



**PROJECT DOCUMENT
 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR YEAR 2019
 AND
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR 2020**

			Project id: 201801010
Program Categories:	Other Program		
Project Title:	<i>Implementing the Lower Mekong Fish Passage Initiative in Cambodia, Thailand, and Viet Nam</i>		
Program Thrust:	<i>Program Thrust No.</i>	Total Duration¹:	<i>2018 - 2020</i>
Lead Department:	<i>Training Department</i>	Lead Country:	<i>Thailand</i>
Donor/Sponsor:	<i>USDID - DOI</i>	Total Donor Budget:	<i>USD 466,000</i>
Project Partner:	<i>None</i>	Budget for 2020:	<i>USD 243,209</i>
Project leader:	<i>Yuttana Theparoonrat</i>	Involved Country	<i>Cambodia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Lao PDR</i>

1. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

Freshwater fish provide the primary source of protein for more than 60 million residents of the Lower Mekong. Much of this resource derives not from the main stem of the Mekong River, but from the thousands of far smaller water bodies that traverse the region. Smaller water bodies are essential for fisheries production, providing breeding and nursery habitat for a large proportion of artisanal and commercial fisheries. These water bodies are becoming increasingly fragmented by weirs, dikes, dams, road prisms, and associated water management structures, mostly associated with agricultural development and local flood control activities. These development activities are providing productivity boosts for rice farmers, but are impacting fisheries production, and adversely impacting the communities reliant upon them for income and nutrition.

The November 2016 SIM-sponsored Lower Mekong Fish Passage Conference in Vientiane, Lao PDR focused on the challenges of addressing fish passage at planned Mekong River and major tributary hydropower facilities across the region (Myanmar, Viet Nam and Cambodia). However, a consistent theme voiced by the more than 160 conference participants from 15 nations was the need to expand the inventory, restoration prioritization, and restoration of the thousands of existing barriers that fragment fish populations and, by extension, threaten local food security, across the Region. There was also a demonstrated need to establish fish passage demonstration sites in other countries to build regional momentum that can help to recover fisheries productivity on a broader catchment scale.

Established techniques already exist to restore passage at many of these barriers, which were largely developed in Lao PDR. However, government agencies throughout the region have very limited technical capacity to conduct many of these activities. This Project supports the broader SIM effort to transfer knowledge to five Lower Mekong nations (Burma, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam, and Thailand) regarding fish passage barrier inventory and prioritization processes, low head fish passage design and construction, and post-construction fish passage facility monitoring.

On August 15, 2013, DOI-International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) entered into an Interagency Agreement (IAA) with USAID/RDMA, the stated purpose of which is for DOI-ITAP to “implement technical assistance activities that support Presidential Initiatives in global climate change (adaptation,

clean energy, sustainable landscapes, and low emission development strategy), food security, and global health. DOI may also work in priority program areas of biodiversity, science and technology exchange, public-private partnerships, disaster assistance and risk reduction, economic growth, and good governance.”

DOI is a world leader in the management of natural resources. With its depth of applied knowledge, through the ITAP program, DOI provides technical assistance to countries around the globe in the areas of protected area management and conservation, fisheries, and water resource management. At the request of USAID/RDMA, DOI’s technical assistance enables government to government capacity building to SEAFDEC (an intergovernmental organization) and the ASEAN Member States (AMS).

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) is a non-profit intergovernmental organization established in 1967 to promote sustainable fisheries development in the Southeast Asian region. SEAFDEC currently comprises 11 Member Countries, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. For almost 50 years SEAFDEC has been implementing activities to support its Member Countries in Southeast Asia as follows; 1) exploration of marine fishery resources and its utilization, 2) conservation and management of aquatic species under international concern, 3) sustainable aquaculture development, 4) fisheries post-harvest and safety of fish and fishery products, 5) promoting management for sustainable fisheries and addressing emerging international fisheries-related issues.

2. PROJECT

2.1 Goal/Overall Objectives

The objectives of the project are to build capacity within with SEAFDEC and Lower Mekong nations to construct and maintain low head fish passes to restore fisheries connectivity at irrigation facilities, weirs, and road prisms.

The three (3) specific objectives are the following:

Objective 1: Provide technical and administrative oversight of Field Fish Passage Barrier Inventories conducted by Ministry personnel in Cambodia, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

Objective 2: Design and Construct One (1) Demonstration Fish Pass in Cambodia, One (1) Demonstration Fish Pass in Thailand, and One (1) Demonstration Fish Pass in Viet Nam.

Objective 3: Project Administration and Coordination, including providing a single point of contact (“project officer”) to DOI, and documenting project activities in SEAFDEC publications and other media.

2.2 Expected Outcomes and Outputs:

The ultimate outcomes of the project are:

1. Appropriate construction site selection for demonstration fish passage in Cambodia, Thailand and Viet Nam
2. Demonstration fish passage construction in Cambodia, Thailand and Viet Nam
3. Distribution of demonstration fish passage technical information

The major project outputs include:

1. Report of fish passage barrier inventories in Cambodia, Thailand, and Viet Nam.
2. Enhance the capacity of participants on GIS approaches to fish passage barrier inventory and Engineering design and construction procedures for Low-head fish passage.
3. Dissemination of project activities document in SEAFDEC publications and other media

2.3 Project Description/Framework

Activity 1: Coordinate Field Fish Passage Barrier Inventories in Cambodia, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

Sub-activity:

- 1.1 Support Cambodia Inland Fisheries Research and Development Institute (IFRDI) and Viet Nam Directorate of Fisheries (VDOF) vehicle maintenance or rental/fuel/lodging/ DSA/field equipment, as needed.
- 1.2 Participate in training workshops.
- 1.3 Participate in on-ground inventories in each country.

