



FIRMS Steering Committee Meeting
Sixth Session
Hobart, Australia, 24 – 26 February 2010
ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY <u>SEAFDEC</u> DURING THE INTERSESSIONAL
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1. Developments on inventories of Marine resources, and of fisheries;

SEAFDEC organized the Regional Technical Consultation on Fishery Information and Statistics in Southeast Asia was organized on 19-21 January 2010 in Thailand. At the Consultation initiatives for future cooperation in relevant to improvement of fishery statistics and information development planning and Management in the ASEAN Region to accommodate emerging issues and challenges to support in achieving sustainable development and management of the fisheries of the ASEAN Region were presented, including development of the Resources and Fisheries Inventories. The representative from DoF Malaysia, Mr. Abu Talib presented the progress in the development of the Resources and Fisheries Inventories of Malaysia. This activity is one of the initiatives undertaken by several pilot countries in the region, namely: Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines, under the FishCode Project of FAO for the implementation of the Strategies for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Fisheries. The inventories were developed to contribute to the global comprehensive inventory on Fisheries Information Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS) developed by FAO. FIRMS harmonizes and facilitates the compilation of an inventories on the resources and fisheries all over the world, and produces information in the forms of Fact Sheets that accessible through the FAO Fisheries Global Information System (FIGIS) website. The information is envisaged to support fisheries management particularly in adopting the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) and the monitoring/assessing changes in fisheries through the provision of updated information into the inventories. The consultation however expressed concerns on the capabilities of the countries and the requirements for human capacity development in providing data and information to the system, and requested SEAFDEC, Malaysia as well as FAO/FIRMS to consider extending support to the Member Countries in this context.



2. Reporting on status/trends of Marine resources, and of fisheries;
Not applicable.

3. Development/review of standards
Not applicable.

4. Development of Applications
Not applicable.

5. Development of case studies/prototypes;

Under the collaboration between SEAFDEC and FIRMS established in 2004, SEAFDEC has provided information to the Fisheries Inventory of FIRMS based on the on-year Study on Shark Production, Utilization and Management in the ASEAN Region (2003-2004). Based on the information provided, eight Fisheries Fact Sheets were developed as follows: 1) Shark Fisheries in Brunei Darussalam, 2) Shark Fisheries in Cambodia, 3) Shark Fisheries in Indonesia, 4) Shark Fisheries in Malaysia, 5) Shark Fisheries in Myanmar, 6) Shark Fisheries in the Philippines, 7) Shark Fisheries in Thailand, and 8) Shark Fisheries in Vietnam. In early 2010, these Fact Sheets were verified and published to be accessible by public.

6. Training or skills development;
Not applicable.

7. Promotional activities;
Not applicable.

8. Planned activities during the coming intercessional period

SEAFDEC plans to continue providing information as input to the Fisheries Inventory of FIRMS based on the available information of SEAFDEC. For 2010, it is planned that SEAFDEC would provide the information on sea cucumber fisheries collected from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam through a one-year regional data collection framework (2007-2008). The information include: Status of sea cucumber fisheries, dominant sea cucumber species, sea cucumbers production, utilization and trade (import and export), and recommendation for conservation and management of sea cucumber resources in the respective country.