



## **PROVISIONAL PROSPECTUS**

### **Regional Workshop on Effective Practice for Supporting the Livelihood and Well-being of Small-scale Fishers in Southeast Asia SEAFDEC/TD, Zoom Platform 27-28 October 2021**

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#### **I. Introduction**

The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 14 "Life below Water" clearly stated the importance of small-scale fisheries (SSF) as a vital source of livelihoods for millions of people particularly in developing countries, and in providing food and nutrition for billions. While large industrial fishing fleets have been the main target for fisheries management efforts and political interests, it is important that the policies are refocused to also address the needs and challenges faced by the SSF. The FAO's Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) adopted by the FAO member countries in 2014 represent a global consensus on the principles and guidance to ensure that small-scale fisheries are governed and developed toward the sustainability for the benefit of small-scale fishers, fish workers, as well as their community/society in the broader context. The SSF Guidelines also advocate the need for good collaboration among government agencies, small-scale fishery organizations, fishing communities, and other stakeholders. It is therefore a big challenge for SEAFDEC to support countries in the Southeast Asian region in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines as well as relevant actions specified in the SDGs.

The SSF provides fish catch for direct human consumption in local communities, while also generating incomes to support local and national economies. Although many small-scale fishing communities contribute to food security and nutrition, poverty eradication, equitable development, and sustainable resources utilization; they have been facing several challenges and constraints, including those brought about by the COVID-19 situation, requiring them to adapt and become resilient to such situation and impacts. Toward this, SEAFDEC Training Department (TD) with support from the Japanese Trust Fund (JTF) is planning to organize the "Regional Workshop on Effective Practice for Supporting the Livelihood and Well-being of Small-scale Fishers in Southeast Asia" to share the practices and lessons learned from its activities on improving and diversification of the SSF livelihoods, as well as their adaptation to the COVID-19 impacts. In addition, approaches for the SSF to access microfinance services would also be addressed during the Workshop in order to strengthen the knowledge and provide information to participants to enable them to develop appropriate financial schemes in their respective country. It is envisaged that promotion of these practices among the SEAFDEC Member Countries would contribute to improved livelihoods of small-scale fishers and their communities in the Southeast Asian region in the future.

#### **II. Objectives**

The Workshop has objectives as follow:

- 1) To enable the participants to understand options for effective practices in supporting and improving livelihood of the SSF
- 2) To review approaches to facilitate microfinance services for small-scale fishers
- 3) To provide recommendations for supporting the livelihood and well-being of small-scale fishers

### III. Expected Outputs

From this Workshop, the participants are expected to obtain awareness and better understanding on effective practices that could contribute to improved livelihood and resilience of small-scale fishers in the fishing communities, as well as on options for livelihood diversification and development of microfinance services for the fishers.

### IV. Date and Platform

With travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Workshop would be conducted virtually via Zoom on 27-28 October 2021 from 08:30 to 12:00 (UTC+7). The Zoom link will be prepared and informed to the participants later on.

### V. Expected Participants

The expected participants of the Workshop are:

- 1) Representatives from the SEAFDEC Member Countries (2 persons from each country), who are fisheries officers responsible for small-scale fisheries development and have experience on livelihood support program(s) for fishing communities;
- 2) Experts from various institutions/academes (e.g. APRACA, BAAC, Kasetsart University), who have experience and are involved in microfinance schemes;
- 3) Resource person(s) from FAO that could provide technical support to its member countries in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines; and
- 4) Officers from the SEAFDEC Secretariat and TD.

### VI. Tentative Agenda and Timetable

Day 1: Wednesday 27 October 2021	
08:30–09:00	Signing-in to the Meeting (Zoom platform)
09:00–09:15	<b>Agenda 1. Opening Session</b> 1.1 Opening of the Workshop <i>(Opening Remarks by the SEAFDEC Secretary-General)</i> 1.2 Introduction of the Participants 1.3 Virtual Group Photograph
09:15–09:30	<b>Agenda 2. Introduction of the Workshop and Adoption of the Agenda</b> 2.1 Introduction of the Workshop <i>(Introduction on background, objectives, and arrangements of the meeting)</i> 2.2 Adoption of the Agenda
09:30–10:30	<b>Agenda 3. Review on Effective Practices for Supporting and Improving Livelihood in Small-scale Fisheries and Adaptation to COVID-19 Situation</b> <i>(Country presentation on success cases, 15 minutes each)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Brunei Darussalam</li><li>- Cambodia</li><li>- Indonesia</li><li>- Lao PDR</li></ul>
10:30–10:45	<i>Refreshment break</i>
10:45–12:00	<b>Agenda 3. Review on Effective Practice for Supporting and Improving Livelihood in Small-scale Fisheries and Adaptation to COVID-19 Situation</b> <i>(Cont'd)</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Malaysia</li> <li>- Myanmar</li> <li>- Philippines</li> <li>- Thailand</li> <li>- Viet Nam</li> </ul>
<b>Day 2: Thursday 28 October 2021</b>	
08:30–09:00	Signing-in to the Meeting (Zoom platform)
09:00–09:45	<b>Agenda 4. Review of the Development of Microfinance Services for Coastal Small-scale Fisheries:</b> <i>(Organization's presentation on approaches to facilitate microfinance services for small-scale fishers)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- APRACA</li> <li>- BAAC</li> <li>- Kasetsart University</li> </ul>
09:45–10:15	<b>Agenda 5. Practical Lessons for Improving Livelihood and Well-being of Small-scale Fishers in the Implementation of SSF Guidelines</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO</li> </ul>
10:15–10:30	<i>Refreshment break</i>
10:30–11:30	<b>Agenda 6. Recommendations and Way Forward</b> <i>(Plenary discussions to identify key factors and recommendations for supporting and improving the livelihood and well-being of small-scale fishers)</i>
11:30–12:00	<b>Agenda 7. Closing of the Workshop</b> <i>(Closing Remarks by the SEAFDEC Deputy Secretary-General)</i>

*Note:* For Agenda 3, participants from the SEAFDEC Member Countries are requested to prepare their respective country's presentation on "Success Case(s) of Effective Practice for Supporting and Improving Livelihood in Small-Scale Fisheries and Adaptation to COVID-19 Situation" (15 minutes each). The outline of the presentation is as follows:

- Overview
- Lessons learned from success case(s), and key factors contributing to the success (including example(s) of microfinance services and activities, if possible/available)
- Adaptation of SSF to the COVID-19 situation
- Challenges and constraints
- Recommendations and way forward

## **VII. Contact Person of the Workshop**

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