



**PROJECT DOCUMENT
 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR YEAR 2019**

			Project ID: 201506004
Program Categories:	Project under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC ASSP and FCG Mechanism		
Project Title:	The Oceans and Fisheries Partnership (USAID Oceans)		
Program Strategy No.:	Special Project	Total Duration:	May 2015 – May 2020
Lead Department:	TD	Lead Country:	Thailand
Donor/Sponsor:	U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID Oceans)	Total Donor Budget:	USD 19,953,018
Project Partner:	USAID, SEAFDEC, CTI-CFF	Budget for 2019:	USD 3,958,737
Project leader:	John Parks	Involved Country	All ASEAN, CTI-CFF member countries

PART I: OVERALL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Brief Project Description (300 words max) :

The Oceans and Fisheries Partnership (USAID Oceans), a USAID-funded activity implemented by Tetra Tech ARD, works to strengthen regional cooperation to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing; promote sustainable fisheries; and conserve marine biodiversity in the Asia-Pacific region. USAID Oceans works to (1) strengthen regional cooperation and capacity to combat IUU fishing and conserve marine biodiversity, (2) expand use of eCDT systems to priority biodiversity areas, (3) strengthen the capacity of regional and national organizations to conserve biodiversity using an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) and eCDT, (4) address human welfare concerns, including gender and labor across all program activities, and (5) engage the private sector to ensure sustainability, while advancing regional fisheries governance.

Key project activities include:

- Strengthen the capacity of regional, national, and local partners.
- Support the development of transparent, financially sustainable eCDT systems and complementary Sustainable Fisheries Management Plans (SFMPs), tested in at least two fisheries in priority biodiversity areas.
- Enhance fisheries management through EAFM.
- Forge partnerships with the public and private sectors to ensure system uptake and sustainability.
- Incorporate cross-cutting human welfare considerations into all activities.

Key objectives for 2018-2019 (Program Year 4 of 5) include:

- **Regional Coordination** - Capacity of SEAFDEC, CTI-CFF, and Technical Working Group (TWG) strengthened; Regional CDT Guidance and Roadmap developed.
- **eCDT** – Learning site eCDT systems refined and strengthened, with over 2,000 metric tons of seafood successfully tracked; Support extended for Expansion Country eCDT system development and implementation through strategically-targeted technical assistance; support provided for implementation and expansion of the SEAFDEC eACDS.
- **EAFM** – Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape Sub-Regional EAFM Plan endorsed; Learning Site EAFM Plans finalized and delivered; and use of eCDT data for sustainable fisheries management tested

through targeted learning site grants.

- **Public-Private Partnerships** – Strategic partnerships launched and maintained to support eCDT system development, implementation, sustainability, and expansion.
- **Human Welfare** – Gender intervention grants implemented in learning sites; TWG network and regional fisheries network further strengthened and capacity enhanced.

2. Background and Justification

Asia’s fish stocks and coral reefs are in danger as a result of unsustainable fishing practices, which threaten biodiversity, food security, and livelihoods. Across the region, Southeast Asia’s fisheries are in a state of overcapacity. Overfishing, combined with IUU and destructive fishing practices, have serious impact to the region—some of the world’s most marine biodiverse areas. These impacts can be seen throughout the region, resulting in fisheries decline, threatened regional and global food security, and serious human welfare concerns.

Thus, the Oceans and Fisheries Partnership (USAID Oceans) was launched to strengthen regional cooperation and capacity to ensure the sustainability of Southeast Asia’s marine resources. USAID Oceans supports SEAFDEC’s ongoing work to develop and implement the electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (eACDS) as well as related national level efforts. Work on the eACDS is strategically important to improving data/information availability, sustainable fisheries management programs, and overcapacity and IUU fishing reduction efforts.

