

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.....2,3,4

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES.....4

WORKSHOP AND TRAINING.....4,5

THE OCEAN DECADE.....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.

Information on various aspects of fisheries and aquaculture 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. Please feel free to share the latest news on fishing technology and innovations that you want to see in the next issue. Suggest new equipment and supplies and mention name of the relevant industry experts for inclusion in the INFOFISH mailing list.

Dear Fish-Tech Service Providers,

You will be glad to know that Fishing Technology Digest (FTD) Newsletter is expanding its network by engaging the Key Industry Stakeholders (all the facets of fisheries and aquaculture value & supply chains) with the target beneficiaries and emerging markets. If you are dealing with the Seafood, Fishing and Aquaculture business and handling Fishing Gears, Crafts, Methods, Vessels, Pre & Post-Harvest Processing, Equipment and Supplies, please take a couple of minutes by responding to the questions through: [FISH-IN-TECH Forum](#)

If your organisation/company featuring innovations and provides technological solutions or support that directly impacting the Responsible Fisheries, Aquaculture or Ocean Development, we are looking for you. Engage with the FISH-IN-TECH Forum and take the opportunity by publishing complimentary ad-materials and featuring technological review quarterly among thousands of subscribers across the globe.

Best regards,
Editor, FTD Newsletter



Scan QR & register



TUNA2026

"Strengthening Value Chain Synergies, Blue Economies and Sustainability across the Global Tuna Industry"

14-16 SEPTEMBER 2026
Shangri-La Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand



500+
EXPECTED DELEGATES



40+
SPEAKERS



44
EXHIBITORS

Jointly organised by:



Supported by:



Media partner:
undercurrent
SEAFOOD PRICES | NEWS | DATA

For more information, please visit: <https://tuna.infofish.org/>

Migratory freshwater fish populations have declined by 81%

A new global assessment launched at CMS COP15 reveals a hidden crisis: migratory freshwater fish populations have declined by 81% since 1970, as rivers are fragmented, flows altered, and pressures intensify across borders. But this is more than a biodiversity story. From Colombia's Magdalena River to Peru's Marañón, migratory fish are at the heart of culture, food systems, and local economies. As partners shared with us, their disappearance is not just an ecological loss. It is a crisis of livelihoods, nutrition, and identity. Because these species cross borders, their protection depends on one thing: keeping rivers connected, free-flowing, and alive. At CMS COP15, governments now have a critical opportunity to act by advancing coordinated protections that reflect both science and the voices of riverine communities.



Photo: Vital Freshwater Fish Migrations are Collapsing; Hundreds of Species Need Urgent, Coordinated Cross-Border Action. Credit: WWF.

Read the full report: [here](#).

FAO: Second session of FAO Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management focuses on conservation, sustainable use and social dimensions

The [COFI Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management](#) convened for its second session on 23-27 February in Reykjavík, Iceland, gathering delegations from 58 Member countries and 36 observer organisations to advance global efforts on conservation, sustainable use and the integration of social dimensions into fisheries management. Fisheries are vital for global food security and nutrition, the livelihoods of millions worldwide, national economies, trade and healthy ecosystems. Their long-term sustainability, however, relies on sound, effective, science-based management. "While we have seen progress

in many parts of the world, over one third of marine stocks globally [are still overfished](#). It is vital that we keep all fisheries healthy and productive so that we can safeguard aquatic food supplies for current and future generations, and we can do this by managing them responsibly and effectively," says FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Director Manuel Barange. During the session, Members are set to discuss key pillars of fisheries management and governance, including strengthening evidence-based and adaptive management, especially in data-limited contexts and for marine and inland small-scale fisheries, better understanding and managing fishing fleet capacities, enhancing regional cooperation, and integrating social dimensions in fisheries management.

Read more: [here](#).

Managing fleet capacity: restoring balance between fleets and fish stocks

Over the past three decades, the number of motorised fishing vessels has grown by 33 percent, and the boats have become larger, more powerful and more technologically advanced. When fishing capacity grows faster than fish stocks can replenish, the result is predictable: pressure on resources intensifies and the risk of overfishing rises. Managing fleet capacity is essential to align fishing effort with the productive potential of fish stocks, according to a [new FAO technical paper](#). Without effective

management, expanding capacity can undermine sustainability objectives and long-term economic and social benefits. Fleet capacity refers to the ability of a country's or region's vessels to catch fish and is typically measured by the number of boats and their characteristics, such as size and engine power. To keep fisheries healthy and safeguard current and future supplies of aquatic foods, decision makers must ensure that this capacity is balanced with available marine fishery resources.

