

SHRIMP AQUACULTURE DIALOGUE

GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR

OCTOBER 9-10, 2008

Meeting Summary

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MEETING BACKGROUND

The Shrimp Aquaculture Dialogue (ShAD) met from October 9-10, 2008 in Guayaquil, Ecuador to discuss the development of standards for responsible shrimp farming. This was the fourth meeting of the ShAD since it was created in 2007. Merrick Hoben and Kate Harvey of the Consensus Building Institute (CBI) facilitated the meeting. The expected outputs of the meeting included:

- 1.) Creating a shared understanding of the Dialogue process and how meeting attendees can participate in the process.
- 2.) Providing the ShAD's Americas Region Steering Committee with input on the criteria and indicators that will be the framework for shrimp aquaculture standards.
- 3.) Choosing additional members for the ShAD's Americas Region Steering Committee.

This document offers a summary of key issues related to the meeting and next steps for the ShAD.

PRE-MEETING OUTREACH

To help prepare for the meeting, CBI staff had phone conversations with several members of the ShAD Americas Region Steering Committee to better understand key issues and concerns related to the ShAD. Overarching themes expressed by the members included:

- The importance of conducting outreach to a broad range of shrimp aquaculture stakeholders in the Americas region.
- The value of building representation from South America on the America's Region Steering Committee, as South America is an area where the Dialogue process must engage at a higher level than is being done now.
- The need to clearly and effectively integrate progress on standard setting across the parallel shrimp Dialogue processes taking place in Africa, Asia, and the Americas.

MEETING RESULTS

54 people participated in the meeting. This included producers, academics and representatives from a variety of international and local NGOs. Following are the key points raised and agreements reached, by topic area, at the meeting. **Please note that all documents and presentations referred to in the meeting summary are available at <http://www.worldwildlife.org/what/globalmarkets/aquaculture/shrimp-additionalresources.html>.**

Aquaculture Dialogues Purpose and Process

There was general agreement among the participants on the purpose and process of the Aquaculture Dialogues, including the ShAD.

Key issues focused on:

- The purpose of the ShAD is to create standards that will minimize the key impacts shrimp aquaculture has on the environment and society, which were identified by the Shrimp Farming and Environment Consortium. The consortium also identified principles for addressing the impacts.
- The standards can be used to certify products and benchmark other standards. They also can create the foundation for buyer and investment screens and be incorporated into government programs.
- Standards will be geared toward the best performers in the industry.
- The ShAD process is designed to be open and transparent, as well as to result in standards that are performance-based, science-based and measurable.
- Ways to participate in the ShAD include attending Dialogue meetings, joining a ShAD technical working group or advisory group, not attending meetings but providing input via other means of communication, and serving on the Steering Committee that manages the ShAD process.
- At previous ShAD meetings, participants have discussed potential criteria and indicators that will be the framework for shrimp aquaculture standards. Participants of the Guayaquil meeting will build off of the information and insights from previous ShAD meetings in Africa and the Americas region.

Stakeholder Views and Concerns about the ShaD's Goals

While there was broad support expressed by participants for the ShaD's goals, several stakeholders representing Ecuador-based community groups who attended the first day of the meeting stated that they are opposed to the certification of farmed shrimp from Latin America and believe that the Dialogues do not do enough to address harmful social and community impacts of shrimp farming. Specifically, they believe the standards will not effectively address human rights violations and mangrove destruction associated with shrimp farming. Certification, they said, will legitimize these problems. To this end, they expressed their opposition to Naturland's certification of farmed shrimp. These attendees said that, instead of participating in the ShAD, they will continue to highlight the social and environmental violations associated with the industry. They provided to the Dialogue a book about the problems associated with shrimp farming in Ecuador. Also, members of the following groups submitted a letter to the Dialogue to express their concerns: Red Manglar Internacional, Fundecol, Asociacion Cerrito de los Morrenos, C-CONDEM, Fundacion OFIS, UOPAO, Fedarprobim, FEPP, Fuenboht, MMO, Fundacion Cerro Verde, Activismo Global and EKO Guayas.

People in this group agreed to a request by a member of the ShAD's Americas Region Steering Committee to provide the committee with guidance as the Dialogue moves forward in creating standards related to social impacts.

