



EIFAC symposium on interactions between social, economic and ecological objectives of inland commercial and recreational fisheries and aquaculture

Antalya, Turkey, 20-23 May 2008



The European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission (EIFAC) is organizing an international symposium on "Interactions between social, economic and ecological objectives of inland commercial and recreational fisheries and aquaculture" between 20 and 23 May 2008 in connection with its 25th Session in Antalya, Turkey.

BACKGROUND

Sustainability is at the core of efforts to develop and manage inland fisheries (i.e. commercial and recreational) and aquaculture in Europe. Sustainability in this context includes social, economic and ecological (or more broadly, environmental) aspects, which are shaped by functioning governance structures and management institutions. Previous EIFAC symposia have shown that in many cases sustainability is not viewed from all these three aspects in an integrated manner.

The FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the EU strategy for the sustainable development of European aquaculture and inland fisheries all recognize that the sector should take an approach where farming and fisheries technologies, social and economic issues, natural resource use, biodiversity conservation and governance are integrated to enhance sustainable management.

Interactions between social, economic and ecological objectives of inland fisheries and aquaculture are numerous and include amongst others:

- ◇ Improvement in ecological status of rivers, lakes and other water bodies
- ◇ (Re-)stocking for commercial and recreational fisheries

- ◇ Recovery and conservation of depleted/threatened stocks
- ◇ Collection of fish from the wild for aquaculture
- ◇ Harvesting by commercial and recreational fisheries for human consumption
- ◇ Catch-and-release recreational fishing
- ◇ Employment and income generation by capture fisheries and aquaculture
- ◇ Pollution of inland water bodies by aquaculture
- ◇ Escapes of fish from farms and introduction of alien species
- ◇ Increase of eutrophication through water discharge from farms or other sources
- ◇ Harvesting of protected species
- ◇ Conflicts between resource users, non-users and interest groups and competitiveness of the sector compared to other sectors
- ◇ The role of fisheries within society and in cultural and religious traditions and
- ◇ Enactment of new and enforcement of current policies and decisions on water use.

OBJECTIVES

The principal aims of the symposium are: (i) to provide a forum for those working on specific socio-economic and ecological aspects of inland fisheries and aquaculture in Europe (including researchers, natural and social scientists, environmental scientists, fisherfolk, aquaculturists, economists, planners, government officials, NGO representatives and other stakeholders) and (ii) to review the interactions between socio-economic and ecological objectives in fisheries and aquaculture, exchange experiences and discuss solutions to imbalances in sustainable development and management of the sector.

The **specific objectives** of the symposium will be:

1. To review the wide range of interactions in fisheries and aquaculture, with particular emphasis on socio-economic and ecological issues and the roles of various stakeholders with respect to these interactions.
2. To identify where future research should focus and propose measures to decrease interactions that compromise sustainable development and management and promote interactions that contribute to sustainability.
3. To provide information to policy and decision makers to contribute to the general awareness of trends in socio-economic and ecological interactions within and between the sector and other rural sectors.
4. To facilitate dialogue between scientists, researchers, fisherfolk, aquaculturists and policy and decision makers on the motives, interactions and interests of stakeholders.
5. To advise EIFAC on appropriate management and development measures and tools for inland fisheries and aquaculture in Europe.

THEMES

The symposium will examine interactions, in accordance with the following four thematic areas:

1. Ecological interactions
2. Economic interactions
3. Social interactions
4. Governance interactions

CALL FOR PAPERS

Written contributions and presentations are invited within any of these broad themes. Although the conference is related to experiences within EIFAC member countries, experiences from elsewhere in the world are encouraged to provide a broad overview of issues and solutions. Original research is also welcome as long as it focuses on interactions and integrated perspectives. Inter-active discussion during the symposium will lead to major statements embracing the entire context and the needs for future of research into the interactions between socio-economic and ecological objectives of inland capture fisheries and aquaculture in the EIFAC region and how it can influence policies in other regions. Anyone wishing to present a paper or poster should submit by e-mail or fax a title and abstract (not exceeding 150 words) by **30 October 2007** to the Technical Secretary of EIFAC Sub-Commission IV – Socio-economic issues, Sub-Regional Office for Central Asia (FAOSEC), FAO, Ankara,



D. BARTLEY, FAO

Studying native fishes in Austria

Turkey via e-mail: Raymon.vanAnrooy@fao.org or fax: (+90)-312-3271705.

Selected papers that address the theme of the symposium and are of an appropriate standard will be published in a special issue of the Blackwell Science journal *Fisheries Management and Ecology*. All presented papers will also be published in the new series of FAO Fisheries Proceedings, which will include a CD-ROM with PDF versions of the presentations at the symposium (after agreement from the author).

EIFAC does not have the financial means to fund travel and participation of those attending the symposium. However, through co-sponsorship and partnership with other organizations and institutions, the costs involved in attending the symposium will be kept to a minimum.

More information on the symposium may be obtained from the EIFAC website: (<http://www.fao.org/fi/eifac.htm>), or from the following people involved in the symposium organization:

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