



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

REPORT

INTERNAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING TO REVIEW ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF MARINE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AREA INCLUDING BLUE SWIMMING CRAB FISHERIES REFUGIA IN KEP PROVINCE

**KEP, CAMBODIA
7 DECEMBER 2021**

Prepared by
**DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES CONSERVATION
FISHERIES ADMINISTRATION
CAMBODIA**

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
TRAINING DEPARTMENT**



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1. Opening a meeting

- 1.1 Internal technical working group meeting to review achievement results in Marine Fisheries Management Area including Blue Swimming Crab Fisheries *Refugia* in Kep province was organized by Fisheries Administration (FiA) of Cambodia collaborating with Kep Provincial Hall Administration and Kep Fisheries Administration Cantonment on 07 December 2021, funded by SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF Fisheries *Refugia*,
- 1.2 The meeting was conducted at Kep Provincial Hall Administration, which was attended by 7 participants from Provincial Kep Hall Administration, Fisheries Administration, Fisheries Administration Cantonment, Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (see **Annex 1&3**).
- 1.3 **Mr. Ouk Vibol** expressed thanks to **Mr. Vao Sokha**, Deputy Governor of Kep province and other members of Technical Working Group from Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, and Kep Fisheries Administration Cantonment, taking their opportunities to come this meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to review activities done in the past in Marine Fisheries Management Area including Blue Swimming Crab Fisheries *Refugia* in Kep province.
- 1.4 **Mr. Vao Sokha** welcomed all participants as technical working group, providing me a chance to attend this meeting to review progress reports done by the member of Technical Working Group. He informed the meeting that he will collect and note the piece of information from technical working group to report Kep Provincial Governor about the achievement results in Marine Fisheries Management Area including Blue Swimming Crab.

2. Progress report Present by Technical Working Group

- 2.1 **Mr. Leng Syvann** presented the progress report of blue swimming crab refugia management in Kep province supported budget from SEAFDEC/UNEP GEF fisheries refugia. The project has collaborated with Kep FiAC and Community Fisheries to patrol, crack down illegal fishing at the refugia site during spawning season of crab, and also disseminate the notice letter on closed season of blue swimming crab issued by Kep Provincial Governor starting from May to July. Moreover, the project released the brood stock of blue swimming crab into the refugia site in order to increase crab stock in the nature
- 2.2 **Mr. Kuch Vireak** presented the progress report on patrolling, monitoring, and the dissemination of closed season of blue swimming crab. Kep-FiAC disseminated the notice letter on closed season of blue swimming crab issued by Kep provincial administration through local media and meeting with local authority, CFis and fishers at local. Moreover, FiAC informed fishers and CFis to know about the duration of closed season of blue swimming starting from 1st May to 31st July that is the period of blue swimming crab spawning there. In particular, FiAC also informed fishers and CFis to know about the below coordinate points as blue swimming crab refugia site as follow:
 - 1. 0427042- 1149939; 2. 0428102- 1149940; 3. 0429142- 1149940; 4. 0429142- 1149315
 - 5. 0429142- 1148675; 6. 0429142- 1147940; 7. 0428142- 1147940; 8. 0427042- 1147939
 - 9. 0427042- 1148939.
- 2.3 He informed the meeting that FiAC has collaborated and work closely with MCC (local organization based in Koh Ses island) to help provide information related to illegal fishing activities around marine fisheries management area and refugia site. So far, the crab has been observed to be more and more abundant when blue swimming crab refugia has been established.

- 2.4 **Mr. Ouk Vibol** presented the progress report of deploying concrete boxes into marine fisheries management area. He informed the meeting that the main purpose of deploying concrete boxes is to 1) prevent trawler from fishing that area, 2) restore marine fisheries resources, especially endangered species, 3) increasing fish stock, 4) increase artificial reef, 5) provide fish spawning and nursing habitat. At the present, MCC has worked closed with FiAC and DFC/FiA in the deploying 80 concrete boxes into MFMA and moreover, other 50 concrete boxes were deployed into that area, supporting budgets from the Royal Government of Cambodia. Generally, it is observed that fish is more and more abundant, especially endangered animal species such as Dolphin, Dugong, sea turtle...etc. returning.

