

FIRMS Steering Committee Meeting
Eleventh Session
Rome, Italy 13-14 and 18 May 2019
ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY SEAFDEC DURING THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD (June 2017 – April 2019)
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1. Developments on inventories of Marine resources, and of fisheries; revision of annex 2
 - Not applicable.
2. Reporting on status/trends of Marine resources, and of fisheries;
 - Not applicable.
3. Development/review of standards
 - Not applicable.
4. Development of Applications (e.g. new module at Secretariat level, or enhancements in streamlining workflow at Partner level);
 - Not applicable.
5. Development of case studies/prototypes;
 - Since the adoption of the Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in the ASEAN Region (RPOA-Neritic Tuna) in 2015 and the establishment of the Scientific Working Group (SWG) on Neritic Tunas Stock Assessment, the SWG has been playing an important role of providing scientific information to be used as basis for the development of management plans, and improved assessment on the availability, distribution and migration of neritic tuna to increase understanding on stock status and migration paths for neritic tunas in the Southeast Asian waters. SEAFDEC supported the several activities under the framework of the RPOA-Neritic Tunas, these include the following:
 - Population Study of *Thunnus tonggol* in the Southeast Asian Region (2017-2018) would be collected at 12 landing sites of eight AMSs, namely: Brunei Darusslam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam
 - Fishery Improvement Project for Longtail Tuna in the Gulf of Thailand (2018)

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- SEAFDEC also expanding the activities on neritic tunas to other shared stocks of neritic tunas in the region *i.e.* the Indo-Pacific king mackerel (*Scomberomorus guttatus*) and narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus commerson*). In 2018, the DNA collection and analysis for Indo-Pacific mackerel were collected from Cambodia, Viet Nam, Thailand, and Malaysia.
 - SEAFDEC support landing of shark data collection in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand since 2016 and achievement of project implementation in year 2017 is the finding the way to get the information based on existing sharks and rays data in Southeast Asian countries in order to support fishery management measure. The project has determined Yield Per Recruit model (YPR) as appropriate method for examining resource status for sharks and rays. YPR was selected by the consensus of participant and it will be used in the Southeast Asian region.
 - Joint Research Program for Tuna Research Survey in Sulu-Sulawesi Sea (2013) provide technical support the process of implementation on the collaborative research activity on tuna stock assessment in SSSs based on the sequence of the activities planned/adjusted by the sub-regional working group as agreed at the Sulu and Sulawesi seas meeting in 2014. Two (2) cruise surveys were carried out by M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in collaboration among IMP-Countries and SEAFDEC conducted in year 2014 and 2015. Cruise surveys had been carried out. Oceanographic survey, fish sampling for genetic research by fishing operation, FADs observation and tuna resources survey by hydroacoustic survey had been conducted. Project includes the human resource development on the tuna stock assessment study in SSSs, based on the historical and landing data collection.
6. Training or skills development;
- SEAFDEC conducted training related to data collection and stock assessment including:
 - Training/Workshop on Risk Assessment and Fisheries Management Framework/Measures of Longtail Tuna and Kawakawa in Southeast Asian (6-10 August 2017, Malaysia)
 - Training Workshop on the Standard Methodology for Skipjack Otolith Collection (5-6 October 2017, Thailand)
 - Practical Workshop on Stock Assessment and Risk Assessment of Indo-Pacific king mackerel (*Scomberomorus guttatus*) and narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus commerson*) in the Southeast Asian waters (16-20 July 2018, Thailand)
 - Practical Workshop on Tuna Stock Assessment for Yellowfin Tuna, Bigeye Tuna and Skipjack Tuna Resources in Sulu and Sulawesi Seas (SSSs) by CPUE Standardization, ASPIC, and Kobe Plot (Stock Status Trajectory Plot) (21-24 Feb 2018)
 - Training Workshop on Sharks and Rays Stock Assessment by Using YPR Model (4-10 June 2018)
 - Training workshop on Tuna Stock Assessment for YFT, BET and SKJ resources in SSSs by using GLM CPUE standardization, ASPIC, and Kobe Plot to update stock status of tuna in SSSs. (13-19 May 2019)
6. Promotional / fund raising activities

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- SEAFDEC carried out the two-year (2018-2019) regional project on sharks and rays data collection with funded under the GPGC Strategic Cooperation Agreement between UNEP and the European Commission. In 2019, the Project will continue to support the participating countries (Cambodia, Myanmar, and Viet Nam) to collect shark landing; organize the national workshop for training of information of local enumerators in Philippines; and national workshop to support development of national NDFs in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand.
7. Planned activities during the coming intersession period.
- SEAFDEC will consider providing information as input to the Fishery Inventory of FIRMS based on the available information of SEAFDEC.