



**Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of
Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand**

REPORT

**ICHTHYOPLANKTON SURVEY IN SELECTED AREAS
OF MASINLOC BAY**

ZAMBALES, PHILIPPINES

28-31 AUGUST 2018

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HIGHLIGHT ACTIVITIES

- 1) On the first day, a courtesy call to the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) was conducted, we meet Ms. Olive Gregorio, CENRO Officer of Masinlic, Zambales, we discussed with her the purpose of the visit.
- 2) After the meeting, we also meet the technical enumerators assigned in the area; they informed us that there was no fish landing in Balago and Matalvis during our visit due to the bad weather condition.
- 3) On the second day we started the Ichthyoplankton Survey in the selected areas of Masinloc Bay.
- 4) Horizontal towing of Bongo nets (50 cm diameter, 2.5 m length and 300 μ m mesh size) in the surface water was done for 10 minutes on board the vessel at a possible speed of about 2-3 knots in each station to collect ichthyoplankton samples for estimates of the abundance and distribution of fish eggs and larvae.
- 5) Vertical tow of phytoplankton (30 cm diameter, 1m length and 20 μ m mesh size) and zooplankton (30 cm diameter, 1m length and 64 μ m mesh size) nets from near bottom up to the surface to ensure that planktons within the water column was well represented.
- 6) Echo sounder was also used to determine the depth of every station.

Laboratory work:

- 7) Analyses of various samples (water, ichthyoplankton and plankton samples) are on-going process in the laboratory. Species composition of ichthyo- and plankton assemblages will be microscopically analyzed. The chlorophyll and nutrient contents of the water samples are still being analyzed by chemical titration with spectrophotometer.

