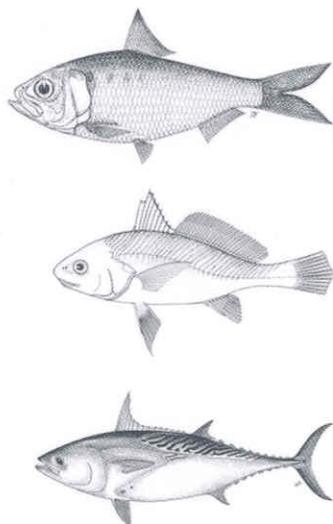


Regional fishery bodies and arrangements in Asia and the Pacific



**Handbook
on
regional fishery bodies
and arrangements
in Asia and the Pacific
2004**

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Bangkok 2004**

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FOREWORD

Although fishery production in the Asia-Pacific region, which accounts for over 63 percent of the world production, continues to rise, a study conducted by FAO on the sustainable contribution of fisheries to food security points to alarming shortages in the near future in a number of sub-regions of this vast area of the world.

In response to this challenge, the 16 members of the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC) unanimously agreed during their Twenty-sixth Session in Beijing (1997) that the Commission, despite budgetary constraints, should continue into the next millennium and endeavour to assist the members to move closer towards sustainable fishery development and management.

Five years later, the Commission is now not just continuing but intensifying its efforts and activities and embarking on a new chapter in its attempt to respond effectively to the changing requirements in fisheries.

A "Regional Consultative Forum" will now be an integral activity of the Commission. To facilitate the work of the forum, the APFIC Secretariat has launched a website and published a handbook on regional and sub-regional fishery bodies and arrangements for the benefit of the APFIC Members. The website[<http://www.APFIC.fao.org>] will link members to other organizations and projects that have an impact on fisheries and aquaculture in the region.

This handbook provides a convenient summary of those bodies and arrangements concerned with sustainable fisheries and aquaculture development in the region. Some of the members of these bodies and arrangements are also members of the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

I trust that this handbook will serve as a useful tool for interested readers. I sincerely hope that the handbook will contribute to the success of the new chapter of APFIC.

Indeed, with substantive contributions and inputs from its members, numerous development and technical partners such as regional fishery organizations, NGOs and other segments of civil society, the Commission offers a unique forum for an Asia-Pacific regional perspective on the outlook and policy implications of fishery in the years to come. This way, FAO is offering an indispensable service for whoever is even remotely interested in fishery and world trends.

He Changchui

Assistant Director-General and
Regional Representative for
Asia and the Pacific

Introduction

Following the adoption in 1982 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and its ratification in 1994, several major international instruments and initiatives relating specifically to fisheries or to aspects of the conservation of aquatic life and environment have been adopted by the international community. The most far-reaching agreements were made at the World Summit for Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002 where it was agreed to:

- By 2004 – Develop and implement national and, where appropriate, regional plans of action to put into effects FAO's International Plan of Action (IPOA) for the management of fishing capacity.
- By 2005 – Develop and implement national, and where appropriate, regional plans of action to put into effects FAO's International Plan of Action (IPOA) to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing;
- By 2010 – Encourage the application of the ecosystem approach [to fisheries].
- By 2015 – Maintain or restore stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield (MSY); and
- Support the sustainable development of aquaculture, including small-scale aquaculture, given its growing importance for food security and economic development.

In addition, on a broader front, the world took on the challenge of meeting the Millennium Development Goals with respect to eradicating extreme hunger, achieving universal education, promoting gender equality and empowering women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing global partnership for development. In particular, with respect to goals relating to fisheries it was agreed to:

- By 2015 – Reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day.
- By 2015 – Reduce by half the number of people who suffer from hunger.
- By 2015 – Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.

Many States, especially developing States, are having considerable difficulties in meeting these targets and many have requested assistance from FAO and regional fishery bodies (RFBs). In response, FAO has paid increasing attention to the role of RFBs, especially in terms of their ability to help bridge the gap between international advice and national responsibilities for fisheries management and decision-making. RFBs can be particularly effective where there are shared stocks and/or shared or common management issues within a region. This publication provides information on their membership, regions of interest, mandates and activities.

Over the past century, more than 40 RFBs have been created. During 1902 -1950, prior to the adoption of the 1982 UNCLOS, RFBs were formed to promote regional harmonization, with emphasis on the gathering of scientific information, and scientific collaboration. During the period that UNCLOS was being negotiated, several RFBs were formed that had a greater advisory role to promote better fisheries management, while those formed after the adoption of UNCLOS have tended to have a much clearer management mandate. However, they all have in common a coordinating function across States that share fish stocks or share common problems.

APFIC is one of the longest standing RFBs in the world. It has recently undergone a major review and is becoming a "Regional Consultative Forum" in support of its members. A new website [<http://www.apfic.org>] will be launched in order to assist in policy formulation and fishery/aquaculture management. This will provide a link to all the organizations, projects and activities that impact on fisheries and aquaculture in the Asia Pacific region.

