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ASIAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

e-Newsletter

Message from Editor



I wish all Members a very Happy, Healthy and Productive 2014.

During 2013 impressive progress has been made by the Society in all its functions as detailed in this newsletter. AFS in collaboration with its partners through AsiaPacific-Fishwatch launched the first profile of one of the commercially important fishes of Asia-Pacific viz., Skipjack tuna.

The information provided is authentic as it has been reviewed by concerned experts. AFS welcomes feedback from members and experts and collaboration of interested partners in coming up with profiles of many other commercially important species.

The Indian Branch and Taiwan Branch have organised conferences during the period details of which could be seen in the issue. Three important conferences are scheduled during this year: (i) Tenth Indian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (10ifaf) scheduled for 12-15 in Lucknow, India; (ii) In conjunction with 10ifaf, it is planned to organise 5th Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF5) during 12-15 November 2014, in Lucknow, India. GAF5 aims to be a vital platform for examining the progress towards achieving gender equality in aquaculture and fisheries; and (iii) The Fish Health Section (FHS) of the Asian Fisheries Society (AFS) has scheduled its 9th Symposium on Diseases in Asian Aquaculture (DAA9) in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam from 24-28 November 2014. Founded in 1989, FHS has been very active and with disease becoming a major issue in aquaculture (e.g. the recent outbreak of EMS (Early Mortality Syndrome) that has crippled the shrimp industry), the triennial conference organised by FHS is gaining importance.

The Editor and Editorial Board of the journal needs to be congratulated for bringing out the journal on time and also for reducing the time for processing and publishing the manuscripts from 8 months to around 5 months and making the journal more visible. More members should take the opportunity to publish their research results in the journal.

The newsletter also provides a list of conferences/symposia to take place in the next 12 months.

I look forward to more contributions to the newsletter from the Members.

Dr. M. V. Gupta

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President's Message

It is about seven months since the 11th Council took-over the running of the Asian Fisheries Society. I take this opportunity to brief the members of the Society on what has been accomplished during the period, what is in progress.

During the first 6 months to 31st October, the following remaining issues from the 10th Council were either finalised or have advanced towards completion which include:



- ◇ Finalised the MOU with the University Putra Malaysia (UPM) on the extension of hosting the AFS Secretariat;
- ◇ Finalised the MOU with UPM for hosting the AFS Journal on its website;
- ◇ Prepared draft MOA with Nong Lam University (NLU), Vietnam to host the 11AFAF in 2016; finalised a date to visit NLU to discuss and sign the agreement;
- ◇ Completed of the Draft Corporate Governance Manual for AFS Council;
- ◇ Funding application to CRSP to develop a Generic Forum website for AFS proposed during the Yeosu forum;
- ◇ Finalised the 11GA minutes and summarise list of follow-up activities to be undertaken;
- ◇ Appointment of an Advisory Group to the 11th Council. Requested the 3 active Honorary Life Members of AFS – Meryl Williams, Mohan Modayil and Chan-Lui Lee to form an Advisory Group with Dr Lee as the Co-ordinator to provide specific advice to the Council as and when needed;
- ◇ Appointment of Prof. Neil Loneragan as the Vice-President;
- ◇ Completion of the Working Committee and Appointment of Dr. Alice Joan Ferrer as the chair of Forum and Conference Committee;
- ◇ Appointment of co-opted Member of Council from Vietnam.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge my sincere appreciation to Immediate Past President Dr Derek Staples and Past President Dr Chan-Lui Lee for their support and involvement in many of the issues listed above.

My thanks also go to my assistant Mrs Tina Zhou for her effort in communication with the EO and the Councillors.

I believe, with participation and effort of members of the Society and the Council, AFS will be running better and better.

Prof. Shuolin Huang

AsiaPacific-FishWatch Breaks Information Barriers

Two-thirds of the world's fish are harvested or farmed in the Asia-Pacific region, yet information on the fish is often difficult to find, piecemeal and confusing. The Asian Fisheries Society and its partners set out to break through this critical information barrier by creating AsiaPacific-FishWatch. "We are bringing together essential and authoritative information on who produces the fish, how they are produced, processed, traded, and eventually end up in the diets of people all around the world," said the President of the Asian Fisheries Society, Professor Huang (President of Shanghai Ocean University, China). "In this project, we welcome feedback from the public and experts, and collaboration from many partners."

AsiaPacific-FishWatch (www.asiapacfish.org) is developing profiles of the most important types of fish and shellfish produced in the Asia-Pacific region, covering the seas, rivers, lakes and farms of the western and central Pacific ocean and the Indian ocean. The profiles are comprehensive and cover sustainability, production, supply chains, environment and climate, and biology. "Our aim is to explain Asia-Pacific fish products for consumers, the general public, fish exporters and importers, development agencies, fisheries managers and scientists," according to Dr Meryl Williams, the project director.

The project is launching with the profile of the region's skipjack tuna fisheries (<http://www.asiapacfish.org/index.php/species/item/5-skipjack-tuna>), and will soon be followed by profiles of yellowfin, bigeye and albacore tuna that are in the final stages of preparation. The skipjack fisheries are among the largest fisheries in the world. The western and central Pacific skipjack fishery supplies the majority of the fish for the world canned tuna market. Susan Jackson, President of the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) explained: "Skipjack schools make up the last remaining truly robust commercially fished stocks of tuna in the world, and protecting this species is especially vital to the economies of nations in the Asia-Pacific region. In order to build consensus around proactive, sustainable management measures for any species of fish, we must have open-access to the wealth of scientific data that exists. Cataloguing this information also helps us to identify voids, which ultimately promotes improved fishery data collection."

All information in AsiaPacific-FishWatch is reviewed by the top experts in each commodity and subject. It is non-partisan and does not engage in advocacy. Its content emphasizes information relevant to sustainability and people in the supply chain.

