



The 12th *International Conference on* **FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE** **ICFA 2025**

"Applying Food Systems Approach: Towards Harnessing the Full Potential of Fisheries and Aquaculture"

16th & 17th September 2025 || Nha Trang, Vietnam

CONFERENCE REPORT

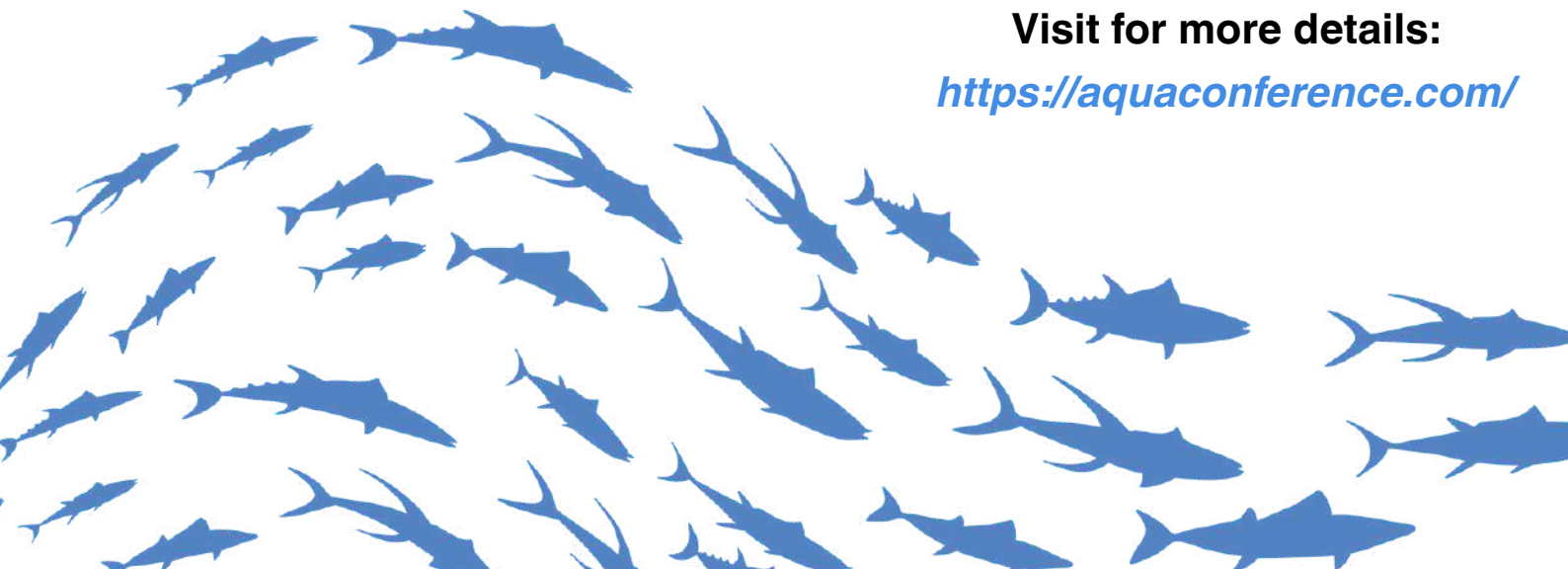


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Visit for more details:

<https://aquaconference.com/>



Dear ICFA Community,

We are delighted to present the post-conference summary of the 12th International Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture (ICFA) 2025, held from September 16th – 17th, 2025, in Nha Trang, Vietnam.

Held under the theme “Applying Food Systems Approach: Towards Harnessing the Full Potential of Fisheries and Aquaculture,” ICFA 2025 served as a premier global platform dedicated to advancing sustainable practices, fostering international collaboration, and driving innovation within the fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

The conference brought together a diverse community of global experts, policymakers, researchers, and practitioners to address pressing challenges such as resource sustainability, climate resilience, and equitable access to aquatic resources. Discussions emphasized bridging gaps across pre-harvest and post-harvest stages, strengthening value chains, and promoting inclusive participation in the sector.

Aligned with the FAO’s “Blue Transformation” roadmap and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ICFA 2025 underscored the importance of applying a holistic food systems approach to shape a resilient, equitable, and sustainable future for global fisheries and aquaculture. Through impactful dialogue and shared expertise, the conference reaffirmed its commitment to advancing the global agenda for sustainable aquatic food systems.



