

**CAPTURE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC:
CURRENT STATUS AND PLANNING**



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CAPTURE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC: CURRENT STATUS AND PLANNING

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ISBN 978-92-5-106023-0

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document contains: (i) the Review of Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Kyrgyz Republic; and (ii) the Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector Development and Management in the Kyrgyz Republic (2008–2012). Both documents were prepared at the request of the Department of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic. The preparation of both documents was realized with support from the European Commission (EC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) under the Project EC/FAO Facility GCP/GLO/162/EC – Kyrgyzstan – “Development of inland fisheries and aquaculture in the Kyrgyz Republic to reduce rural food insecurity”.

The Review of Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Kyrgyz Republic was prepared by Ms Mairam Sarieva (Department of Fisheries) and Mr Mukthar Alpiev (National Academy of Science) in close collaboration with Mr John Jørgensen and Mr Raymon van Anrooy of FAO and with support from Ms Mireem Jamalova (national consultant), Mr Kozhogulov Joldubai (Department of Fisheries), Mr Apilbek Uulu Erkin (national consultant), Mr Beisheke Niyazov (Department of Fisheries), Ms Raushan Kozhombaeva (national consultant) and Mr Andy Thorpe (international consultant).

Logistical and operational support in the collection of information was received from Mr Beisheke Niyazov, National Project Coordinator for GCP/GLO/162/EC and staff member of the Department of Fisheries of the Kyrgyz Republic, and Mr Ryspek Apasov, FAO National Correspondent to the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector Development and Management in the Kyrgyz Republic (2008–2012) was prepared under the supervision of Mr Bayalin Baitemirov, Director of the Department of Fisheries of the Kyrgyz Republic, by staff of the Department, and with technical and policy assistance from Mr Raymon van Anrooy, Mr Andrés Mena Millar and Mr John Jørgensen (FAO).

The strategy should be considered a framework of policy guidance prepared by a core group of Kyrgyz fisheries and aquaculture experts, with inputs from national workshops held in Bishkek in June and September 2007 and on the shores of Lake Issyk Kul in November 2007. The draft strategy was distributed at various stages to all concerned with fisheries and aquaculture in Kyrgyzstan, and additional comments were received from a wide range of officials, experts and producers involved in the sector. These comments were taken into consideration, discussed and (where relevant) incorporated in the final draft strategy.

Following the above-mentioned intensive process of consultation with all relevant fisheries sector stakeholders, the strategy was approved by Minister A. Nogoyev on 25 February 2008. The Director of the Department of Fisheries was instructed to lead the implementation of the strategy.

Sarieva, M.; Alpiev, M.; Van Anrooy, R.; Jørgensen, J.; Thorpe, A.; Mena Millar, A.
Capture fisheries and aquaculture in the Kyrgyz Republic: current status and planning.
FAO Fisheries Circular. No. 1030. Rome, FAO. 2008. 108p.

ABSTRACT

Annual fish production in the Kyrgyz Republic (or Kyrgyzstan) has fallen significantly since independence in 1991. In 1991, fish production (inland and aquaculture) was estimated at more than 1 361 tonnes. By 2006, it had decreased to 71 tonnes. In the same period, more than 90 percent of state fish farms were privatized as part of the economic changes that followed the breakup of the former Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics.

In February 2007, the Government of Kyrgyzstan, through the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry (MAWRPI), requested FAO to provide technical assistance for the sustainable development and management of the fishery sector in the country. FAO, through its European Community (EC)/FAO facility for consultancy services, approved Project GCP/GLO/162/EC – Kyrgyzstan – “Development of inland fisheries and aquaculture in the Kyrgyz Republic to reduce rural food insecurity”.

This FAO Fisheries Circular has two main aims. First, it is intended to inform those interested in fisheries and aquaculture in Kyrgyzstan about the current situation with regard to fishery resources and their utilization in the country. Second, it attempts to provide an example of a consultative and participatory policy framework development process, which might be of use also for other countries in transition in the Central Asian region.

The documents presented here are considered as final versions and cleared as such by the Department of Fisheries (DOF) of the MAWRPI. The documents are also available in Russian language from the DOF in Bishkek.

The Review of capture Fisheries and aquaculture in the Kyrgyz Republic is presented in Part I of this Fisheries Circular. Part II contains the final version of the Strategy for fisheries and aquaculture sector development and management in the Kyrgyz Republic (2008–2012).

