



Network of  
Aquaculture  
Centres in  
Asia-Pacific



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



# AGENDA

## 3rd High-Level Meeting

# AQUACULTURE TRANSFORMATION IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION

organized by

Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
Shanghai Ocean University

**1-2 July 2025**

Shanghai Ocean University, China

## Background

Asia and the Pacific region has led the world's aquaculture production for decades. The region contributes more than 90 percent of global aquaculture production with a broad range of farming systems, all environments, species and engagement of millions of producers and value chain actors. However, aquaculture development in the region grows under various challenges, including scarcity in water and land, environmental pressures, climate change, generational changes and shifting globalization. Innovations and investment to transform aquaculture in the region are needed for a major shift towards more efficient, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable aquatic food systems. The approach is aligned with the **FAO's Blue Transformation Roadmap**<sup>1</sup> which outlines a vision for the FAO's work on aquatic food systems for the period 2022–2030, covering three core components on aquaculture, capture fisheries and value chain upgrading. The roadmap highlights a sustainable intensification and expansion of aquaculture as essential for increased future aquatic food supply.

### 1st High-Level Meeting on Aquaculture Transformation In 2022 (HLM-1)

To facilitate regional collaboration towards the Blue Transformation vision, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in collaboration with the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) convened a virtual **High-Level Meeting on Aquaculture Transformation from 22 to 23 November 2022 (HLM-1)**. The HLM-1 brought together 66 high-level participants, including senior government policy makers; senior FAO and NACA officials; private sector business leaders; development banks and investors; and other development partners with common interests in aquaculture transformation through innovation and investment. The HLM-1 discussed a White Paper on **Aquaculture transformation – Innovation and investment for sustainable intensification and expansion of aquaculture in Asia and the Pacific region**<sup>2</sup> that provides high level guidance on the translation of global targets for aquaculture transformation for the future in the region under the vision to 2030 stated in the White Paper that “Aquaculture in Asia and the Pacific region is transformed into more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable aquatic food systems through innovation, investment and partnerships.” The White Paper highlighted innovation and investment as of critical importance to the future of aquaculture transformation in the region.

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<sup>[1]</sup> FAO. 2022. Blue Transformation - Roadmap 2022–2030: A vision for FAO's work on aquatic food systems. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc0459en>

<sup>[2]</sup> FAO and NACA. 2023. Aquaculture transformation – Innovation and investment for sustainable intensification and expansion of aquaculture in Asia and the Pacific region. Bangkok, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc4962en>



## 2nd High-Level Meeting on Aquaculture Transformation In 2023 (HLM-2)

In response to the recommendations of the HLM-1 and the White Paper that provides the foundation for action on aquaculture transformation, FAO and NACA took action in 2023 to guide implementation and provide continued momentum towards aquaculture transformation in Asia and the Pacific region by 2030. The HLM-2 was hosted by FAO, NACA and Thailand's Department of Fisheries during 8–9 November 2023 in Bangkok. The meeting brought together over 60 high-level participants, including policy makers; FAO and NACA officials; representatives from NACA Regional Lead Centres; private sector business leaders; researchers; investors; and other development partners with commitment for aquaculture transformation through innovation and investment. Participants showcased progress being made in Aquaculture Transformation, made commitments to collaborate, identified priorities and various actions and partnership opportunities to further accelerate innovation and investment for Aquaculture Transformation within the region.

## 3rd High-Level Meeting on Aquaculture Transformation in 2025 (HLM-3)

NACA and FAO are actively collaborating with partners to facilitate implementation of the White Paper and stimulate aquaculture transformation in Asia and the Pacific Region. Momentum continues to build, but greater collective effort is required to achieve transformation by 2030. Following three years of progress and learning, NACA, FAO, and Shanghai Ocean University (SHOU) will convene this HLM-3 in Shanghai, back-to-back with the 34th NACA Governing Council Meeting in Wuxi.

### Objectives of HLM-3

The main objective of HLM-3 is to assess progress made in aquaculture transformation in Asia and the Pacific region and identify collaborative actions to catalyse further progress.

The specific objectives of HLM-3 are as follows:

- Share assessment results, innovation and investment showcases for aquaculture transformation in Asia and the Pacific region.
- Discuss priority actions needed for investment and partnerships to upscale impacts.
- Enhance and build new partnerships and intensify regional cooperation on aquaculture transformation.

