



**Report of the Seminar on the Introduction of SEAFDEC-
Sida Cooperation in 2013-2017, Bangkok, Thailand, 12
March 2013**

Bangkok, Thailand

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Southeast Asian Fisheries of Development Center

The Secretariat

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Meeting on the Introduction of the SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation in 2013-2017 was convened in Bangkok, Thailand on 12 March 2013. The SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation has been ongoing for several years and it has a gradually matured since 2003 and is now entering the third phase. The first phase, or Agreement, was from 2003 to 2008 through the Swedish Board of Fisheries (SBF), the second from 2009 to 2012 with an Agreement directly with Sida before entering into the recent Agreement on cooperation from 2013 to the end of 2017. The Seminar was organized to provide an opportunity to introduce the objectives, rationale and implementation framework for the SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation 2013-2017.

2. The Seminar was attended by representatives from international and regional organizations as well as relevant projects and initiatives, namely: the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM), Australian Embassy in Bangkok, Asian Coastal Resources Institute Foundation (CORIN-Asia) Group, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO/RAP), International Union for the Conservation of Nature/Mangrove for the Future (IUCN/MFF), Mekong River Commission-Fisheries Program (MRC-FP), Royal Norwegian Embassy in Bangkok, and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). The SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Special Advisor, as well as officers and staff of the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Training Department (SEAFDEC/TD) also participated in the Seminar. The List of Participants appears as **Annex 1**.

3. The Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, *Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri* welcomed the participants to the Seminar and expressed his appreciation for the participation of collaborating partners to the Seminar. He announced that the new Agreement which covers five years, from 2013 until 2017 was signed by SEAFDEC and the Government of Sweden through the Development Cooperation Section of the Swedish Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand on 5 March 2013. The said cooperation which centers on the sustainable use of aquatic resources and reduced vulnerability to climate change by coastal/rural communities in the ASEAN region specifically supports fisheries and habitat management, climate change, and social wellbeing in Southeast Asia. He looked forward to the cooperation of key as this could serve as an opportunity to promote fisheries development in a holistic manner and not in a “sector” isolation or uncoordinated basis. His Welcome Statement appears as **Annex 2**.

4. The Deputy Head of the Development Cooperation Section of the Swedish Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand, *Mr. Ola Möller* also welcomed and thanked the participants for coming to the one-day Seminar. He mentioned that in view of the need to promote sustainable exploitation of marine aquatic habitat, Sida decided to extend its support to SEAFDEC to enable it to assist the Member Countries in the development of sustainable fisheries through continued cooperation with key partners. He added that the renewed SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation will also include the sustainable utilization of freshwater aquatic resources.

5. The SEAFDEC Program Manager for the SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation, *Ms. Pattaratjit Kaewnuratchadasorn* provided an outline of the functions and structure of SEAFDEC. She also presented a brief background of the SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation from 2003 to 2012. She mentioned that the cooperation between SEAFDEC and Sida in the early stages were managed and administrated through a cooperative arrangement with the Swedish Board of Fisheries (SBF). The cooperation from 2003 to 2006 with and an extension 2007-2008, focused on the “*Human resource development on the support of Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Management*”. The project developed the “Strategy for HRD in fisheries in the ASEAN”, which was adopted by the SEAFDEC Council during its annual meeting in 2004. In 2009-2012, the SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation focused on the implementation of “*Activities Related to Climate Change and Adaptation in Southeast Asia with Special Focus on the Andaman Sea*”. The program included ways of addressing the capability of concerned Member Countries in responding to climate variability, climate change and unpredictable weather patterns. A major thrust, in efforts to promote adaptive capacity, was to initiate cooperation with relevant departments to integrate fisheries and habitat management. In parallel, the program worked with ASEAN, SEAFDEC, and Andaman Sea Member Countries on the importance to manage fishing capacity as a platform for mitigating the continued occurrence of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Southeast Asian region. The detailed presentation appears as **Annex 4**.

II. SEAFDEC-SIDA COOPERATION IN 2013-2017

6. The scope and objectives of the continued SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation (2013-2017), including the project strategy, were explained by the SEAFDEC Program Manager, *Ms. Pattaratjit Kaewnuratchadasorn*. She reiterated that in order to develop the program framework, it is necessary that regional, sub-regional and on-site processes should be considered. Moreover, in the implementation of the program it is imperative that coordination and cooperation among partners at regional, sub-regional and local levels should be carried out. Meanwhile, it is also necessary to promote joint actions or “code-sharing” among concerned programs and initiatives. The program will not run pilot activities but field-level interventions will be sub-contracted to local organizations and NGOs. There will be an increased emphasis on dialogue and trans-boundary cooperation and agreements between countries. She highlighted that the continued cooperation shall comprise of fisheries and habitat management, climate change, and social wellbeing in Southeast Asia. The geographical scope will include Southeast Asia/ASEAN region and the four sub-regions of Andaman Sea, Gulf of Thailand, Sulu-Sulawesi Seas and the Mekong River Region. The detailed presentation is shown as **Annex 5**.