3. Project Overall Objectives, Outcomes, Outputs, Indicators and Activities

3.1 Objectives, Outcome and Output of the Project

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs	Activities
Objective 1: Strengthen regional cooperation and capacity to combat IUU fishing and conserve marine biodiversity	Outcome 1: Regional and national organizations engaged in and capable of combatting overcapacity and IUU fishing through the use of eCDT and complementary SFMPs	Output 1: Trainings and capacity-building delivered to regional and national organizations in eCDT and EAFM planning	Activity 1– Regional Support for Increased Cooperation and Capacity in the areas of eCDT, EAFM, PPP, and Human Welfare Activity 2– Support to Philippines and Learning Site of General Santos City
Objective 2: Support the development and expansion of financially sustainable eCDT systems in priority biodiversity, areas where sustainable fisheries	Outcome 2: Overcapacity and IUU fishing in expansion areas reduced	Output 2: eCDT systems with complementary SFMP rolled out in at least two learning sites and expansion areas	Activity 3– Support to Indonesia and Learning Site of Bitung Activity 4– Support to Expansion I and II Countries

management plans (SFMPs) are being applied			
Objective 3: Develop and strengthen human and institutional capacity of regional organizations to conserve marine biodiversity through an EAFM	Outcome 3: Regional and national organizations engaged in and capable of using eCDT for enhanced sustainable fisheries management	Output 3: SFMPs developed, adopted, and implemented in priority biodiversity areas	
Objective 4: Address and strengthen capacity for human welfare, including gender and labor across all program activities	Outcome 4: Increased awareness and capacity for human welfare aspects of fisheries	Output 4: Gender interventions implemented via program grants, increased capacity for human welfare advocacy	
Objective 5: Develop public-private partnerships (PPPs) to conserve biodiversity, promote sustainable fisheries management, and combat IUU fishing and seafood fraud	Outcome 5: Private and public sectors engaged in development, implementation and sustainability of eCDT to combat overcapacity and fishing	Output 5: Private and public sector partnerships, investments	

3.2 Overall Scope/Description of Project

Activity	Description
Activity 1– Regional Support for Increased Cooperation and Capacity in the areas of eCDT, EAFM, PPP, and Human Welfare	USAID Oceans will support increased regional cooperation and capacity building across its core program technical focus areas, which includes support to SEAFDEC on the further development and expansion of the eACDS.
Activity 2– Support to Philippines and Learning	USAID Oceans will continue working closely with the Philippines Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) to demonstrate

Site of General Santos City	the learning site eCDT system and implement complementary project objectives, including EAFM, human welfare, and partnership development. These activities will both strengthen the Philippines' capacity to combat IUU and conserve marine biodiversity, as well as generate lessons learned for regional dissemination.
Activity 3– Support to Indonesia and Learning Site of Bitung	USAID Oceans will continue working closely with the Indonesia Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) to demonstrate the learning site eCDT system and implement complementary project objectives, including EAFM, human welfare, and partnership development. These activities will both strengthen Indonesia's capacity to combat IUU and conserve marine biodiversity, as well as generate lessons learned for regional dissemination.
Activity 4– Support to Expansion I and II Sites	Technical support and capacity building activities will be conducted with Expansion Countries to support eCDT planning and implementation, sustainable fisheries management, and human welfare interventions.

3.3 Activity, Sub-activity and Proposed Budget for 2013-2019 (in case of 5 year project from 2013)

Activities 1-4 represent USAID Oceans' tiered approach, dividing efforts into regional and national support through project learning sites and established Expansion Site I and II countries. Budget allocations are as follows:

- 34% Regional Support – 50% Activity 1; 50% Activity 4
- 33% National and Learning Site Support (Philippines – Activity 2)
- 33% National and Learning Site Support (Indonesia – Activity 3)

(Unit: USD)

Activity	Sub-Activity	Y1 2016	Y2 2017	Y3 2018	Y4 2019	Y5 2020
Activity 1– Regional Support for Increased Cooperation and Capacity	Sub-activities 1.1-6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Regional Capacity Building and Coordination; • Develop and Implement a Regional PPP and Industry Engagement Strategy; • Build Regional Capacity for CDT; • Support Development of Regional Fisheries Management Plan(s); • Integrate Fair Labor and Gender Equity Considerations at the Regional Level; • Implement Regional Communication Strategy 	639,282	762,940	694,123	672,985	675,121

Activity 2– Support to the Philippines and Learning Site of General Santos City	Sub-activities 2.1-6 – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Support for National and Local Activities; • Support and Develop Partnerships to Strengthen National and Local Impact; • Develop and Implement eCDTS; • Develop Fisheries Management Plan; • Integrate Fair Labor and Gender Equity Considerations 	1,278,565	1,525,880	1,388,246	1,306,383	1,310,530
Activity 3– Support to the Indonesia and Learning Site of Bitung	Sub-activities 3.1-6 – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Support for National and Local Activities; • Support and Develop Partnerships to Strengthen National and Local Impact; • Develop and Implement eCDTS; • Develop Fisheries Management Plan; • Integrate Fair Labor and Gender Equity Considerations 	1,278,565	1,525,880	1,388,246	1,306,383	1,310,530
Activity 4– Support to Expansion I and II Sites	Sub-activities 4.1-2 – Provide technical and capacity building support to Expansion sites.	639,282	762,940	694,123	672,985	675,121
TOTAL	Total Budget	3,835,697	4,577,642	4,164,739	3,958,736	3,971,304

