

# Fishing Technology Digest

A Newsletter on Fishing Technology, Gear and Methods, Vessels and Equipment



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE: PAGE NO:**

Responsible Fisheries and Aquaculture.....2  
Fishing Technologies.....2,3  
Equipment and Supplies.....3  
Workshop and Training.....4  
The Ocean Decade.....4,5  
National News.....5,6,7,8,9  
Publication.....9  
Event Calendar.....10

INFOFISH, based in Malaysia, and set up with the assistance of FAO, provides Advisory Services related to Fishing Technology for the Asia-Pacific. It strives to facilitate dissemination of information on fishing technology and equipment for the industry besides research and training. It also promotes links among research institutions, administration and industry. Since 1992, INFOFISH, issued a quarterly newsletter collating global fisheries news and

advancements related to fishing technology and fish harvesting.

Information on various aspects of industry also appears in *INFOFISH International*. A supplementary section on 'Industry Notes' provides information on the latest developments in the global fisheries scene. New equipment and innovations are also featured. Comments and contributions are welcome, as are requests and recommendations for inclusion in the mailing list.

## 18<sup>th</sup> INFOFISH WORLD TUNA TRADE CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION



20-22 MAY 2024

Bangkok, Thailand

Jointly organized by:





For more information regarding registration, exhibition and program details kindly visit:  
[www.tuna.infofish.org](http://www.tuna.infofish.org)

## Fisheries and aquaculture at global risk from environmental change

Many of the world's largest aquatic food producers are highly vulnerable to human-induced environmental change, with some of the highest-risk countries in Asia, Latin America and Africa demonstrating the lowest capacity for adaptation, a landmark study has shown. The study shows that more than 90 percent of global "blue" food production, in both capture fisheries and aquaculture, faces substantial risks from environmental change, with several leading countries in Asia and the United States set to face the greatest threats to production. The authors behind the new paper produced the first-ever global analysis of environmental stressors impacting the production quantity and safety of blue foods around the world, ranking countries for the first time according to their exposure from key stressors.

A total of 17 stressors were surveyed, including algal blooms, sea level rise, changing temperatures and pesticide exposure. The research, published by Nature Sustainability, titled "[Vulnerability of Blue Foods to Human-induced Environmental Change](#)," is one of seven scientific papers published by the [Blue Food Assessment \(BFA\)](#) as part of a global effort to inform future aquatic food sustainability. Among the report's key recommendations is a call for more transboundary collaboration and adaptation strategies that recognize that the ecosystems that blue food production rely upon are highly interconnected, with environmental change in one area having potential knock-on effects elsewhere. The authors also call for a diversification of blue food production in high-risk countries to cope with the impact of environmental change.

**Source:** Sea-Technology

## ISSF exploring technology to support selective fishing

The International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) scientists are exploring innovative ways to use acoustic equipment at sea as a tool to prevent overfishing and reduce bycatch in purse-seine tuna fisheries. They are studying how echosounder buoys near fish aggregating devices (FADs) can detect the distinctive "sound signatures" of different tuna species and transmit that information to vessels before fishers travel to a FAD to make a set. If fishers can harness acoustic technology to "preemptively"

estimate the type and amount of fish gathered at a particular FAD, they can choose to fish only on FADs with higher proportions of tuna species for which stocks are in healthy condition and avoid those that have attracted larger groups of non-target species. A Web feature story with animated illustrations and photos of ISSF research projects shows how fishers can use acoustic technology to better identify species at FADs, and fish more sustainably. For more information [Dive in and Watch](#) this video.