By definition, APFIC includes initiatives or arrangements whose (i) members of the arrangement are also members of APFIC and/or (ii) members are also members of the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. They are grouped as (i) Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs) (ii) Economic cooperation arrangements and (iii) Coordinating arrangements. Following the scheme already adopted by FAO, the Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs) have been further subdivided into three main categories:

- RFBs that have a mandate for fisheries management and are empowered to establish management measures;
- RFBs that have an advisory role and provide members with scientific and management advice; and
- RFBs that provide scientific advice and information.

RFBs in the first category are those that have a mandate for a single species or species groups that migrate across or straddle State boundaries. Three of these are of little relevance to the main Asia-Pacific region as they only involve one member country (USA and Iran) in areas near the edge of the area of competence of APFIC (loosely defined as the "Asia-Pacific area" under Article XIV of the FAO Constitution). A fourth RFB, the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) with members including Japan, Republic of Korea and USA lies north of 33 degrees in the North Pacific and is probably outside the area of competence of APFIC. This leaves only two tuna commissions (one covering the Western and Central Pacific and the other covering the Indian Ocean) which are the only management RFBs in the Asia-Pacific. In a region that is the largest producer of fishery production in the world, this does not compare well with other regions where more highly developed RFBs are in place.

In the second category of RFBs, which includes APFIC, there is a range of regional and sub-regional bodies. If the Western Ocean Tuna Organization (WIOTO) and the Regional Commission for Fisheries (RECOFI) that only have one Asia-Pacific member (India and Iran, respectively) are excluded, there are four organizations in this category. Some, such as the South Pacific Fisheries Forum (FFA) were formed with a mandate to harmonize fisheries management policies, while the others focus on specific sub-sectors e.g. small-scale coastal fisheries for the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-governmental Organization (BOBP-IGO). The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) has recently provided a forum for ASEAN member States to discuss issues of common interest and build consensus. APFIC is the longest-serving body in the region (being established in 1949) and has undergone several major changes in its functions to accommodate changing priorities and the establishment of other sub-regional bodies. However, these sub-regional arrangements are very patchy, both geographically and in the specific role they undertake.

The third category includes the Coordinating Working Party on Statistics (CWP); the Intergovernmental Organization for Marketing Information and Technical Advisory Services for Fishery Products in the Asia-Pacific Region (INFOFISH); the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific (NACA); and the fisheries section of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). The region seems to be fairly well served in terms of provision of broad scientific advice and information, but it would appear that aquaculture is better served than capture fisheries, especially in the Asian region.

The region has five main economic cooperation arrangements – Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC); Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN); Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC); the Pacific Island Forum (PIF) (formerly South Pacific Forum); and South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Both APEC and ASEAN have fisheries working groups that are active in areas of economic interest, especially trade issues. ASEAN also works in partnership with SEAFDEC. These economic cooperation arrangements may play expanding role in future regional arrangements for fisheries.

There are a larger number of more general coordinating mechanisms that also involve fisheries in their mandate. Several of these are project-based with uncertain future sustainability. These include the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded project on reversing environmental degradation trends in the South China Sea and the Gulf of Thailand (SCS) that falls under the auspices of the UNEP Regional Seas Programme; the Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem project (YSLME); the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem project (BOBLME); and the Implementation of the Strategic Action Plan of the Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS). These coordinating mechanisms include two other broad environmental programmes, one in the South Pacific (South Pacific Regional Environment Programme) and the other in South Asia (South Asia Cooperative Environmental Programme). The Coordinating Body for the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) oversees the implementation of the “East Asian Seas Action Plan” while the more geographically broader organization the GEF/UNDP/IMO Partnership for Environmental Management of the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) has recently launched its “Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia” and coordinating its implementation. In inland waters, the Mekong River Commission (MRC) includes a fisheries section that provides advice and coordination amongst the riparian states of the Mekong River.

On the research front, the “Asia-Pacific Group of Fisheries and Aquatic Research” (GoFAR) is a group of originally thirteen nations and regional and international organizations formed under the auspices of the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI). This is the regional apex body representing the national agricultural research systems in the region. The WorldFish Center provides the secretariat and also conducts research that includes the Asia-Pacific region. Many of the regional fisheries organizations also attend the meetings of GoFAR and provide updates to other participants. The Asian Fisheries Society (AFS) is a scientific society organized for fishery professionals in Asia to communicate, share

information and cooperate with each other. Since its establishment the Society has grown from the fourteen charter members who signed the constitution to over 2,800 members from seventy five countries and territories. It has three national sub-branches (India, Taiwan and Japan), two subject-specific sections, namely the Fish Health Section, and the Asian Fisheries Social Science Section (AFSSRN), and Asian chapters of global societies (like the World Aquaculture Society) which are all active in scientific exchanges, workshops and publication.

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's (IOC) Sub-commission for the Western Pacific and its Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) is an international framework for the systematic acquisition and dissemination of data relating to the past, present and future states of the marine environment. It consists of two parts or modules: a global ocean module concerned primarily with detecting and predicting changes in the ocean-climate system and improving marine services and, secondly, a coastal module concerned with the effects of large-scale changes in the ocean-climate system and of human activities on coastal ecosystems. FAO is a joint sponsor of the coastal module which includes the collection of data on living marine resources. Opportunities for collaboration between GOOS, RFBs, the Regional Seas Programmes and the large marine ecosystem initiatives have been highlighted in the FAO Meetings of RFBs, and in GOOS documents.

