



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

## COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

### Twenty-sixth Session

Rome, Italy, 7-11 March 2005

### ACHIEVEMENTS OF MAJOR PROGRAMME: 2.3 FISHERIES 2002-2003

The present document contains for the information of the Committee, the extract of the Programme Implementation Report 2002-2003 (PIR), concerning **Major Programme: 2.3 Fisheries**. It is recalled that the PIR is a Conference document, designed to provide synthetic information to the Governing Bodies on achievements in the past biennium.

The reported achievements for the Major Programme are preceded by a recapitulative table on implementation results in financial terms, including related field activities. Annex 1 summarizes the completion status of planned and unplanned outputs in the Programme of Work and Budget.

It may be noted that the entire text of the PIR is available for consultation from FAO's Internet Web-site, at the following address: <http://www.fao.org/pir>. At the same address, a more detailed data-base can also be consulted on the planned outputs for the 2002-2003 biennium, and their implementation status.

*Major Programme 2.3: Fisheries*

<b>Regular Programme</b>	<b>US\$000</b>
Programme of Work	39,605
Adjustments to Programme of Work arising out of Budgetary Transfers	(1,090)
<b>Final Programme of Work</b>	<b>38,515</b>
Expenditure against Final Programme of Work	38,514
Variance of Expenditure (Over)/Under Final Programme of Work	1
Budgetary Transfers as percent of Programme of Work	(2.8%)
<b>Field Programme</b>	<b>US\$000</b>
Extrabudgetary TF and UNDP delivery	25,875
Extrabudgetary emergency project delivery	1,569
TCP delivery	5,647
<b>Total Field Programme delivery</b>	<b>33,092</b>
Ratio of Field to Regular Programme delivery	0.9
Technical Support Services, professional staff cost	4,230

409. During the biennium efforts were intensified by the Fisheries Department to develop fisheries and aquaculture on a long-term sustainable basis within the framework of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and other related international, regional and national fishery instruments.

410. Assistance was provided to Members in ensuring sustainable contributions of marine and inland water fisheries and aquaculture to food supplies, food security and general economic growth. Increased international awareness was created on the need to promote an Eco-system Approach to Fisheries (EAF). Important contributions were developed to fill the information gap resulting from emerging management frameworks such as the ecosystem and precautionary approaches to fisheries. The FAO Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries (Strategy-STF) was adopted by the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) and the Council, and endorsed by a resolution of the UN General Assembly (UNGA).

411. Assistance was provided to improve fish production, utilization, and trade including safe and high-quality fish products. Furthermore, activities were undertaken to reduce the environmental impact of fisheries and discards. Work continued to promote sustainable development of small-scale fisheries and on safety at sea.

412. Increased efforts were made to assist Members in the implementation of the Code of Conduct and its International Plans of Action (IPOA), in particular to prevent Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing. The publication and dissemination of The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2002 (SOFIA) helped improve the understanding of constraints to the implementation of international fishery instruments.

**Programme 2.3.1: Fisheries Information**

<b>Regular Programme</b>	<b>US\$000</b>
Programme of Work	6,451
Adjustments to Programme of Work arising out of Budgetary Transfers	(260)
<b>Final Programme of Work</b>	<b>6,191</b>
Expenditure against Final Programme of Work	6,207
Variance of Expenditure (Over)/Under Final Programme of Work	(16)
Budgetary Transfers as percent of Programme of Work	(4.0%)
<b>Field Programme</b>	<b>US\$000</b>
Extrabudgetary TF and UNDP delivery	2,136
Extrabudgetary emergency project delivery	0
TCP delivery	431
<b>Total Field Programme delivery</b>	<b>2,568</b>
Ratio of Field to Regular Programme delivery	0.4
Technical Support Services, professional staff cost	398

**Achievements**

413. This programme provides comprehensive information and statistics on fisheries and aquaculture to Members in support of analysis, policy-making and planning. The most significant achievement was the facilitation of development and adoption of the FAO Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries (Strategy-STF) by COFI and Council (see Box). Work on the improvement of the quality of statistics and information in line with the Strategy-STF was initiated not only through the fishery statistics outputs, but also statistical development utilizing the Fisheries Global Information System/Approaches, Rules and Techniques for Fisheries statistical monitoring (FIGIS/ARTFISH); FIGIS and FAOSTAT2 (Corporate Database for Substantive Statistical Data) developments; the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS) and the Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) Partnerships; the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP); and library networks. Work on the development of inventories of fisheries and fishery resources as required by the Strategy-STF was undertaken through preparation of data structures and work processes.

