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EDITORIAL

Various significant events during the third quarter of 2014, included the establishment of the fifth department of SEAFDEC, the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD). Conceived when awareness on the importance of inland fisheries for food security, livelihood and well-being of Southeast Asian people was raised during the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference held in June 2011, the establishment of IFRDMD was officially launched by National Legitimacy Document which was signed by Prof. Syarif Widjaja, the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) and SEAFDEC Council Director for Indonesia on 2 September 2014. The new Department is located in Palembang, Indonesia where its facilities are expected to be ready for operation by 2015.

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SEAFDEC Secretary-General pays courtesy call on the Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development of Myanmar

On 29 August 2014, the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, accompanied by SEAFDEC Senior Advisor, Dr. Magnus Torell, Program Manager, Ms. Pattaratjit Kaewnuratchadasorn, and Regional Fisheries Policy Network Member for Myanmar, Dr. Myo Min Hlaing paid a courtesy call on Mr. Ohn Myint, Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Their discussion mainly touched upon key programs of SEAFDEC that support Myanmar, especially in the area of fisheries resources management. In addition, arrangements for the



Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development of Myanmar, Mr. Ohn Myint (middle) welcoming SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri (right)

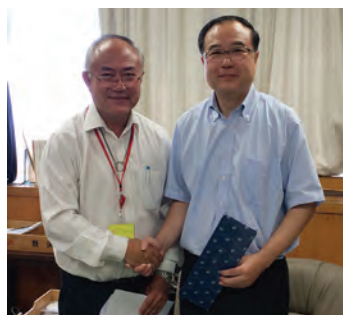
forthcoming "ASEAN-SEAFDEC Workshop on the Development and Use

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2014 SEAFDEC mission to institutions in Japan

The Mission from SEAFDEC, led by the Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, together with Deputy Secretary-General Mr. Hajime Kawamura, and SEAFDEC senior officials paid courtesy visits to agencies and institutions in Japan during 16-18 July 2014.

On 16 July, the SEAFDEC mission made a courtesy call on Mr. Kazuyoshi



Mr. Kazuyoshi Honkawa (right), Director-General of the Fisheries Agency of Japan welcomed the Mission Team led by Secretary-General, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri (left)

Honkawa, Director-General of the Fisheries Agency of Japan (FAJ), and the Deputy Director-General Mr. Kenji Kagawa, SEAFDEC Council Director for Japan. While expressing the strong support of FAJ to the future activities of SEAFDEC, Mr. Kagawa, urged SEAFDEC to continue developing a mechanism for enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of its programs/projects, and especially for SEAFDEC and countries in the region to develop appropriate conservation management measures for Anguillid eels.

On the same day, the mission also visited the headquarters of the Fisheries Research Agency (FRA) in Yokohama, where its president, Mr. Masanori Miyahara expressed the commitment of FRA to continue supporting SEAFDEC in line with the region's priorities. The short-term attachment/internship of selected SEAFDEC staff at

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EDITORIAL

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Another notable event during the quarter was the continued battle of SEAFDEC and ASEAN Member States against IUU fishing in Southeast Asia. To mitigate such issues, SEAFDEC/MFRDMD in cooperation with the Secretariat conducted a series of consultative meetings involving all SEAFDEC Member Countries, experts from national and regional organizations to identify the issues related to IUU fishing activities in the Southeast Asian waters. At the consultations, action plans and guidelines that provide tools for the ASEAN Member States to combat IUU fishing and enhance the credibility of the region's fish and fishery products had been drafted. The draft action plans and guidelines had been circulated to AMS through the ASEAN framework.

Furthermore, many important training courses and activities were also carried out by SEAFDEC Departments. For instance, the Essential of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management and Extension Methodologies conducted by the Training Department (TD) imparted knowledge of EAFM for marine environment, the Technical Workshop on Regional Fishing Vessel Record (RFVR) Database Development and Management in Southeast Asia in Pattaya, Chonburi and facilitated by the TD initiated the development of a database for RFVR as it could serve as a tool to combat IUU fishing in the region. Series of training courses were also organized by the Aquaculture Department (AQD) to improve the skills and knowledge of participants on aquaculture techniques including disease detection and feed formulations. The training participants came from various countries and organizations. ☒

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SEAFDEC mission to Japanese institutions in 2014

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The Mission Team during the courtesy call on Mr. Kenji Kagawa, Deputy Director-General of the Fisheries Agency of Japan



During the courtesy call on Mr. Masanori Miyahara at the Fisheries Research Agency (FRA)

FRA was also welcomed to enhance their capacity in responding to the priorities and requirements of the region. Discussion was subsequently made on the need to develop a clear plan for collecting information on glass eels starting from the 2014 fishing season, and coming up with alternative management measures in due course. Furthermore, SEAFDEC was requested to keep the FAJ and FRA informed on the progress of the establishment of its fifth technical department – the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD) – in order that the Government of Japan could dispatch the Department's Deputy Chief and allocate funds for the timely implementation of programs/projects that address the priority issues on inland fisheries development.

On 17 July, the mission proceeded with a courtesy call on Dr. Nobuaki Okamoto President of the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology (TUMSAT), where priority areas of the region were discussed particularly those for marine fisheries where expertise from TUMSAT would be required. Discussion was also made on the need to extend support and capacity building to less developed

countries of the region, e.g. Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam or CLMV.