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Summary of membership or participation in regional fishery bodies and arrangements

		Regional Fishery Bodies												Regional Arrangements/Networks/Projects																								
		Management Bodies						Advisory Bodies						Scientific Bodies				Economic Cooperation					Environmental/fisheries Arrangements						Science Arrangements									
		IATTC	IOTC	IPHC	NPAFC	PSC	WCPFC	APFIC	BOB-IGO	FFA	MRC	RECOFI	SEAFDEC	WIOFO	CWP	INFOFISH	NACA	SPC	APEC	ASEAN	BIMSTEC	PIF	SAARC	BOBLME	COBSEA	PEMSEA	PSAD	SACEP	SCS	SPREP	YSLME	AFS	IOC/WESTPA	GoFAR	NPRF	PICES	WFC	
South East Asia	Cambodia						X		X	X					X			X					X	X			X					X						
	Indonesia						X				X				X	X		X	X				X	X	X			X				X	X					
	Lao, PDR								X	X					X	X			X				X	X	X			X				X						
	Malaysia	X					X				X				X	X		X	X				X	X	X			X			X	X						
	Myanmar						X				X					X			X	X																		
	Philippines						X				X					X		X	X					X	X			X			X	X						
	Thailand	X					X			X	X				X	X		X	X	X				X	X	X			X		X	X						
	Timor-Leste																																					
Viet Nam						X			X	X					X		X	X					X	X			X				X							
South Asia	Bangladesh						X	X						X	X				X	X		X	X				X											
	Bhutan																		X	X							X											
	India	X					X	X				X		X	X			X	X	X		X	X				X				X							
	Maldives						X							X					X	X							X											
	Nepal						X									X			X	X							X				X							
	Pakistan	X					X								X	X				X							X				X							
	Sri Lanka	X					X	X							X	X				X	X		X	X			X				X							
Other Asia	China	X					X								X		X						X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X					
	Iran	X								X					X																X							
	Japan	X	X		X		X				X						X														X		X	X				
	Kazakhstan																																					
	Korea, DPR						X							X	X										X				X									
	Korea, RO	X		X			X								X			X						X	X			X		X	X	X	X					
	Mongolia																																					
	Tajikistan																																					
Uzbekistan																																						

* States in bold indicate APFIC members

A. Regional Fishery Bodies in the Asia Pacific region

A1. Management Bodies



IATTC

Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission

Establishment	1950 International Convention
Headquarters	La Jolla, California, USA
Address	8604 La Jolla Shores Drive La Jolla CA 92037-1508 USA
Tel /Fax	+1 858 546 7100 / +1 858 546 7133
E-mail	info@iattc.org
Website	http://www.iattc.org
Area of competence	Eastern Pacific Ocean
Membership	Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, USA, Vanuatu and Venezuela
Objectives	“To gather and interpret information on tuna; to conduct scientific investigation; to recommend proposals for joint action for conservation”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Meeting documents and reports▪ Tuna catch reports and statistics▪ Vessel database▪ Research programmes and publications



IOTC

Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

Establishment	1993 International Agreement under aegis of FAO (Article XIV of FAO Constitution)
Headquarters	Victoria, Seychelles
Address	P.O. Box 1011, Victoria Mahé, Seychelles
Tel/Fax	+248 225494 / +248 224364
E-mail	iotsecr@iotc.org
Website	http://www.iotc.org
Area of competence	Indian Ocean and adjacent seas, north of the Antarctic Convergence
Membership	Australia, China PR, Comoros, Eritrea, EC, France, India, Iran, Japan, Korea RO, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Oman, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand and the UK
Objectives	"To promote cooperation among its Members with a view to ensuring, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of stocks covered by this Agreement and encouraging sustainable development of fisheries based on such stocks"
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Meeting documents and scientific committee/ working party reports▪ On-line consultation of authorised vessel record▪ Databases and data related publications



IPHC

International Pacific Halibut Commission

Establishment	1953 International Convention
Headquarters	Seattle, Washington, USA
Address	Room 250, Oceanography Teaching Building University of Washington Campus Bottom of 15 th Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98195-7951, USA For mail use: P.O. Box 95009 Seattle, WA 98145-2009, USA
Tel/Fax	+1 206 634 1838 / +1 206 632 2983
E-mail	info@iphc.washington.edu
Website	http://www.iphc.washington.edu/halcom/default.htm
Area of competence	North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea
Membership	Canada and USA
Objectives	“To coordinate scientific studies relating to the biology, population dynamics and fishery of Pacific halibut; to formulate regulations designed to develop the stocks of Pacific halibut to those levels which will permit optimum yield”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Halibut landing data▪ Description of the halibut fishery▪ License application for halibut fishery▪ Scientific reports and technical reports