Conference overview

TOTAL ABSTRACTS

298

PARTICIPANTS

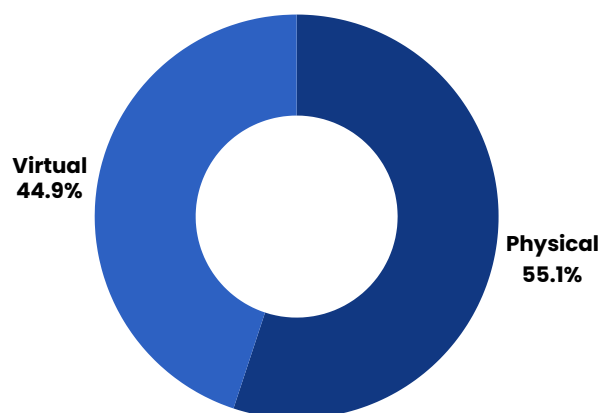
138

COUNTRIES

28

PARTICIPANTS VARIATION

● PHYSICAL DELEGATES	41
● PHYSICAL STUDENTS	22
● PHYSICAL ATTENDEES	24
● VIRTUAL DELEGATES	30
● VIRTUAL STUDENTS	41



Peak Engagement :

Sessions Held: 15 Physical Technical Sessions & 12 VIRTUAL Technical Sessions

Aqua Q&A Session

Keynote Speeches

Plenary Speeches

Open Networking Space: Under the topics Joint Research & Collaboration

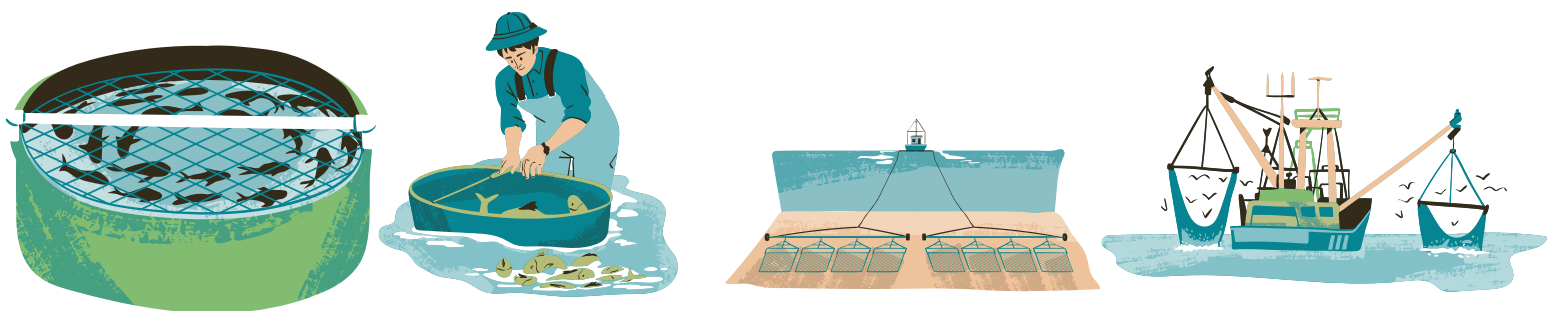
Workshops

Research

Paper Presentations

Key highlight of the conference was the extensive range of high quality research papers presented by seasoned academics, students, practitioners and industry representatives. These contributions underscored the conference's commitment to academic excellence and real-world applicability, offering insights that bridged theory, policy, and practice. Paper Presentations covered a broad spectrum of topics, including, but not limited to;

Sustainable Aquaculture and Fisheries Management
Aquatic Food Security, Nutrition, and Global Integration
Economic Viability and Market Development
Climate Resilience and Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management
Policy, Governance, and Global Collaboration
Technological Innovations and Digital Transformation



Sessions were structured to encourage critical engagement, with many presentations followed by in-depth Q&A segments, encouraging meaningful dialogue among participants. In addition to standard Q&A, each technical session included a dedicated time slot known as Technical Dialogue, a structured discussion space designed to promote collective reflection and cross-presentation synthesis. These segments provided an opportunity for presenters to engage in shared discussions on emerging themes, methodological challenges, and policy implications raised by the session's papers.

Priority SDGs:

The ICFA Conference Series remains firmly committed to advancing the objectives of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and the **Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) "Blue Transformation"** initiative. Through evidence-based dialogue, innovative research, and actionable insights, each session, paper, and technical discussion was designed to not only raise awareness but also contribute meaningfully to achieving sustainable, resilient, and inclusive aquatic food systems worldwide.



