



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

REPORT

FISHERIES REFUGIA COMMITTEE (NFRC) MEETING

JAKARTA, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2022

Prepared by:

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**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
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VENUE

Secretariat office, Agency of Research and Human Resource Development, MMAF.

OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING

The meeting aimed to report the progress of the Fisheries Refugia Project to the Secretary of The Agency of Research and Human Resource Development, MMAF as the NFRC of the project.

MEETING NOTES**Opening Remarks by National Focal Point (Ir. Iswari Ratna A.)**

Mrs. Iswari explained that the Fisheries Refugia Project has been conducted since 2019 and is categorized as a service grant. The registered document is recorded in the Ministry of Finance which will valid until December 31st, 2022. The meeting was expected to discuss the monitoring and evaluation of the project conducted by the Planning Beaurau and International Cooperation Bureau. Mrs. Iswari reported that the study result as the base information for Fisheries Refugia in West Kalimantan had been delivered to the local Department of Marine and Fisheries on site as the recommendation for fisheries refugia implementation. Furthermore, Indonesia was assigned as the 7th RSTC meeting host which will be held on November 2022.

Welcome Remarks by Secretary of the Agency for Research and Human Resource Development / NFRC (Dr. Kusdiantoro)

Mr. Kusdiantoro stated that Fisheries Refugia Project brought a very strategic issue by lining three priority programs of MMAF regarding the Blue Economy concept. Thus, coordination for the optimization of the activities should be strengthened to accomplish the project output.

Progress Presentation by National Scientific and Technical Committee Focal Point (Astri Suryandari, S.Si., M.Si)

Important points regarding Fisheries Refugia Project as presented by Mrs. Astri

- Fisheries Refugia area for penaeid shrimps in West Kalbar proposed for 409.432 Ha area
- Reduction of 20% operational fishing gear units and the closed fishing season will be recommended
- Several recommendations will also be proposed for Shrimps Refugia, i.e., mangrove rehabilitation efforts, enhancing local community awareness, selection of eco-friendly fishing gears, protection of shrimp habitat, and rearrangement of a water transportation route that crosses the proposed refugia area.
- For Fisheries refugia in Bangka Belitung, the potential refugia area proposed was 1.529.097,93 Ha followed by several recommendations, i.e., close-fishing season from April to June, and October to November on the spawning area, a moratorium for seabed tin mining, rehabilitation of the squid habitat, limitation of the lift net operation on the nursery area, proposing alternative livelihood for the community during the closed-season implementation.

- Furthermore, from those potential squid fisheries refugia areas, a single cluster of priority areas was proposed as squid refugia covering 157.668,35 ha consisting of 148.087,08 ha of spawning area and 9.581,27 ha of nursery area

Discussion

- The study result document may be delivered to the governor level so it can be implementable in the local government
- At the national level, the document should be delivered to the Directorate General below MMAF as input for policy formulation.
- The guideline documents should be finished by accelerating the review process.
- Internal coordination in the agency should be increased by considering the end project is within the next few months.
- The identified obstacle during the project activities was the COVID19 pandemic which delayed several field activities and delayed several outputs document finalization. Furthermore, the project duration for Indonesia was so short it started in 2019 while other countries started in 2017.
- Approaching the end date of the project, several activities should be followed up as soon as possible, such as socialization to the Bangka Belitung Province, academic and policy brief document submission to the Bangka Belitung Governor, 7th RSTC meeting preparation, and website and database improvement.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

No	Name	Gender	Institution
1	Kusdiantoro	M	Agency of Research and Human Resource Development, MMAF
2	Iswari Ratna A.	F	Research Institute for Fish Resource Enhancement
3	Andi Soesmono	M	Agency of Research and Human Resource Development, MMAF
4	Kiestiko Sari	F	Agency of Research and Human Resource Development, MMAF
5	Dyah Ika K.	F	Research Institute for Fish Resource Enhancement
6	Astri Suryandari	F	Research Institute for Fish Resource Enhancement
7	Aira Zata I.	F	Fisheries Refugia Project

MEETING DOCUMENTATION