NPAFC

North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission

Establishment	1993 International Convention
Headquarters	Vancouver, BC, Canada
Address	Suite 502, 889 West Pender Street Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3B2 Canada
Tel/Fax	+1 604 775 5550 / +1 604 775 5577
E-mail	secretariat@npafc.org
Website	http://www.npafc.org
Area of competence	North Pacific Ocean and its adjacent seas north of 33 degrees North latitude.
Membership	Canada, Japan, Korea RO, Russian Federation and USA
Objectives	“To recommend to the Parties measures for the conservation of anadromous stocks and ecologically related species in the Convention area; to promote the exchange of information on any activities contrary to the provisions of the Convention; to review and evaluate enforcement actions taken by the Parties; and to promote the exchange of catch and effort information and provide a forum for cooperation among the Parties with respect to anadromous stocks and ecologically related species”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Statistical data▪ Species information▪ Scientific Bulletin and technical papers



PSC Pacific Salmon Commission

Establishment	1985 International Convention
Headquarters	Vancouver, B.C., Canada
Address	600-1155, Robson Street Vancouver, B.C. V6E 1B5 Canada
Tel/Fax	+1 604 684 8081 / +1 604 666 8707
E-mail	kowal@psc.org
Website	http://www.psc.org
Area of competence	Northwest Pacific
Membership	Canada and USA
Objectives	“To prevent overfishing and provide for optimum production and to provide for each country to receive benefits equivalent to the production of salmon originating in its waters”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Annual reports and meeting reports▪ Test fishing reports▪ Species status reports



WCPFC

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

Establishment

The Convention on the Conservation and management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean came into force in June 2004.

Headquarters

The Secretariat for the Commission is expected to be based at Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.

Address

Tel /Fax

E-mail

interimsec@isa.org.jm

Website

<http://www.ocean-affairs.com>

Area of competence

Western and Central Pacific

Membership

Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga¹ and Tuvalu

Objectives

“To ensure, through effective management, the long term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks in the western and central Pacific Ocean in accordance with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the 1995 UN Fish stocks Agreement”

Information resources on the web

A2. Advisory Bodies

APFIC Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission

Establishment	<p>1948 (as Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council and changed to Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission in 1976. In 1994, the Agreement was amended again and title changed to Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission).</p> <p>International Agreement under aegis of FAO (Article XIV of FAO Constitution).</p>
Headquarters	Bangkok, Thailand
Address	FAO Regional Office Asia and the Pacific 39 Phra Athit Road, Bangkok 10200, Thailand
Tel/Fax	+66 2 697 4176, 4119 / +66 2 697 4445
E-mail	FAO-RAP@fao.org
Website	http://www.apfic.org
Area of competence	Indo-Pacific area (including inland waters)
Membership	Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China PRC, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea RO, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UK, USA and Viet Nam
Objectives	“To promote the full and proper utilization of living aquatic resources by the development and management of fishing and culture operations and by the development of related processing and marketing activities in conformity with the objectives of its members”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Meeting reports and technical papers▪ Descriptions of fisheries/aquaculture▪ Databases on RFBs, Co-management sites and Contacts to National fisheries agencies

BOBP-IGO

Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-governmental Organisation

Establishment	2003 – as an intergovernmental programme
Headquarters	Chennai, India
Address	91, Saint Mary's Road, Abhiramapuram Chennai 600018, Tamil Nadu, India For mail use: BOBP, Post Box No. 1054, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
Tel/Fax	+91 44 24936188 / +91 44 24936294
E-mail	bobpsy@md2.vsnl.net.in
Website	http://www.bobpigo.org
Area of competence	Bay of Bengal
Membership	Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Maldives
Objectives	“Provide enduring regional cooperation among the Member countries of the Bay of Bengal region for fisheries development that aims at the socio-economic improvement of its fisheries and fish farmers”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Concise version of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in several vernaculars▪ Publications and software



FFA South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency

Establishment	1979 International Convention
Headquarters	Honiara, Solomon Islands
Address	No. 1 PFA Road, West Koalá Ridge Honiara, Solomon Islands For mail use: P.O. Box 629, Honiara Solomon Islands
Tele /Fax	+677 21124 / +677 23995
E-mail	info@ffa.int
Website	http://www.ffa.int/www/index.cfm
Area of competence	South Pacific (Central and West)
Membership	Australia, Cook Islands, Fed. States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Narau, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
Objectives	“To harmonize fishery management policies; to facilitate cooperation in surveillance and enforcement, processing, marketing and relations with third countries; to arrange for reciprocal access by member countries to their 200-mile zones”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Tuna market news▪ VMS guidelines



MRC Mekong River Commission

Establishment	1995
Headquarters	Vientiane, Lao PDR
Address	184 Fa Ngum Road Unit 18, Ban Sithane Neua Sikhottabong District Vientiane 01000 Lao PDR
Tel/Fax	+856 21 262 262 / +856 21 263 264
E-mail	mrcs@mrcmekong.org
Website	http://www.mrcmekong.org
Area of competence	Mekong River Basin
Membership	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam
Objectives	“To promote and coordinate sustainable management and development of water and related resources for the countries’ mutual benefit and the people’s well-being by implementing strategic programmes and activities and providing scientific information and policy advice”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Meeting documents▪ Policy and research papers▪ Interactive information and knowledge system on participatory natural resource management

