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**Consultative Workshop on Developing
FAO Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification**

29-30 May 2008

Hotel Crowne Plaza, Silver Spring, MD, USA

Development of FAO Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification: Background, Process and Progress

Rohana Subasinghe
FAO, Rome



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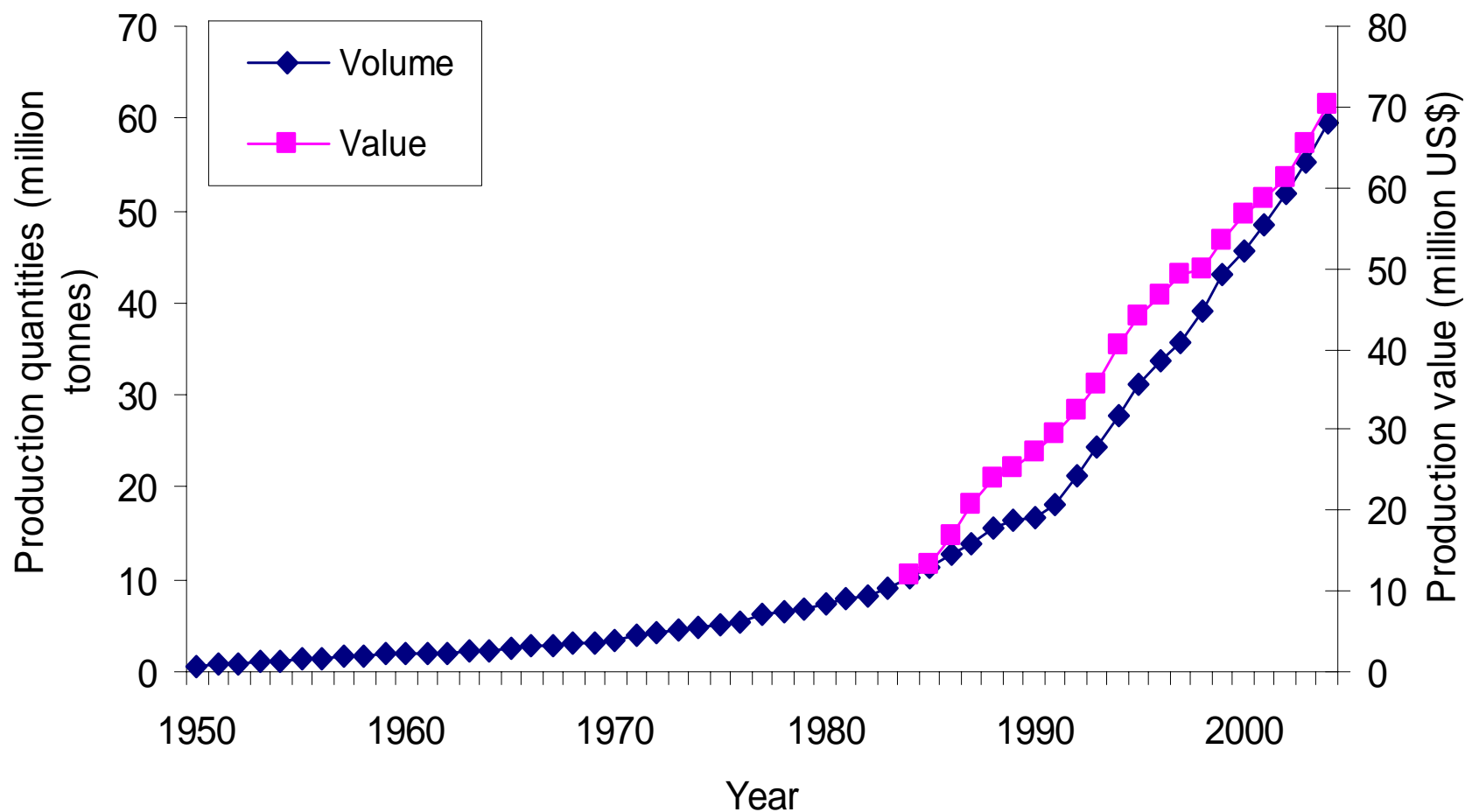
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Global Aquaculture Production (includes plants)