For more information Contact: **Dr Meryl J Williams, Director of AsiaPacific-FishWatch.**

Asian Fisheries Social Science Research Network Section (AFSSRN)

Following our announcement in the last newsletter seeking interest of members to take charge of Asian Fisheries Social Sciences Research Network (AFSSRN) as its Coordinator, Dr. Rodelio F. Subade of the University of the Philippines Visayas, Philippines has indicated his interest in the position and has been approved by the Executive Council of the Society.



Dr. Subade has been associated with AFSSRN since 1988 and has undertaken studies supported by AFSSRN. He has two Masters degrees, M.Sc in Resource Economics (fisheries and aquaculture) from University Putra Malaysia, and MA Economics (fisheries economics and management) from Simon Fraser University of Canada. He acquired his Ph.D in Environmental Science (Environmental economics, environmental security and management) from University of the Philippines Los Banos. In addition, he completed a specialization course in Environmental Economics and Policy Making in Goteborg University, Gethenborg, Sweden.

Dr. Subade has been involved in teaching and research at University of the Philippines Visayas for over 25 years, and has many publications to his credit. He is presently officer in the Philippine Association of Marine Sciences (PAMS) and Board Member of the Resource and Environmental Association of the Philippines (REAP). Dr. Subade will soon get in touch with Members of Society with planned activities of the Network.

News from Indian Branch

Expert Consultation on 'Fish Genomics Research in India: A Way Forward'

The National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFG), Lucknow, India organized an Expert Consultation on 'Fish Genomics Research in India: A Way Forward' on 2 August, 2013 at Lucknow in collaboration with Asian Fisheries Society Indian Branch (AFSIB), Mangalore and Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Society (ABCS), India.

Dr. J K Jena, Director, NBFG and Convener of the Expert Consultation while briefing on the objectives of the Consultation indicated that to keep pace with emerging challenges and global developments in genomics, NBFG has taken up a program on 'Whole Genome Sequencing of *Labeo rohita* and *Clarias batrachus*' in collaboration with Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA), Bhubaneswar; Anand Agriculture University and IASRI, New Delhi. He also informed the participants that proposals are envisaged on genomics programme by different fisheries Institutes under ICAR Genomics Platform during XII Plan period. The Consultation is basically intended to develop a road map for the coming decade on various aspects of fish genomics including species to be undertaken for genome sequencing and functional genomics, utilization of genomic resources in production systems, traits to be selected for up gradation, manpower development, networking/ linkages, infra-structure development and sources of funding for such research and development programs.

Over 50 participants from ICAR Institutes, cutting across the disciplines, State Agricultural Universities and other experts from all over the country deliberated on the subject during the Consultation, which helped in chalking out the future strategies on fish genomics research in the country.

Besides three finfish species viz., *Labeo rohita*, *Clarias batrachus* and *Tenualosa ilisha*, and Indian white shrimp *Fenneropenaeus indicus* already considered for WGS under different programmes, nine other finfish and shellfish species viz., *Catla catla*, *Channa striatus*, *Chitala chitala*, *Anabas testudineus*, *Tor putitora*, *Rastrelliser kanagurta*, *Mugil cephalus*, *Eetroplus suratensis* and Indian chank were prioritized for whole genome sequencing (WGS) in first phase.

It was proposed that WGS to be carried out on multiple NGS platforms to counter the biases. Further, it was decided to undertake programmes on functional genomics along with WGS (de-novo sequencing or re-sequencing). The necessity of creation of adequate infrastructure facilities and computation of resources, data storage, besides the aspects of human resource requirement and sources of funding for such projects were also discussed. It was also proposed that the prioritised list of species may be kept in public domain, so that other countries may not take up these species for their WGS work.

The 10th Indian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (10ifaf)

The 10th Indian Fisheries Forum (10ifaf) is scheduled for 12-15 November, 2014 at Lucknow, India and is being organised by Asian Fisheries Society, Indian Branch (AFSIB) in collaboration with National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFG), Lucknow, India.

The Asian Fisheries Society, Indian Branch (AFSIB) with its Headquarters at Mangalore, since its inception in 1986, has been providing a platform for discussion at the national level on issues related to research, development, education and policies by organizing Indian Fisheries Forum (IFF) every three years in different parts of the country. Indian Fisheries Forum (IFF) has now been renamed **10th Indian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (10 ifaf)**, with the theme '**Towards Responsible Aquaculture and Sustainable Fisheries**'.

*10th Indian Fisheries And Aquaculture Forum
(10ifaf)
12-15th November, 2014
Lucknow, India*

The technical sessions would be conducted under the following thematic areas:

Fisheries Resource Management
Aquaculture-Breeding and Production Systems
Fish Genetics and Biotechnology
Fish Nutrition, Biochemistry and Feed Technology
Aquatic Animal Health
Fishery Biology, Toxicology and Environment Health
Harvest and Post-harvest Technology
Fisheries and Aquaculture Engineering
Social Sciences in Fisheries
Fisheries Policy and Governance
Fisheries Education and HRD

There would be 3-4 parallel sessions. Each thematic area would include lead presentation by an invited experts, panel discussions and oral presentations of selected research papers by the participants. The papers presented in the forum will be **published as a Special volume** in the *Indian Journal of Fisheries* after due review process.

5th Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF5)

In conjunction with 10 ifaf, a Special Session on the **5th Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF5)** would be organized during 12-15 November 2014. GAF5 aims to be a vital platform for examining the progress towards achieving gender equality in aquaculture and fisheries through inspiring plenary addresses, workshops involving grassroots gender/women's groups representatives, oral and poster presentations, a national session, a film showing and panel discussion, plus more. This is the first time that an Asian Fisheries Society GAF event will be held in conjunction with the Indian Fisheries Forum, the 10ifaf.

Parallel events: During the Forum it is proposed to organise different parallel events, including Workshops and Aquafarmers' meet, Exhibitions, etc.

Awards: For recognition of talents, several awards would be conferred during 10ifaf, which includes 1) **Young Scientist Award**; 2) **Prof. H.P.C. Shetty Award**; and 3) **Professors T.J. Pandian and A.J. Matty Award by AFSIB**; 4) **Dr. Pillay Aquaculture Award** by the Pillay Aquaculture Foundation and 5) **Shri J.V.H. Dixitulu National Award** by the Association of Aquaculturists, Marine Biological Association of India and the Inland Fisheries Society of India, besides Best Poster Presentation award.

