## Global Gateway to Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Remote Sensing and Mapping for Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries



José Aguilar-Manjarrez<sup>1</sup> and James McDaid Kapetksy<sup>2</sup>

GISFish is a brand new, "one stop' Internet site from which to obtain the depth and breadth of the global experience in GIS, remote sensing and mapping and their applications to aquaculture and inland fisheries. The target audience are GIS practitioners and fisheries and aquaculture professionals in developing countries.

It is evident that there are many opportunities to use GIS, remote sensing and mapping to improve the sustainability of aquaculture and inland fisheries. However, the widespread use of these tools is impeded by limited awareness of their benefits and lack of access to experiences on how they can be deployed. GISFish was created to overcome these impediments.

GISFish sets out the spatial issues addressed most frequently in aquaculture and inland fisheries (such as "Suitability of site and zoning" and "Habitat Quality and Quantity Linked to Plant and Animal Abundance and Distribution" respectively), and demonstrates the benefits of using GIS, remote sensing and mapping to resolve them.

The global experience provided by GISFish is captured in Issues, Publications, Activities, Training, Data and Tools, Contacts, Discussions, News and events. Past experiences are packaged as searchable databases of applications published in both mainstream and grey literature which may be in form of case studies, abstracts, and often, downloadable full publications. Sharing of current experience is promoted through discussions and posting of on-going projects.

Resource materials in GISFish are constantly updated and expanded. Future improvements will include increased coverage of abstracts and of full papers. Additional links to Cultured Aquatic Species fact sheets will also be made available for each GISFish publication record in which scientific names of plants and animals are mentioned.

Becoming a GISFish member is easy. Simply fill in the online form and click on Submit. GISFish editors will email you shortly with confirmation and a password. Once you have your password, you can login, subscribe to topics, participate in discussions and suggest new topics. You can remove yourself from the system at any time you wish.

Development of GISFish is carried out under the guidance of FAO's Aquaculture Management and Conservation Service (FIMA) and a number of collaborating institutions.

Please help us improve the GISFish gateway by sending your feedback and comments to GISFish-Comments@fao.org

FIMA continuously seeks opportunities to actively cooperate with other organizations in the realm of GIS, remote sensing and mapping, particularly in the area of training to improve the sustainability of aquaculture and inland fisheries. To explore cooperative activities, please contact GISFish Programme Coordinators: José Aguilar-Manjarrez (FIMA) or James McDaid Kapetsky (FIMA-Retired).

## GISFish Home Page: http://www.fao.org/fi/gisfish



## <sup>1</sup>José Aguilar-Manjarrez

Aquaculture Management and Conservation Service (FIMA)

FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, Rome E-mail: Jose.AguilarManjarrez@fao.org

<sup>2</sup>James McDaid Kapetsky

Consultants in Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences and Technologies, Inc. (C-FAST, Inc.) E-mail: cfastinc@bellsouth.net