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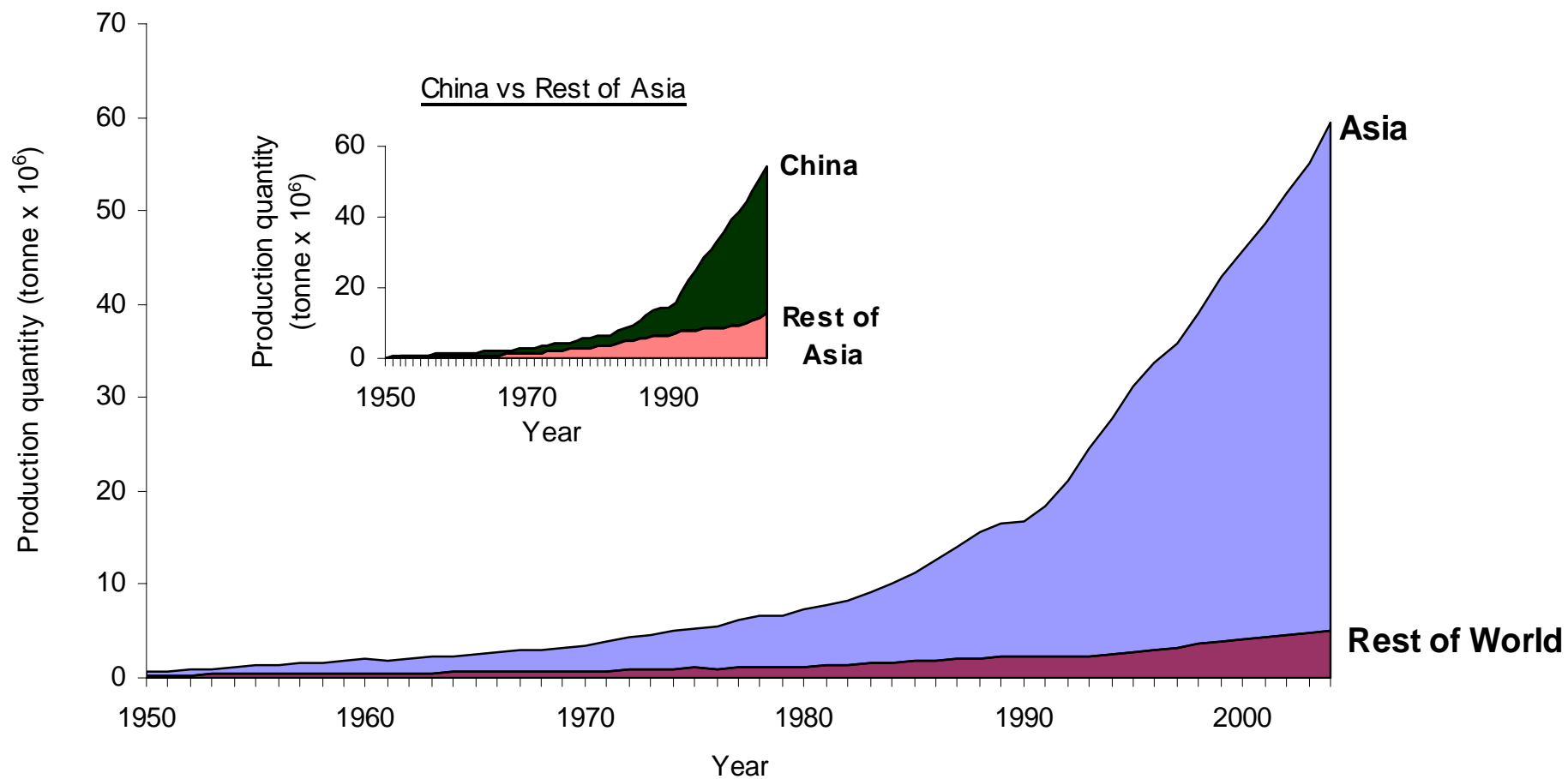
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Global Aquaculture Production