Registration: The registration fee for participation in 10ifaf is as follows:

Indian Delegates

Members of AFS/AFSIB.....	Rs. 5,000
Non-members of AFS/AFSIB.....	Rs. 7,000
Students/Observers/Spouses.....	Rs. 3,000

Overseas Delegates

Participants from SAARC Countries (Members of AFS/AFSIB)	: US\$ 150
Participants from SAARC Countries (Non-members of AFS/AFSIB)	: US\$ 200
Participants from other countries (Members of AFS/AFSIB)	: US\$ 200
Participants from other countries (Non-members of AFS/AFSIB)	: US\$ 300

Further details regarding the 10ifaf, Sponsorship, participation in the Exhibition etc. are available at the website: www.10ifaf.in or contact **Dr. J. K. Jena**, Convener, 10th Indian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum. Phone (Off): 91-0522-2440141, 2442440; Fax: 91-522-2442403
E-mail: 10ifaf2014@gmail.com

Dates to remember:

Submission of Abstracts	01 January– 31 July, 2014
Communication of Acceptance of Abstracts	: 31 August, 2014
Last date of Submission of Application for Awards	: 31 August, 2014
Last date of Submission of Full Paper	: 31 October, 2014

News From Taiwan Branch

The Taiwan Fisheries Society annual meeting and conference was held at National Taiwan Ocean University on January 19, 2013. The upcoming Taiwan Fisheries Society annual meeting and conference would be held at National Chiayi University on January 18, 2014. The detailed information and announcement can be had from the website <http://web.ncyu.edu.tw/~aquabio/>.

The 9th International Conference on “Marine Biodiversity and Environmental Fisheries Science of the East China Sea” was held at the National Taiwan Ocean University during September 29 to October 1, 2013. In all, there were over 185 participants in the conference including 111 participants from Taiwan (mainly from National Taiwan Ocean University, National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, National Penghu University of Science and Technology, National Taipei University of Education and Taiwan Fishery Research Institute), 42 participants from Japan (mainly from Nagasaki University and University of the Ryukyus), 12 participants from China (mainly from Shanghai Ocean University and Xiamen University), 5 participants from Korea (Jeju National University and Sangmyung University). There were also many participants from other countries viz., Bangladesh, Belize, Canada, Denmark, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Philippines, Portugal, Tanzania, Thailand and Vietnam. The conference included 30 oral and 97 poster presentations. Conference proceeding will be published in the Journal of Marine Science and Technology, Taiwan, published by National Taiwan Ocean University.



Participants of 9th International Conference on the Marine Biodiversity and Environmental Fisheries Science of the East China Sea

The 9th Symposium of World's Chinese Scientists on Nutrition and Feeding of Finfish and Shellfish was held on November 12-16, 2013 in Xiamen, China. This meeting brought together about 1,100 fish and shrimp nutrition scientists, farmers and key commercial workers from USA, France, Canada, United Kingdom, China, Viet Nam, Malaysia and Taiwan to discuss progress on fish and shrimp nutrition. The theme of this symposium was “low-carbon, high-efficiency, cooperation and innovation”. The symposium provided a platform for all the participants to communicate and share their recent achievements in scientific research, strengthening the cooperation of industry and academic activities. Dr. Yu-Hung Lin, Executive secretary of AFS Taiwan Branch with a group of 38 scientists and commercial workers attended the symposium. They presented 21 reports including 1 invited speech, 4 oral presentations and 16 posters.

Contributed by Dr. Jiang-Shiou Hwang

The 7th Cross-Strait Conference on Fish Physiology and Aquaculture

The Shanghai Ocean University, Shanghai hosted the 7th Cross-Strait Conference on Fish Physiology and Aquaculture during 1-4 November 2013.

The theme of the Conference was aquaculture seed industry and healthy culture. In addition to scholars from Taiwan and mainland China, attendees also included those from the United States, Singapore and Hong Kong, totalling almost 160 participants. Discussions during the symposium covered aquatic breeding, endocrine regulation, developmental physiology, reproductive development, evolutionary adaptation, nutrition and feed, immunology and diseases and physiological studies of aquaculture and applied technology research. The symposium provided a good platform for a strong impetus to cross-strait academic exchanges and cooperation for the aquaculture research and industry, advance the development of innovative research collaboration to jointly foster aquaculture support system, and further promote cross-strait toward healthy aquaculture and sustainable development direction.



Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries

Reports and Proceedings from GAF4: In the June AFS Newsletter, the exciting 4th Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF4) that was held as part of the 10th AFAF in Yeosu, Korea was reported. Subsequently, a full report of all the papers and workshops - “Gender and Change in the Spotlight” was published (<http://genderaquafish.org/events/gaf4-2013-yeosu-korea/>).

Preparation of peer-reviewed proceedings from the many manuscripts submitted out of GAF4 is in progress. The editorial team of Nikita Gopal, Meryl Williams, Poh Sze Choo, Marilyn Porter and Kyoko Kusakabe are in the process of getting together the special issue after the peer review process and final editing is complete, and the issue is expected to be ready for release before GAF5 to be held in November 2014 in Lucknow, India.

MARE Panel on Engaging Gender for Sustainable Livelihoods: Shortly following GAF4, Angela Lentisco presented some of the results of GAF4 and lessons learned from 20 years of AFS women/gender activities at the University of Amsterdam People and the Sea conference (see her report at: <http://genderaquafish.org/events/mare-panel-addresses-the-highs-and-lows-of-gender-issues/>).

GAF5

The Asian Fisheries Society Indian Branch has invited the AFS gender group to conduct the 5th Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries in conjunction with the 10th Indian Fisheries Forum in Lucknow, India, from 12-15 November. GAF5 promises to be a more varied and inclusive event than any of our past events. It is aimed to have inspiring plenary addresses, workshops involving grassroots gender/women's groups representatives, oral and poster presentations, a national session, a film showing and panel discussion, plus more. It will build on the four previous successful Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries symposia and the two Women in Fisheries symposia conducted in conjunction with the Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forums (see: <http://genderaquafish.org/resources-3/asian-fisheries-society-genderwomen-and-fisheries-resources/>). This is the first time that an Asian Fisheries Society GAF event will be held in conjunction with the Indian Fisheries Forum.

