



PROVISIONAL PROSPECTUS

REGIONAL TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES – MAPPING, INFORMATION AND DATA REQUIREMENTS

SamutPrakarn, Thailand, March 2013

1. Background

Access to relevant and sufficient data on the trawl fisheries in the partner countries is critical for the success of REBYC-II CTI. Appropriate data allows for the generation of the information and knowledge necessary to improve local management of trawl fisheries and to monitor the impact of management measures. Further, the lessons from trawl fisheries management, whether successful or not, will become important inputs in the formulation of guidelines and policy advice for more sustainable resource governance. Because each project partner country has its own data collection method and format, a regional workshop will be convened to discuss and agree on data collection processes to generate the necessary understanding about the biological, ecological, social and economic aspects of the trawl fishery including monitoring the impact of any management measures.

The project takes an adaptive co-management approach that uses data and information to assess lessons learnt and guide future interventions. For the formulation of initial management plans (or revision of current management plans), existing data and information will be the primary sources of knowledge, including both local and scientific knowledge.

2. Objectives of the Workshop

1. Review existing regional level (sub-)sets of data to identify gaps and optimize the information needed to formulate more objective guidelines and tools for trawl fisheries management in the region; these data should consider also the regional and international trade in the products of the trawl fisheries
2. The scope of the data collection to monitor the impacts of management measures agreed, taking into consideration the limitations of time, budget and human resources;
3. Guidance on stakeholder analysis and consultations including participatory approaches is provided;
4. Data collection protocols that fulfill the local management needs are agreed (may differ between countries)
5. Data and information collection that satisfies the requirements under GEF International Waters Tracking Tools are agreed.

3. Expected Outputs

1. Knowledge of the region's trawl fisheries that enables the formulation of regional guidelines, advice and tools for improved trawl fisheries governance and to inform policy processes
2. Agreed set of data and data collection methodologies appropriated for implementation in project countries.
3. Indicators that allow fisheries/resource managers to evaluate impacts of management measures on the fishery and associated social and ecological systems, providing feedback to guide the trawl fishery management process and decisions
4. Suitable indicators for reporting of project results

4. Process

4.1. Preparation to the workshop

Each National Technical Execution Partner (NTEP) is requested to submit a description of their existing data collection methods and procedures for their trawl fisheries to the Regional Facilitation Unit before **10 February 2013**. This description is to include:

1. Sampling methodology, both regular (e.g. daily, weekly sampling etc.) and periodic (e.g. census), including any tools for on-board/onshore classification of trawl catch suitable for non-specialist (key species and functional groups for low value/trash fish) and tools used for obtaining economic and/or ecological data
2. Data collected by the different methods (include units used)
3. Methods of analysis of data used as input into (i) fishery statistics, (ii) advice to policy /management (e.g. stock assessment, habitat extent etc) and (iii) other forms of reporting
4. Databases, global/regional reporting mechanisms (e.g. to FAO, SEAFDEC) and national reports

If possible, each NTEP will submit any existing trawl fisheries management plans and management measures in place for their pilot study areas (legislation/rules and regulations).

A Consultant will be recruited to consolidate and harmonize the available information and data collection procedures in a meaningful way, prepare a discussion document, present it during the regional workshop and guide the discussions. The consultant will consider:

1. High priority bycatch issues in the selected trawl fisheries
2. Management measures that could be used to address the issues
3. Information needs for:
 - i. knowledge of the region's trawl fisheries that enables the formulation of regional guidelines, advice and tools for improved trawl fisheries governance and to inform policy processes and
 - ii. indicators that allow fisheries/resource managers to evaluate impacts of management measures on the fishery and associated social and ecological systems
4. Existing data and information systems in project countries – gaps and future needs

The following are some of the information needs that are relevant to the production of a standard data collection process:

1. Social and economic considerations

- 1.1. Types and number of trawl fishing operations – small-scale and large-scale; basis of national classification.
- 1.2. Trawl gear in use
- 1.3. Owners of trawlers – whether or not members of fishing community, gender
- 1.4. Crew of trawlers – whether or not members of fishing community, ethnicity
- 1.5. Economics of trawl fishing operations – fuel and labour costs, value of catch, dependence on bycatch for profitability
 - a. Potential for fuel cost reduction to improve profitability even if catch declines due to gear changes, e.g. larger mesh size
 - b. Economic feasibility of gear improvements
- 1.6. Perception on the impact of trawling on their catch – especially on high value species or specific species they depend upon
- 1.7. Existing user rights under either a fisheries management regime or customary tenure arrangements – e.g. resource ownership and other forms of existing user rights

- 1.8. Dependence on low value catch for local business, e.g. aquaculture
- 1.9. Livelihoods dependence on the trawl fishery across the value chain – who are involved in harvesting, marketing and processing of the catch, including gender aspects – and potential impacts of reduced catch
- 1.10. Marketing and distribution of catch – role of local and international markets

2. Catch characterization

- 2.1. Species composition, high-value and low-value species, seasonality
- 2.2. Catch quantity and quality – including potential for improving quality of bycatch for human consumption

3. Habitat impacts

- 3.1. Practical approach to habitat classification and mapping – including use of local knowledge
- 3.2. Known impacts on habitats

4. Management aspects and interaction with other sectors

- 4.1. Compliance with existing (gear and zoning, closed season) regulations
 - a. Impacts of zoning on trawl fishing operations
- 4.2. Areas where trawling could have relatively low impact (i.e. trawlable areas)
- 4.3. Areas that fishermen avoid e.g. rocky bottoms/reefs – these could be a win-win for exclusion and protection
- 4.4. Known periods or places where fish are vulnerable to trawling – that could be zoned or placed under some form of management agreement
- 4.5. Improvement of MCS (wheelhouse markings, reporting systems etc) to implement any existing rules and regulations
- 4.6. Potential for exclusive fishing rights to improve things
 - a. Interactions/conflicts with trawlers from other fishing communities/ports

4.2. During the workshop

To enhance collaboration and share responsibility, each NTEP will be paired with another NTEP to discuss and identify and present minimum data requirements and process for collecting such essential data.

At the end of the workshop, NTEP will have an agreed set of data requirement and standard operational process to collect them. The agreed data requirement collections will be standard for pilot projects implementation in year 2013.

5. Date and venue

The Regional Workshop will be convened from

12-14 March 2013 or

19-21 March 2013

Workshop is organized at Conference room, Fishing Workshop Building, SEAFDEC/TD, SamutPrakarn, Thailand.

6. Participants

It is envisaged that the participants for the regional technical workshop will comprise the following:

1. Representatives from each REBYC-II CTI Participating Country: National Technical Officers (NTO) and Project Technical (field) Staff.
2. Lead Technical Officer (and technical staffs)
3. Consultant
4. Resource Persons
5. RFU-SEAFDEC/TD Technical Staffs

7. Contact persons

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