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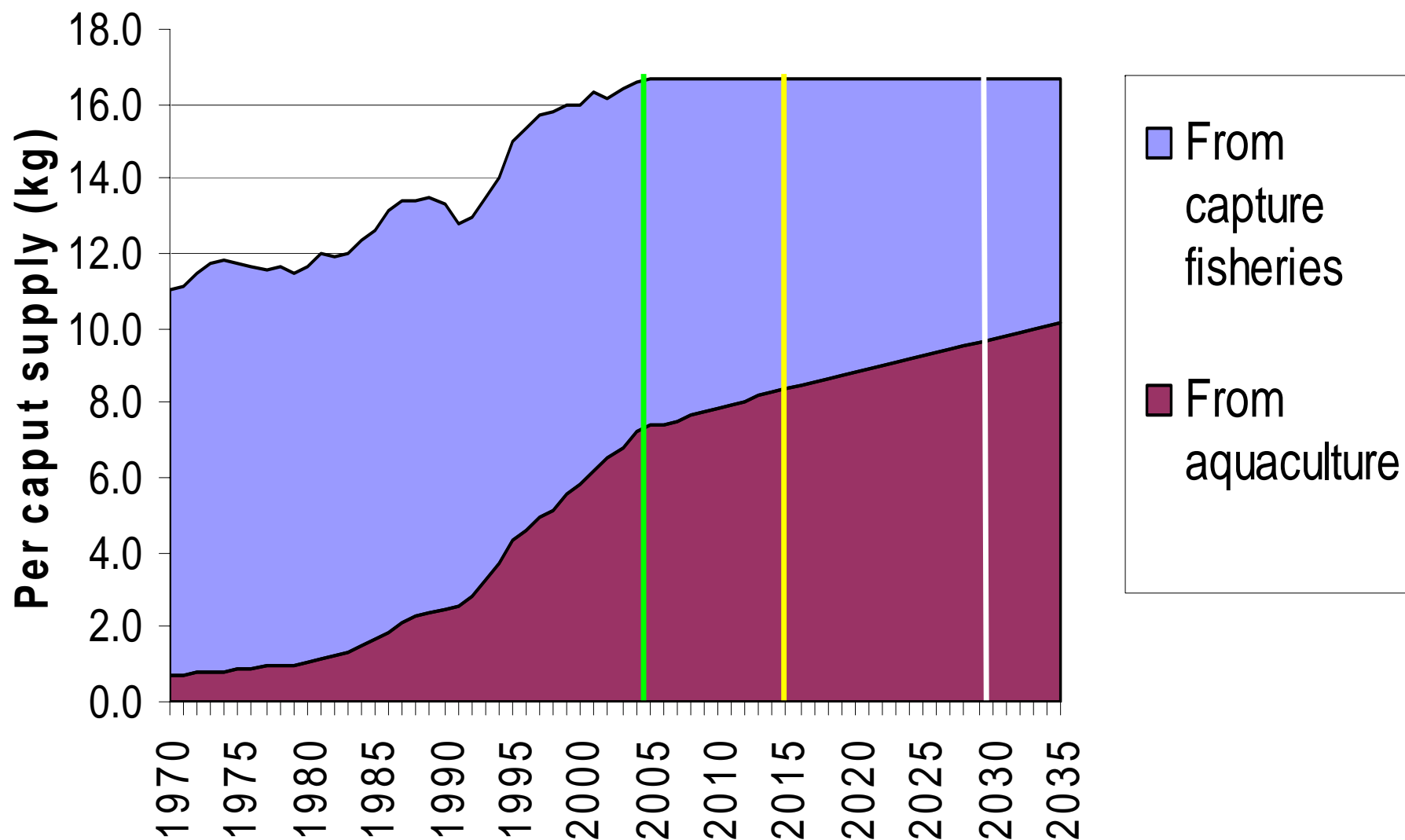
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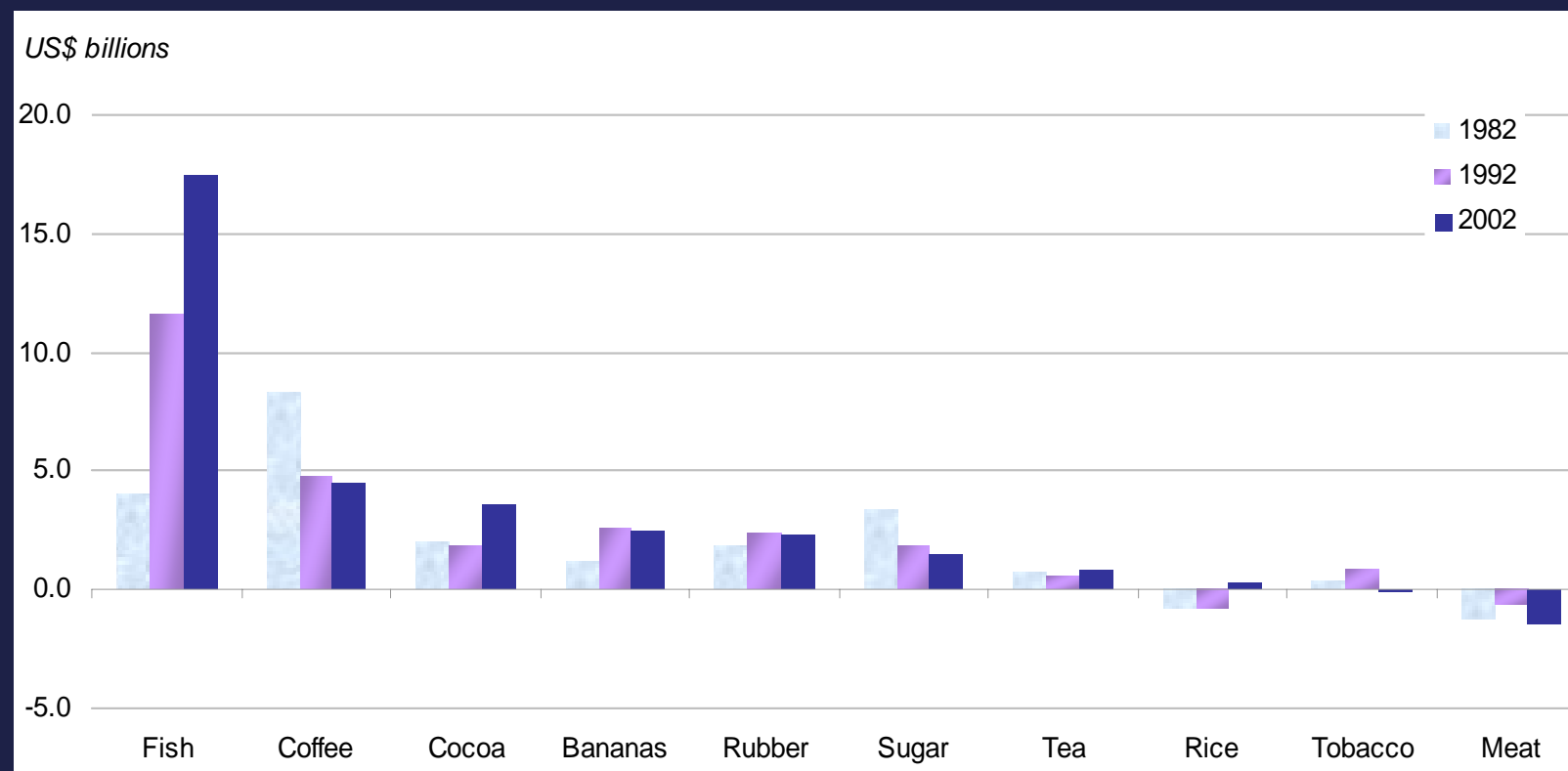
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Fish is the most valuable (net) exported agricultural commodity from developing countries

