

International principles for responsible shrimp farming



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Presentation outline

- Background
- Issues
- Principles
- Future



Background

- Shrimp is the biggest internationally traded aquaculture commodity
 - South to north trade
 - Many rural farmers in Asia
- There are many trade issues
 - Food safety and residues
 - Antidumping
 - Taxes and tariffs
 - Market chain development...
- Many improvements in management, but still environmental and social issues
- Declining price trends
- Socially and economically highly important to developing countries



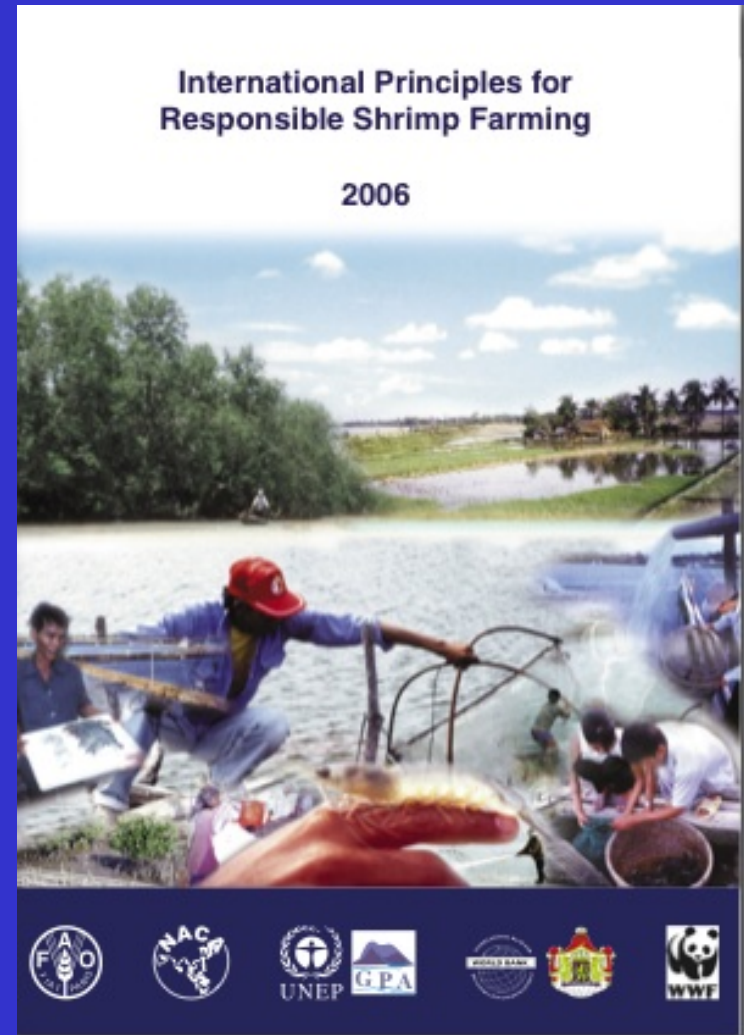
Why international principles?

- Growing proliferation of standards, GMPs, BMPs, GAPs, CoP...
 - National, regional, international
- Various shrimp certification schemes at different stages of development/implementation
- Concern over investment costs, ownership, credibility and potential market confusion
- Government members (FAO and NACA) requested a harmonized set of international aquaculture management principles to assist development and trade



Process so far?

- Research studies, workshops, web site and consultations
- Identified major issues and drafted better management principles for shrimp farming
- Draft *International Principles* made widely available for comment in 2005
- *International Principles* presented and endorsed by 17 Asian governments at NACA Governing Council meeting in April 2006 and internationally at Aquaculture Sub-Committee meeting in New Delhi, September 2006
- Now recognized as guiding document for responsible shrimp farming



Consortium program on shrimp farming and the environment

- “To analyze and share experiences on better management of shrimp aquaculture in coastal areas”
- Main partners are the World Bank, NACA, WWF and FAO, joined recently by UNEP.
- Collaborators from government, private sector and NGOs, totaling over 100 researchers in 20 countries
- Consortium work initiated in late 1999.
- Dissemination, communication and implementation support continuing. Work started on new species/commodities



Key findings of the Consortium Program



- Significant opportunities exist for reducing environmental costs
- Better producers are already adopting innovative practices for reducing environmental impacts.
- Several practices combine to produce positive outcomes
- Better management can lead to more profitable farming
 - reduced disease risk
 - increased production efficiency
- Strong economic incentive to adopt most BMPs
- Implementation is the key