RECOFI

Regional Commission for Fisheries

Establishment	1999 Under aegis of FAO Council
Headquarters	Cairo, Egypt
Address	
Tel/Fax	+20 2 331660 / +20 2 3373419
E-mail	FAO-RNE@fao.org
Website	http://www.fao.org/fi/body/rfb/RECOFI/recofi_contacts.htm
Area of competence	Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman
Membership	Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates
Objectives	"To promote the development, conservation, rational management and best utilization of living marine resources as well as the sustainable development of aquaculture in the Area of the Commission"
Information resources on the web	



SEAFDEC

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

Establishment

1967

Agreement establishing the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

Headquarters

Bangkok, Thailand

Address

P.O. Box 1046, Kasetsart Post Office
Bangkok 10903
Thailand

Tel/Fax

+662 940 6326 to 6329 / +662 940 6336

e-mail

secretariat@seafdec.org

Website

<http://www.seafdec.org>

**Area of
competence**

Southeast Asian Region

Membership

Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam

Objectives

“To promote sustainable development of fisheries in the Southeast Asian region through research, training and information dissemination”

**Information
resources on
the web**

- Meeting reports and documents
- Digitized Atlas

WIOTO

Western Indian Ocean Tuna Organization

Establishment	1991 International Convention
Headquarters	Mahé, Seychelles
Address	c/o Seychelles Fishing Authority P.O. Box 449, Victoria, Mahé Seychelles
Tel / Fax	+248 224597 / +248 224508
E-mail	sfasez@seychelles.net
Website	http://www.fao.org/fi/body/rfb/WIOTO/wioto_home.htm
Area of competence	Western Indian Ocean
Membership	Seychelles, Mauritius, Comoros and India
Objectives	"To harmonize policies with respect to fisheries; to determine relations with distant water fishing nations; to establish mechanism for fisheries surveillance and enforcement; to cooperate for fisheries development; to coordinate access to EEZs of the members"
Information resources on the web	

A3. Scientific Bodies

CWP

Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics

Establishment	1959 Resolution of FAO Conference (Under Article VI-2 of FAO Constitution)
Headquarters	FAO, Rome, Italy
Address	c/o FAO Fisheries Department Viale delle Terme di Caracalla Rome 00100, Italy
Tel / Fax	+39 06 5705 4828 /+39 06 5705 2476
E-mail	Richard.Grainger@fao.org
Website	http://www.cwpnet.org
Area of competence	All oceans
Membership	Consists of International Organizations: CCAMLR, CCSBT, FAO, ICCAT, ICES, IOTC, NASCO, NAFO, OECD, EU/EUISTAT, SPC and IWC
Objectives	“To keep under continuous review requirements for fishery statistics for purposes of research, policy making, management, aqua standard concepts, definitions, classifications/ methodologies for collection/ collation of fishery statistics”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ CWP Handbook of Fishery Statistical Standards http://www.fao.org/figis/servlet/static?dom=root&xml=tseries/index.xml



INFOFISH

Intergovernmental Organization for Marketing Information and Technical Advisory services for Fishery Products in the Asia-Pacific Region

Establishment	1987 As an intergovernmental organization
Headquarters	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Address	1st Floor, Wisma PKNS Jalan Raja Laut, P.O. Box 10899 50728 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia
Tel/Fax	+603 26914466 / +603 26916804
E-mail	infish@po.jaring.my / infish@tm.net.my
Website	http://www.infofish.org
Area of competence	Asia-Pacific
Membership	Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Korea DPR, Malaysia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Thailand
Objectives	“To provide marketing information and technical advisory services to the fishery industry of the Asia-Pacific region”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Marketing information▪ E-classified ads▪ On-line registration to Importers/Exporters Database



NACA Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia-Pacific

Establishment	1980 (as FAO-UNDP project); in 1990 as an Intergovernmental Organization
Headquarters	Bangkok, Thailand
Address	P.O. Box 1040, Kasetsart Post Office Bangkok 10903 Thailand
Tel /Fax	+66 2 5611728-9 / +66 2 5611727
E-mail	naca@enaca.org or pedro.bueno@enaca.org
Website	http://www.enaca.org
Area of competence	Asia-Pacific region
Membership	Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong SAR, India, Korea DPR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. Other participating non-member governments include Indonesia, Iran, Korea RO, Lao PDR and Singapore
Objectives	“To promote rural development through sustainable aquaculture. Core activities are i) Capacity building through evaluation and training, ii) Collaborative research and development through networking, iii) Development of information and communication networks, iv) Policy guidelines and support to policies and institutional capacities, and v) Aquatic animal health and disease management”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ On-line aquaculture forums▪ eNews on aquaculture▪ Events and training information



SPC Secretariat of the Pacific Community

Establishment	1948 International Agreement
Headquarters	Noumea, New Caledonia
Address	BP D5, 95, Promenade Roger Laroque Anse Vata, 98848 Noumea Cedex New Caledonia
Tel / Fax	+687 262000 / +687 263818
E-mail	spc@spc.int
Website	http://www.spc.int
Area of competence	South Pacific, south of the Equator
Membership	American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, UK, USA, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna
Objectives	“To provide a regional service which provides information, advice and direct assistance to the Pacific Community through SPC member governments, either individually or collectively, in using living marine resources in the most productive and responsible manner possible, in particular through fisheries stock assessment, marine ecosystem research, small-scale tuna fisheries development support, coastal fisheries management support and fisheries information and databases throughout the area of competence”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Publications and meeting reports▪ Free software of Economic Farm Models▪ Information on tuna ecology and biology▪ Online fisheries address book

