

ASEAN Shrimp Good Aquaculture Practice Development

After nearly 3 years of development, ASEAN Shrimp Good Aquaculture Practice or ASEAN Shrimp GAP was endorsed by the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry during its 33rd Meeting on 6 October 2011 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

How ASEAN Shrimp was developed

To develop ASEAN Shrimp GAP, meetings were held involving regional and international experts and representative from public and private sector of AMSs. The three expert workshops have been organized since September 2009 to March 2011. The national seminar in each AMS has also convened to gather inputs from stakeholders particular shrimp farmers who are the user of this standard. In the 3rd Meeting of ASEAN Shrimp Alliance On 9 March 2011 has endorsed the final draft of ASEAN Shrimp GAP and further submitted to 19th Meeting of ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF), 23-25 June 2011 in Cambodia. The ASWGF Meeting endorsed the ASEAN Shrimp GAP and agreed to submit the ASEAN Shrimp GAP to be considered by higher ASEAN authority.



What ASEAN Shrimp GAP comprises

ASEAN Shrimp GAP comprises four modules as recommended in the FAO Guidelines on Aquaculture Certificate with slightly difference in details of each module. The four modules and objectives of each module are as follows.

- 1. Food Safety and Quality:** Shrimp farming will be conducted in a manner that ensure food safety and quality by implementing appropriate national standards and regulations following the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission

2. **Animal Health and Welfare:** Shrimp farming should be conducted in a manner that assures the health and welfare of farmed shrimp, by optimizing stress, reducing shrimp disease risks and maintaining a healthy culture environment at all phases of the production cycle. Animal welfare applies only in so far as it affects animal health.
3. **Environment Integrity:** Shrimp farming should be planned and practiced in an environmentally responsible manner in accordance with applicable national and international rules and regulations. Ensuring environmental integrity requires that environmental impacts of planning, development and operational practices for shrimp farming are addressed.
4. **Socio-economic Aspects:** Shrimp farming should be conducted in a socially responsible manner which does not jeopardize the livelihood of shrimp farmers, and local communities. It should be conducted in accordance with national rules and regulations and where appropriate, relevant International Labour Organization (ILO) guidelines and conventions on labor rights. Shrimp farming contributes to rural development and can enhance benefits and equity in local communities, and alleviate poverty to promote food security. As a consequence, socio-economic aspects should be considered at all stages of shrimp farming, planning and operation.

Next step of ASEAN Shrimp GAP

The ASEAN Shrimp GAP is the voluntary standard; therefore each AMS is encouraged to develop and operate shrimp farming according to this standard. However, regional review on implementation status of AMSs will be conducted every year to provide recommendations on technical cooperation to improve such implementation. In the near future all AMSs will align the national shrimp production standard with ASEAN Shrimp GAP and thus will ensure consumers with the good quality shrimp from ASEAN member states provide to the world market.

