

Embargoed until 8 October, 2008, at 18:30 CEST

IUCN, Spanish and European industrial seafood industries team up to address key problems

Background:

The Fisheries and Aquaculture industry is one of the major industries that contributes towards food security at the global level but is also a major food security threat if badly managed. Following several crises linked with the growth in demand for seafood products, together with the oil crisis and longer-term climate change, this industry faces a number of difficulties to meet its sustainable development goals.

Key Issues:

To address the problems associated with industrial-scale seafood production and to further engage the private sector fisheries and aquaculture organisations, IUCN has signed a cooperation agreement with CEPESCA (the Spanish Fishing Confederation) and FEAP (the European Federation of Aquaculture Producers) to work on specific issues related to biodiversity and sustainable use.

Quotes:

"This agreement will allow us to begin to work together with IUCN on issues relevant to scientific data on fisheries, particularly those related to bycatch, and define a framework for the sustainable development of specific fisheries" says **Javier Garrat, Secretary-General of CEPESCA**. *"We will also focus on shark fisheries, the high seas and aim to develop activities, such as an ecosystem-based management approach, to support the sustainable development of Spanish fisheries."*

"This is already the second agreement we have signed with IUCN, the first allowing us to produce guidelines for the sustainable development of Mediterranean aquaculture covering issues such as site selection, management practices and certification" says **Courtney Hough, General Secretary of FEAP**. *"This second agreement will allow us to work more in depth with aquaculture producers in the Mediterranean and Northern Europe to make aquaculture more sustainable. The Secretariat for Fisheries of the Spanish government is supporting these initiatives."*

When and Where:

- Workshop and debate: "Overcoming Hurdles to Sustainable Industrial Fisheries Production"
Wednesday October 8, 16.30 – 18.00, Room 117
- PRESS event with panel including the above personalities: Fisheries and Food Security Press
Event Wednesday October 8, 18.30 – 20.00, Press Room

Materials for the Media:

Web links –

IUCN Global Marine Programme (GMP): www.iucn.org/marine

IUCN Mediterranean centre: www.iucn.org/mediterranean

FEAP: www.feap.info

Spanish Federation of Fishery Organisations: <http://www.feope.com/>

IUCN fisheries page:

http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/marine/marine_our_work/marine_fisheries/index.cfm

Guide for the Sustainable Development of Mediterranean Aquaculture: Interaction between Aquaculture and the Environment:

http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/marine/marine_our_work/marine_fisheries/fisheries_aquaculture_publications.cfm?uNewsID=1219

Spokespersons: François Simard, IUCN Advisor on Fisheries and Maritime Affairs; Javier Garrat, General Secretary of CEPESCA; Courtney Hough, General Secretary of FEAP

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