

**International Institute of Fisheries Economics & Trade (IIFET)  
Preface to the IIFET 2004 Japan Conference Proceedings:  
Acknowledgements and Processes**

The International Institute of Fisheries Economics & Trade holds its biennial conference every two years in a different location, working with a different organizing agency, group, or individual each time. This arrangement provides a great deal of variety in perspective, geographical surroundings, culture, and ideas to our membership. It also presents a number of challenges, as each new organizer must cope with certain daunting tasks for the first time, facing an occasionally steep learning curve and severe challenges in identifying needed skills and financial resources.

The challenges faced by the organizing committee for IIFET 2004 Japan were perhaps more complex than others. A plethora of fishing-related government and academic organizations and a poor general economic outlook in Japan in recent years, combined to render the coordination of these many individuals and agencies, and the surrounding funding issues, extremely difficult. Added to this was the commitment of the organizers to funding the participation of a large number of developing country scientists; and finally, in addition to organizing the conference, the Japanese International Fisheries Research Society (JIFRS) put together a comprehensive and unique document on Japan and her fisheries to familiarize participants with the details of the Japanese model for fishery management and marketing. All of these efforts combined to require a staggering amount of coordination, administration and funding of the organizers themselves. Every participant, along with IIFET's Executive Committee, owes a large debt of gratitude to all members of the IIFET 2004 Japan Committees—organizing, steering, scientific, and executive—for the intense effort they devoted to the cause of IIFET 2004 Japan. Deserving of special thanks are Tadashi Yamamoto, Yoshiaki Matsuda, and Toyokazu Naito, among the many other committee members listed under Contact Lists on the main table of contents page.

One of the factors which enabled the organizers to focus on the challenges of developing a program of over 300 presentations, organizing a comprehensive set of pre-conference tours, and bringing together some 500 economists from all over the world and Japan, was the support provided by the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fisheries Division (NOAA Fisheries). NOAA's support enabled the permanent Secretariat of IIFET to take over the preparation of the conference proceedings. Not only does this support enable us to produce the proceedings more quickly than ever before, in a technologically advanced and convenient format, but it helps us to meet a longer-term goal as well. With the support of NOAA, IIFET's Secretariat is developing the expertise to supervise the production of future proceedings, so that the time-sensitive materials presented at future conferences can get the maximum breadth of distribution in the minimum time. We would therefore like to express our most sincere gratitude to NOAA Fisheries, and the personnel who assisted in providing the support: Rita Curtis, Rebecca Lent, and John Ward.

There are many other agencies which merit our thanks as well. Among them is the USAID-funded Collaborative Research Support Program for Aquaculture, whose support enabled us to strengthen the aquaculture-related components of the program; special thanks go to Hillary Egna

and Danielle Clair of the CRSP for their help. We would also like to thank the Asian Productivity Organization, which supported travel for IIFET's President and Executive Director, along with several key contributors to the conference. We would also like to extend very warm thanks to the many Japanese institutions which helped with financial or in-kind contributions. Their names and representatives can be found in the list of sponsors, to be found under Contact Lists in the table of contents.

A special word to all of those involved in the planning and carrying out of pre-conference Tours A and B in Tokyo and in Fukushima and Miyagi Prefectures: your welcoming hospitality was gratefully appreciated by all participants. Through your generosity, we were not only able to learn invaluable lessons about local fisheries and aquaculture, but also were privileged to experience the history, language, culture, and cuisine of Japan; it was a truly unparalleled and memorable experience, which will be remembered warmly by all participants for years to come.

A brief word about the process by which these proceedings were developed, and a caveat. The submitted papers were supplied by their authors in camera ready format; in this sense, the submitted papers section of the proceedings was "compiled" rather than "edited". No correction, editing, or review of the papers was done except to ensure that they met minimal formatting requirements. This process enables the rapid collection, duplication, and dissemination of the proceedings in CD form, keeping costs low. Our goals in controlling proceedings costs are to minimize the financial burden on conference organizers, and maximize accessibility to conference participants and non-participants alike, across the global income spectrum. Thus all of the authors are asked to take responsibility for both the content and appearance of their own contributions.

We hope that the papers, reports, documents, video, and photographs that the reader will find on this CD will provide both a clear picture of what happened at the conference, and will also serve as a valuable resource capturing the state of the art of economic science as currently applied to fisheries problems.

Harry Campbell  
IIFET President (2002-2004)

Ann Shriver  
IIFET Executive Director

Richard S. Johnston  
IIFET Founding Member