On the last day, the SEAFDEC team took part in the meeting of the Technical Support Committee (TSC) at the Marino-Forum 21. Chaired by its President, Mr. Harusuke Inuki, the Meeting was also attended by TSC members from prominent fisheries-related agencies, institutions and academes in Japan. During the meeting, SEAFDEC Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri expressed his appreciation for the commitment of TSC to support the activities of SEAFDEC particularly for sharing the experiences and expertise from Japan with the AMS and SEAFDEC.

Moreover, the opportunity for SEAFDEC to obtain knowledge and experiences from the experts in wide subjects of fisheries was also discussed, e.g. through the conduct of collaborative research, scientists and staff/student exchange programs. Discussion was particularly made on the need for sharing of expertise and collaborative works with the newly-established IFRDMD, and for the new project on eels to be commenced in the very near future. ☒



The Mission Team with officers and President of TUMSAT, Dr. Nobuaki Okamoto (4th from right)



Secretary-General, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri (4th from right) reporting on SEAFDEC activities during the Meeting at the Marino Forum 21

SEAFDEC Secretary-General pays courtesy call on the Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development of Myanmar

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of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Formulations” to be hosted by Myanmar and SEAFDEC/AQD with support from the Japan-ASEAN Solidarity Fund in December 2014, were deliberated on.

Minister Ohn Myint expressed his satisfaction with the excellent relationship between SEAFDEC and the Department of Fisheries of Myanmar, and agreed on the need to strengthen the collaboration among the SEAFDEC Member Countries in several key

areas for sustainable development. He cited that priority could be given to poverty reduction and improvement of the effectiveness and coordination in fisheries resources management in Myanmar and the Southeast Asian region as a whole.

The SEAFDEC team also took the opportunity to update the SEAFDEC Council Director and Alternate Council Director for Myanmar on the outputs of the Sub-regional Consultative Meeting on Collaborative Fisheries Management around the North Andaman Sea/Myeik Archipelago on 27-28 May 2014 in

Phuket, Thailand. During such meeting, key issues that need to be addressed were identified, such as combating IUU fishing, management of trans-boundary migratory species, and development of fisheries and habitat management system as well as sub-regional management approaches and strategies for the North Andaman Sea/Myeik Archipelago to strengthen the collaborative arrangement between Myanmar and Thailand. The team also followed-up on the establishment of a Planning and Management Committee as well as the composition of the thematic working team for the trans-boundary management between Myanmar and Thailand; and requested the Council Director for Myanmar to urgently consider identifying and officially delegating the members for the committee and the working team to enable them to perform their designated roles and functions in the said collaborative arrangement.



Inception workshop for inland fisheries project held in Indonesia

Few days after the launching of IFRDMD as the fifth Department of SEAFDEC, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia held an Inception Workshop for the project on “Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use into Inland Fisheries Practices in Freshwater Ecosystems of High Conservation Value” in Jakarta, Indonesia on 8-9 September 2014. The workshop was attended by delegates from FAO Rome and Regional Office in Bangkok, the

FAO Representatives for Indonesia, the Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the FAO, the SEAFDEC Secretary-General, together with international and local consultants and stakeholders including Indonesian researchers, government officials and NGOs. During the Workshop, the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) was developed, aiming to support the conservation and management of inland fisheries. This project will be supported by FAO and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).



Training on navigation and boat maintenance



The Training Department (TD) in collaboration with the DOF of Thailand organized the Training Course on Navigation and Boat Maintenance from 19 to 25 August 2014 at the TD facilities in Samut Prakan, Thailand. Thirty DOF officers who are engaged in patrol boat and control attended the course. Knowledge of navigation, boat administration, principles of meteorology, boat maintenance and others were imparted to trainees through lectures and practicals aiming to develop their skills and experiences that could be applied in their work in the future.



DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Staff from Embassy of Japan in Thailand visit SEAFDEC/TD

Seven staff from the Embassy of Japan in Bangkok, Thailand visited the facilities of TD on 9 July 2014. The visitors were given first-hand exposure to the operations and facilities of TD, as the first technical department of SEAFDEC. They were welcomed by Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, SEAFDEC Secretary-General

and TD Chief who also briefed them on the roles of SEAFDEC and those of TD along with other technical Departments of SEAFDEC in the region.

After the briefing, the visitors were guided by TD senior staff to tour the training facilities, and the fishing and

engineering workshop. They also boarded the SEAFDEC training and research vessels, the M.V. SEAFDEC and M.V. SEAFDEC 2. ❖



Staff of Embassy of Japan in Bangkok observing the training facilities and engineering workshop of TD

The Embassy staff and officers of TD during the former's visit of the M.V. SEAFDEC

Co-management training in Cambodia

TD imparted knowledge through capacity building on fisheries co-management for 55 Cambodian fisheries managers who are responsible for providing information to decision makers for policy formulation and transformation of policies into management planning. The “Training on Practical Approach to Co-management in Marine and Inland

Fisheries for Cambodia” was conducted from 28 July to 1 August 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia with support from the Japanese Trust Fund. This training course assisted managers to practice not only in acquiring and analyzing information from several pilot projects for policy formulation, but also to design inland and coastal fishery management



plans that suit local conditions. Before the end of the training, a mini-workshop on: 1) sustainable community-based fisheries management; 2) support system by local government; and 3) monitoring of catch for resources management was organized to facilitate discussion and exchange of knowledge between the trainers and trainees. ❖



Participants of the Training Course on Practical Approach to Co-management in Marine and Inland Fisheries conducted by TD in Cambodia

Support to the aquaculture industry sustained by AQD @ 41

“We (AQD) will stay on our course, as we strive to continue as provider of relevant technologies that will help fish farmers remain competitive in the era of free trade. We are confident that we can do this with support from the Philippine Government, the governments of SEAFDEC Member Countries and other partners in the aquaculture industry,” said AQD Chief Dr. Felix Ayson during AQD’s 41st Anniversary program held on 11 July 2014.

