



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)

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

Summary Record of Project Task Force meeting, held at FAO HQs, Rome, 6 May 2004

Attendance

Members: Turner FIIT (Chair)
Everett FIPP
Fogelgren FIIT
de la Rocha FIDP
Barg FIRI
Teigene LEGN
Invited: Thiele (Project Coordinator) FIIT

Absent with apologies:

Csirke, FIRM
Lupin FIU

Agenda:

- Brief status report,
- Project activities in 2004,
- PowerPoint presentation of by-catch devices
- Any other business.

Introduction

After welcoming the participants and introducing the agenda, Mr. Turner invited the Project Coordinator, Mr. Thiele, to brief the meeting on the current status of the project, as well as planned activities in 2004.

Status report and planned activities in 2004

Mr Thiele advised the meeting that the overall pace of the implementation of the project activities has accelerated, with a number of sub-contracts signed, although the administrative problems with sub-contract arrangements still remain for a few of the participating countries. In the countries where sub-contracts were not possible due to national regulations, the activities are instead being undertaken by alternative (though more time consuming) mechanisms with the assistance of the FAO country offices.

Descriptions of the status and progress of project activities were provided for all participating countries (and SEAFDEC), and details of these are provided in the Annex.

PowerPoint presentation of by-catch devises

Recognising that not all PTF members are familiar with by-catch devices, Mr. Thiele gave a much appreciated presentation of different types of the devices. He described how they work, their range of use in terms of geographical and species composition. He explained that modifications of fishing gears has drastically helped to reduce unwanted by-catches, but stressed that without the full involvement and cooperation of the commercial fishermen and other stake holders, any attempt to introduce changes of fishing gears, will most probably fail.

Any other business

- Mr de la Rocha pointed out that, according to FAO's financial system, the project has spent US\$ 760,000, but so far only received US\$ 600,000 from UNEP, the Implementing Agency.

Action Fogelgren

- concerns were raised over the project's website. The way the current site is designed is not user-friendly, and in addition have very few publications and reports been posted. The website should urgently be re-designed to make it more accessible, and the possibilities of using it as a tool for active exchange between the participating partners, should be explored. Links to useful websites, including UNEP and GEF, should be listed, and templates for reporting forms be provided on-line.

Action Fogelgren, Thiele

- Mr. Teigine gave an account of the existing FAO fisheries databases on legal frameworks. The database is available to all FAO member countries, but due to the complexity and very different requirements among the project countries, it may not be of immediate use for the project participants. Mr. Teigine recommended that national consultants should be recruited to review the current legal frameworks in the project countries. He emphasised that introducing a change of a national law is a lengthy and time-consuming process, hence the reviews should be initiated rather soon. Mr. Teigine will provide draft TORs for the consultancies. Finally, he advised the meeting that he unfortunately will not be able to continue to provide backstopping to the project, since he will leave FAO in July this year.

Action Teigene

- Mr. Barg reminded the meeting that in October 1995, the 28th FAO Conference adopted the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, which contains a broad set of voluntary principles and methods for developing and managing fisheries. This milestone agreement in fisheries management will celebrate ten years in 2005, and the occasion will provide an excellent opportunity to further promote awareness of the project and its objectives.

Closure

Mr Turner concluded that after some initial difficulties, the project is now making improved progress, though noted that additional efforts must be made to catch up on the slow progress made during 2002/03. He thanked the participants for their contribution to the meeting, and in view of Mr. Teigine's departure, he extended his gratitude for Mr. Teigine's active involvement in the project.

The next PTF meeting is tentatively planned to be held in November 2004.

Annex

Trinidad & Tobago

The sub-contract with the Caribbean Fisheries Training and Development Institute was signed last September. The Institute has already organised a number of information meetings with the fishing industry, and a census of fishing vessels was conducted in December 2003, from which a report is awaited. The research vessel was being prepared for sea field work, and new staff recruited to assist with the field work and data analyses, especially with information on by-catch being collected from trawl fleet. The Institute had collaborated with Venezuela on the design of the project work programme.

Trinidad and Tobago have confirmed they will host a Sub-regional Workshop, planned for July 2004.