**Strategy-STF**

The adoption of the FAO Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries (Strategy-STF) in 2003 provided a comprehensive framework and plan for the improvement of fishery status and trends, as a fundamental basis for fisheries policy and management for implementing the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The Strategy-STF has a major focus on capacity-building and also specifies the many actions required to be taken at national, regional and global levels, including special data needs for small-scale fisheries, ecosystem considerations for fishery management, global inventories of fish stocks and fisheries, ensuring information quality, information exchange arrangements and sustaining data collection. It recognizes the key role of FIGIS as a tool to facilitate implementation of the Strategy-STF through the exchange and dissemination of information and the more systematic assembly of information from the national to the regional and global levels (e.g. through FIRMS).

414. **Development of the Fisheries Global Information System (FIGIS).** The development of the basic FIGIS system has been completed successfully. Basic functionality for the entry, storage, extraction and dissemination of data has been implemented utilizing generic tools. Protocols, procedures and policies for data exchange and management have been developed in collaboration with partner agencies. Emphasis is now switching to developing the information and data content in collaboration with other FI services and partner agencies. Usage of FIGIS is increasing steadily as determined by hits in the web site, which now amount to over 1 million per month.

415. One issue is the long-term sustainability of FIGIS. Currently Regular Programme resources devoted to supporting FIGIS are quite limited, and there has been considerable dependence on extra-budgetary funding for its development.

416. FIGIS is a key tool to support implementation of the Strategy-STF. In order to allow developing countries to contribute to and benefit from FIGIS, there is a strong need for development assistance to build capacity. COFI requested that extra-budgetary funds be sought for this purpose under the FishCode Programme, with partial funding secured during the biennium.

417. **Provision of Fisheries Information and Statistics.** During the biennium, the ongoing effort to maintain and improve the quality of FAO fishery statistics continued through dialogue with countries concerning problematic data submitted by them, as well as through utilization of data from alternative sources, where available. A major revision to the species classification was completed and aquaculture production statistics time series extended backwards from 1970 to 1950 in response to user demand.

418. The development of norms, standards and classifications for global fishery statistics in collaboration with regional fishery bodies was continued by CWP. The CWP Handbook on Fishery Statistical Standards was extensively revised and published. The ASFA Partnership continued to expand with the recruitment of five new partners. The ASFA Secretariat finalized the new web-based input/retrieval software, organized training courses and continued increasing provision of access to ASFA information products for Low-Income Food-Deficit Countries. The International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centres (IAMSLIC), which includes approximately 300 members in 70 countries, officially recognized the ASFA bibliographic database as the premier database used in aquatic and marine science libraries. The Fisheries Branch Library increased dissemination services through CD ROMS for developing countries with limited Internet access and developed collaborative fisheries library networks in Africa and Asia to strengthen institution libraries and build capacity.

419. **Advice and Technical Support to Member Nations and Regional Fisheries Bodies.** Significant progress was made in the consolidation of methodological and operational tools required for cost-effective fisheries statistical monitoring. Two new technical papers on sampling methodology were issued. The computer approach ARTFISH was improved and made available on CD ROM, together with all relevant documentation.

***Programme 2.3.2: Fisheries Resources and Aquaculture***

<b>Regular Programme</b>	<b>US\$000</b>
Programme of Work	10,429
Adjustments to Programme of Work arising out of Budgetary Transfers	(230)
<b>Final Programme of Work</b>	<b>10,199</b>
Expenditure against Final Programme of Work	10,233
Variance of Expenditure (Over)/Under Final Programme of Work	(34)
Budgetary Transfers as percent of Programme of Work	(2.2%)

Field Programme	US\$000
Extrabudgetary TF and UNDP delivery	13,133
Extrabudgetary emergency project delivery	499
TCP delivery	2,073
<b>Total Field Programme delivery</b>	<b>15,705</b>
Ratio of Field to Regular Programme delivery	1.5
Technical Support Services, professional staff cost	1,423

