

Shrimp Aquaculture Dialogue Global Steering Committee Meeting

Key outcomes

March 11, 2010

Jakarta, Indonesia

Participants

- Dominique Gautier – Aqua Star
- Mathias Ismail – OSO
- Marc Le Groumellec -UNIMA
- Sian Morgan – FishWise
- Ernesto Jack Morales - Sustainable Fisheries Partnership
- S.Jahangir Hasan Masum - Coastal Development Partnership
- Leo Van Mulekom – Oxfam NOVIB
- Eric Bernard – World Wildlife Fund
- Corey Peet - Independent consultant
- Merrick Hoben – CBI facilitator

The Shrimp Aquaculture Dialogue’s Global Steering Committee (GSC) met March 11, 2010 to:

- Review key insights and take-aways from the March 9-10, 2010 shrimp Dialogue meeting held in Jakarta, where the draft shrimp standards were presented and discussed
- Clarify the scope of GSC standard setting work
- Build alignment on next steps and work plans
- Clarify resources for support staff and evaluate GSC membership status

Following are brief summaries, by topic, of the key discussion and outcomes.

Jakarta Meeting Insights

Overall, the GSC thought the Dialogue meeting went well, particularly given that meeting participants provided good feedback on the draft standards. However, follow-up work is needed by the GSC to pursue several of the ideas and concerns raised. The meeting was also seen as a good test of GSC leadership, and evidence of the continued need to show credibility, trust, transparency and responsiveness to public input.

Several GSC concerns were also noted:

- Further consideration is needed regarding how to help guide the work to be done by the Aquaculture Stewardship Council in certifying farmers who adopt the shrimp standards
- There is insufficient representation across key stakeholder groups – specifically, farmers, especially small-scale producers
- More discussion is needed around the standards related to feed
- Addressing the feasibility of broad based standards uptake across different countries and levels of production
- The overall need for further outreach with specific stakeholder groups

Fine-tuning the ShAD Scope

The GSC clarified and refined the scope of its standard setting work. Overall, the group agreed that standard setting is a process of continuous improvement aimed at addressing key environmental and social impacts that will be audited at the farm level -- with the expectation that inputs beyond the farm may also be certified in the future. It was agreed that the following statement of scope will be included in future versions of the draft standards.

The ShAD standards aim to certify the responsible operational practices at the farm level. Although the standards operate at a farm scale, the GSC hopes the standards will, ultimately, be used to certify processes with critical social and environmental impact that naturally extend beyond the borders of the farm. The GSC expects that certification of off-farm inputs will be addressed in a proactive and credible way through the continuous improvement of the ShAD standards over time

GSC Team Dynamics: What's Working? What Needs Improvement?

Now that the GSC has passed a major milestone -- formulating draft standards – the group reflected on what is working well and what could be improved in order to complete the GSC's work efficiently and effectively in 2010.

With respect to what's working well, the GSC attributes its current progress to the fact that it is a diverse, productive and fun group, with a commitment to competence and quality. Deliberations have also been managed in a transparent and open manner.

Regarding what needs improvement, the GSC sees the need for enhanced efficiency, fairly shared burden, and ownership of the document as a whole – not just key sections – by the group. There also needs to be better incorporation of input from both Asia, a key region and stakeholder groups (industry and small holders).

Remaining Timeline and Completion Date

The GSC agreed to complete its work in 2010. It is not possible to set an exact final date yet, given dependence on the amount of public comments and how difficult they are to address. The GSC is likely to need at least two months between public comment periods to review feedback received, and an additional two months to finalize the document after the second comment period ends. This implies completion by December 2010.

GSC Vision and Values

The GSC articulated the core vision underlying its work. The following text will be included in the introduction section of the standards document.

Mission and values statement:

Through development of the ShAD standards, the GSC seeks:

- 1) To create a suite of professional, state of the art global standards (not specific to species or production systems) that enhance environmental and social performance at all industry scales;*
- 2) To articulate a “New Accountability Value Chain” that positively influences market demand and is recognized broadly by the full range of industry stakeholders as a substantial improvement beyond the status quo; and*
- 3) To focus standard setting at the farm level to drive immediate change while supporting capacity-building (via the Aquaculture Stewardship Council) to address upstream and downstream impacts beyond the farm boundary through continuous improvement.*

(Note: Upstream = hatchery standards; feed mill standards. Downstream = processing standards; distribution and retail standards.)

Allocation of Remaining Time, Budget and Potential Fundraising Efforts for Support Staff

The GSC discussed how to allocate remaining time and resources for support staff. Priority needs are to draft standards content, facilitate internal communication, and organize/ respond to public feedback.

GSC Membership Status

The GSC discussed its expectations for continued involvement of GSC members. Consistent participation in GSC meetings will be required in order to maintain GSC status. Appropriate screening and understanding of work requirements will be necessary for future GSC members.