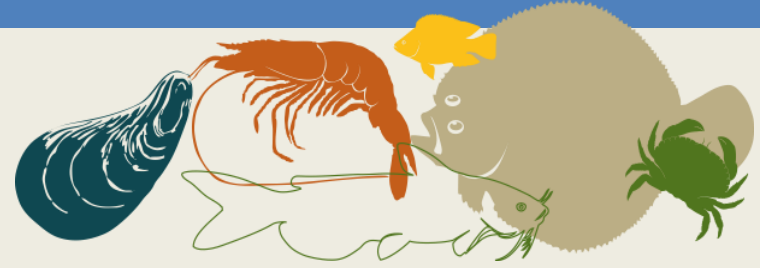




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CHAPTER 7

NATIONAL POLICIES AND LEGISLATION FOR 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

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FAO Italy, Rome



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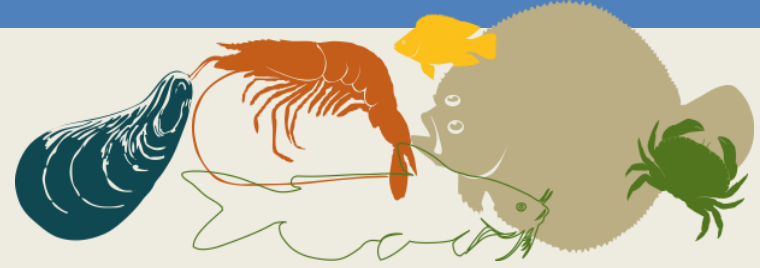
Main objective

To review the status and adequacy of national policies and legislation, including access and benefit sharing, concerning aquatic genetic resources of farmed aquatic species and their wild relatives.



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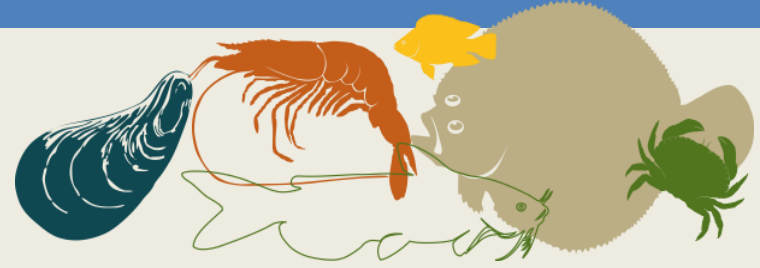
Specific objectives

- To describe the existing national policy and legal framework for the conservation, sustainable use and development of aquatic genetic resources of farmed aquatic species and their wild relatives;
- To review current national policies and instruments for access to aquatic genetic resources of farmed aquatic species and their wild relatives and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization; and
- To identify any significant gaps in policies and legislation concerning aquatic genetic resources of farmed aquatic species and their wild relatives.



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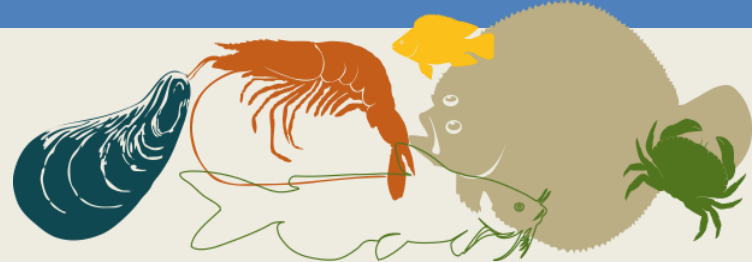
Key findings

- There are gaps in national policies the genetic level, but good examples of comprehensive national policies do exist.
- Policies exist at the species level and policies relating to the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans under the CBD.
- Policies also include fisheries management, fishing closures and restrictions on import/export of a variety of types of AqGR.
- Some national policies are in conflict with international obligations, e.g. the local trade of threatened and endangered species.
- Monitoring and enforcement of national policies is often constrained by lack of human and financial resources.



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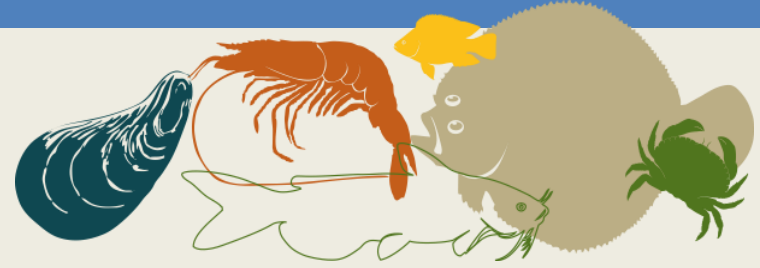
Key findings

- Access and benefit sharing regimes will be different for AqGR than for GR of crops and livestock.
- Genetic improvement of farmed aquatic species often done by large companies or international institutions with modern breeding facilities, and in areas outside of the center of origin for many species. Thus farmer rights' and breeders' rights not relevant in many cases and not included in national policies.
- Countries have taken steps to facilitate access to AqGR that address primarily access to living specimens.
- Countries have encountered obstacles in accessing or importing AqGR that are primarily a result of their own restrictive national legislation.



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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