Read more: [here](#).

AI-Based monitoring systems enhance fisheries transparency

Artificial intelligence is increasingly being integrated into fisheries monitoring systems to improve transparency and support sustainable fishing practices. New "edge AI" technologies installed onboard fishing vessels can analyse video footage

in real time, identifying species caught and detecting bycatch automatically. The systems combine cameras, sensors and GPS data to compare actual catches with reported logbooks, helping detect misreporting and illegal fishing activities. Unlike traditional monitoring methods, which require hours of manual video review after vessels return to port, AI systems can process data instantly, significantly reducing verification time. Early trials in tuna fisheries

show that AI-based monitoring can improve compliance, enhance traceability and provide near real-time verification of catch data before products enter supply chains. The technology is expected to play a key role in modernising fisheries management and

strengthening accountability across global seafood industries.

Read more: [here](#).

SEAFDEC/AQD launches initiative for science-based spiny lobster farming

The Iloilo-based international aquaculture research center, Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center Aquaculture Department (SEAFDEC/AQD) is currently working to develop sustainable farming techniques for the spiny lobster (*Panulirus ornatus*), locally known as tiger lobster or banagan. They also evaluated its viability as a livelihood for coastal fishers in the Philippines and recognised its potential to strengthen a high-value industry due to its high market demand and abundant seed resources in the country. “Although spiny lobster farming exists across the Philippine archipelago, it still depends on the collection of pueruli (lobster larvae) and juveniles from the wild, which are seeded into small-scale nursery and grow-out cages using traditional methods,” said SEAFDEC/AQD Chief Dan Baliao. “We aim to standardise informal practices into science-backed production models with recommendations on optimal stocking density, appropriate feeding scheme, and environmental management,” he added. As part of this effort, Roselyn Baylon, a researcher at SEAFDEC/AQD, and her team identified a site in Guimaras as a natural source of wild seeds of spiny lobsters. They conducted environmental monitoring to study the local ecology and verified catch data through interviews with fishers. “These baseline data are essential for evaluating spiny lobster ecosystem dynamics and for guiding future fisheries management and stock assessment efforts,” Dr. Leobert de la Peña, head of the SEAFDEC/AQD Research Division, said. At the Igang Marine Station of SEAFDEC/AQD in Guimaras, experiments are underway to determine the optimum stocking density and feeding practices in both nursery and grow-out phases of sea-based cage systems. Growth performance, survival and socioeconomic analyses are also underway. During the

nursery phase, puerulus (larval)-stage lobsters with an average body weight of 0.35 grams are reared for six months to reach approximately 50 grams, an ideal size for grow-out following strict husbandry procedures. In the grow-out phase, lobsters reared for 12 months in sea-based systems attain body weights ranging from 500 grams to 1 kilogram, with carapace lengths between 7.9 centimeters and 10.9 centimeters, depending on stocking density. “Upon completion of this project, large-scale verification trials of the refined protocols will be done,” de la Peña added, while noting that controlling cannibalism and developing effective feed are also future research directions. “Once standardised rearing protocols are developed and verified for the spiny lobster, we will facilitate technology transfer through training and the establishment of sustainable livelihoods in coastal communities,” added Baliao.



Photo: Spiny lobster (above) and Sea-based cage farming of lobster in Guimaras (below). Credit: SEAFDEC/AQD

Read more: [here](#).

“Aqua-ecology” approach promotes sustainable coastal aquaculture

A new initiative is promoting “aqua-ecology”, applying principles of agro-ecology to marine environments to support sustainable aquaculture and coastal restoration in France. The project, led by Le Paysan Marin on the Island of Oléron, focuses on revitalising abandoned oyster ponds and salt marshes through innovative and ecosystem-based practices. The approach includes restorative aquaculture using flat oysters to enhance coastal resilience, alongside diversification into seaweed

and halophytic plant production. The initiative also connects retiring producers with new entrants and promotes knowledge exchange through a digital platform linking researchers and aquaculture operators. Developers highlight that aqua-ecology can help coastal communities adapt to climate change while creating new economic opportunities. The model demonstrates how integrated and nature-based solutions can support sustainable aquaculture development and ecosystem recovery.

