

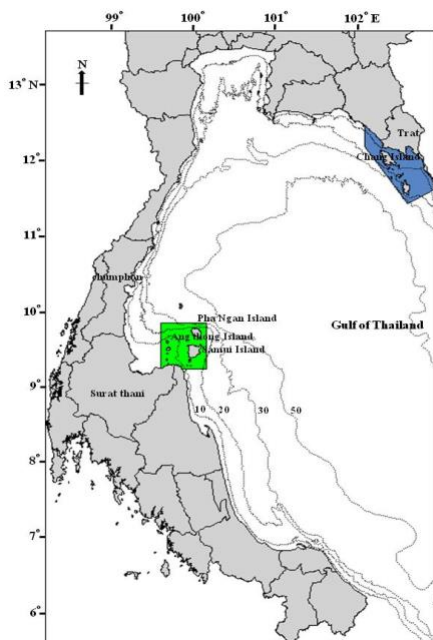


**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Scientific and Technical Committee Meeting for  
the SEAFDEC/UN Environment/GEF Project on Establishment and Operation of  
a Regional System of Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand**

21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019

Thansur Sokha Hotel, Kampot Province (Fisheries Refugia Site), Cambodia

**THE PROGRESS WORK OF THE PROJECT ACTIVITIES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL  
DURING JUNE 2018 – MAY 2019: THAILAND**



Fisheries Refugia in Thailand initially composes of 2 sites, Chang Strait of Trat Province and Samui Island of Surat Thani Province, with Indo-Pacific mackerel as the priority species in both sites. Nevertheless, after the meetings and consultations, both nationally and locally, the priority species in Surat Thani Province has been finally changed to the blue swimming crab, whereas the actual areas of the project sites have been defined upon scientific and technical information, including meeting resolutions of the Thailand's National Fisheries Refugia Committee meetings. Memberships and TORs of all committees and boards have been revised in order to make them more relevant. Some of the members of Provincial Fisheries Committees in Trat and Surat Thani Provinces were involved in the Site-Based Fisheries Refugia Management Boards for efficient integration of fisheries management in the Fisheries Refugia sites in their respective provinces.

The activities of Fisheries Refugia Project in Thailand from June 2018 to May 2019 compose of 13 meetings and consultations with their objectives and results as follows:

**1. The First Meetings of Thailand's National Fisheries Refugia Committee and Thailand's Scientific and Technical Committee, on 22 August 2018, at the Department of Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand**

**1.1 Objectives:**

- To present an overview background of Fisheries Refugia Project
- To introduce the memberships of "National Fisheries Refugia Committee", "National Scientific and Technical Committee", and "Site-Based Management Boards"
- To report the following:
  - Work plan and budget
  - Preliminary implementation
  - Project sites and priority fisheries species
  - Baseline information to be collected

**1.2 Meeting Results:**

- Intensive scientific and technical information have to be well-prepared under National Scientific and Technical Committee consultation in order to get the accurate-defined Fisheries Refugia areas.
  - The committee members have to be defined by their positions unless any members' names are necessary. Lists of members and TORs of all the Committees have to be revised.
  - Priority/target species have to be considered and defined under National Scientific and Technical Committee consultation on the basis of area-based scientific information.
  - Baseline data collection has to be scoped under Project objectives and work plan which would be the key factors for Project achievement.
2. **The First Consultation Meeting of the Project Implementation, on 5th October 2018, at the Department of Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand**
- 2.1 Objectives:
- To prepare the inputs for the 2nd National Fisheries Refugia Committee (NFRC) meeting including:
    - Priority species and sites for Project implementation
    - Memberships and TORs of Project committees
    - Meeting allowances and travel expenses for committee members
- 2.2 Meeting Results:
- Proposed priority species and Project sites:
    - Trat Province:
      - Priority species: Indo-Pacific mackerel
      - Project site: From Trat Bay to Thai-Cambodian border
    - Surat Thani Province:
      - Priority species: Blue swimming crab
      - Project site: Ban Don Bay
  - NFRC should be chaired by Director General of the Department of Fisheries, and composes of senior executive representatives from the following organizations:
    - Department of Fisheries
    - Department of Marine and Coastal Resources
    - Kasetsart University
    - GISTDA
  - NSTC should be chaired by Senior Expert in Fisheries Management of the Department of Fisheries, and composes senior technical representatives from the following organizations:
    - Department of Fisheries
    - Department of Marine and Coastal Resources
    - Kasetsart U., Burapha U., Walailak U.
3. **The Second Meeting of Thailand National Fisheries Refugia Committee, on 10th October 2018, at the Department of Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand**
- 3.1 Objectives:
- To propose Indo-Pacific mackerel as the priority species in Trat Province and blue swimming crab as the priority species in Surat Thani Province
  - To propose the revised memberships and TORs of NFRC and NSTC
  - To propose quarterly progress report, expenditure report, costed work plan, and cash advance request for approval
- 3.2 Meeting Results:
- Priority fisheries species and project sites have to be considered and defined by National Scientific and Technical Committee.
  - The following names should be added to **National Fisheries Refugia Committee**
    - 1) Senior Expert in Resources and Environmental Research in Marine and Coastal Ecosystem, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, and
    - 2) representative from Project Coordinating Unit.

