

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- SEAFDEC introduces the Fish-Refugia Project at GEF IWC8 4
- Bringing Gender Perspectives into Action 7
- Special Report: Exchanging information on Catadromous eels in Southeast Asia 8
- SEAFDEC convenes consultation to develop regional approach for FAO-SSF Guidelines 11
- SEAFDEC convenes the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tunas Stock Assessment in the Southeast Asian Waters 13
- Special Training/Workshop on Stock Assessment of Longtail Tuna and Kawakawa at MFRDMD 13
- SEAFDEC holds meetings to discuss the proposed listing of commercially-exploited aquatic species in CITES Appendices 16

### EDITORIAL

Several momentous SEAFDEC events happened during the second quarter of 2016, one of which was the 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in April, where the proposed programs of activity for 2016 aimed at addressing important issues for sustainable development of fisheries in the region were approved. The Council also approved the Draft “Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products” to be tabled for adoption by the Senior Officials in the High-level Consultation scheduled on 3 August 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand. Another remarkable event was the visit of the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC to the ASEAN Secretariat, where the respective leaders of the ASEAN and SEAFDEC agreed to strengthen the collaboration of both organizations for the benefit of the fisheries sector in Southeast Asia.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

### SEAFDEC holds the Forty-eighth Meeting of its Council in Nha Trang, Viet Nam



*Council Directors of SEAFDEC at the Opening Ceremony of the Meeting*

At the kind invitation of the Government of Viet Nam, the 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council was held in Nha Trang from 4 to 8 April 2016. In this occasion, the Council Director for Viet Nam, *Mr. Nguyen Viet Manh* was unanimously elected as the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for the Year 2016-2017.

During the Meeting, the SEAFDEC Council approved the proposed program of activities to be undertaken in 2016, taking into consideration the range of issues important for the sustainable development fisheries in the region. Discussion was subsequently made to provide directives on several fisheries policy-related issues.

Specifically on combating IUU fishing, the Council provided recommendations



*Dr. Kom Silapajarn (left) and the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council, Mr. Nguyen Viet Manh. (right)*

toward the development of the “Regional Cooperation for Supporting the Implementation of Port State Measures in ASEAN Region,” and the “Regional Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity (RPOA-Capacity)” prior to their submission for consideration by the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF).

With regards to the policy recommendations for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, the Council noted the progress made by SEAFDEC in the implementation of regional policy recommendations, namely the “Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable of Neritic Tunas,” the “Regional Policy Recommendations on Conservation and Management of the Eel Resources and Promotion of Sustainable Aquaculture,” and the “Regional Policy Recommendations for Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Formulations.” The Council also approved the “Policy Recommendations on Addressing EMS and Other Trans-boundary Diseases in Aquaculture,” and the “Policy Recommendations and Strategic Plans for the Implementation of Fisheries Resources Enhancement

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 1)

SEAFDEC continued to advance the initiatives that it has undertaken to combat IUU fishing in Southeast Asian waters, in various fora, such as during the 14<sup>th</sup> World Tuna Trade Conference & Exhibition in Bangkok in May. Recognizing the importance of gender equality and equity, SEAFDEC/TD staff took part in the Gender Learning Workshop in Bangkok in June for them to familiarize with the idea of integrating gender and fisheries-related issues in TD programs. SEAFDEC/AQD through its Library added another feature in its cap after bagging the 2015 Outstanding Academic/Research Library Award given by the Philippine Association of Academic and Research Librarians, for the outstanding leadership of AQD Library in national and regional library development and management.

SEAFDEC sustained the conduct of several training courses including the Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (E-EAFM) for responsible and sustainable fisheries management and the special Training/Workshop on Stock Assessment of Longtail Tuna and Kawakawa which aimed to enhance the region's capability in data analysis and stock assessment of neritic tunas. The SEAFDEC Project on the Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand (2016-2020) was officially launched during the GEF International Waters Conference (IWC8) in June 2016.

Another memorable event was the assumption to office of the new Deputy Chief of SEAFDEC/AQD. *Dr. Chihaya Nakayasu* succeeding *Dr. Takuro Shibuno* whose tour of duty at AQD ended in March. With *Dr. Nakayasu* at AQD's helm, SEAFDEC looks forward to putting his expertise on fish immunology and fish pathology into optimum use for the benefit of the Member Countries. ☒

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**[www.seafdec.org](http://www.seafdec.org)**.

You can also send your comment  
on our Newsletter to  
**[secretariat@seafdec.org](mailto:secretariat@seafdec.org)**.

## SEAFDEC Secretary-General visits the ASEAN Secretariat and IFRDMD

SEAFDEC Secretary-General *Dr. Kom Silapajarn* paid courtesy visit to the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia on 25 April 2016. During his meeting with the Director of Sectoral Development Directorate, *Mr. Tran Dong Phuong* and other officials of the ASEAN Secretariat, *Dr. Kom* and *Mr. Phoung* expressed the intention to strengthen the collaboration of ASEAN and SEAFDEC for the benefit of their members. In particular, the planned the High-level Consultation on Regional Cooperation in Sustainable Fisheries Development Towards the ASEAN Economic



*SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Dr. Kom during his visit to the ASEAN Secretariat*

Community scheduled on 3 August 2016 was discussed, and it was agreed that the draft Joint Declaration to be adopted during the High-level Consultation would be tabled for discussion at the ASWGFi before circulating this to the Member Countries for approval by *ad referendum* and subsequent adoption at the High-level Consultation.

Afterwards, *Dr. Kom* accompanied by AQD Chief *Dr. Felix Ayson* and officials of SEAFDEC Secretariat and AQD visited IFRDMD in Palembang, Indonesia on 26 April 2016. The team met with Acting IFRDMD Chief *Dr. Satoshi Honda* and *Dr. Achmad Poernomo*, Advisor for Public Policy to Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia. Their discussion briefly touched on the operational matters of IFRDMD as well as issues related to catadromous eels, which would be subsequently discussed at the IFRDMD-organized 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop on Enhancement of Sustainability of Catadromous Eel Resources in Southeast Asia on 27-29 April 2016 also in Palembang. ☒

## SEAFDEC broaches its regional initiatives to combat IUU fishing at TUNA 2016

SEAFDEC Policy and Program Coordinator, *Dr. Somboon Siriraksophon*, broached the initiatives of SEAFDEC and its Member Countries for combating IUU fishing in Southeast Asian waters during the 14<sup>th</sup> World Tuna Trade Conference & Exhibition (TUNA 2016) held on 23-25 May 2016 at Shangri-La Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand. TUNA 2016 was organized by the INFOFISH in collaboration with the DOF Thailand, Thai Tuna Industry Association, and other international and regional fisheries organizations. The event's program comprises presentations on issues related to tuna resources management, trade and latest innovations in the industry.

