



**STRATEGIES FOR TRAWL FISHERIES  
BYCATCH MANAGEMENT  
(REBYC-II CTI; GCP /RAS/269/GFF)**

**WORKSHOP REPORT**

**DATA COLLECTION WORKSHOP  
REBYC-II-CTI PROJECT IN VIETNAM**  
*(Kien Giang, 26-27December 2013)*

December, 2013

## **PREFACE**

The Coral Triangle region of Southeast Asia is one of the world's most biologically diverse, economically productive and potentially vulnerable marine zones. As a result of increasing populations and exploitation pressures, growing threats from pollution and major ecosystem change are a particular concern in the region. Also – as more widely in the global context – the non-targeted capture of fish and non-fish species, commonly called as bycatch and discards, is an increasing concern. Bycatch includes fish, turtles, corals and other seabed fauna and flora. This part of the catch tends to be poorly monitored and not managed but could have an important impact on fishery resources, habitats and ecosystems. In some fisheries and regions, there is an increasing trend towards retention of the bycatch consisting of juveniles and small-sized fish for use as food for human consumption or for utilization as aquafeed. This is therefore a complex issue, requiring resource and biodiversity aspects to be tackled alongside human needs and involving a mix of policy, technical and community support measures. The project “Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management” (REBYC-II CTI) was conceived based on the successes of the 2002-2008 FAO/UNEP/GEF global project “Reduction of Environmental Impact from Tropical Shrimp Trawling through the Introduction of Bycatch Reduction Technologies and Change of Management”. The REBYC-II CTI project intends to focus on multispecies bottom trawling, where bycatch issues are amongst the most serious, with potentially significant effects on ecosystems and livelihoods. The Project aims to address these challenges by promoting sustainable fishing practices and improved trawl management. The REBYC-II CTI project was developed under the leadership of FAO (project implementing agency) in close collaboration with its partners: Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and the governments of the participating countries Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Under the Letter of Agreement between Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to implement the REBYC-II CTI project in the first year, a Data Collection Workshop in Vietnam was foreseen to convene. The objectives of this workshop are (1) to train local enumerators, volunteers and local fisheries authority staffs who are going to involve trawl fisheries data collection activities in the future, (2) to set up trawl fisheries data collection system at national and provincial levels and (3) enhance better cooperation/involvement among stakeholders in the trawl fisheries data collection process. This report is to summary outcomes of the workshop and proposes further actions in the next phase during the trawl fisheries data collection process.

## **PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT**

This document is the final version of the report on the Data Collection Workshop in Vietnam organized by Department of Capture Fisheries and Resources Protection (DECAFIREP) under funding support by Global environment facilities (GEF) throughout FAO under the project: **“Strategies for Trawl Fisheries Bycatch Management”**, from 26-27 December 2013.

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The Data Collection Workshop in KienGiang, Vietnam organized by Department of Capture Fisheries and Resources Protection (DECAFIREP) under financial support by Global environment facilities (GEF) throughout the project: “Strategies for Trawl Fisheries Bycatch Management”. The workshop was held in KienGiang province from 26-27 December 2013. It was attended by local enumerators, volunteers and local fisheries authority staffs of KienGiang, Vung Tau and Ben Tre. Researchers from Research Institute for Marine Fisheries (RIM) were also invited in the workshop. Especially, representatives from local fishing communities also attended the workshop. There were total 40 participants attended the workshop. The list of participants was enclosed as **Annex I**.
2. The main objectives of the Workshop were to (1) to train local enumerators, volunteers and local fisheries authority staffs who are going to involve trawl fisheries data collection activities in the future, (2) to set up trawl fisheries data collection system at national and provincial levels and (3) enhance better cooperation/involvement among stakeholders in the trawl fisheries data collection process. The Workshop also aims to integrate the trawl fisheries data/information of the South-western provinces where the trawl fisheries are developing. The agenda of the workshop appears as **Annex II**.

## **II. OPENING SECTION**

3. Mr. Dao Hong Duc, Director of DECAFIREP on behalf of D-FISH provided an opening speech. In his speech, he emphasized that the implementation of the REBYC-II project in Vietnam is very important for trawl fisheries management to recover over-exploited marine status of the trawl fisheries resources and their related habitats.
4. Also during his speech, he highlighted that legal and policy frameworks are currently insufficient to effectively and efficiently manage the trawl fisheries of Vietnam. The implementation of the REBYC-II project also help Vietnam gradually addressing such gaps to more comply regional/international standards.
5. Mr. Tran Chi Vien, on behalf of Department of Agriculture and Rural Development–KienGiang (DARD-KienGiang) welcomed the participants attending the workshop. In his speech, he also indicated the trawl fisheries were already one of the key fisheries of KienGiang province in the past. However, due to unsustainable development, at the moment,

they have not been considering to contribute good incomes for fishing communities due to over-exploitation of these resources. He is particularly interested in implementing this project in KienGiang as a pilot site to better and more effectively manage its resources. He also hoped that the project can address the key issues on trawl fisheries management both at national and local levels.

