

## Field Programme in Aquaculture

Aquaculture is an important part of the field programme of the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture covering all regions to diversify production systems and increase incomes for rural population. Under the Department's technical assistance program, a considerable number of projects under the Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS) have been implemented and/or are currently operational in a number of countries, especially in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. In the past two years, some 70 field projects were formulated or implemented. These projects assisted member governments in building national capacities, preparing development strategies, technical guidelines, regulations and policy frameworks and applying sustainable technologies. Efforts have also been made by the Department in emergency relief and rehabilitation after the 2006 Tsunami disaster, other natural catastrophies as well as aquatic animal disease epizootics. Assistance has also been provided to employ aquaculture as a means to assist in post-war rehabilitation in a number of countries such as Congo (RDC), Rwanda, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Iraq and Afghanistan.

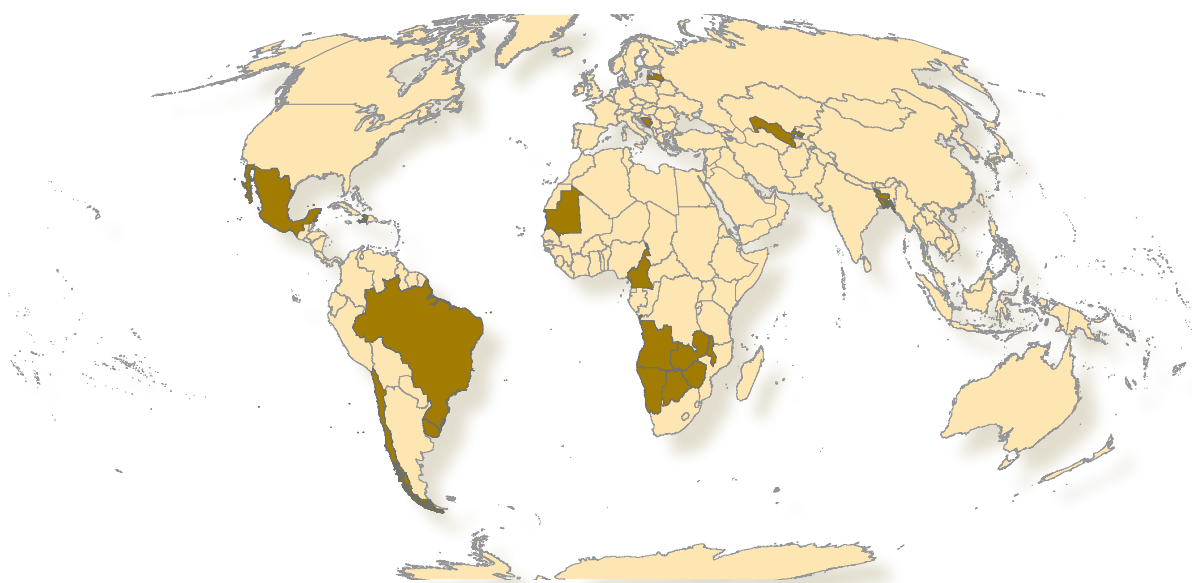
The Department also organized a number of training courses in partnership with national or regional institutions/organizations in a variety of subject areas, including fish health, fish pass, radio telemetry, genetics, molecular technology, hatchery design and management, integrated fish farming, rice cum fish culture, micro-finance, use of GIS in aquaculture, etc.

Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries (TCDC) and South-South Cooperation (SSC) have been generally successfully used in projects in African and Latin American countries where Asian aquaculture technicians were brought in and assisted in aquaculture operations at farm level. Study tours to Asia have been or are part of projects in Angola, Uganda, Ghana and Madagascar.

It is anticipated that the future field activities will be focused on development of national aquaculture strategies, seed/feed production and distribution, extension of networking, socio-economic analysis and business planning and investment guidelines. Reinforced partnership among stakeholders and improved communication and access to appropriate information would need be strengthened and TCDC/SSC mechanism be further encouraged.

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### Some FAO Aquaculture Field Projects



 FAO Aquaculture field projects