7. Following the discussion, it was emphasized that the kind of (regional) cooperative arrangements that could be developed with the SEAFDEC-Sida Program as one partner were quite flexible. It was explained that the bottom line was that joint efforts should move towards a common aim and with a focus on activities where resources would be shared in order to accomplish the common goal. Seen from another angle, it could also be where we have activities that are complementary. Looking at the cooperation with the BOBLME as an example the work on integration of fisheries and habitat management (ecosystems approach to fisheries and the Mergui) is an example of similar objectives suitable for joint action whereas the SEAFDEC-Sida focus on fishing capacity adds an important element that is not included in the BOBLME framework.

III. EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT AND SCOPE OF COOPERATION

8. Prospective collaborating partners, sub-regional projects and initiatives represented at the Seminar expressed their support and plans for enhanced cooperation to successfully work towards common objectives. In response to questions by participants information was provided that countries in sub-regions, sub-sub-regions, regional and international organizations, NGOs and local communities had been involved in various stages of consultations and program planning. Furthermore, information was provided with regards to priorities among countries in each of the sub-regions in that meetings had been held with all the countries around the Andaman Sea and Gulf of Thailand, respectively, with a view to get inputs and recommendations for areas of cooperation. With regards to the Mekong (MRC was present at the Seminar) and the Sulu-Sulawesi Seas consultations has been held with the MRC and the CTI-CFF, respectively to ensure cooperation and avoid duplication of effort. Arafura-Timor Seas will not directly be involved but SEAFDEC will consult with countries to share experiences.

9. Although the ASEAN Secretariat could not be represented during this event due to circumstances “beyond their control”, a presentation on “ASEAN Community Building and Fisheries” was sent to the SEAFDEC Secretariat for distribution during the Meeting. The document emphasized that fisheries is included among Priority Integration Sectors under the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint. The document, and comments during the Seminar, also highlighted the importance of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint in matters of relevance to community development, working conditions, habitats and environmental protection. The discussion raised concern over limited capacity of the ASEAN to engage in the regional dialogue on the integration of this priority sector in the process leading up to the ASEAN Community by 2015. Without the presence of ASEAN in regional ASEAN-SEAFDEC consultations and/or without the full involvement of SEAFDEC in the deliberations of the ASEAN Sector Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi) there is a gap in the dialogue. The Seminar discussed ways that this gap could be bridged by strengthening the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP). In recognizing that SEAFDEC is the “technical arm” of the ASEAN in fisheries it was suggested by the Seminar (FAO/APFIC) that SEAFDEC should be established as the “ASEAN Centre for Fisheries” and serve as center for fisheries management in Southeast Asia. The Seminar suggested that this should be explored further by, also, looking into the mechanisms and mandates of other ASEAN Centers.

10. The Senior Analyst of the International Coordination Unit of the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM), *Mr. Peter Funegård* provided information about the organization structure of SwAM which was established in 2011. He also introduced their main activities which focus on protection of the marine and aquatic environment, and fisheries management in Sweden and within the European Community. He emphasized on the importance of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) in Sweden, a process used for allocating space in the sea for different uses and for protection. MSP serves as a comprehensive basis for decisions on management activities and protection measures. It is also used as a tool to achieve coordinated and integrated marine management. Other important areas included steps to simplify licensing, to enhance predictability for operators, and to facilitate cross border collaboration.

11. The report on Fisheries Control in Sweden and Indonesia under the Indonesia-Sweden Cooperation (2006-2009), was presented by *Mr. Mårten Gustafsson* from the Fisheries

Control Unit of SwAM. This Unit operates the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) which is tasked to allocate quotas and effort; ensure that the fishing industry complies with the EC regulations, promote accessibility of fisheries information to the public, and cooperate with the Swedish Coast Guard for the enforcement of regulations. He explained that allocation of quota is based on the recommendations of the International Council for Exploration of the Sea (ICES) which decides on the quotas taking into account scientific advice and proposal of the EC. He also cited that the major concern in the EU as of the moment is food safety and traceability as indicated in the EC Regulation 1005/2008. The EC Regulation requires traceability and to comply with this fishery products come with “radio-frequency identification (RFID) bar codes”. He also mentioned that there was presently a process going on to revise the EU Fisheries Policy for possible adoption in 2014. The new policy would include requirements relevant to environmental aspects and biodiversity.

12. With respect to the Indonesia-Sweden Cooperation (2006-2009), a pilot project was conducted in East Java and centered on the development of vessel register, conduct of stock assessments, and improvements of the fishing logbooks (with an aim that even the fishers with low education could provide inputs into the logbooks). Through the cooperation, the strategy for national registration and utilization of fisheries data was also further developed. Specifically, the improved Indonesia fishing logbook as one of the outputs of the cooperation, and frequent references was mentioned by participants on the value of the simplified logbook being developed under Swedish cooperation. It is easy to use by fishers, and easy to monitor by control inspectors.

