



2023 ASFA Advisory Board Meeting

Bangkok, Thailand

3–6 October 2023

ASFA/2023/6

Summary of Partners' reports

Summary of ASFA Centre annual reports

This document presents a summary of annual reports received from ASFA centres (partners, collaborating centres and associates). The annual reports present a key way for ASFA centres to provide feedback on their participation in ASFA and for the Secretariat to measure engagement and contributions, in particular looking at the number of records created each year.

Section 1. General information (Questions 1 – 5)

The survey was completed by 50 respondents (34% of the total number of institutions included in the ASFA partnership as partners, collaborating centres, or associates), including 4 of 10 international partners (40%); 23 of 51 national partners (45%); 13 of 35 collaborating centres (27%), 10 of 33 associates (30%).

List of institutions completed the survey (by type):

Region	Institution	Focal Point
International Partners		
	AdriaMed	Nicoletta Milone
	ICCAT	Pablo Herranz
	NAFO	Alexis Pacey
	World Fish	Chua Seong Lee
National Partners		
Argentina	INIDEP	María Gabriela Silvoni
Benin	IRHOB	Coffi Ferdinando Rock GBEDO
Canada	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Darlene Tan
Colombia	INVEMAR	Gigiola Prada Madrid
China	NMDIS	Yang, Yi
Ireland	Marine Institute	Stephanie Ronan
Japan	FRA	Kotaro Yokawa
Kenya	KMFRI	Elijah Mokaya
Malaysia	UMT	Mohd Shahrulnizam bin Zuraimi
Mauritania	IMROP	Cheikh Sakho
Mexico	UNAM	Marco Antonio Montes Flores
Kenya	KMFRI	Elijah Mokaya
Nigeria	NIFFER	Ibikunle Femi Lawrence
Peru	IMARPE	Miryam Arce Ventocilla
Philippines	UPV	Jason Sedantes

Poland	NMFRI	Iwona Fey
Russia	VNIRO	Ekaterina Kulakova
Tunisia	INSTM	Saida Messaoudi
Turkey	SUMAE	Ahmet Faruk Yesilsu
Viet Nam	CIS	Vu Thuy Hau
Uganda	NaFIRRI	Alice Endra
UK	FBA	Ian Pettman
Uruguay	Udelar	Silvina Pérez
Collaborating Centres		
AdriaMED	Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries	Ingrid Čatić
Iran	Tehran University, Kish International Campus	Shahla Jamili
Philippines	Bicol University Tabaco Library	Stephanie A. Granatin
Philippines	Mindanao State University at Naawan	Ethelyn Abaday-Maglangit
Poland	Pomeranian University in Słupsk	Anna Kubacka
Russia	AzNIIRH	Ekaterina Kulakova
Russia	IBSS	Akimova Olga
Russia	MSTU	Egulemova Svetlana
Russia	KaspNIIRH	Ruleva Olga
Russia	KamchatGTU	Blagonravova Maia
Russia	MHI	Dyachkina Elena
Russia	MagadanNIRO	Grigoriev Pavel
Viet NAM	VNIO	Dang Thi Hai Yen
Associates		
Algeria	CNRDPA	Boukrouh Assia
Russia	VNIIPRH	Kapkina Elena
Russia	AltaiNIRO	Teryaeva Irina
Russia	NIIERV	Polyaeva Ksenia
Russia	SakhNIRO	Lozhkin Dmitri
Russia	T.I. Vyazemsky Karadag Scientific Station	Fedorenko Marina
Russia	BaikalNIRO	Matafonov Dmitri
Russia	GosNIORH	Pavlova Oksana
Russia	Tyumen Branch of VNIRO	Nazarov Andei
Uruguay	DINARA	Aida Sogaray

Section 2. OpenASFA Input and Other ASFA Related Activities (Questions 6 - 12)

6. Have you registered for OpenASFA?

[More Details](#)

● Yes	44
● No	4
● Maybe	2



88% of respondents registered for OpenASFA. This is an increase from last year, when only 29 reported having registered on OpenASFA.