### **III. OVERVIEW OF TRAWL FISHERIES IN VIETNAM AND INTRODUCTION ON PROJECT'S ACTIVITIES IN THE FIRST YEAR**

6. Mr. Nguyen Tien Thang, DECAFIREP's staff presented summaries of activities planned to implement in Vietnam for the first year including data collection activities. During his presentation, he also overviewed brief information of the project as indicated in the regional project document. He mentioned in the presentation that all of the activities of the project in the first year will be focused in two 4 components.
7. In his presentation, he also summarized some important information of the trawl fisheries in Vietnam. In 2012, there are total 21,539 units using trawling gears in Vietnam accounting for 16.8% in total vessel numbers. Of those, the total number of vessel with capacity less than 20HP accounted for about 10% in total trawling vessels, 48% accounted for the vessels from 20-150HP and the rest (42%) belong to the vessel higher than 150HP. In general, there was a recent large change on the fishing fleet structure over some years. The total trawl vessel with high capacity is increased over the past few years.
8. The REBYC-II CTI project will be implemented at Kien Giang province as a pilot site for trawl management and bycatch reduction device experiments. In the first year, the project will consider some following main activities such as: review legal and policy frameworks on trawl fisheries management, review trawl fisheries status at Kien Giang province, data collection of bycatch and trawl fisheries, development of national legal document to better manage trawl fisheries at the national level...
9. The presentation also aimed to enhance roles and responsibilities of Government Agencies (from local and national levels) on data collection activities in the future of the project and also to enhance incorporation and cooperation between relevant agencies such as fisheries authorities.

### **IV. DATA COLLECTION TRAINING**

**4.1. Agenda 1:** Introduction on roles and importance of fisheries data collection in the trawl fisheries management.

10. Mr. Nguyen Ba Thong, a local consultant of the project on data collection issues presented summaries of necessities and importance of the fisheries data collection in the trawl fisheries management. Outlines of the presentation included: (1) What are fisheries and fisheries management, (2) How to manage fisheries, (3) What actions needed for fisheries management, (4) What is information needed for fisheries management, (5) roles of information/data on fisheries management and (6) involvement of relevant stakeholders in fisheries management. Details of his presentation by Vietnamese was enclosed in **the Annex .XXXXXXX**

**4.2. Agenda 2:** Introduction of indicators and parameters on fisheries statistical task.

11. The outlines of this presentation included: (1) What is statistical system, (2) Statistical indicators and requirements on the statistical indicators, (3) What is statistical indicators, (4) Roles of national statistical system, (5) Some definitions on existing statistical indicators and (6) Stakeholders in the statistical system.

12. He also mentioned that effective management of fisheries requires statistical indicators derived from time series of data. Indicators of fishery status are usually constructed from a series of data types and variables and interpreted in relation to agreed reference points corresponding to objectives adopted for production and conservation. In some cases indicators may be interpreted simply by comparisons with historical values, such as interpretations of rising or falling revenue or employment. In other cases, the interpretation requires comparing indicators with referencepoints derived from complex analyses or from development policy objectives. Therefore, the fisheries indicators are very important on fisheries management.

13. During the presentation, he also mentioned the importance of cooperation among and between Government Agencies and private sector on the implementation of statistical tasks. The private sector should understand the need of the statistical tasks and their roles and responsibilities on provision and submission fisheries information/data for fisheries management tasks and resource protection.

**4.3. Agenda 3:** Basic fisheries data collection methodologies in fisheries management

14. Some methodologies on collecting fisheries data in the world were introduced by Mr. Thong. Moreover, some calculations such as total catch estimation, CPUE were also presented to the participants. As introduced from the presentation, since Vietnam's trawl fisheries are currently small scale fisheries and thus sampling implication is needed. The census methods may not be able to apply for the Vietnamese small scale fisheries in general and for trawl fisheries in particular.

#### **4.4. Agenda 4:** How to define sampling scope and number of samples in fisheries data collection

Mr. Thong mentioned that definition of how many samples need to be collected is one of the key factors determining success of fisheries data collection. Normally, a frequent concern of fishery administrations is the limited budgetary and human resources for data collection. Such constraints have direct impacts on the frequency and extent of field operations for data collection and demand the development of cost-effective sampling schemes. Therefore, during survey design it is better to establish accuracy indicators so that sample size can guarantee an acceptable level of reliability for the estimated data population parameters. This is at time difficult, since at the outset little may be known about the distribution and variability of the target data populations.

#### **4.4. Agenda 4:** General discussion and how to use data for trawl fisheries management

15. All participants discussed on possibilities to enhance roles and responsibilities on data collection activities in KienGiang province. DECAFIREP will be a coordination agency at the national level and incorporate to local agencies such as Sub-DECAFIREP and DARD. DECAFIREP will make necessary procedures to resign the existing contract for data collection activities with FAO so that DARD/Sub-DECAFIREP can obtain budget for data collection on trawl fisheries and bycatch in the end of 2013 or early 2014.