**Source:** The International Seafood Sustainability Foundation; September 21, 2023.

## Copper cage technology for African aquaculture

[Advance Africa](#) has conducted several studies on behalf of the [Copper Development Association Africa \(CDAA\)](#) to assess the utility and viability of copper cage technology for the African aquaculture sector. These studies included: a comparative assessment of bio-fouling on copper alloy chain link mesh, and nylon and polyethylene netting. The study was designed to assess the antifouling efficacy of four different copper alloys in comparison to nylon and polyethylene netting material, as alternative materials for use in fish cage culture. 1) Saldanha and Algoa Bay copper cage oyster trial: Investigation of the effect of copper alloy nets on growth, survival and metal accumulation in Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*), in Saldanha and Algoa Bays, South Africa. 2) Copper nets for tilapia

cage culture in Lake Cahora Bassa, 3) Mozambique and dusky kob aquaculture in Richards Bay, and 4) Testing fish growth and production in copper cages vs nylon and HDPE cages in South Africa. The CDAA conducted a range of trials to determine the feasibility and efficacy of utilising different copper alloys as netting material for various aquaculture applications with Advance Africa for a 5-year period. Following the completion of the project, the CDAA appointed Advance Africa to undertake a market development exercise to promote the use of copper cage technology in several locations in Africa. This involved engagement with various aquaculture operators with a view to promoting the use of copper cage technology within a commercial context.

**Source:** Advance Africa

## Testing drone technology for fisheries monitoring

The Danish authorities have been trialing a high-tech drone for the last few months to assess its capabilities for monitoring fisheries. It was done to check how drone data can be utilised for fishing in restricted



areas, and monitoring discards, as well as providing support in prioritising fishing vessels for further checks. Currently, vessels are selected for inspection on the basis of an analysis of data, such as the fishermen's own reports in the landing declaration and log book, data from other monitoring systems such as AIS and VMS, and previous violation history.

The Danish Fisheries Agency has participated in the drone test with the Coastguard, the Customs Agency and the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). The drone and the work to get it in the air is financed by EMSA and forms part of a pan-European drone project.

Read more [here](#).



Photo: ULMA Packaging

**Product batcher:** The weighing system establishes the appropriate batch for the desired weight. Thus, the elevator belt receives in each bucket the dose of product according to the specific weight of each bag.

**Vertical Bagger for Fish Packaging:** The packing machine has an inclination of 45° to avoid product damage due to the fall by gravity. It performs bags of fish fillets that are received from the elevator belt. A metal detector performs the inspection of each bag just after bagging in order to reject packages that contain some trace of metal.

**Case Packing of Bags into Carton Boxes:** The line consists of case erector for carton boxes, robotized case packing cell and box closing system. All perfectly integrated into the line so that the process is fully automatic.

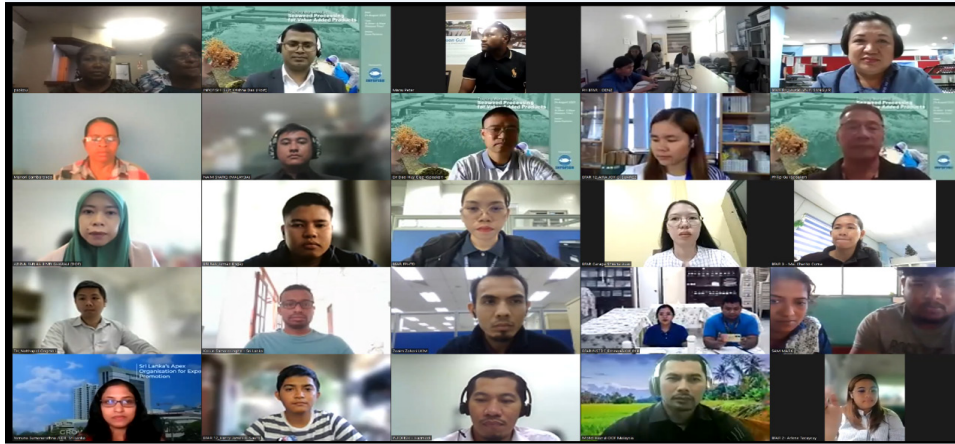
**Labelling and Palleting of Boxes:** Prior to palletising, an inline integrated labeller adheres a label to each box. The mechanical palletizer makes the boxes pallets to be later transported to the warehouse of finished product.