7. How many records did you submit in 2022? Please include the total number.

The total number of records, as reported by respondents, created in **2022** is **6 528**, including **296** records created by international partners, **5 220** records - by national partners, **962** – by collaborating centres, and **50** – by associates.

8. How many records did you submit in the first half of 2023 (January - June 2023)?

A total number of records, as reported by respondents, created in **January-June 2023** is **4 259**, including **466** records created by international partners, **3 435** records - by national partners, **356** – by collaborating centres, and **2** – by associates.

9. Do you manage a Team on OpenASFA?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

● Yes	8
● No	32
● Maybe	0



Eight respondents indicated they manage a Team on OpenASFA. Some partners must have misunderstood the question and indicated they manage a team when, in fact, no formal team on OpenASFA has been established for their country. Teams can be set up on OpenASFA by the ASFA Secretariat, anyone wishing to either set up a Team or learn more about this feature can contact the ASFA Secretariat.

10. How many records did your team submit in 2022? Please include the total number.

11. How many records did your team submit in the first half of 2023? (January - June).

Team input statistics for 2022 and Jan-Jun 2023 provided by Poland (NMFRI Team), Russia (VNIRO Team), and Tunisia (INSTM Team).

OpenASFA Team	2022	January-June 2023
NMFRI (Poland)	89	22
VNIRO (Russia)	840	501
INSTM (Tunisia)	11	23

12. Which of the following ASFA activities have you participated in during the past twelve months? Select all that apply.

[More Details](#)

● Attended training on OpenASFA	31
● ASFA working group meeting	17
● ASFA regional network meeting	22
● Contributed to ASFA magazine	5
● Other	11



Training on OpenASFA was the most frequently selected ASFA activity (31 respondent), followed by ASFA regional network meeting (22 respondents), ASFA working group meeting (17 respondents), Contribution to the ASFA Magazine – 5 respondents.


Among other activities mentioned:

- uploading articles;
- I trained and helped in entering records to OpenASFA, our Collaborating Center representative;
- assist in French training, help to recruit CNRDPA- Algeria, checked the French language of the homepage and help in the translation to Arabic;
- support in the agrovoc thesaurus; Working in a Survey for LA -VWG adding definitions and translations in VocBench- ASFA Agrovoc;
- Promotion and recruiting new collaborating centre;
- online meetings;
- not attended

Section 3 Experience and motivation (Questions 13 – 20)

13. How long have you been registered on OpenASFA?

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 Insights

● Since it was launched (since Apr...	31
● Since August 2022	4
● Since August 2023	2
● Other	8



Most respondents indicated they registered on OpenASFA since it was launched (31 respondents). “Other” responses indicate other dates (May 2022, since May 2023, since March 2023, since December 2022, since September 2021)

14. To what extent you cover your institution’s research output in OpenASFA?

[More Details](#)

● Occasionally (I create records fo...	14
● I create records for no less than ...	7
● I create records for all publicatio...	13
● In addition to fully covering my ...	11
● Other	9

