



**The 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Project Steering Committee for  
the SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF Project on Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of  
Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand**

3 September 2021

(08:30 – 12:30PM, UTC+7)

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Platform

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84388367882?pwd=MVBnV2ZENG4a1JiUGZoNTV2R3I2QT09>

**PROGRESS ON THE PROJECT EXTENSION LOA/MOU BETWEEN SEAFDEC AND  
PARTICIPATING COUNTRY**

During the Forth Project Steering Committee Ad-hoc Meeting under the Project “Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand” organized by the SEAFDEC Project Coordination Unit (PCU) on 6 October 2020, the Steering Committee agreed on a two-year extension of the Project with no additional funds from the donor, and endorsed the proposed revision of the budget and costed work plan. Subsequently, SEAFDEC and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has signed an Amendment to the Project Cooperation Agreement in order to extend the Project for 2 years from January 2021 to December 2022. The project extension would enable project partners to complete their activities and deliver the planned outputs.

Simultaneously, the Letter of Agreement (LoA) between SEAFDEC and the national level implementing agencies from 6 participating countries was expired on 31 December 2020. Due to this, SEAFDEC has coordinated with 6 participating countries to have a new LoA to extend the implementation of the national-level activities of the project to 31 December 2021. The progress on the project extension LOA/MOU between SEAFDEC and the participating country as of 31 August 2021 was shown in table 1.

**Table 1.** The progress on the project extension LOA/MOU between SEAFDEC and the participating country as of 31 August 2021

<b>Country</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>Country Coordinator</b>	<b>Challenge</b>
Cambodia	Completed		
Indonesia	In the process of consideration on the draft of the new LoA by AMFRHR	SEAFDEC National Coordinator/ FR-National Focal Point	Due to the COVID-19 situation, The AMFRHR office was lockdown since early July 2021
Malaysia	In the process of consideration to sign a new MoU by the Department of Fisheries Malaysia.	SEAFDEC National Coordinator/ FR-National Focal Point	

Philippine	In the process of amending the new LoA	FR-National Focal Point	
Thailand	In the process of consideration on the draft of the new LoA by the Department of Fisheries Thailand	FR-National Focal Point	
Vietnam	In the process of consideration to sign a new Lol by the Directorate of Fisheries, Viet Nam	FR-National Focal Point	