



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

**REPORT**

**SITE BASED MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING FOR  
MACKEREL REFUGIA MANAGEMENT AT  
PEAM KRASOB, KOH KONG PROVINCE**

**KOH KONG, CAMBODIA  
16 DECEMBER 2021**

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

---

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
TRAINING DEPARTMENT**



First published in Phrasamutchedi, Samut Prakan, Thailand in December 2021 by the SEAFDEC-UNEP-GEF Fisheries Refugia Project, Training Department of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

Copyright © 2021, SEAFDEC-UNEP-GEF Fisheries *Refugia* Project

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part and in any form for educational or non-profit purposes without special permission from the copyright holder provided acknowledgement of the source is made. The SEAFDEC-UNEP-GEF Fisheries *Refugia* Project would appreciate receiving a copy of any publication that uses this publication as a source.

No use of this publication may be made for resale or for any other commercial purpose without prior permission in writing from the SEAFDEC Secretary-General at.

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center  
Training Department  
P.O.Box 97, Phrasamutchedi, Samut Prakan, Thailand  
Tel: (66) 2 425 6100  
Fax: (66) 2 425 6110  
<https://fisheries-refugia.org> and  
<https://seafdec.or.th>

**DISCLAIMER:**

The contents of this report do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, the United Nations Environment Programme, and the Global Environment Facility.

For citation purposes this document may be cited as:

FIA/Cambodia, 2021. Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand, Site Based Management Board Meeting Report for Mackerel Refugia Management at Peam Krasob, Koh Kong Province. Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, Training Department, Samut Prakan, Thailand; FR/REP/CAM93, 8 p.

## 1. Opening a meeting

- 1.1 The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Technical Working Group for Marine Fisheries Protection and Conservation Area in Koh Kong province was organized by Fisheries Administration (FiA) of Cambodia collaborating with Koh Kong Provincial Hall Administration on 16 December 2021, funded by SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF Fisheries *Refugia*.
- 1.2 The meeting was conducted at Koh Kong Provincial Hall Administration under presided by Mr. Sok Sothy, Deputy Governor of Koh Kong and as Chairperson of TWG, which was attended by 25 participants from Provincial Hall Administration, Fisheries Administration, Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, Fisheries Administration Cantonment, Department of Environment, Department of Tourism, Department of Land Management, Urbanization Construction, and Cadastral, Kiri Sarkor District Administration, Mondol Sema District Administration, Sre Ambil District Administration, Koh Sdach Commune, Koh Kong Provincial Police, Koh Kong Provincial Military Police, Sea Open Unit, Maritime Police, and NGOs (see Annex 1&2).
- 1.3 **Mr. Sok Sothy** welcomed to all participants taking their opportunities to attend the meeting today and informed meeting that this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of Technical Working Group for Marine Fisheries Protection and Conservation Areas in Koh Kong province, focusing on 4 agendas including 1) progress report of preparation for 5 years Action Plan for Management of Mackerel Refugia in Koh Kong Province; 2) Progress report of Mackerel Refugia at Peam Krasob; 3) Progress report of Management of Estuarine Terrapin (*Batagur affinis*) and Siamese crocodile (*Crocodylus siamensis*) in Sre Ambil Channel System, Koh Kong province; and 4) Progress report of Process of Establishment of Marine Fisheries Management area (MFMA) in Koh Sdach Archipelago, Koh Kong. After that he declared to open a meeting from now.
- 1.4 **Mr. Ouk Vibol** expressed thanks very much to Mr. Sok Sothy and all members of Technical Working Group that are presented today, he informed the meeting that the meeting of technical working group is conducted every 3 month to report activities done by the member of this working group to the meeting. From next year, we will organize a meeting for 4 times per year because we have budgets from SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF, FFI, and WCS to organize these meeting.

## 2. Progress report made by Technical Working Group

- 2.1 **Mr. Ouk Vibol** presented the progress report on preparation of 5 year-action plan for mackerel refugia management at Peam Krasob, Koh Kong province. He informed the meeting that mackerel refugia have been recognized officially by Koh Kong Governor and Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries. To ensure effective mackerel management, it is needed to have an action plan for the management. So far, he reported the meeting that he has completed the contents of the action plan, objectives and output, and has been monitoring and working with and an action plan for logical framework. He expects that the action plan for logical framework will be taken to discuss detail with technical working group next meeting (See Annex 2).
- 2.2 **Mr. Leng Syvann** presented the progress report on mackerel refugia management at Peam Krasob, Koh Kong province. He informed the meeting that Department of Fisheries Conservation has worked closely with FiAC in Koh Kong province and community fisheries to manage mackerel refugia, especially during closed season of mackerel starting from 01 December 2021 to 31 March 2022. The Department of Fisheries Conservation has provided budgets from SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF/Fisheries Refugia to FiAC to patrol, monitor, crack down illegal fishing at the refugia site, and even disseminate the notice letter of closed season of

mackerel from 01 December 2021 to 31 March 2022 issued by Koh Kong Provincial Hall Administration (See Annex 2).

