

INLAND CAPTURE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN: CURRENT STATUS AND PLANNING



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INLAND CAPTURE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN: CURRENT STATUS AND PLANNING

by

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This circular contains two main documents: the “Review of the current status of inland capture fisheries and aquaculture in the Republic of Uzbekistan” in Part I; and the “Conception of aquaculture and capture fisheries development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008–2016” in Part II. Both documents were prepared at the request of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Their preparation was realized with the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) under the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) project “Development of strategic partnerships in support of responsible fisheries and aquaculture development in Uzbekistan”, TCP/UZB/3103 (D).

The “Conception of aquaculture and capture fisheries development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008–2016” was prepared by Mr Maroti Upare (international consultant), Mr Bakhtiyor Karimov (Institute of Water Problems), Mr Bakhtiyor Kamilov and Mr Dilmurod Shokhimardonov (Uzbekistan Research Center for the Development of Fisheries) and Mr Raymon van Anrooy (FAO). Deputy Minister A.A. Khanazarov (Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan), with technical and policy assistance from Mr Pedro Bueno (international consultant) and Mr Raymon van Anrooy (FAO), supervised the preparation.

The “Conception of aquaculture and capture fisheries development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008–2016” outlines the aquaculture and capture fisheries development policy and strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008–2016, and should be considered a framework of policy guidance prepared by a wide range of Uzbek aquaculture and inland capture fisheries experts, with inputs from national workshops held in Tashkent on 9–10 October 2007 and 19–20 November 2007.

A draft of the “Conception of Aquaculture and Capture Fisheries Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008–2016” was distributed at various stages of its development to all stakeholders concerned, including those involved in aquaculture and inland capture fisheries in the Republic of Uzbekistan (i.e. ministries of agriculture, economy and finance, the State Committee for Nature Protection), and additional comments were received from a wide range of officials, experts and producers involved in the aquaculture and inland capture fisheries sector. These comments were taken into consideration, discussed and (where relevant) incorporated in the final draft document.

A draft of the “Conception of aquaculture and capture fisheries development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008–2016” was also discussed in detail at the “Conference on Fisheries in Uzbekistan: problems and the ways to their solution” held on 29 September 2008 and organized by the Committee on Agriculture, Water Economy and Ecology of the Uzbekistan Parliament (Oliy Madjlis). The conference recommended to relevant ministries and authorities the urgent approval of this document as well as the development of implementation measures.

Following the above-mentioned intensive consultation with all fisheries-sector stakeholders, the “Conception of aquaculture and capture fisheries development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008–2016” awaits approval by the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Karimov, B.; Kamilov, B.; Upare, M.; van Anrooy, R.; Bueno, P.; Shokhimardonov, D.
Inland capture fisheries and aquaculture in the Republic of Uzbekistan: current status and planning.
FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular. No. 1030/1. Rome, FAO. 2009. 124 p.

ABSTRACT

The fisheries sector in the Republic of Uzbekistan (or Uzbekistan), composed of inland capture fisheries and aquaculture sectors, has a potentially important role in the development of the rural economy of the country. However, in recent years the sector's contribution to the gross domestic product (GDP) was less than 0.1 percent. In spite of vast water resources available for fisheries-sector development (ponds, reservoirs, lakes, rivers, irrigation canals), fish production declined significantly from 27 200 tonnes in 1991, the year of independence of Uzbekistan from the former Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, to 7 200 tonnes in 2006. Imports of fish and fish products decreased as well. As a consequence, per capita consumption of fish and fish products decreased to less than 500 g in 2006, which means a reduction of over 90 percent in comparison with the 5–6 kg per capita consumption of fish in the late 1980s.

In July 2007 the Government of Uzbekistan, through its Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan, requested assistance from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), under its Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP), for the sustainable development and management of the fisheries sector in the country. FAO approved the project "Development of strategic partnerships in support of responsible fisheries and aquaculture development in Uzbekistan", TCP/UZB/3103 (D), in August 2007.

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

The two documents presented in this Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular are considered final versions and cleared as such by the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan. They are also available in the Russian language from the ministry. The document entitled "Review of the current status of inland capture fisheries and aquaculture in the Republic of Uzbekistan" is presented in Part I of this circular. The document entitled the "Conception of aquaculture and capture fisheries development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2008–2016" is contained in Part II.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AECTD	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (France, NGO)
BMP	better management practices
CDW	collector-drainage waters
DFID	Department for International Development (United Kingdom)
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FPA	Fish Producers Associations
IFAS	International Fund for saving the Aral Sea
INTAS	International Association for the Promotion of Cooperation with Scientists from the New Independent States of the Former Soviet Union
JFPR	Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction
MAWR	Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources
MCS	monitoring, control and surveillance
MFI	Microfinance Institution
MMEC	Multisector Monitoring and Evaluation Committee
NGO	non-governmental organization
NOVIB	Netherlands Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
SWOT	strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UzAS	Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences

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