Theme: “Applying Food Systems Approach: Towards Harnessing the Full Potential of Fisheries and Aquaculture”

ICFA is organized by The International Institute of Knowledge Management (TIIKM) based in Sri Lanka, serves as a dynamic platform that bridges **Global South–South collaboration** while bringing valuable **Global North knowledge** to the table. With a strong representation from Global South nations, ICFA promotes dialogue, shared learning, and innovation among regions with diverse challenges and opportunities in fisheries and aquaculture. At the same time, the inclusion of Global North perspectives enriches the discourse with advanced research, technology, and policy insights. This cross-regional exchange not only strengthens capacity and fosters mutual understanding but also builds long-term partnerships aimed at creating a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable global fisheries and aquaculture sector.

Global Reach

This year, ICFA welcomed submissions from over **50 countries** across Asia, Africa, Europe, and beyond. The most significant number of papers came from Asia, underscoring the region's growing academic engagement. Reflecting global reach, the conference welcomed participants from over **26 countries**, including:



Many **universities, Institutions and Industries** were represented, and the participant pool was equally diverse in roles and expertise including, University leadership (Presidents, Deans, Heads of Departments), Faculty members and academic researchers, Doctoral and postgraduate students, Civil service professionals, Social, community activists and Industry leaders.



Special Features

The conference offered a rich array of special features designed to balance academic rigor with practical, real-world application. These included insightful keynote addresses, dynamic plenary sessions, interactive panel discussion, and hands-on workshops. In addition, exclusive networking spaces were thoughtfully curated to foster meaningful connections and collaborative opportunities among participants. Together, these elements created a comprehensive experience that engaged participants across disciplines and sectors.

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES



**ASSOC. PROF. GIORGIA
GIOACCHINI**

"Probiotics in Aquaculture: Bridging Health, Reproductive Success, and Adaptation to Environmental Stressors"

Assoc. Prof. Giorgia Gioacchini
Dipartimento di Scienze della Vita e dell'Ambiente (DISVA)
dell'Università Politecnica delle Marche
Italy



DR. LE ANH TUAN

"Potential contribution of seaweed cultivation to eutrophication mitigation in CONCENTRATED marine farming areas of Vietnam"

Dr. Le Anh Tuan
Department of Aquaculture Technology
Institute of Aquaculture
Nha Trang University
2 Nguyen Dinh Chieu Str., Nha Trang, Vietnam



DR. JESPER CLAUSEN

"Formulating aquaculture feed. Is sustainability a “nice to have”?"

Dr. Jesper Clausen
Group Director for Research & Development Aller Aqua Group, Denmark



DR DORIS SOTO

"Facing Climate Change in Aquaculture: from Risk Assessment to the Selection of Best Adaptation Options"

Dr Doris Soto
Principal Scientist
Interdisciplinary Center for Aquaculture Research
INCAR
Universidad de Concepción Concepción _ Puerto Montt
CHILE



DR. MELBA G. BONDAD-REANTASO

Dr. Melba G. Bondad-Reantaso
Team Leader for Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UN Vietnam

PLENARY SPEECHES



**PROFESSOR IKE
OLIVOTTO**

"NEW TECHNOLOGIES APPLIED TO AQUACULTURE: FEED PRODUCTION, WATER SAVING AND FOOD LOSS MANAGEMENT TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY"