The Organizing Committee is coming together (see: <http://genderaquafish.org/gaf5-2014-lucknow-india/gaf5-organization/>). Details and updates will be posted regularly on our website, <http://genderaquafish.org/>.

Contributed By Meryl Williams & Nikita Gopal

Fish Health Section

The Fish Health Section (FHS) of the Asian Fisheries Society (AFS) is very pleased to announce the 9th Symposium on Diseases in Asian Aquaculture (DAA9) in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam from 24-28 November 2014. FHS was founded in May 1989. The FHS is credited with holding triennial symposia on **"Diseases in Asian Aquaculture" (DAA)** where members and aquatic animal health professionals meet to discuss broad issues and specific topics related to aquatic animal health in Asian Aquaculture.

FHS has conducted earlier symposia: DAA1 in Bali, Indonesia (1990); DAA2 in Phuket, Thailand (1993); DAA3 in Bangkok, Thailand (1996); DAA4 in Cebu, The Philippines (1999); DAA5 in Gold Coast, Australia (2002); DAA6 in Colombo, Sri Lanka (2005); DAA7 in Taipei, Taiwan (2008); DAA8 in Mangalore, India (2011). Each of these symposia brought together more than 300 aquatic animal health scientists, students, government researchers and industry personnel from over 30-40 countries. In keeping with the unique tradition of previous DAA symposia, DAA9 in Vietnam is going to be a unique experience that you don't want to miss.

The Department of Animal Health (DAH) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) will be the local host and will organize the event in close cooperation with FHS (AFS). To this effect, a MOU has been signed between FHS (AFS) and DAH (MARD) on 18 March 2013. The DAH will host the event in Ho Chi Minh City. Japanese Society of Fish Pathology (JSFP) has come forward to be a co-sponsor of DAA9.

The DAH has already formed a LOC and is likely to launch the official DAA9 website soon for handling registrations, hotel bookings, abstract submissions and other logistics.

Registration Details:

A. FHS (AFS) Regular Members

Early Registration: 300 USD (From 1st April-31st July 2014)
Late Registration: 350 USD (1st Aug to 24th Nov 2014)

B. FHS (AFS) Student Members

Early Registration: 200 USD (From 1st April-31st July 2014)
Late Registration: 250 USD (1st Aug to 24th Nov 2014)

C. Non-Members

Early Registration: 350 USD (From 1st April-31st July 2014)

Late Registration: 400 USD (1st Aug to 24th Nov 2014)

D. Vietnamese Nationals

Early Registration: 200 USD (From 1st April-31st July 2014)

Late Registration: 250 USD (1st Aug to 24th Nov 2014)

E. Vietnamese Students

Early Registration: 150 USD (From 1st April-31st July 2014)

Late Registration: 200 USD (1st Aug to 24th Nov 2014)

Submission of Abstracts: Online submission of abstracts will be open from 1st April to 31st August 2014. Guidelines and template will be provided in the website for online submission.

DAA9 Proceedings: JSFP has agreed in principle to publish up to 30 papers presented at the DAA9 as a special on-line issue of Fish Pathology journal. Acceptance is subject to meeting the peer review process of the Fish Pathology Journal. Those of you who are considering to publish your presentations, kindly prepare the manuscripts as per the requirement of Fish Pathology journal. Full papers must be submitted before 24th Nov 2014. Submission details and guidelines will be provided.

Student Travel Awards: FHS awards up to 10 student travel awards to qualified post graduate and PhD students to present their work at DAA9. Selected students will be exempt from registration fee and provided with opportunity to make an oral presentation. Interested students must submit their abstract and full paper as per stipulated guidelines to the student award committee before the deadline of 31st Aug 2014. The decision of the student award committee is final.

Sponsorship: Past DAA events have been sponsored and supported by international and regional organizations, private international and national companies that are interested in promoting the concept of improved bio-security and better aquatic animal health management. Organizations and companies interested in sponsoring and supporting the DAA9 event in Vietnam are welcome to contact the organizers for further details about sponsorship modalities.

For additional details, contact:

Prof Chadag Mohan (NACA), Chairperson of FHS (AFS) at mohan@enaca.org

Dr Puttharat (AAHRI), Secretary of FHS (AFS) at puttharat@hotmail.com

Dr Luan Tran Dinh (DAH), LOC at tdluan.dah@gmail.com

Dr Le Van Khoa (DAH), LOC at lvkhoa@dah.gov.vn

Please look out for new information on DAA9 and FHS (AFS) on our website : <http://www.fhs-afs.net>

From the Journal's Editor

Happy New Year! Last year was a somewhat bumpy year for the Journal. The good news is that we received a record number of manuscripts since the new editorial management took over at the end of 2010. The not so good news has been the high rejection rate of more than 74%. This has been in keeping with the high quality that the Journal is attempting to sustain. Pursuing these quality goals ultimately led to a reduction in the number of papers published in 2013. On the other hand, the improved quality has attracted a higher number of visitors reading the abstracts and downloading the full paper. More than 3,817 visitors read abstracts from the first three issues (March, June and September) while 3,238 visitors downloaded full papers. The recent issue that appeared in December had 150 visitors and 163 full papers download within a span of 10 days.

The greater visibility of the Journal is also due to reformatting the PDF files uploaded onto the website. The new format is based on the "metadata records" and complies with several international databases. More recently the National Agriculture Library of USA requested that our journal be indexed in the AGRICOLA database.

We have been punctual with the publication of the four issues (March, June, September and December). In addition to timeliness, we have maintained international diversity in terms of reviewers of manuscripts and the publication of the accepted papers. This is in line with Thomson Reuters' evaluation for gaining an impact factor. The time for processing and publishing the manuscripts has been reduced from 8 months to around 5 months.