### Achievements

420. The programme assists Members in ensuring the sustainable contributions of marine and inland water fisheries and aquaculture to food supplies, food security and general economic growth. During the 2002-03 biennium, the programme was implemented largely as planned. The international conference on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem in Reykjavik (2001), was a particular milestone. Regarding marine capture fisheries, the programme has contributed to:

1. better identification of resources;
2. adaptation of assessment methodology;
3. new resource management approaches, particularly the ecosystem approach to fisheries; and
4. global monitoring of the state of world marine fisheries resources.

421. In Inland Fisheries, within the constraint of available resources, contributions were made to global monitoring including the further development of GIS applications and improved resources management (e.g. in the presence of dams). In aquaculture, the programme has contributed to:

5. developing a normative foundation for sustainable development and reduced environmental impact;
6. developing assessment methods (e.g. using GIS); and
7. monitoring and reporting developments at a global scale.

422. In all these areas, the programme has dedicated 30-50% of its staff resources to support the Field Programme and the functioning of regional fishery organizations and has made particular efforts to develop and improve information systems.

#### *Filling the Information Gap*

The new emerging management frameworks such as the ecosystem and precautionary approaches to fisheries require growing quantities of more detailed information on fishery resources, their ecosystems and related exploitation systems. The development of collaborative integrated information systems has thus become a primary necessity in meeting these demands. The following systems are being or have been developed by the programme: (i) FishBase, the largest and most accessed web-based database for information on marine and inland fish; (ii) The UN Atlas of the Oceans, jointly developed by the UN agencies (led by FAO) and other partners including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a very successful integrated system of information on sustainable use of the oceans; (iii) the Information System for the Promotion of Aquaculture in the Mediterranean (SIPAM), connecting countries of the area in an active exchange of information on the sector; (iv) the Aquatic Animal Pathogens and Quarantine Information System (AAPQUIS), developed in collaboration with the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), a unique and precious support in the battle against fish diseases; (v) The World Fisheries and Aquaculture CD-ROM, coordinated by FIR, integrating information on all aspects of the Department work - an essential component of SOFIA; (vi) the Database on Introduction of Aquatic Species (DIAS), a record of more than 50 years of introduction of alien species and their consequences; and (vii) GISFISH, the new-born Geographical Information System for Fisheries, a foundation for a global clearinghouse of spatially structured information on fisheries and aquaculture. In addition, FIRMS, the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System, developed with the Fishery Information, Data and Statistics Unit as a FIGIS component, has been officially launched linking centres of excellence in a worldwide observatory on resources and fisheries.

423. **Promotion of Responsible Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture.** Eleven publications including technical guidelines and methodologies/studies were produced and 10 technical

workshops and expert consultations were organized during the reporting period to facilitate the implementation of the CCRF with reference to sustainable aquaculture practices and inland fisheries management and aquaculture. Contributions were made through the IMO/FAO/UNESCO-IOC/WMO/WHO/IAEA/UN/UNEP Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP) to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)/UN General Assembly (UNGA) process towards the Global Marine Assessment (GMA). Conclusions and recommendations from the FAO/Mekong River Commission (MRC) International Symposium on Large Rivers were presented to the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Water Forum. Technical guidelines on aquafeed have been adopted and used by governmental agencies and private producers/manufacturers in Asia and Latin America. Technical publications produced were cited extensively by international journals and media. Training manuals and CD-ROMs on simple methods of aquaculture and GIS use in aquaculture and inland fisheries were widely distributed and daily requests were met.

424. **Increased Contribution of Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries to Food Security.** Technical reviews and guidelines have been prepared, to increase aquaculture production and efficiency for food security and poverty alleviation, on subjects such as: aquaculture production intensification; integrating aquaculture with irrigation, rice and livestock; river and lake fisheries; rural aquaculture and aquatic resources management for improved livelihood. During the reporting period, nine publications were produced and eight technical meetings were convened. Special studies were conducted on aquaculture's contribution to improvement of world food security and strengthening of regional cooperation to promote aquaculture development.

