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Fisheries and Aquaculture Department

FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture e-Bulletin

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*Welcome to this edition of the **FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture e-bulletin**, bringing you our most recent news, publications and developments. We hope that this information will help your own fisheries and aquaculture work.*

Highlights

- The **Aquaculture Feed and Fertilizer Resources Information System** is now online. Available in English, French and Spanish, users will find detailed information on aquaculture feed and nutrient resources, species information including nutrient requirements and husbandry practices, and guidelines on how to use this information as part of a responsible strategy.

- **iMarine** released **AppliFish**, a free mobile application which makes aquatic-related information available to anyone, anytime, anywhere. It provides basic information and maps on over 550 marine species, such as a common names and sizes, distribution maps. Try it out and use it at seafood markets and restaurants - you can download AppliFish mobile app: - for **Android** - for **iOS**.

- **Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance** were agreed after over 5 years of consensus-building among FAO Member Countries. The Guidelines, which include recommended approaches to encourage and help flag states comply with their international duties and obligations regarding the flagging and control of fishing vessels, will be presented to the **FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI)** for endorsement at its next Session in June 2014.

- **Tuna: A Global Perspective** provides key information on FAO's work and activities on tuna and tuna-like species.

- The **FAO Fishing Vessel Finder**, a one-stop site to search for detailed information on individual fishing vessels, is now available. Compiled from a variety of authoritative sources, the Fishing Vessel Finder is an archive of current and historical vessel records.

- **SmartFish**, an EU-funded co-implemented by FAO and the Indian Ocean Commission, activities and pilot initiatives have been launched and carried out in 20 countries throughout the Indian Ocean, Eastern and Southern Africa. Recent actions include the development of small-scale aquaponics units in Ethiopia, promoting an ecosystem approach to sea cucumber fisheries management, and supporting alternative sustainable livelihoods

in the Rodriguez Island lagoons.

Web-based products

- A fully reengineered FAO **Fishery and Aquaculture Country Profiles** module. The profiles provide a comprehensive overview of the fisheries and aquaculture sector for 180 countries (or areas/territories recognized by the Organization and with important fishery sector). Information is presented in a fact sheet and integrates a number of country-related sources, including regularly-updated FAO data such as fishery statistics, country briefs, and additional fishery knowledge systems, as well as a summary specifically prepared from national sources. The full features of this new module can be viewed in the latest updates: **Brazil**, **Canada**, **Norway**.

- The **FAO GeoNetwork** now includes 2 new fisheries GIS datasets: **Fishery Statistical Areas** and FAO Aquatic Species Distributions (see an **example**). Compliant with international standards, the datasets include metadata descriptions and can be visualized and downloaded in multiple formats. They are also available through the Fisheries and Aquaculture website.

  The FAO Aquatic Species Distributions is built from the known distributions of several aquatic species. Presently, 583 of the 682 available species distributions are on the FAO GeoNetwork. In addition to visualizing/downloading the data, each entry allows the user to switch to other web pages such as the **Species Factsheets** or the **Species Distribution Map Viewer**. A concerted effort was made to annotate each species distribution with relevant species information (codes, names) through the use of **Fishery Linked Open Data (FLOD)**.

  This work, including the software implemented to maintain the published resources, was sponsored by the EU **iMarine** project and is compliant with OGC/ISO standards and the EU **INSPIRE** directive.

- Information on **Regional Fishery Bodies** has been updated to reflect recent ratifications, including **SIOFA** and **SPRFMO**.

- The **deep-sea high seas fisheries** website has been revised, updated and reorganized. New features include a redesigned homepage, a summary page on the FAO International Guidelines and a comprehensive, searchable publications page.

- Check out the redesigned **EAF-Nansen project** site, bringing you latest news and events.

- The **European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)** now includes 3 new sections featuring recent and upcoming meetings, publications, and an archive documents section. It is expected to be further developed into a full-blown sub site, in the near future.

- **Fishery Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS)** was added new **Marine Resource** and **Fishery** reports.

- A PDF generator and new print features are available for all web pages and fact sheets across the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture site.

Statistics

- Most recent data **Global Capture Production 1950-2011** and **Global Aquaculture Production 1950-2011** can be consulted through the online query. These datasets are also available in **FishStatJ**.
- Download the most recent version of **ASFIS**, the list of species for fishery statistics purposes - now for the first time in **Arabic**, **Chinese** and **Russian**.

Recent publications

- Browse the latest titles available on the **Publications** page
- New **catalogues** and **field guides** from **FAO FishFinder**
    - **Sharks, Batoids and Chimaeras of the North Atlantic**
    - **Commercially important sea cucumbers of the world**
    - **The living marine Resources of Kenya**

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