***NOTE: Budget numbers are indicative. Total numbers reflect projected budget allocations. Sub-totals are a reflection of the estimated cost distribution. Only total funds expended by year will be available reflecting USAID Fiscal Year reporting requirements. USAID funds are subject to its availability as determined by the United States Congress on a yearly basis.**

PART II: ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2019 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

1. Achievements of the Project Implementation for the present year <2019>

Objective 1: Strengthen regional cooperation and capacity to combat IUU fishing and conserve marine biodiversity

- Coordinated with partners SEAFDEC and CTI-CFF, including to plan the Partnership’s final regional workshop, to be held in December 2019, to review the draft *Regional Technical Guidance for eCDT*, which was developed throughout the year through a series of regional consultations and workshops.
- Held a series of technology roadshows across the region to share eCDT technology solutions, including the eACDS, and enable partners to share their lessons learned, experiences implementing technologies with SEAFDEC member countries.

- Coordinated closely with Philippine Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) and Indonesia Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) to implement and plan national and learning site activities, particularly implementation of the learning site eCDT system; and with Expansion Site Countries (Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Mekong Countries, and Coral Triangle Countries) to support development, implementation of future eCDT systems.

Objective 2: Support the development and expansion of financially sustainable eCDT systems in priority biodiversity, areas where sustainable fisheries management plans (SFMPs) are being applied

- Released eCDT capstone product to complement previously released thought leadership publications, which provides an overview of USAID Oceans-supported eCDT technology solutions, including the SEAFDEC eACDS.
- Continued to work with SEAFDEC regarding the rollout of the eACDS in expansion countries, including discussions with Vietnam and Malaysia on their interests to implement the system (with USAID Oceans support). By year's end, provided support to Vietnam eACDS pilot, including through the procurement of supporting hardware and hiring coordination staff.
- Advanced the Philippines, Indonesia learning site eCDT system through eCDT technology installations and live, in-field data testing with First Mover industry and small-scale partners. Tracked over 2,000 metric tons of seafood through piloted technology.

Objective 3: Develop and strengthen human and institutional capacity of regional organizations to conserve marine biodiversity through an EAFM

- Finalized and submitted draft of Sub-Regional Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape Sustainable Fisheries Management Plan for endorsement through the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat.
- Finalized and delivered learning site Sustainable Fisheries Management Plans in Indonesia and the Philippines.
- Awarded grants to local organizations in Indonesia and the Philippines to leverage eCDT data for enhanced, data-driven fisheries management.

Objective 4: Address and strengthen capacity for human welfare, including gender and labor across all program activities

- Awarded grant to the National Network on Women in Fisheries in the Philippines to implement Human Welfare and Gender interventions. Began implementing interventions in Indonesia through program staff and partners.
- Released program capstone product, *Gender in Fisheries Research: Training Handbook* to build capacity in gender-sensitive research and fisheries development. Began production of two gender-focused videos, in collaboration with SEAFDEC, to be released in late 2019.
- Supported the finalization of SEAFDEC's organizational gender strategy and served as a resource person to relevant trainings and workshops.
- Engaged Human Welfare and Gender TWG counterparts through in-person meetings in both learning sites to plan events that engage industry and government representatives in the development of gender guidelines and policies.

Objective 5: Enhance PPPs to conserve biodiversity, promote sustainable fisheries management, and combat IUU fishing and seafood fraud.

- Explored potential partnerships with leading technology companies, such as IBM and Amazon Web Services, to support program innovations and sustainability; as well as with organizations such as TrinityRoots, to support eCDT expansion.
- Maintained longstanding partnerships in support of cross-cutting program objectives, such as with local small-scale traceability device provider, FAME, to test the Catch Documentation and Traceability System with "first movers" in three Philippine small-scale landing sites.
- Leveraged over \$3.4 million dollars over the life of the program (to date) from public and private sector partners.

- Engaged with regional partners to coordinate partnership efforts in Indonesia, including the launch of the Indonesia Coastal Tuna Sustainability Alliance.