Dr. Ayson also mentioned that it makes him proud to see that AQD’s accomplishments such as the development of science-based aquaculture technologies for the past 41 years are very tangible and visible in the aquaculture industry both in the Philippines and the Southeast Asian region. He cited that the adoption of feed formulation by fish farmers in Northern Luzon, Philippines enabled them to grow milkfish to 500 grams in just five months. Such feed formulation was the product of research done by AQD nutrition expert Dr. Relicardo Coloso funded by the United Soybean Board. He acknowledged that an improved feed formulation which can shorten the culture period to 3.5 months is ready for testing in large-scale production systems. He also recognized the efforts of the mud crab team led by Dr. Emilia Qunitio for taking significant strides to improve the breeding and seed production, and culture technologies of mangrove crab with funding support from Australian



(Top: from left to right) SEAFDEC National Coordinator for the Philippines Dr. Jonathan Dickson, SEAFDEC Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, and AQD Chief Dr. Felix Ayson; and (above) AQD Deputy Chief, Dr. Takuro Shibuno, during the celebration of the 41st Anniversary of AQD

Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), European Union (EU), and the Government of Japan. An improved artificial feed for mud crab is now available through the efforts of the mud crab and nutrition

team, gaining them major recognition by the aquaculture community and the academe. In fact, Dr. Qunitio was featured in the Agriculture Magazine for the story on soft-shell mud crab farming. At present, continued improvement as well as nationwide dissemination of production technologies of mud crab is made possible by the generous support of Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD) through its national mud crab R&D program.



Part of the celebration of AQD’s 41st Anniversary was the recognition of its retiring employees. Administrative Assistant, Mr. Edison Pineda thanking the AQD management on behalf of the retirees, for appreciating their services and contributions to the Department

The Chief of AQD also took pride in sharing the news from the President of the Seaweed Industry Association of the Philippines (SIAP), Mr. Maximo Ricohermoso that the seedlings of *Kappaphycus* produced in the AQD Seaweeds Laboratory through tissue culture, field-tested in seaweed farms in Bohol are performing very well with growth rates of 6-7% per day, which is much better than the growth rates of plants from cuttings which is only about 2% per day.



BFAR Assistant Director for Technical Services Dr. Drusila Esther Bayate (left) and PCAARRD OIC for the Office of the Deputy Executive Director for Research and Development Engr. Maria Teresa de Guzman (right) during the celebrating of AQD’s 41st anniversary

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Support to the aquaculture industry sustained by AQD @ 41

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Moreover, new developments in abalone research such as the development of feeds for grow-out and broodstock for better reproductive performance were also given notice. This is important because it will pave the way for the production of abalone in areas with limited supply of the seaweeds *Gracilaria* (food of abalone). AQD nutrition expert Dr. Myrna Teruel is also currently testing in larger scale the performance of a microparticulate feed for the early life stages of the abalone.

SEAFDEC Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri commended AQD for these accomplishments and the progress in the Department's research work. He was also grateful to AQD for aligning its research activities with the priority and needs of the SEAFDEC Member Countries.

AQD's achievements would not have been possible without the able help of its partners and collaborators. Meanwhile, on behalf of PCAARRD, Engr. Maria Teresa de Guzman said that AQD and PCAARRD should build on each other's expertise and to have a more dynamic collaboration to be able to push not only the technologies developed but also the tangible products and services to the market.



A Plaque of Appreciation awarded by AQD to its Library & Data Banking Services Section Head Mr. Stephen Alayon for receiving the Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines' Citation Award for Excellence in Research 2013 and Special Libraries Association's Asian Librarian Award 2014

BFAR Assistant Director and SEAFDEC Alternate Council Director for the Philippines Dr. Drusila Esther Bayate on the other hand, pointed out that with the upcoming ASEAN integration by 2015 with the battle cry "efficient management of the value chain, production from responsible and sustainable practices, food safety and traceability", AQD's relevance will now be highlighted due to the need for advanced aquaculture technologies that have minimal impact on the environment and on biodiversity.

AQD Deputy Chief Dr. Takuro Shibuno concluded the 41st Anniversary program with the call for everyone to do their share in sustaining the aquaculture industry for the betterment of the ASEAN community. ☒



(Top) AQD Research Division Head, Dr. Ma. Junemie Hazel Lebata-Ramos (middle) receiving a Plaque of Appreciation for having rendered 20 years of service to AQD; and (Down) Associate Researcher, Ms. Ofelia Reyes (middle), one of the retirees, receiving a Plaque of Appreciation from AQD



AQD capped its 41st anniversary celebration with a Wild Wild West themed fellowship night

Survey and training on fisheries ecosystem conservation in Nam Houm Reservoir

SEAFDEC/TD carried out a survey on identification and evaluation of fisheries ecosystem in Nam Houm Reservoir of Lao PDR from 20 to 26 July 2014. The activities were aimed at following up the collection of catch and landing information on the reservoir and compiling the baseline data to support the selection of appropriate fish species for resource enhancement. Moreover, a demonstration and training on construction and deployment of fish apartment (Ban Pla) was also conducted for local fisheries officers, members of community reservoir management organization and local fishers. These activities are under the project on “Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitat/Fishing Grounds for Resource Enhancement” funded by the Japanese Trust Fund (JFT).

