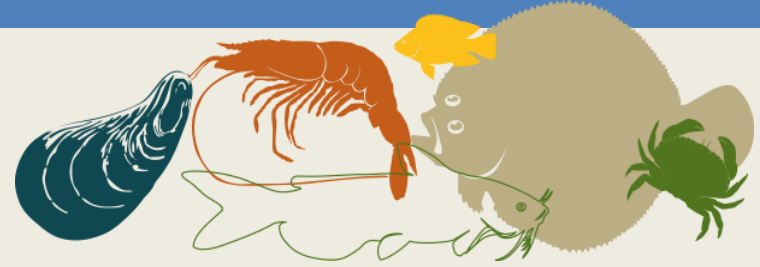




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CHAPTER 5

EX SITU CONSERVATION OF AQUATIC GENETIC RESOURCES OF FARMED AQUATIC SPECIES AND THEIR WILD RELATIVES WITHIN NATIONAL JURISDICTION

AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON
AQUATIC GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

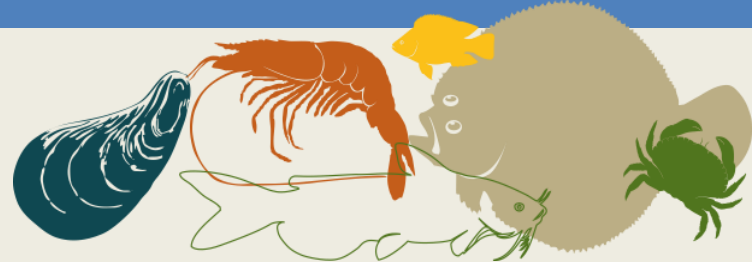
20-22 June 2016

FAO Rome, Italy



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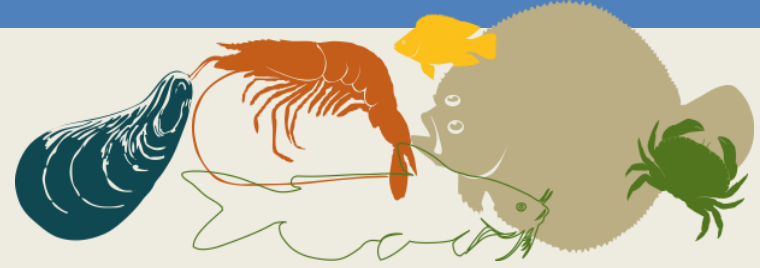
Main objective

To review the current status and future prospects for the ex situ conservation of aquatic genetic resources of farmed aquatic species and their wild relatives.



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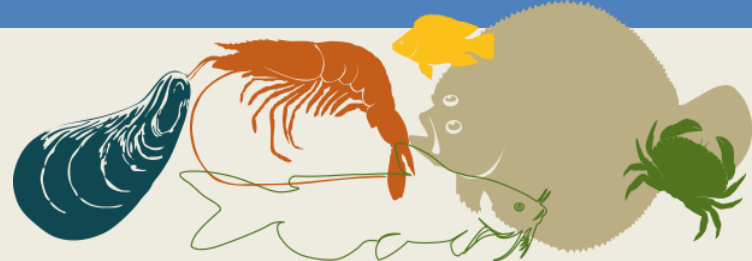
Specific objectives

- Review existing ex situ conservation of aquatic genetic resources of farmed aquatic species and their wild relatives in aquaculture facilities, culture collections and gene banks, research facilities, zoos and aquaria
- Review the contributions that various stakeholders are making to the ex situ conservation of aquatic genetic resources of farmed aquatic species and their wild relatives; and
- Review the needs and priorities for the future development of ex situ conservation of aquatic genetic resources of farmed aquatic species and their wild relatives, including any that are threatened or endangered.



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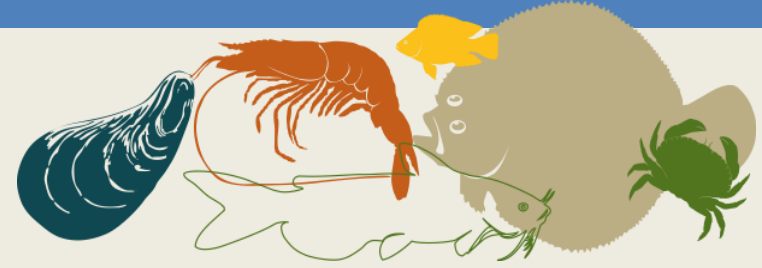
Key findings

- 70% of surveyed countries have current ex situ conservation programs.
- More than 344 aquatic genetic resources are the subject of ex situ conservation programs in 112 facilities among the 47 surveyed countries.
- There are significant differences regarding the number of facilities and aquatic genetic resources being maintained between sub-regions, being the South East Asian region the region with the largest number of facilities.
- Developed countries the nations with the highest number of ex situ programs and collections as well as species being maintained.
- 90% of the aquatic genetic resources being conserved are finfish while only 10% are invertebrates, mostly aquatic microorganisms such as small crustaceans, rotifers and microalgae.



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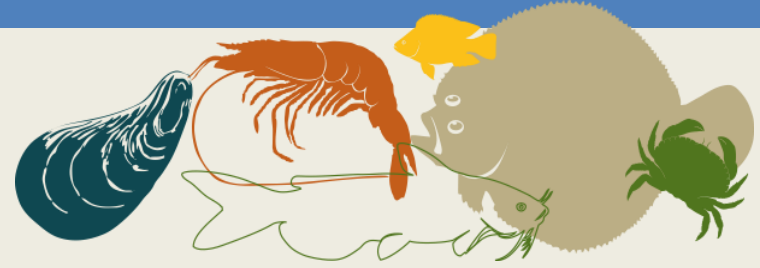
Key findings

- Most common uses for the conserved aquatic genetic resources are: direct human consumption and used as live feed in aquaculture.
- Other important uses mentioned by countries are: conservation of aquatic diversity, restocking stock enhancement, recreational fisheries, potential uses in aquaculture, ornamental use and research.
- Among the 112 facilities identified by surveyed countries, 63% of the facilities are research centres, 22 % are universities, 15% are zoo and aquaria and only 11% are aquaculture facilities.
- The most important of objective of current ex situ conservation programs is the preservation of aquatic biodiversity.
- The less important objective of current ex situ conservation programs is the preservation of aquatic genetic resources for future adaptation to climate change.



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Guidance and comments sought

- Structure of the chapter
- Analytical approach used
- Interpretation of the information
- Identification of major gaps or errors