PROJECT DOCUMENT

Program Categories: Departmental Programs
Project Title: SEAFDEC Capacity Development through USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Activity
Responsible Department: Training Department
Total Duration: 1 October 2020-30 September 2021
Funding Sources: Training Department
Estimated Budget for 2021: Approx. $2.0 million USD (through Local Solutions and U.S. Department of Interior mechanisms)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Asia-Pacific region has the highest marine biodiversity on the planet.1,2 The region is home to 17 of the 36 global biodiversity hotspots.3 The region contains more than a third of all coral reefs on Earth, extending more than 100,000 square kilometers and containing more than 75% of all hermatypic coral species.4 Mangroves forests in the region comprise 73% of all mangrove taxa and nearly half of all seagrass species.5 The fisheries supported by these rich ecosystems are the most productive globally, both in terms of biomass and diversity of catch.6 More than 22 million people in the region rely on fisheries for livelihoods, while many more rely on them for food security and ecosystem services from their natural environment.7 But the threats to Asia’s biodiversity could very well undermine its sustainability, integrity, and productivity.

The USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Project’s (USAID SuFIA) identified four broad threats to marine biodiversity in the region: climate change; marine and land pollution (i.e. nutrients, plastics, noise); destructive development (e.g. ports, aquaculture, unsustainable tourism); and fishing-related threats, including unsustainable fishing (Very High Risk) and illegal (High Risk), unregulated (Very High Risk), and unreported (Very High Risk) fishing. The SuFIA Project will address threats to biodiversity from fishing-related activities, namely, unsustainable fishing and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUUF).

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), established as an intergovernmental organization in 1967 to promote fisheries development in Southeast Asia, is the leading regional organization in the fisheries sector. USAID envisages that supporting SEAFDEC’s institutional development, through the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between SEAFDEC and USAID/RDMA on 16 June 2014, will enhance SEAFDEC’s specific regional mandates and roles on sustainable fisheries management and marine biodiversity conservation in Southeast Asia region.

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2 World Bank 2013. FISH TO 2030 Prospects for Fisheries and Aquaculture. World Bank Report Number 83177-GLB.
5 McManus 1997
2. PROJECT

2.1 Goal /Overall Objectives
To provide SEAFDEC with organizational development, institutional capacity building, and further strengthening of the organization’s role as regional fisheries platform to carry on international fisheries development projects, policies, and activities.

2.2 Outcomes and Expected Outputs

The expected outcomes are:
- To strengthen the SEAFDEC Secretariat’s ability to promote regional sustainable fishery management by putting in place regional policies, standards, and regulatory frameworks.
- To increase the capacities of all regional multi-stakeholders, in this case, SEAFDEC Member Countries to improve fisheries management, compliance and enforcement both at the national and regional levels.
- To support the development and implementation of any future activities that fall under the existing MOU between SEAFDEC and USAID by deploying technical expert(s) into the region as identified/prioritized by both sides. The expert(s) will be embedded within the SEAFDEC Secretariat to provide necessary support for the implementation of the USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Project. Funded by USAID, the technical support will come from the U.S. Department of Interior (USDOI).

2.3 Project Description/Framework

The project would include the following activities during its implementation period:

Activity 1: In partnership with SEAFDEC and other stakeholders, conduct an initial organizational capacity assessment of SEAFDEC to understand their institutional capacity development needs based on various Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) tools available, as well as any other areas of strengths and weaknesses identified by SEAFDEC

Activity 2: The development of SEAFDEC’s Capacity Development Action Plan (CDAP)

Activity 3: The evaluation of SEAFDEC’s capacity to fully develop activities with milestones. The identification of support needed and gaps identified in the Capacity Development Action Plan (CDAP), with notes on improvements and continued gaps.

Activity 4: Re-assessment of support, and the final report of SEAFDEC’s Organizational Capacity Development Plan

3. PROGRESS/ACHIEVEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES IN THE YEAR 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Activity Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) SEAFDEC Kick-Off Meeting Agenda</td>
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<tr>
<td>The purpose of this meeting is threefold:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1) to have formal introductions of the key stakeholders and detail preferred</td>
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<td>communication protocols;</td>
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<td>2) describe and discuss the broad brushstrokes of the SUFIA project; and</td>
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<td>3) RTI to better understand the structure, capacity gaps, and prioritized technical</td>
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<td>interventions for SEAFDEC.</td>
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<td>17 Sep. 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>2) USAID Sustainable Fish Asia (SUFIA) and SEAFDEC Meeting Key Discussion Points</td>
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<td>Points mainly on Task 2 (Conduct a Private Sector Landscape Assessment)</td>
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<td>22 Sep. 2020</td>
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4. PROPOSED FUTURE ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2021

4.1 Planning of the Project Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project/Activity Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity development for SEAFDEC staff on Task 1 and Task 2</td>
<td>Jan.- Sep. 2021</td>
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4.2 Expected Outcomes/Outputs

- To strengthen the SEAFDEC Secretariat’s ability to promote regional sustainable fishery management by putting in place regional policies, standards, and regulatory framework;
- To increase the capacities of all regional multi-stakeholders, in this case, SEAFDEC Member Countries to improve fisheries management, compliance and enforcement both at the national and regional levels; and
- To support the development and implementation of any future activities that fall under the existing MOU between SEAFDEC and USAID by deploying technical expert(s) into the region as identified/prioritized by both sides. The expert(s) will be embedded within the SEAFDEC Secretariat to provide necessary support for the implementation of the USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Project. Funded by USAID, the technical support will come from the U.S. Department of Interior (USDOI).