Considering that Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is one of the major threats to sustainable tuna

fisheries development at the global scale, as this results in destruction of habitats, over-exploitation of resources, as well as decrease of income to fishers and countries' GDP, SEAFDEC was invited to provide an update of the Southeast Asian initiatives toward combating IUU fishing. Specifically, *Dr. Somboon* shared the lessons learned by SEAFDEC on the development and promotion of such initiatives in the Southeast Asian region. He also advanced the plan of the ASEAN and SEAFDEC to convene the High-level Consultation on 3 August 2016 to adopt the "Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products," which would strengthen the implementation of those initiatives in the region. ☒

## SEAFDEC holds the Forty-eighth Meeting of its Council in Nha Trang, Viet Nam

(Continued from Page 1)

Activities in the Southeast Asian Region” for implementation by SEAFDEC and the Member Countries. Furthermore, the “Regional Guidelines on Traceability System for Aquaculture Products in the ASEAN Region” was also endorsed for further consideration by the ASWGFi.

As for the preparation for the High-level Consultation on Regional Cooperation in Sustainable Fisheries Development Toward the ASEAN Economic Community, the Council approved the Draft “Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration” in principle for submission and consideration by the ASWGFi and subsequent adoption by the Senior Officials at the High-level Consultation, scheduled on 3 August 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand.

At the end of the Meeting, the Council announced that its 49<sup>th</sup> Meeting in 2017 would be hosted by Brunei Darussalam. ☒

## SEAFDEC pays courtesy call to the SEAFDEC Council Director for Lao PDR and the Mekong River Commission



SEAFDEC Secretary-General during the visit to DLF, Lao PDR

The Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, *Dr. Kom Silapajarn* together with Senior Advisor *Dr. Magnus Torell*, Assistant Policy and Program Coordinator *Dr. Worawit Wanchana*, and SEAFDEC-Sweden Project Manager *Ms. Pattaratjit Kaewnuratchadasorn* paid a courtesy call on the Director-General of the Department of Livestock and Fisheries (DLF) in Vientiane while concurrently serving as the SEAFDEC Council Director for Lao PDR, *Mr. Somphanh Chanphengxay*; and SEAFDEC Alternate Council Director

*Mr. Bounthong Saphakdy*, together with the Head of Fisheries Division, *Mr. Sommano Phounsavath*, on 17 June 2016.

The discussion mainly touched upon key programs of SEAFDEC that support Lao PDR, *i.e.* on inland fisheries resources management and capacity building on related fisheries issues. While expressing his appreciation of the outstanding relationship between SEAFDEC and DLF, *Mr. Somphanh* agreed that there is a need to strengthen such relationship in order to achieve several key targets, such as poverty reduction and improvement of the effectiveness and coordination of fishery resources management in Lao PDR and the region as a whole.

Meanwhile, SEAFDEC also visited the Office of the Secretariat of Mekong River Commission (MRC) in Vientiane. The discussion focused on strengthening the collaboration and cooperation between SEAFDEC and MRC on sustainable development of inland fisheries in the Southeast Asian region. ☒

## Fifteen complete 3-week mangrove crab training course



Fifteen participants from the Philippines (13), Germany (1) and Singapore (1) finished the training course on Mangrove Crab (mud crab) Hatchery and Nursery Operations from 11 May to 1 June 2016 at AQD's Tigbauan Main Station (TMS) and Dumangas Brackishwater Station (DBS). The trainees

learned about broodstock management, induced spawning techniques, production of natural food organisms and larval, nursery & grow-out culture techniques through a series of lectures and practical activities.

During the closing ceremonies, class chairman *Mr. Rolando Salamat* said that the course has been a good learning experience. He cited that the course did

not only introduce new knowledge but also made him aware of the hurdles in crab culture. “*It only shows that putting up a hatchery is not an easy job, it is actually a complex one that requires more effort, more study and more dedication which we (trainees) are willing to do,*” he said.

AQD's Technology Verification and Demonstration Division Head *Dr. Fe Dolores Estepa* expressed high hopes for the trainees “*A closing ceremony means the end of your stay with us but that should not mean it is the end of the ties between you and AQD. It would be good to know when all of you successfully venture into mangrove crab (mud crab) hatchery and nursery operations. We hope you'll share your experiences and techniques with each other and with us because we will be happy to hear from you soon,*” *Dr. Estepa* said. ☒



Trainees counting crab instars for packing

# DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

## The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan visits TD



*H.E. Mr. Shiro Sadoshima on board the M.V. SEAFDEC 2*

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Kingdom of Thailand, *H.E. Mr. Shiro Sadoshima* and his party paid an official visit to SEAFDEC Training Department on 21 April 2016. SEAFDEC Secretary-General and Chief of TD *Dr. Kom Silapajarn*, and SEAFDEC Deputy Secretary-General and Deputy Chief of the Training Department, *Dr. Kaoru Ishii* led the SEAFDEC staff to greet the Ambassador. A video on the role played by SEAFDEC and TD on regional fisheries development and the significant achievements of SEAFDEC was presented by the Secretary-General to the honorable guests. Subsequently, a tour to observe TD facilities such as fishing workshop, engineering workshop, the M.V. SEAFDEC, and onboard visit of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, were conducted.



## Outstanding Library Award for AQD Library

Kudos to AQD Library for bagging the 2015 Outstanding Academic/Research Library Award given by the Philippine Association of Academic and Research Librarians, Inc. (PAARL). The award recognizes the role and significant contributions of AQD Library to academic and research librarianship; its outstanding leadership in national and regional library development in the areas of management, education, training, information and documentation services; as well as its commitment to information networking and linkages.

*Mr. Stephen Alayon*, OIC of AQD Library and Data Banking Services Section, received the award during the Awarding Ceremony held at the Far Eastern University in Sampaloc, Manila on 29 January 2016.



*2015 Outstanding Academic/Research Library Award given to AQD Library by PAARL*

## SEAFDEC introduces the Fish-Refugia Project at GEF IWC8

SEAFDEC Policy and Program Coordinator, *Dr. Somboon Siriraksophon*, introduced the UNEP-GEF Project to be implemented by SEAFDEC on the “Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand, starting from 2016 until 2020, to the 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Waters Conference (GEF IWC8), 9-13 May 2016 in Negombo, Sri Lanka. As the Technical Focal Point of the said Fish-*Refugia* Project, *Dr. Somboon* presented the salient points of the Project, and specified that the beneficiary countries of this project are Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam. He emphasized that the project aims to increase resilience of regional fish stocks to the effects of fishing, and to ensure that the fisheries and habitat management are conducted in an integrated manner. His presentation won for him the 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of the Pecha Kucha Presentation Contest. The Pecha Kucha is a 20x20 format, where the presenter shows 20 images automatically for 20 seconds. The SEAFDEC Fish-*Refugia* Project is part of the GEF International Waters (IW) Program.