2. Information of Present Year Activity including Involved Stakeholders

During FY19, USAID Oceans conducted the training activities such as:

List of Actual Sub-activity	Type of activity*	Number of Participants		Budget Spent (USD)
		M	F	
Activity 1 - Regional				
Sub-activity 1.1 - Workshop to Review Available eCDT Technology Solutions and Advance Regional Guidance for Fisheries Traceability for CTI-CFF (<i>overlaps with Activity 4</i>)	T	28	17	
Sub-activity 1.2 - Workshop to Review Available eCDT Technology Solutions and Advance Regional Guidance for Fisheries Traceability for Vietnam (<i>overlaps with Activity 4</i>)	T	29	8	
Sub-activity 1.3 - Workshop to Review and Advance Regional Guidance for Fisheries Traceability (Philippines)	T	19	26	
Sub-activity 1.4 - Workshop to Review and Advance Regional Guidance for Fisheries Traceability (Indonesia)	T	Not available	Not available	
Activity 2 - Philippines				
Sub-activity 2.1 - BFAR eCDTS User Training	T	31	45	
Sub-activity 2.2 - Presentation of the Sarangani Bay and Sulawesi Seas Sustainable Fisheries Management Plan	T	36	13	
Sub-activity 2.3 - Workshop on Progress Monitoring of Fisheries Annex Implementation	T	24	15	
Sub-activity 2.4 - Empowering Fisheries Officers for Gender Responsive and Sustainable Fisheries Management	T	13	29	
Activity 3 - Indonesia				
Sub-activity 3.1 - Review and Finalization Workshop of the EAFM Plan for FMA 716, Indonesia	T	14	17	
Activity 4 – Expansion – see also Activity 1				

3. Achievements and Expected Outcome/Outputs of the Activity:

Planned activity	Expected outcome/output	Achievements
Activity 1		
Sub-activities 1.2-4 - Workshops to Review Available eCDT Technology Solutions and Advance Regional Guidance for Fisheries Traceability	Enhanced capacity; Progress in development of Regional Guidance	Inputs received from member countries; capacity further strengthened; opportunities developed for further collaboration (including application of program-supported technologies)
Activity 2		
Sub-activity 2.1 - BFAR eCDTS User Training	Enhanced capacity for eCDT implementation	Capacitated partner First Movers to use BFAR eCDT System
Sub-activity 2.2 – Presentation of the Sarangani Bay and Sulawesi Seas Sustainable Fisheries Management Plan	Advanced SFMP toward implementation	Built partner capacity in EAFM; progressed the SFMP toward finalization and implementation
Sub-activity 2.3 - Workshop on Progress Monitoring of Fisheries Annex Implementation	Advanced fisheries management efforts	Built partner capacity in EAFM; discussed progress of Fisheries Annex implementation
Sub-activity 2.4 - Empowering Fisheries Officers for Gender Responsive and Sustainable Fisheries Management	Enhanced participants' capacity in gender equity awareness	Built partner capacity in human aspects of fisheries; Enhanced capacity to make gender-sensitive policy and regulatory decisions.
Activity 3		
Sub-activity 3.1 - Review and Finalization Workshop of the EAFM Plan for FMA 716, Indonesia	Advanced SFMP toward implementation	Built partner capacity in EAFM; progressed the SFMP toward finalization and implementation
Activity 4 – see Activity 1		

4. List of Completed Publications and Others (e.g. technical report, VDO, presentation file, etc.)

List of completed publications for the year 2019	Type of media	Attached e-file
1. Making Waves: Issue 6		Link
2. Technology Solutions for Electronic Catch Documentation and Traceability (eCDT)		Link
3. Case Study: The Value of Traceability for Business (Anova Food, LLC.)		Link
4. Case Study: The Value of Traceability for Business (PT. Nutrindo)		Link
5. Gender Research in Fisheries and Aquaculture: A Training Handbook		English Thai Bahasa Indonesian
6. Thailand CDT Gap Analysis		English