13. Lessons learned from the experiences of Sweden and Europe could be very useful for the region both in terms of the use of scientific evidence to regulate fishing quota (and fishing effort time allocation) as well as that of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) as an important tool in mapping zones (MPAs, Closed Seasons, etc) and to define spatial restrictions with regards to various activities (shipping lanes, etc. Areas for cooperation could be discussed further with SEAFDEC as such as well as under the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation.

14. The representative from the Australian Embassy in Bangkok, *Mr. Tom Black* presented the progress of the activities under the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing in the Southeast Asian Region on behalf of the RPOA Secretariat. He summarized the outputs of the workshop on Assessment of the Impacts of IUU Fishing and EC Regulation 1005/2008 on Small-scale Fisheries which was held in Vietnam in October 2012 and reported on the activities conducted by countries in region to deter the activities of IUU fishing vessels in the waters of Southeast Asia, the draft procedures for listing and delisting IUU fishing vessels, and the promotion of RPOA public information campaign. He added that the RPOA Work Plan for 2012-2013 include: strengthening legal, administrative and policy frameworks, capacity building, strengthening regional/international cooperation, and announced that the next meeting of the RPOA Coordination Committee will be convened in Malaysia in November 2013. Myanmar and the ASEAN Secretariat would be invited to attend the meeting as observers. He also welcomed the prospects of continued cooperation with SEAFDEC and the SEAFDEC-Sida program both in the perspective of the RPOA and seen from the perspective of Australia as a cooperation partner

15. With regards to the activities identified by the RPOA, the SEAFDEC Council has increasingly expressed its support to efforts aiming towards combating IUU fishing. The membership of SEAFDEC and that of the RPOA include, except for Myanmar and Lao PDR

on the SEAFDEC side and Australia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste on the RPOA side the same eight Southeast Asian countries. It was suggested that cooperation should be strengthened through the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation with continued discussions between SEAFDEC and the RPOA Secretariat.

16. The UNEP-GEF Project on Implementing the Strategic Action Program for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand was presented by *Mr. Jerker Tamelander*, Head of Coral Reef Unit of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The development of the said Strategic Action Program (SAP) was a result of the UNEP/GEF Project on Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand implemented in 2002-2008. The participating countries in SAP implementation are: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The Executive Partner will be the Secretariat for the Coordinating Body of the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA). With the objective of assisting the countries in meeting the targets of the approved SAP for marine and coastal environment of the South China Sea, National Action Plans in support of the SAP would be developed under this 5-year program. Regional co-ordination for SAP implementation would be strengthened. It was also clarified that the 2002-2008 UNEP/GEF project provided a set of important trans-boundary diagnostic analyses (TDA) which led to the development of the SAP.

17. In the ensuing discussion, it was noted that the BOBLME is also developing a similar SAP in the Bay of Bengal which has almost the same structure as that of the SAP in South China Sea, except that the detailed activities would be quite different. The implementation of South China Sea SAP would also include networking among relevant agencies and institutions as well as universities, and possibly including the initiatives under the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation. It was noted that in the South China Sea and the Gulf of Thailand a parallel UNEP/GEF process was ongoing with a purpose to provide a basis for the implementation on “fisheries refugia”. This GEF initiative would include fewer countries than for the South China Sea SAP implementation. SEAFDEC is indicated as a key partner in the fisheries refugia implementation. Fisheries agencies would be the focal point for implementation but would include the environment agencies although some countries have separate offices responsible for ocean matters, to be encouraged to join as collaborating partners.

18. A brief introduction to Mangroves for the Future (MFF) was made by *Mr. Donald Macintosh*, Senior Advisor for the MFF. Membership in the MFF includes Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam with Cambodia, Myanmar, and Timor-Leste as outreach countries. Several countries are common members with that of SEAFDEC. He also identified the areas of common interest between MFF and SEAFDEC which future collaborative activities under the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation could be anchored on. These include efforts in ensuring the constitutional rights and livelihood rights of fisher-folk, reducing vulnerability of poorer coastal communities to natural hazards, promoting trans-boundary environmental management, addressing the vulnerability of poorer coastal communities, securing access to available aquatic resources, integrating traditional knowledge and local organizations into planning processes to integrate fisheries and habitat management, and building up adaptive capacity in fisheries and aquatic resources utilization to cope with environmental change, including climate impacts. MFF could also share resources in the standardization of carbon footprints accounting.

19. The Senior Fisheries Officer of the FAO/RAP, *Dr. Simon Funge-Smith* provided brief information on the FAO/APFIC/BOBLME indicating continued collaboration in the various activities of SEAFDEC including those under the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation. For the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project, the trans-boundary diagnostic analysis of the areas in the Andaman Sea was already completed while the SAP is still being developed. This is one area where collaboration could be established. In addition, through the Project, capacity in fisheries management decision making for *Rastrelliger* spp. (regional fishery management advisory committee as model for regional cooperation) has been promoted, works on sharks being pursued as well as those for sub-regional aspect of the RPOA with SEAFDEC supporting the development of NPOA-Sharks, while capacity development in fisheries statistics has been sustained. When the Nansen Research Vessel comes to the Bay of Bengal, SEAFDEC experts could join the onboard regional capacity building. He added that the Bay of Bengal LME Strategic Action Program is in its development, and expressed the hope that the SEAFDEC-Sida activities could complement such efforts. Cooperation on trans-boundary areas had been extended in the Bay of Bengal, *e.g.* the Mergui archipelago, with SEAFDEC, CORIN and the Wetlands Alliance. A Regional Ecosystem Approach to Fishery Management training course has been developed by BOBLME/APFIC/USAID-CTI and other partners. FAO looked towards options to develop capacity within SEAFDEC to roll out this sort of training for regional and national levels.