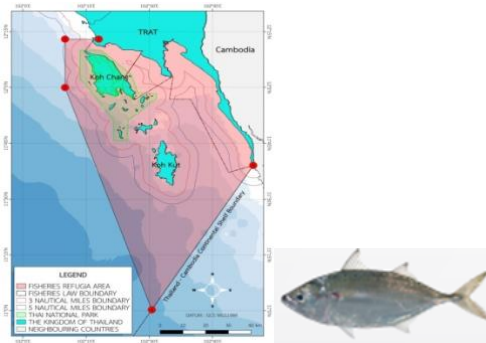
- The following names should be added to **National Scientific and Technical Committee**
    - 1) Senior Expert in Resources and Environmental Research in Marine and Coastal Ecosystem, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources,
    - 2) Lecturer from Mae Joe University, Chumphon Campus,
    - 3) Representative from GISTDA, and
    - 4) Researcher from SEAFDEC.
  - quarterly progress report, expenditure report, costed work plan, and cash advance request were approved.
4. **The Second Consultation Meeting for Project Implementation, on 13th November 2018, at the Department of Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand**

4.1 Objectives:

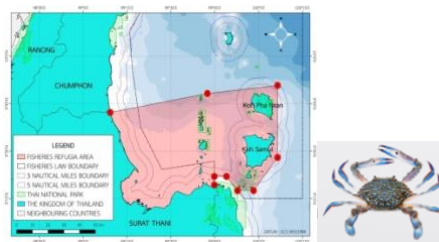
- to discuss technical information available for defining priority species and fisheries refugia sites in Trat and Surat Thani Provinces

4.2 Meeting Results:

- Priority species and Project site in Trat Province:
  - Priority species: Indo-Pacific mackerel
  - Project site: The coastal area of Trat Province, including Chang and Kud Islands, and closed to Thai-Cambodian Boarder



- Priority species and Project site in Surat Thani Province:
  - Priority species: Blue swimming crab
  - Project site: The coastal area of Surat Thani Province, including Samui and Pha Ngan Islands



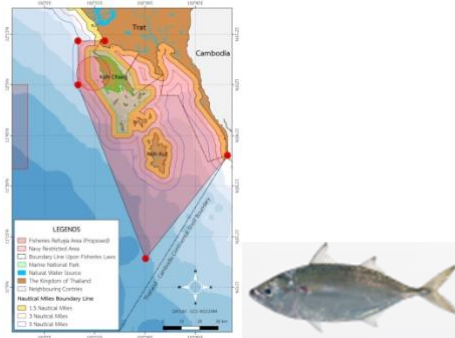
5. **The First Meeting of Thailand's National Scientific and Technical Committee, on 17 December 2018, at the Department of Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand**

5.1 Objectives:

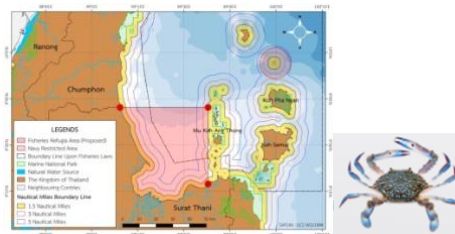
- To present an overview background of Fisheries Refugia Project
- To report the following:
  - Progress of the project implementation, national and regional levels
  - Technical information of fisheries, marine resources, environment, and ecosystem related to Indo-Pacific mackerel in Trat Province and blue swimming crab in Surat Thani Province
- To discuss the appropriate fisheries refugia boundary and priority species in Trat and Surat Thani Provinces

