



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

REPORT

**CONSULTATION MEETING ON IDENTIFY SPECIES FOR
FISHERIES REFUGIA AT KOH TOCH VILLAGE**

**PREAH SIHANOUK, CAMBODIA
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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1) The project teamwork of FiA that has supported by the project of Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand has cooperated with Kampong Som FiA Cantonment and related local authorities organized the consultation meeting on identify fish species for fisheries refugia at Koh Toch village, Koh Rongsanlem district, Kampong Som City, Preah Sihanouk province dated on 29 August 2017. The consultation meeting is, warmly welcomed by Mr.Ngeth Saroeun , Vice Chief of the Koh Rongsanlem district; opened remarks, leaded activities and closed ceremony by Mr. Leng Sy Vann, Field project Coordinator and Deputy Director of the Department of Fisheries Conservation(DFC). The purpose of the consultation meeting is to identify fish species for fisheries refugia in Koh Toch village.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2) The specific objectives of the consultation meeting are as follows;
 - Discuss on selected site of fisheries refugia,
 - Discuss on fish species for selected fisheries refugia,
 - Discuss on related life cycle and habitat, and
 - Identify the threats and problems of critical fish species and resolve problems.

3. METHODOLOGY, ACTIVITIES AND MATERIAL

- 3) Fisheries conservation teamwork of FiA cooperated with Kampong Som FiA Cantonment and related local authorities organized the consultation meeting on identify fish species for fisheries refugia at Koh Toch village, Koh Rongsanlem district, Kampong Som City, Preah Sihanouk province dated on 29 August 2017. The consultation meeting was conducted a full day and organized by staff of the Kampong Som FiA cantonment including invitation of participants and preparing meeting place. The FiA teamwork plays roles as leaders and facilitators of the consultation meeting activities. The participants of the meeting were invited 30 persons whom are fishers, traders, tourism guide, private sector and related local authorities whom have worked related to fisheries surrounding the selected fisheries refugia to attend the consultation meeting. The consultation meeting has provided priority 50% of participants to ladies for attending.
- 4) Before starting the meeting, participants were named on the attendant list; meeting materials were provided to participants such as, note books, pens, plastic bags. The consultation meeting, warmly welcomed by Mr. Ngeth Saroeun , Vice Chief of the Koh Rongsanlem district; opened remarks, leaded activities and closed ceremony by Mr. Leng Sy Vann, Field project Coordinator and Deputy Director of the Department of Fisheries Conservation(DFC). The consultation meeting has facilitated and presented documents by FiA teamwork (see picture of the meeting activities).
- 5) During the consultation meeting, documents were presented by Mr. Leng Sy Vann and Mrs. Chin Leakena (see presented documents). After presented documents, participants were divided to 03 groups for discussion with the same questionnaires that each group were facilitated by FiA teamwork. Results of discussion were presented by group leader for comments and questions (see meeting agenda). At the end of the meeting activities, the Mr. Leng Sy Vann has summarized and evaluated the results of the consultation meeting. The results of consultation meeting were reported by FiA teamwork.

4. PARTICIPANTS

- 6) Totally, 29 persons whom are fishers, traders, tourism guide, private sector and related local authorities whom have worked related to fisheries surrounding the selected fisheries refugia to attend the consultation meeting dated on 29 August 2017 at Koh Toch village, Koh Rongsanlem district, Kampong Som City, Preah Sihanouk province. The total amount of participants was included 04 persons of lady (see attendant list).