Read more: [here](#).

AIS technology aids fisherman rescue

A maritime incident in Palau highlighted the safety benefits of Automatic Identification System (AIS) technology after a stranded fisherman was successfully rescued. The fisherman activated the SOS function on his AIS device after his vessel experienced engine failure north of Ulong Island. The signal was received by marine authorities, enabling a rapid response using real-time

vessel positioning data. The fisherman and vessel were safely recovered without injury. The AIS unit was installed under a joint project between Palau and Taiwan to strengthen coastal fisheries management, demonstrating the dual role of such technologies in improving both monitoring and safety at sea.

Read more: [here](#).

The whitefish processing industry faces a confluence of challenges, from environmental pressure and fishing stock instability to labor shortages and strict traceability regulations. With the technical support of Marel we will try to address these challenges and continue for sustainable growth and sector modernisation. In this series, we will provide technical information for the readers regarding automatic De-heading machine C-3027 from Marel (Highly accurate and automated de-heading):



Key features:

- Straightforward machine, simple to operate
- Maximises yield
- Highly accurate positioning
- Minimises human error

Contact details:

Mr Romain Bracciani,
Vice President Southeast Asia of JBT Marel,
No. 2525 FYI Center Building 2, 9th Floor,
Unit No. 2/901-2/903,
Rama IV Road, Klongtoei,
Bangkok 10110, Thailand
Email: romain.bracciani@jbt.com

FAO promotes the Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture in Asia



High-level representatives and experts gathered for an FAO Regional Promotion Workshop on the Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture (GSA) in Asia, convened on 10 November 2025 in Hyderabad, India. The event, financially supported by the European Commission, brought together 20 participants from across the region and was followed by a GSA Special Session held on 11 November 2025 during World Aquaculture 2025 India. The GSA were developed by FAO and its Members as the first global normative instrument on aquaculture, the world's fastest-growing food production sector. They contain shared and agreed principles,

practices and recommendations in line with key international strategies such as the FAO Blue Transformation Roadmap 2022–2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. "This workshop comes at a particularly important moment," said Konda Chavva, Assistant FAO Representative (Programme) in India, in his opening remarks. "Aquaculture plays an ever-increasing role in feeding the world's population, but its expansion brings new challenges and responsibilities," he added. "The GSA can help address pressing issues such as resource competition, environmental degradation, biosecurity threats and social inequalities," he concluded. The network convenes annual meetings with its 49 member universities from across ASEAN countries, providing a key platform to integrate the GSA into academic programmes and research that farmers rely on to improve their practices. FAO remains committed to supporting Members to implement the GSA in ways that are tailored to the needs of their aquaculture sectors. "The GSA represent the work of the international community, helping Members translate agreed sustainability standards into policies and practice," said Manuel Barange, Assistant Director-General and Director of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division. He urged participants to analyse their country-specific aquaculture challenges and priorities and apply the GSA to address them. Throughout the workshop and the Special

Session, participants formulated concrete recommendations for GSA dissemination and implementation, demonstrating their dedication to promoting responsible aquaculture in Asia

Strengthening international cooperation on harmful algal blooms: Outcomes from the IPHAB Task Team meeting

Harmful algal blooms (HABs) are constantly evolving in distribution, frequency, and impacts, affecting ecosystems, public health, food security, and coastal economies worldwide. To support Member States in addressing these challenges, the Intergovernmental Panel on Harmful Algal Blooms (IPHAB)

Bangladesh: BSFF and Thai Union feedmill partner on aquaculture technology and research

The Bangladesh Shrimp and Fish Foundation (BSFF) has signed a memorandum of understanding with Thai Union Feedmill to strengthen aquaculture development through technology transfer and research collaboration. The agreement, signed in Bangkok, aims to modernise Bangladesh's aquaculture sector and improve production of high-value species. The partnership focuses on species such as Asian seabass (*Lates calcarifer*), black tiger shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*), whiteleg shrimp (*Litopenaeus*

Cambodia: Elevates aquatic foods to national priority in new Food Systems Roadmap