B. Other selected entities carrying out activities relating to fisheries and other aquatic resources

B1 Economic Cooperation

	<p>APEC Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation</p>
Establishment	<p>1989 (Fisheries Working Group created in 1991)</p>
Headquarters	<p>Singapore</p>
Address	<p>35, Heng Mui Keng Terrace, Singapore 119616</p>
Tel/Fax	<p>+65 6775 6012 / +65 6775 6013</p>
e-mail	<p>info@apecsec.org tth@mail.apecsec.org.sg (for fisheries working group)</p>
Website	<p>http://www.apecsec.org.sg</p>
Area of competence	<p>The Pacific and Pacific Rim countries</p>
Membership	<p>Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong SAR, Indonesia, Japan, Korea RO, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Taiwan POC, Thailand, USA and Viet Nam</p>
Objectives	<p>General: to give trade liberalization and economic cooperation further impetus and high-level commitment, to develop a spirit of community in the region and to promote sustainable growth and equitable development.</p> <p>The Fisheries Working Group focuses on i) the conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources, ii) sustainable development of aquaculture and habitat preservation, iii) development of solutions to common resource management problems, iv) the enhancement of food safety and quality of fish and fisheries products, v) sector-specific work relating to trade and investment liberalization and facilitation.</p>
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting reports ▪ APEC newsletter and publications



ASEAN

Association of South East Asian Nations

Establishment	1967 (ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Mechanism was established 1998)
Headquarters	ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta, Indonesia (The ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG is hosted by the SEAFDEC Secretariat)
Address	70A, Jalan Sisingamangaraja Jakarta 12110, Indonesia
Tel/Fax	+6221 726 2991/724 3372 +6221 739 8234/724 3504
E-mail	public@aseansec.org secretariat@seafdec.org (for FCG)
Website	http://www.aseansec.org http://www.seafdec.org (for FCG)
Area of competence	The ASEAN region
Membership	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam
Objectives	“General: To accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development and to promote peace in the region. The ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG currently undertakes efforts; i) to regionalize the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, ii) fish-trade and environment, iii) information collection for sustainable pelagic fisheries for food security in the ASEAN region, and iv) 5-year programme on Sustainable Fisheries for food security – with a current emphasis on fisheries management projects.
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Trade statistics and country profiles▪ Transnational issues and functional cooperation▪ Publications



BIMSTEC

Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand Economic Cooperation

Establishment	1997. The Bangladesh-India-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation (BIST-EC) was established in 1997. The name of the organisation was changed to BIMST-EC with the admission of Myanmar in December 1997. Nepal and Bhutan became members in 2003.
Headquarters	Authority resides within the respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs
Address	c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs Sri Ayudhya Road, Bangkok 10400, Thailand
Tel / Fax	+66 2 643-5000
E-mail	interecon04@mfa.go.th
Website	http://www.mfa.go.th/bimstec/bimstecweb/index.html
Area of competence	Linking South and South East Asia
Membership	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand
Objectives	"To promote socio-economic development and create an enabling environment for cooperation in various fields between the member countries in order to enhance the livelihoods of the peoples in the region. Strengthening fisheries development and management by South-South cooperation is a particular theme, for which Thailand is the lead country"
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Meeting reports and documents▪ Multi-sectoral cooperation arrangements



PIF Pacific Islands Forum

Establishment	1972 (known until 27 October 2000 as the South Pacific Forum)
Headquarters	Suva, Fiji
Address	Ratu Sukuna Road Muanikau, Suva, Fiji
Tel / Fax	+679 3312 600 / +679 3305 573
E-mail	info@forumsec.org.fj
Website	http://www.forumsec.org.fj
Area of competence	Pacific Islands
Membership	Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
Objectives	"To promote regional cooperation among member states through trade, investment, economic development and political and international affairs"
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ A Reference Handbook for Forum Island Country Exporters



SAARC

South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation

Establishment	1985
Headquarters	Kathmandu, Nepal
Address	P.O. Box 4222, Kathmandu Nepal
Tel /Fax	+977 1 4221794, 785 / +977 1 4227033
E-mail	saarc@saarc-sec.org
Website	http://www.saarc-sec.org
Area of competence	South Asia
Membership	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
Objectives	“Economic cooperation and trade encompassing a focus on environment (e.g. development of the Maldives Coastal Plan)”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Regional profiles and publications

B2. Environmental/Fishery Arrangements



BOBLME

Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem

Establishment**Headquarters**

Chennai, India

Address

91, St. Mary's Road Chennai 600018
India

Telephone

+91 44 24936387

Fax

+91 44 24620761

E-mail

boblme@vsnl.net

Website

<http://www.fao.org/fi/boblme/website/index.htm>

Area of competence

Bay of Bengal

Membership

Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand

Objectives

"To provide a comprehensive framework for and identify the specific actions required to address the priority trans-boundary problems in the Bay of Bengal. Potential national and regional investment, technical assistance and capacity-building interventions will be identified to improve the management of the living marine resources and of the health of the BOBLME as a whole for the continued sustainable use of the Bay by future generations"