In an effort to enhance fisheries resources in the reservoir, a fish conservation area was established to

conserve the broodstocks and the nursing ground for juvenile fish. As a consequence, fishing operations in the conservation area had been prohibited. Nevertheless, with the limitations of community reservoir management organization to patrol the conservation area, illegal fishing operations in conservation area still occur. The Government is therefore promoting the use of fish apartment as a means to protect the conservation area from illegal fishing operations and reserve the area as nursing ground for juveniles.



SEAFDEC provides inputs at the World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress

SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri attended the 2nd World Small-Scale Fisheries (2WSFC) Congress, which was held on 21-26 September 2014 in Merida, Mexico.

Jointly organized and co-hosted by the project “Too Big To Ignore” (TBTI) and CINVESTAV together with the Memorial University, St. John’s, Canada, along with many other local and international organizations, the Congress featured more than 250 presentations under the topics on: economic viability; livelihoods and well-being; ecosystem stewardship; rights and access; governance and governability; food security; and assessment and monitoring. Interactive discussion was also made on options and opportunities for “Small-Scale Fisheries”.



Philippine shrimp industry targets global competitiveness

SEAFDEC/AQD and other stakeholders of the shrimp industry joined the 9th National Shrimp Congress held in Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, Philippines from 2 to 4 July 2014. More than 20 senior and junior AQD research staff attended the congress, which served as a venue to gather all shrimp stakeholders who are key players in achieving the Philippines’ goal of producing high quality shrimps that could compete in the global market.

In an effort to attain this goal, the event had technical sessions on the updates of shrimp aquaculture such as pond water quality management, health management, and on feeds and feeding strategies. Additional topics were also discussed on marketing, financing as well as enforcement of laws relevant to shrimp aquaculture. In the poster presentation, AQD had four papers namely; 1) Luminescent Vibriosis in *Penaeus vannamei*: First case in the

Philippines; 2) Molecular Detection of *Vibrio harveyi* in Asian Sea bass, *Lates calcarifer* Using dnaJ Gene as Marker; 3) Antibacterial Activity of Extracts from Panay Seaweed (*Ulva pertusa* Kjellman); and 4) Survey of Antibiotics and Organochlorine Pesticide Residues from Selected Locations in the Philippines. AQD also participated in the event’s exhibition enabling the Department to reach out to more aquaculture

stakeholders. All these activities, plus the brisk sales of its extension manuals and other publications were able to enhance the dissemination of its science-based aquaculture technologies.

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Philippine Shrimp Industry Inc., AQD, and the Department of Science and Technology-Region 6 were the organizers of the congress.



Some of the AQD participants in the congress with AQD Chief Dr. Felix Ayson (right) and Research Division Head Dr. Ma. Junemie Hazel Lebata-Ramos (left)

SPECIAL REPORT

Fifth SEAFDEC Department, the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD) in Palembang, Indonesia was inaugurated and set into motion

Being aware of the importance of inland fisheries for food security, livelihood and well-being of peoples not only in Indonesia but also in the whole Southeast Asian region, the Government of Indonesia expressed its intention to host a regional center for inland fisheries through a statement put forward by His Excellency Dr. Fadel Muhammad, the former Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries during the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference held in June 2011. The proposal which was unanimously supported by the SEAFDEC Council of Directors in the subsequent year, came into fruition two years later when the Government of Indonesia represented by Prof. Syarief Widjaja, the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) and SEAFDEC Council Director for Indonesia, signed the National Legitimacy Document on 2 September 2014 to officially launch the establishment of the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD) as the fifth Department of SEAFDEC.

The signing of the Legitimacy Document therefore gives due recognition to IFRDMD as an inter-governmental organization under the SEAFDEC framework and accordingly confirms the necessary privileges for IFRDMD. This development also gives the assurance that more focus of SEAFDEC activities would be given on inland fisheries, as well as on inland fishery resource conservation and management.

Although it is expected that the new Department would only be operational by 2015 considering that the construction of buildings, laboratories, and other facilities is still ongoing, the activities of IFRDMD could be initiated sooner and even before the end of 2014, at its temporary site in the compound of Indonesia's Research Institute for Inland Fisheries also based in Palembang. This would enable the IFRDMD to promptly address regionally important and relevant issues at the soonest time possible.

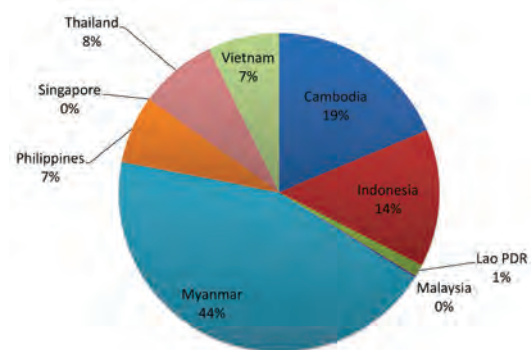
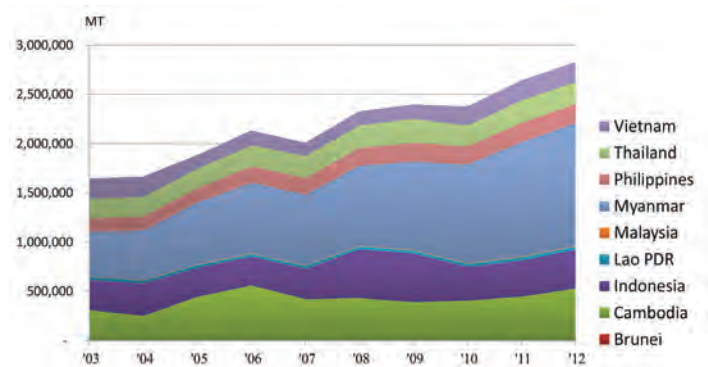
Inland Capture Fisheries in the Southeast Asian Region at a Glance