The country has formally recognised aquatic food systems as a cornerstone of its development strategy, placing fish and other aquatic foods among six national "Game-Changing Actions" in its newly launched Second Roadmap for Food Systems for Sustainable Development 2025–2030. The roadmap, led by the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD), underscores the critical role aquatic foods play in the country's nutrition and livelihoods. Fish accounts for more than half of all animal protein consumed in Cambodia; one of the highest rates globally and serves as a key source of essential micronutrients for millions of rural households. The move builds on earlier policy momentum in 2025, when Cambodia's Third National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition positioned fish at the centre of the country's nutrition agenda. The new roadmap goes further by integrating aquatic food systems into national food systems planning for the first time. The recognition reflects more than a decade of research and grassroots interventions across Cambodia's floodplains, rice fields and fishing communities. Since 2012, WorldFish and its partners have supported the establishment of more than 160 Community Fish Refuges, improving the management of over 200 000 hectares of rice–fish landscapes and benefiting up to 127 000 households. In Kampong Thom province, results have been particularly striking. Under the Scaling Aquaculture for Resilience (SAFR) project, annual

and advancing food security and livelihoods worldwide.

Read more: [here](#).

cosponsored by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, has specific Task Teams to address the most critical challenges in delivering solutions for mitigation and management of HABs. On 24–25 February 2026, they met online to review progress toward their 2025–2026 targets.

Read more: [here](#).

vannamei) and giant freshwater prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*). Key activities include improving hatchery systems, developing genetically suitable strains, enhancing biosecurity and expanding the use of formulated feeds. The initiative builds on earlier pilot projects and will involve research, demonstration farms and capacity-building programmes to strengthen the aquaculture value chain. The collaboration is expected to support climate-resilient production, improve productivity and enhance export competitiveness of Bangladesh's aquaculture sector.

Read more: [here](#).

fish catch per household increased from 170 kg to 250 kg within a year, delivering both improved nutrition and higher incomes for rural families. Complementary approaches, such as integrated rice–field pond systems, have further demonstrated how small adjustments to traditional farming practices can transform a single rice harvest into a year-round source of food and income. A key feature of the new roadmap is the integration of aquatic foods into Cambodia's school feeding programmes. Pilot initiatives are already underway through the CGIAR Scaling for Impact Program, with WorldFish and the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction working in Kampong Thom and Prey Veng provinces to link smallholder fish producers with school meal supply chains. Communities have been trained to produce small fish powder, a low-cost, nutrient-dense product made from locally available species which can be easily incorporated into school meals. Across 28 primary schools, 1 251 participants, including 671 women and girls, have received training. Five agricultural cooperatives are now supplying locally produced fish and vegetables to schools, creating reliable market access for farmers while improving the nutritional quality of meals for children. With the new roadmap in place, Cambodia is positioning aquatic foods not only as a dietary staple but as a strategic lever for advancing food security, nutrition and rural livelihoods nationwide.

Read more: [here](#).

Fiji: Big momentum for country's aquaculture

Fiji marked a significant milestone in the country's journey toward strengthening its aquaculture industry. The FAO–Ministry of Fisheries & Forestry TCP inception meeting brought together key national leaders, scientists, planners, and aquaculture officers to discuss the implementation of the upcoming Aquaculture Development Plan (ADP 2024–2028). This collaborative effort aims to propel Fiji's aquaculture sector toward greater sustainability, food security, and economic growth. Led by Professor Dr. Esroma

Ledua, the FAO TCP Coordinator, the meeting assembled a dedicated team of technical experts and sector partners, including the Director of Fisheries, Madam Nanise Kuridrani Tuqiri; Principal Fisheries Officer (Aquaculture), Dr. Alok Kalla; Senior Research Officer, Mr. Prashneel Chandra; regional managers; and officers from the Central, Western, Northern, and Eastern Divisions. Together, they reviewed progress, identified challenges, and outlined strategic actions to enhance Fiji's aquaculture landscape.

Read more: [here](#).

Fiji: Strengthens sustainable tuna management through landmark ministry-industry MoU

In a significant move toward digitising ocean governance, the Ministry of Fisheries and the Fiji Fishing Industry Association (FFIA) have formalised a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at bolstering the monitoring of Fiji's longline fishing

fleet. The agreement, signed by Acting Permanent Secretary for Fisheries and Forestry, Mr. Saimone Tavoli, and FFIA President, Mrs. Radhika Kumar, marks a transition from donor-funded trials to a state-led Electronic Monitoring System (EMS).

Read more: [here](#).

Kiribati & Palau: Partnership for strengthening aquaculture sector

The Government of Kiribati has taken a significant step forward in strengthening its national aquaculture sector, thanks to a productive and mutually beneficial partnership with the Government of Palau. On March 14, 2026, the Ministry of Fisheries and Ocean Resources (MFOR) successfully imported 200 live Sandfish broodstock from Palau, a key achievement under the bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in 2025. This milestone was made possible through the strong commitment and cooperation of Palau's Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and the Environment (MAFE). During a visit to Palau from March 6–14, a team from MFOR's Coastal Fisheries Division, led by Director Mrs. Tooreka Teemari, worked closely with Palau's Bureau of Fisheries and Aquaculture Division to finalise the transfer. The mission included a courtesy meeting with the Honorable Steven Victor, Minister of MAFE, underscoring

the high-level support for this collaboration. The broodstock will now be quarantined and cultured at the Ambo Hatchery, supporting Kiribati's goals in research, hatchery development, and restocking. In the longer term, the initiative aims to create livelihood opportunities for local communities through sandfish grow-out farming. The Ministry of Fisheries and Ocean Resources extends its sincere gratitude to the Government and people of Palau for their partnership and friendship. Sulang Palau for your generous and brotherhood support. Special appreciation is also extended to KIFL for its continued support in advancing aquaculture development for the benefit of the people of Kiribati. This exchange marks the beginning of a mutually beneficial partnership, paving the way for future collaboration in research, technical exchange, aquaculture and sustainable fisheries management between the two countries - Kiribati and Palau.

Read more: [here](#).

Malaysia: Enforcement operation targets illegal trade of ornamental fishes

The Department of Fisheries Malaysia conducted an integrated enforcement operation at ornamental fish premises in Jalan Pudu, Kuala Lumpur, to curb the sale of prohibited and invasive species. The operation, carried out in collaboration with law enforcement agencies, involved inspections of multiple premises suspected of regulatory violations. Authorities seized a range of high-risk species, including arapaima, sturgeon and peacock bass, which are known to threaten local ecosystems if released into public waters. The total value of confiscated species was

estimated at RM 35 674 (around USD 9 100). In addition, several premises were found operating without the required licences for aquaculture activities. The operation was conducted under existing fisheries and wildlife regulations, reflecting ongoing efforts to strengthen enforcement, control the spread of non-native species and protect aquatic biodiversity in Malaysia.

Read more: [here](#).

Maldives: MMRI successfully completed 1st batch for mariculture training

Maldives Marine Research Institute (MMRI) marked the successful completion of their first batch of participants in the Basic Mariculture Course under the Marine Hatchery Skills Development Programme for 2026. The course was conducted from 24 January to 5 February 2026 at the Maniyafushi Research and Training Facility and was supported under the World Bank funded TransFORM Project and implemented by the MMRI in collaboration with the Ministry of Fisheries and Ocean Resources. Participants received their certificates of completion during

the formal closing ceremony held at the Maniyafushi facility.



Group photo of the training participants. Credit: MMRI.

Read more: [here](#).

Maldives: Efforts underway to expand value-added fish processing

H.E. Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Resources Ahmed Shiyam has stated that the Government is undertaking efforts to increase the value of fish procured from Maldivian fishermen by expanding value-added fish processing and export capacity. Speaking at a press conference held at the President's Office, Minister Shiyam said increasing the processing capacity of Maldivian fish has long been discussed but limited progress had been made in the past due to the lack of sufficient infrastructure and sustained investment in the sector. The minister noted that improving value-added processing is essential to ensure better income for fishermen. Currently, around 105 tonnes of fish are processed daily in the Maldives, including production carried out by Maldives Industrial Fisheries Company (MIFCO) and private sector companies. He added that the Government is now working to significantly expand this capacity through several fisheries infrastructure projects across the country. In addition

to the existing 50-tonne fish processing plant in Felivaru, efforts are underway to establish a new facility capable of processing an additional 100 tonnes of fish per day. Land reclamation is also ongoing in Gaafu Dhaalu Fiyooaree for the development of fisheries facilities, including a 100-tonne ice plant and a fishmeal production plant with a capacity of 100 tonnes per day. The minister further revealed that land reclamation for a 50-tonne fish processing facility in Faafu Nilandhoo is scheduled to begin within the next two days, with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) permit already granted to commence work on 8 March. In addition, work is underway to establish another fish processing facility in Seenu Hulhudhoo in efforts to expand fisheries infrastructure nationwide. Minister Shiyam said that once the planned developments are completed, the Maldives' cold storage capacity will increase from 9500 tonnes to 25 000 tonnes, while daily fish processing capacity is expected to rise from 105 tonnes to approximately 300 tonnes.

Read more: [here](#).

Papua New Guinea: USD 27 million invested in fisheries training infrastructure

The Government of Papua New Guinea, with support from Japan, has committed approximately USD 27 million (K120 million) to redevelop the National Fisheries College (NFC) and strengthen fisheries training capacity. The project focuses on upgrading

waterfront training facilities and providing modern equipment to support advanced fisheries education. The initiative includes the construction of new shore-based facilities and the procurement of a dedicated training vessel to enhance practical training in areas such as bottom fishing and longline operations. It aims to expand technical expertise and increase local participation across the fisheries value chain. Authorities noted that the redevelopment will

A promotional graphic for Infofish. It features the Infofish logo (a blue fish icon) and the text 'INFOFISH' in blue. Below the logo is the text 'JOIN US AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER' in large, bold, blue letters. Underneath that is the tagline 'Forging closer links with the global seafood industry' in a smaller, italicized font. At the bottom left, it says 'For more information, please email : info@infofish.org'. On the right side, there is a graphic of two hands shaking, with one hand holding a laptop and the other holding a tablet, set against a background of yellow and blue rays.

position the college as a regional centre of excellence, supporting workforce development and contributing to the diversification

and sustainable growth of Papua New Guinea's fisheries sector.

Read more: [here](#).

The Philippines: Fisherfolk cooperative earns from milkfish harvest



Photo: Milkfish harvest earns PHP 1.02 million for Nasipit cooperative.
Credit: BFAR-13, Philippines.

A fisherfolk cooperative in Nasipit, Agusan del Norte generated around USD 17 100 (around PHP 1.02 million) in sales after

harvesting six tonnes of milkfish (*Chanos chanos*) from its fish cage project. The Ata-atahon Fisherfolk Cooperative, with 44 members, operates the cage at the Nasipit Mariculture Park. The project was supported by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources through the provision of a PHP 1.8 million high-density polyethylene cage and technical training on fish cage production and management. Members also participated in exposure visits to fish farms in Davao del Norte and Bohol to strengthen their aquaculture skills. Following the successful harvest, the cooperative plans to reinvest earnings in 20 000 milkfish fingerlings and 2 000 rabbitfish fingerlings to support integrated farming. The initiative forms part of the Philippine Fisheries and Coastal Resiliency Project, which promotes climate-smart aquaculture and improved livelihoods for coastal communities.

Read more: [here](#).

Japan/Philippines: Launched fisheries and aquaculture value-chain development

The Government of Japan, in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), has launched a two-year project titled Development of a Sustainable Fishery Value Chain in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), signed in 2025. The initiative aims to strengthen the productivity and resilience of the region's fisheries and aquaculture sectors, which have significant potential within the Philippine fish industry. The project focuses on developing sustainable local value chains by supporting small-scale producers through capacity-building, promoting alternative high-value species, and enhancing value-adding processes and technical skills. In February 2026, Japan's

Agriculture Attaché Akasaka Hidenori visited project sites in Tawi-Tawi to review progress and engage with local stakeholders.



Photo: Mr Akasaka Hidenori, First Secretary and Agriculture Attaché meets fisherfolk organisations in Barangay Karaha, Panglima Sugala.
Credit: Embassy of Japan in the Philippines.

Read more: [here](#).

Thailand: Promotes "Pink Mahseer" as new GI aquaculture product

The Department of Fisheries Thailand is promoting the "Pink Mahseer" as a new Geographical Indication (GI) product in Yala province to strengthen local aquaculture development and support rural livelihoods. The initiative aims to increase farmers' income by developing high-value freshwater species linked to local identity and environmental conditions. The programme includes technical support, knowledge transfer and the provision of fingerlings and production inputs to encourage farmers to adopt "Pink Mahseer" culture. Authorities are also working towards formal GI registration, which would certify the product's origin and quality. The initiative builds on previous

success with GI-certified aquaculture products and is expected to enhance market value, attract tourism and promote sustainable fisheries-based economic growth in southern Thailand.