It should be noted that the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has set a new development agenda for the 2015 to 2030 period. Meanwhile GEF IW investments are directly and indirectly tied into each of the 17 SDGs and 168 targets, where two SDGs aim to ensure access to water and sanitation for all and conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources, which are of particular relevance to GEF's IW Investments. Therefore, with the new global development commitments in mind, IWC8 was organized by GEF with the theme Scaling Up GEF IW Investments from Sources to Sea and Beyond in the Context of Achieving the SDGs.



## GIFU Prefecture of Japan and SEAFDEC agree to cooperate in inland fisheries development



*Mr. Hajime Furuta and Dr. Kom Silapajarn during the MOU signing Ceremony*

The Governor of Gifu Prefecture of Japan, *Mr. Hajime Furuta* and his party paid an official visit to SEAFDEC Training Department (TD) on 27 May 2016. The occasion marked the signing of Memorandum of Understanding between SEAFDEC and Gifu Prefecture which aims to promote educational and technical cooperation for the sustainable development of inland fisheries in the Southeast Asian region.



## TD joins the Fish Marketing Organization Exhibition



Visitor at TD booth obtaining information on IUU Fishing

SEAFDEC/TD imparted some information on “IUU Fishing in the ASEAN region” during the “Chatuchak and Fish Market,” and exhibition organized by the Fish Marketing Organization (FMO) from 31 March to 2 April 2016 at FMO premises in Bangkok, Thailand. The information provided focused on: what is IUU fishing and the forms of IUU fishing activities in Southeast Asian region. Moreover, TD also presented the technology of deep sea trap and promoted SEAFDEC visibility to public during the event. ☒

## SEAFDEC-Sweden Project convenes Annual Review Meeting

The SEAFDEC-Sweden Project Annual Review Meeting for the year 2015 took place on 28 April 2016 at SEAFDEC Secretariat in Bangkok. The Meeting was attended by *Mr. Göran Haag* of the Embassy of Sweden in Bangkok, *Mr. Peter Fundgård* from the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM), and SEAFDEC officers led by SEAFDEC Secretary-General *Dr. Kom Silapajarn*, and members of the Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN).

Conducted annually, this year’s Review Meeting was aimed at discussing the Project’s performance in 2015 and the planned activities for 2016 to ensure that these support the goals of the Project. During the discussion, both parties noted with satisfaction the progress made by the Project in relation to the cooperation’s road map and efficient cooperation with other organizations on priority regional topics.

The Project would continue to work with international partners, including the ASEAN, FAO, CTI-CFF, RPOA-IUU, MRC, IUCN/MFF, USAID, and so on, to ensure the sustainable of the fisheries resources in the region.

Also in relation to the SEAFDEC-Sweden Project, SEAFDEC Secretary-General *Dr. Kom Silapajarn* and staff welcomed *Mr. Göran Haag* and *Ms. Louise Herrmann* from the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) in Stockholm during their visit to the SEAFDEC Secretariat on 12 May 2016. *Dr. Kom* took the opportunity to introduce SEAFDEC’s organization and its mission and programs, as well as updated the guests on the progress of the SEAFDEC-Sweden Project, which is supported by the Government of Sweden, especially the activities implemented focusing on regional cooperation that were discussed during the Review Meeting. ☒



SEAFDEC team welcoming Mr. Göran Haag and Ms. Louise Herrmann

## In-house workshop on basic foresight activities for RFPN members

SEAFDEC with support from the SEAFDEC-Sweden Project organized an “In-house Introductory Workshop on Basic Foresight Activities” at SEAFDEC Secretariat in Bangkok, Thailand for two times, on 23 May and 26 May 2016. Dubbed as an in-house writeshop, it was attended by the eight members of the Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) stationed at SEAFDEC Secretariat.



Participants of the Writeshop

The Writeshop was meant to introduce to the participants the key concepts in foresight activities and give them an insight to how these could be used when developing strategies, projects and work plans. It was also intended to encourage the participants to learn the basic methods for scanning and analyzing the environment for trends and emerging issues in order to avoid surprises, identify threats and opportunities for them to become proactive instead of reactive, and improve the various aspects in planning. Foresight can be defined as the capacity to think systematically about the future to improve decision making today. In this connection, the participants practiced important activities, *i.e.* defining the reasons for scanning, what is the problem that needs to be solved; finding answers to: What important events have occurred since 2006 that are of relevance to the objective?; brainstorming on what trends are happening right now and writing down the information on “trend-cards”; and analyzing which fall under events, trend and driving force. ☒

## AQD scientist awarded for contributions in chemical research

*Dr. Relicardo Coloso*, a scientist at AQD, was given an award for “Chemical Research” by the Philippine Federation of Chemistry Societies (PFCS) during the “31<sup>st</sup> Philippine Chemistry Congress” held in Iloilo City from 13 to 15 April 2016. The PFCS annually recognizes outstanding contributions to the development of chemistry and society through the PFCS awards.

With his Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences from Cornell University, USA, as a Fulbright-Hays Mutual Educational Exchange Grantee; an MS in Biochemistry



*Dr. Relicardo Coloso giving a lecture on Chemicals and Sustainable Aquaculture during the congress*

at University of the Philippines Diliman on a PCMARD-SEAFDEC scholarship; and a BS Chemistry cum laude degree also from UP Diliman as a DOST scholar, *Dr. Coloso* has long been making waves in the scientific community. *Dr. Coloso* is known for his work on fish nutrition, nutritional biochemistry, and feed development with his works described in over 40 scientific papers published in international journals and proceedings. He has also co-authored a textbook *Nutrition in Tropical Aquaculture* which was awarded the 2004 Outstanding Book Award by the National Academy of Science and Technology. During the congress, *Dr. Coloso* also gave a talk on “Chemicals and Sustainable Aquaculture” as one of the plenary speakers of the event. The three-day congress also had oral and poster presentations and was attended by more than 800 participants.

The congress was organized by the *Kapisanang Kimika ng Pilipinas* in cooperation with the Integrated Chemists of the Philippines Panay Chapter and the PFCS.



## Press Conference for ASEAN Fisheries & Aquaculture 2016

Press conference for the “ASEAN Fisheries and Aquaculture Conference and Exposition 2016: ASEAN Seafood for the World” and “11<sup>th</sup> Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (AFAF) and Exhibition: Asian Food Security for the World” was convened on 7 April 2016.

The “ASEAN Fisheries and Aquaculture Conference and Exposition 2016: ASEAN Seafood for the World” in conjunction with the 11<sup>th</sup> AFAF is scheduled on 4-6 August 2016, at the Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition Centre (BITEC) in Bangkok, Thailand, and hosted by the DOF Thailand in collaboration with the Asian Fisheries Society (AFS), INFOFISH, the Network of Aquaculture Centres in the Asia-Pacific (NACA), and SEAFDEC. Within this event, international scientific conference will be organized to share

experiences and lessons-learned in fisheries and aquaculture by six themes as follows: 1) Governance; 2) Education and Training; 3) Sustainable Intensification of Aquaculture; 4) Response to Impacts of Climate Change; 5) Sustainable Fisheries; and 6) Seafood, Post-harvest Technology and Food Safety.