The total production from inland capture fisheries of the Southeast Asian region as of 2012 was reported to be approximately 2.8 million metric tons, accounting for more than 7% of the region's total fisheries production (from all sectors) or more than 15% of the total production from capture fisheries. The top-producing Southeast Asian country is Myanmar, followed by Cambodia and Indonesia. Other countries are also closing in, such as the Philippines, Thailand



The signing of the Legitimacy Document for IFRDMD was made during the International Conference on Inland Capture Fisheries held in Palembang, Indonesia. Present during the signing ceremony were the representative of the Governor of South Sumatra, the Secretary-General and senior officials of SEAFDEC, and delegates from the SEAFDEC Member Countries attending the International Conference

and Vietnam which have also been reported to consistently produce considerable amount of inland fisheries products during the past decade. For the region's only landlocked country Lao PDR, its production may not be very high but this is derived mainly from inland fisheries. The establishment of





After the signing ceremony and with Prof. Widjaja leading, the SEAFDEC Secretary-General, senior officials of SEAFDEC and delegates from the Member Countries, and the representative of the Governor of South Sumatra visited the construction site of the IFRDMD premises and facilities

IFRDMD therefore signifies the importance and significance of developing the inland fisheries in the Southeast Asian region for food security of the peoples.

Characteristics of the Region's Inland Capture Fisheries

The most common characteristics of inland capture fisheries in Southeast Asia, include the following:

- Inland capture fisheries comprises large number of small-scale fishers, mostly subsistent and engaged in only part-time fishing activities
- Activities related to inland capture fisheries are highly seasonal, with the highest peak during flood receding periods or at the end of the rainy season
- Production from inland capture fisheries is highly diversified, where catch could be large in number and quantity, but small in size with high species diversity
- Inland fishery resources could be freely accessed at any time, and production could be landed anywhere without proper recording
- Inland fisheries production goes to various channels, for direct household consumption, sold in local markets, or exported to markets within the region

Challenges Confronting Inland Fisheries Development and the Ways Forward

Addressing the low priority that planners and policy makers give to inland fisheries

- Improving the methodologies for collecting statistics on production from inland capture fisheries to address the concerns on inadequacy of data and other relevant information
- Boosting the development of non-conventional data collection and model for inland ecosystem valuation using existing data and information to advocate the importance of inland fisheries
- Synthesizing and packaging meaningful information for policy makers and public by integrating data available from

various sources, *e.g.* censuses and statistics, research studies, local/traditional knowledge

Applying the ecosystem approach to fisheries in inland fisheries management

- Promoting the “catchment approach” to ensure consistency in management levels (local, national or regional levels) and ecosystem boundary
- Strengthening the “holistic approach” by taking into consideration the activities of other sectors involved and sharing the same inland resources/ecosystems

Securing ecosystem functions and improving R&D on mitigation measures

- Raising the awareness of other sectors as well as planners/policy makers on the importance of inland fisheries and its ecosystem functions, by generating and disseminating relevant and credible information
- Establishing and advocating measures to mitigate the impacts of development projects, *e.g.* incorporation of fish passage in cross-river barrier construction, stock enhancement programs, integration of underpasses in road construction and development

Maximizing the utilization of inland fishery resources

- Developing and upholding responsible fishing gears/practices that promote species selectivity
- Enhancing preservation and post-harvest technologies to ensure that fish is utilized for year-round consumption, improve safety and quality of traditional fish products for local consumption, and generate value-added products

Developing appropriate resources enhancement programs

- Enhancing the yield from inland capture fisheries by stocking hatchery-bred seeds (focusing on low trophic and indigenous species) in closed ecosystem
- Strengthening conservation measures through the use of indigenous species with seeds produced specifically for stock enhancement purposes
- Promoting habitat conservation and improvement by making the habitats favorable for enhancing natural reproduction of aquatic species
- Developing indicators for evaluating the successes of resource enhancement programs
- Promoting culture-based fisheries

Improving the capacity of inland fisheries to adapt to climate change

- Promoting the “precautionary approach” by acting decisively in the absence of certainty
- Enhancing the preparedness of inland fisheries communities in responding to anticipated changes and variability of the climate



REGIONAL PROGRAMS

Core Expert Meeting on Comparative Studies for Management of Purse Seine Fisheries in the Southeast Asian Region

The Core Expert Meeting on Comparative Studies for Management of Purse Seine Fisheries in the Southeast Asian Region was convened at Bukit Bintang in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 26 to 28 August 2014. The Meeting was supported by the Japanese Trust Fund.

The three-day Meeting was attended by more than 20 experts on pelagic fisheries management from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam along with officers of the SEAFDEC Secretariat, TD as well as the Chief, Deputy Chief and officials of SEAFDEC/MFRDMD, and

invited resource persons from Hokkaido University, Fisheries Research Agency of Japan and Department of Fisheries Malaysia. The Meeting was organized by MFRDMD to share information about landings and CPUEs for small pelagic species caught by purse seine vessels in the region that could be used to determine the performance and fishing capacity of purse seine vessels. Sampling procedures for the genetic study of selected small pelagic species were also finalized during the Meeting.



