

# **NACA Newsletter**

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#### **Registrations are open!**

We are pleased to announce that registration for the Global Conference on Aquaculture Millennium +20 (GCA +20) is now open.

Recognising the critical role of a diverse aquaculture sector for food security and poverty alleviation, the expectation for aquaculture to fill the increasing global fish supply and demand gap, the need to exchange information and experiences, and the importance for a common vision and appreciation on how to achieve the sustainable growth of this food sector, FAO, at the request of its Members, is organising the Global Conference on Aquaculture Millennium + 20 in collaboration with the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) of the People's Republic of China.

Originally planned for October 2020 and postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the GCA will now be held from **22–27 September 2021** in Shanghai, China.

GCA +20 will be the fourth in a series of developmentoriented conferences that have shaped global aquaculture: Kyoto (1976), Bangkok (2000) and Phuket (2010). Under the theme "Aquaculture for food and sustainable development", the GCA +20 aims to bring stakeholders from government, business, academia and civil society together to identify the policy and technology innovations, investment opportunities and fruitful areas of cooperation in aquaculture for food and sustainable development. A key output from the GCA +20 - *The Shanghai Consensus* - will highlight the principles and strategic pathways to maximise the contribution of sustainable aquaculture in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and meeting the pledge of "Leaving no one behind".

Interested participants are invited to complete the application form and the conference Secretariat will inform registrants as to the status of their application in due course.

The GCA +20 will be a hybrid conference; registration will allow attendance of conference **in-person or virtually**, with the indicated preference taken into account to the extent possible. The maximum number of in-person participants will have to be capped, in close consultation with the host and in line with the latest advice from health authorities.

The GCA is open to all interested stakeholders, including from government, academia, private sector and civil society. Women and youth (35 years of age or younger) are strongly encouraged to apply. Kindly note that registration is free.

#### **Register online at:**

https://aquaculture2020.org/registration/

## Presentation of the State of World Aquaculture and Regional Aquaculture Reviews 2020

Ahead of the Global Conference on Aquaculture Millennium +20, a series of webinars were organised on various topics relevant to the sustainable development of aquaculture.

The first of these was a presentation of advanced (pre-final) versions of The State of World Aquaculture 2020 and six Regional Reviews during the week of 26–29 October 2020.

These reviews, listed below, provide up-to-date information on the status and trends of the sector, at regional and global levels, developed from national, regional and global datasets, supplemented with expert opinion and literature review:

- · Regional Review of Aquaculture in Asia and the Pacific.
- Regional Review of Aquaculture in Europe.
- Regional Review of Aquaculture in the Near East and North Africa.
- · Regional Review of Aquaculture in North America.
- · Regional Review of Aquaculture in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Regional Review of Aquaculture in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- · Presentation of The State of World Aquaculture 2020.

The reviews can be of pertinent interest and use to national governments, regional organisations, policy-makers, aquaculture farmers and other aquaculture value chain actors, investors, civil society organisations, research and training institutions as well as the general public.

These webinars were convened by FAO, in partnership with the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific and the World Fisheries Trust.

For each review, a presentation of key messages was followed by a panel discussion. Question and answer sessions provided opportunity for interested parties to comment on the reviews, ahead of their final publication.

Video recordings of the webinars are available at:

https://aquaculture2020.org/reviews/

#### Quarterly Aquatic Animal Disease Report, April-June 2020

The 86th edition of the Quarterly Aquatic Animal Disease Report contains information from fifteen governments. The foreword provides a discussion of a webinar on decapod iridescent virus 1 (DIV1), held on 20 August 2020. The report is available for free download from:

https://enaca.org/?id=1123

### Webinar: International Forum of Aquaculture in Silk Road Countries

A free webinar on aquaculture in silk road countries was held from 24-25 November. The theme of the forum was Sustainable Aquaculture Development: Response Strategies Towards Post-pandemic. 264 people from 22 countries attended the lectures and participated in the discussions.

The webinar addressed issues including measures of sustainable development of aquaculture, advanced models and successful experience of sustainable development of aquaculture, and response strategies as we move towards the post-COVID-19 period. Selected presentations included:

- · Green development of aquaculture in China.
- Mitigation strategies for COVID-19 impacts on fish and aquatic food systems.
- Systematic prevention and control technology for important *Vibrio* diseases in shrimp culture.
- Innovation in microbial management for more sustainable aquaculture.
- Leveraging aquaculture development for post-COVID economic recovery.