Net exports of selected agricultural commodities by developing countries





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- Aquaculture still is the **fastest growing** food producing sector in the world.
- Aquaculture now accounts for **almost 50%** of the global **food fish**.
- In 2006 **51.7 million** tonnes of aquatic animals worth **USD 78.8 billion** were produced globally.
- Given the projected population growth, an additional **40 million tonnes** of **aquatic food** will be required by **2030**, at least to maintain the current per caput consumption.



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Major Concerns

■ Environmental sustainability

- How aquaculture ensures environmental sustainability?

■ Social equity

- How aquaculture delivers significant social benefits?

■ Safety and health of the consumer

- How aquaculture maintains food safety?



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COFI-SCA III

- Was mindful that currently, many non-governmental certification schemes have resulted in higher costs for producers without delivering significant price benefits to small-scale producers and expressed concern that the costs of such schemes were disadvantageous to small-scale producers.
- Commented that the emergence of a wide range of certification schemes and accreditation bodies was creating confusion amongst producers and consumers alike.



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COFI-SCA III

- Stated that there was a need for more **globally accepted guidelines**, which could provide more guidance and serve as a **basis for improved harmonization and facilitate mutual recognition and equivalence of such certification schemes.**
- Requested FAO to convene Expert Workshops and encouraged FAO to play a lead role in **facilitating the development of guidelines which could be considered when national and regional aquaculture certification guidelines are developed.**



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COFI-SCA III

- Several members of the Sub-Committee and the Network of **Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA)** – an inter-governmental organization representing over 90 percent of the global aquaculture production - offered to cooperate at the national, regional and international levels, and requested FAO to provide a platform for such collaboration.
- The Sub-Committee also requested the establishment of an expert group to review the certification of shrimp farming systems.



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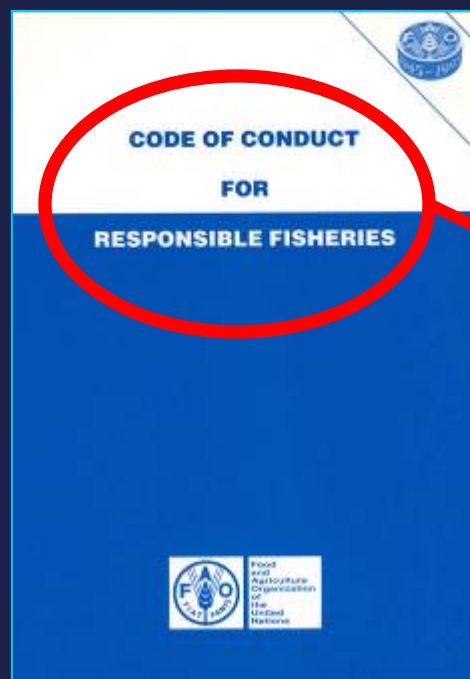
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Evolution of global norms for responsible aquaculture

- The FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
 - A voluntary code, globally endorsed
 - Article 9 covers “Aquaculture Development”





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International Principles for Responsible Shrimp Farming

International Principles for Responsible Shrimp Farming

2006





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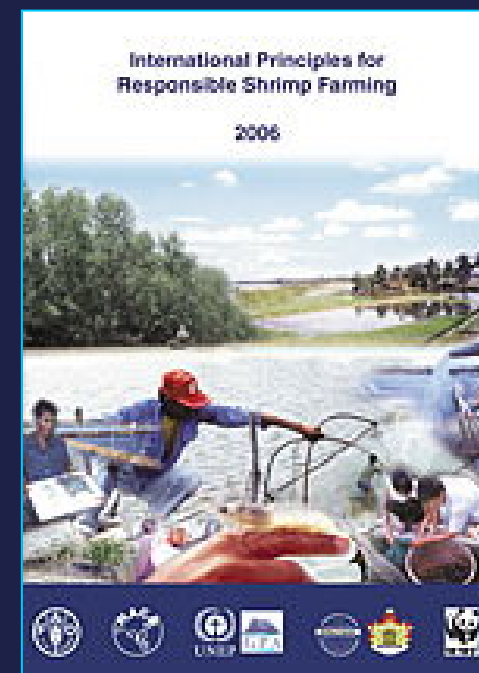
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Development of international Shrimp Principles

- The Consortium on *Shrimp Farming and the Environment* was formed in 1999. Members are:
 - FAO, NACA (Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia-Pacific), WWF, World Bank, UNEP (Joined in 2004)
- The **objective** of this global program was to identify issues around shrimp farming and broadly advise on better management practices (BMP) of the shrimp farming sector
- An **outcome** of this was a voluntary set of principles for better management of the shrimp sector





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Countries welcome new guidelines on shrimp farming - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Address http://www.fao.org/newsroom/en/news/2006/1000391/index.html

Google Go Settings

FAO :: Newsroom :: News stories :: 2006 :: Countries welcome new...



FAO Newsroom

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
helping to build a world without hunger

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Countries welcome new guidelines on shrimp farming

FAO meeting ends with call to make aquaculture greener, more people-friendly

Newsroom

News stories

- 2008
- 2007
- 2006
- 2005
- 2004
- 2003
- 2002

Focus on the issues

FAO in the field

Audio

Video

Webcasting

Photography

Media contacts

Tools for journalists

11 September 2006, Rome – Shrimp farming is often criticized for its environmental impacts. But millions of small-scale producers in the world's poorest countries, who produce 99 percent of the world's farmed shrimp, depend on it for their livelihoods. Consumer demand in northern markets is at record highs, and shrimp exports from the developing world run to the tune of \$8.7 billion a year.