Secretary-General takes part in the 16th National Tuna Congress in Philippines

The SEAFDEC Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri attended the 16th National Tuna Congress & Trade Exhibition held in General Santos, the Tuna Capital of the Philippines on 4-5 September 2014. Considering the importance of tuna industry for the Philippines, the National Tuna Congress held annually, with the participation of private sector, political leaders and industry experts who share the results of their studies, developments, expertise and new practices that could help build strong relationships among stakeholders and make the country's tuna more competitive than what the rest of the world could offer. The objectives of the Congress were: to get updated on the latest status and developments in the industry at the international, domestic and regional levels; discuss issues affecting the industry that are preventing its optimum growth and development; recommend strategies and action plans/programs to address

issues; and institutionalize mechanisms to bring policies, issues and concerns to the attention of policy makers for them to advocate necessary policy reforms, among others.

During the Congress, Dr. Chumnarn made a presentation on "Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas In Southeast Asia". He pointed out that in the Southeast Asian region, the major producers of neritic tunas are the Philippines and Indonesia with considerable amount of production by Thailand and Malaysia. Although neritic tunas are caught mostly within the EEZ of the respective countries, the species are trans-boundary in nature in the region. The SEAFDEC Council during its 45th Meeting in 2013 therefore expressed the need to establish regional and sub-regional cooperation to ensure the sustainable utilization of tuna resources. Dr. Chumnarn also reported on the progress in the development

of the Regional Plan of Action for Conservation and Management of Neritic Tunas (RPOA-Neritic Tuna), which is aimed at: 1) determining available data and information, improving data collection and developing key indicators; 2) improving sustainable fisheries management; 3) improving sustainable interaction between fisheries and marine ecosystem; 4) improving compliance to rules and regulations and access to markets; 5) addressing social issues; and 6) strengthening regional cooperation. He stressed that after the development of RPOA-Neritic Tuna, activities would proceed with the establishment of the Scientific Working Group in order to develop strategic plan as well as relevant SOP and tools to support data collection and stock assessment. The conduct of HRD programs to enhance the capacity of relevant countries in the implementation of the RPOA-Neritic Tuna would also be initiated in the near future.



Technical workshop on RFVR database in Southeast Asia

SEAFDEC/TD organized 2-day Technical Workshop on Regional Fishing Vessel Record (RFVR) Database Development and Management in Southeast Asia on 20 August 2014 in

Pattaya, Chonburi Province, Thailand with support from the Japanese Trust Fund. During the Workshop, 32 participants from SEAFDEC Secretariat, TD and seven Member Countries

concerned, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam confirmed the necessity to develop a database for RFVR as it could serve as a tool to combat IUU fishing in the region.



(left to right)
Participants from
Brunei Darussalam,
Indonesia, Malaysia
and Myanmar during
the Technical Workshop
on RFVR Database

In addition, the Workshop also came up with policy recommendations and the way forward for the implementation of RFVR database, as well as an agreement for the participating countries to provide additional information required in effectively enhancing the RFVR database such as vessel registration number, vessel owner, and IMO number.



SEAFDEC takes a lead at the International Conference on Inland Capture Fisheries

The SEAFDEC Member Countries and SEAFDEC Departments were represented during the International Conference on Inland Capture Fisheries hosted by the Government of Indonesia in Palembang, Indonesia on 2-4 September 2014. Groups of researchers, representatives from the academe and fishing industries, policy makers, and managers were brought together under one roof to discuss issues concerning inland waters fisheries and development.

The presence of representatives from SEAFDEC during the Conference was very significant because it was also on such occasion that the Government of Indonesia represented by Prof. Syarif

Widjaja, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) and SEAFDEC Council Director for Indonesia, signed the National Legitimacy Document that officially launched the establishment of the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD) as the fifth Department of SEAFDEC.

With its theme on “Conservation and Sustainable Use of Indonesia’s Inland Aquatic Biodiversity to Contribute to Food Security,” the Conference discussed six (6) main topics, namely: 1) Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Initiative for Inland

Fisheries; 2) Inland Biodiversity Conservation Management; 3) Integrated Inland Water Management: Governance, Structure and Mechanism; 4) Economic and Social Benefits of Inland Waters; 5) Peat Land Management Practices: rewetting, aquaculture and fisheries; and 6) Inland Fisheries and Food Security.

At the start of the Plenary Session, SEAFDEC Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri delivered a Keynote Address that centered on the challenges and opportunities confronting the sustainability of inland fishery resources amidst the ASEAN Economic Community integration. His Address which emphasized on the importance of inland fisheries in view of its contribution to peoples’ food security and livelihood creation, signaled a new course of action on the need to conserve inland fishery resources for the benefit of future generations. Such action could pave the way for this small but meaningful inland fisheries sub-sector to survive and its development sustained in the future, especially when the region will embark on a “borderless” ASEAN Economic Community starting in 2015.



Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri delivering his Keynote Address on the challenges and opportunities confronting the sustainability of inland fishery resources

Essential EAFM and extension methodologies training course

SEAFDEC/TD organized the regional training course on “Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) and Extension Methodologies” at TD premises from 15 to 29 September 2014 with support from the Japanese Trust Fund. Attended by 20 participants from SEAFDEC Member Countries, the training course aimed to impart knowledge of the

process and application of EAFM for the marine environment. The course also included extension concept, methods and characteristics of extension agents, tools and methods on Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA), and communication skills.

The course was structured into two phases. The first phase focused on EAFM where participants were given lectures that allowed them to have a better understanding on the concept and need for an EAFM. Following the lectures, practical sessions were also given to allow participants to

acquire skills and experiences on the process of developing, implementing, monitoring and evaluation of projects to improve management of capture fisheries in line with the EAFM concept.

