Improvements on safety onboard fishing vessels in Southeast Asian Countries
SEAFDEC initiative safety at sea in SEA

The 1st Regional Workshop on Safety at Sea for Small Fishing Boats (December 2003)

The 2nd Regional Technical Workshop on Safety at Sea for Small Fishing Boats (April 2010)

The 3rd Regional Technical Workshop on Safety at Sea and Optimize Energy use for Small Fishing Boats (December 2011)

SEAFDEC Regional Training Workshop on Optimizing Energy and Safety at Sea for Small-scale Fishing Vessels (February 2013)
SEAFDEC/FAO Initiatives

Impact of Fisheries Management in Improving Safety at Sea Measures:

A Case study in Thailand

Objective:
To assess the current situation of safety at sea on trawlers and purse seiners in Thailand
Study Areas

- **Methodologies**
  - Sets of questionnaires were used as the guideline for the observation survey/interview
  - Study areas
    - Central part: Samut-prakan, Samut-sakorn and Samut-songkram provinces
    - Eastern part: Chonburi, Trat, Chantaburi and Rayong provinces
    - Southern part (Gulf of Thailand): Chumporn, Nakorn Srithammaraj, Surat thani and Songkha provinces
    - Southern part (Andaman Sea Area): Ranong, Phang-aga, Phuket and Satun provinces
The study results on the safety at sea for trawlers and purse seiners in Thailand show different safety conditions which vary according to areas and sizes of fishing boats.

Safety conditions of about 50% of fishing boats on average met the standard set by the Marine Department and Fisheries Department.

More than 70% of fishing boats perform good maintenance on their navigation equipments.

Sanitation facilities and safety equipments are not well prepared onboard.

Crew’s basic ability to respond to safety on board does not meet the standard.

More than 40% of fishing boats have experienced accidents onboard, which is considered high. This may be because their crew who lack competency are working in poor working conditions for example a long period of working.

The weather forecasting systems have been improved very much after fatal natural disasters.
Overview of the safety at sea needs in the SEA

Myanmar

- Check in Check out reporting system.
- Daily weather report system.
- Using local make floating equipment for life saving equipment.
- Using traditional medicine for health.
- Facilities for communication equipment onboard.
- Training on safety at sea for fisherman
Overview of the safety at sea needs in the SEA

Thailand

- knowledge on safety at sea should be promoted to target groups
- owners of fishing boats should take care of their crew
- owners of fishing boats should immediately report to concerned government offices in cases of accidents
- owners and crew should conduct regular check and maintenance of boats
- concerned agencies should conduct regular training on safety at sea
- SEAFDEC should intensify its campaign on safety at sea in collaboration with DOF Thailand, with SEAFDEC providing technical support and promoting coordination with relevant organizations

(The recommendations to reduce accidents on boats and promote safety at sea for fishers and related persons from Workshop on Reporting Accident Records of Fishing Boats in Thailand)
Overview of the safety at sea needs in the SEA

**Malaysia**

- Malaysia has already advanced its efforts by registering all fishing boats and fishers as well as maintaining standards of boats and crew.

- All fishing boats in Malaysia must be registered and would be identified through various markings.

- The fishing vessel registration system is solely under the responsibility of the Department of Fisheries Malaysia in accordance with the Fisheries (Maritime) Licensing of Local Fishing Vessel Regulations 1985.

- In the renewal of the license of fishing boats, one of the requirements is the availability of sufficient safety equipment onboard as well as the vessel condition in terms of sea worthiness.

- A plastic Vessel Number plate is issued out each year upon renewing the fishing license for enforcement purpose, with the Fisheries Officer monitoring the validity of the license in Malaysian waters.
Overview of the safety at sea needs in the SEA

- Safety and health training
- Imposing minimum requirements for fishing vessel personnel
- Development of manning regulations based on size and type of fishing vessel
- Fishing vessels inspection
- Promotion of health and safety management
- Improvement of access to insurance
- Establishment of report and investigation system
- Fishing competence
- Sufficient information and absence of emergency drill
Recommendation of safety at sea for small fishing boat in the Region

1. Development the appropriate incident reporting and investigation systems for the purpose of improving safety at sea

2. Promote the registration of small fishing boats.

3. Promote and ensure that safety aspects, including considerations on working conditions and socio-economic development, are incorporated and addressed by concerned authorities while improving the monitoring and control of the status and use of small scale fishing vessels.

4. Strengthen local authorities and local organizations and promote application of safety at sea standards among the coastal communities.