*The Organizers including DOF, AFS and NACA at the Press Conference*

## M.V. SEAFDEC 2 conducts survey in Malaysian waters



*SEAFDEC and Malaysian staff on board the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 during the survey mission*

The M.V. SEAFDEC 2 departed SEAFDEC Training Department Pier on 5 May 2016 for its mission to assist Malaysia in the conduct of its national research survey in the waters of Kuantan under a cost-sharing arrangement with the DOF Malaysia. The sixty-six days survey mission using the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 included oceanographic survey and demersal species sampling by bottom otter board trawl in 160 stations.



## Shipboard training on observer program



*The M.V. SEAFDEC 2 during the shipboard training on observer program*

The SEAFDEC Training Department (TD) in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries (DOF) of Thailand conducted shipboard training on observer program onboard the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 and M.V. Plalung from 7 to 10 April 2016 in upper part of the Gulf of Thailand. The 30 trainees from DOF practiced the concept and principles of the observer onboard program through trawl and longline operations.



## Bringing Gender Perspectives into Action

Recognizing the importance of bringing gender perspectives into practice in Southeast Asia under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC mechanism, six (6) core technical staff from TD took the opportunity to join the Gender Learning Workshop hosted by Oxfam's Gender Transformative and Responsible



*TD Staff participate the workshop on gender mainstreaming*

Agribusiness Investments (GRAISEA) Program in Bangkok on 21-22 June 2016. In line with the objective of the Workshop that focused on building capacities by exchanging working knowledge and experiences about gender perspectives, the TD staff attending the Workshop had gained better understanding and awareness on gender, gender equality and equity, and gender concepts in the context of fisheries. More importantly, the concerned TD staff also learned how gender-related issues and how gender could be integrated into fisheries development and management for achieving sustainable fisheries. Furthermore, the Workshop also opened their insights on promoting sustainable and responsible practices through gender lens as well as on the possibility of establishing collaboration and relationship between Oxfam and SEAFDEC.



## Oceans and Fisheries Partnership conducts site survey in Malaysia, followed by visits to Member Countries

The Training Department (TD) in collaboration with the USAID-Oceans Team and the DOF Malaysia conducted a site survey for the Oceans and Fisheries Partnership Project from 25 to 27 April 2016 in Malaysia. The ocular survey covered catch, fish landing activities, fishing vessels and gear in Tok Bali and Getting fish landing port including activities on fish processing in Kelantan. In addition, the Oceans and Fisheries Partnership Project and activities was introduced and discussed with stakeholders, especially to the private sector in Kelantan through the SEAFDEC Marine Fishery Resources

Development and Management Department (MFRDMD) and University Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) as the partners in Terengganu, Malaysia

During the same quarter, the USAID-Oceans Team also made a series of country visits to Brunei Darussalam (13-14 June 2016), Myanmar (20-21 June 2016), Cambodia (23-24 June 2016), and Lao PDR (30 June to 1 July 2013). The Team met with the respective countries' competent fisheries authorities for discussion on the Project and updates of the progress of the Project's implementation in the region.



*Preparations for the site survey (above), and one of the visits to Member Countries (right)*



## Climate resiliency workshop taps AQD scientists



*SEAFDEC/AQD scientist Dr. Felix G. Ayson discusses the environmental physiology of milkfish and high-value species*

A Workshop on Climate Resilient Aquaculture Operation organized by the Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Division of the Philippines' Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources tapped AQD scientists Drs. Felix G. Ayson and Emilia T. Qunitio as resource speakers.

Held last 3-4 May 2016 in Quezon City, the workshop aimed to discuss aquaculture operations in a close system environment in order to identify issues and concerns related to risks caused by the changing climate condition as well as to identify approaches to mitigate such risks, and to be resilient in such an event.



*Participants and resource speakers of the "Workshop on Climate Resilient Aquaculture Operation"*



*SEAFDEC/AQD scientist Dr. Emilia T. Qunitio entertains a question from a workshop participant*

# SPECIAL REPORT

## Exchanging Information on Catadromous Eels in Southeast Asia

By SEAFDEC Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD)

Catadromous eels consist of fish species belonging to genus *Anguilla*. They start their lives in the ocean and migrate to the shore as larvae (leptocephali) that metamorphose into juveniles called “glass eel” and go up rivers with pigmentation (called “elver”) then spend several years in freshwater as “yellow eel.” Mature and ready to spawn, they swim downstream (called “silver eel”) and head to the spawning ground in the ocean, and after spawning they die. The morphology of Anguillid eels (yellow eel) is unlike that of the other freshwater fishes. Anguillid eels have a long cylindrical shape and continuous dorsal, caudal and anal fins. They also have pectoral fins but no pelvic fins. Anguillid eels are distributed throughout tropical and temperate waters, except for the Eastern Pacific and South Atlantic (Silfvergrip, 2009 in Crook & Nakamura, 2013). According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) data, global eel production has risen dramatically from 17,750 tons in 1950 (only 3% coming from aquaculture/eel farming) to 280,000 tons in 2007 (96% from eel farming), after which production stabilized in 2008 to 2010 (FAO, 2012 in Crook & Nakamura, 2013). Wild populations of Anguillid eels have declined considerably over the last 30 years because of several factors, including fishing for trade (Dekker et al., 2009 in Crook & Nakamura, 2013).

The need for conservation and management of eel resources has been attracting attention while the resources of temperate Anguillid eels such as Japanese eel (*Anguilla japonica*), European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) and American eel (*A. rostrata*) have rapidly decreased. Since 2009, European eel, *A. anguilla* had been listed in CITES Appendix II virtually prohibiting their

export and import. To compensate the shortage of supply of these temperate Anguillid eels, tropical Anguillid eels such as Indian mottled eel (*Anguilla bengalensis*), Indonesian shortfin eel (*Anguilla bicolor*), and marbled eel (*Anguilla marmorata*) become economically-important Anguillid eel species in the region. It is necessary to ensure that these resources should be conserved and managed properly in order that they will not to be critically endangered and be listed on the CITES Appendices as a consequence.

Catch statistics are the most important basic data for assessing the current status and trend of fish resources. In order to evaluate the relative abundance of eel resources, there is a need to develop the catch statistics on eels, especially the tropical Anguillid eels in Southeast Asia. However, data on catch statistics of Anguillid eels in the region are insufficient. It is therefore necessary to establish an inventory system as soon as possible for the conservation, management and sustainable utilization of the tropical Anguillid eel resources and also for future development of the eel industry in the region.