In response to the group's criticism of Naturland, a representative from Naturland, an association for organic farming, made a presentation about the organization's shrimp certification program. She emphasized that Naturland certification aims for sustainability on three issues: environmental, social and economic. Naturland asks shrimp producers to prove the historical extension of mangroves (based on maps, and satellite and aerial photos) and to create a reforestation plan to be implemented within five years. She shared the results from a 2008 survey of all reforestation activities by the Naturland certified organic shrimp farms. For more information about Naturland, go to www.naturland.de/bienvenido.html

Presentations

Two presentations were made to help inform the process of creating criteria, indicators and standards for shrimp aquaculture. Pedro Sousa of FishSource discussed the sustainability of forage fisheries.

Key issues focused on:

- What is the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership ?
- Definition of the management of sustainable fisheries
- Sustainability of forage fisheries: background, current problems and uncertainty
- The link between the Marine Stewardship Council and FishSource
- The status of forage fisheries

Dr. Stanislaus Sonnenhalzner then presented on effluent impact assessments.

Key issues focused on:

- The source of pollution in a shrimp operation
- Nutrient budgets
- Effluent composition
- Consideration for formulating standards and Good Management Practices

Criteria and Indicators for Farmed Shrimp

Dialogue participants worked in small groups throughout the meeting to discuss the criteria and indicators that have been developed at previous ShAD meetings. The purpose of the discussions was to provide feedback on how to improve the criteria and indicators. The groups reached general agreement on some criteria and indicators and, in cases where they could not reach agreement, noted the key issues related to the discussion. This information was provided to the ShAD's Americas Region Steering Committee, which will use the information to refine the criteria and indicators document for the ShAD. A summary of the key suggestions and changes are captured in the updated consolidated version of the criteria and indicators document. Some of the key themes and issues that arose in the breakout sessions are:

- Should issues related to complying with the law be explained in a preamble to the standards or in the standards themselves?
- Should food safety be addressed in the standards and, if so, should a technical working group be created to study the issue?
- Where do predator controls, escapes and genetic diversity fit into the standards?
- Use of fertilizers must be considered under principle 5.
- Consider adding a biosecurity indicator for pond management plans.
- Consider adding a principle that addresses the conservation of a variety of sensitive habitats, including mangroves.
- Consider adding an indicator that addresses impacts on vegetation and species.
- Some indicators are not truly indicators and cannot be quantified or measured.
- Changes need to be made to the document to clarify language, add nuance to the indicators, and eliminate redundancies.

Principle 8

There was a group discussion about principle 8, which is designed to address the social impacts associated with shrimp farming. There was general agreement in the group to, as a basis for discussion, use the draft standards for social impacts that were developed by the Tilapia Aquaculture Dialogue. There also was agreement to ask the Steering Committee to consider creating a technical working group to focus on this issue.

Key issues focused on:

- Need to define “community” in the standards.
- Standards should address access to traditional fishing grounds, as well as equity issues related to such topics as transportation and education.
- Standards should address how much money, if any, should be provided by producers to local communities.

Steering Committee

The group discussed the role of the ShAD’s Americas Region Steering Committee and chose the following people to serve on the committee: Javier Duenas, Dilia Hernandez, Peter Larkins and Attilio Castano. Seven additional people had been chosen to serve on the committee during the ShAD meeting held in Belize in April 2008.

Key issues focused on:

- The committee will develop, document and enforce the ShAD's decision-making process.
- There are two regional steering committees for the ShAD (Americas region and Africa). A steering committee for Asia will be chosen at the first meeting of the ShAD in Asia, which will be in November 2008. Approximately three people from each regional steering committee will serve on the ShAD's Global Steering Committee.
- Each regional committee will include a mix of industry and non-industry representatives and be made up of approximately 10 people.
- Each committee member will be expected to attend Dialogue meetings in their region (2-3 per year), participate in committee conference calls (approximately 2-3 per year) and respond to committee-related email messages (approximately 3-5 per month) in a timely fashion.
- Each committee member will be asked to help pay the cost of hiring consultants to conduct research on behalf of the ShAD, if it is determined such research is needed. Providing funding is encouraged but not mandatory. The maximum total contribution is estimated at \$5,000.

