

Farmers and indeed whole communities in these Asia Pacific nations have resisted the expansion of shrimp farms. Protests and resistance have met with threats, imprisonment and death. In Bangladesh, there are estimates that up to 100 people have been killed resisting aquaculture. Corporations and governments continue to be determined to promote the "Blue Revolution". In fact, as Asian coastlines are being used up, there are moves to promote aquaculture along Africa's coastlines. There is hope, however. Whole communities in Bangladesh have successfully resisted shrimp farming. The Indian Supreme Court has banned the expansion of shrimp farms on their coasts.

Aquaculture leads to devastation of the environment, loss of livelihood, and ultimately for those who resist, human rights abuses.

Effective long-term management of communal resources must:

- be sustainable
- maximize employment
- maximize tax revenue.

Communities must regain control of their traditional land base to ensure their own viability as communities.

Links to the official APEC Process:

The Multilateral Agreement on Investment will effectively promote vertical integration of the fishing industry, expand aquaculture and disenfranchise coastal communities throughout the Asia Pacific region.

Outcomes of the Workshop:

Emerging Alternatives

- Consumer education emerged as the primary way to change current corporate trends.
- International coalitions must share knowledge and recent history as aquaculture continues to expand.
- Think global, eat local. There is a need to abandon large-scale export markets and focus on local production and consumption.
- "Take a break from shrimp" - by not buying farmed shrimp, consumers break the cycle of aquaculture expansion.
- Identify or reaffirm links between the north and the south - there are strong connections between salmon and shrimp aquaculture. Fish feed for the farms on the Canadian west coast come from the south.
- Linking aquaculture and health issues will probably have no bearing on consumption patterns. Historically, consumers have not altered consumption patterns in the beef and dairy industry even though they are aware of the use of antibiotics and growth hormones.
- Collective research will strengthen the message and continued coalition work will strengthen the voice.
- In discussing alternatives, we must question whether the alternatives work to change or support current structures.