

Deep-Sea Fishery Resources Exploration in the Southeast Asian Waters: What are the achievements so far?

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The project on “Deep-Sea Fishery Resources Exploration in the Southeast Asian Region” has been implemented since 2007 with funding support from the Japanese Trust Fund. The overall objectives of the project are to collect information on deep-sea fishery resources in the Southeast Asian region through actual exploration using M.V. SEAFDEC 2 and National Research Vessels in cooperation with the SEAFDEC Member Countries; to encourage the Member Countries to initiate deep-sea resources exploration; and to support the issues related to the international concerns on ecosystem approach and avoid misunderstanding of deep-sea fishery management through human resources development.



Deep-sea exploration in Lingayen Gulf, Philippines onboard the M.V. DA-BFAR in May 2008

Supporting actual surveys

The project has been supporting investigations of deep-sea fishery resources in the Southeast Asian waters in close collaboration with the Member Countries. Since 2007, the project implemented a survey using the M.V. SEAFDEC2 for the actual fishing trial of deep-sea beam trawl and IKMT (Isac-Kid Mid-Water Trawl) in the Andaman Sea of Thailand in March 2007; deep-sea resources survey in Brunei Darussalam waters in June 2008 and March 2009; and in the Lingayen Gulf, Philippines on-board the M.V. DA-BFAR in May 2008. The activities in 2010 will be continued to support the survey in the EEZs of Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam waters.

Development/ improvement of the deep-sea Sampling gears and technology

The workshop on the standard operating procedure (SOP) on the methodologies for deep-sea fishery exploration and development/ improvement of appropriate sampling gears was conducted from 26 to 28 May 2009 under this program. The workshop addressed the need to formulate and develop the standard operating procedures for deep-sea fishery resources exploration in the Southeast Asian waters. Experience sharing and standardization of the specific procedures for the operation of sampling gears and data collection were achieved. Moreover, the workshop also formulated future plan of activities on deep-sea fishery resources exploration at the regional and national levels.



The workshop on the standard operating procedure (SOP) on the methodologies for deep-sea fishery exploration and development/improvement of appropriated samplings gears

Human resources development (HRD)

HRD activities were conducted to encourage the Member Countries to take initiatives in conducting deep-sea resources exploration in their EEZ waters in order to investigate the status and potentials of the deep-sea fishery resources. TD in collaboration with the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) conducted shipboard training on the survey methodology using three main sample gears such as deep-sea beam trawl, bottom trawl, and deep-sea trap onboard the M.V. DA-BFAR from 11 to 25 May 2008. Also included was the capacity building on deep-sea fish identification through a training workshop from 18 to 22 January 2009 in order to enhance the participants' ability to identify fish species commonly captured at the depth between 100 m and 900 m through morphology and habitat preferences.



Training workshop on identification of deep-sea fishes

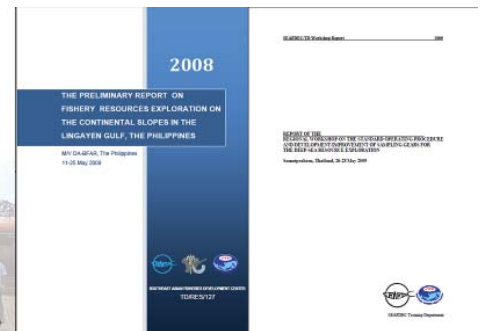
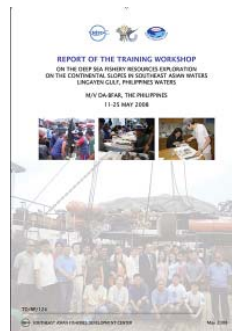


Specimens collection identification and photography

Deep-sea ecosystem and impact from fishery

From the point of view of the international concerns on ecosystem approach for the deep-sea fisheries and based on the data collected through the actual surveys since 1998, collaboration and coordination with other relevant initiatives will be enhanced. An expert meeting will be organized in August 2010 to discuss the issues related to the deep-sea

ecosystems and impacts from fishing. In addition, the results of the study under this project and other relevant initiatives on the impact from fishery will be discussed during the said expert meeting.



Set of preliminary reports on the results of the survey and training workshops

Information dissemination

The initial progress report on the project had been disseminated to the project participants and public in the form of set of preliminary reports on the results of the survey; set of guidelines and standard operating procedures in the level of scientific survey/operation; set of posters of fishes

Catalog Data

Catalog Number	SEAFDEC00010	
Species	Family	Lophioidae
	Genus	Lophiomus
	Species	setigerus
Standard Length	18.5 cm	
Locality	Brunei Waters	
Sampling date	2008-06-13	
Vessel name	M.V. SEAFDEC 2	
Cruise number	29-2/2008	
Sampling gear	BOTTOM TRAWL	
Sampling Depth (meter)	162	
Number of specimens	1	
Remark		

User: [natinee]

Fish collection database available at http://map.seafdec.org/deep_sea/search.php

More information on the project's current activities and free publications as separate downloadable reports and proceedings including catalog of fishes, are available at <http://map.seafdec.org/DeepSea/>. ☒