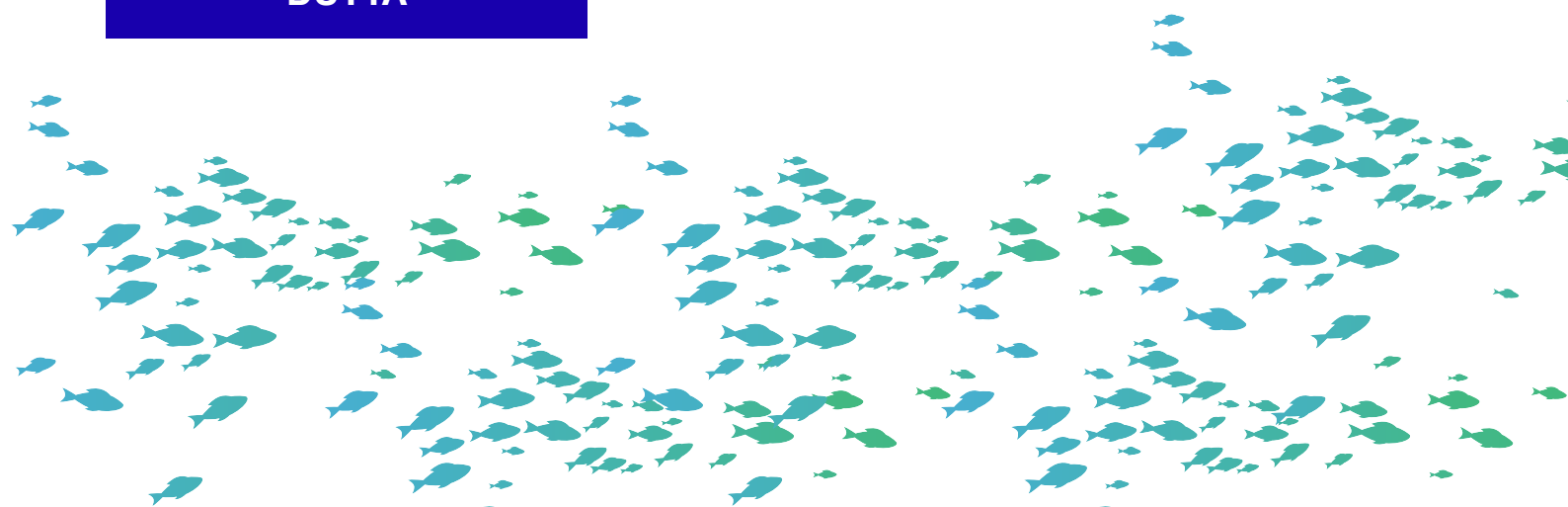
Professor Ike OLIVOTTO
Professor of Aquaculture
Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, Italy



**DR. SACHINANDAN
DUTTA**

"Artificial Reefs and Fisheries: Towards a Sustainable Approach"

Dr. Sachinandan Dutta
Assistant Professor
Department of Marine Science and Fisheries
College of Agricultural and Marine Sciences
Sultan Qaboos University
Oman



WORKSHOP

“The Mathematics of Ornamental Fish Keeping: The Rule of Two-Half’s”



Professor of Aquaculture and International School Coordinator, School of Molecular and Life Science/Faculty of Science and Engineering, Curtin University, Malaysia



Techno-entrepreneur and founder President of Ornamental Fisheries Training and Research Institute (OFTRI)

AQUA Q & A

The Aqua Q&A marked the final segment of the 12th International Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture (ICFA) 2025, bringing together all conference speakers for an engaging and interactive discussion. This dynamic session provided a platform for researchers, policymakers, and industry representatives to exchange ideas, address key challenges, and explore future directions in fisheries and aquaculture. Serving as a fitting conclusion to ICFA 2025, the Aqua Q&A embodied the conference’s spirit of collaboration, innovation, and collective progress toward sustainable aquatic food systems.



BOOK LAUNCH

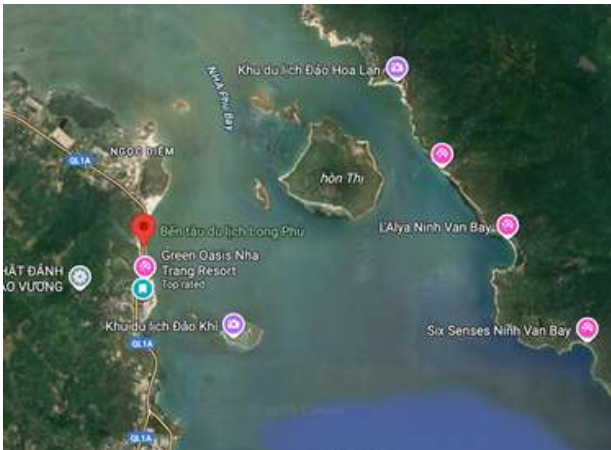


DR. ATUL JAIN

Techno-entrepreneur and founder
President of Ornamental Fisheries
Training and Research Institute
(OFTRI)

POST CONFERENCE TOUR

- Guided visit to the Long Phu Harbor (Bến tàu du lịch Long Phú)
- Explored marine fish aquaculture in a scenic coastal setting (Motorboat ride to the Floating Farm)