425. Outcomes were achieved through endorsement and adaptation of the technical guidelines by national governments and international organizations on sustainable intensification of aquaculture land fisheries production. Regional strategies and guidelines for Africa and central Asia were adopted by member countries to increase the contribution of aquaculture and inland fisheries to rural livelihoods. Technical papers on maintaining and/or increasing production from aquaculture and inland fisheries by mitigation of environmental damage to aquatic resources were delivered and widely cited by various literature and media to address issues on resource use and its contribution to food security. The issue of aquatic animal pathogens and quarantine procedures has been examined in Africa and a network of 15 national experts from six African countries has laid a foundation for further development of capacity-building and south-south cooperation on these issues in the future.

426. **Marine Fisheries Resources Identification and Biodata.** The FAO databases allowing improved identification of commercially exploited fish species has been extended, and its use expanded. Progress has been made in providing proper species identification tools, catalogues and guides particularly for scientists and fish inspectors in member countries to properly identify and report on the species composition of their catches.

427. **Monitoring and Reporting on Global Marine Resources and Relevant Environmental and Ecological Changes.** There is an increased international awareness of the state of exploitation of world marine fishery resources as demonstrated by the results and recommendations of the WSSD regarding the state of living marine resources and the need to rebuild depleted and overexploited fish stocks with specific targets for 2015. This has increased the international demand for advice and information on the assessment and monitoring of the status of world marine fishery resources and related ecosystems. This work is to be continued and to the extent possible strengthened in 2004-05. Also, there is increased international awareness regarding the need to promote an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) in general, and this includes a higher demand for advice and monitoring of the status of the marine ecosystems (from the fisheries point of view).

428. **Assessment and Management of Fisheries Resources.** Work has been focused on promoting the international discussion and providing technical guidelines, reference points and indicators for the implementation of the FAO CCRF and for the EAF, with particular reference to the assessment, conservation and management of marine capture fisheries and related living marine resources and ecosystems. Several emerging issues and recommendations emanating from COFI and other relevant bodies have been addressed, including Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) listing criteria for commercially aquatic species, conservation of sea turtles and fisheries and tuna fishing capacity.

429. **Global Monitoring and Strategic Analysis of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture.** The main activities and achievements centred on regular monitoring and reporting on global and regional status and trends of aquaculture and inland fisheries. Improvements were made in on-line dissemination and data content in support of more informed decision-making and policies. The first two sessions of the COFI Aquaculture Sub-Committee were convened. Nine other meetings were held and 11 publications produced. Work on Aquatic Animal Pathogen and Quarantine Information System has expanded to develop versions for Africa, Americas and the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) region. The state of world inland fisheries resources (FAO Fisheries Circular No. 942 Rev. 1) and the state of world aquaculture (FAO Fisheries Circular No. 886 Rev.2) have been reviewed. A review of bluefin tuna farming and other fish fattening practices was conducted assessing potential, progress and possible problems. Progress was made on the FAO Aquaculture Glossary, Aquaculture Species Fact sheet and National Aquaculture Sector Overview (NASO). A preliminary study on national aquaculture legislation was initiated. Efforts were made to have major FIRI (Inland Water Resources and Aquaculture Service) publications and web-based information in all FAO official languages.

430. **Advice on Marine Resources and Environmental Issues and Aquaculture Development.** Aquaculture and/or inland fisheries have been incorporated as elements of SPFS projects in all regions to provide additional diversification, reduce risk and increase incomes of smallholder farming systems and inland fishing communities. In addition, the programme has implemented and/or assisted in the preparation and implementation of approximately 100 field projects including 12 regional, interregional and global TF projects related to the normative programme's priority areas. These projects increased national capacities, assisted in the preparation of development strategies, guidelines/regulations and policy frameworks, and demonstrated sustainable technologies in aquaculture and inland fisheries or provided technical assistance to member countries in marine fishery resources issues and resource management.

