

Training of Trainers for Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries management (TOT E-EAFM) The Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project Phase II (BOBLME II)

Duration: 26–29 September 2026

Training Venue: Penang, Malaysia

Background:

The 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) project aims to contribute to the sustainable management of fisheries, marine living resources, and their habitats in the Bay of Bengal region for the benefit of coastal states and communities. This objective will be achieved through five interlinked components, each associated with specific outcomes, outputs, and tentative activities.

The five interlinked components are:

- **Component 1:** Sustainable Management of Fisheries,
- **Component 2:** Restoration and Conservation of Critical Marine Habitats and Biodiversity,
- **Component 3:** Management of Coastal and Marine Pollution to Improve Ecosystem Health,
- **Component 4:** Improved Livelihoods and Enhanced Resilience of the BOBLME, and
- **Component 5:** Regional Mechanism for Planning, Coordination, and Monitoring of the BOBLME

Under Component 1, Outcome 1.1 focuses on institutionalizing the ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM) at the national level, specifically targeting transboundary fish stocks. Key outputs include the implementation of at least two EAFM plans in each country, the establishment or strengthening of national and regional platforms to engage grassroots stakeholders in decision-making, and the integration of EAFM training into national and regional training institutions.

Activities supporting these outputs include the Inception Workshop on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Institutionalization at the National Level of Malaysia, which was held from August 4 to 5, 2026, Penang, Malaysia. Additionally, the Training Course on Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (E-EAFM) will be held from September 21 to 25, 2026. To further develop EAFM trainers and a core team for disseminating knowledge effectively to each EAFM learning site, the Training for Trainers (TOT) program is essential. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of E-EAFM content and learn appropriate methods for knowledge transfer. This course will empower them to confidently and sustainably guide fishery stakeholders in their respective areas of responsibility.

Overall Objectives: The 12 participants from the Essential EAFM course will acquire the necessary training skills in EAFM to become key facilitators and practitioners in their respective areas. This initiative aims to establish a pool of EAFM trainers committed to supporting Component 1, Outcome 1.1 of the BOBLME II project, which focuses on institutionalizing the ecosystem approach to fisheries management at the national level, including targeted transboundary fish stocks.

We expect participants to:

- Enhance their understanding of each module of E-EAFM
- Deliver presentations individually, in pairs, or in small groups
- Practice conducting energizers and share their own energizing activities
- Engage in practice reviews
- Facilitate pair work, small group discussions, role plays, and plenary sessions

TOT Overview:

- **Purpose:** The Training of Trainers (TOT) aims to equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively teach and promote the EAFM in their respective areas. By cultivating a core group of trainers, we intend to ensure the sustainability and continuity of EAFM practices across the learning sites.
- **Content:** The TOT will encompass essential EAFM concepts, teaching methodologies, facilitation techniques, and practical strategies for knowledge transfer to stakeholders. Participants will engage in hands-on activities, group discussions, and presentations to solidify their learning.
- **Expectations:** Participants are expected to actively engage in training, collaborate with peers, and demonstrate their ability to facilitate EAFM training sessions. They should also be prepared to apply their skills in real-world contexts and contribute to the advancement of EAFM practices in their areas of responsibility.

Target Participants:

We anticipate approximately 12 participants for this intensive Training of Trainers course. The target participants will consist of 5 officers from Kedah, 5 officers from Perak, and 2 officers from Head Quater of DOF, Malaysia. Participants should have completed the E-EAFM training course, which took place from September 21 to 25, 2026. These individuals are specifically selected for their roles in supporting Component 1, Outcome 1.1 of the BOBLME II project, which focuses on institutionalizing the ecosystem approach to fisheries management at the national level, including targeted transboundary fish stocks within the learning sites along the Andaman Coastline.

Timetable:

26 Sept. 2026	27 Sept. 2026	28 Sept. 2026	29 Sept. 2026
08:30–12:00			
Discussion and preparation for the TOT-EAFM by SEAFDEC staff and participants	- Key trainer elements and environment: Effective trainers embody several key attributes that enhance the learning experience: - Expertise - Communication - Facilitation skills - Adaptability - Supportive environment - Commitment to continuous improvement	- Review: Memorize all 17 modules	- Practice: Mini session on managing training aspects
13:00–17:00			
Participants practice setting up the meeting room for the E-EAFM training course, including arranging the room layout, posters, and training materials and documents.	- What and Why do we need energizers? - Adult learning - Daily monitoring and review - How to deliver a session	- Practice: Mini session on managing training aspects	- Surgery (whole group meeting) - Embedding learning - Discussion: challenging situations - TOT reflection - Next step for EAFM in the sites - Individual action planning
	Surgery (meeting)	Surgery (1 to 1 meeting)	Surgery (1 to -1 meeting)
Evening			
	Homework: - Familiarize yourself with Trainer Resource Guide - Think of energizers	Homework: - Reflect on challenging situation - Familiarize yourself with trainer resource guide - Think of energizers	