We need your continuous support to make 2014 a bigger success. With your support we hope:

- ◆ There will be an increase in the number of submissions while maintaining international diversity and quality of the publication
- ◆ To provide authors a thorough and detail review of the manuscripts
- ◆ To process the manuscripts and return to authors within 4 weeks.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our friends and I look forward to your continuous support to the Asian Fisheries Science Journal.

Best wishes for 2014!

Mohamed Shariff

FAO Launches Global Aquaculture Partnership

FAO launches Global Aquaculture Advancement Partnership (GAAP) program which brings together government, UN agencies, non-governmental organisations and the private sector to ensure that the world's fish supplies can keep pace with booming demand and find sustainable solutions to meeting the need for fish products.

Recent trends predict a gradual decline in aquaculture growth, which might see the sector fall short of bridging the gap between projected supply and demand. GAAP will be tasked with overcoming obstacles to the expansion of aquaculture, including the increasing scarcity of land and water for the development of inland fisheries and the need to expand aquaculture activities in the world's seas and oceans.

Source: <http://www.seafoodsource.com/newarticledetail.aspx?id=22509>

Empowerment of Workers in Shrimp Processing Industries in Bangladesh

The shrimp and seafood industry has been a very promising economic sector in Bangladesh contributing second largest foreign exchange earnings. In terms of employment generation, the shrimp and frozen food processing industry plays significant role in absorbing the rural labour force, mainly the female workers coming from the adjacent coastal areas. There are about 90 shrimp and fish processing factories in the coastal areas of the country and out them 67 are licensed to export to the European markets. An estimated 40,000 workers are employed in these industries of them about 75% are female workers. There has been strong criticism in recent past with non-compliance of labour laws and use of child labour across the shrimp processing industries.

With this background, the country received a financial aid package from the European Union in 2006 to implement development projects for strengthening its trade capacity and fixing the emerging market standards through practicing better compliance across the export oriented industry sector. Under this financial assistance from EU and NORAD, Better Work and Standards Program has been working since 2010 for improving labour law compliance and to empower the workers through establishing labour rights, benefits and social justice across the shrimp processing industries in Bangladesh.

To understand the current status of the labour compliance, a robust baseline study and need assessment was conducted at the beginning. Customized training manual was developed to meet the special needs for the shrimp processing industry and conducted series of training of trainers (ToT) to create pool of trainers. A total of 78 officers were trained on ToT, from the Ministry of Labour & Employment (MOL&E), Fish Inspection and Quality Control, shrimp processing factories and officers from non-government organizations engaged in labour rights activities. To allow these trainers more space in labour training in real field, ten follow up trainings were conducted inside different processing factories where a total of 217 mid-level officials from 51 factories were trained in basic labour laws. Started from July 2010, the project has completed so far 70 batches of labour laws training for about 2000 workers and staff in different factories across the coastal region. Among the participants, one-third was chosen from the female workers while 2-3 participants in each batch were accounts staffs and supervisors, kept intentionally to better understand benefit packages given in the labour laws. There were a couple of separate training for the Trade Union Leaders, Compliance and HR Officers and Labour Contractors and Labour Supervisors.

These interventions resulted in good response from the industry and most of the factories appointed a Compliance Officer or HR Officer to look after matters related to labour compliance which was absent before. Majority of the workers were provided appointment letters and ID cards, the basic credential of a worker about his/her job. Trained workers are now better informed about their wage and other terms and conditions including working hour and admissible leave. Maternity benefits are now allowed in majority of the factories and use of child labour has dropped significantly. Reports from Khulna division labour office disclosed that the cumulative amount of maternity leave benefits paid from shrimp factories in 2011 was BDT 462,000 compared to BDT 52,00 in 2010.

Contributed by Mohammad Nuruzzaman, National Expert, UNIDO, Bangladesh

Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia

SEAFDEC has been pursuing the compilation of fishery statistics in Southeast Asia since 1978 upto 2007 in the form of the “*Fishery Statistical Bulletin for the South China Sea Area*”. Recently, SEAFDEC has initiated efforts for the revision of the statistical framework so that this could better serve as basic requirement (minimum requirement) for compiling fisheries statistics that can be achieved by the countries in the region. This has resulted in the production of “*Fishery Statistical Bulletin of Southeast Asia*”, reflecting the harmonized fisheries statistical framework and system of the Southeast Asian region since 2008.

The statistical data can be accessed from their website: http://fishstat.seafdec.org/statistical_bulletin/index.php

ICSF releases new publications on small-scale fisheries

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) has released three publications on small-scale fisheries (SSF):

1. **An Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF):** The publication tackles the issue of dealing with the impacts of fisheries on the ecosystem and how participatory approaches like co-management can make a difference in balancing ecological concerns with human well-being. For complete report, visit: (http://www.icsf.net/images/EAF_final_26Nov13_1.24pm.pdf)

2. **Small-scale Fisheries: Their Contribution to Food Security, Poverty Alleviation and Sustainability:** The publication points out that at least 20 per cent of the animal protein intake of the three billion people of the world's population derives from fish. For full report, please visit: http://www.icsf.net/images/ssf/SSF_BROCHURE_English.pdf \

3. **Draft Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries (SSF):** The publication tracks the history of how the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has been working to develop guidelines for SSF. For details, please visit: http://www.icsf.net/images/ssf/ENGLISH%20SSFguidelines_leaflet.pdf

SEAFDEC Holds its 36th Program Committee Meeting and 16th Fisheries Consultative Group Meeting in Penang, Malaysia

The 36th Meeting of the Program Committee of SEAFDEC and the 16th Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group/ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG-ASSP) was held during 25-29 November 2013 in Penang, Malaysia and was attended by over 50 participants comprising of delegates from 11 Member Countries of SEAFDEC (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam); senior officials from SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat; and representatives from the collaborating partners (regional and international organizations) of SEAFDEC.