### For more details:

ULMA Packaging (Thailand) Co Ltd.  
 Mr Chuckkrit Apikul  
 E-mail: [capikul@ulmapackaging.co.th](mailto:capikul@ulmapackaging.co.th)  
 Address: 5th Floor, Room F, Park Avenue Building,  
 446/55, Sukhumvit 71 Road,  
 Phra Khanong Nuea, Sub-district, Bangkok 10110,  
 Thailand  
 Phone: +66 2 136 9082



**Virtual Training Workshop on Seaweed Processing for Value Added Products  
23-24 August 2023**



A virtual training workshop on ‘Seaweed Processing for Value Added Products’ held on 24 August 2023. The day long training workshop started at 10.30am Malaysia Time with the opening message from the Director, INFOFISH Ms Shirlene Maria Anthonysamy. Ms Yamuna Sumanarathna, Export Promotion Officer from Export Development Board of Sri Lanka set the stage with the presentation entitled ‘Seaweed Production, Trade and Marketing Status in Sri Lanka’. The session continued with three consecutive presentations entitled ‘Small-scale Seaweed Processing for Food Based Products’ by Ms Maria Gigih Setiarti, Indonesia, ‘Seaweed Processing for Non-food Products’ by Mr Philip Gu, Singapore and ‘Value-added Fresh Seaweed Products: On-shore Seagrass Farming’ by Dr Dao Huy Giap, Vietnam

respectively. The most interesting part of the training workshop was the step-by-step video demonstration of Production of Seaweed Snacks and Seaweed Juice where the participants had the chance to watch the video and having the recipe to produce seaweed based crackers and drinks.

This training was participated by 67 participants from the six (6) INFOFISH Member Countries including Bangladesh (1), Malaysia (11), Papua New Guinea (5), Philippines (25), Sri Lanka (23) and Thailand (2). The training was organised in respond to the request from the Export Development Board of Sri Lanka. But considering the importance of the topic and it was opened to the member countries. It received excellent feedback from the successfully, regarding attendees.

**2024 Ocean Decade Conference**

2024 will mark the fourth year of implementation of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). Under the leadership of UNESCO’s Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the Ocean Decade has already galvanised thousands of partners around the world to start delivering the science we need for the ocean we want. The time is now ripe to address key questions related to the Ocean Decade: What have been the main achievements since the launch of the Ocean Decade? What should be the key areas for action over the next three to five years? Focused on ‘delivering the science we need for the ocean we want’, the 2024 Ocean Decade Conference, which will be hosted by the Government of Spain in Barcelona from 10 - 12 April 2024, will bring together the global Ocean Decade community and partners to celebrate and take stock of progress, and set joint priorities for the future.

For more information and registration details [here](#).

**GESAMP holds its 50<sup>th</sup> annual session in Jamaica**

The 50<sup>th</sup> annual session of the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP) took place from 18 to 22 September 2023 at the International Seabed Authority (ISA) headquarters in Kingston, Jamaica. The meeting was the opportunity to report on the progress of the different working groups and activities carried out after the preceding meeting of GESAMP held in September 2022 in London. A number of studies, reports and policy summaries have also been completed, and more are expected to be published by the end of the year. GESAMP members also received updates on other UN processes, including the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the UN regular process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment and the recent adoption of the BBNJ Agreement. A key outcome of the meeting was an agreement to continue identifying the priority areas where GESAMP should focus its

action by the different sponsoring organizations based on an independent evaluation of the work carried out by GESAMP. The meeting was also the opportunity for the ISA Secretariat to present the latest progress and achievements in the implementation of the ISA Sustainable Seabed Knowledge Initiative in a side event. Before closing the session, GESAMP adopted the report of the session and elected David Vousden and Wendy Watson-Wright to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair of GESAMP for the intersessional period and the 51st

session. Dr Wendy Watson-Wright previously served as Executive Secretary of IOC/UNESCO and Assistant Director-General of UNESCO. Commenting on the 50th GESAMP session, Professor David Vousden, Chair of GESAMP, noted the valuable support the GESAMP members continue to give the various UN bodies responsible for ocean-related matters and marine environmental protection.