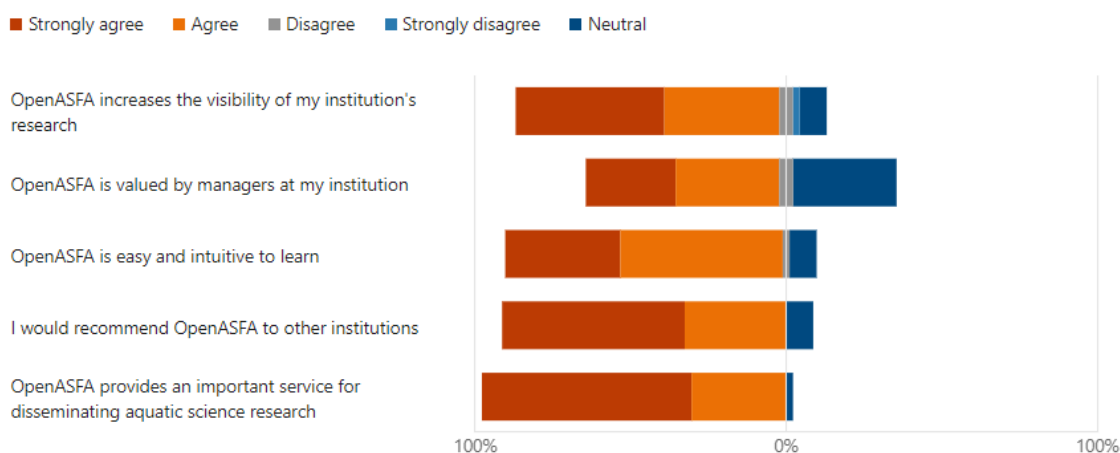


Responses divided almost equally between “Occasionally (I create records for some publications)” (14 respondents), “I create records for all publications by my institution, including grey literature” (13 respondents), and “In addition to fully covering my institution’s research output, I create records for other national publications” (11 respondents). Some respondents selected more than one option.

Among “Other” mentioned the following: I don't do the work myself. We have a contractor who does the indexing; do not cover.

15. How well do you agree with the following statements?

[More Details](#)

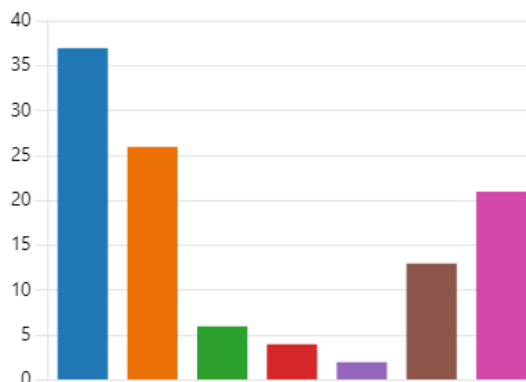


98% of respondents strongly agree/agree with the statement “OpenASFA provides an important service for disseminating aquatic science research”; 91% of respondents would recommend ASFA to other institutions; 89% of respondents have indicated that OpenASFA is free and intuitive to learn; 85% - strongly agree/agree with the statement “OpenASFA increases the visibility of my institution's research”. 62% of respondents indicated that OpenASFA is valued by managers at their institution, with other 33% remained neutral and 4% disagreed to this statement. Clearly, efforts must be made to communicate OpenASFA’s value to managers.

16. Which of the following OpenASFA features have you used? Select all that apply.

[More Details](#)

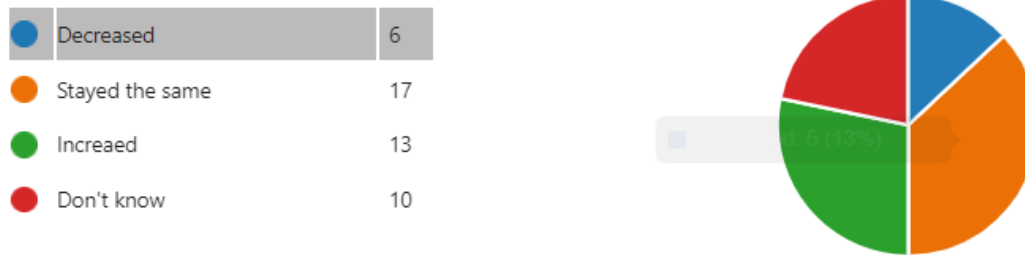
- Created a record 37
- Suggested a keyword 26
- Written on the Social Networkin... 6
- Set up harvesting 4
- Imported records using Excel 2
- Used the help notes 13
- Accessed training material on O... 21



Creating a record is a most frequently used OpenASFA feature (37 respondents), followed by “Suggested a keyword” (26 respondents) and “Accessed training material on OpenASFA workspace” (21 respondent). The least frequently used features are “imported records using Excel” (2). Following respondents selected “Set up harvesting” feature: Stephanie A. Granatin (Bicol University Tabaco Library, Philippines); Shahla Jamili (Tehran University, Kish International Campus, Iran), Stephanie Ronan (Marine Institute, Ireland), and Dmitri Matafonov (BaikalNIRO, Russia).

