



SEAFDEC EFFORTS in COMBATING IUU FISHING in the Southeast Asia Region



SEAFDEC in collaboration with its Member Countries have made efforts in addressing SDG14.4 to enhance the capacity to combat Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices. Four (4) regional initiatives to combat IUU fishing in the Southeast Asian region have been undertaken, namely:

1. ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain
2. Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products from Fishing to Plate
3. Development of Database for Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR)
4. Regional Coordination to Support Implementation of Port State Measure

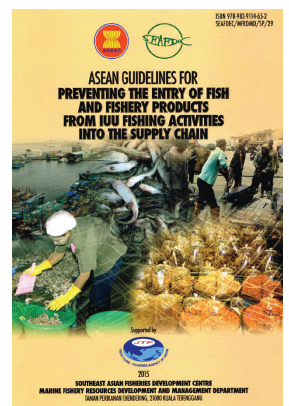
In addition, SEAFDEC also supported the development of the Regional Plan of Action for Managing the Fishing Capacity which aims to guide the AMSs in developing the NPOA-Capacity, as well as Strengthening Cooperation on Trans-Boundary Issues Through By-Lateral Dialogues where the platform for harmonization are provided by SEAFDEC.

- **Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of IUU Fish and Fishery Product into the Supply Chain**

SEAFDEC has been promoting the ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of IUU Fish and Fishery Products into the Supply Chain in collaboration with the AMSs. The goal of these guidelines is to

ensure that “fish and fishery products in the supply chain do not come from IUU fishing activities.”

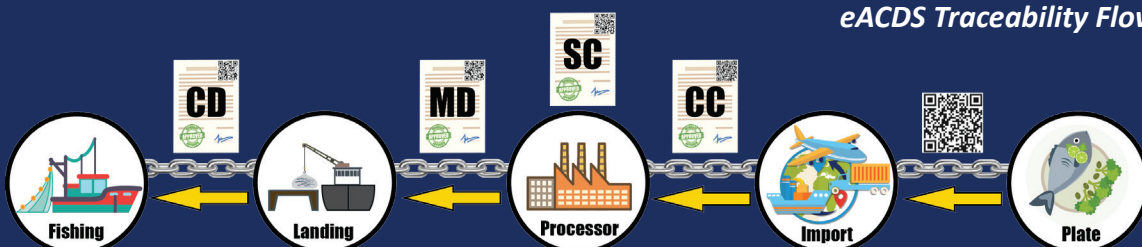
The strategies and measures in the ASEAN Guidelines are based on 1) Management of fishing activities within AMSs, 2) Regulation of transshipment and landing of fish, 3) Preventing poaching in the EEZs of AMSs, 4) Controlling illegal fishing and trading practices of live reef food fish, reef-based ornamentals and endangered aquatic species, and 5) Strengthening the management of fishing in the high seas and RFMO areas.



- **Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products from Fishing to Plate**

Another achievement and challenges are the development of the electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (eACDS) as a fisheries management tool for enhancing intra-regional and international trades to “Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products from Fishing to Plate”. In addition, the eACDS also aims to prevent the entry of IUU fish and fishery products into the supply chain. The eACDS requires several good practices and good governance such as Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS), as well as cooperation among the AMSs.

eACDS Traceability Flow



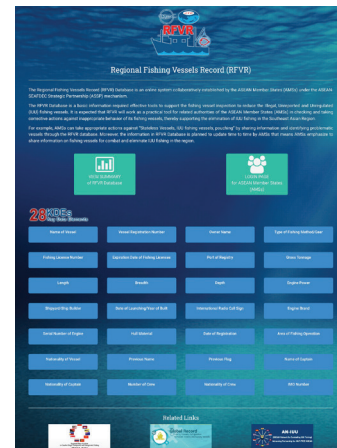
eACDS Documents

● **Development of a Database for Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR)**



RFVR Website

SEAFDEC in collaboration with AMSs initiates and develops a database for Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR) for 24 meters in length and over which main aims to combat IUU fishing by enhancing transparency and traceability. The sharing information on RFVR Database is not only fishing vessels and carriers that have IMO numbers but also includes vessels that do not have IMO numbers too.



● **Regional Coordination to Support Implementation of Port State Measure (PSM)**

To support the implementation of PSM in the Region, SEAFDEC in collaboration with partner organizations, the capacity building for more understanding of the implementation of PSM through good practice on inspection was organized such as the Regional Training on Port State Measures Implementation in Southeast Asia for fishery managers and inspectors.



● **MCS, Sub-regional/Bilateral cooperation, RPOA-Capacity**

Furthermore, SEAFDEC supported AMSs on the development of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity for regional implementation under the framework of the IPOA-Capacity. The RPOA-Capacity serves as a basis for the AMSs in formulating relevant policies and provides an enabling environment with sustainable use of available fishery resources.

Another regional initiative is the facilitation of sub-regional cooperation, especially, in the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand for the exchange of information and promoting collaboration for effective fisheries management and combating IUU fishing. Through the sub-regional dialogues by SEAFDEC supported countries have improved knowledge on the stock status of transboundary fisheries resources and improved data for stock assessment and so on. SEAFDEC also made the effort on the promotion networks of the MCS at the sub-regional level by strengthening inter-agency coordination.

● **Collaboration with Other Partners**

To achieve sustainable fisheries and combat IUU fishing in the region, SEAFDEC would sustain our collaborative works with partners such as FAO, NOAA, USAID, and the Department of Fisheries in AMSs, particularly the support from the Government of Japan. Without support from partners, SEAFDEC would not have established the countermeasures towards combating IUU Fishing.