20. Moreover, the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC) is taking a multi-year focus on addressing trawl management in the region, recognizing that trawling is an excellent entry point for addressing many of the complex and interrelated problems of fisheries management in the Asian region. He explained that trawling is probably one of the most prevalent forms of fishing in the region- in terms of catch and effort, especially in the near shore/coastal area. It can impact on the benthic habitats and fish diversity, in fact in most fisheries there is excess trawl capacity and it has created conflicts between artisanal and commercial operations. There are IUU issues in some cases, and certainly there are needs for better traceability, also a need for results in zoning and regulatory challenges. Nevertheless, there are still opportunities to manage better, improve compliance and move towards more responsible fishing operations. The new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation seems highly complementary to a number of FAO Projects and initiatives such as the project on “Strengthening of the Ecosystem Approach to Management and the development of capacity for Fishery Improvement Planning” in the region; To continued building on the regional Ecosystem Approach to Fishery Management training course developed by BOBLME/APFIC/USAID-CTI and other partners (including SEAFDEC); The FAO/SEAFDEC/GEF Strategies for management of trawl by-catch (REBYC II); The SEAFDEC *refugia* program; The South China Sea SAP implementation; The Regional cooperation on combating IUU; and finally the International Fishmeal and Fish Oil Organization (IFFO) fishmeal dialogue including efforts to improve the responsibility of fishmeal and aquaculture feeds producers in the region.

21. APFIC 31st session is proposed to have a stronger focus on inland fisheries, which will be addressed over the next biennium. These include: improving valuation and understanding of the role and importance of inland fisheries in the region - especially with respect to food security and nutrition; Floodplain connectivity and ways to mitigate the impacts of water management (highly complementary to FAO/SEAFDEC meeting on fish passes and work of MRC Fishery Programme); Inland enhancements (MRC/FAO). APFIC will also be working on the area of sustainable intensification of aquaculture - particularly focusing on the areas of feeds and the linkages to marine fisheries (this links to the FAO/SEAFDEC/GEF project REBYC II).

22. As for the general aspect of collaboration with FAO, strong linkage with RPOA-IUU and SEAFDEC has been established in the adoption of the Port State Measures Agreement linking SEAFDEC to FAO Technical Cooperation Program in Fisheries (TCP-F) for a pilot project on port monitoring and capacity building; as well as in small-scale fisheries instrument such as the programs on rights in fisheries linked to tenure and fishery. Promotion of regional management in fisheries has been sustained, especially through the establishment of working groups for stock assessment or stock management, and the regional analysis of status and trends, particularly linking to global assessment of oceans as part of the Regular Process of the UN General Assembly (UNGA).

23. While establishing good cooperation would be advantageous to the region, and with fisheries being open-access, it was suggested that relevant regulations should be put in place especially at the local level. From the matrix of cooperation presented by FAO, it became imperative that planning of one activity for one geographical area should be conducted in a cooperative manner. Moreover, one of the activities of the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation could be focused on the development of guidelines on spatial management and design criteria for fisheries *refugia*.

24. The Regional Program Manager for the CORIN-Asia Group, *Ms. Rebecca Fontanilla-Andong* presented the system of networking and working relationship among the independent and autonomous CORIN-Asia national organizations. Specifically, the project in Cambodia focuses on Integrated Coastal Zone Management including trans-boundary collaboration in critical habitat management; in Myanmar on Integrated island and coastal zone management including trans-boundary collaboration in critical habitat management; in Thailand on Integrated river-basin and coastal management in collaboration with the Thai Royal Development Program; in Vietnam on Integrated Conservation Area Management, *i.e.* Ramsar Site, National Park, Man and Biosphere; and in Lao PDR on Poverty Reduction and Agricultural Management (PRAM). In brief, CORIN-Asia Group has the potentials to fill in the gaps and contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation, especially in aspects of field-work.

25. The representative from the Mekong River Commission-Fisheries Program (MRC-FP), *Mr. Peng Bun Ngor* presented in brief the structure and programs of the MRC-FP (**Annex 12**). He cited the main goals of the Fisheries Programme which are: to achieve coordinated and sustainable development, utilization, management and conservation of the fisheries of the Mekong Basin and to aid the MRC member countries in implementing sustainable fisheries management and development at local, national and regional levels. He explained that in the valuation of the economics of inland fisheries, focus is made mainly on market price at landing sites and some pilot study areas. Considering the importance of valuing inland fishery resources, it was suggested that MRC could collaborate with other initiatives and projects in this aspect. However, since Wetland Alliance has an on-going work on valuation of freshwater fisheries, the connectivity of such efforts with those of MRC as well as those activities under the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation could be established and promoted.