Read more [here](#):

**Bangladesh: Three fish varieties that revolutionised aquaculture sector**

Bangladesh witnessed a massive growth in fish production in the last 12 years through aquaculture driven by a surge in yield of three fish varieties, namely pangasius, tilapia and climbing perch (koi). Increased farming has made the three varieties a major source of protein for low-income families while creating jobs and income opportunities for thousands of people in rural and suburban areas. The annual production of farmed pangas was 0.15 million tonnes in 2010-11 and it rose by two and a half times to 0.40 million tonnes in the 2021-22 fiscal year, according to the Department of Fisheries. Similarly, the output of tilapia surged 3.36 times to 3.3 million tonnes from 97

909 tonnes and climbing perch production jumped 350 percent to 57 244 tonnes during the period. Thus, overall fish production using cultured processes has almost doubled in Bangladesh, increasing from 1.12 million tonnes to 2.17 million tonnes between FY2011 and FY2022. Fish culture is the process of raising species of fish in captivity and managing them and their environment to improve growth and reproduction. “The availability of fish fries, intake of artificial feed and market demand have driven the farming of the three varieties of fish,” said by Dr Mohammad Mahfujul Haque, Professor, Department of Aquaculture, Bangladesh Agriculture University.

**Source:** The Daily Star, 24 August 2023.

**Cambodia: Launched digital campaign to support Cambodian Quality Seal for fisheries and aquaculture products**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture-funded Commercialisation of Aquaculture for Sustainable Trade, CAST Cambodia project is launching a new digital campaign to increase awareness of the important new quality seal that supports the health of Cambodian consumers of fish and other aquaculture foods. The American Soybean Association’s World Initiative for Soy in Human Health program leads the CAST project in partnership with World Vision International in Cambodia and others. The Fisheries Administration (FiA) of Cambodia’s Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) will also promote the social media campaign that will last for 14 weeks starting on August 3rd. CAST-Cambodia will host the campaign on its Facebook page to raise awareness of the important seal so fish sellers and other aquaculture suppliers can be informed of how to participate in the seal program by practicing proper hygiene in their operations to meet national and international standards. The campaign will also inform consumers about how the seal offers them a way to buy fish and fish foods that meet these standards.



FiA Director of Fisheries Postharvest Technology and Quality Control Chhuon Chamnan, PhD, says “Through technical support from the EU CAPFish-Capture project, the CQS for fish and fishery products was designed as the voluntary certification scheme in order to promote the implementation of good practices, good manufacturing practices for ensuring food safety with hygiene controls applied by fish and fishery operators result in safe food products in line with national regulations and international food safety requirements, and value added for Cambodian fish and fishery products. The CQS will serve as a communication tool among key actors along fisheries value chains and provide transparency, credibility, integrity, and fairness in fishery trade towards building the confidence of consumers, protecting public health, and enhancing market access and

---

export.” “To maintain the credibility and integrity of our CQS scheme, only well-trained auditors will be selected to perform CQS audits. Presently, there are 14 qualified auditors who were well-trained and selected for CQS auditing, so the scheme is now ready for certification services.” Shetty Thombathu, PhD, UNIDO Chief Technical Advisor for CAPFish-Capture project, also stresses the importance of the initiative. CAST Chief

of Party Jim Hershey says, “Cambodian aquaculture industry leaders are eager to offer Cambodian-raised fish that is certified as healthy and safe for Cambodian consumers, who deserve, and will get, the best. CAST has supported the food safety training and more. We are also excited to see the Cambodian Aquaculturist Association taking a leadership role too.”