The second phase of the course focused on fisheries extension methodologies. Participants were briefed

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Group discussion during the training on Essential EAFM



Working session of participants during the field practice with local fishers in Rayong Province, Thailand

Sub-regional technical meeting on tuna research in Sulu and Sulawesi seas

SEAFDEC/TD organized the Sub-regional Technical Meeting for Finalizing the Work Plan of Activities for SEAFDEC Joint Program on Tuna Research in Sulu and Sulawesi Seas (SSSs) from 19 to 21 August 2014 in Tawau Sabah, Malaysia. The Meeting was supported by the Japanese Trust Fund. Thirty-five participants from SEAFDEC Member Countries, namely: Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines, Japanese expert, SEAFDEC Secretariat, TD and MFRDMD staff participated in

the Meeting, which came up with: 1) the final cruise plan and logistic arrangements of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 survey in SSSs; 2) the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for four research topics: tuna stock assessment, tuna spawning ground, FADs for tuna study, and genetics study in SSSs; and 3) the working mechanism of the Sub-regional Working Group (SRWG). ☒



Group discussion during the Sub-regional Technical Meeting on Tuna Research in Sulu and Sulawesi Seas

Capacity building on CBFM in Vietnam

SEAFDEC/TD in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Directorate of Fisheries of Vietnam organized Training for Trainers on Facilitating Fisheries Information Gathering through the Introduction of Community-based Fisheries Management from 13 to 15 August 2014 in Danang City, Vietnam with support from the Japanese Trust Fund. Thirty fishery officers who could serve as trainers

attended the training course. The trainees were guided on how to analyze existing information from several projects and to design fishery management plans relevant to specific local conditions. Moreover, legislative aspects of right-based fisheries were highlighted during the training course. ☒



Group discussion on legislative aspects of right-based fisheries during the training in Vietnam

AQD's training courses enhanced the skills of 58 trainees

Eight training courses (marine fish, freshwater prawn, shrimp, seaweeds, catfish, disease detection, and feed formulation) were conducted by AQD from July to September 2014 with a total of 58 trainees.

The trainees had undergone a series of lectures and practical exercises given by AQD's scientists, researchers and experts, allowing them to gain knowledge and skills on the latest aquaculture technologies and techniques. These efforts were recognized by the participants, as expressed by one of the trainees from Singapore, Mr. Leonard Shoh, who said that he is very thankful to the resource persons and staff of AQD for making his stay at AQD delightful *"With the skills and knowledge that we have learned from this course, we sincerely hope that one day, we will be able to return to AQD and share our successes with you"*.

Through the partnership formed between AQD and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of the Sultanate of Oman, AQD conducted three courses on "marine fish nursery and grow-out culture", "shrimp nursery and grow-out culture", and "seaweed farming" for the Ministry's staff. Thirteen of their technical staff (joined by two participants from Malaysia and USA) are able to update their knowledge of new operation and management protocols in the production of the aforementioned commodities.



Participants conducting induced spawning of grouper broodstock during their training at AQD



Trainees during the practical session on culturing marine fish and seaweeds

AQD training course participants doing feed formulations (below) and feed milling (right) during their practical sessions



knowledge on nutrient requirements, feed preparation and other practical tools in feed evaluation. Also included in the course are lectures on feeding management and economics. A roster of top-caliber resource persons coming from AQD, University of the Philippines-Visayas, Central Philippine University and DOST-PCAARRD handled the lectures and practical exercises of this five-day course.

AQD's training courses serve as the proper venue for technology-transfer and information dissemination, giving the trainees the opportunity to build friendships among themselves and for networking, as well. ✦

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Date	Venue	Title	Organizer(s)
2014			
8 Sep-22 Feb 15	E-learning	Distance Learning Course: Basic Principles of Health Management in Aquaculture	AOD
15-29 September	Samut Prakan, Thailand	Regional Training Course on Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) and Extension Methodologies	TD
21-25 September	Merida, Mexico	2 nd World Small-scale Fisheries Congress (2WSFC)	TBTI++
23-25 September	Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia	Regional Technical Consultation on Guidelines on Preventing the IUU Fish and Fishery Products to Supply Chain	MFRDMD & Secretariat
29 Sep-3 Oct	Semarang, Indonesia	Regional Workshop and Training on Application of Resources Mapping and Geographic Information System (GIS)	TD/REBYC-II CTI
13-17 October	Binangonan, Philippines	Training Course on Catfish Hatchery and Grow-out Operations	AOD
14-16 October	Malaysia	Expert Group Meeting on Drafting of Catch Documentation System	MFRDMD & Secretariat
21-23 October	Siem Reap, Cambodia	Regional Workshop on Culture-based Fisheries	NACA
28-30 October	Manila, Philippines	The 15 th Meeting of SEAFDEC Information Staff Program (ISP)	Secretariat
29-31 October	Bali, Indonesia	5 th ASEAN Tuna Working Group Meeting 2014	Secretariat
4-6 November	Cairns, Australia	7 th RPOA Coordination Committee Meeting	RPOA/IUU
5-7 November	Timor Leste	10 th Senior Officials Meeting of Coral Triangle Initiative for Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF)	CTI-CFF
12-14 November	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	Experts Meeting on Mekong Cooperation on Fisheries, Aquatic Resources and Wetlands: 20 years lesson learnt	SEAFDEC-Sweden Project
17-21 November	Vietnam	East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2015	PEMSEA
18-20 November	Shah Alam, Malaysia	1 st Meeting of the Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tuna Stock Assessment in the Southeast Asian Waters	SEAFDEC-Sweden Project
19-20 November	Penang, Malaysia	3 rd Meeting of the ASEAN Public-Private Taskforce for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture	MARKET
19-21 November	Bali, Indonesia	Bali Tuna Conference: Mainstreaming Sustainable Tuna Management in the Asia-Pacific	MMAF, Indonesia
25-26 November	Jakarta, Indonesia	International Symposium in Conservation, Management and Trading of <i>Anguilla bicolor</i>	MMAF, Indonesia
25 Nov-4 Dec	Iloilo, Philippines	Training Course on Community-based Freshwater Aquaculture for Remote Rural Areas of Southeast Asia	AOD
27-28 November	Bangkok, Thailand	Regional Consultation on Strategy and Action Plan for Sustainable Intensification of Aquaculture in Asia-Pacific	FAO/RAP
29 November	Bangkok, Thailand	FAO Workshop on Prioritization of Asia Regional Aquaculture Development and Management	FAO/RAP
1-3 December	Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand	37 th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee	Secretariat & TD
4-5 December	Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand	17 th Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG/ASSP)	Secretariat
9-11 December	Myanmar	Regional Technical Consultation on Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Formulations	AOD
16-18 December	Langkawi, Malaysia	1 st Regional Technical Consultation on Regional Catch Documentation System	MFRDMD & Secretariat

