

# Stakeholder Consultation Workshop

Shrimp Health and Welfare

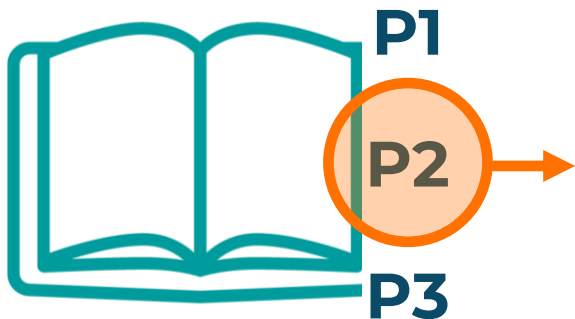
September – October 2023



**Setting The  
Standard for  
Seafood**

# Project objective

## ASC Farm Standard



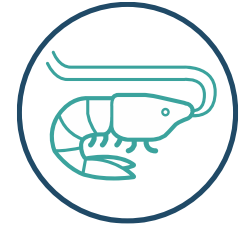
- 2.14 Fish Health and Welfare
  - 2.14a Fish Health and Welfare
  - 2.14b Fish Health and Welfare – Handling
  - 2.14c Fish Health and Welfare – Slaughter
- 2.16 Veterinary therapeutants



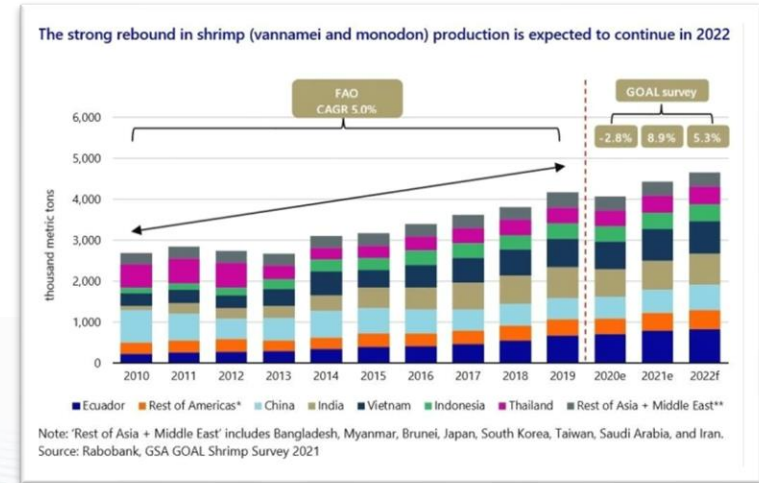
# Background information

## Alignment process: ASC Farm Standard

**Shrimp is the most important commodity, by value, in the international seafood trade.**



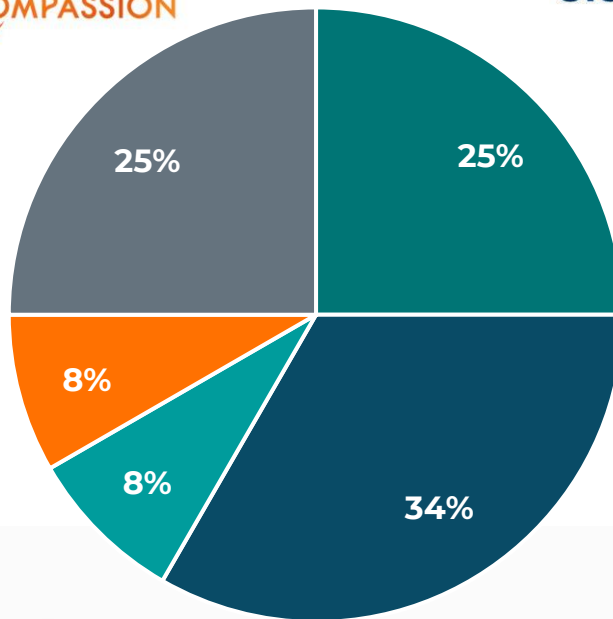
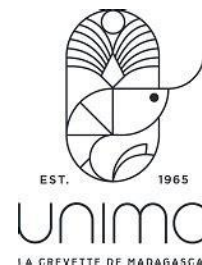
- Shrimp industry has grown exponentially in the last decades
- Growth is expected to continue for the years to come
- Success of the shrimp sector is closely linked with sustainable and responsible shrimp farming practices
- Good health and welfare throughout their lifecycle
- Finfish health and welfare was prioritised over shrimp H&W
- Shrimp needed a Specific Technical Working Group (TWG)