The full programme is available for download from the link below. Video recordings of the presentations will be made available online in due course: https://enaca.org/?id=1125

The webinar was organised by:

- Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences ("Belt and Road " Training Base for Mariculture Technologies, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China).
- The NACA Secretariat.
- The Mariculture Chapter, China Society of Fisheries.
- The Marine Aquaculture Committee, China Rural Special Technnology Association.
- The Qingdao Municipal Marine Development Bureau.
- Laboratory for Marine Fisheries and Food Production Processes, Pilot National Laboratory for Marine Science and Technology (Qingdao).
- Key Laboratory of Sustainable Development of Marine Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China.
- Qingdao Society of Fisheries.

NACA would like to thank our colleagues in China, particularly the Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute for their work in development of the technical programme and for generously sharing their technical expertise.

# World Fisheries Day Lecture Series, 20 December: Biosecurity - the concept to guarantee the sustainable development of aquaculture

NACA's Director General Dr Jie Huang give a virtual lecture on "Biosecurity - the concept to guarantee the sustainable development of aquaculture".

The presentation was given as part of the World Fisheries Day 2020 Lecture Series, hosted by the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, India.

The lecture, presented on 22 December, featured Special Remarks by Dr C.N. Ravisankar, Director of ICAR-CIFT.

The Organiser was Dr S.K. Swain, Director of ICAR-CIFA, and the Coordinator was Dr S.S. Giri, Head, FNP Division.

A video recording of the lecture is available at:

https://fb.watch/2YQx\_SlbJ0/





## Webinar: Beauty and the Beast: Important Parasites of Fish

A free webinar on important parasites of marine and freshwater fish was held on 9 December 2020 and attended by 479 people from throughout the region.

The webinar was organised by the Fish Health Section of the Asian Fisheries Society.

Topics and speakers were:

- Parasites of freshwater fish. Dr Andy Shinn, BMK Asia.
- Sea lice problem in marine fish aquaculture in the Philippines. Dr Erlinda R. Cruz-Lacierda, University of the Philippines Visayas.
- Neobenedenia: Can we innovate to successfully manage this parasite in sea cages? Dr Susan Gibson-Kueh, James Cook University -Singapore.
- Marine leech: From life cycle to control measures. Dr Kua Beng Chu, Department of Fisheries, Malaysia.

### Second Online Training on Mariculture Technology for the Asia-Pacific Region: Aquaculture Biosecurity

Aquaculture biosecurity has been accepted as a mainstream approach to reducing the risk of infectious disease in aquaculture.

FAO and OIE stress the importance of biosecurity in the sustainable development of aquaculture. Together, they are developing guidelines and recommendations to enhance aquaculture biosecurity systems at national and on-farm levels.

During earlier training courses and webinars, participants expressed their interest in further courses in aquaculture biosecurity and related capacity building, technology, and modernisation of the industry.

In response, the "Belt and Road" Training Base for Mariculture Technologies and FAO Reference Centre on Aquaculture Biosecurity and AMR in YSFRI (Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences), and NACA co-hosted the Second Online Training Program of Mariculture Technology for the Asia-Pacific Region from 15 to 20 December 2020.

The course focused on aquaculture biosecurity and related technologies at the international, national, and on-farm levels. Lectures were given by experts from FAO, OIE, NACA, YSFRI, and industry. 264 people participated from all over the world.

Lectures included:

- Guidelines on aquaculture biosecurity.
- Diagnostic methods for the detection of AHPND.
- Operational training in rapid detection for aquaculture pathogens.
- The progressive management pathway for improving aquaculture biosecurity.
- Development of a contingency plan for shrimp acute hepatopancreatic necrosis disease.

- Theory and framework to establish biosecurity plans for aquaculture.
- Diagnosis and pathogenicity of IHHNV.
- Biosecurity for broodstock multiplication centers: The concept to maintain SPF shrimp.
- Shrimp culture management vs biosecurity issues and options.
- Systematic prevention and control technology and the practice of important *Vibrio* diseases in shrimp culture.
- Quality management system for aquatic animal diagnostic laboratories.

A Q&A session on "Implementation of Progressive Management Pathways to Improve Aquaculture Biosecurity (PMP/ AB)" promoted by FAO at the national level and "Practice of biosecurity at the farm level and application of the PMP/ AB approach" was held during the course, with some additional presentations and a discussion session with participants.

Selected lectures from the course will be made available online in due course.



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NACA is a network composed of 19 member governments in the Asia-Pacific Region.



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#### More online offerings to come in 2021

2021 will see NACA experimenting with more webinars, training courses and audio and video production, to be delivered online.

While our opportunities to record field activities and interesting innovations in aquaculture systems will remain limited for the time being, we will endeavour to make recordings of technical presentations from during our online webinars and training courses available online. This is intended to assist those living in different time zones, who may be unable to attend the live sessions, and to serve as training and reference materials on an ongoing basis.

Upcoming online activities will be advertised on the NACA website, Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter channels. Please consider following or subscribing in order to keep informed!