17. In the last two years (since August 2021) how has your input to OpenASFA changed?

[More Details](#)



Only six respondents (12%) indicated that their input decreased since August 2021, with 30 respondents indicated that their input either increased (13 respondents) or stayed the same (17 respondents).

18. Which of the following training materials have you accessed? Select all that apply.

[More Details](#)



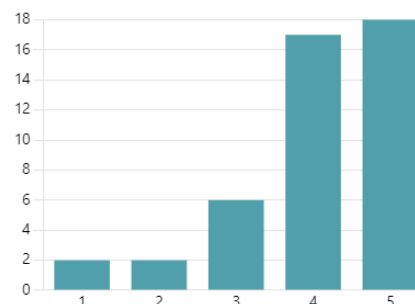
Training videos are the most frequently used training materials indicated by respondents (25), followed by Training guidelines (22 respondents) and Help notes (21 respondent). Other responses include: Guidelines for creating Open ASFA records; consultations; brochure presented at the IAMSLIC Conference in 2022; zoom trainings – colleagues; ask for help from colleagues in LA;

19. Thinking about your overall experience of using OpenASFA, how would you rate it?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

4.04
Average Rating



Level 5 (very good) – 18 respondents (40%)

Level 4 – 17 respondents (38%)

Level 3 – 6 respondents (13%)

Level 2 – 2 respondents (4%)

Level 1 (very poor) – 2 respondents (4%)

20. If you have any other comment on OpenASFA or would like to suggest new features for development, please do so below:

1. to develop a feature to enable searching for a particular author in the system and retrieve all the papers relating to his/her name. 2. enable search by month and year and/or improve statistics of records (already provided by the system) submitted monthly and yearly and by type of records. This is to enable us to give you or to our supervisors exact numbers, I think what exist now is not reflecting the exact statistics. Personally I'm not sure of my previous responses about numbers of records, sorry for that.

Enable an offline version, then automatically updates once internet connection is available. or an autosave feature such as MS Office or Google Workspace

Export list records annual

Free text for adding the author, institution during creating the record and if the name is not appear, can fill up directly at the same page

I am very satisfied with this platform, it is easy and friendly, it facilitates teamwork

I would like to see an advanced search feature on OpenASFA via the FAO website. It isn't easy to search by title as I tried many times.

I would suggest the development of automated indexing

It would be great to add a feature of displaying a number of authors affiliated to the institution (next to the inst title) and make the institution title clickable to see the list of authors attached. In the Insights it is also nice to get the supervisor stats visible in the same chart with the whole team in order to be able to track the results of the team in total and team head in particular (easier to fill in the annual report).

None at the moment

OPEN-ASFA can use retirees Partners to increase records, also use them for increasing special keywords in Open-ASFA

Should have a function or feature to support open science activity like preprint server and open access journal

The dashboard on my account is not up-to-date. It doesn't display later 2022 months nor 2023 for the books. Journal area is fine. The export feature would be nice if it worked for users.

The last version of the OpenASFA software it's "friendly" that the beginning. I think we have to work in search interphase for final users.

To be discussed at advisory board meeting

Training for updating on contributing records for OpenASFA

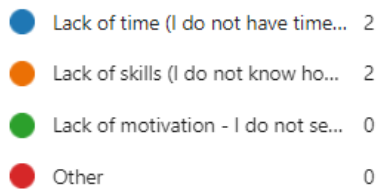
We need training

When reviewing the details of an item record, you cannot return to the listing. You should have an option to return to the previous.