To address the issues on data collection on eels, IFRDMD organized the First Workshop on Enhancement of Sustainability of Catadromous Eel Resources in Southeast Asia on 27-29 April 2016 in Palembang, Indonesia. Government fisheries officers from Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam and Indonesia, professors/scientists from Indonesian universities, representative of an eel industry in Indonesia, Fisheries Policy Adviser of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the scientists/researchers from Secretariat, AQD and IFRDMD attended the Workshop which was mainly aimed at exchanging information on the status of eel fisheries/eel farming in their respective countries. The Workshop discussed the important and controversial issues on the eel industry in Southeast Asia and came up with recommendations and the way forward, as shown in the following Table:



Capture of glass eels using scoop net at the mouth of Cimandiri River, Indonesia (above); and Fyke net used to capture fish at the mouth of Poso River, Indonesia (right)



**Table 1. Recommendations and Way Forward for Enhancing the Sustainability of Anguillid Eels in Southeast Asia**

Issues	Recommendations and Way Forward
1. Improving data collection and statistics on Anguillid eels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Considering that information on status and trends of eel resources are necessary for management for sustainability of the species, and since data collection on status and trends of eels which inhabit the deep ocean is not possible, monitor the trends of eel juveniles caught for aquaculture purposes as these could provide some pictures on the trend of eel population in their natural habitats.</li> <li>To facilitate data collection by the countries, develop standardized template by harmonizing the existing templates currently used by the countries, and indicate that data compiled on eels should be categorized as: 1) Glass eels = transparent / non-pigmented; 2) Elvers (Kuroko) = pigmented, up to 50 grams; and 3) Yellow/Silver eels = above 50 grams</li> <li>Collect catch data by weight, which could be used for calculating the number of juveniles caught; fishing hours; fishing gears, etc.</li> <li>Also collect data on production of eels from aquaculture.</li> <li>For marketable size eels, difficulties have been encountered by many countries in reporting eel catch statistics because Anguillid eels are recorded under the group of “eels” together with the other eels or “others” together with other unidentified fish, thus, efforts should be made to improve the statistics on eels in the future.</li> </ul>
2. Increasing survival rate during culture of glass eels to elvers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The most critical stage in eel aquaculture in the region is from glass eels to elvers, which takes 3-4 months and survival rate has been recorded to be very low, but records in Japan showed survival of cultured <i>A. bicolor</i> from glass eels to elvers was as high as 90% and in Indonesia up to 55% (in a company supervised by Japan), and up to 90% in laboratory-scale. Therefore, there is a need to improve and extend eel aquaculture technologies to enhance survival rate in culture farms, and optimize the utilization of glass eels which could eventually lead to increased eel production in the region.</li> <li>In glass eels, particularly for <i>A. bicolor</i>, 5-7 cm in length are the most appropriate size for aquaculture to attain high survival and growth, and since it had been difficult to regulate the catching size of glass eels, it is necessary to develop other measures, e.g. identification of appropriate geographical areas for catching, appropriate collecting season, etc. and continue R&amp;D in the culture of eels, e.g. optimum water quality (physical and chemical), feeding/nutrition (e.g. appropriate protein and lipid content requirement), disease management, etc.</li> </ul>
3. Compilation of existing information/ researches from Southeast Asian countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Considering that several studies relevant to Anguillid eels have been undertaken and published by researchers in several Southeast Asian countries, including those published in national languages, it is therefore necessary to compile such information to facilitate further research studies and undertake activities towards the conservation and management of the species.</li> </ul>
4. Mitigating problems on unregulated trade of eels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish regulations on trading of eels, taking into consideration those that are available in several countries, e.g. exportation of eels smaller than 150 grams is prohibited in Indonesia and smaller than 15 cm in length in Philippines.</li> <li>Considering that Anguillid eels command high price while demand had been increasing, large quantities of glass eels are being traded without proper regulation and recording in some cases. Therefore, measures should be developed and imposed to prevent illegal trade and laundering of glass eels, and such measures should focus on those that could be undertaken by exporting countries.</li> </ul>
5. Restocking and resource enhancement measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Considering the migratory nature of Anguillid eels, from the deep ocean to freshwater rivers, of which the migratory route along the river could be long with obstacles/conditions that hinder their migration, e.g. fishing activities, cross-river obstacles, and habitat degradation, therefore, restocking of eels could be considered as an option.</li> </ul>

In order to compile good statistics, the participants agreed to: (1) collect statistics on catch of juvenile eels using a harmonized template (to be developed), comprising minimum data requirements (e.g. catch and effort data, location, gears) with standard definitions of the different stages of eel juveniles, to facilitate data collection, and separately recording data on catch of glass eels, elvers and yellow/silver eels; and (2) identify appropriate check points (eel farms, quarantine station, local/national government). Moreover, for improving the statistics on eel production (marketable size), separate the statistics on production of Anguillid eels from other eels, and other fishes (aggregated species), and collect information on Anguillid eel farming. To prevent illegal trade and laundering of glass eels, the participants supported the conduct of studies on market chain of catadromous eels originating from Southeast Asia; and improvement of regulations/monitoring systems on smuggling-exportation of glass eels. In addition, restocking could also

contribute to enhancing the awareness of stakeholders on the need to conserve eel resources. For resource enhancement, closed season (e.g. for certain period) should be more appropriate than closed areas, but this should be based on what is most appropriate in the situations of respective countries.

Additional information could be obtained from SEAFDEC/IFRDMD (Dr. Satoshi Honda, Dr. Dina Muthmainnah, and Ms. Ni Komang Suryati)

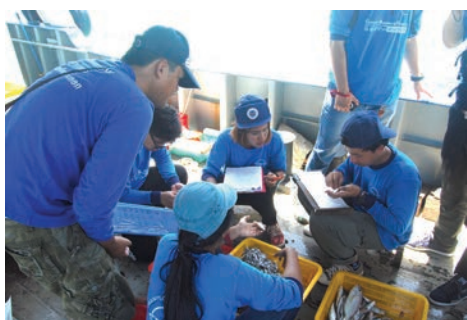


# REGIONAL PROGRAMS

## Short-term training course on EAFM for university students

The Training Department (TD) organized the “59<sup>th</sup> Short-term Training Course for University Students on Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)” from 7 to 17 June 2016 at the TD premises in Samut Prakan, Thailand. With the objective of building up and raising awareness on responsible fishing for sustainable fisheries to young generation, the Training received twenty seven students from six universities in Thailand and an university in Japan, such as Kasetsart University, Burapha University (Bangsan Campus and Chantaburi Campus), Prince of Songkla University, Silpakorn University (Phechaburi Information Technology Campus), Rajamangala University of Technology Tawanok (Chantaburi Campus), and Hokkaido University in Japan.

