

Low interest financing, better terms of payment including an extension of the grace period for re-payment, and easier access to credit; lower taxes; technical support; increased institutional purchase capability to support artisan fishermen and small farm aquaculture; strengthened cooperatives; development of infrastructure and of processing equipment; refurbishment and modernization of vessels; and investments in science, technology, and innovation – these are some of the measures the Plan is expected to introduce. To this end, approximately \$2 billion were made available to finance and modernize aquaculture as well as strengthen fisheries and trade. Production was expected to reach 2 million tons by the end of 2012.

In order to meet the targets of the 2012 – 2014 Fisheries and Aquaculture Harvest Plan, this year the government (in partnership with Banco do Brasil, Banco do Nordeste and Banco da Amazônia) will develop an intensive training and qualification process to financial organizations

and public agencies. The focus will be on qualifying the staff in areas related to credit accessibility.

On the freshwater side, studies were conducted in Aquaculture Parks located in 11 water reservoirs (Moxotó, Lajeado, Manso, Jurumirim, Salto Grande, Chavantes, Canoas I, Canoas II, Capivara and Rosana, and Taquaruçu) and 11 coastal areas of six states (Pará, Maranhão, Ceará, Rio Grande do Norte, Sergipe, and Paraná). The results will define boundaries in areas that will favor the sustainable development of aquaculture.

In 2012, 587 areas in various regions were assigned for aquaculture, adding up to 2,275 acres that can yield up to approximately 61,827 tons/year in production. As a result, Brazil has now 2,783 areas of aquaculture, and production is estimated at 460,586 tons of fish/year in 4,399 acres. Of this total, almost 90 per cent of the area were assigned at no cost to low income fish farmers in traditional river bank areas.

Approximately 3,000 fish tanks were

built in 2012 for family-owned aquaculture farms, most of them in the North of Brazil, and 133 units of agricultural machinery were provided to 9,500 families, introducing benefits to several municipalities in 17 Brazilian states.



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FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE

