

## What the BOBP is, and what this CD-ROM contains

The Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP) is a regional marine small-scale fisheries programme of the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations). It started in January 1979 from Madras (now known as Chennai), India.

The BOBP helps improve the conditions of small-scale-fisherfolk in seven countries around the Bay of Bengal, through pilot activities in co-operation with the governments of these countries (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand).

Three phases mark BOBP's history. The first phase (1979-1986) was funded by Sweden, the second phase (1987-1994) by Sweden and Denmark, the third (1994- ) by Denmark and Japan. (For details, please see the Summary on the following page).

The BOBP has always accorded high priority to information preparation and dissemination. This pair of CD-ROMs contains the BOBP's [publications from the Programme's inception till the end of 2000 A.D.](#) These include the quarterly Newsletter, *Bay of Bengal News* (71 issues – 52 during the first two phases, 19 in the Third), [Reports](#), [Working Papers](#), [Manuals and Guides](#), [Miscellaneous Papers](#), [Information Documents](#), [Calendars](#).

The CD-ROM also includes the publications of the [Post- Harvest Fisheries Project](#): the newsletter, *PHF News*; Information Bulletins; Fisheries Leaflets; a Manual of Information and Guidelines on Post-Harvest Fisheries; Impact Assessment Studies.

**BOBP Publications after 2000 A D are available at the present time only in print form.**

**For tips on how to use this CD-ROM, [click here](#).**

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## A brief summary of the BOBP

The Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP) is based in Chennai, India, and operates in seven countries around the Bay of Bengal — Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Thailand. It is a multi-agency regional fisheries programme of the FAO — Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

The BOBP seeks to help member-countries improve their small-scale fisheries and the conditions of their fisherfolk.

The BOBP's methodology is catalytic and consultative. Pilot activities are carried out at selected locations in member-countries, with the active participation of the fisheries department at that location, and of local agencies. The Programme provides technical assistance and advice for each activity, and some financial support, and systematically monitors execution. The Programme also serves as an active and pro-active forum for debate and discussion — the results of the activity are discussed at national and regional workshops, and disseminated through publications, video films, etc. Replication on a larger scale is the responsibility of member-governments. Sometimes the Programme provides support for replication, or mobilizes funds for it.

The BOBP began in 1979. Its first phase ended in 1986 and its second phase in 1994. The third phase that began soon after is presently (in 2001) in an extended mode. It is likely to carry on as an inter-governmental organization with effect from 2002.

During the BOBP's first phase (1979-1986), funded by Sweden, the Programme helped develop, demonstrate and promote new techniques, technologies and methodologies in fishing craft and gear, aquaculture, extension, post-harvest fisheries and fishery resources. These included new and better types of fishing craft and gear, improved propulsion devices such as engines and sails, improved aquaculture and post-harvest technologies, better extension methodologies (mechanisms for bank credit to fisherfolk, non-formal education for fisherfolk and fisherfolk children, people's participation in fisherfolk development, a more active role by women in stimulating their own development), improved stock assessment techniques.

During the second phase (1987-1994), funded by Sweden and Denmark, the Programme continued the activities of the first phase, with a stronger emphasis on fisherfolk communities. New projects included radio programmes for fisherfolk in Sri Lanka, integrated extension services in Thailand's Ranong province, development of fisheries extension services in Bangladesh and Maldives, training for small enterprise development in Langkat district (Indonesia), promotion of Rapid Rural Appraisal as an extension tool throughout the region, introduction of a fish market for fisherwomen in Tamil Nadu, India.

The article "[Glimpses into the BOBP's achievements, 1979-2000](#)" (also in *Bay of Bengal News*, December 2000- Vol. 2) summarizes the work of the BOBP during its first 21 years.