Activity 2: Construct One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Cambodia, One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Thailand, and One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Viet Nam.

Sub-activity:

- 2.1 In collaboration with DOI and Charles Stuart University (CSU), develop appropriate technical specifications that suit the swimming ability of local species and hydrology of the selected sites.
- 2.2 Host and provide space for a workshop between DOI, CSU, and all partner ministries on Engineering Design and Construction Procedures for Low-Head Fish Passes.
- 2.3 Host and provide space for a workshop between DOI, CSU, and all partner ministries on GIS Approaches to Fish Passage Barrier Inventory.
- 2.4 Using final technical specifications, site locations, and funding levels provided by DOI, identify and contract with a qualified contractor in each nation to conduct all site surveys and construction activities.
- 2.5 Respond to requests from all relevant government agencies with environmental or other permitting responsibilities and meet all relevant regulatory requirements.
- 2.6 Provide periodic oversight of all phases of construction and report progress back to DOI and CSU.
- 2.7 In collaboration with DOI, CSU and the fishway construction contractor, ensure compliance with technical specifications during fishway construction.
- 2.8 Complete the three fish passes per the timelines and budget identified in Articles 5 and 6 of this Project.
- 2.9 In collaboration with DOI and CSU, perform a hydraulic and ecological commissioning to ensure the fishway performs to desired standards.
- 2.10 Coordinate with relevant Ministries to document the final ownership and operations and maintenance plans for the fish passes.

Activity 3: Administration and Coordination

Sub-activity:

- 3.1 Engage a Project Officer to work with points of contact in all partner Ministries and any selected contractors in each nation.
- 3.2 Document project activities in SEAFDEC publications and other media.
- 3.3 Provide computing equipment and consumables as needed to Project Officer.
- 3.4 Provide financial support to the appropriate contractor to construct a model fishway for educational use.

3. PROGRESS/ACHIEVEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES IN THE YEAR 2019

3.1 Activities Achievements in the Year 2019

Project/Activity Title	Duration	Remarks
Activity 1: Coordinate Field Fish Passage Barrier Inventories in Cambodia, Thailand, and Viet Nam.		

<p>Sub-activity 1.1 Barrier inventory survey, Thailand</p>	17-20 March 2019	
<p>Activity 2: Construct One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Cambodia, One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Thailand, and One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Viet Nam. Sub-activity 2.4 Using final technical specifications, site locations, and funding levels provided by DOI, identify and contract with a qualified contractor in each nation to conduct all site surveys and construction activities.</p> <p>Sub-activity 2.8 Complete the three fish passes per the timelines and budget identified in Articles 5 and 6 of this Project (Cambodia fish passage completed construction)</p>	<p>January, February, April 2019</p> <p>May 2019</p>	
<p>Activity 3: Administration and Coordination Sub-activity</p>		

4. PROPOSED FUTURE ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2020

4.1 Planning of the Project Activities

Project/Activity Title	Duration	Remarks
<p>Activity 2: Construct One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Cambodia, One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Thailand, and One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Viet Nam.</p> <p>Sub-activity 2.4 – 2.10 In collaboration with DOI and Charles Stuart University (CSU), develop appropriate technical specifications that suit the swimming ability of local species and hydrology of the selected sites. Using final technical specifications, site locations, and funding levels provided by DOI, identify and contract with a qualified contractor in each nation to conduct all site surveys and construction activities. Respond to requests from all relevant government agencies with environmental or other permitting responsibilities and meet all relevant regulatory requirements.</p> <p>Provide periodic oversight of all phases of construction and report progress back to DOI and CSU.</p> <p>In collaboration with DOI, CSU and the fishway construction contractor, ensure compliance with technical specifications during fishway construction. Complete the three fish passes per the timelines and budget identified in Articles 5 and 6 of this Project. In collaboration with DOI and CSU, perform a hydraulic and</p>	Jan. - May	

<p>ecological commissioning to ensure the fishway performs to desired standards. Coordinate with relevant Ministries to document the final ownership and operations and maintenance plans for the fish passes.</p>		
<p>Activity 3: Administration and Coordination Engage a Project Officer to work with points of contact in all partner Ministries and any selected contractors in each nation. Document project activities in SEAFDEC publications and other media. Provide computing equipment and consumables as needed to Project Officer. Provide financial support to the appropriate contractor to construct a model fishway for educational use.</p>	<p>Jan. - May</p>	

4.2 Expected Outcomes/Outputs of Activity for the year 2020

Proposed Activity	Outputs of Activity
<p>Activity 2: Construct One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Cambodia, One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Thailand, and One (1) Demonstration fish pass in Viet Nam.</p>	<p>Complete the three demonstration fish passage construction in Cambodia, Thailand, and Viet Nam.</p>