**Source:** <https://cambodianess.com/>, 15 August 2023.

---

### **Fiji: Two Holothurian species banned from harvest**

The Ministry of Fisheries is reminding members of the public, licensed harvesters and approved Beche-de-mer buyers and traders that the lifting of the ban to harvest sea cucumbers (Holothurians) or beche-de-mer, does not apply to the ‘Black Teatfish’ and ‘White Teatfish’ species. “Sucuwalu” is the Fijian name for White Teatfish or *Holothuria fuscogilva*, and “Loaloa” is the Fijian name for Black Teatfish or *Holothuria*

*whitmaei*, whilst the general name for all species is ‘sasalu’. The Ministry would like to advise members involved in the beche-de-mer trade to stop confusing the terms as harvesters should already be aware of the various allowable species to be harvested. The Ministry is also serving a reminder that any person in contravention of the above conditions will be penalized under the Fisheries Act 1941 and Offshore Fisheries Management Act 2012.

**Source:** Ministry of Fisheries Fiji, 13 September 2023.

---

### **India: Successfully developed CIFA-GI scampi**

The giant freshwater prawn, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*, popularly known as ‘scampi’, is set to stage a comeback to platters of food lovers as scientists of Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA) developed a genetically improved strain of the prawn. India, which was one of the major producers of this species, had seen its production going down substantially since 2006 on account of poor growth rate, diseases, inbreeding in farmers’ farms and availability of high-volume producers such as vannamei shrimp and pangas fish. Since scampi’s size had shrunk, fish farmers had also withdrawn from its aquaculture. Now, CIFA, an Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) organisation, has successfully developed a genetically improved fast-growing strain named CIFA-GI Scampi, which received official registration in 2020. “For the breeding programme that spanned 14 generations, meticulous selection of scampi populations was carried out by sourcing the species from geographically diverse regions of India, including Gujarat, Kerala, and Odisha from 2008 to 2020,” said Bindu R. Pillai, Principal Investigator of the Scampi Project. In 2021, under the Prime Minister Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), a Central sector scheme, the Department of Fisheries

had sanctioned a project to scale up the genetic improvement programme with funding support to the tune of INR 4 crore (USD 0.5) million. According to CIFA, the PMMSY funding support helped scale up the infrastructure facilities for the production of new generations of ‘CIFA-GI Scampi’. “The scampi will definitely be preferred for fish farming in inland waters. As the harvest period is only seven months, the CIFA-GI Scampi farming is expected to give bumper return,” said Dr. Pillai. According to CIFA, the multiplier hatcheries can produce around 400 million seed from the supplied brood seed which can bring about an additional production area from 12 500 to 25 000 ha. “It is expected that with the increased awareness on the economic benefits of GI scampi among the farming community, the production of GI scampi will increase further. In 2021-22, the Scampi production in the country has shown a remarkable 2.5-fold increase from 8 303 tonne to 21 317 tonne,” said CIFA scientist. “To support the rapid expansion, five scampi hatcheries have been selected as multiplier hatcheries by ICAR. These hatcheries are responsible for producing CIFA-GI SCAMPI seeds and supply to the farmers. Meanwhile, we are adding more hatcheries to our network to reach an ambitious target of bringing 25,000 ha under scampi by 2026,” said P.K. Sahoo, Director, ICAR-CIFA.

**Source:** The Daily Hindu, 15 July 2023.

---

### **Malaysia: LKIM assures sufficient fish supply during NE monsoon season**

The Fisheries Development Authority of Malaysia (LKIM) has assured that the country’s fish supply will be sufficient throughout the Northeast Monsoon period, via the preliminary preparations made by the

agency, said its chairman, Muhammad Faiz Fadzil. He said that the initiatives which have been implemented include establishing a task force to operate the fish stock collection centre, in an effort to ensure the supply of raw materials is uninterrupted. “We have set up a task force to look at fish supplies. We know we will face the monsoon; we will see how the chain of



supply is not interrupted, and that the supply of fish is always there. We have stock, and in LKIM itself we have a cold room,” he said. He said this after officiating the LKIM chairman’s Rahmah Mesra Madani with Kuala Langat fishermen here today. Faiz also presented Touch Point incentive assistance and fishing equipment, amounting to RM36 000 (USD 7560) to 50 fishermen, including life jackets, first aid kits and food baskets. According to the Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia), the monsoon transition

phase is expected to start on 19 September and continue until November, and the country will experience light winds from various directions, conducive to the occurrence of thunderstorms, typically accompanied by heavy rain and strong winds for short periods. The Northeast Monsoon from November to March will bring heavy rain, especially to the states on the east coast of the Peninsula, west of Sarawak and east of Sabah.