It's a problem that has bedevilled policymakers for decades now.

Last week that knot unravelled a bit, when a group of 50 countries attending an FAO meeting on fish farming welcomed a series of non-binding international principles for responsible shrimp farming which offer guidance on how to reduce the sector's environmental impacts while boosting its contribution to poverty alleviation.

While not slated for formal adoption by national delegations participating in the 3rd meeting of the FAO Sub-Committee on Aquaculture (New Delhi, 4-8 September), there was general consensus that the principles should be relied upon as a global point of reference for aquaculture policy and development.

The principles touch on a number of environment-related issues, including the siting of farms and their design, the use of resources like water and feed, as well as the social impacts of aquaculture on local communities.

Proliferation of standards causes confusion

Drawn up in a five-year consultative process involving several partner organizations, including the Network for Aquaculture Centres for the Asia Pacific, WWF, the World Bank and the UN Environmental Programme, the new principles represent the first-ever attempt to provide an overarching international framework for improving the sustainability of the shrimp farming industry.

A number of similar, less ambitious frameworks are already being used by governments and private-sector buyers and impose standards aimed at ensuring that farmed shrimp are raised in an environmentally friendly way and that shrimp culture operations do not have negative impacts on local communities.

However the proliferation of such schemes has posed a number of challenges. They are not harmonized, which means that exporters in the developing world often must struggle to

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Documents

International Principles for Responsible Shrimp Farming

Related links

Documents from the New Delhi meeting
Nearly half of all fish eaten today farmed, not caught

Shrimp culture: pros and cons

Shrimp is the most valuable fish product traded internationally, with over US\$11 billion of exports per year, and represents a major source of employment, tax revenues and foreign interest earnings for developing nations -- which produce 90 percent of all shrimp worldwide and 99 percent of all farmed shrimp.

At the same time, shrimp farming has been criticized for polluting coastal waters, destroying mangrove ecosystems and spreading diseases and invasive alien species.

Yet just around 13 percent of aquaculture comes from large-scale, export-oriented 'industrial aquaculture' operations involving species like shrimp or salmon. The bulk of production involves plant-eaters low on the food chain, like carp, and occurs on small-scale farms in developing countries -- particularly in Asia -- where it meets pressing food and nutrition needs.

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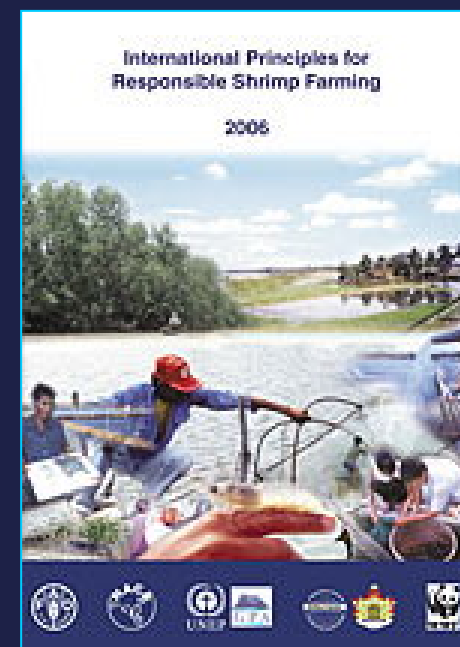
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International Principles for Shrimp Farming

● Main Principles

- Principle 1: Site selection
- Principle 2: Pond design
- Principle 3: Water management
- Principle 4: Brood stock management
- Principle 5: Feed management
- Principle 6: Health management
- Principle 7: Food safety
- Principle 8: Social Equity





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International Ecolabelling Guidelines



**GUIDELINES FOR THE ECOLABELLING
OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS
FROM MARINE CAPTURE FISHERIES**

**DIRECTIVES POUR L'ÉTIQUETAGE ÉCOLOGIQUE
DU POISSON ET DES PRODUITS DES PÊCHES
DE CAPTURE MARINES**

**DIRECTRICES PARA EL ECOETIQUETADO
DE PESCADO Y PRODUCTOS PESQUEROS
DE LA PESCA DE CAPTURA MARINA**





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Schemes for aquaculture & fisheries certification

- Proliferation of schemes
 - National
 - Regional
 - International
- Increasing costs
- Lack of equivalence arrangements
- No attention to small-scale farmers
- Mix and confusion about voluntary and mandatory requirements
- Many of the issues and challenges are interlinked!!





