

Shrimp - Fish Health and Welfare Technical Working Group Terms of Reference

TAG Approval date: January 2023

Introduction

The TAG Terms of Reference make provision for the formation of Technical Working Groups (TWGs) to support the technical and scientific work of the TAG. Typically, a TWG will be comprised of technical experts external to ASC's governance bodies with a member of the TAG acting as sponsor to facilitate communication and understanding between the TAG and the TWG and support the ASC technical lead. ASC's Secretariat will provide logistical support to the group and a technical coordinator from ASC will be appointed to provide the group with the technical resources. This may include a white paper to initiate discussion and a draft Standard following TWG deliberations. An external facilitator may be appointed for complex topics.

References

[ASC Standard Setting Procedure](#)

[ASC Metrics Methodology](#)

[ASC Complaints Procedure](#)

[TAG Terms of Reference](#)

[TAG Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

1. Terms of Reference

1.1 Statement of purpose

As part of the alignment process and the creation of the new Farm Standard, ASC is increasing the fish health and welfare content of the standard. For this purpose a TWG on Fish Welfare was created and the group has been working to develop the new finfish welfare content of the Farm Standard. As a result of the availability of research, fish welfare was identified as the first priority. Further, the TWG did not have the expertise to consider shrimp health and welfare. For this reason it was decided that a specific TWG on shrimp should be created to appropriately develop recommendations for standard's content applicable to shrimp.

The purpose of the TWG will be to continue the work started by the TWG on Fish Welfare and develop standard content covering shrimp health and welfare aspects, including slaughter.

1.2 Terms of Reference

The scope is to come up with a series of indicators that cover all aspects related to the health and welfare of shrimp.

The tasks of the group will include:

- Identify topics that are relevant to shrimp health and welfare.
- Collate all the required technical information and research around the identified topics.
- Develop standard content that translates the identified topics into auditable indicators.

- Assess the risks and impacts of introducing these indicators.
- Agree on a group of potential final indicators to recommend to the TAG.
- Identify knowledge gaps and potential areas where future research and work are needed.

2. Membership

TWG membership shall aim to balance interests from the standard's key interest groups and geographical representation. All members should support the aims of the ASC, its Vision and Mission, and commit to engage constructively.

2.1 Technical competencies required:

Members of the TWG are expected to have a sound knowledge of the shrimp industry, as well as a background in shrimp health and welfare. Knowledge of the market demands and consumers expectations when it comes to shrimp products are an advantage, but not an essential requirement. Members should preferably have a background in biology, veterinary medicine, aquaculture production, or relevant field experience.

2.2 Registered interests

ASC Technical Working Groups need to understand the interests of individual members to manage conflicts. Members are asked to declare these to ensure stakeholders and decision-makers have access to this information.

Interests of all members should be declared in the log included as Annex 1.

Table 1: TWG Members

Name	Role	Organisation	Stakeholder sector	Primary region represented
Claudia Venegas	TAG Sponsor	VESO Chile	TAG Sponsor	South America
Efrain Calderon	Non-voting staff Participant	Aquaculture Stewardship Council	Certification	Global
Simao Zacarias	Participant	The Centre for Responsible Seafood	Consultant/Academia	Global
Andy Shinn	Participant	Inve Thailand	Supplier	Asia
Celia Lavilla-Pitogo	Participant	Feedmix	Researcher/Consultant	Asia
Jane Bush	Participant	Crustacean Compassion UK	NGO	Europe
Sasha Saugh	Participant	ex-Shrimp Welfare Project	NGO	Europe
Santhana Krishnan	Participant	Marine Technologies	Consultant	India
Alberto Obregon*	Participant	Seajoy Group	Producer	Central America
Shannon Davis	Participant	Shrimp Welfare Project	NGO	Global

Tessa Gonzales	Participant	Aquatic Life Institute	NGO	US/Global
Ronnie Tan	Participant	U.S. Grain Council	Consultant/Farmer	Asia
Yahira Piedrahita	Participant	Camara Nacional Acuacultura	Farmer (producer association)	Ecuador
Marc Le Groumellec	Participant	Groupe UNIMA	Retailer	Europe
Prakan Chiarakhongman	Participant	CPF, AAHCPS, Advance Pharma	Consultant	Asia
Emiel	Beekwilder	Albert Heijn	Retailer	Europe

* Members have not actively participated since January 2022. However, meeting content and invitations, as well as project documentation has been shared with them.

3. Reporting requirements

- 3.1 The TWG will report to TAG on a biannual basis. Materials made available to TAG will include:
- Compilation of meeting minutes.
 - Recommendations
 - Third party reports (if any are required)

4. Duration and review times

- 4.1 The TWG will meet for approximately a year and a half or until the objectives are delivered.

Table 2: TWG timeline

Date	Activity	Outcome/Deliverable
February 2023 -May 2023	1 or 2 meetings per month as required	Identification of key topics Draft standard indicators
June 2023	1 meeting to discuss final draft indicators	Endorsement of final draft indicators
July 2023	TAG papers including final indicators and public consultation	Public consultation endorsement
September-October 2023	1 st PUBLIC CONSULTATION	
November 2023	Review and integrate public consultation feedback. Evaluate remaining consultation needs	Final indicators
January 2024	TAG papers including final indicators and public consultation	Public consultation endorsement
March-April 2024	2 nd PUBLIC CONSULTATION	

May 2024	Review and integrate public consultation feedback	Integration of indicators onto the farm standard
TBC	Introduce into Farm Standard at next opportunity	

5. Agreement

I agree to the above terms of reference and that the information provided in Annex 1 is accurate.

Signed _____

Name _____