Country: Trinidad work plan 2004

1. Develop Awareness Material & Consultative Process with Fishing Industry																				
1.1 Preparation of awareness material and information package																				
1.2 Formation of National Steering Committee																				
1.3 Consultations with the Fishing Industry																				
2. Co-ordination of Activities at Bilateral & Regional Level																				
2.1 Sub-regional meeting																				
3 Data Collection on Landings & Fishing Grounds																				
3.1 Observer Programme of the industrial fleet																				
3.2 Analysis of catch data from industrial and artisanal fleets																				

Venezuela

The sub-contract for US\$99,500 with counter-part organisation INIA, was confirmed in October 2003. In addition, US\$55,000 has been transferred to the local FAO office to enable local purchase of equipment. However, the political situation in the country has delayed progress of the project.

Venezuela work plan 2004

Baseline data collection on arts, volumes and composition of ca and economic information																				
Prepare and distribute species identification material																				
Design, test and evaluate modified by-catch devices for optimal both industrial and small-scale fleet																				
National Steering Committee meeting																				
Sub-regional meeting																				

Costa Rica

Also for Costa Rica, the arrangement with sub-contract was not feasible, since the national institute can not receive the funds. Hence the work will be carried out through the FAO country office.

Costa Rica work plan 2004

Baseline data collection on arts, volumes and composition of catch and economic information																				
Baseline survey of boats and equipment of fishing of the artisan off the Pacific and Caribbean coast																				
National Steering Committee meeting																				
Designs, construction and operation of the trawls prototypes																				
Sub-regional meeting																				

Cameroon

More than 80% of \$ 50,000 budget is already committed. Five surveys of shrimp fishing ground undertaken. Collaboration with Nigeria planned, but contact not yet established (partly due to poor communication facilities).

Cameroon work plan 2004

Surveys of shrimp fishing ground																				
Selection of appropriate BRDs (with Nigeria)																				
Training in Nigeria of Cameroonian personnel in the use of recommended BRDs																				
On-board trials of BRDs on Nigerian vessels:																				
National Steering Committee meeting																				
Coordination mission to Nigeria																				
IPSC meeting																				

Nigeria

The sub-contract with the Department of Fisheries signed, but the one with the Marine Research Institute pending for missing banking instructions. Roughly fifty data collectors trained, and fish/shrimp landing data being collected. An international consultant on fishing gear technology will commence a three weeks mission end of May, and during his visit to the Nigeria, the Cameroonian National Coordinator should join.

Nigeria work plan 2004

Fisheries Statistics Collection/Analysis																				
Workshop data processing																				
Observer/sampling programme																				
Design of Socio-Economic survey																				
Training of survey assistants																				
Conduct of survey																				
Testing/selection of BRD																				
Design programme of experimental adaptation of BRD																				
Conduct programme of experimental adaptation of BRD																				
Regional workshop on evaluation of JTEDs.																				
National Steering Committee meeting																				

Indonesia

In Indonesia, the project activities are undertaken through the local FAO office, and progressing well. A planned workshop in Tual had to be postponed to early June due to the political situation in the area. The purchasing of equipment planned to be finalised end of May. Indonesia has an extensive interaction with both the Philippines and SEAFDEC.

Indonesia work plan 2004

Introduction of TED/JTED:																							
West Indonesia																							
East Indonesia																							
National Steering Committee meeting																							
Baseline study of BRD																							
Development/adaptation of BRD																							
Regional workshop on evaluation of JTEDs.																							

Philippines

Also in the Philippines are the project activities undertaken through the local FAO office, and progressing well. A workshop on Juvenile and Trash fish Excluder Devices was completed early May, and specifications for equipment received.

Philippines work plan 2004

Workshop/Experiments of JTED																							
Technical Report on experiments in 2003																							
Regional workshop on evaluation of JTEDs.																							
National Steering Committee meeting																							
IPSC meeting																							

SEAFDEC

The project budget allocation for SEAFDEC has been spent to 80%. Awareness material produced and distributed. SEAFDEC will host a workshop to evaluate JTEDs end of June, and two participants from each of Iran, Bahrain, Nigeria, Indonesia, Philippines will be invited, together with HQs staff.

SEAFDEC work plan 2004

Production of information and training packages on BRDs and J																							
Regional workshop on evaluation of JTEDs.																							
Assistance to National workshops on use and design of JTEDs																							
Final Report of LOA																							

Iran

Experiments with different types of by-catch reduction devices have been implemented, and a training course on BRDs on dhow vessels has been carried out, with participation of FAO. Mr. Fogelgren will visit Iran end of May to brief both national and local FAO staff involved in the execution of the project, on all aspects of related administrative procedures.