



REBYC

Reduction of Environmental Impact from Tropical Shrimp Trawling, through the introduction
of By-catch Reduction Technologies and Change of Management
(EP/GLO/201/GEF)

**REPORT OF THE 2ND MEETING OF THE
INTERNATIONAL PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE,
TROPICAL PRINCE PALACE HOTEL, BANGKOK,
THAILAND**

24-26 November 2004





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**Report of the 2nd Meeting of International Project Steering Committee Tropical
Prince Palace Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand
24-26 November 2004**

I. Introduction

1. The second meeting of IPSC was hosted by SEAFDEC, Training Department from 24-26 November, 2004, Prince Palace Hotel, Thailand.
2. The meeting was attended by the appointed members of the IPSC from The Philippines, Venezuela, Mexico, Iran, FAO and SEAFDEC/ TD. The list of participants appears as Appendix A. (the representative from Nigeria did not arrive).
3. The objectives of the meeting were to review activities from participating countries and for the consultation of the future activities for implementation in the year 2005-2007 under the EP/GLO/201/GEF project.

II. Election of Chairperson

4. Mr. Janne Fogelgren, the project operations coordinator welcomed participants to the meeting, and then called for the election of a chairperson. Mr. Bundit Chokesaguan was elected for the chairperson of the meeting.

III. Opening of the meeting

5. Mr. Wilfried Thiele, Project Coordinator welcomed the participants to the workshop. He firstly expressed his appreciation and thanks to SEAFDEC/TD for the contribution and effort in supporting the project implementation, especially in Southeast Asia. He also thanked SEAFDEC for being the host of this meeting, and then he proposed that the meeting needed discussion and consultation on general relationships to improve the co-ordination between FAO and participating countries.

IV. Adoption of the meeting agenda

6. The agenda of the workshop, which appears as Appendix B was adopted. Then the Chairperson gave the outline of the agenda and timetable for the meeting.

V. Opening statements of the participating countries

7. SEAFDEC/TD through Mr. Bundit C. presented previous activities regarding the demonstration, experiments and the promotion on the use of JTEDs in Southeast Asia being implemented by SEAFDEC/TD. He then mentioned about the next plan to continue promotion on the use of JTEDs, under the cooperation of FAO/GEF project especially in the Philippines and Indonesia. He also discussed the production of VCD's in the year 2005-2006 that will be produced in other native languages in order to reach many people and fishermen and show them how to use the devices in practicable ways.

8. The representative from the Philippines, Mr. J. Dickson presented that there were 5 demonstrations on experiments which implemented the use of JTEDs in different fishing grounds /areas for the last 2 years. He strongly recommended that more scientific data is needed for the fisheries management policy in the future. He also mentioned the problem of the lack of scientific evaluation method. He recommended to FAO to organize a workshop for participating countries to review the past activities and their outcomes so that they may comply with the desired outputs embodied in the project.

9. The representative from Iran, Mr. A. Mojahedi presented the fisheries situation and problems in his country such as the damage of shrimp in the cod-end and the high amount of discard from shrimp fisheries. In addition, he mentioned that a suitable and good device can be considered on the target catch and situation in each area and country.

10. The representative from Mexico, Mr. Ignacio M.G. presented the past and on-going activities, which will be processed with the aims of using JTEDs in order to get rid of non-target species as fish (discard) from shrimp trawler. He also mentioned that to be successful and effective in using good technology as device, it is necessary to consider a suitable and appropriate method.

11. The representative from Venezuela, Mr. Jose J. Alio presented the fisheries situation in Caribbean Sea region. He highlighted that the by-catch issue within the shrimp fisheries in the region is the main problem. However the test of Fish Eye in industrial trawl have shown that all sizes of fish can escape through the device, so the device is feasible to be used in this area where revenues from fish sales represent a very important proportion of the earnings in the trawl industry. He then concluded that other by-catch reduction devices, like the square mesh, may be more appropriate for this region. However, the Fish Eye was appropriate in artisanal trawls, a fishery that targets only shrimp.

12. The FAO representative, Mr. W. Thiele, briefly summarized the progress activities in the first two years of the project. He also gave information on the introduction of the devices in Nigeria and Cameroon, where some workshops were held for by-catch reduction technologies. He then discussed the current activities in preparing the guide book on by catch reduction devices for the fisherman that will be published in English and translated to Spanish language. This guidebook will also be available on the Internet webpage, as well as in the national report, which should be published and can be shared information to others about the project document.

Institution and expert's names in Shrimp Trawling Directory as well as other useful information have to be linked to related web-pages. He was satisfied with the demonstration in the Philippines as well as the SEAFDEC activities. He then suggested that to reduce the cost and time consuming for netting material delivery we need to look for the nearest supplier.

VI. Financial and budgetary matters

13. The Chairperson requested the project operations coordinator, Mr. J. Fogelgren to give a brief explanation on the financial and budgetary matters to the participants. Mr. J. Fogelgren, briefly explained the preliminary financial status of the GEF contribution and financial expenses from each country concerned in the project, and advised that the Project Implementing Agency, UNEP has requested information be obtained on national project expenditures every 6 months. He highlighted that the overall budget provided by GEF cannot be increased. In this case, if any countries or organizations need additional funds, they need to approach other financial sources for co-financing. In case the activities are not completed before the end of the current duration of the project (May 2007), and funds still remain, FAO will provide UNEP with a justification to extend the duration accordingly.