**Source:** The Daily Malay Mail, 15 September 2023.

### **Pakistan: Maritime Minister gains comprehensive insights and vision for the future**

The newly appointed Minister of Maritime Affairs, Communication & Railway, Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarar chaired a comprehensive briefing session at the Ministry of Maritime Affairs. SAPM Maritime Affairs Vice Admiral and other officials from the ministry also participated in the meeting. The minister was briefed about various departments/ organisations operating under the ministry and was also given a comprehensive overview of both ongoing and upcoming projects. The meeting also brought forward the key challenges being faced by the maritime sector that includes infrastructure development, establishment of frameworks and agreements, and the crucial matters of maritime security. The Minister emphasised the fishermen's welfare and appreciated the construction of Gryone Wall Project useful for promoting sustainable practices for both the fishing community and marine ecosystems. He expressed a resolute commitment to the revitalization of Gadani's ship-breaking industry through robust endorsement of IMO and the Hong Kong Convention. These initiatives are poised to drive safer, eco-friendly practices, and

enhance regional economic growth. Acknowledging the importance of these challenges, the minister emphasised the need for collaborative efforts and shared the resolve for the formulation of pragmatic and efficient strategic roadmap to address these challenges. The shared vision for promoting a blue economy by harnessing the immense potential of marine resources while prioritising environmental conservation was the central part of the discussion. The minister also emphasised that the blue economy could serve as a catalyst for economic growth, employment generation, and technological innovation. Additionally, the minister underscored that the pursuit of a thriving blue economy wouldn't just enhance the nation's economic growth, but it would also reinforce the dedication to sustainable practices. The ministry's commitment to developing a comprehensive strategy to maximise the benefits of the blue economy was underscored during the meeting. While concluding the Minister expressed gratitude to the officials for their detailed and insightful presentation. The session concluded on a promising note, with the minister pledging firm support to the initiatives that will steer the maritime sector towards prosperity.

**Source:** The Ministry of Marine Affairs Pakistan, 21 August 2023.

### **PNG: PM Marape directs all fisheries catches to be processed in the country**

Prime Minister Hon. James Marape has issued a directive stating that all fisheries catches must be processed in Papua New Guinea (PNG) for export, rather than being sent overseas. This directive follows the signing of a memorandum-of-understanding (MOU) between RD Fishing Group (RDFG) of the

Philippines and the PNG Government. Covering an extended reef system and extensive coastline, Papua New Guinea’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) spans 2.4 million square kilometres, making it the largest in the South Pacific. The country accounts for approximately 18 percent of the world’s tuna catch and controls around 15 percent of the global tuna trade, with an estimated value between USD 4-5 billion (K13.3-K16.9 billion). However, the majority



**INFOFISH Associate Membership Program**

- \* Know the fishery industry updates regularly
- \* Promote and position your products/equipments/supplies
- \* Key subscribers: Seafood Processors, Equipment Manufacturers and Suppliers, Aquaculture companies, Animal Health companies, Printing and Packaging companies etc.,

For details please contact us: [info@infotish.org](mailto:info@infotish.org); Tel: (603) 8066 8112.

of this catch is currently processed overseas, depriving the country of significant benefits from its maritime resources. “I will soon issue notice to all fishing companies operating within our waters that, under our Domestication Policy, all catches must be brought back inshore and processed in the country,” stated Prime Minister Marape. He further emphasised, “there will be no unmarked ships in our waters, no high-seas

fish transfers to overseas motherships, and all fishing vessels in our territorial waters will be equipped with cameras to monitor their catches. Processing of our fish in-country must be implemented within the next four years.” Prime Minister Marape speaking to media after signing of the MOU.