Photo: "Pink Mahseer". Credit: DOF, Thailand.

Read more: [here](#).

Thailand: Strengthens seasonal measures to protect aquatic resources

The Department of Fisheries Thailand is set to implement seasonal resource management measures in 2026 to protect aquatic species during spawning and early life stages in the central Gulf of Thailand. The measures will cover key areas in Prachuap Khiri Khan, Chumphon and Surat Thani provinces, which serve as important breeding grounds for commercially valuable species. The initiative focuses on conserving fish stocks, restoring marine

ecosystems and supporting sustainable fishing practices through controlled fishing periods and gear restrictions. Authorities have updated regulations on fishing gear, including gillnet mesh sizes and the use of certain net types, to better align with current resource conditions. The department emphasised that continuous monitoring and research will guide the implementation of these measures, ensuring long-term sustainability, improved food security and enhanced livelihoods for coastal fishing communities.

Read more: [here](#).

Legal aspects of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear

Hodgson, S. 2022. Legal aspects of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear. Rome, FAO and IMO.

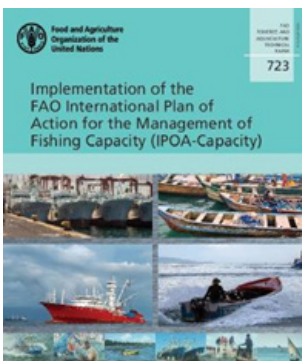


A recent study examines legal responses to abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG), a major source of marine plastic pollution that can continue “ghost fishing” for months or even years. The report highlights that ALDFG is not only a fisheries management issue but also a navigation and environmental concern, involving international organisations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Maritime Organization and United Nations Environment Programme. The study reviews legal frameworks in Australia, the European Union, Norway and the United States, showing that coordinated policies across fisheries, maritime transport and environmental authorities are essential. Measures such as reporting requirements, gear standards and extended producer responsibility schemes are identified as potential tools to address ALDFG. The report emphasises that while legal mechanisms exist, their adoption ultimately depends on policy decisions at national, regional and global levels.

Download the publication: [here](#).

Implementation of the FAO International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity (IPOA-Capacity)

Davies, S., Durighello, A. and Van Anrooy, R. 2025. Implementation of the FAO International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity (IPOA-Capacity). FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper, No. 723. Rome, FAO.



A new technical paper by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations reviews progress in implementing the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity (IPOA-Capacity), adopted in 1999 under the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The report notes that global fishing capacity has continued to expand despite management efforts. Between 1999 and 2022, the number of fishing vessels worldwide increased by around 10%, largely driven by a 34% rise in motorised vessels, while non-motorised vessels declined by 20%. Small-scale fleets remain dominant globally, although fleet capacity has grown significantly in Africa and Asia, while declining in Europe and North America. Many countries have introduced measures such as licensing systems, gear restrictions, catch limits and vessel buyback programmes. However, weak monitoring systems, limited data and socioeconomic pressures continue to hinder effective capacity management.

Download the publication: [here](#).

APRIL

21-23,
Seafood Expo Global,
Barcelona, Spain.
<https://www.seafoodexpo.com/global/>

MAY

6-8,
Aquaculture Taiwan,
Tainan, Taiwan.
<https://www.aquaculturetaiwan.com/>

19-21,
Seagriculture World 2026,
Bangkok, Thailand.
<https://seagriculture.world/>

JUNE

2 - 5,
World Aquaculture Singapore 2026,
Singapore.
<https://was.org/meeting/code/WA2026>

SEPTEMBER

14-16,
INFOFISH World Tuna Trade Conference and Exhibition 2026 (TUNA 2026),
Shangri-La Hotel,
Bangkok, Thailand
<https://tuna.infofish.org/>

**Classified AD
40mmX60mm**

**Classified AD
40mmX60mm**

**Classified AD
40mmX60mm**

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 **July, 2026**. Please forward any information you may wish to have disseminated through this digest to:

The Editor, INFOFISH, 1st Floor, Wisma LKIM, Jalan Desaria, Pulau Meranti, 47120 Puchong, Selangor DE. Tel:+603-8066 8112, Email: sujit@infofish.org, Editor: Sujit Krishna Das, INFOFISH, Malaysia.