- 2.3 He added that, 50 concrete boxes have been deployed into the refugia site, supporting budgets from the Royal Government of Cambodia in order to prevent trawlers from fishing, to increase artificial reef and spawning habitat for animal species, and to nursing brood stock.
- 2.4 **Mr. Som Sitha**, Project Manager of WCS, presented progress report on Management of Estuarine Terrapin (*Batagur affinis*) and Siamese crocodile (*Crocodylus siamensis*) in Sre Ambil Channel System, Koh Kong province. His presentation was two sections; first section was talking about Management of Estuarine Terrapin (*Batagur affinis*) and second section was focusing on the management of Siamese crocodile (*Crocodylus siamensis*) (See Annex 2).
- 2.5 He informed the meeting that Estuarine Terrapin is endangered species classified by Red List of IUCN. WCS provided budgets to work protection and conservation of that specie in Sre Ambil Channel System which is main habitat only for its living and spawning. To ensure sustainable management of turtle species, WCS prepared action plan for its management including turtle nest protection, releasing program, monitoring, and saving and collaboration with local authorities. To ensure effective that turtle specie, WCS has created community fisheries and promote the livelihood of the community fisheries through the enhancement of alternative livelihood such as aquaculture and animal husbandry.
- 2.6 After Mr. Som Sitha also reported about the management of local crocodile specie and it is also endangered species classified by Red List of IUCN. He added that WCS granted funds for the crocodile specie management such as dissemination and education, establishment of community fisheries, law enforcement strengthening, and crocodile nest and habitat protection, and research activities.
- 2.7 **Mr. Chea Phallin**, Project Coordinator of MPA of FFI-Cambodia reported the process of establishment of Marine Fisheries Management Area in Koh Sdach Archipelago, Koh Kong province. He informed the meeting that so far, the project finished research studies, mapping, and even finished conducting a stakeholder consultation meeting at district and local level on zoning division for management and boundary demarcation. This meeting was invited to attend from FiA, FiAC, local authorities, private sector as well as community fisheries (See Annex 2).
- 2.8 He added that the project has worked closely with FiAC in Koh Kong and community fisheries through strengthening patrolling, dissemination and education, and capacity building of CFs member and FiAC's officers.

### 3. Discussion on Question and Answers

- 3.1 **Mr. Chairperson of the meeting** supported and agreed the progress report done by technical working group and he started to open a floor for discussion
- 3.2 **Mr. Chea Marady** proposed the meeting to consider that wooden poles should be deployed into the refugia sites rather than concrete boxes because those wooden poles are advantage for fishermen to practice green mussel aquaculture there, and even reducing expenditures to buy the wooden poles.
- 3.3 **Mr. Khem Chandy** raised that the concrete boxes has been installed into the refugia site, affecting to make a business of fishers there. He proposed to deploy wooden poles into the refugia because these poles are advantage for community fisheries doing a green mussel aquaculture.

- 3.4 **Mr. Ouk Vibol** replied that it did not affect to make a business of fishermen because the refugia site is very huge and the concrete boxes were deployed in the small number.
- 3.5 **Mr. Chairperson of the meeting** supported raising to deploy the wooden poles into the refugia site rather than the concrete boxes and he proposed the meeting to consider this case that is very important for fishermen to make a business on green mussel aquaculture.
- 3.6 After he informed the meeting that Royal Turtle Releasing Program along Srey Ambel Channel has now seen the turtle in 32kg. This is due to active participation from provincial, district, and local authorities as well as development partners.
- 3.7 **Mr. Ouk Vibol** informed the meeting that why it is needed to protect the Royal Turtle based on Royal Decree, Sub-decree, and Proclamation on endangered species. On other hand, these turtles are living along Sre Ambel Channel only, and 147 turtles have been released into the nature so far.
- 3.8 **Mr. Ek Sam An** has a question that what does the crocodile weight?
- 3.9 **Mr. Som Sitha** replied that the crocodile weights to 157kg.
- 3.10 **Mr. In Hull** informed the meeting that there are the two kinds of this specie, freshwater and marine. In fact, there is only specie, it is *Crocodylus simensis*. It is 3meter length and weights from 300-400kg. For Cambodia, it weights from 200-300kg. In 2019, fishermen caught 170kg by gillnet
- 3.11 **Mr. Khem Chandy** the establishment of marine fisheries management area affects to development company.
- 3.12 **Mr. Ouk Vibol** replied that this establishment does not have an impact to the company and the company can invest in this area, exception for conservation zone. Generally, the size of conservation zone is too small.
4. Closing a meeting
- 4.1 **Mr. Sok Sothy** thanked all participants very much, taking their opportunities to join that meeting today and get fruitful results. He declared to close the meeting at 4:30pm.