# Shrimp TWG

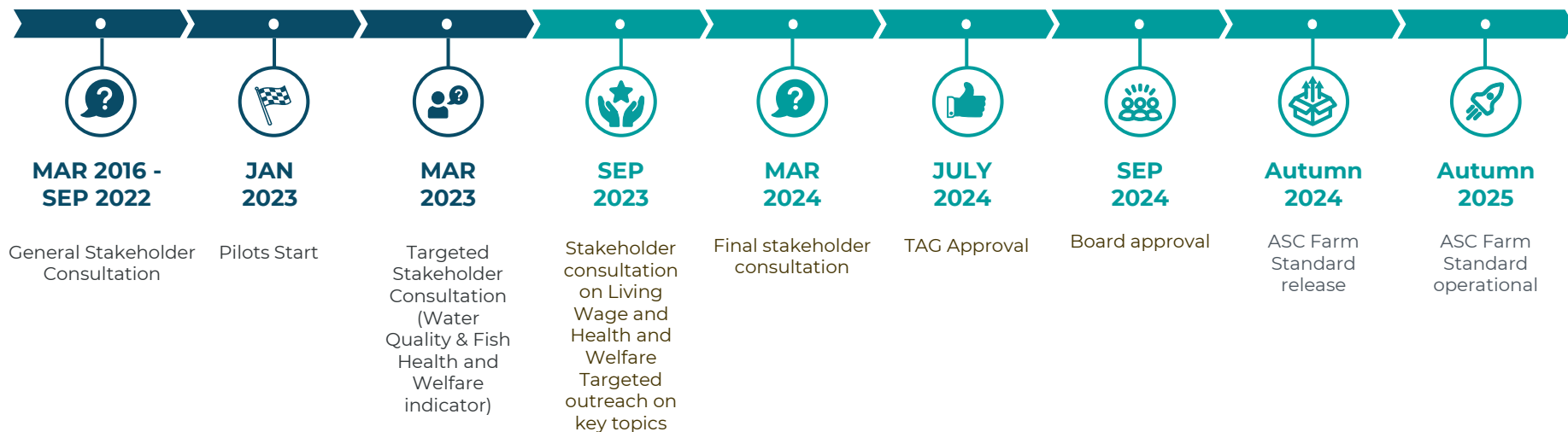


**UNIVERSITY OF  
STIRLING**



■ NGO ■ Producers ■ Academia ■ Retail ■ Consultants

# ASC Farm Standard Development



# ASC rationale for topic proposal

Consideration of species-specific needs endorsed by TWG and TAG

## Proposal based on:

- Revision of the health and welfare indicators currently proposed in the ASC Farm Standard (criteria 2.14 and 2.16) and Shrimp Standard v1.2
- Reuse indicators to cover shrimp where possible
- Formulate new indicators for those practices or situations that are specific to shrimp and are not yet covered



# Topic Proposal

## Health & Welfare

### 2.17 Shrimp Origin

Origin domestication  
and diseases  
susceptibility  
Eyestalk ablation

### 2.14a Fish Health & Welfare

Health and welfare  
monitoring (including  
OWI)

### 2.14b Fish Health & Welfare – Handling

### 2.14c Fish Health & Welfare – Slaughter

### 2.16 Veterinary therapeutants and alternatives to therapeutants

# Changes at a glance

## Shrimp Health and Welfare

### Draft indicators endorsed by TWG and TAG

Topic	Existing	New
Shrimp origin	Selection of various indicators from 2.14 and 2.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Allowance of only domesticated stock (except for natural tidal flow in <i>P. monodon</i>).</li><li>• Treatment records shall be available.</li><li>• Information feedback mechanism between hatchery and grow-out.</li><li>• Survival to stress test.</li><li>• Promotion of shortest possible supply chain.</li></ul>
Routine health and welfare	2.14a (including OWI monitoring)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shrimp quality check on arrival to grow-out (includes water quality, physical activity, physical damage, and compromised welfare).</li><li>• Specific parameters for morphological scoring on shrimp.</li><li>• Reporting of yearly survival rates.</li></ul>