CONTENTS

Preparation of this document	iii
Abstract	iv
Acknowledgements	x
List of acronyms	xi
PART I	
REVIEW OF CAPTURE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC	1
Executive summary	3
Chapter I Introduction	5
Chapter II Historical background	6
Fisheries and aquaculture up to independence	6
Capture fisheries	6
Fisheries management	7
Aquaculture	7
Fisheries and aquaculture 1991–2004	8
Institutional setting for fisheries	8
Aquaculture and fisheries production	9
Fish consumption	11
Chapter III The current status of fisheries and aquaculture	12
Natural resources and potential of the fisheries sector	12
Geography and climate	12
Rivers	12
Lakes	12
Reservoirs	14
Fish fauna	16
Inland capture fisheries	18
Fleet	18
Lakes and reservoirs	18
Current production of capture fisheries	18
Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing	20
Recreational fisheries	20
Aquaculture	21
Restbase	22
Ekos International Ltd	24
AquaDa Ltd	24
Production of ornamental fish	25
Facilitating industries	25
Chapter IV Processing, marketing and trade of fish and fishery products	26
Fish processing and storage	26
Distribution and marketing of fish and fish products	27
Fish trade	28
Fish demand and consumption	29
Nutritional aspects of fish consumption	29
Food safety and fish	31

Chapter V	Governance and institutional frameworks	33
	Fisheries administration	33
	Fishery research, training and extension	33
	Fishery statistics	34
	Fisheries-related associations	34
	The Hunting and Fishing Union	34
	Kyrgyz Association of Pisciculturists	34
Chapter VI	Policy, regulatory and management frameworks	36
	Policies and planning	36
	Legal and regulatory framework	36
	International conventions	38
	Regional agreements	39
	Fishery management	40
	Management	40
	Licences and quotas	41
	Enforcement	41
Chapter VII	Social and economic aspects of fisheries and aquaculture	42
	Employment	42
	Social security of fisherfolk, aquaculturists and others engaged in the sector	43
	State-owned	43
	Private sector	43
	Economics of fisheries and aquaculture	43
	State-owned companies	43
	Private sector	44
	Credit and investment in fisheries and aquaculture	44
	The role of fisheries and aquaculture in food security and poverty alleviation	44
	Fishery and biodiversity conservation projects in Kyrgyzstan	45
Chapter VIII	Sectoral diagnosis	46
	Strengths	46
	Weaknesses	47
	Opportunities	49
	Threats	50
References		51
Annex 1	Fisheries and aquaculture statistics	52
Annex 2	The fish species of Kyrgyzstan and their distribution	58
Annex 3	Map of the Kyrgyz Republic	62
Annex 4	Charter of the Kyrgyz Association of Pisciculturists	63
Annex 5	The Fishery Law, 1997	73
Annex 6	Poverty levels in Kyrgyzstan	77

PART II	STRATEGY FOR FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC (2008–2012)	79
Chapter I	Introduction	81
Chapter II	The need for a strategy	82
	The policy and strategy development process	82
	The strategic planning process	83
	The purpose of the strategy	84
Chapter III	Summary overview of fisheries and aquaculture in Kyrgyzstan	85
Chapter IV	The long-term vision	89
Chapter V	The guiding principles	90
Chapter VI	The time frame	91
Chapter VII	Monitoring mechanism	92
Chapter VIII	Implementation mechanism	93
Chapter IX	Overall goals	94
Chapter X	Development objectives	95
Chapter XI	Specific objectives	96
	Development Objective No. 1. Review and update fishery legislation to introduce reforms enabling modern fishery and aquaculture management and development	96
	Development Objective No. 2. Ensure the protection and responsible management of fishery resources in Kyrgyzstan	96
	Development Objective No. 3. Ensure implementation and further development of the restocking programme	97
	Development Objective No. 4. Develop diversified and multipurpose fisheries and aquaculture enterprises	97
	Development Objective No. 5. Improve the market supply chain and processing of fishery products, and ensure the safety and quality of these products	98
Chapter XII	Performance indicators	99
Annex A	Priority Fisheries and Aquaculture Action Plan	101

