

## MoU FAO / IAMSLIC

### Joint Activities for 2006-07

Status report (Webster, Collins, Bartley, Cosulich)

The MoU between IAMSLIC and FAO outlines three objectives:

- To strengthen the capacity of fisheries and aquatic sciences institutions to organize, access and disseminate information in support of research, management and development in the fisheries sector.
- To support the development and improvement of information bases and information management tools specifically for fisheries and the aquatic sciences and to promote their accessibility to all stakeholders.
- To support global, regional and local networks for information sharing and the use of appropriate technologies which would facilitate improved access to timely and relevant fisheries and aquatic science information.

The MoU includes an Annex which lists proposed joint activities for the current biennium. The following shows progress made under the various activities:

- a) Improve access to electronic full text fisheries and aquatic science publications through promotion of internationally accepted standards, development of local and regional repositories and promotion of Open Access.

*Stephanie Haas surveyed IAMSLIC members on the current state of digital repositories in August 2007. The results from those responding are below. Additional work is needed to identify those not responding. It appears the major repository not using accepted standards is FAO. This has been identified as an issue in the past.*

Institution	Dspace	Digital Commons	Eprints	Fedora	eDOC	Oracle
Woods Hole	x					
Oregon Institute of Marine Biology	x					
University of Connecticut		x				
University of Washington	x					
ODINpub: AFRICA, Latin America now OCEANDocs	x					
University of Hawaii	x					
NOAA	x					
Oregon State University	x					
Humboldt State University	x					
National Institute of Oceanography	x					
Southampton			x			
Freshwater Biological Association						

Alfred Wegener Institute				x		
Mote Marine Laboratory	x					
University of Florida			x			
Max-Planck-Institut fuer Limnologie					x	
ODINPUBAFRICA	x					
<b>FAO Corporate Document Repository</b>						<b>x &amp; ASP</b>
Institute of Marine Research, Bergen	x					

*Jean Collins and Janet Webster distributed 150 (?) copies of FAO Fisheries Circular 1006 that includes recommended digital standard. These went to US fisheries agencies and PICES (North Pacific) institutional members.*

- b) Investigate the creation and development of an IAMSLIC subject repository and metadata harvester. Develop guidelines to facilitate integration and preservation of fisheries and aquatic science literature from developing countries.

*Development of the Aquatic Commons was agreed at the 2006 IAMSLIC Conference with two FAO representatives on the Aquatic Commons Board, namely: Helen Wibley (ASFA Advisory Board); Jean Collins (FAO / IAMSLIC MoU)*

*Publicity of the Aquatic Commons appeared in various venues:  
A chapter on IAMSLIC resource sharing and Aquatic Commons in: Simon Wilkinson, Jean Collins. 2007. Information in support of responsible fisheries and aquaculture. Guidelines on digital publishing: a practical approach for small organizations with limited resources. FishCode Review 20. 82p.*

*A brochure published by FAO FishCode: Aquatic Commons: improving information for responsible fisheries and aquaculture. 2007.*

*A poster presentation at the EURASLIC Conference, May 2007: Targetting European inland fisheries and aquaculture institutions for the Aquatic Commons.*

*A newsletter article: Jean Collins(2007) Information Sharing Via Aquatic Commons FAN: FAO Aquaculture Newsletter, no. 3*

*A blog posting: Jean Collins. Sharing Knowledge in the Aquatic Commons. The Lubin Files, August 27, 2007. Available at <http://lubinlib.typepad.com/index/2007/08/sharing-knowled.html>*

*A conference newspaper article: Janet Webster and Jean Collins. The Aquatic Commons: A New Digital Repository for International Aquatic Information. IFLA Express No. 7, Durban South Africa, 2007 Available at <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/xpress7-en-2007.pdf> [English];*

<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/xpress7-fr-2007.pdf> [French];  
<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/xpress7-es-2007.pdf> [Spanish]

*A conference announcement: Janet Webster and Jane Wu described the project in the IFLA session on AFRINET – a network for African information.*

- c) Improve coverage of and access to fisheries publications from developing countries in the IAMSLIC Z39.50 distributed library system and development of regional resources sharing mechanisms.

*In 2006 a total of 60 libraries in 26 countries included their holdings in the Union List. The African Union List of Marine and Aquatic Serials was developed in 2006.*

*The IAMSLIC Z39.50 Distributed Library is promoted by IAMSLIC through its Membership and Resource Sharing Committees and in publications, conferences and workshops of both IAMSLIC and FAO:*

*FAO Fisheries Library, part of a worldwide network. FAO Aquaculture Newsletter, no. 35, pp. 27-31.*

<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/009/a0595e/A0595E02.pdf>

*Butler, Barbara , Janet Webster, Steven G. Watkins and James W. Markham. 2006. Resource Sharing within an International Library Network: using technology and professional cooperation to bridge the waters. IFLA Journal. 32 (3): 189-199. <http://hdl.handle.net/1957/3842>*

- d) Promote collaboration and networking between fisheries and aquatic science libraries by supporting current IAMSLIC regional groups and encouraging the development of an Asian regional group of IAMSLIC.

*IAMSLIC Membership Committee, chaired by Jean Collins 2005/7, has assisted in the expansion of the Pacific Islands Regional Group to include Australia and New Zealand. Members in Asia were surveyed and informal discussions started on the need for a Regional Group.*

- e) Improve coverage of and access to the metadata of fisheries and aquatic science publications from developing countries through increased coverage in the Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) database. Improve linkages from ASFA to full text Open Access resources with a priority given to FAO fisheries documents.

*Several IAMSLIC members became ASFA partners during 2006, including: Centre National des Sciences Halieutiques de Boussoura, Guinée; Living Aquatic Resources Research Centre, Vientiane, Lao PDR.*

*CSA informed the 2006 IAMSLIC Conference that progress on the linking of ASFA records to the FAO Repository was slow. The search strings provided by FAO to try and overcome the Open URL problem work for approximately 50% of FAO FI serial records (not project documents etc.). CSA is loathe to turn*

*the linking feature on when users would be unsuccessful 50% of the time. FAO was subsequently requested to provide complete search strings.*

- f) Provide expert user feedback from IAMSLIC to the FAO ASFA Secretariat regarding the database and user requirements.

*No requests were made. A representative of the ASFA Secretariat attended the 2006 IAMSLIC Conference in Portland, OR USA and discussed issues with ASFA content and access with various attendees.*