

**Practical Workshop on Stock and Risk Assessments
of Yellowfin Tuna and Skipjack Tuna in the South China Sea
using Software on CPUE standardizations, A Stock-Production Model Incorporating
Covariates (ASPIC), Kobe plots, and Risk Assessments**

16-20 December 2019

Research Institute of Marine Fisheries (RIMF), Hai Phong, Viet Nam

(Draft) Provisional Prospectus (Plan)

I. Introduction

Over the past few years, SEAFDEC Member Countries have increased their interest to promote the exploration of offshore fisheries resources to reduce the pressure of over-exploited fisheries resources in near-shore areas in their Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), at the same time to find alternative source of fishery resources. This is in line with the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Regional Towards 2020, as mentioned in the Plan of Action # 18 “*Investigate the potential of under-utilized fisheries resources and promote their exploitation in a precautionary manner based upon analysis of the best available scientific information*”. In this connection, SEAFDEC with financial and technical support of the Japanese Trust Fund Program under the project entitled “Offshore Fisheries Resources Exploration in Southeast Asia” will provide technical support to the Member Countries in exploring the under-utilized fisheries resources beyond the coastal area, including offshore areas in their respective EEZ waters.

SEAFDEC in close collaboration with the Member Countries has supported the exploration of fishery/living resources in the EEZ of the countries in Southeast Asia (SEA). The overall aims of this project are to encourage Member Countries to collect the information on the offshore fishery resources for stock assessments to understand the stock status through commercial fisheries (logbooks, observer program, port sampling, etc.) and surveys (e.g. M.V. SEAFDEC2) and to build human resources capacity for these activities.

Viet Nam is one of the important commercial tuna fishing nations in the South China Sea (SCS) area. Viet Nam exploits nine tuna and tuna-like species. The most important species is skipjack tuna (SKJ) and the second one, yellowfin tuna (YFT). The most recent productions (2013-2017) for these two species are 33-40,000 tons and 16-24,000 tons respectively (WCPFC through Viet Nam government). SKJ and YFT are highly migratory species thus the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) manages these species. However, SEAFDEC and member countries are interested in local situations in the SCS area especially for Viet Nam just as a reference.

Under such circumstances, SEAFDEC made a plan to provide the technical support and Capacity Buildings to researchers of Viet Nam through “The Practical Workshop on Stock and Risk Assessments of Yellowfin Tuna and Skipjack Tuna in the South China Sea using software on CPUE standardizations, A Stock-Production Model Incorporating Covariates (ASPIC), Kobe plots and Risk Assessments”. This Workshop (WS) will be held

from 16 to 20 December 2019 at the Research Institute of Marine Fisheries (RIMF), Hai Phong, Viet Nam.

II. Objectives

1. Human resource development on stock assessments and risk assessment of yellowfin tuna and skipjack tuna in the South China Sea to Vietnamese researchers; and
2. Review activities on stock assessments of YFT and SKJ such as previous studies and collection of relevant information (catch, CPUE, biology, etc.) in the South China Sea.

III. Expected outputs

1. Researchers understand stepson stock and risk assessments of YFT and SKJ in the South China Sea using user's friendly (menu-driven) software on CPUE standardizations, ASPIC, Kobe plots, and risk assessments. In addition, they should be able to repeat similar exercises and apply for other species; and
2. To produce reports and present results of the practical WS for participants to understand contents and results of the practical WS; and
3. Recommendations for future activity on the stock and risk assessment program.

IV. Date and venue

16-20 December 2019, Research Institute of Marine Fisheries (RIMF), Hai Phong, Viet Nam

V. Tentative Agenda and timetable

Date	Time	Details
16/12/2019	0800-0830	Registration
	0830-0900	Opening Session
	0900-1200	Present the national report on yellowfin tuna and skipjack tuna in the South China Sea (Participant)
		Objective and the plan of the WS (Dr. Nishida)
	1330-1700	Practical workshop (Participants and Dr. Nishida)
17-19/12/2019	0830-1700	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Data situation and quality control ● Nominal CPUE
20/12/2019	0830-1200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Standardization of nominal CPUE ● ASPIC runs

Date	Time	Details
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk assessments ● Discussion and conclusions <p><i>Assignments will be given to all core participants. Then each participant will submit a report and present it on the last day.</i></p>
	1330-1500	Submission and presentations of assignments (reports) (Participants) Wrap-up (Participants and Dr. Nishida)
	1500-1530	Closing session

VI. Participants and Resource persons

Participants

- 10 researchers (Stock assessment) RIMF, Viet Nam

Resource person

- Dr. Tsutomu Nishida Japan

Assistant resource person

- Mr. Supapong Pattarapongpan SEAFDEC Training Department

VII. Contact Persons

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