Extension Service Plan in Action

The MyanMed project finalized the review process of six Best Management Practice (BMP) extension manuals that are due to support the fishery and aquaculture sectors in Myanmar. The topics covered by the six manuals are: marine and freshwater fish hatchery, pond farming, cage farming, fishing boats, fishing gears, and processing & handling.

The BMPs have been prepared following the needs of the fisheries and aquaculture operators that were met during the numerous field surveys, stakeholders’ meetings and surveys carried out by DoF technicians and CIHEAM experts between February and May 2016.

The objective of the BMP is provide a reference guide and support material to the whole fish value chain with a focus on the improvement of the quality of productions, value of the products and to provide a set of correct procedures in compliance with international standards that can ease the access to both domestic and international markets.

The manual were prepared during the months of April-June, were successively reviewed and implemented for their technical aspects in July-September by both DoF and CIHEAM experts.

The English versions of the manuals are currently under translation in Myanmar language and are due to be printed and distributed to farmers, fishermen, operators and processors from the month of November.

A dedicated extension service run by the thirty DoF technicians trained at the IFT in March-June 2016 is due to disseminate the good practices throughout the whole country from the month of November.
Microscope

The Department of Fisheries has shown great interest on integrated aquaculture as a way to boost production and productivity in both the fishery and aquaculture sectors. The driving idea is to use resources more efficiently and to favour income opportunities from new species: shellfish farming, pond loach in paddies, giant river catfish in ponds, aquaponics. With regards of aquaponics, which is the integration of aquaculture with soilless plant production, it particularly suits fish farming and agriculture in dry zones with no environmental impact for pollution and its very limited use of water to grow two crops at the same time. A small demonstration model of such perfect combination of agriculture, fish farming and irrigation was put on display at the DoF boot during the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) forum hold in Nay Pyi Taw on 15-16 July.

News in evidence

The MyanMed National Coordinator Dr Yin Yin Moe presented a paper titled “Gender and Sustainable Growth of the Fishery and Aquaculture Industry in Myanmar” at the 11th AFAF (Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum and Exhibition): Asian Food Security for the World, organized by NACA and hold in Bangkok on 3-7 August 2016. The paper shared the results from the research on the potentialities and issues of the fisheries aquaculture sectors carried out from February to May 2016 by the project team coordinated by the CIHEAM experts. The paper was the first original work presented by the Institute of Fisheries Technology.