### Expected outputs

- HLM-3 summary report;
- statements from participating representatives; and
- ideas for developing concepts/proposals by FAO and NACA to address the key priorities discussed during this HLM-3.

## Participation

This is an in-person event by invitation with around 60 participants including:

- Government policy makers;
- private sector business leaders;
- strategic partners; and
- NACA and FAO officials and SHOU executive officers

## Contact

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## PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Tuesday 1 July 2025	
0900–0910	<b>I. Welcome remarks by SHOU</b>
0910–0920	<b>II. Opening remarks by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs</b>
0920–0945	<b>III. Background and objectives of HLM-3 by NACA</b>
0945–1015	<b>Group photo and coffee break</b>
1015–1200	<b>IV. Introduction and panel discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A regional assessment of innovation and investment for aquaculture transformation in the Asia-Pacific region presented by <b>Michael Phillips</b>, FutureFish</li> <li>• Panel discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>Rishita Changede</b>, CEO, TeOra Company</li> <li>◦ <b>Kitiya Vongkamjan</b>, UniFAHS, Thailand</li> <li>◦ <b>Joykrushna Jena</b>, Deputy Director General of ICAR, India</li> <li>◦ Representative from <b>Guangdong Evergreen Conglomerate Co.,Ltd</b>, China</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Michael Phillips</b>, FutureFish</p>
1200–1330	<b>Lunch break</b>
1330–1500	<b>V. Progress on aquaculture transformation following the White Paper's regional roadmap</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview and status on the development of the National Innovation and Investment Plans (NIIPs) and the Aquaculture transformation monitoring, evaluation and learning system (ATMS) presented by <b>Tipparat Pongthanapanich</b>, FAO</li> <li>• Assessing aquaculture transformation initiatives in China presented by <b>Wenbo Zhang</b>, SHOU</li> <li>• Q&amp;A by all participants</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Simon Wilkinson</b>, NACA</p>
1500–1530	<b>Coffee break</b>
1530–1700	<b>VI. Innovation showcases for aquaculture transformation in Asia-Pacific (lessons from IDRC/NACA AQUADAPT and FAO TCP projects)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductory remarks</li> <li>• Fiji, Philippines and Thailand presentations</li> <li>• Panel discussion</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Eduardo Leano</b>, NACA</p>
1700–2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Excursion on SHOU Campus</b></li> <li>• <b>Dinner hosted by SHOU</b></li> </ul>

## Wednesday 2 July 2025

0900–1030	<p><b>VII. Panel discussion on investing in innovation for transforming aquatic-food systems</b></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Harrison Charo Karisa</b>, World Bank</li> <li>• <b>Fred Puckle Hobbs</b>, Co-Founder &amp; Director, Tathva</li> <li>• <b>Ali Mohammad Alshaikhi</b>, NACA GC Member, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia</li> <li>• <b>Chris Ninnes</b>, CEO, Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC)</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Michael Phillips</b>, FutureFish and <b>Tipparat Pongthanapanich</b>, FAO</p>
1030–1100	<b>Coffee Break</b>
1100–1230	<p><b>VIII. Open session to discuss specific key points and priorities</b></p> <p>Statements are invited from NACA Government Members to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify top 5 priority actions (5 of 76 sub-actions proposed in the White Paper) for aquaculture transformation in the country.</li> <li>• Present current and potential aquaculture transformation projects or initiatives that could further implement the top priority actions, with a focus on stimulating innovation and investment.</li> <li>• Specify any specific innovations where the country has knowledge and capacity to share with other countries for accelerating the aquaculture transformation priority actions.</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Joykrushna Jena</b>, Chair of NACA Governing Council</p>
1230–1330	<b>Lunch</b>
1330–1400	<p><b>IX. Statements from non-state representatives</b></p> <p>Statements are invited from participants from public and private companies, civil society, donors and other partners on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matching areas of interest for innovation and investment opportunities.</li> <li>• Potential collaboration and future activities in response to Session VIII.</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Joykrushna Jena</b>, Chair of NACA Governing Council</p>
1400–1430	<b>X. Summary of HLM-3 and next steps by NACA</b>
1430–1500	<b>XI. Close of HLM-3 by SHOU</b>