Topic	Existing	New
Handling (refers mainly to transfer to grow-out ponds)	2.14b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fitness assessment 2 day prior to handling event.</li> <li>• Pond preparation description and verification.</li> <li>• Acclimation measures.</li> <li>• Weight checks at every handling event.</li> <li>• Grow-out pond release conditions and verifications.</li> <li>• Morphological and behavioural verifications immediately and a few days after handling.</li> </ul>
Slaughter	2.14c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allowed stunning methods are electricity or ice slurry.</li> <li>• Ice slurry must be &lt;4°C and at a 1:1 ratio ice:shrimp.</li> <li>• Shrimp shall be stunned prior to using sodium metabisulfite for quality purposes.</li> <li>• Electrical stunners must be used according to the manufacturers or supplier recommendations.</li> <li>• Shrimp specific parameters to monitor stunning and killing efficacy.</li> <li>• Addition of three extra forbidden killing methods: drowning in freshwater (for saltwater shrimps), boiling, and dismemberment.</li> <li>• Extra ice or an additional electrical device in place as back-up system.</li> <li>• Harvest log in place.</li> </ul>

Topic	Existing	New
Veterinary therapeutants	2.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allowance of only non-therapeutants registered or approved by local regulations and used as per the suppliers' recommendations.</li> <li>• Records of all non-therapeutants used.</li> <li>• No use of fermented probiotic bacterial strains to seed further probiotic batches.</li> <li>• In the case of a diseases outbreak apply treatment or culling.</li> </ul>

# Stakeholder consultation (SC)

## First SC on Shrimp Health and Welfare

**September – October 2023**

- 1 out of 2 consultation periods → Content focus
- Key stakeholders:
  - Producers
  - Retailers
  - CABs
  - NGOs
  - Academia
  - Primary processors
- Feedback mechanisms:
  - Online survey
  - Online workshop
  - 1:1 meetings

# Consultation Questions



Setting The  
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# General questions

**S1.** Are you aware of any mutilation practices performed apart from the eyestalk ablation?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**S2.** If yes, please specify which ones?

# General questions

**S3.** Is it realistic to have an indicator asking to purchase shrimp nauplii, larvae or post-larvae (PL) only from the nearby hatchery?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**S4.** If your answer to the previous questions was “No”, please specify which would be the challenges.

# General questions

**S17.** Is there any topic missing from those covered by the proposed indicators?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**S18.** If yes, which ones?