VII. Future work program

14. The Chairperson requested the Project Coordinator, Mr. W. Thiele to give a short advise on the policy of the implementation of the future work program and requested participants from each countries and organizations to briefly introduce the plan or activities that they will implement in the years 2005-2007.

15. **FAO:** Mr. W. Thiele shortly informed the meeting that the policy of the implementation of the future work program should be considered and focus should be more on the benefit of region level.

16. **Mexico:** Mr. Ignacio Mendez G. mentioned that, for 2005, the project will focus on the Pacific side by operating four trips as sea trials to calibrate the devices and gear and then will call for the training of the fishermen in May. Subsequently, 14 sea trials for the shrimp trawlers in commercial fisheries will be carried out as demonstrations. For the year 2006, the main activities will be repeated but in part of the Gulf of Mexico. Before starting these activities, modified gears and devices will need to be made suitable for use as standard gear in Mexico, including the change of mesh size, knotless use, etc. Mexico indicated they would contact Colombia, for possible assistance using part of Mexico's project budget allocation, either as direct charging or in-kind contribution.

17. **Venezuela :** Mr. J. Alio discussed on the future plan that will firstly consider and test for the gears that need to be used for by-catch devices. In March there will be the invitation of consultant to the country to introduce and demonstrate the use of the devices such as BRDs. The information and scientific data will be collected and used as base information in order to promote the use of BRDs.

18. **Iran :** Mr. A. Mojahedi mentioned that the project will be continued on the fisheries statistic collection, sea-trial survey, seminar- workshop and device experiments.

19. **The Philippines:** Mr. J. Dickson informed the meeting that the project in the Philippines will continue on demonstrations and experiments on the use of devices inside San Miguel bay for small shrimp trawlers, and will select the suitable and appropriate device to introduce to the fishermen, government and other stakeholders. The cooperation between BFAR and local government unit in the utilization of device will be carried out through these areas. The project will also produce the VCDs (that will be assisted by SEAFDEC/TD), brochures, scientific documents, proceeding of seminars and workshops where all these promotion materials will be distributed to the people in the industry and outside countries. He proposed that a workshop with all the National Project Coordinators should be held within the next six months. The main objectives would be to review past activities and their outcomes, to confirm that they comply with the desired outputs embodied in the project. The workshop would also provide an opportunity to exchange experiences and benchmark the national activities, given that the progress of the project varies considerably between the countries. The meeting recognized the value of such a workshop, but the budgetary implications would have to be analyzed.

20. **SEAFDEC :** Mr. Bundit C. informed the meeting that SEAFDEC/TD will continue to give technical support on implementation and demonstration of devices in the Philippines and Indonesia as well as other countries (in case if they request for), and in another side will continue to produce the VCDs on the use of JTEDs in general as a manual use such as the preparation, installation and construction of devices including the operation which will be distributed widely.

VIII. Additional information

- FAO will look for other funding sources or co-donor in order to give support to SEAFDEC/TD to continue the project, because aside from the Philippine and Indonesia, SEAFDEC/TD should provide the technical and information support to other member countries of SEAFDEC as well.
- The project web-pages need to be design and available, in order to share the outcome and results of the project in each areas and countries.
- The project logo should be placed on all kind of promotion material such as T-shirt, cap, etc.

IX. Date and venue for the next IPSC meeting

21. In considering the date and venue of the 3rd meeting of the IPSC, the representative from Iran has offered to host the next meeting, which will be held around February to March 2006. Confirmation of the date will be obtained later.

X. Other business

22. The meeting was informed by Mr. W. Thiele on the smart gear competition that reward of US\$ 25.000 by WWF in order to promote the development of the fishing gears to reduce the impact on the environment. He also informed that he and Mr. Bundit C. are invited as judges of the competition that will be held in February 2005, in the USA.

The FAO/ICES Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish behavior will met in Rome from the 18 to 22 of April 2005. The by-catch reduction technologies in used in shrimp trawls will be one of the main topics on the agenda, therefore representatives from each region will be invited to participate and to present the results achieved under the FAO/GEF project.

XI. Closure of meeting

23. Mr, J. Fogelgren expressed thanks to SEAFDEC for being the host of this meeting and thanks to all participants for attending this meeting. Finally Mr. Bundit C. declared the meeting closed.

List of Participants of the 2nd PISC Meeting
24-26 November 2004
Bangkok Thailand

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Agenda of the 2nd PISC Meeting

24-26 November 2004

Bangkok Thailand

Wednesday, 24 November

11:00 hrs

1. Opening of the meeting
 - Election of Chairperson
 - Opening address (FAO, Project Coordinator)
 - Welcome address (Chair)
 - Introduction of members

2. Adoption of the meeting agenda

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3. Opening statements of the participating countries
4. Report of the project coordinator on technical activities following the first meeting of the Committee
5. Financial and budgetary matters

Thursday, 25 November

09:30 hrs

6. Future work programme
7. Date and place for the next PISC meeting
8. Any Other Business
9. Closure of meeting

Friday, 26 November

08:30 hrs

Visit to SEAFDEC/Training Department for briefing on JTEDs.
Boat to the Chao Phraya River shrimp fisheries.