**Source:** <https://news.pngfacts.com/>, 18 July 2023.

---

### **The Philippines: DA-BFAR joined hands with the key stakeholders during inaugural of Responsible Seafood Summit**

Over 100 participants from various seafood industries and multi-sectoral groups gathered and participated in this summit, marking a significant milestone as the country’s premier event solely dedicated to the sustainable development and management of the seafood industry, encompassing all sectors and stakeholders across the supply chain. The event aimed to heighten awareness on the importance of responsible sourcing and to plan RSS projects which could address illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, fair trade and labor practices among other related issues. The primary highlight of the

summit was the presentation of the comprehensive summary of the outcomes of the sessions and reflections from the summit discussions. Partnerships were also celebrated at the end of the session in recognition of their contributions to the industry. The event culminated with a fellowship and unveiling of a banquet that showcased locally and responsibly sourced seafood. The Philippine Responsible Seafood Summit reflects the commitment of DA-BFAR together with other government agencies, organisations, and individuals to safeguard the future of seafood and the communities it supports. This groundbreaking event sets the stage for a brighter, more sustainable future for the Philippine fisheries industry.

**Source:** The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, 16 September 2023.

---

### **Singapore: SFA launches Aquatic Animal Health Services**

The [Singapore Food Agency \(SFA\)](#) has launched the Aquatic Animal Health Services (AAHS) on 1 August 2023. The service aims to help aquaculture farms prevent and control diseases that can affect the survival and growth rate of aquatic animals and impact harvests. SFA has engaged Vettrust Singapore Pte Ltd through a tender exercise to administer the AAHS through the provision of professional consultations and disease investigations. Farms can start to consult aquatic animal health vets/professionals under the service provider for professional consultations and disease investigations up to a cap of three hours per session over the next four years. The AAHS will

also enable SFA to gather aggregate information on the disease situation and areas for improvement on biosecurity practices in each farming region, which will be beneficial in the overall planning and resourcing to better support the local aquaculture industry. Dr Astrid Yeo, Senior Director of SFA’s Regulatory Standards & Veterinary Office, said: “The AAHS underscores our commitment to food security. This service is a step towards ensuring the sustainability of our tropical marine aquaculture and securing a steady supply of safe seafood. It is heartening to know that 11 farms have already signed up for AAHS. We encourage more farms to make use of this service to improve their farm biosecurity and management.” SFA will continue to seek feedback from farms on the AAHS to ensure it remains beneficial and relevant to the industry. Find the media release [here](#).

---

### **Sri Lanka: Chinese industrialists expressed to invest in aquaculture technology**

A fish export association from Fujian Province in China has expressed interest in utilising the surroundings of small-scale coastal ports across Sri Lanka, to process and export aquaculture yields to Europe and North America. Aquaculture, or farming in water, involves breeding, raising, and harvesting fish, shellfish, and aquatic plants. The Aquatic Product Wholesale Industry Association of the Fujian Province met with Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena and expressed

their willingness to set up aquaculture processing and export farms near potential coastal ports across the island. The association agreed to help the government’s programs to develop small fishing ports in Sri Lanka, in exchange for the facilitation of setting up a preliminary farm. Association Secretary Huang Jincheng expressed the possibility of leveraging up-to-date technology used in Chinese aquaculture farms, here in Sri Lanka, the Department of Government Information said in a statement. The technology includes modern multi-day fishing vessels and fish processing equipment. State Minister of Fisheries



---

Piyal Nishantha, MP Anuradha Jayaratne, Zubu Huang of Wuxi Kaushi Foods Company, Xinxing Huang of Beijing Catering Management and Dongsheng Chen

of Ocean Times International Company participated in the discussion.

