



## **BOBLME Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee Meeting**

Amari Watergate Hotel  
Bangkok THAILAND, 25-26 Jun e 2012

Under its sub-component 2.3 Collaborative Regional Fishery Assessments and Management Plans – (Development of regional and sub-regional management plans and harmonization of data collection and standardization to promote collaborative fisheries management approaches) the BOBLME Project is required to produce fishery management plans for hilsa shad and Indian mackerel.

The following activity is included in the Annual Regional Work plan (Fisheries management): *Constitute a Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (RFMAC) and hold a meeting to consider 'pre-assessments', information on catch reconstruction, and performance indicators and draft a management advisory and a work plan for follow-up activities. This meeting will include capacity building on how to produce and apply EAF advice. Design EAF Training Course and conduct test-run (Training of Trainers). EAF training course implemented (a regional event). Working with BOBP-IGO and SEAFDEC, constitute regional management forums for hilsa and Indian mackerel, respectively.*

The RFMAC will comprise four persons from each country: two people from the main fisheries agency and two people from the lead environmental agency, that will work together to deliver ecosystem based fisheries management advice for the transboundary fish stocks of hilsa shad and Indian mackerel (the focus species of the project). The main activities of the RFMAC will be to:

1. Consider the wide range of information available through the Project and other sources as it relates to the management of the transboundary fish stocks of hilsa shad and Indian mackerel;
2. Analyse the information, including determining the implications of management options on the target species, associated and dependent species, the ecosystem, and the socio-economics of coastal communities;
3. Produce advisories on the management and conservation of transboundary fish stocks of hilsa shad and Indian mackerel - targeting national fisheries departments (and decentralized offices), the APFIC, and a future BOBLME regional fisheries management forum (also to be formed by the Project by augmenting the functions of existing regional fisheries bodies).

The RFMAC will be a forum in which officers from the Fisheries and Environment Departments, respectively, can develop and hone their skills in the application of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM). And as the application of the EAFM is in its formative stages in the Bay of Bengal, the activities of the RFMAC will also include training on the application of the EAF - using some of the materials currently being developed for the BOBLME EAF training course.

Ideally the participants will have solid experience working in a resource management setting, with some background or interest in governance and socio-economics; but young up-and-coming individuals are also welcome. And, as always, the participation of women is especially encouraged.

BOBLME partners, Bay of Bengal Programme - Intergovernmental organisation (BOBP-IGO), South East Asia Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC) and International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) will also participate.

**DRAFT Agenda**  
**starting 9am**

1. Introduction to the RFMAC and its role in BOBLME and EAF
2. Introduction to Ecosystem Health Indicators and Ecosystem Quality Objectives (SAP Actions in response to TDA Fisheries Theme)
3. Consider the wide range of information available through the Project and other sources as it relates to the management of the transboundary fishstocks of hilsa and Indian mackerel
4. Analyse the information, including determining the implications of management options on the target species, associated and dependent species, the ecosystem, and the socio-economics of coastal communities
5. Produce advisories on the management and conservation of transboundary fishstocks of hilsa and Indian mackerel.
6. Any other business.