- **Discovered In-land Hatchery Operations**
(To learn about simple and effective environmental enrichment practices for marine fish at early life stages)



PARTNERSHIPS, NETWORKING & COLLABORATIONS

Collaborations and Networking were at the heart of ICFA 2025. The conference featured a variety of opportunities for presenters and attendees to connect, including the exclusive Partner Networking Space which ran across all two days. An Open Networking Space on Day one created room for engaging dialogue among participants and resource people, while informal interactions during breaks and meals added further opportunities to form lasting professional relationships. These platforms positioned ICFA as a hub for cross-sector and cross-border collaboration in the field of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

MOU SIGNING CEREMONY

- **Mindanao State University (MSU) – General Santos, Philippines**

At the 12th International Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture (ICFA) 2025, held on 16–17 September in Nha Trang, Vietnam, Mindanao State University (MSU)-General Santos, Philippines signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with TIIKM, officially joining as an academic partner for ICFA 2026. The signing was led by Mr. Isanka P. Gamage, Dr. Christen P. Peñafiel, and Dr. Marjorie Villanueva, the country coordinator for Partnerships in Philippines marking a significant step towards fostering collaboration and advancing research in fisheries and aquaculture.



INVOLVEMENT OF PARTNERS:

ICFA 2025 was honored to have the support of 19 Academic and Strategic Partners representing institutions from Global North to Global South. Their active involvement greatly enhanced the academic depth and diversity of the conference, making them integral to its overall success.

Name	Partnership	Coordinator
Nha Trang University,	Co-Hosting Partner	
Curtin University, Malaysia	Academic Partner	Dr. Ravi Fotedar
Marine and Fisheries	Academic Partner	Fenny Crista A. Panjaitan,
University of the Philippines	Academic Partner	Dr. Imee Rose
University Politecnica delle	Academic Partner	Dr. Giorgia Gioachchini
Southern Leyte State	Academic Partner	Dr. Ian and Ms. Ingrid
Asian Institute of	Academic Partner	Dr. Salin
Northern Iloilo State	Academic Partner	Dr. Marjorie A. Villanueva
Iranian Shrimp Research	Academic Partner	Dr. Aghil Dashtiannasab
Marinduque State	Academic Partner	Asst. Prof. Jholey Rose L.
Carlos Hilado Memorial	Academic Partner	Ms. Imee R. Perante
Mindanao State University-	Academic Partner	Ms. Niña Mae Borromeo
Eastern Samar State	Academic Partner	Ms. Therese Toriano
Camarines Norte State	Academic Partner	Mr. Santillan
Iloilo State University of	Academic Partner	Dr. Dennis K. Gomez
State University of Northern	Academic Partner	Ms. Abegail A. Gelantaga
Don Mariano Marcos	Academic Partner	
Cebu Technological	Academic Partner	Dr. Anthony S. Ilano
Aquaculture Magazine, USA	Media Partner	Mr. Salvador Meza

CO-ORGANIZERS



SSAFC



**Nha Trang University,
Vietnam**



TIIKM

ACADEMIC PARTNERS



**Davao Oriental State
University, Philippines**



**World Aquaculture
Society, Asian Pacific
Chapter**



**Vidyasagar
University, India**



**Northern Iloilo State
University,
Philippines**



**University
Politecnica delle
Marche, Italy**



**Marine and Fisheries
Polytechnic of
Jembrana, Bali,
Indonesia**



**Curtin University,
Malaysia**



**Animal Biology
Division, Institute of
Biological Sciences,
University of the
Philippines Los Baños**



**Asian Institute of
Technology (AIT),
Thailand**



ADRI, Indonesia



**Camarines Norte
State College,
Philippines**



**Politeknik Kelautan
dan Perikanan
Jembrana**



**Iloilo State University
of Fisheries Science
and Technology
(ISUFST)**



**Carlos Hilado
Memorial State
University,
Philippines**



**State University
of Northern
Negros,
Philippines**



**Mindanao State
University
General Santos**



**Don Mariano
Marcos Memorial
State University,
Philippines**



**Eastern Samar
State University,
Philippines**



LINEAR



**Cebu Technological
University,
Philippines**

OFFICIAL MEDIA PARTNER



Aquaculture Magazine

PRE CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

The Pre-Conference Photography Contest was conducted as a special segment of the 12th International Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture (ICFA) 2025. The primary objective of this initiative was to foster engagement among researchers, practitioners, students, and local stakeholders beyond conventional academic papers and presentations, thereby bringing vibrancy and creativity to the conference.