3. Discussion of All issues.

- 3.1 **Mr. Vao Sokha** supported and agreed progress reports made by the member of Technical Working Group and he noted the piece of information to report to Province Governor. He proposed the TWG, especially FiAC collaborating with development partners to continue their further jobs in order to increase marine fisheries resources, especially blue swimming crab.
- 3.2 **Mr. Kuch Vireak** informed the meeting that some problems were meeting and facing such as rainfall, storm, and strong sea waves, and even small and old patrolling vessel. In addition, the small number of fishermen from outside village still continues to enter blue swimming crab *refugia* to fishing during closes season.
- 3.3 **Mr. Ouk Vibol** proposed FiAC collaborating with community fisheries to increase a dissemination and education to fisheries related to the crab spawning season and the refugia site.

4. Close a meeting

- 4.1 **Mr. Vao Sokha** expressed thank very much for all participants, making this meeting today to get fruitful and successful. He declared to close the meeting at 4:30pm at the same day.

ANNEX 1: List of Participants in Internal Technical Working Group Meeting to Review Achievement Results in Marine Fisheries Management Area including Blue Swimming Crab Fisheries Refugia in Kep province on 7 December 2021

No.	Name	Sex	Title	Organization	Telephone
1	Ouk Vibol	M	Director	DFC/FiA	012908121
2	Leng Sy Vann	M	Deputy Director	DFC/ FiA	017446373
3	Vao Sokha	M	Deputy Governor	Kep Provincial Hall Administration	012820844
4	Theng Borin	M	Director	Kep Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	077410103
5	Kuch Vireak	M	Director	FiAC/PDoA in Kep	012875557
6	Chork Sineath	M	Head of Kep Division	FiAC/PDoA in Kep	012828926
7	Va Sotepy	F	Vice Head of Division	DFC/FiA	085237616

ANNEX 2: Schedule for Internal Technical Working Group Meeting to Review Achievement Results in Marine Fisheries Management Area including Blue Swimming Crab Fisheries Refugia in Kep province on 7 December 2021

Date/Time	Description	Responsible person
6 December 2021		
10:00am-2:30pm	Leaving Phnom Penh for Kep province	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Ouk Vibol Mr. Leng Sy Vann Ms. Va Sotepy
7 December 2021		
9:00am- 9:15am	Registration	All
9:15am- 9:40am	Remark speech	Mr. Ouk Vibol Director of Department of Fisheries Conservation
9.40am -10.00am	Remark speech and Open a meeting	Vao Sokha Deputy Governor of Kep Province
10:00am-10:20am	Snack break	All participants
10:20am-10:50am	Progress report done by fisheries refugia project	Mr. Leng Syvann Deputy Director of Department of Fisheries Conservation
10:50pm-11:20pm	Progress report done by FiAC in Kep	Mr. Kuch Vireak Director of Fisheries Administration Cantonment
11:20pm-12:00pm	Progress report on concrete boxes around Marine Fisheries Management Area	Mr. Ouk Vibol Director of Department of Fisheries Conservation

12:00pm-2:00pm	Lunch Break	All
2:00pm - 4:00pm	Discussion of all issues	Vao Sokha Deputy Governor of Kep Province
4:00pm-4:30pm	Closure of a meeting	Vao Sokha Deputy Governor of Kep Province
8 December 2021		
9:00am -1:30pm	Leaving Kep province for Phnom Penh	All

ANNEX 3: Participants' Photos in Internal Technical Working Group Meeting to Review Achievement Results in Marine Fisheries Management Area including Blue Swimming Crab Fisheries Refugia in Kep province on 7 December 2021.