Key issues



- Environmental concerns
 - Habitat & system level impacts
 - Water quality and sediments
 - Efficient resource use
 - Shrimp seed quality, genetics and trans-boundary movement
 - Shrimp disease control
 - Feeds and feed resources
 - Chemicals, anti-bacterials and resistance
- Social aspects
 - Local conflicts
 - Addressing issues of small-scale farmers
 - Livelihoods & development

Key issues



- Predominantly south to north trade
 - Asia leading producer
 - Development implications
 - Special problems of small-scale farmers which typify the sector in Asia
- Food safety and quality:
 - Quality and safety
 - Traceability of products from small farm units
- Economics and trade:
 - Increasing use of trade barriers
 - Costs of compliance increasing
 - certification, trade standards, monitoring
 - Declining global prices
 - Economic risks

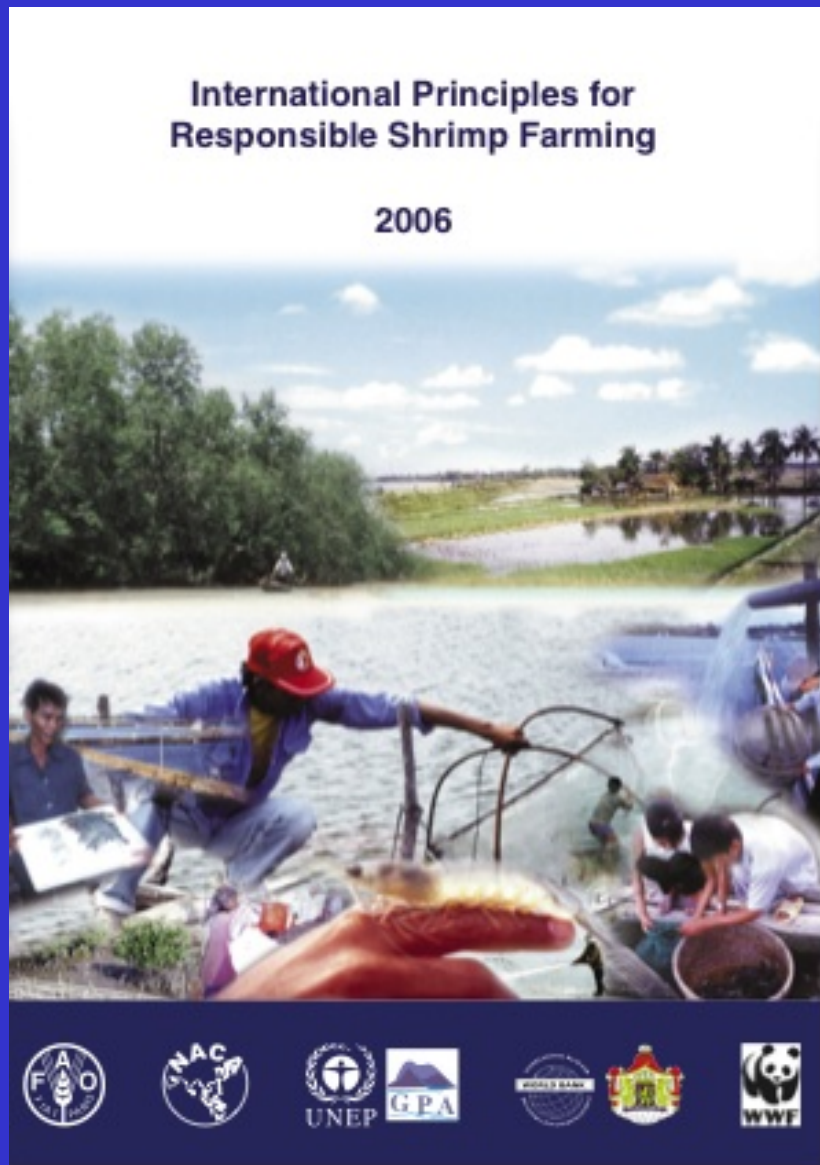


Goal is responsible shrimp aquaculture

- better management principles can help achieve goal



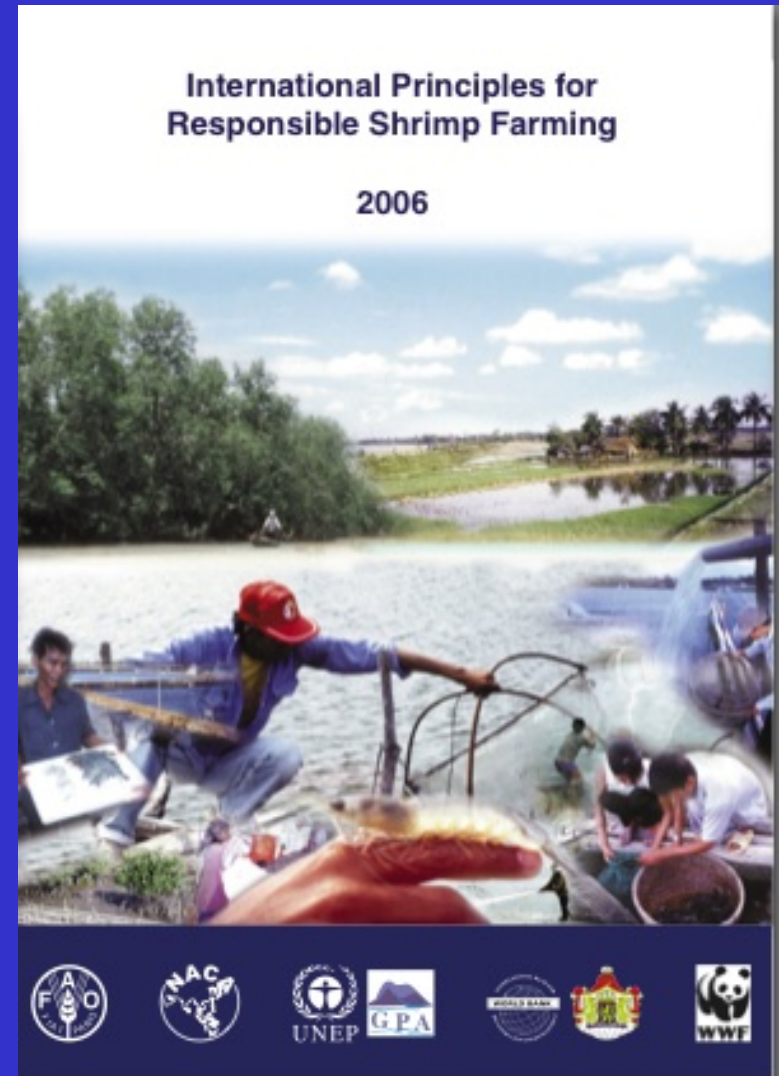
International principles for responsible shrimp farming



- *International Principles* contain
 - Management principles for “responsible” shrimp aquaculture
 - Implementation guidance
 - Implementation responsibilities and opportunities
- The *International Principles* are the first principles of their kind for an aquaculture sub-sector, based on the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and are being used as a model for the development of principles for other forms of aquaculture.

The 8 principles for responsible shrimp farming

1. Farm Siting
2. Farm Design
3. Water Use
