

Capacity of Training Providers to Deliver Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (E-EAFM)

The Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project Phase II (BOBLME II)

Duration: 26–30 October 2026

Training Venue: Penang, Malaysia

Background:

The course “Capacity of Training Providers to Deliver Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)” is designed to empower new EAFM trainers to disseminate EAFM knowledge effectively. It aims to enhance human capacity and engage key stakeholders within fisheries management units (FMUs) to comprehend and apply EAFM principles. Participants will explore why adopting an ecosystem approach is critical for sustainable fisheries management. The training focuses on moving beyond traditional methods that solely target harvests, towards holistic management strategies that balance environment, economic, and social well-being.

Throughout the course, participants will:

- Learn how to develop, implement, and adapt EAFM framework and plan that incorporate co-management and adaptive management techniques.
- Enhance collaboration and communication among different stakeholder groups to minimize conflicts and optimize resource allocation.
- Engage in practical activities that foster skills in effective communication, facilitation, and conflict resolution, which are vital for addressing complex fisheries challenges.

The course also provides comprehensive guidance on using EAFM plan templates, enabling trainees to draft actionable plans tailored to their specific fisheries context. By the end of the training, participants will be equipped to drive sustainable fisheries management effectively.

Training methodology:

The course is designed to be highly participatory. To complement input from the trainers, participants will work in pairs, in groups and individually on specifically designed exercises. The exercises are designed to consolidate learning. The trainers will try, as far as possible, to work with real, local examples and will therefore rely on active participation from participants.

Learning and feedback:

Daily monitoring and reviews ensure that feedback from participants is integrated into course design. Pre-and post course assessment, as well as a quiz, will enable the trainers to assess progress.

Overall objective:

Participants will understand the concept and need for an Ecosystem Approaches to Fisheries Management (EAFM) and acquire skills and knowledge to develop, implement and monitor an “EAFM plan” to better manage capture fisheries.

This is a five-day course component:

Day 1: To understand what EAFM is and why we should use it.

Day 2: To understand what moving towards EAFM entails.

Day 3: To work through the EAFM planning process.

Day 4: To work through implementing EAFM plans.

Day 5: To present and receive feedback on group EAFM plans.

Eligible Trainees:

The training course will hold approximately 20 participants (10 key stakeholders and 10 EAFM trainers). Eligible participants include representatives from educational institutions, who play a critical role in disseminating EAFM knowledge, academics, and relevant local institutions such as NGOs. Additionally, members of FMU who are involved in or related to fisheries management are encouraged to participate. Participants are expected to apply and expand the knowledge and skills acquired from this course in their professional endeavors.

Training Program

Date	Time	Activities
26 Oct. 2026 (Mon.)	08:45–09:00	Registration
	09:00–09:45	- Opening Ceremony - Group Photo - Coffee break
	09:45–10:30	Ice breaking activity
	10:30–10:50	Course assessment (20 min) - Participants complete pre-course assessment individually
	10:50–12:00	Course overview and threats & issues in current fisheries management
	12:00–13:30	Lunch
	13:30–14:30	Fisheries management and the ecosystem approach
	14:30–15:15	What and Why of EAFM
	15:15–15:30	Coffee break
	15:30–16:30	Principle of EAFM and How much EAFM are you already doing?
	16:30–17:00	Wrap up day one: homework & daily monitoring
27 Oct. 2026 (Tue.)	08:30–09:30	Moving towards EAFM
	09:30–09:50	EAFM plans: the link between policy and action
	09:50–10:20	EAFM process overview
	10:20–10:35	Coffee break
	10:35–12:00	Startup A: Preparing the ground
	12:00–13:30	Lunch
	13:30–14:30	Startup B: Engaging stakeholders
	14:30–15:30	Step 1: Define & scope the Fishery Management Unit (FMU)
	15:30–15:45	Coffee break
	15:45–16:30	Step 1 (cont.): Define & scope the Fishery Management Unit (FMU)
	16:30–17:00	Wrap up day two: homework & daily monitoring

Date	Time	Activities
28 Oct. 2026 (Wed.)	08:30–10:15	Step 2: Identify & prioritize issues & goals - Identify FMU-specific issues - Discuss how to prioritize issues through risk assessment - Develop goals for EAFM plan
	10:15–10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
	10:30–12:00	Reality check I - Identify the constraints and opportunities in meeting your FMU goals; - Use facilitation skills with co-management partners in focus group discussions (FGDs); - Understand the need for conflict management in EAFM management and practice a range of conflict management techniques.
	12:00–13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
	13:30–15:30	Step 3.1-3.2: Develop the EAFM plan - Develop operational objectives; - Develop indicators and benchmarks related to the agreed objectives; - Discuss pre-selected EAFM indicators as examples.
	15:30–15:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
	15:45–16:30	Step 3.3-3.5: Develop the EAFM plan - Agree management actions and how stakeholders will comply with these; - Include financing mechanisms in the plan; bring it all together – finalize the EAFM plan.
	16:30–17:00	<i>Wrap up day three: homework & daily monitoring</i>
29 Oct. 2026 (Thu.)	08:30–09:30	Step 3.3-3.5 (cont.): Develop the EAFM plan
	09:30–09:45	Step 4: Implement the plan–Formalize, communicate and engage
	09:30–10:15	Reality check II
	10:15–10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
	10:30–11:30	Step 5: Monitor, evaluate and adapt - Monitor performance of management actions to meet objectives and goals; - Understand what has to be monitored, when, how and by whom; - Evaluate the monitoring information and report on performance; - Adapt the plan
	11:30–12:00	EAFM Quiz
	12:00–13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
	13:30–16:30	Participant work: refining EAFM plans & preparing presentations
30 Oct. 2026 (Fri.)	16:30–17:00	<i>Wrap up day four: homework & daily monitoring and presentation preparation</i>
	08:30–10:00	Participant presentations on EAFM key elements to illustrate learning Feedback on presentations
	10:00–10:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
	10:15–12:00	Participant presentations on EAFM key elements to illustrate learning Feedback on presentations (cont.)
	12:00–13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
	13:30–14:30	Course evaluation and post-course assessment individually
	14:30–15:15	Closing ceremony
	15:15–15:45	<i>Coffee break</i>

Contact Person

For further information, please contact:

Ms. Rattana Tiaye, Fisheries Management Researcher, SEAFDEC/TD, Email: rattana@seafdec.org