IV. GENERAL COMMENTS

26. The Secretary-General of SEAFDEC informed the Seminar that inland fisheries had been getting more attention and importance in SEAFDEC. In 2012, the SEAFDEC Council

approved in principle, the establishment of a new SEAFDEC Department on Inland Fisheries in Indonesia. In its Plan of Operation and Program of Work, issues related to the economics and valuation of inland fisheries would be included which means that collaboration in terms of expertise of other relevant organizations would be necessary.

27. The representative from Sida cited that the Seminar has provided a lot of inputs with respect to increased collaboration in various aspects for the sustainable development of fisheries and habitat management in the region. The opportunity for the strengthening of collaboration and the opportunities to build cooperative arrangements under the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation has been made clear. For this clear message he expressed his sincere gratitude to the organizations, projects and initiatives represented at the Seminar.

28. The representative from FAO/RAP suggested that similar consultations could be convened quarterly to follow-up on activities, to discuss progress and to provide information on new initiatives, not only with regards to the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation but also on matters of relevance to programs and initiatives run by other institutions and organizations. A form of extended “brown-bag lunch”, but without the brown-bag, could be promoted for this purpose to ensure regular consultations among partners. FAO/RAP will follow up with SEAFDEC Secretariat on the possibility to organize such a “semi-structured” event in early May 2013

V. CONCLUSION

29. The Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, *Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri* noted that there seems to be some overlapping of activities on fisheries in general in the region. However, considering that the concepts are broad and the areas are vast, then such overlaps could be easily straightened out. It is clear that effort cannot be done isolation but in a collaborative manner in order that activities are coordinated and that efforts conducted by partner institutions could become complementary instead of duplications. By working together, there is no reason for redundancy of efforts in the region. With that note, he expressed gratitude to Sida for supporting the organization of the Seminar as this had paved the way for identifying possible areas of collaboration without unnecessarily duplication. He extended an invitation to another round of discussions to be arranged later, to continue the dialogue on joint efforts with SEAFDEC, the new SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation and other initiatives in the region and sub-regions. He also thanked the participants for their active involvement in the discussions, and secretariat staff for the successful arrangements of the Seminar.

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Annex 2

Opening Remarks

By Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, SEAFDEC Secretary-General

Your Excellency,

Ms. AnnaMaria Oltorp, Head of Development Cooperation at the Embassy of Sweden. Honorable guests from the Embassies of Australia and Norway, representatives from partner organizations (FAO, ADB, USAID, IUCN, UNEP, MRC, CORIN-Asia, Swedish Agency for Water and Marine Management) . Advisors and officials from SEAFDEC, the group of Regional Fisheries Policy Network, welcome to you all to this Seminar.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Good morning!

First of all, let me convey my sincere gratitude to all of you for sharing your time to joining us at this important Seminar.

Also a special vote of appreciation for our important partner, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), for the continuous support to efforts being made through SEAFDEC to improve cooperation among countries in Southeast Asia. This Seminar marks an important step for regional and sub-regional stakeholders in fisheries and habitat management. It gives us an opportunity to gather and discuss ways forward in order to improve coordination among partners with a common ambition to look for joint approaches that will support progress towards social and environmental sustainability in Southeast Asia. We foresee that SEAFDEC with the SEAFDEC-Sida cooperation will act as a driving force in close cooperation with partners gathered here.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

The cooperation between SEAFDEC and Sida have been ongoing for several years and gradually evolved into a more comprehensive program. In the process leading up to where we are today, we should also recognize the technical and financial support that was channeled through the Swedish Board of Fisheries (SBF) up until 2009. When agreements after 2009 were done directly with Sida, the technical back-stopping and support from the SBF continued. Since 2011, the SBF no longer exist and its functions have been merged into a new Agency for Marine and Water Management (HaV) but the cooperation and dialogue with SEAFDEC has remained. Maybe the institutional change in Sweden is a sign of the times that fisheries no longer can be managed in isolation but need to be seen in a broader context – or an ecosystems approach where fisheries, habitats and social wellbeing need to be considered and integrated. We are pleased to note that our Swedish partner will introduce themselves at this seminar.

The process leading up to the present stage of cooperation has been successful. It has contributed to the strengthening of regional and sub-regional cooperation by addressing the need for joint approaches for long term sustainability of fisheries resources and aquatic habitats in Southeast Asia. Earlier stages of cooperation have been instrumental in raising awareness among ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries on key issues in fisheries and

habitat management and in developing mechanisms for sub-regional and trans-boundary dialogue.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are delighted to share the good news that the cooperation between SEAFDEC and Sida has through the Agreement signed last week reached a stage that allows the partners to the Agreement to actively promote the development of responsible utilization of marine and aquatic resources based on due recognition of the need to maintain environment health and conservation of critical habitats. It should be emphasized that actions promoted through the SEAFDEC-Sida cooperation will seek to contribute to enhanced social wellbeing, including improved working conditions and alternative livelihoods involving both men and women.