**ANNEX 1: List of Participants in Site Based Management Board Meeting for Mackerel Refugia Management at Peam Krasob, Koh Kong province on 16 December 2021**

No.	Name	Sex	Title	Organization	Telephone
1	Sok Sothy	M	Deputy Governor of Koh Kong	Koh Kong Provincial Hall Administration	012263642
2	Ouk Vibol	M	Director	DFC/FiA	012908121
3	Leng Sy Vann	M	Deputy Director	DFC/FiA	017446373
4	Lang Kiri	M	Deputy Director	DoA in Koh Kong	012494269
5	Hor Thou	M	Head of Division	Koh Kong Provincial Hall Administration	0888788088
6	Chea Mardady	M	Director	PDoE in Koh Kong	012 924 832
7	Va Sotepy	F	Officer	DFC/FiA	085237616
8	Chea Phallin	M	MPA Project Coordinator	FFI-Cambodia	017521577
9	Chhor Bunchhung	M	Acting Head	Koh Kong FiAC	016771768
10	Phon Sothun	M	Vice Commander	Koh Kong Military Police	093366007
11	Srey Sopha	F	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chief	Kho Sdach Commune	0886967699
12	Oung Som Orun	M	Head of Administration Division	Koh Kong Provincial Hall Administration	086848727
13	Kao Monirith	M	Deputy Director	Marine Fisheries Administration Inspectorate/FiA	012583828
14	Lang Kimtha	M	Head of Division	Department of Land Management, Urbanization Construction, and Cadastral	011886414
15	Hean Beurn	M	Officer	National Park/Department of Environment	068219393
16	Chea Chankanha	M	Governor	Srey Ambil District Hall Administration	015233238
17	Khem Chandy	M	Governor	Kiri Sarkor District Hall Administration	0977662727
18	Sok Chan Kresna	M	Director	Department of Tourism	015677616
19	Chan Ravi Ya	M	Head of Statistic Division	Koh Kong Provincial Police	0717777750
20	Seng Bunna	M	Vice Head	Koh Kong FiAC	016885709
21	Prum Rithy	M	Vice Commander	Maritime Police	015943366
22	Ek Sam An	F	Vice Commander	Sea Open Unit	070318914
23	Kim Sokha	M	Head of Division	DFC/FiA	012784687
24	Prak Vicheth	M	Governor	Mondol Sema District Administration	016485285

25	In Hul	M	Deputy Director	DFC/FiA	017556607
----	--------	---	-----------------	---------	-----------

**ANNEX 2: Schedule for Site Based Management Board Meeting for Mackerel Refugia Management in Koh Kong province on 16 December 2021**

Date/Time	Description	Responsible person
15 December 2021		
09:00am-4:00pm	Leaving Phnom Penh for Koh Kong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Ouk Vibol</li> <li>• Mr. Leng Sy Vann</li> <li>• Mr. Va Sotepy</li> <li>• Mr. Kim Sokha</li> <li>• Mr. Kao Monirith</li> </ul>
07 August 2020		
8:30am- 9:00am	Registration	Ms. Va Sotepy Officer of DFC/FiA
9:00am- 9:15am	Open meeting	Mr. Sok Sothy Deputy Governor of Koh Kong and Head of TWG for Marine Protection and Conservation Area
9:15am- 9:30am	Lunch break	All
9:30am- 10:30am	Progress report of preparation of 5 years Action Plan for Management of Mackerel Refugia in Koh Kong Province and Discussion	Mr. Ouk Vibol Director of Department of Fisheries Conservation
10:30am- 11:00am	Progress report of mackerel refugia management at Peam Krasob, Koh Kong province	Mr. Leng Sy Vann Deputy Director of Department of Fisheries Conservation Mr. Seng Bunna Vice Director of Koh Kong FiAC
11:00am-11:30am	Progress report of Management of Estuarine Terrapin ( <i>Batagur affinis</i> ) and Siamese crocodile ( <i>Crocodylus siamensis</i> ) in Sre Ambil Channel System, Koh Kong province and Discussion	Mr. In Hul Deputy Director of Department of Fisheries Conservation and Counterpart Officer with WCS- Cambodia Mr. Som Sitha Project Manager of WSC - Cambodia
11:30am-12:00am	Progress report of Process of Establishment of Marine Fisheries Management area (MFMA) in Koh Sdach Archipelago, Koh Kong and Discussion	Mr. Chea Phalling Project Coordinator of MPA, FFI-Cambodia



12:00pm-2:00pm	Lunch break	All
2:00pm -4:00pm	Discussion on Questions and Answers	Mr. Sok Sothy Deputy Governor of Koh Kong
4:00pm-4:30pm	Closing a meeting	Mr. Sok Sothy Deputy Governor of Koh Kong
16 December 2021		
9:00am -1:30pm	Leaving Koh Kong for Phnom Penh	All

**ANNEX 3: Participants’ Photos in Site Based Management Board Meeting for Mackerel Refugia Management in Koh Kong province on 16 December 2021**

