

Proceedings of the
Global Conference on Aquaculture 2010

Farming the Waters for People and Food

Editors

Rohana P. Subasinghe

J. Richard Arthur

Devin M. Bartley

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Aquaculture activities. Courtesy of Francesco Cardia and Melba Reantaso.



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**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
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**Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific
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Foreword

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) are pleased to present *Farming the Waters for People and Food*, the Proceedings of the Global Conference on Aquaculture 2010.

The Global Conference on Aquaculture 2010, organized jointly by FAO, the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) and the Royal Thai Department of Fisheries (DoF), was held from 22 to 25 September 2010. It sought to bring together a wide-ranging group of experts and important stakeholders to review aquaculture progress and the further potential of this sector, as a basis for improving the positioning of the sector and its mandate within the global community.

The objectives of the Conference were to: (a) review the present status and trends in aquaculture development; (b) evaluate the progress made in the implementation of the 2000 Bangkok Declaration and Strategy; (c) address emerging issues relevant to aquaculture development; (d) assess opportunities and challenges for future aquaculture development; and (e) build consensus on advancing aquaculture as a global, sustainable and competitive food production sector.

In order to achieve these objectives, the Global Conference was conducted in four separate sessions over a period of four days. The Conference's technical programme included: (1) two keynote addresses; (2) three invited guest lectures; (3) six regional aquaculture development trends reviews and one global synthesis; and (4) 41 thematic presentations covering six broad thematic areas which included: (i) resources and technologies for future aquaculture; (ii) sector management and governance; (iii) aquaculture and the environment; (iv) responding to market demands and challenges; (v) improving knowledge, information, research, extension and communication in aquaculture; and (vi) enhancing aquaculture's contribution to food security, poverty alleviation and rural development.

The Global Conference triggered great interest among a wide range of stakeholders (including government, academia, education, research, industry and many others) and was very well attended. Over 650 delegates representing 69 countries from the aforementioned sectors participated. In fact, registration was closed two weeks prior to the commencement date, once the full holding capacity of the meeting rooms had been attained.

The regional aquaculture trends reviews and the global synthesis have already been published and are available at:
www.fao.org/fishery/regional-aquaculture-reviews/aquaculture-reviews-home/en

This publication comprises all other presentations and reviews of the Conference, which have been subject to peer review by a panel of experts. The Report of the Global Conference on Aquaculture 2010, which is available at the same site, provides a detailed account of the conduct of the Conference along with its technical recommendations.

As a modest step towards reassuring the support to sustainable aquaculture development, the Global Conference adopted the Phuket Consensus, a document which reaffirms commitment to implementing the Bangkok Declaration and Strategy which had been adopted during the Conference on Aquaculture in the Third Millennium held in 2000. The Phuket Consensus confirmed that the progress towards sustainable aquaculture development at the global level has been made possible largely by efforts made in line with the Bangkok Declaration and Strategy. The latter Strategy thus continues to be highly relevant to the aquaculture development needs and aspirations of FAO member countries; however, there are elements of the Bangkok Strategy that require further strengthening in order to enhance its effectiveness, achieve development goals and address persistent and emerging threats. The participants of the 2010 Global Conference therefore reaffirmed their commitment to the Bangkok Declaration and Strategy for Aquaculture Development and made several recommendations that since the early 1980s are outlined in the Phuket Consensus, as elicited at the end of this volume.

FAO and NACA have been collaborating on sustainable aquaculture development at the global level since the early 1980s, and significant contributions have been made jointly by FAO and NACA towards aquaculture development. With increasing poverty at the global level and the increasing demand for fish to feed a growing global population, much needs to be done to augment the contribution of aquaculture to global food and nutrition security. This volume, yet another joint effort of FAO and NACA, presents the much needed clear and comprehensive technical information that will assist in the mobilization of global efforts to alleviate poverty and improve food and nutrition security through sustainable and responsible aquaculture.

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From the Editors

We, the editors of *Farming the Waters for People and Food*, the Proceedings of the Global Conference on Aquaculture 2010, are delighted to acknowledge the completion of such a massive undertaking involved in compiling this volume. We thank the authors for their patience, continued support and assistance towards making this volume a success. We are grateful to the following FAO staff who assisted us in revising the manuscripts: Jose Aguillar-Manjarrez, Junning Cai, Alessandro Lovatelli, Melba Reantaso, Doris Soto and Koji Yamamoto. We sincerely thank Jose Luis Castilla Civit for his untiring efforts in layout design and page formatting.

Our challenge is to present to you an appealing, peer-reviewed, comprehensive scientific and technical document. We hope you will find that we have achieved this goal.

Unless otherwise mentioned, pictures used in this volume are the property of FAO.

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