		Thai Link
7. Sub-Regional Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Plan for the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape		Link
8. Trafiz Product Guide		Link
9. Making Waves Issue: Issue 7		Link
10. Assessing Fisheries in a New Era: Extended Guidance for Rapid Appraisals of Fisheries Management Systems		English [EN] Technical Annexes Bahasa Indonesian [ID] Technical Annexes
11. Sustainable Fisheries Management Plan for the Sarangani Bay and Sulawesi Sea: Region 12, Philippines		Link
12. Sustainable Fisheries Management Plan for Fisheries Management Area 716, Indonesia		Link
13. Fisheries Annex: Protected Area Management Plan for the Sarangani Bay Protected Seascape, Region 12, Philippines (2016 – 2021)		Link
14. Partnership Appraisal and Prioritization Report: Malaysia		Link
15. Partnership Appraisal and Prioritization Report: Thailand		Link
16. Partnership Appraisal and Prioritization Report: Vietnam		Link
17. Workshop to Review Available eCDT Technology Solutions and Advance Regional Guidance for Fisheries Traceability in the Coral Triangle Region		Link

5. Major Impacts/Issues

Report on any issues or problems that have impacted on the development and implementation of the project during the reporting period. Provide detail on impacts of any issues on the achievement of project targets, and set out a plan on how to tackle these issues.

Since its launch USAID Oceans has utilized an adaptive management approach, learning from demonstrated best practices and aligning its operational strategy with on-the-ground realities. In Year Three, USAID Oceans undertook an Internal Midterm Review process, as well as engaged in several reflective exercises with USAID leadership. These activities, including the program’s “Pause and Reflect” Workshop, allowed the program to carefully and systematically reflect on program experiences and lessons learned. In Year Four, the program applied these lessons learned, challenges, and observed opportunities to continually optimize implementation.

In its fourth year, the program spent time reflecting on lessons learned to share them with its regional partners. While significant challenges were not faced, none to threaten the program’s progress, the program team noted the following challenges in the Year Four reporting period.

Changing partner priorities – Throughout FY19, USAID Oceans team explored partnership opportunities with a number of potential partners. Some partnership opportunities were formalized, while others did not move forward due to partners’ shift in their priorities. This is not uncommon in either the public or private sectors, and USAID Oceans remained nimble to adjust to changing partner priorities, leadership, and opportunities for engagement. In response to this challenge, the program’s PPP team highlighted the value and importance of **leveraging the momentum and success of past activities and/or partnerships**. For example, in February, USAID Oceans worked with GDST to

successfully organize the first Trackathon, with products/tools from the event receiving pilot opportunities and follow-on investments. Building off previous success, USAID Oceans, GDST, and SecondMuse will host a Bali Seafood Trackathon in October 2019. The objective of this Trackathon is to produce immediate solutions for the region, such as how to provide small-scale fishers with greater market access and how to develop applications that incentivize the collection of human welfare KDEs.

Building capacity amongst women despite limitations to women’s participation – In several Year Four activities, USAID Oceans noted that despite organizing events, women’s participation in some activities, particularly trainings and technology development, might be limited due to cultural norms. In recognition of this challenge, the team recognized the importance of **considering target participants’ limitations during planning stages**. Understanding social, familiar, and economic limitations women face and building the capacity of partners and stakeholders to incorporate gender considerations in their work is necessary to identify ways to have women participate in and benefit from program activities. For example, if women are not allowed to attend at training unless accompanied by a trusted male leader this should be considered when planning the training.

Delays in scheduling partnership activities – As common in complex implementation plans with multiple partners, USAID Oceans experienced several delays in implementing planned activities due to partners’ scheduling conflicts, resource limitations, and competing priorities. USAID Oceans needed to work with partners to discuss whether additional resources were required to conduct partnership activities, adjust timelines, and manage both parties’ expectations and reputations. The program team remained conscious of the need to **account for changes in activity planning** and prepare to adapt to changes when possible in order to maintain positive and productive partnerships.

Tailoring interventions to new contexts – In Year Four, as the program shared its lessons learned across the region, it spent significant time considering how to contextualize solutions, recommendations, or interventions from the learnings sites to other regions and countries specific needs, cultural context, and resource availability. The program **leveraged its TWG connections** as a platform to solicit input and ideas from representatives of countries where program interventions are being adopted in regard to how the intervention or tools can be adapted to the country context and what resources are available to support implementation.

