

# **The Consultation Meeting on the Framework for the Study on Skipjack Growth Analysis based on the Examination of Intervals between the Daily Rings in the Otolith Samples Collected in SSSs and Practical Workshop for the Standard Methodology for Skipjack Otolith**

## **Provisional Prospectus**

### **1. Background**

During the 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting and the 45<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council, SEAFDEC has been requested to develop the framework to facilitate the collaborative tuna research activities in Southeast Asia Waters in order to support the sustainable tuna utilization of SEAFDEC Member Countries. With this regards, SEAFDEC Training Department (TD), Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD) and Secretariat (SEC) has jointly organized the Joint Research Program on Tuna Resources in Sulu and Sulawesi Seas (SSSs) since year 2013. The “Sub-regional Technical Meeting for Development of Joint Research Program for Tuna Research in Sulu and Sulawesi Seas” was the first activities had been collaboratively organized in Malaysia, in August 2013. This enabled SEAFDEC to come up with the Framework for Joint Research Program on Tuna Resources in Sulu and Sulawesi Seas (SSSs). To come up with concrete program arrangement, TD in collaboration with the MFRDMD and SEC has been arranging a series of meeting with financial and technical support of the Japanese Trust Fund Program under the project entitled “Offshore Fisheries Resources Exploration in Southeast Asia”, to facilitate the joint research on tuna fisheries in SSSs.

The overall goal of the joint research program is to understand status and trend of tuna fisheries in SSSs through collaborative research activities by the three SEAFDEC Member Countries surrounding the SSSs, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines (IMP). The Meeting in 2013 also agreed that the joint program should focus on three target species, *i.e.* Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*), Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*), and Skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*).

Since 2013, there were a series of activities and technical meetings which was conducted in order to achieved the goals of the Joint Research Program on Tuna Resources in SSSs. Regarding to the results from the latest technical meeting in this 2017 “the Working Groups Meeting to Follow-up Activities on Joint Program on Tuna Research in SSSs”, the Study on Skipjack Growth Analysis based on the Examination of Intervals between the Daily Rings in the Otolith Samples Collected in Sulu and Sulawesi Seas (SSSs) is one of future activities that were raise up for extend the activities of the Joint Research Program on Tuna Research in SSSs from 2017-2019. The goal of this study is to obtain information on skipjack growth in SSSs based on analysis of otolith. The otolith collected from field and other landing might be the cheapest and best way to getting important biological data, there were potential to come up with capacity building or the cooperation research from Japanese researchers on



this activities. This study will get more information on larvae, juvenile and immature skipjack tuna biological data for improvement of tuna stock assessment in SSSs.

In this regards, SEAFDEC Training Department (TD) in collaboration with SEAFDEC Secretariat (SEC) and National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries (NRIFSF), Fisheries Research Agency of Japan will be organize the Consultation Meeting on the Framework for the Study on Skipjack Growth Analysis based on the Examination of Intervals between the Daily Rings in the Otolith Samples Collected in SSSs and Practical Workshop for the Standard Methodology for Skipjack Otolith Collection for Malaysia and Indonesia in January 2018, with financial and technical support of the Japanese Trust Fund. This Consultation Meeting aims to discuss on the framework for the Study on Skipjack Growth Analysis based on the Examination of Intervals between the Daily Rings in the Otolith Samples Collected in SSSs and the Practical Workshop aims to enhance capacity of Malaysia and Philippines researchers on the standard methodology and technique to collect otolith from the skipjack samples.

## **2. Objective**

The consultation meeting aims to discuss on the framework for the Study on Skipjack Growth Analysis based on the Examination of Intervals between the Daily Rings in the Otolith Samples Collected in SSSs and practical workshops aims to enhance capacity of IMP countries' researchers on the standard methodology and technique to collect otolith from the skipjack samples, and to process the otolith into lapped specimens.

## **3. Expected Outputs**

- Research plan and framework on the Study on Skipjack Growth Analysis based on the Examination of Intervals between the Daily Rings in the Otolith Samples Collected in SSSs; and
- Participants increase their knowledge on standard methodology and technique to collect otolith from the skipjack samples, and can process the otolith into lapped specimens.

