

Prospectus

Workshop on Needs for Monitor, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) Implementation and Capacity Building to Combat IUU Fishing in Thailand

9 June 2026

Bangkok, Thailand

INTRODUCTION

Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) plays a vital role in combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and in supporting sustainable fisheries management in Thailand. Effective implementation of MCS measures is essential for monitoring fishing activities, enforcing fisheries laws and regulations, and protecting marine resources, thereby contributing to national food security and the livelihoods of coastal communities. In recent years, Thailand has made significant progress in strengthening its fisheries governance framework. Key initiatives include the establishment of the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) and Port-in Port-out Control Centers (PIPO), the mandatory use of logbooks for fishing vessels, enhanced inter-agency coordination for at-sea inspections, and the requirement for Thai fishing vessels operating outside national waters to install Electronic Reporting Systems and Electronic Monitoring (ERS/EM). Over the past decade, Thailand has continuously improved its MCS system and enhanced the capacity of relevant personnel, with support from national and international partners, to strengthen operational effectiveness and align with sustainable fisheries management objectives.

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), in collaboration with the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organization (BOBP-IGO) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), is implementing the project entitled “Sustainable Management of Fisheries, Marine Living Resources, and Their Habitats in the Bay of Bengal Region for the Benefit of Coastal States and Communities (BOBLME II),” an initiative supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Under Output 1.2.3, which focuses on the development and implementation of tools to promote best practices in combating IUU fishing, including MCS, Port State Measures (PSM), traceability systems, and related policies and national actions, a study has been conducted to assess the status of MCS implementation and to identify capacity building needs in Thailand.

In this connection, the “Workshop on Needs for Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) Implementation and Capacity Building to Combat IUU Fishing in Thailand” will be convened. The Workshop main aims to share information on needs for MCS implementation and associated capacity building to combat IUU fishing in Thailand as a result from study and review needs of MCS implementation and capacity building.

OBJECTIVES

- To share a result from study and review on needs for Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) implementation and associated capacity building to combat IUU fishing in Thailand
- To strengthen understanding of national and international fisheries legal instruments and law enforcement frameworks in support of combating IUU fishing
- To enhance coordination and collaboration among relevant officers who are conduct activities on MCS to combat IUU fishing of the Department of Fisheries, Thailand

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Understood a comprehensive assessment of MCS gaps with actionable recommendations for technical and human capacity building.
- Understood and updated information on practical guidelines and updated Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure national enforcement actions fully align with international legal instruments.
- Integrated inter-agency protocol include formalized coordination mechanisms that synchronize intelligence sharing and operational response efforts across relevant the Department of Fisheries units to ensure a unified enforcement posture.

PARTICIPANTS

The workshop will convene 50 officers from the Department of Fisheries, Thailand, specializing in Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS). In line with principles of inclusivity, the workshop welcomes participation from individuals of all genders.

DATE AND VENUE

The Workshop will be held on 9 June 2026, in Bangkok, Thailand

AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

9 June 2026

Time	Session Title
08:30–09:00	Registration
09:00–09:30	Agenda 1: Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Statement by Department of Fisheries• Opening Address by SEAFDEC Training Department• Group photo
09:30–10:00	<i>Refreshment</i>
10:00–12:00	Agenda 2: A Result of Study and Review on Needs for Monitor, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) Implementation and Capacity Building to Combat IUU Fishing in Thailand. <i>(by Dr. Monissa Srisomwong and team, Kasetsart University)</i>
12:00–13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00–15:00	Agenda 3: National and International Fisheries Legal Instruments as well as Law Enforcement to Eliminate IUU Fishing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IUU Fishing and International Obligations to Eliminate IUU Fishing• Thailand’s Fisheries Legal Instruments to Eliminate IUU Fishing and the Amendments of ROF B.E. 2558 (2015) through the Act Amending the Royal Ordinance on Fisheries, B.E. 2558 (2015), B.E. 2568 (2025) <i>(by Legal Affairs Division, Department of Fisheries)</i>
15:00–15:30	<i>Refreshment</i>
15:30–16:00	Agenda 3: National and International Fisheries Legal Instruments as well as Law Enforcement to Eliminate IUU Fishing <i>(cont.)</i>

Time	Session Title
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="480 248 1477 349">• Law Enforcement to Eliminate IUU Fishing including Operational Guidelines for Department of Fisheries Officers on the Use of Fisheries Infringement database system <p data-bbox="432 356 1059 392"><i>(by Legal Affairs Division, Department of Fisheries)</i></p>
16:00	Agenda 4: Closing Ceremony by SEAFDEC Training Department