Emphasis will be given to the need to raise commitments of member countries to follow up on the development and implementation of sub-regional and regional agreements also at national level of concerned countries with a special focus on the four important sub-regions of the Gulf of Thailand, the Andaman Sea, the Sulu-Sulawesi Seas and the Mekong River Basin.

In follow up to social obligations, the cooperation will seek to address problems and opportunities of poor coastal and inland communities who face declining catches and increased competition and conflict over natural resource use and space in coastal and inland waters of Southeast Asia. The social concern will include the importance to give due consideration to the large group of people, both men and women, that have been migrating inside and outside of their countries to seek alternative employment opportunities on larger fishing vessels and in the process industry.

Basic to the implementation strategy is that the SEAFDEC-Sida program will not work in isolation, instead cooperation with key partners in the region and in the sub-regions is of high priority. It is our firm belief – and hope - that by working together with partners in the region and in the countries, by sharing good practices and resources and by having the same vision and targets we could move towards a better Southeast Asia in support of the development of the ASEAN Community 2015.

In order to realize this project successfully, we need your input and valuable knowledge and commitment to continued cooperation. That's the reason why we are here and that we have taken this opportunity to introduce the scope and framework of the continued SEAFDEC-Sida cooperation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to end my statement here, I hope that at the end of the Seminar we will come up with a common understanding on the prospects and opportunities envisaged in the implementation of the SEAFDEC-Sida cooperative framework in the coming five years.

Thank you very much for your attention, and again welcome to all of you!

Annex 3

PROVISIONAL PROSPECTUS

I. BACKGROUND

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) have since many years provided a forum for dialogue among countries of the Southeast Asian Region in aspects related to fisheries, economic cooperation and social development. Through the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) the key role of SEAFDEC in providing advice and to facilitate regional cooperation, regional understanding and joint approaches/agreements on habitat and fisheries management including ambitions to manage fishing capacity and to combat illegal (IUU) fishing and reduce destructive fishing has been strengthened. This is of special significance in the process leading up toward an ASEAN Community by 2015. Fisheries, a sector of major economic and social/rural importance to Southeast Asian countries, are identified as one of priority sectors for economic development.

The increased integration among countries – and people – in Southeast Asia will provide new challenges and opportunities to improve social well-being, environmental management, to maintain cultural diversity and to recognize the importance of decent working conditions of the large groups of migratory work-force. Positive responses to these challenges are all central to long-term sustainability of aquatic resources utilization and habitat management in Southeast Asia. This is also central pillars to live up to the ambitions of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint.

Major changes for people in the region can be foreseen in the development of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and onwards, including both opportunities and threats. However, the rights of smaller coastal and inland communities, including their respective cultures, languages and religions, are guaranteed in national constitutions, in international conventions and the ASEAN Charter (Article 2) and Community Blueprints. These rights should be respected accordingly in processes ahead in facing challenges, opportunities and threats to the development of the ASEAN Community. A major question is to what extent these rights can be secured.

SEAFDEC has, through the SEAFDEC-Sida Programme, been promoting the need to integrate fisheries management with habitat management (or an ecosystem-approach to fisheries). In sequences of regional, sub-regional and on-site events the importance of strengthened local organization and diversified family income opportunities (including women and youth) has been emphasized as key to improved social well-being and poverty alleviation. Furthermore, SEAFDEC has increasingly (through the SEAFDEC-Sida Program and the Japanese Trust Fund) been addressing the need to manage fishing capacity, to reduce over-capacity and to combat illegal (IUU) fishing (an expressed regional priority by ASEAN Heads of State, 2007 and SEAFDEC Council in 2011 and 2012).

In sub-regions and in border areas initiatives are launched by the MRC, the RPOA, BOBLME, CTI-CFF, SEAFDEC and others to build up frameworks for joint approaches to management interventions, environmental protection and to combat illegal and destructive practices including formal agreements within the (sub-)regions and among countries. The importance to promote sub-regional dialogues and cooperation is a reflection of the diversity

in management needs (including resources availability/utilization, cross-boundary cooperation and social and economic exchange). The importance of sub-regional dialogue is also underlined when looking at experiences from Europe and surrounding areas. Important Southeast Asian sub-regions of ecological, social and economic value include:

- The Andaman Sea
- The Gulf of Thailand
- The South China Sea
- The Sulu-Sulawesi Seas
- The Arafura Timor Seas
- The Mekong River Region

With an aim to promote sub-regional cooperation while facilitating options to develop sub-regional and/or bi- or trilateral agreements, taking into consideration the social and ecological specifics, the SEAFDEC-Sida Program has since 2005 taken on a sub-regional approach in addition to the ASEAN wide dialogue.