Photographs submitted from multiple countries were curated and displayed as an exhibition at the conference venue, accompanied by narratives that captured the stories and contexts behind each image. This initiative not only highlighted diverse perspectives but also emphasized the intersection of science, community, and visual expression.

The contest was juried by an esteemed panel of judges:



Prof. Dr. Wang Changsong
Dean, School of Communication,
Xiamen University, Malaysia
Chairperson, the 5th International
Conference on Media Science and
Digital Communication (MSDC)



Prof. Kenneth Kim
Department of Culture Contents,
Hanyang University, Republic of Korea
Chairperson, the 5th International
Conference on Media Science and
Digital Communication (MSDC)

PRE CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST WINNERS:

FIRST PLACE: MR. RAJESH DHAR, INDIA

Narrative:

Low tidal fishing

A lone fisherman residing by the river 'Matla' in West Bengal casts his yellow net into the shallow green waters near a muddy sandbar revealed by the receding tide. The contrast between the textured earth and the calm ripples of the water captures a quiet, rhythmic moment of traditional life along the riverbank — a scene of resilience, simplicity, and harmony with nature. The fishermen live a tough life with the tides of the river. During the low tide they fish to feed their family.



FIRST RUNNER-UP: FAHREZA AHMAD, INDONESIA

Narrative:

Fisheries Potential

Fishermen start working from 02.30 am and return before dawn to sell their catch, in Lhok Seudu Bay, Aceh Province of Indonesia. With 81,000 kilometers of coastline and around 3.1 million square kilometers of marine area, Indonesia's marine fisheries potential has not been fully utilized. Whereas Indonesian fish resources are the assets towards to national prosperity if managed in a sustainable manner.



SECOND RUNNER-UPS: MR. MARK LIONEL, PHILIPPINES

Narrative:

Life in Tawsan

Early in the morning at Tawsan Mangrove Forest in Danao City, Cebu, children eagerly search for seafood, such as hatching octopus, highlighting the vital connection between local communities and their natural environment. This scene underscores the importance of preserving mangroves, which serve as crucial nurseries for marine life, protect shorelines from erosion, and support biodiversity. Sustainable aquaculture practices in these areas not only ensure a steady food supply for future generations but also maintain the ecological balance essential for healthy coastal ecosystems. Protecting mangroves is therefore key to both environmental conservation and the livelihood of local families.



SECOND RUNNER-UPS: DR. IRFAN AHMAD, INDIA

Narrative:

The Journey of Sustainability: From Eggs to Alevins – Trout Hatchery, Kashmir Himalaya

Nestled in the serene foothills of the Zabarwan Range, at the Faculty of Fisheries, SKUAST-K, Jammu & Kashmir, India, a quiet revolution in sustainability begins—one fish at a time.

At our trout hatchery, the process starts with the careful manual mixing of gametes from Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). Just one female can yield nearly 2,000 eggs, while milt from only 1–2 males is sufficient to fertilize them, potentially producing 1,500–1,800 healthy adult fish.

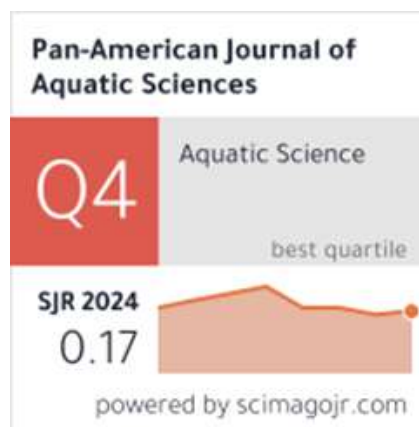
This image, captured in super macro mode, highlights the earliest stage of life—newly hatched alevins still nourished by their yolk sacs. It reflects not only the delicate beginnings of aquatic life but also a powerful story of sustainable aquaculture. The shared yolk and clustered growth of these alevins represent resilience, cooperation, and a kind of biological "survival mode" that sustains life even before first feeding.



