

editorial

This issue of *NAGA*, Vol. 27, Nos. 1 and 2, is a special volume focused on coral reefs. We picked the coral reef focus for a bumper issue to coincide with the 10th International Coral Reefs Symposium (ICRS) held this July in Okinawa, Japan. Some 1 450 participants attended the symposium including several WorldFish Center scientists and partners whose latest research is also summarized in this volume of *NAGA*.

In this issue, we would also like to announce some important changes at WorldFish Center. In March, our new Director General, Dr Stephen Hall, assumed his position, succeeding Dr Meryl Williams. WorldFish is poised on the crest of a new wave of change as we review our mission, vision and strategy in seeking to deliver the best of aquatic and fisheries science with our partners to reduce poverty and alleviate hunger. As part of this overall review, *NAGA* is also undergoing a revamp as we strive to cater to the interests of our readers and renew the mission of WorldFish. Over the years, *NAGA*'s readership has expanded to nearly 5 000, the number of articles submitted have grown beyond our capacity to publish them all despite increasing the number of pages. All this success of course comes at a price - in terms of printing and mailing as well as the time taken for scientific review and approval by our technical editors.

The time has come then for a serious re-look at the purpose of *NAGA* within a changing research and publishing climate. Starting in 2005, we will commission articles for each issue of *NAGA* and will no longer be able to accept unsolicited papers. We are also exploring the possibility of transforming *NAGA* into an e-journal that could be circulated in a variety of formats, including email. The print journal will be circulated to institute and university libraries while individual subscribers will be encouraged to receive free e-copies.

As we move in this direction, we encourage our readers to write to us with their views on what you think *NAGA*'s future direction should be. Please send us your comments c/o The Communication Unit, P.O. Box 500, GPO, 10670 Penang, Malaysia or email to worldfish-naga@cgiar.org

The *NAGA* Editorial Team



Our commitment:

WorldFish Center is committed to contributing to food security and poverty eradication in developing countries.

We aim for:

- poverty eradication;
- a healthier, better nourished human family;
- reduced pressure on fragile natural resources; and
- people-centered policies for sustainable development.

A way to achieve this:

Through research, partnership, capacity building and policy support, we promote sustainable development and use of living aquatic resources based on environmentally sound management. The research thrusts are:

- improving productivity;
- protecting the environment;
- saving biodiversity;
- improving policies; and
- strengthening national programs.

We believe this work will be most successful when undertaken in partnership with national governments and nongovernmental institutions, and with the participation of users of the research results.

Our corporate makeup:

WorldFish Center is an autonomous, nongovernment, nonprofit organization, established as an international center in 1977. The Center is an operational entity with programs funded by grants from private foundations and governments.

WorldFish Center is governed by an International Board of Trustees and its policies are implemented by the Director General.



WorldFish Center is one of the 15 international research centers of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) that has initiated the public awareness campaign, Future Harvest.