



COURSE CURRICULUM

Regional Training on Traceability and Effective Management Tools for Fish and Fishery Products in Southeast Asia

14–16 July 2026

Bangkok, Thailand

Fish and fishery products continue to rank among the most traded food commodities globally. In 2022, international trade amounted to 70 million tons, equivalent to 38 percent of total fisheries and aquaculture production. Over 200 countries and territories take part in aquatic trade during the year, compared to 150 in the mid-1970s. The global trade in aquatic animal products has seen substantial growth in value, with exports increasing from USD 7.9 billion in 1976 to a record high of USD 192 billion in 2022. This growth reflects an average annual increase of 7.2 percent in nominal terms and 4.0 percent in real terms. The total export value of all aquatic products reached USD 195 billion in 2022 (FAO, 2024¹).

Since 1976, Asia has demonstrated the highest average annual growth rate in the export value of aquatic animal products, followed by Africa, Europe, the Americas, and Oceania. In 2022, Europe and Asia maintained their positions as the leading exporting continents, accounting for 37 percent and 35 percent of the total export value, respectively (FAO, 2024²).

Taking into account the significant contribution of fish and fishery products from Southeast Asian countries to the world market, the ASEAN Secretariat in cooperation with regional partners led by the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) has strengthened regional initiatives for facilitating the sharing of experiences and information among the ASEAN Member States (AMSs) to enhance the respective countries' capacities and efforts to deal with eliminating IUU fishing and market-driven measures. This was demonstrated when the AMSs adopted in 2016 "The Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products" to strengthen efforts in implementing regional initiatives to combat IUU fishing and promoted the "ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain," endorsed by The 37th Meeting of The ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (The 37th AMAF) in 2015.

In 2016, SEAFDEC convened the "High-level Consultation on Regional Cooperation in Sustainable Fisheries Development Towards the ASEAN Economic Community" in Bangkok, Thailand. The ASEAN-SEAFDEC member countries declared and planned to combat IUU fishing in the Southeast Asian region and enhance the competitiveness of ASEAN fish and fishery products in the region and internationally, following international laws and agreements. SEAFDEC has been promoting the development of regional tools and supporting ASEAN Member States (AMSs) in combating IUU fishing which is relevant to the traceability of fish and fishery products as ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme.

To enhance the capacity of AMSs to prevent and combat IUU fishing through a series of training and/or workshop activities, the ASEAN-JICA Capacity Building Project on IUU Fishing Countermeasures in Southeast Asia under the Agreement on Technical Cooperation between ASEAN and the Government of Japan (the ASEAN-JICA cooperation framework) has implemented together

^{1,2} FAO. (2024). The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2024. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd0683en>

with SEAFDEC. This project aims to improve AMS's understanding of the practices and action necessary to deter IUU fishing and to think about the tangible countermeasures that could be adopted in their own countries, as well as to strengthen concrete countermeasures based on specific issues and concerns for eliminating IUU fishing in the AMSs through the training/capacity building workshop activities.

Therefore, the “Regional Training on Traceability and Effective Management Tools for Fish and Fishery Products in Southeast Asia” will be conducted with main aims to capacity building of AMSs prevent and combat IUU fishing through traceability and effective management tools for fish and fishery products at international and regional levels.

OBJECTIVES

1. Promoting the traceability and effective management tools for fish and fishery products to eliminate IUU fishing in Southeast Asia
2. Imparting the knowledge and sharing the lessons learned about existing traceability of fish and fishery products systems including effective management tools inside and outside the region

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

1. Understanding the traceability of fish and fishery products to eliminate IUU fishing in Southeast Asia
2. Increasing knowledge of the traceability of fish and fishery products from expertise inside and outside the region and skills through lessons learned

PARTICIPANTS

Three (3) representatives from each ASEAN Member States (AMS) who engage and conduct traceability of fish and fishery products. All genders are welcomed but nominations should be personnel only, who are not related to the military.

DATE AND VENUE

The Training will be held from 14 to 16 July 2026 at Bangkok, Thailand

TIMETABLE

14 July 2026

Time	Activities
08:30–09:00	Registration
09:00–09:30	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement by JICA Thailand office • Opening address by Secretary-General • Group photo
09:30–10:00	<i>Refreshment</i>
10:00–12:00	An overview of existing regulations and laws governing the import and export of fish and fishery products in major markets, including the EU, US, China, Australia, Japan, and ASEAN (DOF Thailand)

Time	Activities
12:00–13:00	Lunch
13:00–15:00	GDST Activities for Implementing Traceability Systems for Fish and Fishery Products (Global Dialogue on Seafood Traceability)
15:00–15:30	Refreshment
15:30–16:30	Technology and Innovative Tools for Traceability at both Commercial and Small-Scale Levels (Global Dialogue on Seafood Traceability)
18:00–20:00	Reception Dinner

15 July 2026

Time	Activities
09:00–11:30	EU Fisheries Traceability System: Understanding and Implementing CATCH (TBD)
10:30–11:00	Refreshment break
11:00–12:00	Regional Traceability Tools for Fish and Fishery Products (SEAFDEC/TD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of Catch Documentation Scheme for Fisheries Management and Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products • Introduction of Concept on electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (eACDS)
12:00–13:00	Lunch
13:00–17:00	Study the traceability system for fish and fishery products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia • Viet Nam

16 July 2026

Time	Activities
09:00–11:00	Traceability for Aquaculture (DOF Thailand)
11:00–11:30	Refreshment break
11:30–12:30	Implementation of Traceability Systems in Fish Processing Plants (Nissui (Thailand) Co., Ltd.)
12:30–13:30	Lunch
13:30–15:30	Discussion on Traceability Approaches and Frameworks for Small-Scale Fisheries to Combatting IUU in the ASEAN Region (Facilitate by SEAFDEC/TD)
15:30–16:00	Closing session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing address by SEAFDEC