6. Summary of Project Achievements (for the project of 2 years and over which will be completed by the year 2019, e.g. JTF-6 Phase I)

Establishing legal, regulated, and responsible fisheries requires intergovernmental and regional cooperation to address the complex challenges of Southeast Asia’s often interconnected marine resources, diverse ecosystems, and multi-tiered supply chains. Effective solutions require close coordination, collaboration, and mutual support—and as such, USAID Oceans dedicated much of its first three years to building the strong foundation required for regional collaboration; conducting research and design required to implement its core interventions; and establishing itself as a regional resource for technical guidance relating to eCDT standards, technical architecture and systems interoperability, sustainable fisheries management, private sector engagement, and the human aspects of the fisheries ecosystem and economy. From these investments, during Year Four, USAID Oceans continued to work with its regional, national and local partners and focused on **sharing** its knowledge, experiences, resources and tools; **expanding** the reach of its work, working closely with expansion countries to apply learning site-developed best practices and resources; and **sustaining** the impacts of the program, working with longstanding and new partners to develop partnerships that will propel USAID Oceans’ successes beyond the life of the program.

In Year Four, to prepare for the final year of the program and sustainability beyond 2020, USAID Oceans continued piloting and building partners’ capacity to implement the program’s **seven eCDT technologies in its Indonesia and Philippines learning sites**—which by year’s end had met and exceeded the program’s performance target, tracking over **3.4 metric tons of seafood** from its point

of catch to the dinner plate, or approximately USD \$20 million of U.S.-imported product. These technologies promote global stability by providing fisheries managers with essential information that allows them to sustainably manage Southeast Asian food stocks and marine resources, and even enhance maritime security. Of the industry members who piloted USAID Oceans' seafood traceability technologies in Indonesia and the Philippines, 91% of users have adopted the technology, leading the way for broad-scale national and regional adaptation and expansion of these high-impact tools.

The program also continued providing technical support to ASEAN and CTI-CFF expansion countries to further regional eCDT adoption, uptake, and replication through a series of technology roadshows, coupled with one-on-one technical guidance. The program worked with SEAFDEC to expand eCDT technology into Vietnam, providing technical and procurement support to the country's pilot of the Electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (eACDS). It also began and completed the development of its *Regional eCDT Technical Guidance* document, requested by ASEAN member countries to establish standards and protocol for eCDT system design, development, and implementation. Final ASEAN and SEAFDEC review of the document will be completed in Year Five.

Other areas of the program made equally impactful strides in Year Four. The program not only progressed its learning site Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) Sustainable Fisheries Plans, handing them over to its Philippines and Indonesia counterparts by the end of the year to move forward to implementation, but also presented the program-supported *Sub-Regional EAFM Management Plan for the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape* for adoption at CTI-CFF's Senior Officials Meeting. The plan was endorsed by the CTI-CFF EAFM Working Group and is now the first known sub-regional EAFM plan documented in fisheries management literature. It proposes specific management goals, objectives, and management actions to be undertaken by relevant governmental agencies, non-governmental partners, and multi-lateral/regional organizations focused on fisheries management and biodiversity conservation in Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines. With USAID Oceans' support to develop and implement sub-regional and national sustainable fisheries management plans, Southeast Asian nations improved their natural resource management by protecting marine habitat areas that are over 1.5 times the size of the United States.

Interest in the program's human welfare expertise and demand for support continued to grow in the region, and beyond, as USAID Oceans continued to shine the light on sectoral gender inequities and the inspiring women and men behind regional movements for more fair, equitable, and prosperous work places. Throughout the year, the program continued to engage partners in the region, awarded a dedicated gender equity-focused grant in the Philippines, and facilitated networking to strengthen regional capacity and ensure human aspects are central to development discourse and its implementation. The program also launched its *Gender Research in Fisheries and Aquaculture: Training Handbook*, which in less than a year has been downloaded nearly 1,000 times in over 80 countries. Much like the program's human welfare expertise, the guide has become a well-established and commonly-referenced global resource for conducting gender-sensitive research that enables equitable decision making, promotes women's empowerment, and advocates for improved governance and regulation within the fishing industry.

Many of USAID Oceans' Year Four successes were underwritten by the Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) team, who continued to bridge public and private sector members and interests for regional, national, and local action. By year end, over **\$3.4 million** had been leveraged through engaging with public and private sector partners that are keen to build on the program's electronic seafood traceability systems, fisheries management approaches, and gender equity efforts through ongoing partnerships and activities following program's close. These demonstrated commitments support continued program progress and scaling, fortify U.S. Government investment, and strengthen the overall sustainability of program impacts. Partnerships developed throughout the year to continue the program's work beyond 2020 are detailed throughout this report.

At the end of Year Four, USAID Oceans' efforts drew the program closer to its Life of Activity Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) targets, with notable impacts (below) not just in the program's learning sites but reaching to each of its member countries.