PUBLICATIONS

The 12th International Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture (ICFA 2025) offered a variety of publication opportunities for participants to further disseminate their research. Below is a summary of the post-conference publication options and services available to attendees:

SPECIAL ISSUES



REGULAR ISSUES



CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Participants were offered the opportunity to publish their full papers presented at ICFA 2025 in the conference proceedings. Full papers submitted for the proceedings underwent a double-blind peer-review process. The selected papers were published electronically in an open-access format, indexed in Google Scholar, Semantic Scholar, OpenAlex, Scilit, and Crossref:

ISSN: 2386-1282 (Online)

Publishhelp Service

A range of services were offered to support the publication process, including:

- **Preliminary Paper Inspection**
- **Plagiarism Report**
- **AI Writing Index Report**
- **Personalized Guidance**
- **Journal Recommendations**
- **Journal Guidelines**

These services were provided to participants at no additional cost, ensuring that their papers met publication standards and had the best chance of being successfully accepted by journals.

Special Gratitude

The coordination between **MDPI Animals Journal** and **TIIKM Publishing** was facilitated by Professor Ike Olivotto, Professor of Aquaculture at **Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, Italy**. His contribution was instrumental in providing a publication slot for participants in the **Animals Journal**.

PRESENTATION AWARDS

ICFA 2025 saw a significant number of paper submissions, with several outstanding works selected for presentation. Presenters were assessed by an expert evaluation panel based on a comprehensive set of criteria, including research quality, field contribution, originality, and time management. Final decisions regarding the award recipients were made under the careful oversight of the Conference Chair. Presenters were awarded under Session Best, Best Poster, Student Best and Overall Best categories, separately in physical and virtual platforms.



Physical Awardees List:

SESSION BEST PRESENTERS

PRESENTER	AFFILIATION	COUNTRY
Dang L	Curtin University, Australia, Vietnam	Vietnam
Leovigildo Rey S	Northern Iloilo State University, the Philippines	Philippines
Peñañiel, C.P	Mindanao State University	Philippines
Huynh Nguyen Duy Bao	Nha Trang University, Vietnam	Vietnam
Petrukhina OA	RUDN University, Russian Federation	Russian Federation
Thi Thanh Thuy Dao	Curtin University, WA, 2Research Institute for Aquaculture, Vietnam	Vietnam
Mo W.Y	Hong Kong Metropolitan University, Hong Kong	Hong Kong
Bang SY	Kyungpook National University, Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Pirnat I.	Telematics, EMA, Slovenia	Slovenia

Physical Awardees List:

BEST POSTER PRESENTER

Kim YK

Kyungpook National University,
Republic of Korea

Republic of Korea

BEST STUDENT PRESENTER

Abekoon A.M.S.R.1

Wayamba University of Sri
Lanka

Sri Lanka

OVERALL BEST PRESENTER

Randazzo B

University of Bologna, Italy

Italy



Virtual Awardees List:

SESSION BEST PRESENTERS

Bernardo F. J. C.	Mindanao State University-General Santos, Philippines	Philippines
Gupta Aditya	Gupta Aditya University of Agder, Norway	Norway
Eliver, E.D.S.	Mindanao State University – General Santos City	Philippines
Samanweera J.M.N.D	Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka
Hansamalee W.N.	Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka
Soliven, Cjay B.	Iloilo State University of Fisheries Science and Technology	Philippines

BEST STUDENT PRESENTER

Premarathne M.D.G.C.	Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka
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BEST POSTER PRESENTER

Maradonna F	Department of Life and Environmental Sciences (IRBIM), Italy	Italy
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OVERALL BEST PRESENTERS

George Edward	Ambattur Industrial Estate, India	India
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all participants, speakers, resource people, partners for their invaluable contributions to the success of ICFA 2025. Your engagement and support made this conference a truly memorable experience.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR,

CO-CHAIRS



DR. ROHANA SUBASINGHE

Honorary Life Member of the World Aquaculture Society, Honorary Life Member of the Asian Fisheries Society, Past President of the World Aquaculture Society – Asia Pacific Chapter (WAS-APC). Retired Chief of FAO Aquaculture Service Co-founder and Director, FUTUREFISH Co. Ltd., UK



DR. KRISHNA R. SALIN

Associate Professor and Chair, Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources Management (AARM), Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand; Immediate-Past President of the World Aquaculture Society – Asia, Pacific Chapter (WAS-APC)



Dr. Romi Novriadi, S.Pd.Kim., M.Sc

Vice Chairman of Indonesia Aquaculture Society Lecturer at the Jakarta Technical University of Fisheries Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia

STEERING COMMITTEE



PROF. RAVI FOTEDAR

Professor of Aquaculture and International School Coordinator, School of Molecular and Life Science/Faculty of Science and Engineering Curtin University, Malaysia



PROFESSOR IKE OLIVOTTO

Professor of Aquaculture Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, Italy



PROF K. PANI PRASAD

Former Dean (ER) & Principal Scientist,
ICAR - Central Institute of Fisheries Education,
Mumbai, India, Former Professor & Head, College
of Fisheries, Agartala



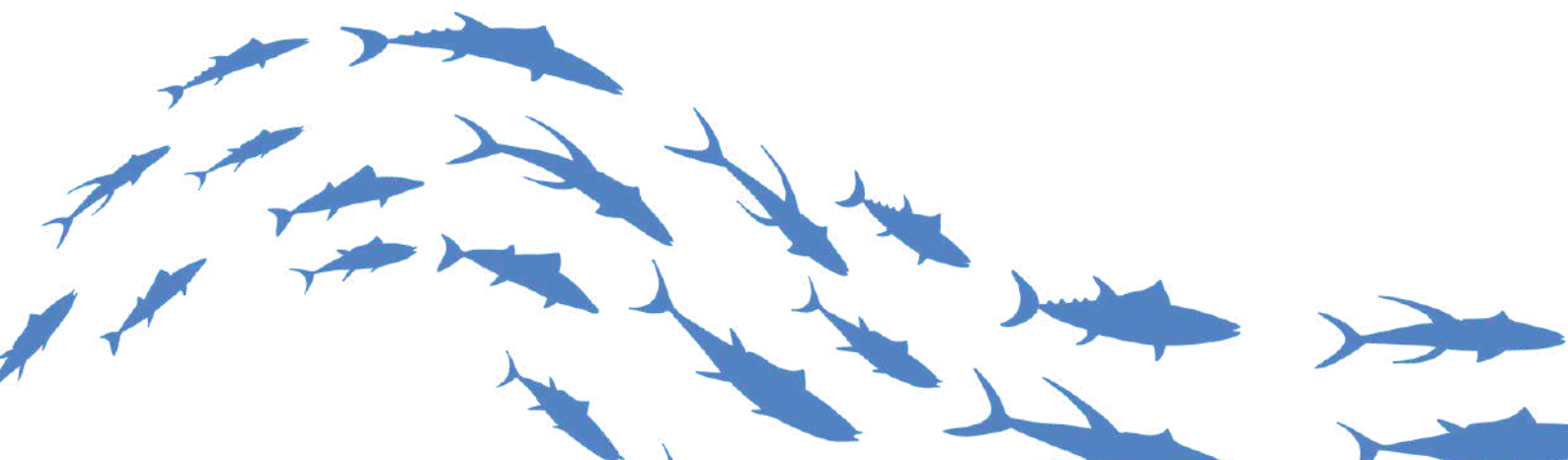
THI THANH THUY DAO (PHD)

Research officer,
Research Institute for Aquaculture No.3,
Vietnam



ASSOC. PROF. DR. LE MINH HOANG

Research officer,
Research Institute for Aquaculture No.3,
Vietnam



CONCLUSION & FUTURE OUTLOOK

ICFA 2025 was a resounding success, made possible through the dedicated participation of researchers, professionals, policymakers, and industry leaders from around the world. Together, we explored the evolving landscape of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, discussed transformative food system approaches, and shared research and innovations that will influence future practices and policies in the sector.

As we look ahead to ICFA 2026, we are inspired to build on this momentum. The upcoming edition will continue to emphasize interdisciplinary collaboration, foster stronger Global South–South partnerships, and integrate Global North expertise to further advance knowledge exchange and sustainable development. Our vision is to strengthen ICFA’s role as a premier platform driving global dialogue, innovation, and actionable solutions for the fisheries and aquaculture community.

Most importantly, we’re listening!

Your feedback is invaluable, and we are carefully reviewing your reflections to bring meaningful improvements. Whether it’s enhancing engagement opportunities, refining session formats, or amplifying emerging voices in the field, your insights will help us create an even more impactful and inclusive conference experience.

We remain deeply committed to making ICFA a dynamic, inclusive, and forward-thinking platform that continues to shape the future of sustainable aquatic food systems.

With gratitude,

Organizing Committee

The 12th International Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture (ICFA) 2025

We'll see you next
year in **Malaysia!**

