

## Feeds for aquaculture

Tropical Asia, Latin America and Africa are regions where aquaculture is growing fast, and consequently present significant growth opportunities for the aquafeed sector. Except for salmon in Chile, warm- freshwater, omnivorous fish contribute to the bulk of aquaculture production in these regions. But, there are notable differences among the three continents in terms of the production and use of aquafeeds and each region has its own set of priorities for developing the aquafeed sector. In Asia, farm-made aquafeeds play an important role in fish production, while increasing intensification, is driving the growth of commercial aquafeed sector. In Latin America, commercial feeds are already widely used in most production systems. In sub-Saharan Africa, where aquaculture production is small, but actively growing,

on-farm feed manufacturing by small- and medium-scale entrepreneurs is playing a significant role in aquaculture development. Understanding these differences and setting up of priorities are critical to the further development of the tropical aquafeed sector. FAO Aquaculture Management & Conservation Service (FIMA) has undertaken a number work programmes and activities for broader understanding of this subject area so that FAO may be able to provide its member countries with necessary information, management action plan, policy guidelines and recommendations in order to enable them and other stakeholders to efficiently execute their existing and planned aquaculture activities. Further information including the relevant publications resulted from these work programmes and activities may be obtained from Mohammad R. Hasan at [Mohammad.Hasan@fao.org](mailto:Mohammad.Hasan@fao.org)



*Anchoveta (Engraulis ringens) for fishmeal production, Peru*

**GCP/INT/936/JPN: Towards sustainable aquaculture:** Selected issues and guidelines: Component 4: Use of wild fish and other aquatic species to feed cultured fish and its implications for food security and poverty alleviation. Of the five key thematic areas identified for targeted action under the above project, Component 4 of the project is specifically addressing the issues relating to the use of wild fish in aquaculture feeds and its implications for food security and poverty alleviation. Under this component, four regional reviews (e.g. America, Europe, Africa and the Near East and Asia and Oceania) and a number of region- or country-specific case studies have been carried out in Asia and Latin America. The reviews and case studies specifically addressed the role of reduction fisheries and feed fish (fish as fishmeal, fish oil, trash fish and other aquatic species) that may play on food security and poverty alleviation including sustainability of these finite resources and environmental implication of direct use of fish as feed. As a part of the process, a targeted workshop on “use of wild fish and/or other aquatic species to feed cultured fish and its implications to food security and poverty alleviation” is being organized in Kochi, India, 16-18 November 2007. It is expected that the component will develop policy guidelines on sustainability issues of reduction fisheries including its improved management and the criterion for its sustainable use as aquafeeds. [Responsible Officers: Mohammad R Hasan and M Halwart (FIMA)]