Tables

1.	Capture fisheries production from the most important lakes and reservoirs in Kyrgyzstan up to 1990	6
2.	Annual fish landings in Kyrgyzstan, 1965–1989	6
3.	Aquaculture production and income in Kyrgyzstan, 1985–1990	8
4.	The most important rivers and river basins of Kyrgyzstan	13
5.	The major reservoirs of Kyrgyzstan	15
6.	Commercial fishing companies at Lake Issyk Kul: staffing, equipment, quotas and incubation capacity	19
7.	Production of capture fisheries in Kyrgyzstan	19
8.	Estimated number of illegal fishers	20
9.	Reservoir stocking and catches in 11 reservoirs by members of the Chui Bishkek Hunting and Fishing Union in Chui Oblast, 1999–2006	21
10.	Pond area by rayon or oblast, 2007	23
11.	Aquaculture production facilities in Kyrgyzstan	23
12.	Fish species currently cultured in Kyrgyzstan	24
13.	Average prices for the most common fish species and fish products marketed in Kyrgyzstan	28
14.	Exports and imports of fish products in Kyrgyzstan, 2005	28
15.	Fat and omega-3 content of fish species occurring in Kyrgyz waters	30
16.	Employment in fisheries-related sectors in Kyrgyzstan, 2007	42
17.	Employment at some of the larger fish farms and for fishing companies in Kyrgyzstan, 2007	42
Table A1.1	Fish catches in Lake Issyk Kul	52
Table A1.2	Fish catches, Kyrgyzstan, 1965–1992	52
Table A1.3	Technical and economic indices of Chui fish-breeding plant, 1985–1992	52
Table A1.4	Technical and economic indices of Uzgen fish-breeding plant, 1985–1992	53
Table A1.5	Technical and economic indices of Talas fish-breeding plant, 1985–1992	53
Table A1.6	Statistics on trout stocking in Lake Issyk Kul	53
Table A1.7	The fish catch in Lake Son Kul, 1976–1992	53
Table A1.8	The fish catch in the Toktogul impoundment, 1978–1992	53
Table A1.9	The fish catch of fishery organizations, 1993–2004	55
Table A1.10	List of private fish farms in the fisheries industry	55
Table A1.11	Number of employees in commercial, sport and recreational fishery as at 1 November 2007	55
Table A1.12	Number of people working in reproduction of fish stocks and commodity (commercial) aquaculture as at 1 November 2007	56
Table A1.13	Data on fish catch and reproduction of the Department of Fisheries, 2005–07	56
Table A1.14	Aquaculture production by main producers in Kyrgyzstan, 2006–07	56
Table A1.15	Statistics on reproduction and fish catch, 1989–2004	57
Table A1.16	Indicators on Chui fish farm (Balyk Joint Stock Company)	57
Table A1.17	Indicators on Uzgen state fish farm	57
Table A1.18	Indicators on Talas state fish farm	57
Table A2.1	Fish species of Kyrgyzstan and their distribution	58
Table A6.1	Poverty levels in Kyrgyzstan	77

Figures

1. Aquaculture production by state-owned facilities, 1991–2004 by state-owned facilities, 1991–2004 9
2. Total fish production by environment in Kyrgyzstan, 1993–2004 10
3. Number of trout fingerlings stocked in Lake Issyk Kul by the Ton hatchery, 1989/1990 to 2004/06 10
4. River and lake basins of Kyrgyzstan 13

Graphic

- A1.1 Structure of the Department of Fishery under the MAWRPI 54

Box

1. Species introductions in Lake Issyk Kul 17

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors hereby express their gratitude to Mr Ryspek Apasov (FAO National Coordinator in Kyrgyzstan); Ms Mireem Jamalova, Mr Apilbek Uulu Erkin, Ms Raushan Kozhombaeva, Mr Beisheke Niyazov and Mr Kozhogulov Joldubai (staff of project GCP/GLO/162/EC – Kyrgyzstan), Mr Bayalin Baitemirov (Director of the Department of Fisheries of Kyrgyzstan), Ms Deniz Ozkan, Ms Elif Erkal, Mr Hocine Benchenane and Mr Tsukasa Kimoto (FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia), Mr Atilla Özdemir (Director Central Fisheries Research Institute, Turkey), Ms Caroline Von Gayle and Mr Bart Van Ommen (FAO Technical Cooperation Department); and Mr Jean-François Pulvenis de Séligny (FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department) for their technical, administrative, operational and supervisory support in the formulation and implementation of Project EC/FAO Facility GCP/GLO/162/EC – Kyrgyzstan – “Development of inland fisheries and aquaculture in the Kyrgyz Republic to reduce rural food insecurity”.

The authors particularly acknowledge the financial support provided by the European Commission and the contributions to the successful implementation of the project by the Delegation of the European Commission in Bishkek, and particularly Mr Olaf Heidelberg and Ms Taru Kernisalo. Editorial work on this document by Mr Julian Plummer (FAO consultant) and Ms Françoise Schatto (FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department) is also much appreciated.

The authors would also like to thank the workshop participants and all those experts who have contributed to the work of the Project for their important contributions to the drafting process of the Review and Strategy and their active participation in various working groups.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
COFI	Committee on Fisheries (FAO)
DOF	Department of Fisheries
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GPS	Global positioning system
GTZ	Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (German development agency)
HFU	Hunting and Fishing Union
ICWC	Interstate Commission for Water Coordination
MAWRPI	Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry
MCS	Monitoring, control and surveillance
NGO	Non-governmental organization
RFB	Regional fishery body
SES	Sanitary Epidemiological Service
SWOT	Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats
TAC	Total allowable catch
TIKA	Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
VAT	Value added tax
VPA	Virtual population analysis

Exchange rate:

The average exchange rate applied throughout this document is: US\$1 = som36.