The course has been specifically designed for students to gain knowledge, practical skills and experience on the concept and principles of EAFM, fishery management in Thailand and Japan, basic fishery oceanographic survey, fishing gear and so on, outside their Universities. Moreover, the students also had the chance to practice rope knotting, simple fishing gear construction, oceanographic survey and responsible fishing operations at sea, fishery community survey in Rayong Province, Eastern part of Thailand.



*Students during the EAFM training course*

## SEAFDEC convenes Regional Workshop on Piloting the E-EAFM LEAD Materials

SEAFDEC/TD convened the “Regional Workshop on Piloting E-EAFM LEAD Materials” on 27-29 June 2016 in Rayong Province, Thailand, with funding support from the FAO/GEF/SEAFDEC/REBYC-II CTI Project. The Workshop was attended by fifteen (15) policy level participants from REBYC participating countries, representatives from FAO, REBYC-II CTI, IMA International, SEAFDEC Secretariat and TD. The Workshop was aimed at testing the LEAD materials in a realistic LEAD workshop



situation and obtaining feedback required for fine-tuning and finalization of the materials.

The LEAD materials discussed during the Workshop included brochures, videos, posters, PowerPoint presentations, conversations, keywords, and reference materials. With feedbacks from the participants, the LEAD materials would be improved for building-up of knowledge and skills among policy makers of REBYC Countries on the EAFM concept, motivating policy level changes by accommodating the EAFM concept in the respective national policies, and providing informed leadership in its implementation. The Workshop also sought the possibility for the improved LEAD materials to be introduced to SEAFDEC Program Committee during its 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting which is scheduled in November 2016 in Indonesia.



## On-site Training of Trainers on E-EAFM in Lao PDR

As part of TD's initiatives to deliver the concept on Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (E-EAFM) to the ASEAN Member States, TD convened an “On-site Training of Trainers on E-EAFM” on 25-29 April 2016 in Lao PDR with support from the SEAFDEC-Sweden Project. This training course was aimed at strengthening the understanding of the trainers on the concepts of E-EAFM module, through the presentation of their works either individually or group, practice in running energizers and sharing their own energizers, practice reviews including facilitating pair works, small group work, role playing and plenary discussions.

Ten participants from the Department of Livestock and Fisheries of Lao PDR attended this training course. In order to further extend and transfer knowledge and



*Participants of the E-EAFM training of trainers in Lao PDR*

information deep down to the country-side, Training of Trainers (TOT) becomes the most vital process of learning and understanding all the contents of the E-EAFM and also knowing how to transfer the concepts appropriately. Moreover, this training course is intended to make the participants confident in sustainably guiding the proper understanding of the E-EAFM concept to fishery stakeholders in the future.



## REBYC-II CTI Project organizes two Writeshops

With funding support from the FAO/GEF/SEAFDEC/REBYC-II CTI Project, TD organized the “Socio-economic Writeshop” on 25-26 April 2016 back-to-back with the “Final Report Writeshop” on 27-29 April 2016 in Cha-Am, Phetchaburi Province, Thailand. While the former focused on the socio-economic aspects of trawl fisheries, as recommended by the mid-term evaluation, the latter highlighted on the lessons learned and was aimed at summarizing the achievements made under each project component, namely: Policy, legal and institutional frameworks; Resource management and fishing operations; Information management and communication; Awareness and knowledge.

Both writeshops were attended by representatives from the participating

countries, namely: Indonesia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, and Vietnam, as well as from TD. The Socio-economic Write-shop which focused on the draft socio-economic report on trawl fisheries including case studies conducted by the participating countries, were discussed and standardized, for

publication and dissemination. The Final Report Writeshop discussed the main achievements of each project component and the main lessons learned, and the participants came up with the drafted sections which would form part of the Final Report of REBYC-II CTI Project.



*Participants of the regional write-shop*

## SEAFDEC convenes consultation to develop regional approach for FAO-SSF Guidelines

With the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries as its backdrop, the “FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines),” had been developed with emphasis on securing sustainable resource use and access rights; securing post-harvest benefits; and securing social, economic and human rights, among others. Considering that the SSF Guidelines targets the global scenario, and since there is high concentration of small-scale fisheries in the Southeast Asian region with great importance in providing significant contribution to national and local economies of the countries, it has become necessary to

design a regional application of the SSF Guidelines to meet the demands of the region as well as support the sustainability target of small-scale fisheries in Southeast Asia.

Recognizing the importance of the SSF Guidelines, the SEAFDEC Council during its 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting in Viet Nam in April 2016, asked SEAFDEC to develop the regional approach for the implementation of SSF Guidelines. In an effort to solicit views and recommendations from the Member Countries, SEAFDEC organized on 7-9 June 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand, the Regional Technical Consultation on Development of Regional Approach to the Implementation of the Guidelines.



With support from the SEAFDEC-Sweden Project and the Japanese Trust Fund, the Consultation was attended by at least 50 participants representing representatives from the ASEAN Member States and non-governmental organizations as well as international partners such as FAO, Too Big To Ignore Project, among others. With the active collaboration of this diverse agglomeration of experts, the Consultation drafted the Southeast Asian Regional Approach to the Implementation of SSF Guidelines which will be brought up for endorsement by high level authorities of SEAFDEC and the ASEAN, and subsequently for submission to the forthcoming 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in July 2016.



*During the discussion to develop regional approach for the FAO-SSF Guidelines*

## MFRDMD coordinates HRD on identification of elasmobranchs for Viet Nam

SEAFDEC/MFRDMD in collaboration with SEAFDEC/TD and Secretariat, and the Research Institute for Marine Fisheries of Viet Nam jointly organized “Training on Elasmobranch Taxonomy” at the South Research Sub-Institute for Marine Fisheries (SORESIMF) in Vung Tau, Viet Nam on 23-27 May 2016. Two lecturers conducted the training: *Dr. Ahmad Ali*, Senior Researcher of MFRDMD and Regional Vice Chair for the IUCN Sharks Specialist Group for Southeast Asia, and *Mrs. Annie Lim Pek Khiok*, Senior Laboratory Assistant and Member of IUCN Sharks Specialist Group for Southeast Asia.

With 13 participants from the Department of Fisheries of Viet Nam participating, the training was conducted under the MFRDMD Project on “Research for Enhancement of Sustainable Utilization and Management of Sharks and Rays in the Southeast Asian Region” which aims to provide knowledge and experience to those who are responsible for collecting sharks and rays landings data, as well as to train the ‘trainers’. The lectures given were on taxonomy and biology of elasmobranchs, and the participants were guided to identify fresh



*Participants following the lecture on Elasmobranch Taxonomy*

specimens of sharks, rays and skates as well as understand the standard operating procedures for collecting tissue samples for DNA analysis. The specimens used during the training are now preserved at the SORESIMF for future reference.

