

AQUACULTURE WITHOUT FRONTIERS (UK)

Chairman's Report Annual General Meeting, 26 November 2007

INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared for presentation at the third AGM of the charity Aquaculture without Frontiers (UK).

ADMINISTRATIVE

The office of the charity remains in Marlow.

Scott Peddie was elected a Trustee during the year.

The Charity Trustees are currently as follows:

- Geoff Allan (Australia)
- John Cooksey (USA)
- Michael New (UK)
- William Northcroft (UK)
- Scott Peddie (UK)
- Sophie Emma Louise Varley (UK)

Our third report to the Charity Commission and our third annual return to the Companies Register were submitted by Michael New on schedule.

Reimbursement for tax paid by UK donors up to the end of FY 2006-2007 has been claimed from HM Customs and Revenue and received (see below).

MEETINGS OF THE TRUSTEES

A meeting of the trustees was held, at no cost to AwF, during a meeting of the World Aquaculture Society in San Antonio on 27 February 2007 (Present: Cooksey & New [quorum]).

FINANCIAL & FUND RAISING

The financial report for the year ending 31 May 2007 has been distributed to the members. This section provides some additional explanatory information.

Income

Donations have continued to come mainly from trustees and their families (see below) and from local fund-raising activities but there were the following exceptions.

A grant of £1,500 towards our Malawi project was received from the Kitchen Table Charities Trust, following an initiative by one of our AwF Friends. The European Aquaculture Society (EAS) transferred the remaining €1,100 of its earlier award to AwF; originally part of a grant for student activities within AwF, the EAS board kindly made the balance available for general activities. For the second time an initiative organised by Fish Farmer Magazine and Landcatch (a ‘guess who’ competition matching picture of well-known personalities in aquaculture with pictures of them as babies) raised funds for AwF (over £500).

At this point it is not known if any companies will make grants this year to AwF in lieu of sending Christmas cards or giving presents to staff (two did in 2006). Our agreement with a company selling charity Christmas cards in 2006 failed to raise significant funds for AwF – only two Trustees actually purchased any cards! This scheme has been abandoned.

Local fund raising activities in Marlow, organised by AwF (UK) Trustee Sophie Varley and her husband, raised over £7,200 during the summer of 2007 (about £1,500 more than in 2006) and another £200 during a St. Patrick’s night at a local pub. Two birthday parties for the AwF Chairman raised a further £2,575. Between 1 January and 28 October 2007 AwF (UK) Trustees personally contributed over £700 to AwF. £834 was received from HM Revenue & Customs, being a refund of the tax paid on donations by UK tax payers to AwF during the financial year 2006-2007.

Expenditure

So far, expenditure has been limited to project expenditure and grants, company registrations, bank charges and website establishment and maintenance costs. No expenses have been paid to any of the AwF trustees, who have continued to donate the use of their time and facilities.

PATRONS & SPONSORS

No developments within the year.

WEBSITE

News items have continued to be posted on the AwF website but several technical difficulties have been experienced. The voluntary agreement with George McKee and his daughter has not worked well and the website has remained a significant task for the AwF (UK) Chairman. As this report is being written, the whole website appears to have crashed, making it impossible for me to comment on the number of daily visitors and views this year. However, I do know that the number of daily visitors has several times exceeded 100 this year (last year the maximum was 76 and the previous year it was 55).

FIELD ACTIVITIES

To date, assistance from AwF (UK)¹ has been provided to activities in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Peru and Thailand. Reports about all of our activities have been recorded on the project pages and the news section of our website; they are summarised in Table 1.

Further activities are being discussed for India and new proposals are being actively solicited for examination by our Technical Advisory Committee (Chaired by AwF Trustee Geoff Allan).

NEWSLETTER

The first AwF newsletter was produced by AWF Trustee Scott Peddie and distributed in June 2007. The second, due in September 2007, has been delayed due to unavoidable circumstances.

PUBLICITY

Several articles about AwF have been published in aquaculture magazines, including *European Aquaculture* and *World Aquaculture*.

AwF VOLUNTEERS

The database is now being managed by Joe Tomasso (AwF Director) and now has over 160 names on it. However, we are not really exploiting this significant asset.

¹ And its affiliate, AwF

CONCLUSIONS

AwF activities are currently being undertaken in several countries through grants for joint projects with other NGOs and the provision of technical advice from AwF Volunteers, either in the field or electronically.

Public fund raising activities in England, the main source of our income at present, have been publicised on our website but have failed to provoke other friends of AwF to organise similar events in their home countries.

