

TRAINING WORKSHOP ON RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES FOR STUDY ON IMPACT OF FISHING ON DEEP-SEA ECOSYSTEM

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PROVISIONAL PROSPECTUS

1) Background

SEAFDEC has supported exploration of deep-sea fishery resources in the Southeast Asian Waters through various programs/initiatives in close collaboration with its Member Countries. The overall aims of the program/activity related to deep-sea fishery resources exploration are: to explore ways to collect the information on the deep-sea fishery resources in the Southeast Asian Region including actual survey using SEAFDEC's and national research vessels; to encourage SEAFDEC's Member Countries to explore deep-sea fishery resources; and to build human resources capacity on deep-sea fishery resources exploration.

As far as ecosystem-based approach for fisheries management is international concerns, there is therefore a need to provide the Member Countries in-depth knowledge and better understanding on this issue. Collaboration and coordination with key agencies/initiatives will be strengthening in order to exchange information and expertise on this topic. In this regard, the human resources capacity building program on the "Research Methodologies for the Study on Impact of Fishing on Deep-Sea Ecosystem" is provided to the Member Countries to facilitate sustainable development and management of deep-sea fishery resources.

In the program the following key tasks are set to:

- 1.1 Enhance the human resources capacity in research methodologies to study the impact of fishing on the deep-sea ecosystem;
- 1.2 Encourage the SEAFDEC's member countries on the initiation of deep-sea resources exploration; and
- 1.3 Support fisheries resources survey and exploration of the deep-sea trawling impacts on sea-bottom ecosystem through the human resources development program.

2) Envisaged Outcomes of the Training

- 2.1 To enhance participants' knowledge on research methodologies on impact of fishing to deep-sea ecosystem; and
- 2.2 To build human resources capacity through actual practices on: research planning, topographic survey; sampling gears operating methods; sampling methods (quantitative and qualitative); and data collection methodology from the actual survey.

3) Course Description

This course provides the fundamental knowledge on research methodology for study on impact of fishing on deep-sea marine ecosystem in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea, starting with an overview of the impact of fishing to deep-sea ecology and biodiversity. General knowledge of the biodiversity of benthic fauna at depth beyond 100 m within EEZ of the SEAFDEC's Member Countries are sampled but not described, the course will therefore provide participants with the ability to identify structure and diversity of the benthic fauna especially those threatened as endangered species. The course will provide participants two days of in-class lecture and four days of shipboard training aboard M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in the EEZ of Brunei Darussalam Waters. Emphasis will be placed on: how to assess the impact of fishing gears using various types (beam trawl including Agassiz trawl, otter trawl, etc.) of gear for distinguishing characteristics and comparison; to examine on the geographical distribution benthic fauna according to depth and type of sea floor; to examine on the biodiversity of benthic fauna according to depth and type of sea floor. Completion of a 6-day workshop is required for participation in this workshop. Presentations and hands-on lab exercises including the shipboard training/demonstration will familiarize and develop participant's skills of conducting the biodiversity research and monitoring the impact of fishing gears to the ecosystem with emphasis on important groups of benthic fauna.

4) Time and Venue:

A 5-day training program will be organized at Muara, Brunei Darussalam during 16-20 October 2010. Accommodation for course participants will be provided in Muara city (information will be given later).

5) Participants:

Participants of the Training include researchers/scientists in the field of deep-sea fishery resources exploration, one each from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. The Training is designed primarily for taxonomist, field biologist, and/or person who involve fishery biology. Participants should have some knowledge of biology and ecology. An understanding of fish biology and marine ecosystem would be helpful but is not required.

6) Budget Supporters:

The program is initially supported by the Japanese Trust Fund Program through SEAFDEC in close collaboration/support with/by Department of Fisheries – Brunei Darussalam. The participant will be provided with SEAFDEC/TD' standard; covering international economy air-ticket to/from Brunei Darussalam, DSA, and accommodation.



7) Tentative program:

Date/Program	Activity	Facilitator
15 Oct 2010, Sat		
	Participants arrive at Muara port, Brunei Darussalam	DOF Brunei personnel
16 Oct 2010, Sun		
Early Morning	Welcome, Opening, and Introduction	
Morning ~ Evening	Lecture on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research Methodologies for Study on Impact of Fishing on Deep-sea Ecosystem; and - Structure, diversity, and geographic distribution of the benthic focusing on species found in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea. 	Resource persons
17~19 Oct 2010, Mon~Wed		
	Onboard M.V. SEAFDEC2 Actual Survey and Training (all participants disembark M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in evening of 19 Oct 2010, Wed)	Resource persons
20 Oct 2010, Thu		
Morning ~ Afternoon	Conclusion and recommendation	Resource person/ SEAFDEC personnel
Late Afternoon	Closing	Resource person/ SEAFDEC personnel
21 Oct 2010, Fri		
	All participants leave Brunei	DOF Brunei personnel



8) Contact persons:

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