



Regional Training Course on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)

in Combating IUU fishing in Southeast Asia

Background

During the past decade the incidences of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing have grown at an alarming rate within the Convention and adjacent areas. IUU fishing depletes fish stocks, hampers resource management efforts by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RMFOs) or national governments, destroys marine habitats, distorts competition, puts honest fishers at an unfair disadvantage, and weakens coastal communities, particularly in developing countries. Furthermore, IUU fishing leads to the loss of both short and long-term social and economic opportunities and could have negative impact on food security.

Countries in the Southeast Asian region are confronted by increasing pressure on their fisheries resources from IUU fishing. In many cases, IUU operations expand due to weak Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) regime and IUU fishers exploit this situation to their gain. The causes of weak MCS are broadly the lack of enforcement due to manpower and budgetary shortages with the implementing agencies and adequate knowledge and understanding of the IUU fishing by the government agencies, fishers and others stakeholders concerned.

To address this weakness, the Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020 agreed to

- 1) Establish and strengthen regional and sub-regional coordination on fisheries management and efforts to combat IUU fishing including the development of regional/sub-regional MCS networks; and
- 2) Facilitate consultative dialogue among fisheries legal officers to share, at the sub-regional/regional level, perspectives of the respective legal and regulatory framework in terms of developing MCS-networks and to implement efforts to combat IUU fishing including development of programs, projects and activities for implementation of the Resolution in the region.

In view of the above resolution in the Plan of Action, a Regional Training Course (RTC) on Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) in Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia is planned to be conducted. The overall objectives of the RTC is to understand the importance of MCS in combating IUU fishing, share knowledge and strengthen networking to overcome the problem, in the region.

Course Objectives

The objectives of RTC on MCS in Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia are as follows:

1. To strengthen awareness and knowledge of the participants on the impact of IUU fishing on sustainable fisheries and food security in the world in general and the ASEAN region in particular;
2. To familiarize the participants on the importance of MCS in fisheries management
3. To build the capacity of the participants in better understanding the MCS framework and its implementation process; the legal and administrative requirements for sustainable fisheries management, including co-management and locally-based fisheries management;
4. To review the present status of MCS system and in each of the SEAFDEC member-countries and the ASEAN region as a whole; and
5. To encourage the participants in applying the existing concepts and approaches on fisheries management for MCS planning and developing simple management plans incorporating MCS functions as applicable to their country, bearing in mind the funding and human resource constraints.

Apply Now Until

“24 February 2012”

Duration and Venue

5-16 March 2012
Training Department,
Samutprakan Province
Thailand

Contact Persons

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Program Description

The RTC on MCS in Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia will focus on the following key areas:

1. To understand MCS system in term of its approaches, appropriated procedures and methods as well as the lesson learnt from the experience of other countries, within and outside the ASEAN region;
2. To review the present status of MCS system in each of SEAFDEC member countries; and
3. To make an assessment of the requirements to strengthen MCS system in the SEAFDEC member countries and in the ASEAN region as a whole taking into consideration the existing financial and human resource constrains.

The RTC will comprise lectures, field visit on various aspects of MCS and two days of practical workshop. The tutorials and practical will also include exposure to replicable models, orientation on best practices to establish and implement MCS, and case studies from selected countries within and outside the region. In short the RTC will be organized in three modules-theory, practical (including field exposure), and conceptual aspects. The RTC will be conducted in English language and the course material will also in English.

How to Apply?

Applicants from SEAFDEC member countries must apply for the training fellowship to the SEAFDEC council director in their home country. Citizens of a non-member country are advised to send their application through their employers to SEAFDEC/TD. In both cases, the Complete application form is needed.

Course Preparation and Assignment

Participants from each country is requested to prepare country report and powerpoint presentation on:

- a. Short introduction on MCS situation in each member country
- b. Draft of a Plan of Action on MCS system in each member country (taking into consideration the funding and human resource constraints).

The presentations will be carried out on 16 March 2012, please see the course curriculum for detail information and time table.

Evaluation

Each fellow is required to submit a course evaluation report three months after returning home from the course. This report should include the value of the training to the work in his/her home country and an evaluation of the manner in which the course was conducted together with an analysis of the course content.

Certificate

Upon successful completion of the training course, the fellows will be awarded a Certificate of Achievement by the center.

Eligible Participants

Fisheries managers or Fisheries officers engaged in fisheries management and or MCS function in their respective countries. As the course will be conducted in English language, it is essential that the participants have a good working knowledge of English language.

Allowances

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The SEAFDEC fellows shall be granted the following benefits:

a) Travel:

An economic round-trip air fare will be provided for the fellows from countries other than Thailand. Air travel will be by the shortest possible route between the fellow's nearest international airport and Bangkok. If transit is unavoidable, the fellows will be asked to travel with the first available flight from the transit airport to Bangkok. Rerouting which incurs additional expenses and time is not permissible.

The fellows or their employers must be responsible for the domestic travel which includes all fees and other expenses whether by air, sea, or land, to and from their home town and the nearest international airport before leaving their country.

b) Accomodation:

During the training period, accomodation will be arranged by SEAFDEC/TD for the fellows.

c) Subsistence Allowance:

The fellows will receive 400 THB for a daily subsistence allowance (DSA).

d) Terminal Allowance:

The Bangkok airport tax for foreign fellows will be directly paid by SEAFDEC/TD.

e) Books and Training Materials:

The Department will supply books and all training materials required for studying.

f) Accidental and Health Insurance:

The Center will be responsible for the purchase of health and accident insurances for each fellow during the tenure of fellowship.

Language Requirement

The candidates must have a working knowledge of English.

Course Fee

For non SEAFDEC fellowship participant: USD 1,000

It is included

Accomodation, Training materials, Study trip expenses, Health & accident insurances.

It is excluded

International air ticket, DSA and Participant's personal expenses.