Section 4. Reasons for not registering on OpenASFA (Questions 21-25)

21. What are your reasons for not registering on OpenASFA? Select the main reason only.

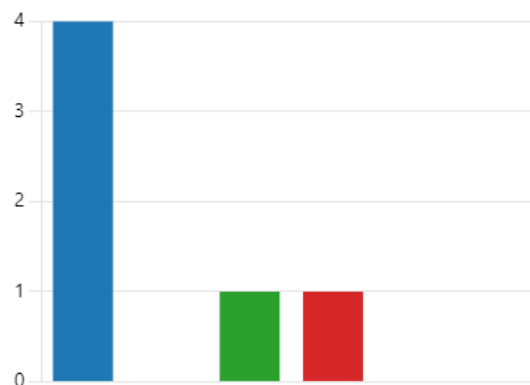
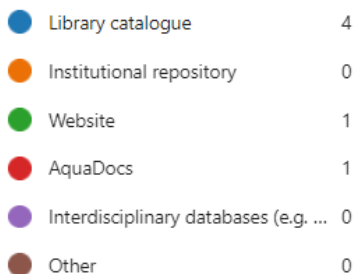
[More Details](#)



“Lack of time” (2 respondents) or “Lack of skills” (2 respondents) are the reasons for not registering on OpenASFA selected by 4 respondents.

22. How does your institution record and disseminate its research findings? Select all that apply.

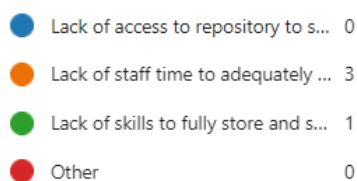
[More Details](#)



Four respondents provided responses. Library catalogue is mentioned by all four who responded. Using website and AquaDocs to disseminate institutional research output was selected each one time.

23. Does your institution experience any difficulties in storing or sharing research and data? Select all that apply.

[More Details](#)



Four respondents provided responses to this question indicating “Lack of staff time to adequately catalogue resources” and “lack of skills to fully store and share resources” as reasons preventing institution from storing and sharing research and data.

24. How could ASFA help your library in provision of the information services?

[More Details](#)

● By enabling storing and sharing ...	1
● By hosting and enabling contrib...	2
● By providing training on how to...	3
● Find it difficult to answer	1
● Other	0



Three respondents indicated that ASFA could provide a training on how to contribute to OpenASFA to the staff of the institution, these are IMROP, Mauritania; AltaiNIRO, Russia, and T.I. Vyazemsky Karadag Scientific Station, Russia. Two respondents (AltaiNIRO, Russia, and T.I. Vyazemsky Karadag Scientific Station, Russia) selected “By hosting and enabling contributions to the collections of interest to the institution”. Option “By enabling storing and sharing data” selected by T.I. Vyazemsky Karadag Scientific Station, Russia.

25. If your institution has any information management needs that are not being met, please expand below:
No responses.

Section 5 “How does your institution share its research outputs?” (Questions 26-28)

26. Where does your institution make its publications available? Select all that apply

[More Details](#)

● Website / webpage	38
● Institutional repository	23
● In print at the institution	29
● Not sure	1
● Other	6



“Website/webpage” is most frequently selected option (38 respondents), followed by “In print at the institution” – 29 respondents, and “Institutional repository” as a platform to make institutional publications available – 23 respondents. “Other” include:

- other Russian platforms such as Ринц and ИВИС;
- OJS INIDEP Journal MAFIS - Output research in other Journals, not online because copywrite so in local Library database at intranet, PDF access;
- Social Networks

27. How does your institution promote its research outputs?

[More Details](#)

● Social media (Twitter, LinkedIn, ...	23
● Newsletter	18
● Blogs	2
● Other	16



Most frequently selected option is “Social media (Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook etc.)” – selected by 23 respondents, followed by “Newsletter – 18 respondents, and “Blogs” – 2 respondents.

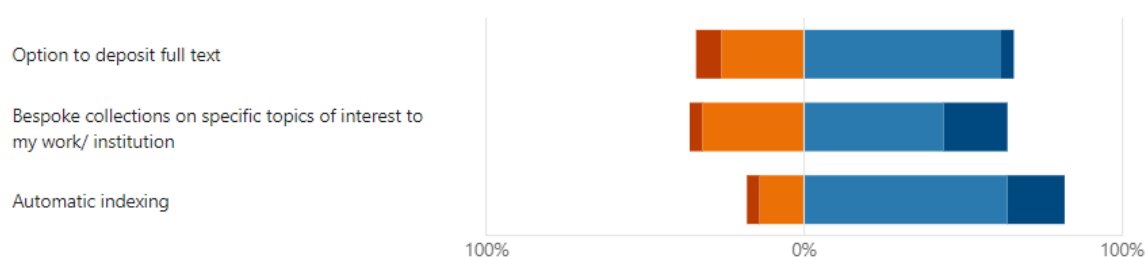
“Other” option include:

- posting information on the official website of GosNIORH named after. L.S. Berg", websites of supervised branches, the official website of the Federal State Budgetary Institution "VNIRO", as well as through interaction, including information, with other organizations of the Federal Agency for Fisheries, the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of Education and Science;
- for journals only by journal websites and other reports are blogs;
- From its website;
- Internet;
- Meetings
- At this moment, by Newsletter by email, and in ASFA Database, Repositories;
- publications in international scientific journals;
- Scientific Journal;
- Conferences;
- Individual publication through publishers (i.e. Elsevier, etc.);
- Mailing List; Meetings;
- TV, press
- There is very little that it promotes;

29. To what extent would you like to see the following features on OpenASFA?

[More Details](#)

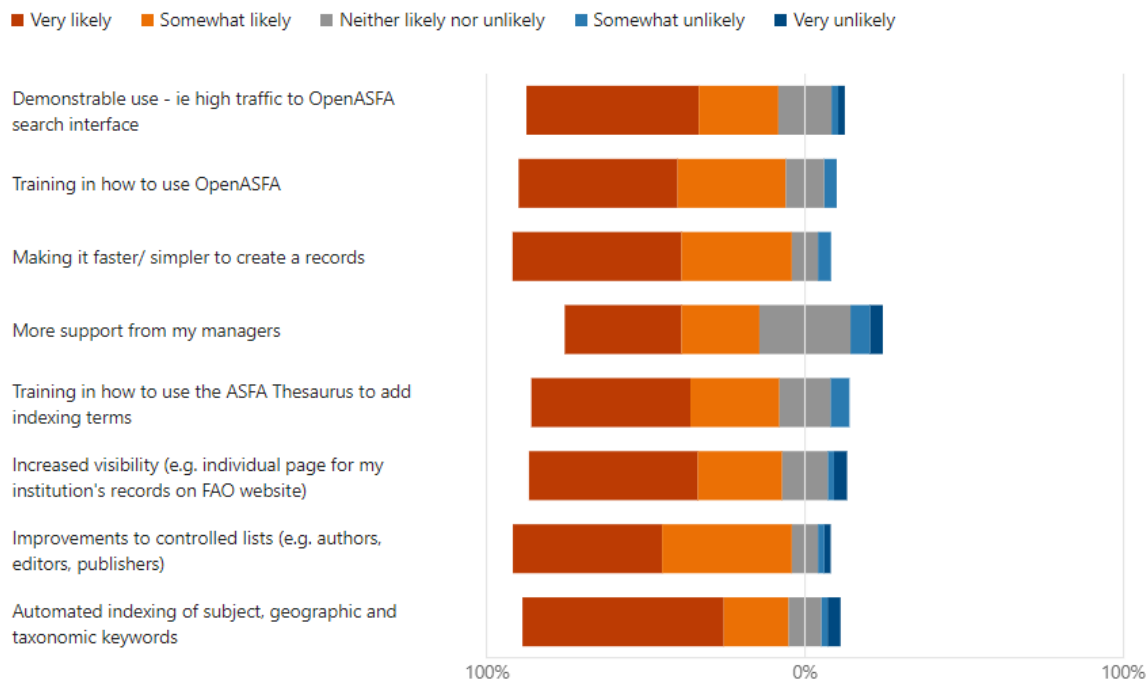
■ Not at all ■ Somewhat ■ Very much ■ Don't know



Automatic indexing is the most selected feature – 64% would very much like to see this feature on OpenASFA; Option to deposit full text supported by 62% of respondents, followed by “Bespoke collections on specific topics of interest to my work/ institution” – 44% of respondents.