The Program Committee meeting focused on the review of implementation of SEAFDEC activities under various Program Thrusts, the proposed new Programs, and the status of Japanese Trust Fund for 2014 and onwards. The Program Thrusts of SEAFDEC are: (i) developing and promoting responsible fisheries for poverty alleviation and food security; (ii) enhancing capacity and competitiveness to facilitate international and intra-regional trade; (iii) improving management concepts and approaches for sustainable fisheries; (iv) providing policy and advisory services for planning and executing management of fisheries; and (v) addressing international fisheries related issues from a regional perspective. The Committee also discussed the country inputs on regional priorities for future program formulation.

The 16th FCG-ASSP Meeting discussions focused on the follow-up actions to the directives given at the 45th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council and other meetings of SEAFDEC and ASEAN bodies related to fisheries, the status of programs and activities implemented in 2013 and proposed for 2014 under the FCG-ASSP, the progress of the proposals under the ASSP Framework, and issues of importance to the fisheries sector of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries.

The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Launches Online Fisheries Science Research Library

The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) has launched a new online fisheries science research library which will provide open access to the science that underpins the organisation's standards. The [MSC Science Series](#) will present the latest research on issues relating to fishery resources, marine habitats, ecosystems and other key topics. The platform will serve as a knowledge sharing space, where stakeholders with an interest in sustainable fishing practices, will be able to access the research for free.

The first volume explores the impacts of harvesting low trophic level species that form the basis of marine ecosystems, as food and energy sources for other species. It also reviews global best practice on different ecosystem-based models and evaluates how different harvest strategies on low trophic level fisheries impact on target stocks, as well as the predators that depend on them.

For details visit: <http://www.msc.org/business-support/science-series>

NACA Announces Recruitment for the Position of its Director General

The incumbent Director General of NACA, Dr Ambekar E. Eknath has decided to step down due to personal reasons. The NACA Governing Council has decided to call for applications from suitably qualified and experienced persons from NACA member states for the position of Director General, tenable from May 2014 for a fixed period of five years. The selected candidate is expected to assume the position by 1 May 2014 after a brief handover period. Applications will close at **5 PM (Bangkok time) on 15 February 2014**. Candidates must be less than 60 years of age on the closing date. For details visit: www.enaca.org

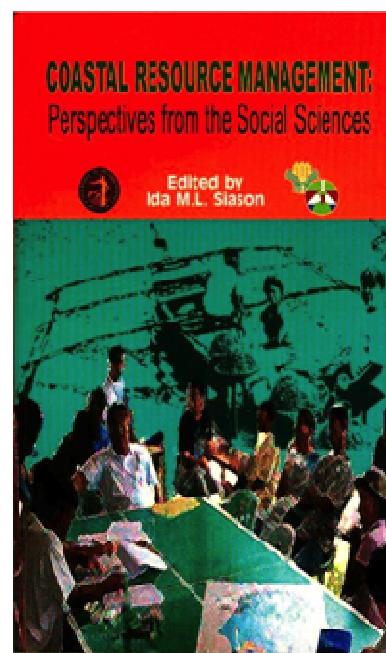
Recruitment for position of Director General of NACA
Close for application : 5PM (in Bangkok Time) on 15 February
2014

Coastal Resource Management: Perspectives from the Social Sciences

The University of the Philippines Visayas launched the book "Coastal Resource Management: Perspectives from the Social Sciences" in August 2013. The book is an edited volume with each of six chapters addressing core critical issues in coastal resource management (CRM): Mobilizing and Organizing in CBCRM; Governance Systems in Coasts; Rethinking Coastal Livelihoods; Markets and Fisheries Development Issues; Women in CRM; and Integrating Economic Valuation.

The chapter authors are Elmer Ferrer, Pepito Fernandez, Alice Prieto-Carolino, Lenore Polotan-de la Cruz, Nerissa Salayo, Ida Siason and Rodelio Subade, several of whom are active members of the Asian Fisheries Society.

Inquiries about the book may be directed to ida.siason@gmail.com.



UPCOMING CONFERENCES

◆ Aquaculture America 2014

Aquaculture America 2014 is scheduled for February 9-12, 2014 at Seattle, Washington. The conference is expected to have the largest aquaculture trade show in the Western Hemisphere and one of the largest anywhere in the world with nearly 200 booths! [For details visit www.was.org](#)

◆ IAI Aquaculture Conference

IAI Aquaculture Conference is scheduled for 21 February 2014 in New Delhi, India. The theme of conference is Innovation to Improve Production. Concurrent events include Aquaculture Expo, Poultry and Meat Processing Expo, Bio energy Expo, IAI Nutrition forum, IAI Meat Conference, IAI Poultry housing and Bio energy Conference.

For additional details, visit: <http://aquaculturedirectory.co.uk/iai-expo-2014/iai-aquaculture-conference/>

◆ International workshop on "Resource enhancement and sustainable aquaculture practices in Southeast Asia"

SEAFDEC/AQD is organising "International workshop on resource enhancement and sustainable aquaculture practices in Southeast Asia: Challenges in responsible production of aquatic species" during 5-7 March 2014 in Punta Villa Resort, Iloilo City, Philippines.

For more details please visit: <http://www.seafdec.org.ph/2013/international-workshop-on-resource-enhancement-and-sustainable-aquaculture-practices-in-southeast-asia/>

◆ Offshore Mariculture Conference 2014

The 5th Offshore Mariculture Conference, an international two-day conference focused on the offshore fish farming business, will be held in Naples, Italy on 9-11 April 2014. The conference will benefit fish farmers who are either growing their offshore fish farming business or it will prove beneficial to those who are looking to move their businesses offshore. [For details visit www.offshoremariculture.com](#)

◆ Seafood Expo Global and Seafood Processing Global

Seafood Expo Global and Seafood Processing Global Formerly known as the European Seafood Exposition/Seafood Processing Europe, the largest seafood trade event in the world is scheduled for 6-8 May, 2014 in Brussels, Belgium.

For more details, please visit: <http://www.seafoodexpo.com/global/>

◆ The Asian Aquaculture Insurance & Risk Management Conference

The Asian Aquaculture Insurance & Risk Management Conference will take place at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Kowloon, Hong Kong, on 13 to 15 May 2014. The Conference is a development of the conferences which have been held biennially in Europe over the last 25 years. The Asian conference will cover the insurance and risk management challenges aquaculture faces in Asia.

