

# Poseidon Newsletter

Autumn 2013

*We hope this short newsletter will be of interest. Thank you to all those who support our work, and to the consultants who have worked for us over the past year. As always, more information and some great photos can be found on our website: [www.consult-poseidon.com](http://www.consult-poseidon.com)*

## UK, Irish and EU fisheries

In Europe, much of our work during the last year has been related to the **reform of the Common Fisheries Policy**. We have been working on several evaluation projects for the European Commission on: the impacts of permanent and temporary cessation schemes under EFF funding; the technical measures regulations in the EU (e.g. gear regulations, area/time closures, minimum landings sizes, and protection of vulnerable non-target species and ecosystems/habitats); the implementation and impacts of the EU IUU regulation; and the socio-economic dependency on fisheries of selected communities in the EU. We have also been doing some interesting economic modelling for the UK industry's Discard Action Group co-ordinated by Seafish, to assess the impacts of the forthcoming discards ban on the profitability and viability of selected fleets in the UK.

In the **Mediterranean** we recently prepared a concept note for a Mediterranean-wide project to replace four ongoing FAO FIRF sub-regional projects in the Mediterranean region. And in Malta we completed a strategic review of the fisheries sector to underpin support we then provided to draft the national operational programme for the new European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). We have also continued to provide independent assessment of financial damages claimed by a tuna farm in Malta following an incident when a vessel collided with the farm.

Our **MSC-related work** in Europe during the last year, working for various certification bodies, has included: full assessments of Swedish rope-grown mussels, Greenland cod/haddock/saithe fisheries, and Dutch North Sea plaice/sole fisheries; inputs to pre-assessments of all significant commercial capture fisheries in English inshore areas; and surveillance



*The Poseidon team*



*Malta fish sector review and EMFF planning*

audits of Swedish Eastern Baltic cod fisheries, and Shetland crab/scallop/mussel fisheries.

We have also facilitated and/or reported on a number of **fisheries and aquaculture related workshops**: the EU CoastGuards Forum (Dublin); EU aquaculture guidelines (in A Coruña); and offshore/marine energy and Maritime Spatial Planning (Dublin).

We are seeing a growth in work related to the EU's **Marine Strategy Framework Directive**, the **Integrated Maritime Policy**, and 'blue growth', and are currently working on related projects in the **Baltic Sea**, **Mediterranean**, and the **Black Sea**. In a similar vein, in **Northern Ireland** we are working with AFBI on the Fisheries Resource Access Mapping Project (FishRAMP) looking at the relative value to fishing of areas restricted by MPA and offshore developments, and in **Scotland** we are assisting Marine Scotland prepare appropriate assessments for aquaculture in coastal and marine conservation areas. We are also providing fisheries advice in relation to the development of the Round 3 Hornsea Zone **wind farm** and the Environmental Impact Assessment for Project One.

Other work in the UK not mentioned above, has included: the UK's ex ante evaluation of the EMFF; work for the UK Fisheries Economics Network on best practice guidelines for the economic evaluation of the fishing industry to inform ongoing requirements for valuations associated with marine development and protection; and a pilot project examining the collection of economic data on the marine aquaculture sector as part of the UK's obligations under the EU Data Collection Framework.

### **The Middle East**

We are continuing to work on a strategic development plan for fisheries and aquaculture in Saudi Arabia, which has included advice on zoning, regulations, and licencing processes. We also recently helped to facilitate a FAO regional workshop on bycatch and marine environmental management in the Gulf region.

### **Asia and the Pacific**

In Asia, our long association of involvement with the fisheries and aquaculture sectors in the **Maldives** has continued with participation in a project design mission for an IFAD-funded mariculture project, and supervision missions for IFAD of two ongoing projects, one on value-chains, and one focusing on fisheries and agricultural sector management and capacity building. Other work in Asia has included ongoing involvement with a number of **Fisheries Improvement Plans (FIPs)**: **Indonesia** tuna (all gears); **Vietnam** tuna; **Vietnam** blue swimming crab; and **Philippines** handline tuna.



*Data collection, and appropriate assessments for aquaculture in Scotland*



*Supporting aquaculture development in Saudi Arabia*



*Maldives fisheries value chain project supervision*



*Philippines handline tuna Fisheries Improvement Plan*



In the Pacific, ongoing or recently completed work funded by FFA has included preparing national plans of action on IUU and strengthening planning tools to support implementation in **Fiji, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu**. We have also completed modelling work to advise on and determine appropriate **purse seine and longline licensing fees** for **PNA countries** and for the **Solomon Islands**, and undertaken a strategic assessment of the **Papua New Guinea** tuna sector to advise on development and management actions. We also completed a number of evaluations for the EU in the Pacific during the last year, including a review of the EU-funded **regional SCIFISH** and **SciCOFish** programmes, and evaluations of possible Fisheries Partnership Agreements (FPAs) between the EU and both **Cook Islands** and **Tuvalu**. Other recent work has included a study to develop aquaculture policy frameworks in the Pacific Region.

**MSC-related work** in the Asia/Pacific region has included: work for CAB MRAG Americas in finalising the assessment for the **Australian** Northern prawn fishery and completing the annual audit for the Spencer Gulf Prawn fishery; as well as completing Poseidon pre-assessments of **Vietnam** longline and handline tuna, **Philippines** handline tuna, and the **Queensland** East Coast finfish gillnet fishery.

### Africa

In Africa, Poseidon staff completed various project design and evaluation assignments during the last year. Poseidon is currently leading an evaluation of possible FPAs between the EU and a number of **East African** countries which involves the preparation of a regional report on tuna in the Western Indian Ocean and country-specific ex ante evaluation reports. We have also provided smaller inputs to other evaluations of EU FPAs with **Seychelles, Liberia** and **Sierra Leone**. Work in East Africa has included: the preparation of the Implementation Completion Report i.e. final project evaluation, for the GEF/World Bank-funded South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project covering **9 countries in the region**; an assessment for the EU of the management requirements and financial viability of proposed aquaculture parks in **Uganda**; and benchmarking of shrimp fisheries in both **Kenya** and **Tanzania** against the MSC standard and the WWF tropical shrimp trawl best practice 'blue print' (previously developed by Poseidon). Further north, and as a follow up to value chain work in Egypt we completed last year, we prepared a project preparation document for possible Danida-support to value-added processing in the **Egyptian** farmed tilapia sector.

### The Americas

Poseidon has carried out two recent studies in the **Caribbean**, one to update the 2005 CARICOM strategy for MCS, and the other to update Belize's fisheries regulations.

**Kind regards from Richard, Rod, Tim, Graeme and Fiona**



*Planning for aquaculture parks in Uganda*



*Farmed fish value chain development in Egypt*



*Suriname small-scale fisheries – Caribbean MCS strategy development*



*Updating fisheries legislation in Belize*