30. How likely are the below options to encourage you to use OpenASFA more?

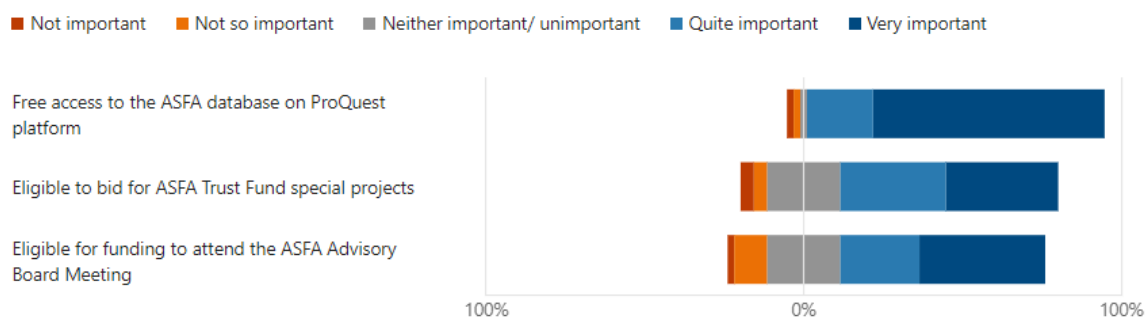
[More Details](#)



All the response options provided were selected by respondents, with slightly lower level of selecting “More support from my managers” option.

31. Please rate the importance of the current ASFA Partner entitlements. Please consider how the entitlement benefits you and your institution when giving your answer.

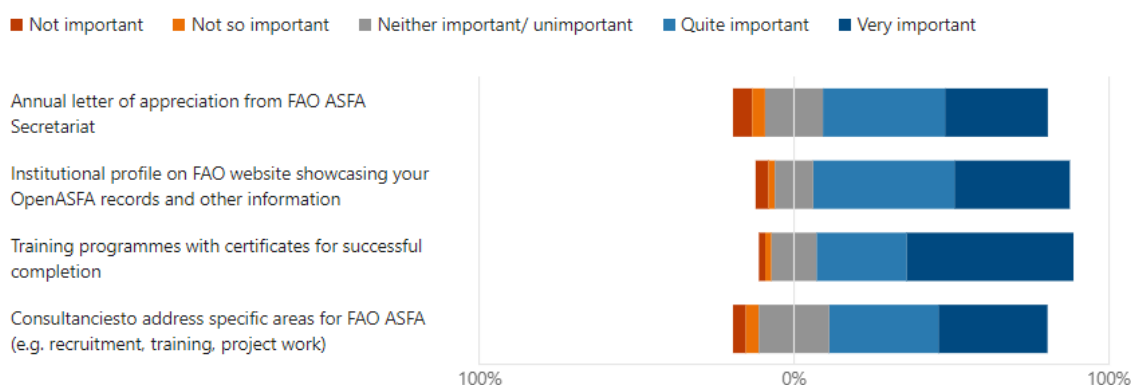
[More Details](#)



“Free access to the ASFA database on ProQuest platform” is selected as the most important of the current entitlements – 93% of respondents selected that option, followed by “Eligible to bid for ASFA Trust Fund special projects” (69%), and “Eligible for funding to attend the ASFA Advisory Board Meeting” (65%). Some respondents do not consider last two options as important (31% and 35%, respectively).

