



Food and Agriculture
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THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA



GEF Project Preparation Grant (PPG) Inception Workshop of the Project “Promoting the Blue Economy and Strengthening Fisheries Governance of the Gulf of Thailand through the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries” (GoTFish Project)

Virtual Meeting, 8 September 2021, 9:00-15:00 (UTC+7:00)

Inception Workshop Concept Note

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO/RAP), is organizing a regional virtual inception workshop to initiate the PPG phase of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) supported project “Promoting the Blue Economy and Strengthening Fisheries Governance of the Gulf of Thailand through the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries” (GoTFish), to be held **from 09:00 to 15:00h (Bangkok time) on 8 September 2021**.

The overall goal of this Inception Workshop is to initiate the Project Preparation Grant Phase (known as the PPG Phase), introduce the project to stakeholders, and present the project preparation objectives and implementation process. The Inception Workshop will also initiate the consultation and participatory process that will contribute to the development of a detailed project document for submission to the GEF Secretariat in June 2022.

The goal of the GoTFish Project is to reduce stress in the Gulf of Thailand through improved practices and fisheries management, with a strong focus on transboundary governance and management, a better understanding of the role of incentives (both market and changes on fishers’ behavior) and the ecological corridors which are important for both aquatic biodiversity and fisheries.

The GoTFish Project is designed to address the key barriers to sustainable transboundary fisheries management of the Gulf of Thailand related to institutional, legal and administrative issues at regional and national levels, including lack of an appropriate forum for a GoT-wide multi-national dialogue, planning, monitoring and reporting, socio-economic constraints, such as lack of, or inadequate incentives, as well as lack of integration of climate resilience and gender considerations into planning and management of the GoT fisheries. It would likewise address current unsustainable practices in fisheries resource use and management and conservation of aquatic biodiversity.

This will be achieved through four interlinked project components:

- **Component 1** will focus on facilitating regional decision-making processes among stakeholders for improved fisheries governance and the institutionalization of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries.
- **Component 2** will help mobilize the role of the private sector and other partners to work on incentives suited for Southeast Asian fisheries
- **Component 3** will focus on enhancing the management of marine ecological corridors relevant to transboundary fisheries in the GoT, as well as to improve the effectiveness of MPAs delivering biodiversity and fisheries management benefits.
- **Component 4** will focus on ensuring effective communication, monitoring and sharing knowledge and lessons learned among wide range of stakeholders. The project will also develop a gender strategy to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment throughout all the components of the project.

The Inception Workshop of the Project Preparation (PPG) Phase will provide an opportunity for the key stakeholders of the project to meet, discuss and agree on the project preparation objectives and implementation process, including activities and timeline.

Inception Workshop Objectives:

- (i) Introduce the overall project goal, components, and timeline.
- (ii) Introduce and identify potential partners for the project components and learn about the ongoing activities related to sustainable fisheries and marine biodiversity in the GoT.
- (iii) Agree on the timeline and next steps of the project preparation phase.

Expected outputs of the Workshop:

- (i) Potential project stakeholders and partners are identified and are aware of the GoTFish project objectives and components, providing background and context on GOT activities relating to sustainable fisheries and marine biodiversity.
- (ii) Stakeholders and partners agree to participate in the component design process
- (iii) Agreed process and timeline for PPG development process and outputs (both at the country and regional level).

AGENDA [UTC+7:00]	
Morning Session (9 am to 12 pm)	
08.30-09.00	Log-in
09.00-09.15	Welcome Remarks FAO and SEAFDEC
09.15-09.45	Introduction to the workshop and Workshop participants Group Photo
09.45-11.00	Background of the GoTFish project A brief background and history of the GoTFish project Country contributions (10 min and 5 min Q&A) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cambodia ▪ Malaysia ▪ Thailand ▪ Viet Nam
11.00-12.00	Overview of the GoTFISH project structure Each agency has 15 min + 5 min Q&A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FAO provides overview of the GoTFISH project structure - SEAFDEC presents regional expectation vision for executing component 1 - SFP presents vision for executing component 2
12.00-13.00	-----Lunch break-----
Afternoon session (1 pm to 3 pm)	
13.00-13.30	Overview of the GoTFISH project structure (cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FAO wrap-up morning session (10 minutes) - UQ/IUCN/Malaysia present vision for executing component 3
13.30-14.00	Draft PPG summary work plan
14.00-14.30	General Q&A
14.30-15.00	Conclusions and way forward