

***Scientific events:* International Conference on Fishery and Aquaculture
“A View Point Upon the Sustainable Management of the
Water Resources in the Balkan Area”, Galati, Romania,
May 26-28, 2010**

The International Conference on Fishery and Aquaculture was organized by the University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati - Faculty of Food Science and Engineering and Balkan Environmental Association (B.EN.A.), in collaboration with the Romanian Academy of Agriculture and Forestry Sciences, Research-Development Institute for Aquatic Ecology, Fishery and Aquaculture, at the Natural Sciences Museum Complex of Galati, between May 26-28, 2010.

The main topics of the conference were focused on:

- Fishery management and technology
- Aquaculture management and technology
- Environmental management in fishery and aquaculture
- Development and management of aquatic resources and their products
- Marine, fresh water and soil pollution – public health protection

The conference was attended by more than 100 experts from Romania, Greece, Bulgaria, Turkey, FYR Macedonia, Serbia, Kosovo, Albania, USA and China, representing senior and young scientists, policy makers, fishing and aquaculture stakeholders and environmentalists. During the two working days, there were presented 130 papers, 32 as oral presentations and 98 as posters. Both oral and poster presentations reached a large area of subjects, like the state of marine environment, water management strategies, water pollution and radioactivity issues, fish stocks, fishery and aquaculture policies, aquaculture systems, fish feeding systems, fodder quality, risks assessment in fishery and aquaculture, fish reproductive issues, fish migration, water eutrophication issues, use of fisheries resources in medicine and pharmacy purposes etc.

A significant part of the conference was devoted to the progress and results of finished or ongoing national and international projects, like FP7 Project of EC – Upgrade Black Sea Scene (UBSS) having the aim to develop and to exchange scientific knowledge and regional cooperation between

institutes for environmental problems and protection, rehabilitation and sustainable development of the Black Sea ecosystem (<http://www.blackseascene.net>).

In order to encourage young scientists and PhD students to participate in international scientific events, eight diploma were awarded to people matching this category of participants, based on the Committee decision: two diploma for the best oral presentation of a PhD student and a young scientist; six diploma for the best poster presentation of three PhD students and three young scientists.

A round table on ***South Eastern European Fisheries: Challenges and Opportunities*** brought together experts in fishery, aquaculture, environmentalists and policy makers (representatives of the National Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture, General Direction for Fisheries – Management Authority for Romanian Fisheries Operational Programme, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, National Institute for Marine Research and Development “Grigore Antipa”, Danube Delta National Institute for Research and Development Tulcea, Balkan Environmental Association (B.EN.A), Department of Aquaculture and Fishing from the Faculty of Food Science and Engineering – University Dunarea de Jos Galati, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee USA, Center for Ecological Consultancy Galati, Don Expert SRL Constanta, S.C. EL GOC Constanta, S.C. PESTOM S.A. Constanta. The conclusions focused on the following aspects:

- the Black Sea lost during the years a significant part of its living resources;
- the Romanian fleet almost disappeared and the present fishing boats are obsolete. Fishing companies will try to restore their boats and to use new fishing technology, asking for more governmental support;
- the Governments have to give more attention to small scale fisheries, along the Black Sea coast it is difficult to develop sustainable marine aquaculture. Small scale fisheries could represent a good economic opportunity for Romania and other countries around the Black Sea;
- building new type of small fishing boats/vessels would provide significant help for fishermen, who need more secure boats, equipped with eco-friendly fishing gears and having processing facilities;
- the companies working in the domain of aquaculture and fishing have great difficulties in applying for EU funds, because bureaucracy makes hard to obtain the licenses required for the application;
- access to information is very important for people involved in the fisheries and aquaculture domain. Data regarding fish stocks and water quality, such as those owned by the National Institute for Marine Research and Development “Grigore Antipa” in Constanta should be made available to

people working in fisheries and aquaculture via websites. This will allow them to make better decisions and take new steps in their business;

- certain legislative aspects are still lacking in the domain. Improved legislation would help stakeholders to start a business in the fishery and aquaculture and to support the existing ones.

- fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders, as well fish processors, exist to provide food for consumers. They should make a new step: to start a dialogue with consumers, which has been ignored till now. It is expected that consumers will buy fish products that are eco-friendly and fair traded. This will continue to increase because of the research claiming benefits of fish oil in human diet. The present global situation, with pollution affecting fish stocks, is a good time for developing an aquaculture business.

It was underlined that experience of some aquaculture farms illustrates the possibility to develop some mixed activities: fish production, recreational activities, eco-tourism and environmental education.

The overall conclusion of this Conference emphasized the necessity to develop much more fishery and aquaculture in the Black Sea in a pragmatic and sustainable way in order to preserve the environment and also to produce the so important healthy sea food for the human nutrition in the coming years. An important role can play the scientific institutions and local authorities, as well as the fish producers, fishermen, etc. They have to collaborate on an organized and controlled basis on new ideas for the future.

In the frame of four thematic sessions from the NIMRD “Grigore Antipa” Constanta specialists presented 17 papers (oral and poster presentations) as authors/co-authors: Dr.Eng. Simion Nicolaev, Dr.Eng. Tania Zaharia, Dr. Eng. Gheorghe Radu, Dr. Eng. Laura Alexandrov, Dr. Eng. Anton Eugen, Dr. Eng. Volodia Maximov, Dr. Alexandru S. Bologa, Dr. Daniela Rosioru, Drd. Mariana Golumbeanu, Drd. Dragos Miscu, Drd. Victor Nita, Eng. Marius Nedelcu, Drd. Dan Vasiliu, Dr. Razvan Mateescu, Drd. Alina Spanu, MSc G. Iordache, Dr. Cornel Ursache, Dr. Valentina Coatu, Dr. Andra Oros, CSIII Camelia Dumitrache.

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