ATTACHMENTS:

Agenda

Thursday October 9, 2008

8:30 Registration

9:00 Welcome

Corey Peet and Teresa Ish: Shrimp Dialogue Americas Region Steering Committee members

9:15 Aquaculture Dialogues: Why were they created and what do they hope to accomplish?

Jose Villalon, Managing Director of World Wildlife Fund (WWF) US Aquaculture Program

9:40 Shrimp Aquaculture Dialogue: Where are we today?

Eric Bernard, Aquaculture Program Officer and Shrimp Dialogue Coordinator, WWF

10:45 Coffee break

11:15 Issue presentation and discussion:

Effluent impact assessment - water quality monitoring vs. nutrient budget Dr Stanislaus Sonnenholzner, Ph. D., Fundación CENAIM-ESPOL

- 11:45 Issue presentation and discussion:
Responsible source of fishmeal and fish oil - what are the options?
Pedro Sousa, Fishsource Director (video conference)
- 12:15 Lunch Break
- 1:30 Criteria, indicators and standards overview
Eric Bernard
- 1:45 Breakout sessions to discuss criteria, indicators and standards for International Principles 1 to 4:
1. *Farm siting*
 2. *Farm design*
 3. *Water use*
 4. *Broodstock and post larvae*
- 4:30 Presentations to summarize key outcomes from breakout sessions
- 5:00 Adjourn
- Friday October 10, 2008
- 9:00 Recap of Day 1 and overview of the day's agenda
- 9:30 Breakout sessions to discuss criteria, indicators and standards for International Principles 5 to 8:
5. *Feed management*
 6. *Health management*
 7. *Food safety*
 8. *Social responsibility*
- 12:00 Presentations to summarize key outcomes from breakout sessions
- 12:30 – 1:45 Lunch break
- 2:00 Presentation: Roles and objectives of steering committee for Americas region
Eric Bernard
- 2:30 Choose steering committee members for Americas region
- 2:50 Recap Day 2 and closing thoughts
- 3:00 Adjourn
- 3:30 Steering committee meeting

List of Meeting Participants

Ab. Franklin Contreras Ortega	"Camarimpe SA
Abdon Heras Reyes	Productor y Asesor
Alfonso Delfini	Aquamar
Alfonso Wong	
Ana Poveda	Activismo Global
Atilio Castano	FIESO
Carlos Perez	CNA
Cesar Monge	CNA
Christian Santos	Activismo Global
Corey Peet	Monitory Bay Aquarium
David Griffith	Cartagoga de Acuicultura
Dilia Hernandez	Fundacion la Salle de Canaas Nat
Dolores Vera G	OFIS Manabi
Edgar Lemos	FEPP
Eduardo Corral	Corporacion Lamec SA
Emilio Chnong	Activismo Global
Eric Bernard	WWF US
Federico Koelle	Fund. Cerro Verde
Gerónimo Vera	Asoc. Cerrito de los Morreños
Gregorio Zambrano	Fundecol
Henery Suarez	Corporacion Lamec SA
Javier Duenas	Consultant
Jill Schwartz	WWF US
John Battendieri	Blue Horizon Seafood
Jose Patti	Fundacion La Salle
Jose Villalon	WWF US
Juan Zambrano	Fundecol
Juan Jose Lopez	Red Manglar Internacional
Kate Harvey	Consensus Building Institute
Laura Wimpee	
Lider Gongora Farias	C-CONDEM
Lorena Schwarz	GAA
Lourdes Proaño A	Fundecol
Lucio E. Caceao	
Marcelo Coterá	Fundecol
Mathew Thomson	NEAQ
Maximo Canga	C-Condern
Merrick Hoben	Consensus Building Institute
Omar de la Torre Gallegos	Camarimpe S.A.
Peter Larkins	Consultant
Peter Segura	APA Gopbimn
Pulido Moreno	Fundacion La Salle
Rosa López	Foro de Mujeres de El Oro
Rosalia Jimenez	Mou
	Camara Nacional de las Industrias Pesquera y Acuicola (CANAINPESCA - México)
Sergio Escutia	
Shawn Hester	Ocean Garden Products

Sian Morgan
Stanislaus Sonnenholzner
Teresa Ish
Tomas Cruz
Tomas J
Ute Wiedenlubbert
Victor Talavera
William Chila

Fish Wise
CENAIM
Environmental Defense
UOPPAO
C-Condem
Naturland
Fundecol