5. RESULTS

- 7) Through activities of the consultation meeting on identify fish species for fisheries refugia at Koh Toch village, Koh Rongsanlem district, Kampong Som City, Preah Sihanouk province dated on 29 August 2017, were well done by teamwork achieved successful results remarkable. The 90 percent of participants were noted understood the importance of the fisheries refugia, purpose and objectives of the meeting. The consultation meeting has agreed on selected site of fisheries refugia in Koh Toch village. The critical fish species for selected fisheries refugia in Koh Toch village are suggested to the meeting to select grouper, *Caranx ignobilis*, seabass, Swimming crab, Indian long scads and sea turtle. Most of fishes have appeared in brood stock and spawning stage with their offspring, especially, swimming crab, *Caranx ignobilis* and grouper. These species have been threatening by fishing activities using fishing gears such as gill net, purse seine net, trawling net, surrounding net and fishing by hook line for catching brood stocks of swimming crab, brood stocks of fish. For trawl fishing is one of fishing activities that really destroyed environment of seabed or fish habitat including coral reefs. The meeting noted that every year, swimming crab brood stocks have appeared from November to December for releasing larvae; Indian long scads came to stay at the refugia site from October to December; groupers have appeared every month, but mostly brood stock appears from April to July. Sea turtle were met by gillnet but spawning habitat was disturbed by development of coastal area. Through final discussion, the meeting has decided to select grouper for fisheries refugia in Koh Toch village.

Table of Fish Species selected for Fisheries Refugia in Koh Toch Village, Koh Rongsanlem district

SPECIES	LIFE-CYCLE STAGE	THREAT	IMMEDIATE CAUSE	ROOT CAUSE	MANAGEMENT ACTION
- Grouper	- Juvenile (April-July)	- Loosed habit (seagrass cause to purse seine and coral reefs - Loosed habitat at small island	- Destroyed gear (trawling boat used at middle to upper water body install with high speed engine)	- High economic value and high demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create patrol team • Created patrol team • Strengthen law enforcement and closed cooperation with related institution

- 8) Base on discussion, influent and interest of the fisheries conservation and management in this area are as follows;
- a) Influent institutions on fisheries conservation and management in this area
1. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries,
 2. Development of coastal area company
 3. Kampong Som Fisheries Administration Cantonment
 4. Department of Environment
 5. Marine Police and Marine Army Arm Force

6. Koh Rong district
7. FFI NGO
8. Community Fisheries
9. Tourist company
10. Fishers from Tomnoup Rolork
11. Diving company, and
12. Boat guide association;

b) Interest institutions on fisheries conservation and management in this area:

1. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries,
 2. Kampong Som Fisheries Administration Cantonment
 3. Koh Rong district
 4. FFI NGO
 5. Community Fisheries
 6. Diving company, and
 7. Boat guide association.
 8. Marine Police and Marine Army Arm Force
 9. Tourist company
 10. Department of Environment
 11. Fishers from Tomnoup Rolork, and
 12. Development of coastal area company.
- 9) To resolve the problems at site, Participants have suggested the consultation meeting to create fisheries refugia project, boundary demarcation of conservation area or fisheries refugia, improve management of conservation area through law enforcement. Most of them have promised that they will volunteer to joint monitoring and manage fisheries refugia or conservation area.

6. CONCLUSION

- 10) Base on the results of consultation meeting on identify fish species for fisheries refugia at Koh Toch village, Koh Rongsanlem district, Kampong Som City, Preah Sihanouk province dated on 29 August 2017 as mentioned on the above, the results of consultation meeting was described as follows;
- Participants have agreed on selected site of fisheries refugia in Koh Toch village,
 - Grouper was identified for fisheries refugia in Koh Toch village,
 - Brood stock come yearly at the habitat of selected site of fisheries refugia for spawning, hatching and nursing,
 - Fish habitat was destroyed by trawling net,
 - Spawning area of sea turtle was destroyed by development of coastal area,
 - The brood stock was threated and destroyed by fishing such as gill net, hook line, purse seine net, surrounding net and trawling net install with high speed engine, Chemical explosive, and
 - Local authority and community fishy have strongly supported to create fisheries refugia project as well as volunteers to monitor and protect fisheries refugia.

7. Pictures of Consultation Meeting on Identify Species for Fisheries Refugia at Koh Toch village, Koh Rongsanlem district, Kampong Som city, Preah Sihanouk province, 29 August 2017



Teamwork travels to target area, 28.08.17



Meeting activities at Koh Toch village, 29.08.17