a project was formulated under FishCode, FAO's multilateral Programme of Global Partnerships for Responsible Fisheries. The FishCode-STF Project became operational in November 2004.

The Project supports implementation of the Strategy-STF globally, but places special emphasis on capacity building in developing countries and regions. Direct beneficiaries include national fisheries statistical units, research institutes and administrations.



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## Project Implementation Strategy

FishCode-STF is designed to be implemented globally, but on a region-by-region basis. In each region, activities will be implemented in two overlapping phases. The first phase, "Development of inventories, methodologies and operational guidelines", is intended to provide outputs for use in the second phase, "Improvement and capacity building".

The Project, working in close collaboration with Regional Fishery Bodies, international Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and other stakeholder organisations, intends to carry out:

- Inventories of fisheries monitoring systems, fishery resources and fisheries
- Design and follow-up of programmes for improvement of fisheries monitoring and capacity building
- Initial studies and workshops for development of new methods for monitoring of small-scale fisheries, with attention to socio-economic information, inland fisheries and use of the ecosystem approach.
- Development of standards for ensuring information quality and security.

## Activities to date

- 2005 Regional inventory of fisheries monitoring systems in South East Asia (in collaboration with SEAFDEC).
- 2005 International workshop on the development of interdisciplinary approaches to the assessment of small-scale fisheries (in collaboration with the WorldFish Center).
- 2006 Regional inventory of fisheries monitoring systems in Central America (in collaboration with OSPESCA).
- 2006 Development and implementation of follow-up actions to improve information on fisheries in the Central American Region (ongoing).
- 2006 Regional inventory of fisheries monitoring systems in the Pacific (in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community – SPC).
- 2006 Development and implementation of follow-up actions to improve information on fisheries in the Pacific region (ongoing).
- 2006 Support to the development of the Fishery Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS).
- 2006 Inventories of fisheries and fisheries resources in South East Asia, Central America and the South Pacific.

In coming years, similar activities are planned for West Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa, the Bay of Bengal, Latin America, China and the Middle East.