5.2 Meeting Results:

- Priority species and Project site in Trat Province:
  - Priority species: Indo-Pacific mackerel
  - Project site: The coastal area of Trat Province, with a little shift of the boundary line from Thai-Cambodian boarder



- Priority species and Project site in Surat Thani Province:
  - Priority species: Blue swimming crab
  - Project site: The coastal area from shoreline of Surat Thani Province closed to the protected area of Mu Koh Ang Thong National Marine Park



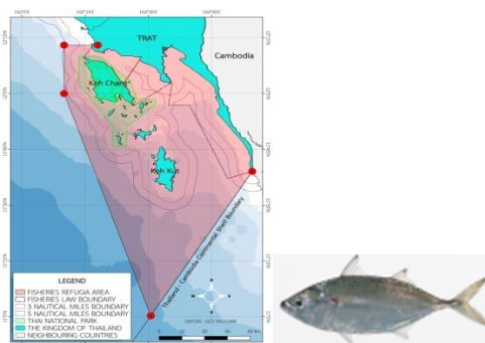
6. The Third Meeting of Thailand National Fisheries Refugia Committee, on 16 January 2019, at the Department of Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand

6.1 Objectives:

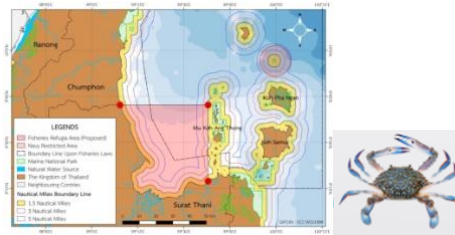
- To report on the revised memberships and TORs of Thailand’s National Fisheries Refugia Committee (NFRC) and Thailand’s National Scientific and Technical Committee (NSTC)
- To report on the progress of the Project implementation, nationally and regionally
- To propose the latest-revised Project sites and priority species for consideration
- To propose quarterly progress report, expenditure report, costed work plan, and cash advance request for approval

6.2 Meeting Results:

- **Final** priority species and Project site in Trat Province:
  - Priority species: Indo-Pacific mackerel
  - Project site: The coastal area of Trat Province, including Chang and Kud Islands, closed to Thailand-Cambodian continental shelf boundary



- **Final** priority species and Project site in Surat Thani Province:
  - Priority species: Blue swimming crab
  - Project site: The coastal area from shoreline of Surat Thani Province closed to the protected area of Mu Koh Ang Thong National Marine Park



**7. The Third Consultation Meeting for Project Implementation (Arrangement of Site-Based Fisheries Refugia Management in Surat Thani Province), on 29 January 2019, at Surat Thani Province, Thailand**

**7.1 Objectives:**

- To clarify the Project purposes and activities to the staff of Surat Thani Fisheries Provincial Office
- To guide and discuss with the staff of Surat Thani Fisheries Provincial Office on the membership properties and TOR for revision of Site-Based Fisheries Refugia Management Board in Surat Thani Province
- To observe crab bank in Moo Ban Phumriang, Chaiya District, Surat Thani Province

**7.2 Meeting Results:**

- The membership and TOR of Site-Based Fisheries Refugia Management Board in Surat Thani Province was revised in which the members of Provincial Fisheries Committee were included; it was finally signed by the Surat Thani Governor and issued in the form of Notification of Surat Thani Province.

**8. The Fourth Consultation Meeting for Project Implementation (Arrangement of Site-Based Fisheries Refugia Management in Trat Province) on 20 February 2019, at Trat Province, Thailand**

**8.1 Objectives:**

- To clarify the Project purposes and activities to the staff of Trat Fisheries Provincial Office
- To guide and discuss with the staff of Trat Fisheries Provincial Office on the membership properties and TOR for revision of Site-Based Fisheries Refugia Management Board in Trat Province

**8.2 Meeting Results:**

- The membership and TOR of Site-Based Fisheries Refugia Management Board in Trat Province was revised, in which the members of Provincial Fisheries Committee were included; it was finally signed by the Trat Governor and issued in the form of Notification of Trat Province.