Up to the end of 2008 the Gulf of Thailand provided a sub-regional focus in follow-up to the RPOA IUU initiative and in cooperation with the UNEP/GEF South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand Project including on-site events of trans-boundary significance in Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam. In the period 2009 to 2012 the sub-regional focus shifted to the Andaman Sea following the concept introduced to the Gulf of Thailand countries. The program framework during that period embraced ambitions to refer to the need to build up capacity to adapt to impacts of climate change and to mitigate impacts caused by climate change (and climate variability). Two Andaman Sea wide events were organized together with sub-(sub-)regional events and on-site events in Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia. Activities in and around the Andaman Sea is closely coordinated with the BOBLME Project.

II. RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

The intention with this event is to provide a venue to introduce and present the rationale and framework developed for the SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation for the period 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2017.

The basis and rationale for this event is to introduce key regional and sub-regional partners on the scope, objectives and program strategy for the continued SEAFDEC-Sida cooperation. SEAFDEC and Sida have, for the purpose, signed/will sign an Agreement for continued cooperation 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2017. The major concepts and program strategy for the coming five year follow that of earlier stages of SEAFDEC-Sida cooperation. The main differences are that the initiative will expand the sub-regional focus to include four priority sub-regions as well as that attempts will be made to provide support to local level initiatives and capacity-building through organizations (local institutions, NGOs, wetland alliance) that are well recognized for the tasks (SEAFDEC will seek consultation with sub-regional partners in identifying promising organizations/local initiatives). The primary sub-regional focus will include the following areas:

- The Andaman Sea
- The Gulf of Thailand
- The Sulu-Sulawesi Seas
- The Mekong River Region

SEAFDEC will continue to encourage and build upon cooperation with sub-regional projects and initiatives such as the present cooperation with the BOBLME Project (Andaman Sea) and earlier the (now closed) UNEP/GEF Project “Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand” (UNEP/GEF SCS). The cooperation with “The Regional Plan of Action (RPOA-IUU) to promote responsible fishing practices including combating IUU fishing in the region” will continue and be strengthened as is the cooperation with ASEAN under the ASEAN SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership and the ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum (AFCF). In the sub-regions of the Mekong River and the Sulu-Sulawesi Seas close cooperation, including coordinated activities, will be developed with the Mekong River Commission (MRC) and the Coral Triangle Initiative for Corals, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF). These organizations and initiatives are all invited to this seminar

The ambition to invite participants from different agencies is an attempt to improve the dialogue, not only between countries, but also between key institutions and would in addition to the above mentioned also include FAO/APFIC, the Mangroves for the Future (MFF), IUCN, UNEP and Wetlands Alliance (Interim Coordinator).

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Through the seminar, it is expected that there will be a general understanding among regional and sub-regional partners on the rationale and framework developed for the SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperation for the period 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2017.

Furthermore, it is expected that participants will provide feedback and consensus on the approach and project strategy introduced by SEAFDEC on the ambitions to work together towards an ASEAN Community, based on a sustainable fisheries and habitat management, social well-being and the safe-guarding of the rights and opportunities for inland and coastal communities in the ASEAN Region

IV. DATE AND VENUE

The Seminar on SEAFDEC-Sida Cooperative Framework for the period 2013 to 2017 will be organized on 12 March 2013 at the Imperial Queen’s Park Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.

V. PARTICIPANTS OF THE MEETING

An initial indicative list would of participating organizations, projects and initiatives include the following:

- ASEAN Secretariat (units responsible for the follow up the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Blueprint, respectively)
- FAO/APFIC
- RPOA-IUU
- BOBLME (Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal)
- CTI-CFF (Sulu-Sulawesi Seas)
- MRC (Mekong)
- Mangroves for the Future (MFF)
- Wetlands Alliance (Interim Coordinator)
- UNEP (with the perspective of a follow-up to the UNEP-GEF South China Sea Project)
- IUCN

- WWF Greater Mekong/CTI-CFF, etc
- Sida
- HaV
- SEAFDEC (Sec, TD, Japanese Trust Fund)
- Norad (supports the MFF, MRC, BOBLME, Fisheries in Vietnam, etc)
- USAID (supports the CTI-CFF, ASEAN)
- Danida (supports fisheries in Cambodia, Vietnam, MRC, etc)
- AusAID (supports the RPOA)
- Finnida (supports MRC)
- ADB (supports CTI, MRC, etc, etc.....)
- Others

Total number of participant is approximately 40 people.

Annex 4

Introduction to SEAFDEC and earlier phases of cooperation between SEAFDEC and Sida

Pattaratjit Kaewnuratchadasorn

Program Manager, SEAFDEC Secretariat, Bangkok, Thailand



Introduction to SEAFDEC and earlier phases of cooperation between SEAFDEC and Sida

12 March 2013
Imperial Queen's Park Hotel, Bangkok

Introduction of SEAFDEC

- › Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) is a regional inter-governmental body for the purpose of promoting fisheries development in the ASEAN region
- › Established in the year 1967
- › 11 member countries; Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam
- › The Secretariat is located in Bangkok, Thailand



SEAFDEC's Departments

Training Department

- Located in Samut Prakan, Thailand
- Research and Develop modern capture fishery techniques and management to aid regional fishers in more sustainable approach
- Provide training courses to enhance studies and heighten awareness of fishing responsibilities
- Distribute fisheries information to the public

