

# SPECIAL REPORT

## The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020 “Fish for the People 2020: Adaptation to a Changing Environment”

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and the Department of Fisheries (DOF) of Thailand would organize “the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020” from 13 to 17 June 2011 at the Sofitel Centara Grand Bangkok Hotel in Thailand.

The Conference aims to address the concerns on the current fisheries situation and emerging issues that may impede the sustainable development and the contribution of fisheries to food security in the Southeast Asian region. One of the expected outcomes of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference would be the new “Decade Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region (Towards 2020)”, which would be established by the ASEAN Member States as the coordinated regional policy framework and priority actions for fisheries development in the Southeast Asian region.

### The Conference Program

<b>13 June 2011</b>				
09.00-12.00	<b>Inaugural Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Opening of the Conference</li> <li>▪ Keynote Speeches                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Fisheries and ASEAN Community Building (ASEAN)</li> <li>➢ Fisheries for Poverty Alleviation and Socio-economic Well-being of Fishers (DOF of Thailand)</li> <li>➢ Fisheries and New Emerging Issues (FAO)</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Introduction of the Framework and Arrangement of the Technical Session</li> </ul>			
14.00-17.30	<b>Technical Session</b> <b>Plenary I:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ASEAN Fisheries: Status and Trends</li> <li>▪ ASEAN Fisheries towards 2020: Vision and Challenges</li> </ul>			
Evening	Reception Dinner hosted by the DOF Thailand and SEAFDEC			
<b>14 June 2011 ( four panel run simultaneously)</b>				
09.00-17.30	<b>Theme 1:</b> Enhancing Governance in Fishery Management	<b>Theme 2:</b> Sustainable Aquaculture Development	<b>Theme 3:</b> Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries	<b>Theme 4:</b> Post-harvest and Safety of Fish and Fisheries Products
<b>15 June 2011 (four panel run simultaneously)</b>				
09.00-17.30	<b>Theme 5:</b> Emerging Requirements for Trade in Fish and Fisheries Products	<b>Theme 6:</b> Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Towards Food Security	<b>Theme 7:</b> Livelihood among Fishing and Prospects of Employment in Fisheries-related Activities	<b>Theme 8:</b> Sustaining Food Supply from Inland Fisheries
<b>16 June 2011</b>				
09.00-12.00	<b>Plenary II: Overview of Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020</b> <b>Plenary III: Fisheries Cooperation in the ASEAN Region: Vision of Cooperation in the Region Towards 2020</b>			
13.30-17.00	<b>SENIOR OFFICIALS SESSION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Senior Officials Plus Three Meeting for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference (Closed Session)</li> <li>▪ Senior Officials Meeting for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference (Closed Session)</li> </ul>			
<b>17 June 2011</b>				
09.00-12.30	<b>MINISTERIAL SESSION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ministerial Meeting for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference (Closed Session)</li> </ul>			
14.00-15.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ministerial Meeting for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference (Cont'd)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Statement by Stakeholders and Joint Ministerial Press Statement for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Ministerial Meeting (By Invitation)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			

### Conference Themes

#### Theme 1: Enhancing Governance in Fishery Management

Fishery governance which encompasses the institutional arrangements for stakeholders in the society to extract fishery resources, will determine how management could enhance social welfare. Good governance requires support for the developing world in the negotiation, implementation, and control of fisheries agreements, ensuring that the interests of their domestic fishery industries are adequately protected. This theme will pave the way for enhancing the role of governance in managing fisheries in the region, where enhancing governance could be implemented in the context of an ecosystem approach to fisheries in the Southeast Asia region.



#### Theme 2: Sustainable Aquaculture Development

As a step towards the final formulation of a roadmap for sustainable aquaculture development in the region for the next ten years and beyond, the issues to be addressed in this thematic session aim to formulate strategies to help meet the current and emerging socio-economic challenges of aquaculture. These could include quality seeds for sustainable aquaculture as well as healthy and wholesome aquaculture and also maintaining environmental integrity through responsible aquaculture.

#### Theme 3: Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries

Ecosystem approach to fisheries is an important factor that could complement the existing fisheries management approaches. The two requirements for managing human interactions with the ecosystems are focused on the development of an understanding of the basic characteristics and principles of these ecosystems, and the second on the development of the ability to manage human activities that impact on the ecosystems.

#### Theme 4: Post-harvest and Safety of Fish and Fisheries Products

The post-harvest sector is extremely important in fisheries. There is an enormous relationship between the post-harvest sector and food security as it indirectly contributes to workers' income and wealth. Safety and quality of fish and fisheries products as well as other control factors (such as traceability) are of concern throughout the catching, handling, processing and distribution chains for both domestic and export markets. There are still issues to be resolved, particularly in the harmonization of standards and in developing equivalence between and among countries for food/fish import and export inspection and certification systems.

#### Theme 5: Emerging Requirements for Trade in Fish and Fisheries Products

The Integration of Fisheries into the ASEAN Economic Community on trade-related matters is envisaged to cover the intra-ASEAN trade, international trade, traceability, catch documents, labor and working conditions, certification/validations including the perspective of work and working conditions as key factors for fisheries trade (requiring certificate) and the ASEAN Community. This theme addresses the central aspects of trade in fish and fisheries products which, given the importance of the sector in the countries of the region, is vital to the economies and well-being of the people.



#### Theme 6: Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Towards Food Security

The Southeast Asian region is one of the world's most vulnerable regions to climate change, due to its long coastlines, high density of population and economic activity in coastal areas and heavy reliance on agriculture, fisheries, forestry and other natural resources. The aspects on high vulnerability, large populations, coastal vulnerability should be seen in the perspective of the immediate needs to improve management, restore important and protective habitats, and provide alternative livelihoods and diversified incomes.

#### Theme 7: Livelihood among Fishing Communities and Prospects of Employment in Fisheries-related Activities

Under the ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprints, the rights of smaller coastal and inland communities as reflected in constitutions and international conventions should be given focus. It is through aquatic resources and habitat management, including trade opportunities in a broader context that includes both coastal and inland communities, and the employment opportunities provided by larger vessels and processing industries, that alternative employment for rural/coastal people could be advanced. Such approaches would mitigate the prospects of workers to seek for employment opportunities elsewhere by migrating to other areas including neighboring countries.



#### Theme 8: Sustaining Food Supply from Inland Fisheries

The theme will focus on how to safeguard food security from inland fisheries considering that such fisheries had been providing direct and indirect employment opportunities, income and nutrition, as well as in increasing household resilience and reducing vulnerability to natural hazards and economic uncertainty especially in rural fishing communities. The integration fisheries, better coordination of planning and management of resources shared by fisheries and other users, are necessary in order to ensure sustainable production from inland fisheries.

#### **Register Now!**

Registration for the Conference is only for the Inaugural and Technical Session which is from 13 June 2011 until 16 June 2011 (morning). Registration could be made in advance from 1 November 2010 to 31 May 2011 (through [www.ffp2020.org](http://www.ffp2020.org)) and during of the Conference (13 June 2011).

#### **Contact us**

For more detailed information on the Conference, go to <http://www.ffp2020.org>. If you need to send any feedback, comment or suggestion to the Conference contact the Conference Secretariat ([secretariat@ffp2020.org](mailto:secretariat@ffp2020.org)). 