Full details of the Conference can be seen at www.qairmc.com.

◆ World Aquaculture Adelaide 2014

World Aquaculture 2014 will be held in Adelaide, Australia during June 7-11, 2014. For details please visit www.was.org

◆ World Business Conference on Aquaculture

World Business Conference on Aquaculture is scheduled for June 16-18, 2014 in Stavanger, Norway. [For details, please visit: www.aquavision.org/about-conference.](#)

◆ IIFET Conference

The International Institute for Fisheries Economics and Trade is calling for abstracts for papers and posters in the 2014 biennial conference, to be held from 7-11 July 2014 in Brisbane, Australia. Among the themes (<http://iifet2014.org/themes-topics/>) is "Gender issues in fisheries and aquaculture". Thanks to the AquaFish-CRSP, the theme of gender established a foothold in the last IIFET conference (see the report and links to papers at: <http://genderaquafish.org/events/iifet-gender-sessions-2012-dar-es-salaam-tanzania/>). The organisers wish to build on the themes of these sessions - gender in markets and value chains and so encourage you to come and present in Brisbane next year.

To register, go to: <http://iifet2014.org/call-for-submissions/>

◆ 10th International Conference on Recirculating Aquaculture

The tenth international conference on recirculating aquaculture is scheduled for August 22-24, 2014 in Roanoke, USA. [For details please visit: www.recircqua.com/icra.html](#)

◆ GOAL 2014

Global Aquaculture Alliance (GAA) will hold its annual GOAL 2014 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, during 6-9 October 2014. [For additional information, please visit: http://www.gaalliance.org/newsroom/weighingInNews.php?Sheraton-Saigon-To-Host-GOAL-2014-Conference-In-October-49](#)

◆ ASEAN Fisheries & Aquaculture Conference and Exposition 2015

During the 45th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in April 2013, the Department of Fisheries (DOF) of Thailand officially announced the organization of the ASEAN Fisheries & Aquaculture Conference and Exposition 2015 with the theme "ASEAN Seafood for the World". The conference is tentatively scheduled for May 2015, and the official website would be launched in early 2014.

AFS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

Dear AFS Members:

Thank you to all AFS Members for your ongoing commitment and support towards the Society!

The Secretariat has started to update the Members details in database.

Therefore, the Secretariat requests all AFS members to up-date their membership dues and contact information, to the Secretariat via email at info@asianfisheriessociety.org or fax to: +603-89472217.

Kindly renew your membership dues using online payment system at <http://www.asianfisheriessociety.org/join.php> or you may also request the membership form from Secretariat via info@asianfisheriessociety.org.

Membership is open for all!

**Please apply your membership at
<http://www.asianfisheriessociety.org/join.php>.**

**If you have any question, kindly email us at
info@asianfisheriessociety.org**

Synopsis of Papers Volume 26 (Issue 4): Asian Fisheries Science Journal

Zooming-in Co-management of Coastal Resources to Community Level: a Case in Southern Iloilo, Philippines

WILLIAM BOEH, RODELIO F. SUBADE, LEVI GUILLERMO GEGANZO and ANA LIZA A. SUBADE

Several co-management arrangements exist depending on the role of the fishers in the formulation of the regulations ranging from consultative roles to delegated roles. While many studies look into co-management in a higher level of government, this case analysis looks into community-level initiatives towards co-managing coastal resources with the local government unit and coastal community in Barangay Sinogbuhan.

Reducing and Managing Disaster Risk through Coastal Resource Management: A Philippine Case

JEE GRACE B. SUYO, ALICE PRIETO-CAROLINO and RODELIO F. SUBADE

Recently, the Local Government Units of the coastal municipalities of Guimbal and Tigbauan, Iloilo Province, initiated disaster risk reduction and management activities. It is contended in this article that the condition of coastal and marine resources is fundamental in fostering community resilience to hazards, as exemplified by activities in Guimbal and Tigbauan. Five major issues that remain to be addressed by the Local Government Units were identified through Key Informant Interviews and Focus Group Discussions.

Immobilized Nitrifying Bacterial Consortium for Improving Water Quality, Survival and Growth of *Penaeus monodon* Fabricius 1798 Postlarvae in Hatchery System

N. MAYA ERNA, SANJOY BANERJEE, HELENA KHATOON, MOHAMED SHARIFF and FATIMAH MD. YUSOFF

The exposure of shrimp postlarvae (PL) to toxic compounds such as ammonia leads to stress, diseases, and mortality. In this study, a consortium of immobilized nitrifying bacteria M1 was tested for its efficacy in reducing total ammonia nitrogen (TAN) and nitrite nitrogen ($\text{NO}_2\text{-N}$) so as to improve the survival and growth of *Penaeus monodon* Fabricius 1798 PL in hatchery system. Results showed that tanks treated with immobilized bacteria were able to maintain TAN and $\text{NO}_2\text{-N}$ below $0.5 \text{ mg}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$. In addition, shrimp PLs in tanks treated with immobilized bacteria had significantly ($P < 0.05$) higher survival rate (72.44%) and specific growth rate (12.86%) compared to other treatments.

Effects of Culture Space on the Production of Tubificid Worms (*Oligochaeta*, Naididae)

MARIOM and M. F. A. MOLLAH

The study was carried out to determine the effects of space on the production of tubificid worms. The worms were cultured in three different treatments namely treatment-I ($40,000 \text{ cm}^3$), treatment-II ($96,000 \text{ cm}^3$) and treatment-III ($152,000 \text{ cm}^3$) under flow-through conditions. The experiment was continued for 90 days using a culture medium containing a mixture of 20% mustard oil cake, 20% wheat bran, 30% soybean meal, 20% cow-dung and 10% sand soaked with rice gruel. The observed highest yield ($P < 0.05$) of $1662.16 \pm 28.32 \text{ mg}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$ was found after 70 days of culture in treatment-III.