## **4. Expected Outcomes**

- Participants possess improved understanding on standard methodology for Skipjack otolith collection to support the Study on Skipjack Growth Analysis based on the Examination of Intervals between the Daily Rings in the Otolith Samples Collected in SSS; and
- Participants are able to carry out practical work on Skipjack otolith collection.

## 5. Duration

The periods of Consultation Meeting and Practical Workshop are 5 days.

## 6. Venue

The Consultation Meeting and Practical Workshop will be organized at Malaysia and Philippines.

## 7. Target Participants and Resource Person

Three (3) researchers from fisheries agencies of two (2) participating countries, namely Malaysia and Philippines (Joint Program on Tuna Research in SSSs participating countries) will be invited. Relevant researchers from SEAFDEC will be also taking part in the meeting and workshops. Female researchers/biologists are encouraged to participate in these courses.

**English** language will be used throughout the training workshops and therefore, proficiency in English is required. Certificates will be awarded upon completion of the meeting and workshop.

## 8. Content and Schedule

Time	Description	Responsibility
<i>Day 1</i>		
0830-0900	Registration	SEAFDEC/TD
0900-0930	<b>Agenda 1.</b> Opening Ceremony - Welcome and Opening remark	SEAFDEC/TD
0930-0945	Group Photo and Coffee break	
0945-1000	<b>Agenda 2.</b> Introduction and adoption of the agenda	SEAFDEC/TD
1000-1200	<b>Agenda 3.</b> Discussion on the plan and framework for skipjack otolith collection activity (Site selection, data collection plan and etc.)	SEAFDEC/TD Member Countries
1200-1300	Lunch	
1300-1500	<b>Agenda 3.</b> Discussion on the plan and framework for skipjack otolith collection activity (Site selection, data collection plan and etc.) (Continued)	SEAFDEC/TD Member Countries
1500-1515	Coffee break	
1515-1630	<b>Agenda 3.</b> Discussion on the plan and framework for skipjack otolith collection activity (Site selection, data collection plan and etc.) (Continued)	SEAFDEC/TD Member Countries
1600-1630	<b>Agenda 4.</b> Conclusion	SEAFDEC/TD



Time	Description	Responsibility
1800	Welcome Dinner	SEAFDEC/TD
<i>Day 2</i>		
0900-0930	Introduction of the practical workshop Country representative self-introduction, participants experience on otolith study	SEAFDEC/TD
0930-0945	Coffee break	
0945-1000	Introduction of the training course Country representative self-introduction, participants experience on otolith study	SEAFDEC/TD Member Countries
1000-1020	Introduction of SKJ otolith study in NRIFS	NRIFSF staff/ SEAFDEC/TD
1020-1050	Methodology of otolith collection	NRIFSF staff/ SEAFDEC/TD
1100-1200	Demonstration (measurement and extraction of otolith)	NRIFSF staff/ SEAFDEC/TD
1200-1300	Lunch	
1300-1310	Measurement and extraction of otolith (watching movie)	NRIFSF staff/ SEAFDEC/TD
1310-1500	Measurement and extraction of otolith (practice)	NRIFSF staff/ SEAFDEC/TD
1500-1515	Coffee break	
1515-1700	Measurement and extraction of otolith (practice) continued	NRIFSF staff/ SEAFDEC/TD
<i>Day 3</i>		
0900-0910	Clean otolith (watching movie)	NRIFSF staff
0915-1000	Clean otolith (practice)	NRIFSF staff
1000-1015	Coffee break	
1015-1200	Drop enamel resin onto microscope slide and put otolith (practice)	NRIFSF staff
1200-1300	Lunch	
1300-1500	Etching method (presentation)	NRIFSF staff
1500-1530	Etching (practice)	NRIFSF staff
1530-1545	Coffee break	
1545-1630	Etching (practice) continued	NRIFSF staff
<i>Day 4</i>		
0800-1700	Landing site(s) visiting	All participants
<i>Day 5</i>		
0800-1500	Landing site(s) visiting	All participants
1600-1630	Conclusion and closing ceremony	SEAFDEC/TD

## 9. Contact Person



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