Information resources on the web

- National reports
- Workshop reports

COBSEA

Coordinating Body for the Seas of East Asia

Establishment	Action plan adopted in 1981.
Headquarters	Bangkok, Thailand
Address	Regional Coordinating Unit for the East Asian Seas Action Plan UNEP, United Nations Building Rajdamnern Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand
Tel / Fax	+662 288 1670, 1860 / +662 281 2428
E-mail	Jiang.unescap@un.org
Website	http://www.unep.org/unep/regoffs/roap/easrcu/index.htm
Area of competence	East Asian Seas
Membership	Australia, Cambodia, China PRC, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Korea RO, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam
Objectives	"Implementation of the East Asian Seas Action Plan - originally a Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution by Dumping"
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Meeting reports and technical papers



PEMSEA

Partnership for Environmental Management in the Seas of East Asia

Establishment	1999 (GEF and partner Regional Programme - superseding earlier (1994 to 1999) GEF Regional Programme for Marine Pollution Prevention and Management in the East Asian Seas region)
Headquarters	Quezon City, Philippines
Address	DENR Compound Visayas Avenue, Quezon City, 1101, Philippines For mail use: P.O.Box 2502, Quezon City 1165, Philippines
Tel /Fax	+632 920 2211 / +632 926 9712
E-mail	info@pemsea.org
Website	http://www.pemsea.org
Area of competence	Seas of East Asia
Membership	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China PRC, Indonesia, Korea DPR, Malaysia, Philippines, Korea RO, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam
Objectives	“To support the development of a sustainable regional mechanism that augments the regional commitment to implementation of international conventions related to the protection and management of the coastal and marine environment of the East Asian Seas. The focus is on sustainable use of renewable resources through intergovernmental, interagency and inter-sectoral partnerships”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ One stop information center▪ Young environmentalist hub▪ Regional news▪ Publications, workshops and conference proceedings

PSAP

Strategic Action Program of the Pacific Small Island Developing States

Establishment	1998
Headquarters	Apia, Samoa
Address	South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme P.O. Box 240 Apia, Samoa
Tel / Fax	+685 21929 / +685 20231
E-mail	sprep@sprep.org.ws
Website	
Area of competence	Pacific Small Islands Developing States
Membership	Cook Islands, Micronesia, Fiji, Kirbati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
Objectives	"To conserve and sustainably manage the coastal and ocean of the Pacific Region"
Information resources on the web	



SACEP

South Asia Cooperative Environmental Programme

Establishment	1982
Headquarters	Colombo, Sri Lanka
Address	#10, Anderson Road Colombo – 5, Sri Lanka
Tel /Fax	+941 589787/+941 589369
E-mail	info@sacep.org
Website	http://www.sacep.org
Area of competence	South Asia
Membership	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
Objectives	“To promote and support the conservation and management of the environment, both natural and human, in the Member States of the South Asian Region in a co-operative manner, to achieve sustainable development”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Meeting reports and documents

SCS

Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and the Gulf of Thailand

Establishment	January 2002 (in development since 1996) A GEF Project implemented by UNEP.
Headquarters	Bangkok, Thailand
Address	Project Coordinating Unit UN Building, 9 th Floor, Rajadamnern Avenue Bangkok 10200 Thailand
Tel/Fax	+662 288 1886 / +662 281 2428
E-mail	pernetta@un.org
Website	http://www.unepscs.org
Area of competence	South China Sea
Membership	Founding members include Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam
Objectives	"To create an environment at the regional level, in which collaboration and partnership in addressing environmental problems of the South China Sea, between all stakeholders, and at all levels is fostered and encouraged; and to enhance the capacity of the participating governments to integrate environmental considerations into national development planning"
Information resources on the web	



SPREP

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme

Establishment	1995 As a technical and coordinating intergovernmental body on environmental issues in the Pacific.
Headquarters	Apia, Western Samoa
Address	P.O. Box 240, Apia, Samoa
Tel/Fax	+685 21929 / +685 20231
E-mail	sprep@sprep.org.ws
Website	http://sprep.org.ws
Area of competence	South Pacific
Membership	American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna
Objectives	“To promote cooperation in the Pacific islands region and to provide assistance in order to protect and improve the environment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations. SPREP operates two programmes: Island Ecosystems and Pacific Futures, and a wide array of projects on the marine environment”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Publications and reports▪ South Pacific news

YSLME

Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem

Establishment**Headquarters**

Ansan, Republic of Korea

Address

c/o Korea Ocean Research & Development Institute
Ansan P.O. Box 29
425-600 Republic of Korea

Tel/Fax

+82 31 4006000 / +82 31 4085820

E-mail**Website****Area of competence**

Yellow Sea

Membership

China, Korea DPR and Korea RO

Objectives

“To address critical threats to the coastal and marine environment and to promote ecosystem-based management of coastal and marine resources in the Yellow Sea”