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Development of International Guidelines for Certification of Aquaculture

- Why International guidelines?
 - Create an “level playing field” and involve all producers (focus on small-scale farmers)
 - Ensure participation of “less vocal” stakeholders
 - Increasing number of certification schemes makes it difficult for consumers and producers to choose the right scheme
 - Several different approaches to certification
- Increasing consumer awareness (both in developed country markets and new developed/developing countries)
 - Willingness to pay for certified products
 - Risk of losing credibility by bad schemes or “failing to live up to expectations”



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Development of International Guidelines for Certification of Aquaculture – The Process

- COFI/AQ/III – 8-12 September 2006 – New Delhi, India
- FAO/NACA Secretariat – January 2007
- Advisory Group – January 2007
- E-mail recipient list – January 2007



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Development of International Guidelines for Certification of Aquaculture – The Process

- Website – January 2007

Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific - Certification - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: <http://www.enaca.org/modules/tinyd10/index.php?id=1>

Aquaculture certification

RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTS FROM FARM TO TABLE

Home | Certification Systems | Publications | Events | Forum | Terms

Search

Advanced Search

NACA programmes

- Genetics & Biodiversity
- Health Programme
- Inland Aquaculture
- Marine Finfish Culture
- Shrimp Farming
- Training Programme

Special themes

- Better Management
- Certification & Trade
- Mangroves

Programme Partners

Certification News

- Workshop on Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification (8/5/2008)
- Assessment of freshwater fish seed resources for sustainable aquaculture (21/4/2008)
- Aquaculture certification guidelines development process continues in ... (12/4/2008)
- WWF Shrimp Aquaculture Dialogue in Belize (1/4/2008)
- London Expert Workshop on Aquaculture Certification (12/3/2008)
- Aquaculture certification guidelines development process moves forward... (1/2/2008)
- Analysing the performance of certification standards and labels (18/12/2007)
- Consultation on aquaculture certification guidelines, Kochi, 23rd Nov... (3/11/2007)
- Expert workshop on Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification opens in F... (2/8/2007)
- Training workshop on EU Fishery and Aquaculture Standards, Vietnam (22/7/2007)

Advertisements

Aquaculture
Texas Lake Stocking and Management
Fish, Fertilizer, Feed, Fountains

Green MBA
Organizational and Environmental
Sustainability Weekend program

Ads by Google

Publications on Certification

- Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification (draft version 4.2)
- Report of the Beijing Expert workshop on Guidelines for Aquaculture Certificati...
- Report of the FAO/NACA/Gov.Brazil Expert Workshop on Guidelines for Aquaculture...
- Background & Agenda for Brazil Expert Workshop on Aquaculture Certification
- Report of the FAO/NACA/Gov.Thailand Expert Workshop on Guidelines for Aquacultu...
- Certificação da Aquicultura: Um programa para a Implementação das Recomendações...
- Aquaculture Certification: A Programme for implementing the recommendation of t...
- Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Captur...
- CLICK HERE FOR MORE

Background

Introduction

Global production from aquaculture has grown substantially, contributing in ever more significant quantities to the world's supply of fish for human consumption. This increasing trend

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- About NACA
- Contact Us

Certification menu

- Certification Home
- Certification System
- Publications
- Bangkok Expert Workshop
- Brazil Expert Workshop
- 8th AFF Aquaculture Dialogue
- London Expert Workshop
- Events
- Terms

Useful Link

Market Access Advice
Notices for Fish and Fish
Products 2007 by
Australian government,
Australian Quarantine
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Development of International Guidelines for Certification of Aquaculture – The Process

- Bangkok Workshop – February 2007
- Various thematic reviews and case studies
- Guidelines - Draft 1

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the website for the 'Expert Workshop on Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification'. The address bar shows the URL: <http://www.enaca.org/modules/tinyd11/index.php?id=16>. The page header includes the text 'Aquaculture certification RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTS FROM FARM TO TABLE'. Below this, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, Certification Systems, Publications, Events, Forum, and Terms. The main content area features the FAO, NACA, and OIE logos, followed by the title 'Expert Workshop on Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification' and the date '27-30 March 2007, Bangkok, Thailand'. A large group photo of workshop participants is displayed. The left sidebar contains a search bar and a list of program areas: Genetics & Biodiversity, Health Programme, Inland Aquaculture, Marine Finfish Culture, Shrimp Farming, and Training Programme. The right sidebar includes a 'NACA menu' and a 'Certification menu' with links to various workshops and publications. The bottom of the page shows the Windows taskbar with the Start button and several open applications.



