

# Poseidon Newsletter

Autumn 2012

*We hope this short newsletter will be interesting for those of you who may not be aware of the range of work we have been involved with recently. As always, more information, and some nice pictures, can be found on our website: [www.consult-poseidon.com](http://www.consult-poseidon.com)*

## **Our activities with a cross-cutting or global focus**

The EC **IUU** regulation requires all countries exporting fish to Europe to have a catch certification scheme in place. Working on an EU-funded project contracted through another consultancy company, Poseidon staff completed five missions over the course of last year, to assist countries implement the Regulation so that they don't fall foul of its requirements thereby jeopardising exports. Work was completed in Bangladesh, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Vanuatu and the Federated States of Micronesia to assess the fisheries management regimes, the risks of IUU activities, and the catch certification schemes in place. We have also been working through the ACP FISH II project for the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) to develop a successful and coordinated strategic response to the problem of IUU fishing in the Caribbean region.

We also recently completed two projects for FAO which potentially have a global impact. The first was to provide a background paper and then to facilitate a workshop on **Green House Gas** emissions assessment in the fisheries sector. The second was to contribute to **Fisheries Emergency Guidelines** to be used in post disaster situations e.g. following cyclones, civil wars, tsunamis, to help rebuild the sector based on best practice.

We are currently part of a consortium of companies with a framework contract with the European Commission to undertake evaluations of **Fisheries Partnership Agreements**. Poseidon led an evaluation of the FPA between the EU and Kiribati, and has provided a supporting role to other companies in the consortium for evaluations of FPAs between the EU and the Solomon Islands, Cote d'Ivoire, Seychelles and the Comores.



*IUU fishing reduction in Bangladesh  
(Chittagong trawler)*



*Evaluation of EU/Kiribati Fisheries  
Partnership Agreement (purse seine vessel  
offloading to a carrier)*

## UK, Irish and EU fisheries

In Europe, our work during the last year has largely fallen into three main categories. The first has been our participation in **MSC-assessment certification** teams to assess fisheries against the MSC-standard, and we have completed assessments of Scottish mussels, Dutch plaice, sole and cockles. We are also commencing 'Project Inshore' with the certification body FCI to assess the potential for English inshore fisheries to gain MSC status. A second major area of work remains **EU fisheries policy**, and with CFP reform imminent, we are helping to evaluate the **Data Collection Framework**, and to assess fisheries economic and **socio-economic dependency** in Scotland, France, Spain, and Italy. Finally, we continue to be active in **marine environmental** projects, assessing the value of Marine Conservation Zones to fishing, and working with the fishing industry and developers to assess the impacts of renewables developments and environmental designations on the commercial fisheries sector. This requires valuing fisheries and fishing activities, and given the debate as to how this is done, Poseidon has been an active member of the UK Fisheries Economics Network (UKFEN), and drafted best practice guidelines on appropriate methodologies. Poseidon will also be completing a **fisheries sector review** in October for the Ministry of Resources & Rural Affairs in Malta.



*Kilkeel vessels – assessing the value of Marine Conservation Zones to fishing*

## The Middle East

Poseidon is continuing its long-term engagement with Saudi Arabia's Agriculture Development Fund, to improve the country's management of aquaculture and fisheries. Working with KPMG, Poseidon have now prepared a comprehensive **fisheries sector development plan** up to 2024 and we are currently preparing a proposal to transfer management from the Government to a new agency. We have also completed sector-level feasibility studies for **marine aquaculture zoning**, **aquaculture parks** and **freshwater recirculation farms**.



*Cage farming in Saudi Arabia –fisheries and aquaculture master plan*

## Asia

Work continues in support of several WWF-funded **Fisheries Improvement Projects (FIPs)** in SE Asia. These include: blue swimming crab fisheries in the Gulf of Thailand, Kien Giang, Vietnam and the East coast of Thailand; Indonesian tuna fisheries; and the Sulawesi reef fishery. Additional work has also been undertaken for SFP, in support of the design of a fishery management plan for longtail tuna (tonggol) in Thailand. Poseidon provided a keynote speaker in an FAO APFIC workshop which sought to raise the profile of the FIP process in supporting Asian fisheries management. This was later followed by training support to SEAFDEC staff in FIP design and the preparation of fisheries management plans. We have also prepared **shrimp trawl management plans** in Malaysia, Indonesia and India, with an ongoing commitment from WWF's Smart Fishing Initiative to support an implementation strategy for the Indian west coast trawl fishery. **China's role** in global fisheries trade and fisheries sustainability is vast and still growing. We are working on a



*Skipjack tuna for 'Maldivian Fish' production*



*China's impact on fisheries trade*

WWF-funded project to profile China's involvement in the global trade in fisheries and aquaculture products as a producer, consumer and processor. We have also continued our **project monitoring and evaluation** role in the Maldives having provided consultants for project supervision and Mid-Term Review missions of IFAD-funded projects, and we have also recently participated in the design of a mariculture project there. Poseidon staff also participated in a workshop in Penang on **regional fisheries, environmental and CZM policy** for the BOBLME project.

### The Pacific

Poseidon has been actively involved in **policy and strategic assessment** work in support of Pacific Island country groupings: PNA, MSG and *Te Vaka Moana*. The work has focused on tuna fisheries management, marketing and industry development in 18 countries, supported separately by PNA, FFA Devfish 2 and MFAT (New Zealand), and in partnership with MRAG Asia Pacific. Poseidon staff are proactively engaged in providing economic advice to PNA on licence fee benchmarks for tuna longline and purse seine fisheries. Other Pacific orientated work has included the work on **FPA evaluations** and **catch certification schemes** mentioned above.

### Africa

Our activities during the last year have involved both aquaculture projects and work on capture fisheries. Following a **value-chain study of aquaculture** in Uganda in 2011 to identify the potential for promoting commercial aquaculture, we have recently been commissioned (by the EU) to return to the country to consider in more detail the potential benefits of, and management arrangements for, **aquaculture parks**. We have also completed two assignments in Egypt for the WorldFish Centre focussing specifically on **tilapia farming**; the first was a **value-chain study** which is published in the peer-reviewed journal 'Aquaculture', and the second **an assessment of the market** for Egyptian farmed fish that involved a detailed market segmentation strategy. With respect to wild fisheries, in October this year we will be completing a **final project evaluation** of an EU-funded five-year Lake Victoria fisheries management project, and we have also been providing inputs to a fisheries chapter of an EIA of a nickel mine development on the edge of Lake Victoria. We also have an ongoing long-term engagement in Malawi for the Commonwealth Secretariat to support **improvements in fish product quality and safety**. Most recently we have been commissioned by WWF to start work in October in support of **sustainable shrimp fisheries** in both Kenya and Tanzania.

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



*Strategic development of the South Pacific albacore longline fishery*



*Study of the market for Egyptian farmed tilapia*



*Improving fish quality in Malawi*