Information resources on the web

B3 Scientific Arrangements



AFS Asian Fisheries Society

Establishment	1984
Headquarters	Quezon City, Philippines
Address	Unit A, Mayaman Townhomes 25, Mayaman Street, UP Village Quezon City, Philippines For mail use: P.O. Box 2725, Quezon City Central Post Office 1167, Quezon City, Philippines
Tel/Fax	+63-2 921 1914 / +63-2 920-2577
E-mail	afs@compass.com.ph
Website	http://www.compass.com.ph/~afs or through http://www.worldfishcenter.org/afs
Area of competence	The wider Asian region
Membership	Scientific Society – not a national members organization
Objectives	“To act as a fisheries society for the wider Asia-Pacific region. Holding of a regular tri-ennial forum, holding of symposia, workshops and publication of outcomes”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Fisheries general information▪ Network formation



IOC/WESTPAC

IOC Sub-Commission for Western Pacific

Establishment	1989
Headquarters	Bangkok, Thailand
Address	c/o National Research Council of Thailand 196 Phaholoyothin Road Chatujak, Bangkok 10900 Thailand
Tel/Fax	+66 2 561 5118-9 / +66 2 561 5119
E-mail	westpac@samart.co.th
Website	http://ioc.unesco.org/westpac/
Area of competence	Western Pacific area
Membership	Australia, China, Fiji, France, Indonesia, Japan, Korea DPR, Malaysia, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Tonga, United Kingdom, USA and Viet Nam"
Objectives	"To promote and coordinate programmes that demonstrate and enhance the value of marine scientific research and systematic observations of the ocean in resolving the needs of member states"
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ News and events▪ Publications

GoFAR

The Asia-Pacific Group of Fisheries and Aquatic Research

Establishment	(First Meeting 1998, constitution currently being developed).
Headquarters	GoFAR Secretariat is hosted by WorldFish Center, Penang, Malaysia. GoFAR is a member organization of APAARI
Address	c/o WorldFish Center Jalan Batu Maung Batu Maung, 11960 Penang, Malaysia For mail use: P.O.Box 500, GPO 10670, Penang Malaysia
Tel /Fax	+604 626 1606 / +604 626 5530
E-mail	M.V.Gupta@cgiar.org
Website	http://www.worldfishcenter.org
Area of competence	Asia-Pacific
Membership	Membership is open to the member States of APAARI – participants include: Australia, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Korea RO Lao PDR, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam and invited organizations: APAARI, FAO, NACA, SEAFDEC and WorldFish Center
Objectives	“To promote the fisheries sector within APAARI and provide a network to strengthen regional collaboration on subjects of interest to all participants”
Information resources on the web	

NPRF North Pacific Rim Fisheries

Establishment	1989
Headquarters	Anchorage, Alaska
Address	c/o Alaska Pacific University 725 Christensen Drive, Suite 4 Anchorage, Alaska 99501 USA
Tel/Fax	+907 677 1131 / +907 677 9640
E-mail	PRFisheries.APU@gci.net
Website	http://prfisheries.alaskapacific.edu/
Area of competence	
Membership	Canada, China, Japan, Korea RO, Russia and USA
Objectives	“To promote the exchange of information to the mutual benefit of all pacific Rim nations. Knowledge of changes in the management and use of a country’s fishery, regulatory and business practices, foreign investment, and other market related changes lead toward better management decisions for all fisheries government and business sectors of these nations”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Directory of fishing companies▪ Fishery statistics



PICES

North Pacific Marine Science Organization

Establishment	1992
Headquarters	Sydney, B.C., Canada
Address	<p>c/o Institute of Ocean Sciences 9860, West Saanich Road Sidney, British Columbia, V8L 4B2 Canada</p> <p>For mail use: P.O. Box 6000, Sidney, B.C., Canada</p>
Tel/Fax	+1 250 363 6366 / + 1 250 363 6827
E-mail	secretariat@PICES.int
Website	http://www.pices.int
Area of competence	North Pacific and adjacent seas
Membership	Canada, China, Japan, Korea RO, Russian Federation and USA
Objectives	“To promote and coordinate marine scientific research in order to advance scientific knowledge of the area concerned and of its living resources and to promote the collection and exchange of information and data related to marine scientific research in its area of competence”
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Scientific reports and publications



WFC WorldFish Center

Establishment	1977 (as ICLARM) (Incorporated into the CGIAR in 1992)
Headquarters	Penang, Malaysia
Address	Jalan Batu Maung Batu Maung, 11960 Penang Malaysia For mail use: P.O. Box 500, GPO 10670, Penang, Malaysia
Tel/Fax	+604 626 1606 / +604 626 5530
E-mail	worldfishcenter@cgiar.org
Website	http://www.worldfishcenter.org
Area of competence	Global, with substantial research activities in Asia and the Pacific
Membership	A donor funded Center of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
Objectives	"is committed to contributing to food security and poverty eradication in developing countries through research, partnership, capacity building and policy support on living aquatic resources management"
Information resources on the web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Databases on coral reefs and bibliography of related publications (ReefBase)▪ Fisheries Resources Information System and Tools (TrawlBase)▪ On-line information services▪ Training courses

ASIA-PACIFIC FISHERY COMMISSION
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
30 Pra Athit Road
Bangkok
Thailand