During the third phase (from 1994, funded by Denmark and Japan), the BOBP has focused on fisheries management. The core project is "Integrated Coastal Fisheries Management in the Bay of Bengal." The immediate goal is better awareness of the needs and benefits of fisheries management on the part of all fisheries stakeholders in member-countries. The eventual goal is better fisherfolk conditions through sound management techniques.

Major sponsors of the BOBP over the past two decades have been the governments of Sweden, Denmark, the United Kingdom, Japan, and member-countries of BOBP. Other donors at various times have included UNDP (United Nations Development Program), UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund), IMO (International Maritime Organization) and AGFUND (the Arab Gulf Fund for United Nations Development Organizations). A few FAO/TCP projects have been carried out in member-countries. Several countries — Holland, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, UK, Switzerland, Belgium, Japan — have donated to BOBP the services of several young APOs (Associate Professional Officers). The FAO has been the main executing agency throughout.

The BOBP has been active with information dissemination. The quarterly newsletter, *Bay of Bengal News*, and the various technical reports debate and discuss the rationale, conduct and findings of the Programme's pilot activities, and the Programme's many studies on different aspects of small-scale fisheries in the region.

### **Some Major Third Phase Activities**

- Stakeholder identification and analysis (in all countries)
- Management of estuarine set bagnet and pushnet fisheries, Bangladesh
- Alternative income options for set bagnet fisherfolk, Bangladesh
- Management of coastal fisheries and trawl fisheries — Orissa and Tamil Nadu, India
- Management of coastal aquaculture – Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal, India
- Development of a model fishing village – Tapanuli Bay, North Sumatra, Indonesia (for improved management of coastal resources, anchovy liftnet fishery, small-scale fisheries).
- Development and implementation of a Special Area Management Plan – Pulau Payar Marine Park, Malaysia
- Development of a model for Integrated Reef Resources Management in four atolls of the Maldives
- Management of the ornamental fishery in Sri Lanka
- Community-based fishery management in Phang-Nga Bay, Thailand
- Workshops, seminars, training courses
- Information Service – Bay of Bengal News, technical reports, posters, poster exhibitions, etc.



## Publications of the BOBP

The BOBP brings out the following types of publications, all of which are on this Pair of CD-ROMs. See “List of publications”.

**Reports (BOBP/REP/...)**, which describe and analyse completed activities such as seminars, annual meetings of the BOBP’s Advisory Committee, and sub-projects in member countries for which BOBP inputs have ended. Eighty eight reports have been issued till December 2000.

**Working Papers (BOBP/WP/...)**, which are progress reports of ongoing work. Ninety nine Working Papers have been issued till December 2000.

**Manuals and Guides (BOBP/MAG/...)**, which are instructional documents for specific audiences. Twenty eight manuals have been published till December 2000 (23 during the first two phases, five during the third.)

**Information Documents (BOBP/INF/...)**, which are bibliographies and descriptive documents on the fisheries of member-countries in the region. Fifteen Information Documents have been published till December 2000.

**Miscellaneous Papers (BOBP/MIS...)** concern work not originated by BOBP staff or consultants, but which is relevant to the Programme’s objectives. Seventeen Miscellaneous Papers were out till December 2000.

**Newsletters (*Bay of Bengal News*)**, which are issued every quarter and contain illustrated articles and features on BOBP work and related subjects. Seventy one issues of *Bay of Bengal News* were out till December 2000 (52 during the first two phases, 19 during the third)

**Calendars.** The annual calendars of the BOBP, usually illustrated with sketches of small-scale fisheries or fisherfolk communities of the Bay of Bengal region, have been immensely popular worldwide. Some of these calendars find place in this CD-ROM.

**Publications of the Post-Harvest Fisheries Project** (Thirteen issues of a quarterly newsletter *PHF News*, from 1995 till 1998; 17 Information Bulletins, nine Post-Harvest Fisheries Leaflets, a Manual of Information and Guidelines, two Impact Assessment reports.)

### Posters, Post Cards, and Publications Supported by the BOBP

