
FAO Regional Workshop on **understanding fisheries support measures in the Asian context**

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China's Review

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Institutional Framework for Fisheries

- There are two levels of fisheries administration in China, at central level and local level.
- Bureau of Fisheries within Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs is the primary administrative body.
- Two other agencies affiliated to Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs:
 - Yangtze River Basin Fisheries Supervision and Administration Office
 - Fisheries Administration Safeguard Center
- China Coast Guard is one of the important agencies for the national marine management.
- Fisheries administrations in the provincial, autonomous regions, municipalities and counties take the initiative in the local areas.
- Other important organisations and institutes serve as the bridge between government, research institute and industry.

Legal Framework of Fisheries Management

- The fisheries sector in China is largely regulated by the *Fisheries Law* which was adopted and entered into force in 1986, and has been amended regularly to address emerging issues in the sector.
- There are about 600 relevant regulations and laws to regulate the fisheries sector in China, which involve fisheries production management, fisheries environment management, fishing vessel and port management, aquatic products quality control, distant water fisheries management, and etc.

Economic Relevance of the Fisheries Sector

- The fisheries sector has a great economic importance in China.
 - Fisheries output value occupies about 10% of agriculture output value, and the consumption of aquatic products provides about 30% of animal protein.
 - In 2022, the fisheries and aquaculture production is 68.66 million tons, with aquaculture production taking up to 81%, and capture 19%.
 - The dominant aquaculture products are fish, shells, shrimp and crab, algae, and etc. The dominant domestic capture products are fish, shrimp and crab, shells, and etc.
 - In 2022, the workforce of fisheries and aquaculture sector is 11.78 million in China, and 50% of them are technical personnel, among whom women occupy about 20%.
 - In 2022, the total import and export volume is 10.23 million tons, with 63% for import.
 - The total import and export value is USD46.7 billion, with about 50% from each.

Types of Support by Government Agencies to Fisheries

- Two important types of financial transfer for the fisheries:
 - Fisheries development subsidies
 - which mainly go to the national marine ranch, fishery equipment and facilities, fishery infrastructure and public facilities, green fisheries development, fisheries resources survey and conservation, and strengthening capacities to implement international instruments.
 - whose beneficiaries are fishermen, new business entities, scientific research institutes, colleges and universities, and other relevant units that meet the relevant requirements and undertake relevant missions.
 - which are transferred by means of “Construction First, Subsidy Second”, “Award in Lieu of Subsidy”, direct subsidy, and discounted interest.
 - Other general financial transfers
 - which are allocated to upgrading local fisheries development, such as the decommission of fishing vessels and job transfer of fishermen, green aquaculture growth, equipment enhancement and maintenance for ports for fishery law enforcement vessels, fisheries informatization, processing and circulation of aquatic products, renovation of legitimate offshore fishing vessels and their onboard facilities, conservation of fisheries resources, and subsidies for fisheries resources conservation efforts of legitimate offshore fishing vessels.

Challenges for Government Support

- Primary challenge: insufficient investment
- China is a major fishing state with a large number of fisheries employees, diverse types of fisheries industries, and demanding management. At present, the central government's financial support in fisheries is limited, making it difficult to meet the needs of industrial modernization.
- It is necessary to better guide and leverage social capital and private sector to actively invest, and promote the formation of a diversified and multi-channel fisheries investment and financing patterns.

•Thanks for Your Attention!