***Programme 2.3.3: Fisheries Exploitation and Utilization***

<b>Regular Programme</b>	<b>US\$000</b>
Programme of Work	8,239
Adjustments to Programme of Work arising out of Budgetary Transfers	(340)
<b>Final Programme of Work</b>	<b>7,899</b>
Expenditure against Final Programme of Work	7,842
Variance of Expenditure (Over)/Under Final Programme of Work	57
Budgetary Transfers as percent of Programme of Work	(4.1%)
<b>Field Programme</b>	<b>US\$000</b>
Extrabudgetary TF and UNDP delivery	1,427
Extrabudgetary emergency project delivery	1,070
TCP delivery	1,953
<b>Total Field Programme delivery</b>	<b>4,450</b>
Ratio of Field to Regular Programme delivery	0.6
Technical Support Services, professional staff cost	959

## Achievements

431. This programme supports improved fish production, utilisation and trade within the framework of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. Emphasis is on reducing environmental impact of fishing gears, promotion of by-catch reduction technologies, and increasing utilization of under-exploited resources. The programme aims at reducing wastage in fisheries and supporting effective and sustainable utilization of fishery resources. The most significant achievements include:

8. awareness of the problems associated with discards and bycatch has been greatly enhanced and is continuing to have an impact on fisheries management;
9. raising awareness of issues related to safety of fishermen has resulted in various regional and international fora taking up the issue;
10. fishing vessel safety codes have been revised with emphasis on small fishing vessels;
11. regional activities on the use of the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) as a tool that could significantly contribute to prevent, deter and/or eliminate IUU fishing were undertaken;
12. countries were assisted in means of reviewing their coastal area and fisheries management programmes to better address social concerns of coastal populations with the ultimate objective of enhancing food and livelihood security;
13. guidance and training has been provided to many developing countries to help them meet the new product safety and quality requirements of the international markets;
14. the Aquatic Food Programme has been launched, where experts contribute fish safety information to an internet database, FishPort;
15. timely marketing and trade information and guidance on the main fish trade issues in collaboration with the FishInfoNetwork have been provided; and
16. the impact of fish trade and food security was studied to provide proper advice on responsible trade promotion policies.

432. **Reduction of Discards and Environmental Impact from Fisheries.** A study to estimate discards in marine fisheries on a global level was conducted. The outcome of the study will have an impact on the management of marine resources. Based on scientific investigations a study on the physical impact of mobile gears on the seabed was carried out. Several countries were supported in the implementation of the International Plan of Action (IPOA) on seabirds.

433. **Sustainable Development of Small-scale Fisheries.** Work has focused on diversification of fishing efforts; safety at sea and disaster preparedness; increased efficiency in post-harvest handling of fish and improvement of market opportunities; research and training on demographic characteristics; and credit for artisanal fishing communities. Attention has been given to gender issues and participatory methodologies. Cooperation with IMO and ILO has led to the revision of the Fishing Vessel Safety Code, which is in the form of Guidelines with a particular emphasis on small fishing vessels which are now extending their operations further offshore.

434. **Increased Production from Under-utilized Aquatic Resources and Low-value Catches.** Several countries, especially in South East Asia and Latin America have improved the production of under-utilized aquatic resources and low-value catches and increased their utilization for human consumption. The work will continue to transfer these successful experiences to other developing countries in Latin America and Africa, especially food deficit countries where low value fish and under utilized resources can be used for human consumption.

435. **Consumption, Safety and Quality of Fish Products.** Guidance and training on Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) and risk assessment was provided to many developing countries, which presently meet most of the safety and quality requirements of the international markets and their obligations under the sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS)/technical barriers to trade (TBT) agreements of WTO. Development of the FishPort database and contribution to the FAO/WHO normative work on risk assessment and fish Codex standards improved international harmonization and consumer protection from fishborne illnesses, as well as fraudulent trading practices and TBT.



436. **Promotion of International Fish Trade.** Timely marketing and trade information, capacity building and guidance on the main fish trade issues, in collaboration with the Fish InfoNetwork, were provided to developing countries, who have experienced an increase in their contribution to international fish trade. The 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade provided a forum for discussing sensitive issues (safety and quality, traceability, market access, eco-labelling, CITES, TBT), which affect international fish trade, and developing a transparent approach to deal with them. The impact of fish trade and food security was studied to provide advice on responsible trade promotion policies.