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FAO Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification
29-30 May 2008
Hotel Crowne Plaza, Silver Spring, MD, USA

Development of International Guidelines for Certification of Aquaculture – The Process

- Fortaleza Workshop – September 2007
- Further thematic reviews and case studies
- Guidelines Draft 2

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the website for the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific. The page is titled "Aquaculture certification" and features the slogan "RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTS FROM FARM TO TABLE". It includes a search bar, a navigation menu, and a central section for the "Expert Workshop on Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification" held from 31 July to 3 August 2007 in Fortaleza, Brazil. The page lists workshop documents such as "Programme Concept Notes (PDF 127KB)", "Workshop Background and Agenda (PDF 44KB)", and "FAO Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification - Draft- (PDF 763KB)". A group photo of workshop participants is also visible. The website footer includes the FAO logo and the text "Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations".



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Development of International Guidelines for Certification of Aquaculture – The Process

- India meeting – November 2007
- Study on certification and small-scale aquaculture

ZO 1012

Food and Agriculture Organisation -FAO

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Implications of international standards and certification schemes for aquaculture on small-scale aquaculture producers

Phase 1: Assessment of scope of international standards for aquaculture products, constraints for small-scale producers



Small-scale 'organic' tilapia farm in Tabasco, Mexico seeking certification

April 2008

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- London meeting – February 2008
- Guidelines Draft 3

Expert Workshop on Aquaculture Certification
28-29 February 2008. London, UK.



International Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification: Process, Expectations, and Contents





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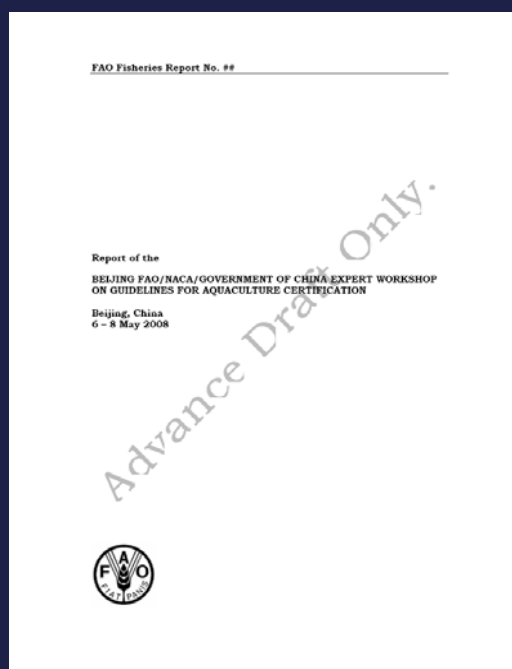
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Development of International Guidelines for Certification of Aquaculture – The Process

- Beijing meeting – May 2008
- Guidelines Draft 4





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GUIDELINES FOR AQUACULTURE CERTIFICATION

-----DRAFT-----

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- Silver Spring, Washington DC Workshop – May 2008
- **Guidelines Draft 5**
- COFI/AQ/IV – 6-10 October 2007 – Puerta Varas, Chile



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Aquaculture Guidelines - Scope

- Guidelines should set forth the minimum substantive requirements and criteria for granting a certificate (certification) of an aquaculture system, practice, or a product.
- Guidelines should “guide” the process of establishing and implementing credible and robust aquaculture certification schemes.



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Purpose of the Workshop

- Particularly to gather the views and opinions of the North American stakeholders involved in aquaculture production, certification and trade in aquaculture products to continue the process of preparing the international guidelines for certification of aquaculture in compliance with the COFI-SCA's mandate.
- Review the latest version of the draft Aquaculture Certification Guidelines.



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Thank You!



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● www.enaca.org/certification

● www.fao.org/fi/cofi