Moreover, results of the one-year data collection on sharks carried out in two provinces of Viet Nam (Binh Thuan and Vung Tau) were validated with the guidance of SEAFDEC experts, namely: *Dr. Ahmad Ali*, *Dr. Osamu Abe*, *Dr. Worawit Wanchana*, and *Mr. Santiphong Putsa*. During the training, a total of 25 new records for Viet Nam had been noted, including 13 species of sharks, 11 species of rays, and one species of skate.



## MFRDMD launches project to enhance coastal community resilience in muslim communities

In launching its new project with support from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), MFRDMD organized the Regional Technical Consultation on Enhancing Coastal Community Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Coastal Resources Management in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 16-19 May 2016. The RTC was attended by representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, as well as officer from IDB, resource person from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), an observer from the German International Cooperation, and officers from MFRDMD.

The Consultation discussed the project plan and selected the participating communities, as well as harmonized the “Community’s Problems and Needs Assessment” questionnaires. The Project will be implemented as planned until November 2017.



## IFRDMD organizes Workshop on Enhancement of Sustainability of Catadromous Eel Resources

SEAFDEC/IFRDMD organized the First Workshop on Enhancement of Sustainability of Catadromous Eel Resources in Southeast Asia from 27 to 29 April 2016 in Palembang, Indonesia. The Workshop was attended by

representatives from SEAFDEC Member Countries, SEAFDEC Secretariat, AQD, IFRDMD, and renowned resource persons. The workshop was mainly aimed at summarizing the experiences, results, information, and measures on eel fishery

and eel farming and addressing the concerns on the sustainable utilization of catadromous eel resources in the region. At the outset of the Workshop, IFRDMD Acting Chief *Dr. Satoshi Honda* provided a brief summary of the present status of Anguillid eels in the world and Southeast Asia, CITES and the Eel Project of IFRDMD which intends to sustain the potentials of tropical catadromous eel industries in Southeast Asia. Recommendations during the Workshop would be used for planning of the future activities to support and improve information collection on eel resources in the Southeast Asian region.



## SEAFDEC convenes the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tunas Stock Assessment in the Southeast Asian Waters

SEAFDEC Secretariat in collaboration with MFRDMD organized the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tunas Stock Assessment in the Southeast Asian Waters on 27-29 June 2016, in Chonburi Province, Thailand with funding support from the SEAFDEC-Sweden Project with the Resource Person on Stock Assessment, *Dr. Tsutomo Nishida* from the National

Fisheries Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries (NRIFSF) of Japan.

With the overall objective of promoting sustainable utilization of neritic tunas in the Southeast Asian waters, the Meeting discussed the results of the stock assessment of longtail tuna and kawakawa in some ASEAN Member States based on respective countries' data

compilation of neritic tunas production as well as catch and effort. The Meeting also reviewed the biological and ecological aspects, developed plans for genetic studies of neritic tunas in this region as well as determined the requirements of the countries for capacity building in stock assessment of neritic tunas at the country level.

An important output of the Meeting was the draft policy recommendations on improvement of fisheries management and data collection to understand stock status of neritic tuna resources in Southeast Asia which were adopted by the Scientific Working Group (SWG). During the closing of the 3<sup>rd</sup> SWG-Neritic Tunas Meeting, the SWG Member from the Philippines offered to host the 4<sup>th</sup> SWG Meeting in 2017 in the Philippines.



### On-site TOT on data analysis and extension in Viet Nam

SEAFDEC/TD in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Directorate of Fisheries (D-Fish) of Viet Nam organized the “On-site Training of Trainers on Data Analysis and Extension to Promote Co-management from 15 to 17 June 2016 at Da Nang City, Viet Nam. The training course was aimed at supporting fishery personnel at provincial level as the key persons for co-management in the communities. Moreover, the course also imparted knowledge on extension strategies and components which the participants can apply to promote co-management in their province. ❖



### Special Training/Workshop on Stock Assessment of Longtail Tuna and Kawakawa at MFRDMD

MFRDMD in collaboration with the Secretariat conducted the “Special Training/Workshop on Stock Assessment of Longtail Tuna and Kawakawa in the Southeast Asian Region” in Terengganu, Malaysia from 17 to 25 April 2016 with funding support from the Government of Sweden. The Training/Workshop was attended by 20 national stock assessment scientists from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam, as well as scientists from MFRDMD, TD and the Secretariat. With support from the Fisheries Research Agency of Japan, *Dr. Tsutomo Nishida* participated as key resource person on RFMOs' tuna stock assessment, and as lecturer for the training course.

The specific subjects focused on CPUE standardization and stock assessment analysis using ASPIC, Kobe Plot (stock status trajectory) as a decision making tool for management and other relevant programs. In addition, the training also molded the participants to become trainers

with the responsibility of conducting training on CPUE standardization and stock assessment analysis of neritic tunas at national levels upon completion of the training. Participants also practiced on the use of specific software for stock assessment analysis, *e.g.* CPUE standardization by GLM, ASPIC and Kobe Plot using the sample data provided by country. In addition, the participants also shared experiences and views on the software particularly the menu driven software developed under a SEAFDEC license, for improvement and increasing the capability of data analysis on stock assessment by the Southeast Asian countries. ❖



# FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Date	Venue	Title	Organizer(s)
2016			
4-14 July	Samut Prakan, Thailand	Regional Training Workshop on Larval Fish Identification and Fish Early-life History Science (Advanced course: Key to Species)	SEAFDEC-Sweden Project
9-15 July	Rome, Italy	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN)	FAO
11-15 July	Rome, Italy	32 <sup>nd</sup> Session of FAO Committee on Fisheries	FAO
18-22 July	Singapore	Regional Training Course on Identification of Biotxin-producing HAB Species in the ASEAN Region	MFRD
21-22 July	Sandakan, Malaysia	Workshop on CITES Species Non-detriment Findings (NDFs)	Secretariat & MFRDMD
26-27 July	Jakarta, Indonesia	Workshop on CITES Species Non-detriment Findings (NDFs)	Secretariat & MFRDMD
26-28 July	Nakhon Nayok, Thailand	In-house Training Workshop on Gender Awareness and Gender Mainstreaming in Fisheries Sector	SEAFDEC-Sweden Project
27 July	Jakarta, Indonesia	Ministerial Meeting on "Traceability of Fish and Fisheries Product"	Indonesia
2 August	Bangkok, Thailand	27 <sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting of Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific	NACA
3 August	Bangkok, Thailand	High-level Consultation on Regional Cooperation in Sustainable Fisheries Development Towards the ASEAN Economic Community	Secretariat
4-6 August	Bangkok, Thailand	ASEAN Fisheries Conference and ASEAN Seafood Exposition	Thai DOF & SEAFDEC, NACA
8-10 August	Palembang, Indonesia	1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop to Review Activities and Methodologies for Promotion on Inland Fishery	IFRDMD
9-11 August	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Core Expert Meeting for Comparative Study on Purse Seine Fishery in the Southeast Asian Region	MFRDMD
16-18 August	Malaysia	Final Project Meeting on Sharks Data Collection in Southeast Asia	Secretariat, TD & MFRDMD
22-26 August	Philippines	Training Course on Catfish Hatchery and Grow-out Operation	AQD
22-23 August	Philippines	Meeting of SOM-AMAF	ASEAN
5-10 September	Cambodia	Training on Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (E-EAFM) for Cambodia	SEAFDEC-Sweden Project
12-16 September	Philippines	Training Course on Freshwater Prawn Hatchery & Grow-out Operations	AQD
12-23 September	Philippines	Training Course on Seaweed Farming	AQD
12 Sep-16 Feb 17	Philippines	Distance Learning Course on Principles of Health Management in Aquaculture (AHOL)	AQD
20-22 September	Preah Sihanouk, Cambodia	On-site Training on Energy Saving and Safety at Sea for Small Fishing Vessels in Cambodia	TD
22-23 September	Bangkok, Thailand	Experts Group Meeting on Stock Status and Geographical Distribution of AIB-Species in the Gulf of Thailand	SEAFDEC-Sweden Project
24 Sep-5 Oct	South Africa	17 <sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	CITES
11-13 October	Nonthaburi, Thailand	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Gulf of Thailand Sub-region	SEAFDEC-Sweden Project
18-20 October	Bangkok, Thailand	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Andaman Sea Sub-region	SEAFDEC-Sweden Project
25-27 October	Indonesia	17 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAFDEC Information Staff Program (ISP)	Secretariat & IFRDMD
1-2 November	Papua New Guinea	12 <sup>th</sup> CTI-CFF Senior Official Meeting (SOM-12)	CTI-CFF
3 November	Papua New Guinea	6 <sup>th</sup> CTI-CFF Ministerial Meeting (MM-6)	CTI-CFF
22 Nov-1 Dec	BFS-Philippines	Training Course on Community-Based Freshwater Aquaculture for Remote Rural Areas of Southeast Asia	AQD
28-30 November	Indonesia	39 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee (PCM)	Secretariat & IFRDMD
1-2 December	Indonesia	19 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG/ASSP)	Secretariat & ASEAN

## SEAFDEC participates in the International Fisheries Stakeholders Meeting on Impact of CITES Listing of Sharks and Rays Species in the Southeast Asian Region

SEAFDEC Assistant Policy and Program Coordinator, *Dr. Worawit Wanchana*, attended the “International Fisheries Stakeholders Meeting on Impact of CITES Listing of Sharks and Rays Species in the Southeast Asian Region” convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on 19-20 April 2016 in Penang, Malaysia. The Meeting considered the results of a regional case study conducted by FAO, on the preparation of “Fishery Framework” for developing a future plan to monitor the impacts of the listing of species in the CITES Appendices. While this Meeting concentrated on the issues and concerns of countries in the South and Southeast Asian region, similar works toward determining the impacts of CITES listings were also undertaken for other regions, *i.e.* South America and the Atlantic.



### SEAFDEC holds meetings to discuss proposed listing of commercially-exploited aquatic species in CITES Appendices

(Continued from page 16)

As a result, the Consultation come up with positions not to support the inclusion of: the genus *Alopias* spp. (Thresher sharks) in Appendix II; *Carcharhinus falciformis* (Silky shark) in Appendix II; *Potamotrygon motoro* (Ocellate river sting ray) in Appendix II; *Holocanthus clarionensis* (Clarion angelfish) in Appendix II; and *Pterapogon kauderni* (Banggai cardinal fish) in Appendix II of CITES.

The Consultation also discussed the ways and means of seeking cooperation of the ASEAN authorities through the ASEAN mechanism and ASEAN Experts Group on CITES (AEG-CITES), considering that the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Common Position would be the region's stand on the proposed listing of commercially-exploited aquatic species into the CITES Appendices that would be taken up during the forthcoming CITES CoP17. It was agreed that these common positions would be submitted to the SEAFDEC Council by *ad referendum* for consideration and endorsement, and subsequently submitted to the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASWGF and the higher authority of ASEAN for further endorsement.



#### 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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**Layout:** Satana Duangsawasdi

## Nakayasu is new AQD Deputy Chief



*New AQD Deputy Chief and JTF Co-Manager, Dr. Chihaya Nakayasu*

Dr. Chihaya Nakayasu is the new SEAFDEC/AQD Deputy Chief and Japanese Trust Fund Co-Manager for AQD to serve a two year term starting 1 April 2016. Dr. Nakayasu, 50, succeeded Dr. Takuro Shibuno whose tour of duty at

AQD ended in March 2016. A scientist at the Fisheries Research Agency of Japan (FRA) with expertise on fish immunology and fish pathology, Dr. Nakayasu's last post prior to moving to AQD is as Research Coordinator of FRA's Research Management Department. He has also served as Leader of the Immunology Section of the National Research Institute of Aquaculture, Aquatic Animal Health Division for five years. As co-author of many science papers, Dr. Nakayasu has published papers in science journals, such as the Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology, Fish and Shellfish Immunology, Fisheries Science, Developmental and Comparative Immunology, among others.

Dr. Nakayasu is a graduate of Tokyo University of Fisheries (B.S., M.Sc., and Ph.D.) and the National Institute of Infectious Diseases (Postdoctoral Researcher).

Welcome to AQD Dr. Nakayasu!



*AQD Research Division Head Dr. Evelyn Grace Ayson tours Dr. Nakayasu at the mud crab hatchery*

## SEAFDEC holds meetings to discuss the proposed listing of commercially-exploited aquatic species in CITES Appendices



*Participants of the Experts Meeting on Commercially-exploited Aquatic Species*

SEAFDEC organized the Experts Meeting on Commercially-exploited Aquatic Species on 16-17 May 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand, which was attended by experts from ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, as well as senior officers from SEAFDEC Secretariat, AQD, IFRDMD, MFRDMD and TD. The Meeting came up with technical recommendations to address the issues related to conservation and sustainable utilization of commercially-exploited aquatic species in the Southeast Asian region.

Back-to-back with the Experts Meeting, SEAFDEC also organized the Regional Consultation for Development of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Common Position on the Proposed Listing of Commercially-exploited Aquatic Species into the CITES Appendices on 19-20 May 2016.

The Consultation was mainly aimed at developing the common position of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries on the proposed listing of commercially-exploited aquatic species into the CITES Appendices.



*Participants of the RTC on Proposed Listing of Commercially-exploited Aquatic Species into the CITES Appendices*

*(Continued on Page 15)*