32. Please rate the importance of possible new ASFA Partner opportunities.

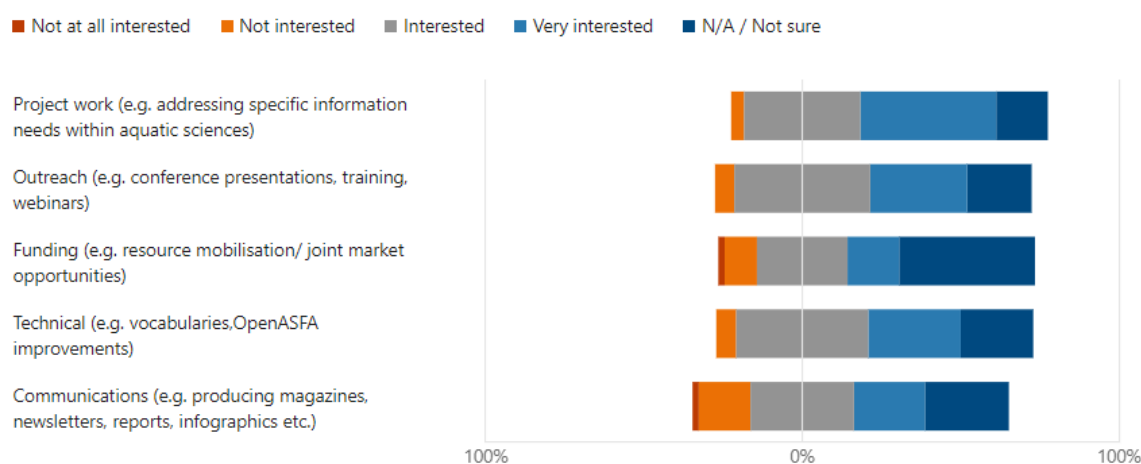
[More Details](#)



All the options provided are considered as important/very important by majority of respondents, with “Institutional profile on FAO website showcasing your OpenASFA records and other information” and “Training programmes with certificates for successful completion” being the options selected slightly more frequently over two other options (82% of respondents).

33. How interested would you or your institution be in collaborating with the FAO ASFA Secretariat on the below areas?

[More Details](#)



80% of respondents would be interested/very interested in collaborating with the ASFA Secretariat on Project Work. Followed by “Outreach (e.g. conference presentations, training, webinars)” – 74% of respondents interested, and “Technical (e.g. vocabularies, OpenASFA improvements)” – 71% interested. Less respondents are interested in collaborating with the ASFA Secretariat on Communications – 55%, with other 45% not interested/not sure.

34. Please provide any further detail of areas you / your institution would be interested in collaborating with FAO ASFA Secretariat:

recruit institutions in Colombia to be part of Asfa

Assistance in translation of ASFA Subject Thesaurus and survey

By providing more records on open ASFA

Collect publications on issues of fishing resources of rivers and lakes

Contact institutions inviting to join ASFA. Promote ASFA in trainings for stakeholders, specially for students, researchers, etc.

Fisheries publication indexing, information dissemination, Fisheries international symposium

Further developing Regional Groups

Information sharing on aquatic sciences

Prepare a preprint server for aquatic science

Project works

Vocabulary, local terms, comparative vocabulary (e.g. with neighboring countries)

Aquatic biological resources and their habitat (Водные биологические ресурсы и среда их обитания)

Aquatic biological resources (Водные биоресурсы)

35.

If you have other comment on the ASFA Partnership or would like to suggest other entitlements, please write below.

Should increase contributions to open science

ASFA to sponsor ASFA partner to attend ASFA Board Meeting automatically.

I've noticed that fewer institutions are submitting records to the ASFA database. This should get addressed or at least some discussion should take place at the board meeting.

Please also consider a point for inputter

We have a communication problem regarding ours requests. For instance, our records are not being included on the Proquest Database. Since February 2023, we have asked for correcting this issue on more than three separate occasions, but to no avail

36.

If you have any final thoughts on your participation in ASFA, please share below.

we need further training.

I am close to retiring, but I will continue collaborating with ASFA. I don't want the library to close after I retire. I am compiling information that I will process and make available.

I would like to thank Ekaterina Kulakova, rep. editor of the Russian branch of ASFA, for advice and assistance in mastering the ASFA database (Благодарю Е.О. Кулакову, отв. редактора Российского отделения АСФА, за консультации и помощь в освоении БД ASFA)

So far, NAFO supports me indexing our records, particularly from the science side, but I am not sure in 5-10 years they would see the purpose of it. That is unknown at this time.

Attending a board meeting in person, particularly this year was met with an unenthusiastic response. Prior to Covid, it was different. Even with funding provided, my managers were not keen on me travelling to the far east.

I'd like to work for ASFA very much. I think ASFA group is my family.

This is my last annual report as I am retiring December 29, 2023. Marie-Claire Lauzon will be my replacement.