437. **Support and Advice in Fishing Technology, Fish Utilization and Trade.** Several projects (funded mainly through TCPs and some EB resources) were developed and implemented to assist in the improvement of fish utilization for human consumption, increased fish safety and quality and the promotion of international fish trade, particularly from developing countries. Particular attention was given to domestic food security within the framework of the CCRF. As expected, countries with substantial fisheries were quick to recognise the potential of the use of VMS to tackle IUU Fishing. Hence, FAO's efforts were directed to groups of countries where VMS implementation was just being considered or where VMS could be introduced in a regional context.

#### *Challenges in Fisheries Management*

Fisheries management regimes are increasingly dealing with:

- bycatch and discards problems, although re-evaluation of global discards from capture fisheries shows that these are far less than earlier estimates had indicated or less than 10 million tonnes per year instead of 27 million tonnes;
- safety of fishermen issues;
- VMS in effectively combating IUU fisheries; and
- dealing with international fish safety and quality developments - developing countries are ever more confidently coming to grips with the complicated hygiene requirements of fish importers in developed countries, and their contribution to international fish trade has become highly significant.

#### *Programme 2.3.4: Fisheries Policy*

<b>Regular Programme</b>	<b>US\$000</b>
Programme of Work	9,448
Adjustments to Programme of Work arising out of Budgetary Transfers	(200)
<b>Final Programme of Work</b>	<b>9,248</b>
Expenditure against Final Programme of Work	9,281
Variance of Expenditure (Over)/Under Final Programme of Work	(33)
Budgetary Transfers as percent of Programme of Work	(2.1%)
<b>Field Programme</b>	<b>US\$000</b>
Extrabudgetary TF and UNDP delivery	9,179
Extrabudgetary emergency project delivery	0
TCP delivery	1,190
<b>Total Field Programme delivery</b>	<b>10,369</b>
Ratio of Field to Regular Programme delivery	1.1
Technical Support Services, professional staff cost	1,371

## Achievements

438. This programme focuses on the social and economic aspects of capture fisheries and aquaculture, the analysis of policies and management strategies for the sector and the strengthening of governance in fisheries. The global collection of the relevant socio-economic information and its analysis, as reflected in The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA) 2002 as well as in the reports submitted to FAO's Governing Bodies, Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs), the UN General Assembly and other publications, helped stakeholders reach a better comprehension and identification of existing constraints to the implementation of international fishery instruments. These constraints and related issues were addressed by the WSSD and within FAO Governing Bodies and RFBs, as well in the framework of consultations and workshops, leading to the identification of specific measures and actions.

439. An increased effort was made to assist Members, particularly developing countries, with the implementation of the Code of Conduct and its international plans of action, but also with a view to fostering and strengthening their capacity for sustainable management of fisheries and aquaculture development. This assistance involved stakeholder groups and was provided to countries directly through field projects in response to a growing number of requests, through RFBs or through *ad hoc* partnerships.

### *Combating Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Fishing*

The grave concern of the international community regarding IUU fishing was reflected by the attention given to this issue by COFI at its 25<sup>th</sup> Session (February 2003), the Council at its 124<sup>th</sup> Session (June 2003), and also by the Conference, which adopted Resolution 6/2003 at its 32<sup>nd</sup> Session (November-December 2003). In order to promote and facilitate the implementation of the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU), a number of activities were carried out during the biennium, aimed at implementing the IPOA-IUU (e.g. consultations on open registries and port State measures; programmes in monitoring, control and surveillance) as well as workshops designed to enhance the capacity of Members and RFBs to take the necessary action.

440. **Coordination and Monitoring of the Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.** FAO prepares regular reports to COFI concerning the implementation of the Code, based *inter alia* on collation and analysis of results of self-assessment questionnaires provided by FAO to Members, RFBs and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). For the report presented to the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of COFI (February 2003), 105 FAO Members (57% of the Membership) responded to the questionnaire - an increase in response over the previous reporting period and a marked increase in reporting by Members who had not responded previously. Members in all regions indicated that steps are being taken to facilitate implementation of the Code by:

17. revising fisheries policies and legislation;
18. initiating training and workshops for officials and stakeholders as a means of generating greater awareness of the Code;
19. encouraging partnerships among stakeholders; adapting the Code to local (national and regional) conditions;
20. promoting responsible behaviour by fishers;
21. strengthening fisheries management measures, including community-based fisheries management and monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS);
22. translating the Code into local languages;
23. establishing fisheries cooperatives;
24. facilitating the elaboration of national plans of action (NPOAs) to implement the IPOA-IUU;
25. IPOA-Capacity (management of fishing capacity);

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26. IPOA-Sharks (management and conservation of sharks) and IPOA-Seabirds (reduction of incidental catch of seabirds); and
  27. preparing and distributing newsletters and disseminating the Code among stakeholders and training/education institutions.

