

GUIDE TO CONTRIBUTING ARTICLES

Fish for the People is a policy-oriented Special Publication produced by the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC). The first issue of the Special Publication was launched in early 2003 to commemorate the first anniversary of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People” organized in 2001 from which the Special Publication got its banner title Fish for the People. Through the years, Fish for the People has been recognized by various stakeholders as a significant source of information to support their work on the sustainable development and management of fisheries and aquaculture in the region.

The SEAFDEC Secretariat publishes three issues of the Special Publication each year with support from the Japanese Trust Fund. The Fish for the People is a special interest magazine written in layperson language targeting the general public. The articles include but are not limited to the achievements of SEAFDEC projects and activities in Member Countries, recent developments in fisheries and aquaculture of the Southeast Asian region, and advancements in fisheries and aquaculture from other countries relevant to Southeast Asia. The publication of articles in Fish for the People is free of charge.

Prospective Contributors

- SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments (researchers, technical staff, project managers)
- SEAFDEC Member Countries (national focal persons of SEAFDEC projects, researchers, fishery officers, professors, students)
- SEAFDEC partner organizations (researchers, technical staff, project managers)
- Non-member countries and other organizations (researchers, project managers of projects in the SEAFDEC Member Countries, researchers, fishery officers, professors, students, and those who wish to share experiences that could be applicable to Southeast Asia)

Topics

- Marine capture fisheries (IUU fishing, port State measures, fishing capacity, biological studies of commercially-important fish species, resource assessment and management)
- Inland capture fisheries (fish passage, methods for data collection)
- Aquaculture (broodstock management, seed quality improvement, responsible and environment-friendly aquaculture, aquatic diseases, stock enhancement)
- Fisheries post-harvest and processing (optimized utilization of fish and fishery products, food safety, harmful algal blooms, onboard fish handling)
- Fisheries marketing and trade (traceability schemes, traditional fish and fishery products)
- Small-scale fisheries (implementation of the FAO SSF Guidelines)
- Responsible fishing (innovative technologies, fishing gear and fishery vessel improvement, fishing gear marking)
- Fisheries management (fishery resources and habitats, fisheries refugia, EAFM, co-management, GIS and RS, stock assessment)
- Aquatic species under international concern (sharks and rays, anguillid eels, marine mammals, sea cucumbers, bycatch)
- Aquatic pollution (marine debris, microplastics, ALDFG)
- Gender (implementation of the SEAFDEC Gender Strategy, gender-responsive programs and projects, gender-inclusive policies, gender analysis)
- RES&POA-2030 (key achievements of relevant programs, projects, and activities, development of related policies)
- Other fisheries-related issues (fisheries subsidies, labor in fisheries, climate change, COVID-19 pandemic, current fisheries affairs, emerging studies)
- Application of information technology for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture development and management (institutional repositories, advancements in information and communication technology, GIS and RS)

Types of Articles

- Research article - report of new and original research findings including the methodology, data, and analysis in popularized format (2,000–4,000 words)
- Short communications - brief analysis and commentary on fisheries development and management that may not be suitable for a full-length research article (1,000–2,000 words)
- Report on project activities - results and implications including strategy or approach, conclusions, and recommendations for the future direction of work (2,000–4,000 words)
- Conference analysis - a comprehensive overview of a meeting or session and discuss how the presentations and discussions may affect fisheries development and management (1,000–1,500 words)
- Feature article - a brief overview of scientific findings for a general audience; interviews and newsworthy topics based on the author's personal experience
- Review article - critical and constructive analysis of existing published literature in fisheries and aquaculture, through summary, analysis, and comparison, often identifying specific gaps or problems and providing recommendations (1,000–2,000 words)
- Book review - analysis of recent publications relevant to fisheries development and management (500–1,500 words)
- Emerging studies - discuss and analyze new fields of research and methodologies relevant to ecological, economic, cultural, and social aspects of fisheries development and management (1,000–2,000 words)

Format and Structure

- Articles should be written on A4-size paper, Times New Roman font 11, single space, one-column layout
- For any type of article, the total number of words excludes the abstract, acknowledgments, references, etc.
- Articles should be written in correct English by using spell-check and grammar-check functions and applications to avoid unnecessary errors
- Articles should contain standard style and formats based on SEAFDEC Style (access at <http://www.seafdec.org/documents/2021/12/seafdec-style.pdf>)
- Articles should be written in gender-sensitive and inclusive language
- The title should be concise and informative for easy retrieval in information systems
- Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the article, and therefore share collective credit, responsibility, and accountability for the information provided
- Abstract/summary should be concise and accurate and should be able to stand alone and briefly state the issues/problems, objectives, methods, key results, discussions, and major conclusions (200–300 words)
- A maximum of five keywords should be provided for indexing purposes and easy retrieval of the article in search engines
- Introduction should provide sufficient background (*e.g.* relevance to the RES&POA-2030 and/or other international, regional, or national instruments) and specify the goal and objectives of the work
- Describe the details of materials and method applied, as appropriate for the specific type of article
- Discuss the significance of the key results of the work
- Tables should be created as editable text and not as images
- Figures should be in line with text and not wrapped with text; figure caption should be written below the figure and not in a text box
- Math equations should be given in editable text and not as images
- National currencies should be converted to or provided with equivalent US Dollars (USD)
- Present the main conclusions based on the objectives of the work and applicability of the work to other sites, countries, or regions
- Indicate the way forward and future activities of the work, if any
- For non-SEAFDEC articles, indicate the relevance of the work to Southeast Asia
- Briefly describe the role of the donor(s) in the conduct of the work and/or preparation of the article
- Recognize the individuals who provided help during the research and participated in certain substantive aspects of the article (*e.g.* data collection, translations, language editing)
- Ensure that all in-text citations are included in the reference list, and vice versa; please see SEAFDEC Style for the detailed guide to the proper format; consider using a reference management software (*e.g.* Zotero, Mendeley,

others) for automatic formatting and make sure to unlink citations and remove all field codes before submitting the article

- Provide the complete names and affiliations of each author including the office/organization's full name and address, email, and other contact details
- Articles should be free of plagiarism and false information; SEAFDEC will not be responsible for any copyright violations

Publication Process

Step 1. Submission

- SEAFDEC articles (*i.e.* from SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments) are submitted to the Coordinator of the respective Departmental Review Committees
- Non-SEAFDEC articles are submitted directly to the Editor in Chief (Email: fish@seafdec.org)

Step 2. Evaluation

- SEAFDEC articles are reviewed by the respective Departmental Review Committees and ensured that the articles adhere to the Guide to Contributing Articles to Fish for the People
- Non-SEAFDEC articles are evaluated by the Editor in Chief and will be reviewed by the respective Departmental Review Committees within their expertise only when necessary
- External reviewers may be invited by SEAFDEC to review the articles that are highly technical and beyond the expertise of SEAFDEC Departments, as necessary

Step 3. Editing and layout

- The reviewed articles are edited by the Editor in Chief
- Edited articles are confirmed by the authors
- The layout of the publication is prepared

Step 4. Publication and promotion

- The Advisory Board and Departmental Review Committee review the final version of the articles and endorse the publication
- Published articles in electronic format are immediately and permanently made accessible for free download from the SEAFDEC Institutional Repository; a unique link is assigned to each published article which can be shared through any communication channels including email and social media
- Printed copies of Fish for the People are distributed for free to authors, SEAFDEC Departments, Member Countries, partner organizations, libraries, and other networks around the world