

## Notes for Working Group 2



# THE FUTURE OF MARICULTURE

A Regional Approach for Responsible Development of  
Mariculture in the Asia-Pacific Region



## Livelihoods, Producer Organizations, Technology Transfer and Communications

*...the people and network*

# Major Issues

## Proposition 1:



**Producer organizations and alliance networks are essential to the efficient development of:**

**A. business functions; and**

**B. industry-representation functions**

**for the mariculture sector of Asian economies.**

# Major Issues

## Proposition 2:



**Producer organizations and alliance networks can prosper if – and only if – the following elements are available, accessible and effectively utilized:**

- A. Appropriate local, national & regional plans including legal parameters that effect the industry.
- B. Fair markets that include awareness of culture practices that relate to product quality and food safety and link effectively with market requirements.
- C. Finance and insurance on equitable terms.
- D. Knowledge, information, tools and skills relevant to appropriate technology, markets, business management practices, environmental considerations & social impacts.
- E. Essential infrastructure, goods and services including communication and logistical links.

# Key Actions



## 1. Organize producers; support alliances; build networks

- A. Facilitate the formation and operation of producer organizations through effective networking.
- B. Facilitate the development of organizational initiatives that increase the market power of farmers; create a self-sustaining mechanism for the rapid dissemination of technology; stimulate experience sharing; foster implementation of better management practices; and increase the strength of producer enterprises in negotiations with suppliers of inputs, buyers and financial service providers.
- C. Establish networked knowledge and information centers with one-stop shops that provide advice on business planning, finance and compliance issues.
- D. Foster good social responsibility by industry stakeholders.

# Key Actions



## 2. Further strengthen national & regional coordination in mariculture policy & planning

- A. Identify priorities, constraints and opportunities for regional collaboration.
- B. Integrate mariculture into overall coastal zone management and planning processes.
- C. Facilitate the engagement of producers in mariculture policy development processes.
- D. Formalize mariculture operations as legitimate users of coastal areas and resources (zoning and licensing).

# Key Actions



## 3. Link to fair markets

- A. Engage in-region institutions in facilitating:
  - a. development of awareness concerning culture practices (including technology, product quality and food safety, linked with market access requirements).
  - b. development of value chain transparency through dissemination of market-related knowledge, information, tools and solutions.
- B. Facilitate development of specific value chains from source to market.
- C. Establish & promulgate industry-standard quality protocols & procedures that are practical for producers to use.
- D. Tie in regional facilities with the capacity to provide testing & technical support for verification & certification processes that support marketing.

# Key Actions



## 4. Link to fair finance & insurance

- A. Facilitate Business Development Service Providers (BDSP) that serve as interfaces between banks and producers; facilitate risk reduction measures; provide training in better farm and business management practices; assist in implementation of standardized financial procedures; and provide advice on the organization and management of credit unions and other self-financing arrangements.
- B. Facilitate access to low-cost sources of credit through producer-based credit unions and revolving funds that encourage use of better management practices by members.
- C. Assist banks to develop financial products that are appropriate for small and medium-scale producers.

# Key Actions



## 5. Link to knowledge, information, tools & skills

- A. Identify & mobilize regional institutions that can support development of effective “solution providers” to provide specialized technical & business functions to mariculture value chains.
- B. Develop a directory or network of mariculture training providers.
- C. Develop or translate appropriate syllabus and technical training materials in languages relevant to the region.
- D. Promote education and training in mariculture; livelihood building; and communication skills for farmers, extension workers and trainers.
- E. Engage producers in the cycle of innovation and knowledge development.



# Key Actions



## 6. Link to essential infrastructure, goods & services

- A. Promote development and/or ensure access to essential infrastructure and services (for example moorings within designated mariculture zones).
- B. Build efficient networks linking to essential farm inputs such as quality feed and seed, health advice, equipment supplies, market information and finance.
- C. Provide rapid access to technical services and information such as health management, environmental forecasting.

Way ahead...



**1. Pick a few value chains that are of general regional significance and facilitate their development.**

**Possibilities suggested for consideration include:**

- A. cage culture of tropical finfish for live markets;
- B. seaplants for specialty ingredient & agricultural uses;
- C. bivalves for general nutritional purposes.

Way ahead...



## 2. Identify & mobilize regional institutions that can support development of effective “solution providers”.

### These can provide:

- A. business development advice, and assistance;
- B. delivery of technical and business training;
- C. diagnostic, testing and treatment services;
- D. linkages to the essentials of enterprise management and operation.

Way ahead...



### **3. Mobilize regional institutions in development of a comprehensive mariculture-oriented Geographic Information System (GIS) for coastal regions.**

#### **This can provide:**

- A. information that is of crucial importance to integrating mariculture into coastal zone management programs;
- B. guidance as to seasonal management of mariculture operations;
- C. a platform for the delivery of technical and market information.

Way ahead...



#### **4. Place special emphasis on institutional collaboration in human resource development.**

##### **Suggested measures include:**

- A. facilitating regional cooperation in development of education and training materials in the key languages of mariculturists in the region;
- B. developing networked technology transfer initiatives;
- C. collaboration on the delivery of effective education to the locations where mariculture is practiced.

Way ahead...



**5. Coordinate participation of regional institutions in promoting infrastructure development and financial facilities that support the mariculture industry including:**

- A. Encouragement of private-sector initiatives (e.g. in providing finance);
- B. Promotion of institutional networking both in-country and regionally;
- C. Convincing institutions such as the International Finance Institutions (IFI) to fund infrastructure projects that support mariculture;
- D. Facilitating means by which mariculture organizations and stakeholders can be made aware of infrastructure and financing opportunities