



Outline proposal for FAO, BOBLME and SEAFDEC MPA workshop

Name of event: *Putting into practice the FAO Technical Guidelines on MPAs and Fisheries: MPAs as a potential management tool for sustainable fisheries in South and South East Asia*

Purpose:

- Increase the understanding of the current use MPAs in the region – how they are used as a management tool, how they work/do not work in the context of fisheries and what the existing institutional implementation arrangements are.
- Identify issues, best practices and critical processes and planning/implementation elements for successfully implementing MPAs in the context of fisheries and review the potential contribution of MPAs to existing conventional fisheries management regimes.
- Contribute to improved MPA planning and implementation in the context of fisheries management in the region.

Expected outputs:

- Familiarity with the *FAO Technical Guidelines on MPAs and Fisheries* on behalf of participants and their institutions/organisations.
- Increased capacity of participants to implement or address MPAs in the context of fisheries management/EAF¹ and to collaborate across interest/stakeholder groups and sectoral lines.
- Agreed recommendations on actions that could be taken by governments, SEAFDEC and BOBLME, and other projects/programmes with regard to further increasing the awareness on MPAs and fisheries, influencing policies and promoting cross-sectoral collaboration and policy coherence.

Dates and duration: 30 January – 1 February, 2012 (3 days)

Venue: Bangkok, Thailand

¹ Ecosystem approach to fisheries.

Hosts/organisers

(budget support): BOBLME, SEAFDEC and FAO with support from GCP/INT/253/JPN

Participating

countries: *BOBLME and SEAFDEC members (15 countries):*

Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Vietnam and Japan

Profile of government

participants:

- Officials from fisheries, environment agencies, parks administrations
- Social or natural science background
- Practitioners and policy makers

Other participants:

Staff from actual and potential regionally active government partner organizations (e.g. WWF Coral Triangle, IUCN, WorldFish Center, ICSF, etc), representatives of CSOs and (small-scale fishing) communities affected by and/or managing MPAs, and other relevant programmes and projects.

Number of

participants: 30-50

Methodology and agenda components:

Plenary presentations:

- Setting the scene – presentation of the *FAO Technical Guidelines on MPAs and Fisheries*, the outcomes of the Penang MPA workshop (BOBLME, January 2011), and of the Bergen MPA workshop (Institute of Marine Research, March 2011), recent and current work by SEAFDEC, BOBLME and other relevant regional organizations on MPAs.
- Based on this background, presentation, discussion and definition of a limited number of key issues/questions to be addressed by the workshop, e.g. practical solutions for coordination and collaboration between different sectoral line ministries and agencies for effective spatial management; how to monitor MPA effectiveness; best practices for ensuring community participation, etc [*more examples can be drawn from the Guidelines – some preparatory work required to ensure that this workshop takes things forward and builds on the earlier work*]
- Presentations of real case studies, i.e. on MPAs under implementation (or at the planning stage) or regional examples, including challenges and lessons learned. [*some preparatory work required – MPAs and speakers need to be identified and asked to prepare presentations in line with the key issues/questions that are expected to be discussed, including outlining lessons learnt*]

Group discussions:

Alternative 1

- Analysis of the case studies focusing on the key issues/questions identified in plenary (see above) and using the Guidelines as reference material. Discussions in small groups representing different stakeholder groups involved in MPA policy, planning and implementation, including experts and those with good knowledge on the individual MPA(s) under discussion in each group.

Alternative 2

- Review of and discussion on different topics as presented in the Guidelines with focus on the key issues/questions identified in plenary (see above). Discussions in small groups representing different stakeholder groups who will draw on their own experiences and knowledge (including from the case studies presented in plenary) to illustrate best (bad) practices and lessons learnt.

It might be useful to discuss examples of both successes and failures in order to examine practical aspects of MPA implementation and to define when (under what conditions) MPAs should be introduced – or not be introduced – as part of fisheries management, also taking EAF consideration into account. Discussions should also cover aspects of institutional arrangements and coordination with a view to identify how MPAs being established for biodiversity conservation purposes can better contribute to fisheries management.

Plenary discussions:

- Groups present their findings in plenary and recommendations are discussed and agreed at three different levels (see also outputs above):
 - Summary of identified lessons learnt
 - Recommendations for actions to be taken by SEAFDEC, BOBLME and other projects/programmes
 - Recommendations for individual MPAs

