



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

REPORT

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT MISSION OF PCU STAFF
FOR THE SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF PROJECT**

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HIGHLIGHT ACTIVITIES

- 1) The meeting started 9:00 o'clock in the morning on the 1st day and participated in by representatives from NFRDI Planning Policy & Information Division, Accounting & Finance Section, Capture Fisheries Research and Development division, & SEAFDEC-Fisheries Refugia Project Management Unit representatives. During the Opening Proper, Ms. Elsa F. Furio, Chief of the Capture Fisheries Research and Development division gave her opening remarks on behalf of NFRDI and welcomed the representatives from the Fisheries Refugia Project Management Unit (PCU), Mr. Weerasak Yingyuad, Technical Coordinator, also gave an opening remarks on behalf of the PCU. Participants also introduced themselves and a group photo opportunity thereafter.
- 2) Mr. Weerasak Yingyuad gave an update on the current situation of Fisheries Refugia (FR) project implemented regionally in six countries. He informed the group the Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia & Vietnam started preliminary activities of the project, while the two remaining countries were on the process of signing the Letter of Agreement for the implementation of Fisheries Refugia in their country. He also informed the group that there will be a newly appointed Project Director for the Project Management unit of the Fisheries refugia. Mr. Weerasak also requested the Philippine team to give an update on the status of national coordination arrangements, status of baselining fishing effort dynamics and threats at the 3 sites, & the status of threat identification, stakeholder engagement planning and project communications/outreach.
- 3) He also mentioned the upcoming joint program between Fisheries Refugia Project and South China Sea (SCS) Project and its benefit to fisheries refugia activities.
- 4) Mr. Ayanan, Project Staff of Fisheries Refugia for the Philippines discussed and presented the activities undertaken from June 2017 to June 2018. He also presented the co-financing and budget allotted by the Philippines for the Fisheries Refugia Project.
- 5) The NFRDI Director Drusila Esther E. Bayate also gave her welcome message upon her arrival to the meeting. The Director mentioned she is fully supporting the project and allotted yearly counterpart funds. This budget is to be utilized in implementing the other activities of Fisheries Refugia Project and for the salaries of the staff under the project. The Director also bring up the fund transfer from the PCU to NFRDI to be fast tract so that delayed activities will be undertaken when the funds is available.
- 6) The group also conducted work planning and budgeting for July-September, Mr. Ayanan prepared the activities for 3rd quarter of 2018. Progress reports for quarter 1 & 2 were also prepared for submission to the PCU. Cash advance for the 2nd quarter activities was also approved by the Director during the meeting.

7)



Group photo opportunity with the NFRDI Director Drusila Esther E. Bayate

