



ASC Standard on Responsible Shrimp Farming

Global/Transnational/International March
2014

2006

The world
Aquaculture

The project's primary subject: Farmed shrimp. Often close to coastal ecosystems, that might include mangrove forests.

Additional focus points of the project: The feed of shrimp might come from wild caught fish. The standard also covers labour, protected areas, protected animals, critical habitats (mangroves, wetlands).

Main governance mechanisms that the project uses: maintenance of existing market access, moral persuasion, best practices

Target market of the resource or product: The Standard claims not to be a niche market, but mainly European retailers sell ASC.

Introduction

The ASC Standard was negotiated in a WWF-led multi-stakeholder initiative that took eight years. The first farms are being certified since November 2014. The main goal is to get 20 percent of the shrimp farming industry to create responsible farmed shrimp.

Actors involved in creating the project: government resource agency national level, international agency (state membership), private corporate (foreign), NGO (transnational), transnational certifying organisation

Actors regulated by the project: small-scale producers, medium-scale producers, large-scale producers

Main goals of the project: maintain/improve forest ecologies, maintain/improve coastal ecologies, protect a specific species/biodiversity protection, pollution control, improve livelihoods, protect/improve working conditions, strengthen community organisations, build corporate brand

Scope of the project:

History of the project:

History of the scheme:

There are more farms getting certified over time.

Is the project currently active?

Yes

Regulation and compliance

Parties that were involved in creating the project:

WWF, IUCN, Oxfam Novib, Sustainable Fish Partnership, This Fish, AquaStar, Bureau Veritas, Sustainable Trade Initiative, Private Company from Madagascar, Other private companies

Who are being regulated by the project:

Shrimp farmers, a separation is made between small-scale, mid scale and large scale farmers.

Means of monitoring compliance:

third-party certification/monitoring by an independent auditor

Monitoring organisation:

Bureau Veritas, Control Union (both certification parties)

Consequences of failing compliance:

expulsion from the scheme/decertification

Assessment of the project*

The ASC standard talks of social issues, not so much on poverty and equity. The 'social' mainly consists of labour issues and the protection of neighbouring communities.

Additional researcher comments:

Sources:

www.ASC-aqua.org

<http://www.worldwildlife.org/pages/creating-standards-for-responsibly-farmed-shrimp>

Semi-structured interviews

1/19/2016

*All assessments of the project are made by the researcher or the authors of the main sources.