5. Promote technical and financial support from authorities, including subsidies, at all levels for issues of safety at sea, including considerations on working conditions and socio-economic development.
Recommendation of safety at sea for small fishing boat in the Region

6. Identify and promote the basic requirements for safety at sea

7. Implement training and education programs for all stakeholders including the fishers, family members, boat builders and others, for basic requirements

8. Promote awareness among policy makers, central authorities and broader public on the safety hazards facing people involved in fisheries

9. Develop and promote the use of appropriate communication systems

10. For definition of ‘small fishing boats’ and ‘operational range’, reference should be made on the respective rules and laws of individual countries.
Minimum requirement on safety for small fishing boat

- < 12 m and 12~24 m length of the boat (climate and national definition)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>&lt; 12 meter length</th>
<th>12~24 meter length</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Navigation</td>
<td>• Navigation light&lt;br&gt;• Magnetic compass&lt;br&gt;• Fishing Sign/light&lt;br&gt;• Anchor and mooring equipment</td>
<td>• Sound signal (horn)&lt;br&gt;• Anchor and mooring equipment&lt;br&gt;• GPS or Magnetic compass or Navigation light or Chart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Safety Equipment</td>
<td>• Lifejacket (or alternative)&lt;br&gt;• Flash light&lt;br&gt;• Handflare&lt;br&gt;• Whistle&lt;br&gt;• First aid kit&lt;br&gt;• Promotion of the safety culture (poster, information and communication materials, etc)&lt;br&gt;• Paddle</td>
<td>• Lifejacket&lt;br&gt;• Lifebuoy&lt;br&gt;• First aid kit&lt;br&gt;• Handflare&lt;br&gt;• Fire extinguisher (small size)&lt;br&gt;• Safety shoes and helmet&lt;br&gt;• Promotion of the safety culture (poster, information and communication materials, etc)</td>
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</table>
## Minimum requirement on safety for small fishing boat (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Design/condition of the fishing boat</th>
<th>&lt; 12 meter length</th>
<th>12~24 meter length</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Boat design (including sea worthiness, stability, buoyancy where appropriate)</td>
<td>• Sea worthiness</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Boat materials</td>
<td>• Deck arrangement</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Capacity of engine</td>
<td>• Boat construction information</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Periodical maintenance</td>
<td>• Capacity of engine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Check list for on board</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Hull check</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Engine check</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Fuel check</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Fish hole check</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Periodical maintenance</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 4. Communication equipment              | Mobile phone or wireless communication | Wireless communication equipment (radio or transceiver, mobile phone) |

| 5. Other                                | Promotion of the safety culture (poster, information and communication materials, etc) | Promotion of the safety culture (poster, information and communication materials, etc) |
|                                         | • Logbook                                      | • Insurance (boat and fishers) |
|                                         |                                               | • Local weather forecast |
|                                         |                                               | • Logbook |

| 6. Fishing Crew                         | Competency certificate                        |

• Regional assessment/study of small boat stabilizer should be carried out
Minimum requirement on working standard for fishing boats and fisher

| 1. Age and skill | • Minimum age: 16 or 18 years old  
|                  | • Minimum education: primary school  
|                  | • Health documentation, especially good eye-sight (include color blind)  
|                  | • Fisher ID (to be issued by fisheries authority)  
|                  | • Swimming  
|                  | • Fishing gear proficiency certificate (fish handling and fishing operation)  
|                  | • Competency certificate (skipper and engineer) |

| 2. Hours of work | • Minimum working hours (refer to ILO) |

| 3. Work agreement | • Sharing fair profit among fishers (also refer to ILO)  
|                   | • Working agreement contract (only applicable for the boat size 12~24m) |

| 4. Living condition | • Safe and hygienic standard |

| 5. Sanitation and health | • Sufficient facilities/sanitation  
|                          | • Sufficient provision (food and water) |

| 6. Others | • Sufficient fishing equipment for fish handling and fishing operation  
|           | • Minimum tools for repair and maintenance of fishing boats |
Promotion of information material

Poster

Cartoon

Translation of Safety Recommendations for Decked Fishing Vessels of Less than 12 Meters in Length and Undecked Fishing Vessels

Report
Optimizing Energy Use and Improving Safety in Fishing Activities Project (2013-2017)

SEAFDEC Regional Training Workshop on Optimizing Energy and Safety at Sea for Small-scale Fishing Vessels (February 2013)

- Provide technical assistance in the promotion of safety at sea and effective enforcement and management of safety measures by concerned authorities.

- Encourage cooperation among maritime, fisheries and labor authorities on matters related to safety and health in the fisheries sector, in order to close the gap in the accountabilities and responsibilities with respect to the enforcement of safety and health measures and standards.

- Enhance the awareness of policy-makers and administrators of the countries and the region on the extent of the problems and constraints in the implementation of safety systems that resulted in the reduced effectiveness of their efforts in promoting such safety measures.
• Enhance public awareness and concerns on safety at sea in the fisheries sector

• Promote the use of social awareness building, information and communication technologies, and other software-oriented operational methods in promoting safety measures in addition to the hardware or technological methods (e.g. vessel design, etc.)

• Consider the development of regional and national activities on safety at sea in the fisheries sector by making full use of the already established international instruments, binding and voluntary, as reference

• Adapt flexible approaches in establishing national and regional guidelines on safety at sea in the fisheries sector for policy endorsement, taking into consideration the respective conditions of the Southeast Asian countries
On-site training workshop on safety at sea for fishing vessels in Member Countries (Vietnam, Myanmar and Indonesia)

- To enhance knowledge of the fisheries officials and other key stakeholders for the existing methods and techniques in safety at sea in fishing activities.
- To raise up awareness on safety at sea as well as improvement of working condition onboard fishing vessels.
- To disseminate information package related to safety at sea for their further usage.
Thank You