4. Broodstock and postlarvae
5. Feed Management
6. Health Management
7. Food Safety
8. Social Responsibility



Who can use the Principles?



- Government
 - Policy, extension, national shrimp programs
- Private sector
 - Investment screens
 - Buyer screens
 - Risk management
 - Business development
 - Certification programs
- Civil society
 - Basis for monitoring
- Educational programs
 - Awareness/training programs
 - Orientation of consumers

Ongoing Consortium member initiatives

- India – we will hear more later!
- Vietnam – principles being used for farm and govt programs and policy
- Indonesia – guiding Aceh reconstruction
- Adopted by 17 member govts in Asia
- West Africa policy dialogue and Madagascar
- Brazil



The way forward

- Key challenge now is implementation
 - Better farming
 - Market access
 - Improved environment
 - Reduced risk
- How to bring international better management principles to the farmer level?
- Small-scale sector is of particular concern. Considerable effort needed to focus on small-scale sector, which will bring substantial social, economic and environmental benefits



The way forward

- Consortium, with partners, will continue to support implementation
- We will see more certification schemes emerging
 - Strong need for harmonization
 - Greater consensus
- In response, FAO and NACA, together with interested partners, is supporting a process for preparation of international guidelines for aquaculture certification
 - Bangkok, March 2007
- This *Indaqua* session provides experiences and recommendations to help move forward



Thank you!

*All comments
and suggestions
welcome*