441. The report of COFI's 25<sup>th</sup> Session on the Code on Conduct implementation further indicated that there was a significant increase in the number of national fisheries management plans from 2001. In 2001 a total of 52 Members reported having developed fishery management plans for marine fisheries and 38 Members reported management plans for inland fisheries. In 2003, Members reported they have developed a total of 472 marine fishery management plans (74% currently implemented) and 228 inland fishery management plans (72% currently implemented). Despite encouraging efforts to implement the Code and to promote greater responsibility in fisheries, many developing countries are encountering constraints of a technical and financial nature that hamper the pace and direction of implementation.

442. **Promotion of Coastal Fisheries Management.** A better understanding has been gained of how to involve fishers and their communities in the design and implementation of actions aiming to better livelihoods and sustainable fisheries. This understanding stems in part from in-depth, empirical research on the management of small scale fisheries in inland waters of Southern Africa carried out by a multidisciplinary team of African and European researchers during the last decade. In addition, a start has been made on developing practical approaches towards introducing controls of fishing capacity in small and large-scale commercial fisheries. However, the impact will be slow and difficult to link to the activities undertaken under the programme entity. The basic reason is that many millions of fishers are affected and it will take time to achieve agreement amongst them and with public sector administrators on new systems of governance for the sector.

443. **Promotion of Appropriate National/Regional Policies for Sustainable Aquaculture Development.** Information collected and analysed about the role, scope and nature of policies shows that there are many similarities amongst countries in respect of recent policies, particularly amongst market-based economies. Information and policy experiences that are developed under this sub-programme entity are being transmitted to Members *inter alia* through a number of TCP projects (Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Madagascar, Senegal, Uganda, Zambia). However, impacts directly linked to programme entity activities are difficult to isolate. National aquaculture policies change over time and exactly what causes changes may not even be quite clear to those who decide on changes. It is evident however, that particularly in developing countries there is an increasing attention to the costs and benefits - in a wide sense - of the various options in developing strategies and plans for sustainable aquaculture. Such considerations are positive.

444. **Global Analysis of Economic and Social Trends in Fisheries and Aquaculture.** The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2002 and the World Fisheries and Aquaculture Atlas were published at the end of 2002. In the course of the biennium, about 70 Fishery Country Profiles were prepared and/or revised, as were statements on fishery management by country. Four studies projecting future fish consumption were also prepared, and are being reviewed for publishing. There are very few global studies, or studies of global fishery issues, that do not refer to the various editions of SOFIA, or the Atlas. The Fishery Country Profiles are also used, but this is noticed mainly when users complain that they cannot find one of the few countries for which no fishery country profile has been prepared.

445. **Economic and Social Analysis of Fishery and Aquaculture Policy and Management.** Several issues in fisheries of global concern have been studied and reported upon. These include: management of straddling stocks; fisheries subsidies; management of fishing capacity; and the use of buy-backs to manage fishing capacity. Work has also been undertaken to develop guidelines for measurement of fishing capacity; measurement of fisheries subsidies; and schemes for eco-labelling of fish and fish products.