Second Regional Consultation on the Development of Regional Policy Recommendations for Sustainable Management of Eel Resources and Aquaculture Production

(Continued from Page 16)

With the main objective of developing policy recommendations on cooperation for eel research and on the conservation and management of eel resources and sustainable aquaculture, as well as strategic program to understand the current status and distribution of glass eels and foster the sustainable development of eel aquaculture in the region. The Consultation considered the drafts policy recommendations for sustainable development of catadromous eel aquaculture in Southeast Asia and for the conservation and management of catadromous eel resources in Southeast Asia. The Consultation also agreed that these draft policy recommendations would be submitted to the SEAFDEC Council for comments and endorsement by *ad referendum*.



The Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri (left) and SEAFDEC Alternate Council Director for Indonesia Dr. Achmad Poernomo (right) serving as Co-Chairpersons of the Regional Consultation

Essential EAFM and extension methodologies training course

(Continued from Page 12)

on the concept and methodologies for fisheries extension. In addition to knowledge on extension tools, such as Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA), the participants were also briefed on information and communication skills that are required for fisheries extension works. Lectures were also given on the concept and principle of fishery extension service in Japan, including the successful case study on fishery management in conjunction with the extension service in Japan.

After the training course, participants were expected to be able to deal well with stakeholders involved in the EAFM action plan, as well as transfer the information/ knowledge to target stakeholders through the use of appropriate extension methodologies in their future works.



Note for contributors

The SEAFDEC Newsletter publishes quarterly news on all aspects of fisheries in Southeast Asia. The Editors reserve the right to accept and/or abridge articles based on available space. Anyone wishing to submit an article to the SEAFDEC Newsletter is requested to send it to the Editor in Chief or Editors at the given addresses.

Information in this Newsletter may be quoted only if reference is made to SEAFDEC.

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Regional Technical Consultation to draft the “Regional Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain” convened

During the past decade, many attempts had been initiated to improve fisheries management with the fundamental objective of reducing illegal and destructive fishing. The seriousness of this concern has been increasingly expressed through discussions and recommendations in various meetings and consultations. In this connection, in order to combat IUU fishing, SEAFDEC has been requested by the ASEAN Member States since 2011 to come-up with guidelines to prevent the entry of

fish and fishery products from IUU fishing activities into the inter- and intra-regional supply chain as well as in international fishery trade system. In this regard, SEAFDEC/MFRDMD in cooperation with the Secretariat conducted a series of consultative meetings involving all SEAFDEC Member Countries, and experts from national and regional organizations to identify the issues of IUU fishing activities that occur in the Southeast Asian waters. The Consultation was supported by the Japanese Trust Fund.

The Regional Technical Consultation held in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia from 23 to 25 September 2014, was attended by representatives from SEAFDEC Member Countries, senior officers from MFRDMD, TD and Secretariat as well as participants from USAID and the Fisheries Department of Sabah. The Guidelines are intended to provide tools for the AMS to ensure that fish and fishery products from the region entering the global supply chain do not come from IUU fishing activities. Thus, the goal of these Guidelines is to enhance the credibility of the region’s fish and fishery products. The Consultation discussed the contents of the draft guidelines and adopted the Guidelines for submission to higher authorities in the ASEAN and SEAFDEC. It is expected that the Guidelines could serve as basis for the AMS in formulating relevant policies and provide an enabling environment for a clear direction and understanding of the need to prevent the entry of IUU fish and fishery products into the supply chain.



The RTC on the Regional Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain



Second Regional Consultation on the Development of Regional Policy Recommendations for Sustainable Management of Eel Resources and Aquaculture Production

SEAFDEC organized the Second Regional Consultation on the Development of Regional Policy Recommendations for Sustainable Management of Eel Resources and Aquaculture Production in Southeast Asia from 31 August to 1 September 2014 in Palembang, Indonesia. Supported by the Japanese Trust Fund, the Consultation was attended by representatives from Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam together with their respective delegations, as well as the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and senior officials of SEAFDEC. The Consultation was also attended by renowned resource persons on eels, namely: Dr. Takaomi Arai from the Institute of Oceanography and



Environment, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu; Mr. Ichiro Nomura, Fisheries Policy Adviser to the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia; and Dr. Kazuo

Uchida from the Research Management Department Incorporated Administrative Agency of the Fisheries Research Agency of Japan.

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