The Effects of Dietary Supplement of Immunogen on Growth Performance, and Visceral and Hepatic Somatic Indices of Juvenile Rainbow Trout, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (Walbaum 1792)**A. KERAMAT AMIRKOLAIE, S. KARIMZADEH and M. JAFARI**

This study aimed to evaluate the effects of Immunogen, a mixture of prebiotic on the growth performance and viscera and hepatic indices in rainbow trout. A basal diet was formulated using common feed ingredients supplemented with Immunogen levels of 0, 1, 1.5, and 2 g·kg⁻¹, leading to four experimental diets. Rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss* Walbaum 1792) with an initial weight of 99.59±0.74 g were randomly distributed in the experimental tanks. Inclusion of dietary Immunogen increased final weight and specific growth rate (SGR) ($p < 0.01$) of rainbow trout. Feed conversion ratio (FCR) and protein efficiency ratio (PER) were also improved after prebiotic administration to the experimental fish ($p < 0.01$ and < 0.05 , respectively). Dietary addition of 2 g·kg⁻¹ prebiotic also increased relative liver and visceral weights ($p < 0.05$).

Stomach Contents of Banded Archerfish, *Toxotes jaculatrix* (Pallas 1767) (Toxotidae) from brackish waters of South Andaman, India**M.P. GOUTHAM-BHARATHI, R. MOHANRAJU, P. KRISHNAN, C.R. SREERAJ and K.D. SIMON**

Stomach contents of banded archerfish, *Toxotes jaculatrix* (Pallas 1767) (Toxotidae) ranging from 13-24 cm total length (TL) collected from brackish waters of South Andaman, India were examined. Though known as insectivorous with specialized feeding techniques to feed upon arboreal insects, the present study suggests that *T. jaculatrix* is an opportunistic feeder, consuming a wide range of prey from various habitats.

Research on Local Ecological Knowledge-A Plea for Parity: Critique on Local Ecological Knowledge (LEK) in Interdisciplinary Research and Application: a Critical Review (Ruddle and Davis 2013)**RYAN K. BROOK**

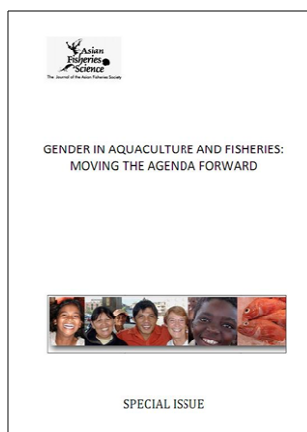
While agreeing with Davis and Ruddle 2013 (Asian Fisheries Science 26: 79-100) that it is important to examine more closely the research that is using local ecological knowledge (LEK) and how it is evaluated and applied, Brook thinks that Ruddle and Davis (2013) have conflated cautions raised about how to best use to evaluate LEK in comparison to “western” or “expert-based” science.

A Plea for Empowerment Through Rational Scepticism: A Brief Rejoinder to Brook**ANTHONY DAVIS and KENNETH RUDDLE**

Davis and Ruddle clarified that their review published in Asian Fisheries Science (vol 26:79-100) was not directed at “communities” wherein local ecological knowledge (LEK) is found and vibrantly expressed, but rather concerns the manner in which many researchers claim to document and represent LEK. Their position on the requisite attributes for the study of LEK include the propositions that (1) research be designed and conducted in a manner that reliably and thoroughly documents LEK; (2) that research outcomes be examined with a healthy dose of rational scepticism; and (3) that the strengths and limitations of LEK be truthfully represented and analysed.

Download papers at : <http://www.asianfisheriessociety.org/publication/current.php>

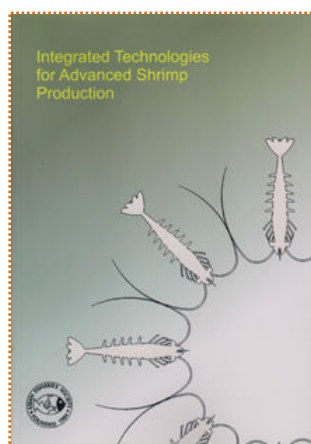
AFS PUBLICATION FOR SALE



AFS Member: USD15

Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries: Moving the Agenda Forward **MERYL J WILLIAMS, MARILYN PORTER, POH SZE CHOO, KYOKO KUSAKABE, VEIKILA VUKI, NIKITA GOPAL AND MELBA BONDAD-REANTASO**

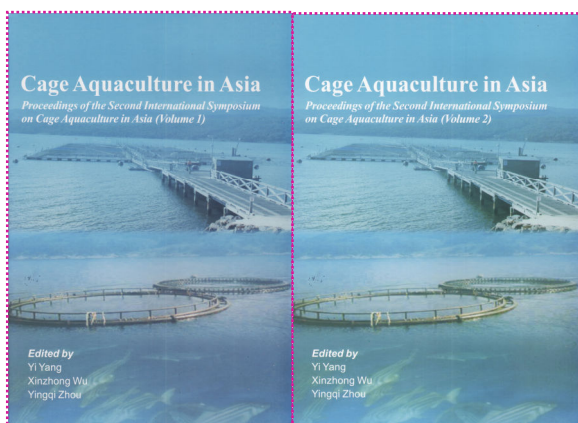
Gender in aquaculture and fisheries is still under-researched but interest is increasing. This volume shows progress in visualizing women's contribution to fisheries and aquaculture and also in structural analysis on value chains and institutions. Faced, however, with additional challenges such as climate change and economic integration, more nuanced analysis is now needed on ecological, economical, political and cultural systems. Factors such as class, age, ethnicity, race, caste, religion etc all come into play to define/condition gender relations.



AFS Member: USD10

Integrated Technologies for Advanced Shrimp Production

Edited by: Asian Fisheries Science



AFS Member: USD70

Cage Aquaculture in Asia: Proceedings of the Second International Symposium on Cage Aquaculture in Asia (Volume 1 and Volume 2)

Edited by: Yi Yang, Xinzhong Wu and Yingqi Zhou