446. **Promotion and Strengthening of Regional Fisheries Bodies and Arrangements and Field Programme Support.** The 25<sup>th</sup> Session of COFI, two meetings of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries Research (ACFR), the third meeting of Regional Fishery Bodies, and several meetings of seven FAO RFBs were organized/supported. These meetings permitted Members to develop coordinated approaches to fishery policy issues and fisheries management and utilization matters. The promotion of the Code of Conduct was carried out in two regional meetings organized specifically for this purpose as well as through the preparation and distribution of technical guidelines and simple language versions of documents designed to facilitate the implementation of the Code of Conduct. Technical support was given to 60 projects, almost two thirds of which were funded by the Technical Cooperation Programme. Slightly more than 30% of staff time in the Fishery Policy and Planning Division was used for this programme entity. A common thread in this effort is the promotion of policies aiming at equitable and sustainable use of aquatic resources. The overall impact of the activities and outputs undertaken in this programme entity is intended to be an improved and more efficient governance of aquatic resource use.

## ANNEX 1

*Completion of 2002-03 Outputs by Major Programme: 2.3 Fisheries*

The 2002-03 PWB identified outputs for implementation under the technical and economic programmes. In the course of programme implementation it is sometimes necessary for modifications to be made in outputs, while others may be postponed or cancelled. New outputs may also be introduced to meet changing circumstances and specific requests. The following table summarizes changes that occurred by output type for the four programmes under Major Programme 2.3: Fisheries. Information on all planned and unplanned outputs is available in the PIR Outputs Database on the FAO Internet site at (<http://www.fao.org/pir>).

Type of Output	Approved in PWB	Cancelled/ Postponed	Unplanned Delivered	Total Delivered	Delivered Unmodified	Delivered Modified	Percent Delivered
<b>231 Fisheries Information</b>							
Coordination and Information Exchange	13	0	1	14	14	0	108%
Direct Advice to Members; Field Programme Support	9	(2)	0	7	7	0	78%
Information (Products, Systems, Databases)	31	(9)	5	27	22	5	87%
International Undertakings, Agreements/Conventions and Standards	4	(1)	0	3	2	1	75%
Methodologies and Guidelines (including Pilot Testing and Demonstration)	5	(2)	0	3	3	0	60%
Studies and Analyses	2	0	0	2	2	0	100%
Training (including training courses and materials)	3	(1)	1	3	2	1	100%
<b>231 Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>(15)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>232 Fisheries Resources and Aquaculture</b>							
Coordination and Information Exchange	26	(5)	8	29	29	0	112%
Direct Advice to Members; Field Programme Support	7	0	9	16	15	1	229%
Information (Products, Systems, Databases)	8	(1)	11	18	18	0	225%
International Undertakings, Agreements/Conventions and Standards	6	(2)	0	4	4	0	67%
Methodologies and Guidelines (including Pilot Testing and Demonstration)	25	(7)	6	24	21	3	96%
Studies and Analyses	9	(2)	10	17	17	0	189%
Training (including training courses and materials)	3	0	0	3	3	0	100%
<b>232 Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>(17)</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>132%</b>
<b>233 Fisheries Exploitation and Utilisation</b>							

Type of Output	Approved in PWB	Cancelled/ Postponed	Unplanned Delivered	Total Delivered	Delivered Unmodified	Delivered Modified	Percent Delivered
Coordination and Information Exchange	10	(1)	2	11	11	0	110%
Direct Advice to Members; Field Programme Support	19	(5)	5	19	19	0	100%
Information (Products, Systems, Databases)	13	(1)	4	16	16	0	123%
International Undertakings, Agreements/Conventions and Standards	0	0	3	3	3	0	0%
Methodologies and Guidelines (including Pilot Testing and Demonstration)	21	(4)	5	22	20	2	105%
Studies and Analyses	10	(2)	4	12	12	0	120%
Training (including training courses and materials)	2	0	2	4	4	0	200%
<b>233 Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>(13)</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>116%</b>
<b>234 Fisheries Policy</b>							
Coordination and Information Exchange	23	(2)	0	21	20	1	91%
Direct Advice to Members; Field Programme Support	10	(1)	7	16	16	0	160%
Information (Products, Systems, Databases)	1	0	0	1	1	0	100%
International Undertakings, Agreements/Conventions and Standards	2	0	8	10	9	1	500%
Methodologies and Guidelines (including Pilot Testing and Demonstration)	3	0	0	3	3	0	100%
Studies and Analyses	13	(2)	6	17	14	3	131%
Training (including training courses and materials)	1	0	0	1	1	0	100%
<b>234 Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>(5)</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>130%</b>
<b>23 Total</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>117%</b>