Aquaculture Department

- Located in the Philippines
- promotes and conducts research for aquaculture development in the region
- responsible for fish and shellfish culture in fresh and brackish water
- aquaculture training
- dissemination of aquaculture knowledge and information to met the needs of the member countries




SEAFDEC's Departments

Marine Fisheries Research Department

- Located in Singapore
- Responsible for maximising the utilization of fishery resources
- Improvement of traditional products
- quality control of fish and fish products

Marine Fisheries Resource Development and Management Department

- Located in Malaysia
- Responsible for development & management of marine fishery resources including
 - fish biology
 - stock assessment
 - resource exploration
 - marine environment
 - oceanography

www.seafdec.org




The SEAFDEC-Sida Collaborative Project (earlier phases)

2003-2006	2007-2008	2009-2012
Human resource development on the support of Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Management	Extension period	Activities related to Climate Change and Adaptation in Southeast Asia with special focus on Andaman Sea

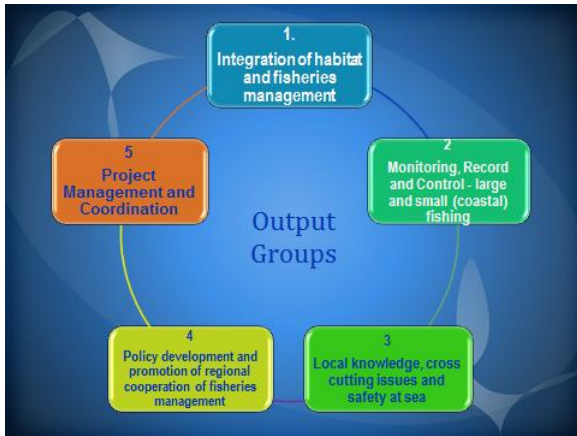
SEAFDEC-Sida project

Activities related to climate change and adaptation in Southeast Asia with special focus on Andaman Sea, 2009-2012

Long-term sustainability of fisheries and reduced vulnerability to impacts of climate change of livelihoods of fisher-folk in ASEAN and around the Andaman Sea







The new SEAFDEC-Sida Collaborative Project

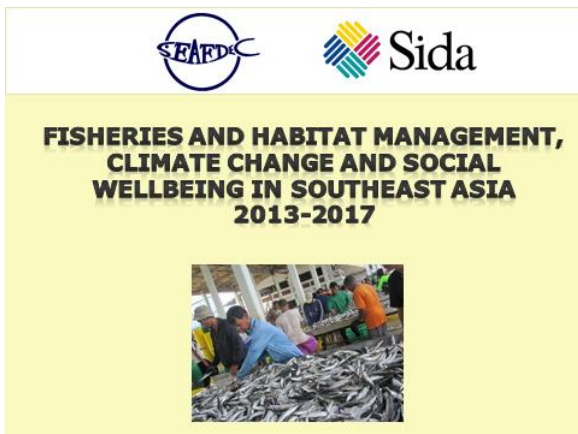
2003-2006	2007-2008	2009-2012	NEW 2013-2017
Human resource development on the support of Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Management	Extension period	Activities related to Climate Change and Adaptation In Southeast Asia with special focus on Andaman Sea	Fisheries and habitat management, climate change and social wellbeing in Southeast Asia

Annex 5

Fisheries and habitat management, climate change and social well-being in Southeast Asia 2013-2017: Project Objectives and Strategy

Pattaratjit Kaewnuratchadasorn

Program Manager, SEAFDEC Secretariat, Bangkok, Thailand



Outcome Objective

- Sustainable use of aquatic resources and reduced vulnerability to climate change, by fishing communities in the ASEAN region

Bridging Objective 1

- Implementation of regional and sub-regional aquatic resources management by national institutions and organizations

Bridging Objective 2

- Vulnerability to climate change, establishment of regional and sub-regional fisheries and habitat management, agreements and action plans

Output Objectives

Capacity Built for integration of habitat and fisheries management and climate change	Capacity Built and Systems Improved for the Management of Fishing Capacity (Monitoring, Record and Control)	Capacity Built and Policy Development Processes Improved for the drafting and Implementation of Regional and Sub-regional Agreements
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Key components

- ◆ Integration of habitat and fisheries management
- ◆ Monitoring, Record and Control – large scale and small scale (coastal/inland) fishing
- ◆ Local knowledge, cross cutting issues (climate change, social well-being) and safety at sea/working conditions
- ◆ Policy dialogue and promotion of regional cooperation on fisheries and habitat management
- ◆ Project Management and Coordination

Project “strategy”

- ◆ Cooperation and coordination at regional, sub-regional and national level (ASEAN, FAO, RPOA-IUU, CTI-CFF, BOBLME, MRC, etc)
- ◆ “Code sharing” - pool resources to achieve common objectives. Build upon an indicative planning and budgeting framework
- ◆ Sub-contracts in areas where SEAFDEC is not well placed (such as field work)
- ◆ Baselines, capacity building through local resources persons (national languages)