**9. The Fifth Consultation Meeting for Project Implementation (Arrangement of Baseline Data Collection), on 28 February 2019, at the Department of Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand**

**9.1 Objectives:**

- To discuss baseline data collection with the staff of Fisheries Research Centers, Fisheries Provincial Offices, SEAFDEC, and NGOs, who involve in fisheries data collection in the Project areas

**9.2 Meeting Results:**

- Templates, items, and methods were raised, discussed, and clarified for suitable data collection.

10. **The Sixth Consultation Meeting for Project Implementation (Preparation for Financial Audit), on 7 March 2019, at the Department of Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand**
- 10.1 Objectives:
- To discuss among the Project staff of DOF, SEAFDEC and auditor, on the formats and methods for preparing the statement of revenues and expenditures for Project financial audit
- 10.2 Meeting Results:
- Project staff of DOF understand the methods for preparation of formal financial statement for audit.
11. **The Fourth Meeting of Thailand National Fisheries Refugia Committee, on 29th March 2019, at the Department of Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand**
- 11.1 Objectives:
- To report on the revised memberships and TORs of the Site-Based Fisheries Refugia Management Boards in Trat and Surat Thani Provinces
  - To report on the co-finance and audit for Thailand
  - To propose quarterly progress report, expenditure report, costed work plan, and cash advance request for approval
- 11.2 Meeting Results:
- quarterly progress report, expenditure report, costed work plan, and cash advance request were approved.
12. **The First Meeting of Site-Based Fisheries Management Board in Trat Province, on 4th April 2019, at Trat Province, Thailand**
- 12.1 Objectives:
- To introduce the Fisheries Refugia Project
  - To present the following:
    - The status of marine coastal resources, ecosystem, and marine environment in Trat Province
    - The status of marine fisheries and resources in Trat Province
    - The context of communities towards coastal fisheries management in Trat Province
    - The context of Indo-Pacific mackerel in the Gulf of Thailand
  - To discuss the management approaches towards Fisheries Refugia of Indo-Pacific mackerel in Trat Province
- 12.2 Meeting Results:
- Indo-Pacific mackerel was approved to be the priority species for Fisheries Refugia in Trat Province.
  - The proposed area was approved to be the study area for Fisheries Refugia site in Trat Province.
  - The existing marine fisheries/coastal resources measures including measures in each fisheries Community in Trat Province have to be shown in the area map for obvious baseline data.
  - Study area and technical data for Fisheries Refugia in Koh Kong of Cambodia should be illustrated in order to support the consideration of co-management.
  - Intensive technical information of Indo-Pacific mackerel in Trat Province had to be presented in the next meeting.





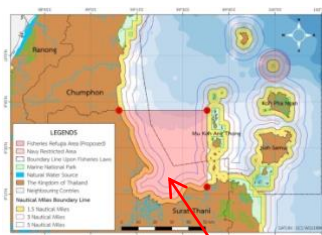
**13. The First Meeting of Site-Based Fisheries Management Board in Surat Thani Province, on 26th April 2019, at Surat Thani Province, Thailand**

**13.1 Objectives:**

- To introduce the Fisheries Refugia Project
- To present the following:
  - The status of marine fisheries and resources in Surat Thani Province
  - Knowledge of blue swimming crab resources, and ecosystem for blue swimming crab integrated management in Bandon Bay of Surat Thani Province
  - A review of blue swimming crab management in Thailand
- To discuss the management approaches towards Fisheries Refugia of blue swimming crab in Surat Thani Province

**13.2 Meeting Results:**

- Blue swimming crab was approved to be the priority species for Fisheries Refugia in Surat Thani Province.
- The proposed area was approved to be study area for Fisheries Refugia site in Surat Thani Province.
- Koh Sed in Ban Don Bay is suitable for the conservation area of blue swimming crab during their early life stage.
- Intensive technical information of topography, ecosystem, and marine resources around Koh Sed are needed.
- Cooperation of stakeholders are the most concern.



Koh Sed