AwF (UK)² remains a small organisation with considerable (but so far unexploited) potential to assist in the alleviation of poverty in developing countries through small-scale aquaculture.

Respectfully submitted to the Members of AwF (UK), 29 October 2007,

Michael New, OBE
Chairman
Aquaculture without Frontiers (UK)

² And its affiliate, AwF

Table 1. Summary of AwF field activities (updated to October 2007)

LOCATION	PROJECT TITLE or PARTNER	SPECIES & ACTIVITY	BENEFICIARIES	STATUS
BANGLADESH	Caritas	Indian and other carp species; pond culture	14 families (86 members); emphasis on women empowerment	1 year; completed April 2007
	RDRS	Indian and other carps; pond culture	60 farmers/families and four hatchery operators; also involves training for wider audience	4 years; funds transferred; started February 2007
	VOSD	Tilapia; cage culture	35 rural women/families	1 year; completed February 2007
BURKINO FASO	Local charity	Clarius gariepinus	Not known	Provision of technical advice by AwF Volunteers 2006
GHANA	Technoserve	Tilapia, cage culture and ponds	Small farmers cooperative	E-mail and phone advice by AwF Volunteer 2007
HAITI	Dreamspan and Woods Hole Marine Biology Lab	Tilapia, pond culture	Small farmers cooperative	E-mail and phone advice and visit by donors to AwF volunteers lab 2007
INDIA	Bishramganj 1	Indian carps and other indigenous species; improved pond culture technology	30 tribal farmers/families	1 year; completed in 2006
	Bishramganj 2	Continues work of Bishramganj 1 project within integrated watershed management programme	30 original tribal farmers/families, plus 20 more (total fifty)	1 year; completed August 2007 but activities continuing using local funds only. Further proposal for AwF support anticipated
	LACC tsunami relief	Marine shrimp; pond rehab	5 groups, totalling 28 farmers	Grant provided; work completed

INDONESIA	Tsunami #1 YSI (Tambak)	Marine shrimp; pond rehab	426 farming households in three districts of Aceh	Grant provided; work completed
	Tsunami #2 YSI (Hatchery)	Marine shrimp; rehab of 32 hatcheries	2 3 small-scale shrimp hatcheries in Aceh, with consequential effect on seed supply	Grant provided; work completed
	Tsunami #3 Professionals International	Marine shrimp; pond rehab etc	Advice to another NGO working on Aceh tsunami relief	One AwF Volunteer visited & gave advice and another gave email advice; work completed
	Tsunami #4 YSI (Seaweed)	<i>Gracillaria</i> culture	Demonstration of seaweed culture as an alternative activity for tsunami-affected shrimp farmers (numbers not specifically quantified)	17 weeks; postponed several times due to weather conditions; commenced Nov 2006 and on-going
	Tsunami #5 MercyCorps (Technical advice)	Marine shrimp; pond rehab etc	Advice to another NGO working on Aceh tsunami relief	AwF Volunteer gave email advice another volunteer visited site; no costs involved; work completed
	Tsunami 6 YSI – AquaFish CRSP (Sustainable coastal aquaculture)	<i>Gracillaria</i> and marine shrimp polyculture	Continuation and expansion of Tsunami #4; training in seaweed culture; improved seeds; pilot project of <i>Gracillaria</i> & shrimp polyculture (numbers of beneficiaries not specifically quantified but potentially considerable)	Starting February 2007; connected to other AquaFishCRSP & University of Arizona activities being coordinated by AwF Chairman
KENYA	Nutreco/ Wageningen/ EAS Student Activity	Survey of aquaculture potential of Lake Naivasha region	Expected to result in the establishment of hatchery	Six weeks; completed June 2006

LIBERIA	FreeTown Orphanage	Tilapia and catfish in fish pond	Orphanage with desire to add fish pond	E-mail, phone and visit by donors to US-AwF volunteers lab 2007
MALAWI	WorldFish Center-Malawi	Improvement in fingerling availability and capacity building of small-scale fish farmers	Establish core group of fingerling producers and train 350 fish farmers in integrated aquaculture-agriculture	1 year; funds transferred; started February 2007
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	ACIAR, etc.	Workshop	Training in small-scale poultry & aquafeed manufacturing	Participation by AwF Volunteer 2006
PERU	INADERU	Technical advice	Poverty alleviation in Andean area	Provided by AwF volunteer 2006
THAILAND	World Vision	Training in fish breeding (tilapia and catfish) and production of low-cost fish feeds	Expansion of existing World Vision training activities to a new area of NE Thailand	2006-2007 activity coordinated by an AwF Director; work completed, including a farm-made feed manual in English & Thai