16. Data collection forms/protocols will be developed by a consultancy task. Due to problem on species identification on bycatch samples, the participants proposed that data collection of total landing and bycatch of trawl fisheries will be collected by both local agencies and a research institute. The local authorities will be responsible for landing data to define the percentage of bycatch in total landing and the research institute will collect bycatch samples so that they can clarify which



bycatch species and their corresponding proportions in the total landing.

17. Logbook data is also collected to cross check with the collected landing data. In addition, the logbook data is also used to map fishing groups of the trawl fisheries and for other purposes.
18. During implementation of data collection, involvement of other stakeholders will be a key factor to determine its success. Fishers and the processing and fishmeal companies must recognize the importance of data collection and participation on such activities. Therefore, the participants suggested that raising awareness activities are needed in the coming time.
19. The participants also discussed on application of co-management approaches on data collection can be a good approach in the current situation of Vietnam. Fishing communities will recognize submission and provision of data to assess and manage their resources and hence their central role will clearly be defined.

## **V. CLOSING THE MEETING**

20. The report of the workshop was presented and adopted by the participants at the end of the meeting.
21. Mr. Tran Tri Vien, on behalf of DARD, thanked for all participants for their valuable and proactive contribution for the fruitful conclusion of the workshop. He also appreciated to GEF funding throughout FAO's coordination to select KienGiang as a pilot site to collect trawl fisheries data. The meeting was closed with a round of applause.

## ANNEX 1: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Ord	Name	Organization	Position
1	Đào Hồng Đức	DECAFIREP	Director
2	Phạm Việt Anh		Officer
3	Nguyễn Tiến Thắng		Deputy Head of Division
4	Ngô Thị Mai Thu		Officer
5	Nguyễn Thanh Bình	Department of Science & Technology and International Cooperation	
6	Nguyễn Bá Thông	National consultant	
7	Trần Đăng Đức	Sub-DECAFIREP-Vũng Tàu	
8	Bùi Văn Tùng		
9	Đình Xuân Hùng	Research Institute for Marine Fisheries	
10	Nguyễn Như Sơn		
11	Đoàn Văn Phụ		
12	Trần Phước Thụ	Sub-DECAFIREP-Bến Tre	
13	Đình Văn Lắm		
14	Trần Vũ Bình		
15	Trần Chí Viễn	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development – Kien Giang	Deputy Director
16	Lê Văn Tính		Officer
17	Dương Xuân Trung	Sub-DECAFIREP-Kiên Giang	Deputy Director
18	Phạm Văn Trung		Officer
19	Ngô Phước Sang		Officer
20	Lâm Gia Khôn	Fishers in Kien Giang province	
21	Trần Hon		
22	Huỳnh Văn Cáo		
23	Trương Văn Ngữ		
24	Vương Văn Lến		
25	Nguyễn Ngọc Chiếu		
26	Dương Ngọc Hùng		
27	Dương Quang Tường		
28	Thái Văn Học		
29	Nguyễn Văn Nghi		
30	Nguyễn Hoàng Vinh		
31	Trần Văn Út		
32	Trương Văn Hậu		
33	Phan Quốc Việt		
34	Bùi Tấn Minh		

35	Trần Văn Bình		
36	Huỳnh Quốc Tuấn		
37	Huỳnh Nhật Trí		
38	Nguyễn Văn Nhu		
39	Trương Văn An		
40	Lâm Văn Vốn		

## ANNEX 2: AGENDA FOR THE WORKSHOP

Time	Content	Facilitator/presenter
<b>Day 1: 26/12/2013</b>		
08:00 - 08:15	Registration	DECAFIREP
08:15 - 08:25	Introduction of participant	DECAFIREP
08:25 - 08:35	Opening remark	Leader of DECAFIREP
08:35 - 08:45	Welcome remark	Leader of DARD KienGiang
08:45 - 09:15	Introduction on project's activities in the first year	DECAFIREP
09:15 - 09:45	Introduction on roles and importance of fisheries data collection in the trawl fisheries management	Consultant
09:45 - 10:15	Tea break	All participant
10:15 - 12:00	Introduction of indicators and parameters on fisheries statistical task	Consultant
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch break	All participant
14.00 - 15.00	Collecting basic information/data in fisheries management	Consultant
15.00 - 15.30	Discussion	All participant
15.30 - 15.45	Tea break	All participant
15.45 - 16.45	Continued the discussion section	All participant
<b>Day 2: 27/12/2013</b>		
08:00 - 09:00	Basic fisheries data collection methodologies in fisheries management	Consultant
09:00 - 09:45	How to define sampling scope and number of samples in fisheries data collection	Consultant
09:45 - 10:15	Tea break	All participant
10:15 - 11:15	Introduction some data collection forms on trawl fisheries data collection (including bycatch data collection form)	Consultant
11:15 - 12:00	Introduction on how to develop sampling strategies	Consultant
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch break	All participant
11:15 - 12:00	Using collected trawl fisheries data in trawl fisheries management	Consultant
14:00 - 15:00	General discussion and course evaluation	Consultant
15.00 - 15.30	Break	All participant
15.30- 16.00	Closing the meeting	DARD KienGiang and DECAFIREP leaders

**ANNEX .....: FLOW CHART ON TRAWL FISHERIES DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM**