# Specific questions

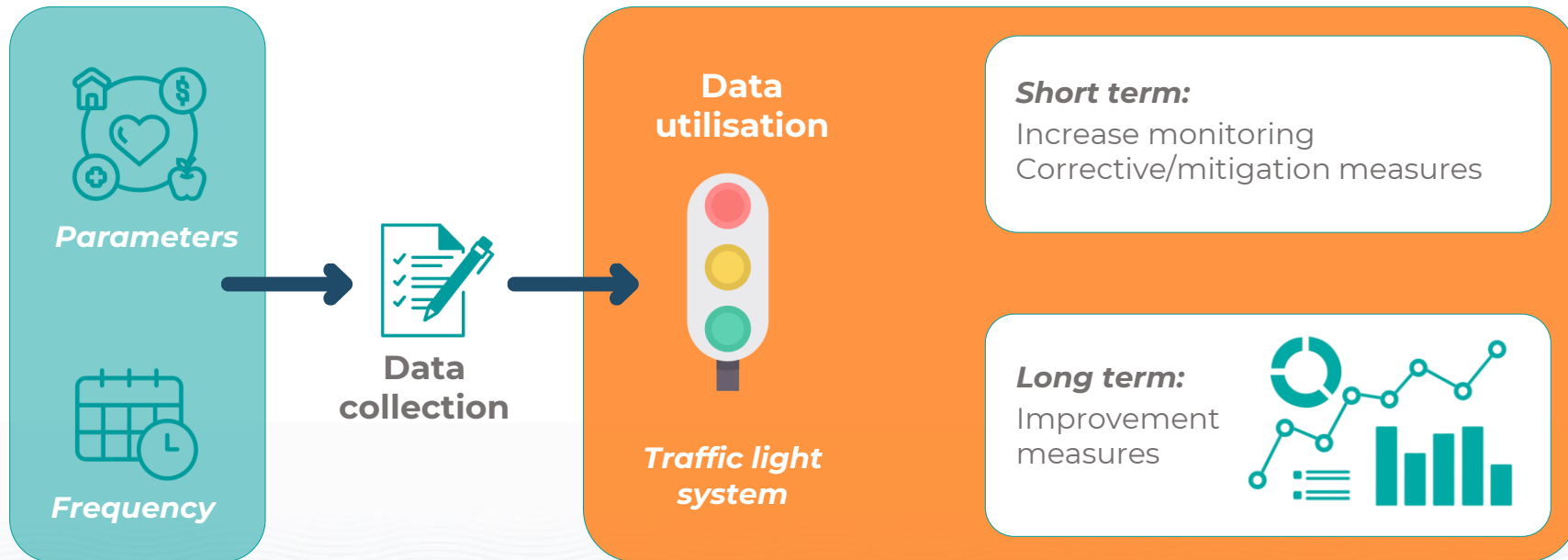
**S5.** Indicator 2.14a.16.1 to 5. - Do you think it is realistic to develop and implement these monitoring programmes using the operational welfare indicators (OWI's) for shrimp species?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**S6.** If your answer to the previous questions was “No”, please specify which would be the challenges.

# Operational Welfare Indicators (OWI's)

## OWI monitoring



# Specific questions

**S7.** Indicator 2.14b.1 - Is it realistic to develop and implement the Shrimp Handling Management Plan?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**S8.** If your answer to the previous questions was “No”, please specify which would be the challenges.

# Handling Management Plan

- Fitness assessment 2 day prior to handling event.
- Pond preparation description and verification.
- Acclimation measures.
- Weight checks at every handling event.
- Grow-out pond release conditions and verifications.
- Morphological and behavioural verifications immediately and a few days after handling

# Specific questions

**S9.** Indicator 2.14b.1 f) - Is the survival rate of 98% after the "stress test" adequate?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**S10.** If no, please suggest an alternative percentage and rationale.

## Specific question

**S11.** Indicator 2.14c.1 - “The UoC shall ensure all shrimp are stunned prior to killing, by immersion in a controlled ice slurry bath or electrical device”. Do you agree with the stunning methods permitted?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**S12.** If no, please explain why and provide rationale.

## Specific question

**S13.** Indicator 2.14c.2.1 – “The UoC shall ensure ice slurry is < 4 °C and at a 1:1 ratio of ice: shrimp”. Do you agree with the requested parameters?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**S14.** If no, please explain why and provide rationale.



# Specific question

## 2.14c.4 The UoC shall not use the following methods to kill shrimp:

- asphyxia in air,
- CO<sub>2</sub>,
- salt baths,
- ammonia baths,
- drowning in freshwater (applicable only for saltwater shrimp),
- boiling, or
- dismemberment.

# Specific question

**S15.** Indicator 2.14c.4 - Are there any killing methods missing from the proposed list of prohibited methods?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**S16.** If yes, explain which and provide rationale.

# You want to get involved?

Email: [consultation@asc-aqua.org](mailto:consultation@asc-aqua.org) or [maria.castanheira@asc-aqua.org](mailto:maria.castanheira@asc-aqua.org)

**Survey [link]**

**Slides in  
[multiple  
languages]**

**Consultation  
questions in  
[multiple  
languages]**

**Public  
workshops  
[dates and link]**

**FAQ [link]**

**Proposal  
[multiple  
languages]**

**1:1 meetings**

# Thank you



**Setting The  
Standard for  
Seafood**

**Aquaculture Stewardship Council**  
Daalseplein 101, 3511 SX, Utrecht, Netherlands  
Tel: +31 30 230 5929

**[www.asc-aqua.org](http://www.asc-aqua.org)**  
**[communication@asc-aqua.org](mailto:communication@asc-aqua.org)**  
**Aquaculture Stewardship Council, 2016**

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