**Source:** <https://economynext.com/>, 13 September 2023.

---

### **Thailand: Ministry to amend tough fisheries law**

The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives plans to have the fisheries law amended to help solve economic problems faced by fishermen who say their livelihoods are hurt by tough regulations. Minister Thammanat Prompow said the ministry is aware of the concerns of fishing groups who have suffered under the Fisheries Act. The law aims to prevent Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the kingdom, but some critics say it is too tough. The ministry has set up a committee to look into the matter, Capt Thammanat said. He said the panel will represent the government, the business sector and civil

society. It will convene for the first time this week, he said. He said the fisheries sector is crucial in driving economic growth, contributing to about 130.3 billion baht to GDP last year. Part of that was thanks to the Department of Fisheries which helped increase fish stocks and worked with local communities to preserve marine life, he said. The committee will also meet international agencies such as the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization to ensure any changes will not affect the country's commitment to combating IUU fishing. Mongkol Sukcharoenkana, president of the National Fisheries Association of Thailand, said his association supports the push for change because some regulations make it difficult to fish.

**Source:** The Daily Bangkok Post, 25 September 2023.

---

## **PUBLICATION**

### **Aquaculture Transformation**

Innovation and investment for sustainable intensification and expansion of aquaculture in Asia and the Pacific region



The document provides an overall vision and framework intended to accelerate aquaculture transformation in Asia and the Pacific region through innovations and investment, and to provide guidance to partners from the public, private and development communities to actively engage with the region in transforming aquaculture to more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable food systems. The document serves as background information for discussion in the High-Level Meeting on Aquaculture Transformation in Asia and the Pacific Region, 22–23 November 2022, organised by the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific. The document is broadly aligned with FAO's Blue Transformation Roadmap, paying specific attention to the context and needs of aquaculture within Asia and the Pacific region. The Paper translates the Roadmap into a vision and priority actions for aquaculture transformation in the region by 2030.

Download this important document [here](#).

**OCTOBER**

3-5, 24<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL FROZEN SEAFOOD EXHIBITION, Vigo, Spain. <https://www.conxemar.com/en/feria-2023/>

10-12, DANFISH INTERNATIONAL 2023, Aalborg, Denmark. <https://danfish.com/en/>

25-27, CHINA FISHERIES & SEAFOOD EXPO Qingdao, China. <https://chinaseafoodexpo.com/>

**NOVEMBER**

1-3, BUSAN INTERNATIONAL SEAFOOD & FISHERIES EXPO Busan, Republic of Korea. <https://seafoodshowasia.com/>

7-8, CANADIAN SEAFOOD SHOW Montreal, Canada. <https://seafoodshowmontreal.ca/>

8-11, SEAFOOD SHOW OF ASIA EXPO Jakarta, Indonesia. <https://seafoodshowasia.com/>

22-24, 11<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES SYMPOSIUM (IFS 2023) Bangkok, Thailand. <http://www.aitaquaculture.org/ifs2023/>

27-29, GLOBAL MEET ON GIANT PRAWNS 2023 Bangkok, Thailand. <http://www.giantprawn.org/>

**DECEMBER**

7-9, SEAFOOD EXPO EURASIA Istanbul, Türkiye. <https://seafoodexpoeurasia.com/en/>

## The Fishing Technology Digest for Asia-Pacific Region



INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION FOR MARKETING INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICES FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION.

Here is how INFOFISH helps:

- providing technical advisory services on all phases of harvesting, handling, processing of fish, aquaculture and marketing of fishery products
- offering marketing links to and from the largest fish producing area in the world
- assisting the day-to-day fish trade by identifying new marketing opportunities for companies in the Asia-Pacific Region and new sources for supply importers
- offering technical and sales support services through informative publications
  - i) INFOFISH Trade News
  - ii) INFOFISH *International*
  - iii) Special studies
- offering training and consultancy services
- organising conferences, seminar & workshops

The next issue of **INFOFISH Fishing Technology Digest** will be distributed in **January, 2024**. Please forward any information you may wish to have disseminated through this digest to:  
**The Editor, INFOFISH Fishing Technology Digest, P.O. Box 10899, 50728, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Tel: 603-80668112, Fax: 603-80603697, Email: [info@infofish.org](mailto:info@infofish.org)/[sujit@infofish.org](mailto:sujit@infofish.org)**  
**Editor: Mr Sujit Krishna Das - INFOFISH, Malaysia**