

A Roadmap to Develop the Fish Sector in Myanmar

The MyanMed Project organized on 18 December the seminar "*Small-Scale Fishery and Aquaculture in Myanmar. A Roadbook for Sustainable Growth*". The seminar was attended by H.E. the Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Aye and by H.E. the Director General of the Department of Fisheries U Khin Maung Maw and hosted nearly 50 participants among DoF officers, stakeholders representative of

the fish sector and international organizations.

The scope of the seminar was to explain the goals and the strategies of the project, to share the good Mediterranean practices with operators of the sector and to raise a table of discussion for the sustainable development of the fishery and aquaculture in Myanmar.

Several contributions outlined the importance of public-private partnerships for the development of the sector and to promote



Dr Yin Yin Moe, Myanmed National Coordinator is explaining the project activities

socio-economic growth; the key role played by multifunctionality as a strategy to differentiate the local economies by combining fishery/aquaculture with agriculture, heritage, and tourism; and the need to integrate the incomes of fishermen to reduce the pressure on natural resources

During the discussions H.E. Khin Maung Aye praised the work of MyanMed project in supporting

the Institute of Fisheries Technology to lead the development of the sector. Therefore it was also outlined the need to develop applied research to support the industry, human to invest in resources and to develop programs and strategies to let operators comply with regulations leading more sustainable to practices and to increase the value of produce.



Group photo at the participants to the seminar







In Myanmar valued fish species are in high demand and can achieve high market prices, but public hatcheries are mainly producing carps, with values reaching 90% of the whole domestic production.

Seed production by DoF hatcheries (in millions) 450 397.57 400 350 300 250 200 150 89 54 100 50 5 48 6 98 11.49 4 72 2 2 5.68 2.27 7.33 0.1 0.05 1.65 1.6 0

There is the need to advance the seed production with new technologies and new species, in order to meet market demand with quality fry and competitive prices. Easier species are a good entry point to

Microscope

improve the operability of hatcheries, but live feed and water quality technologies are needed together with good management of juveniles in their growth stages. Although some technical choices look expensive, it is possible to develop hatchery designs with low-tech approaches. Nevertheless further capacity building is needed to enable local technicians to develop good hatchery designs with sound technologies adapted to local contexts.



A DoF shrimp hatchery



News in evidence

The month of January has seen the kick off of the renovation of the Institute of Fisheries Technology. The old building is due to be consigned in early February, while the new laboratory will be handed over in April.

The new laboratory will be supplied with protein analyzers, microscopes, and water quality meters. It will allow research and provide assistance to farmers to develop quality feed and to carry out health monitoring.

The old building and the foundation of the new laboratory (right)

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