



# STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR DEALING WITH SHRIMP INFECTIOUS MYONECROSIS VIRUS DISEASE

Infectious myonecrosis virus (IMNV) is an emerging disease of Pacific white leg shrimp (*Penaeus vannamei*), and is one of only a few internationally important diseases of crustaceans listed by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), owing to its high pathogenicity; its potential for significant economic, social and/or biological impacts on countries that have not as yet been affected by the disease; and the difficulty or impossibility to treat, control or eradicate it once it has been introduced to new geographic areas. The project aimed to strengthen institutional biosecurity governance for dealing with IMNV in six countries: Brazil, China, Ecuador, Indonesia, Mexico and Thailand.



## WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The capacities of national authorities involved in Aquatic Animal Health (AAH) in the six participating countries were considerably strengthened in various aspects of biosecurity governance and AAH management. Knowledge on IMNV and other general aspects of AAH and biosecurity was increased, including good understanding of the elements of an Emergency Preparedness Response System (EPRS) and contingency planning. Guidance was provided on the development of a National Strategy on Aquatic Animal Health (NSAAH); and IMNV country status was clarified. The exchange of information and experiences between Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) was also enhanced. In addition, strong gender equality was achieved during the project, with the percentage of women participating in all events between 39 to 50 percent.

## IMPACT

The project contributed to mitigating and reducing the risks of IMNV and its potential impacts on production, food security and the environment by increasing knowledge on IMNV and strengthening biosecurity governance. As a result, countries now have the ability to monitor IMNV through surveillance, and can provide a more systematic and efficient response to future outbreaks of IMNV.

## KEY FACTS

### Contribution

USD 372 000

### Duration

December 2015 – December 2017

### Resource Partner

FAO

### Partners

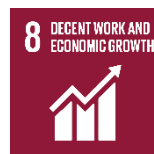
Technical line ministries responsible for the matter in each country

### Beneficiaries

Staff and officials from the competent authorities of counterpart national institutions, shrimp smallholders, hatchery operators, manufacturers/input providers, consumers and other agencies in shrimp aquaculture and development, extension and research

## ACTIVITIES

- Capacity on various aspects of biosecurity governance and AAH management was enhanced.
- An EPRS audit system was developed for the six participating countries.
- Guidelines for developing NSAAH and IMNV surveillance were provided.
- An interregional expert network on IMNV and other shrimp diseases was established.
- An IMNV strategy manual - an important technical element of a national emergency and contingency plan - was prepared.
- Delegates from six countries participated in the Second International Technical Seminar on Acute Hepatopancreatic Necrosis Disease (AHPND), organized by the Technical Cooperation Programme project (TCP/INT/3502), "Reducing and managing the risks of AHPND of cultured shrimp", further increasing knowledge on another important shrimp disease.
- The First Interregional Workshop was held in Beijing, China, focusing on Emergency Preparedness and Response and Contingency Planning.
- The Second Interregional Workshop was held in Natal, Brazil, where, among other things, country and expert experiences were shared with members of the Brazilian shrimp culture industry on important shrimp diseases and other emerging issues affecting aquaculture.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



**Project Code**  
TCP/INT/3501

<http://www.fao.org/fishery/nems/40994/en>  
<http://www.fao.org/fishery/nems/40936/ar>

**Project Title**  
Strengthening biosecurity governance and capacities for dealing with the serious shrimp infectious myonecrosis virus (IMNV) disease

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