

UNDP is implementing three regional projects as part of the overall Global Environment Facility (GEF) support to the implementation of the CTI Regional and National Plans of Action. This is the second issue of the quarterly update that provides information on progress and key results to inform the CTI stakeholders and identify opportunities for synergy. We welcome contributions and feedback from all CTI stakeholders. For more information about the overall UNDP/GEF CTI projects, please contact Jose Erez Padilla, UNDP Regional Technical Advisor at jose.padilla@undp.org. More information about each project is available in the respective project websites and from the regional project managers. Editing and lay-out of this e-newsletter are done by J. Padilla and Kwanruen Seub-Am at the UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Centre in Bangkok, Thailand.

West Pacific East Asia Oceanic Fisheries Management (WPEA OFM) Project

Contributed by Sung Kwon Soh (WPEA OFM Regional Project Manager and Science Manager, WCPFC Commission)

In the second quarter, there were several workshops convened in the three countries.

Vietnam. A workshop was held in Quy Nhon, 27-28 April, for the training of enumerators to initiate port sampling and data collection from purse seine and gillnet fisheries, in addition to their routine data collection from the longline fishery. Inclusion of these two fisheries is on account of the large number of vessels and their significant tuna catches. Vietnam's WPEA OFM National Tuna Coordinator Pham Viet Anh requested an internal workshop for the training of enumerators in one of the port sampling provinces, Binh Dinh. Various topics were covered including an overview of gillnet and purse seine fisheries and data collection protocols in the three major tuna provinces (Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, and Khanh Hoa), species identification of small/juvenile tunas, among others.

Indonesia. In April, a workshop was convened in Jakarta which produced provisional catch estimates for tuna for Indonesian-flagged vessels fishing in the Indonesian Fisheries Management Areas 716 and 717, which are part of the WCPFC Convention Area. The workshop hosted by Indonesia Directorate General for Capture Fisheries (DGCF) also yielded annual catch estimates and extent of fishing activities for the non-archipelagic waters for 2010. The project envisions that further collaborative work between WCPFC, SPC and DGCF can also provide vital annual catch estimates of tuna from Indonesian archipelagic waters within the WCPFC Statistical Areas, in line with the requirements of the WCPFC Convention.



Vietnam's WPEA OFM National Tuna Coordinator Mr Pham Viet Anh convened a training workshop to prepare data collection from purse seine and gillnet fisheries.



Vietnam's WPEA OFM National Tuna Coordinator Mr Pham Viet Anh introduced species identification of juvenile tunas, which is a required step in the data collection procedure.

Philippines. Two annual workshops – WPEA-Philippines National Stock Assessment Project (NSAP) Tuna Data Review Workshop and Philippines/WCPFC Annual Tuna Fisheries Catch Estimates Review Workshop, were convened consecutively in Manila in May. While acknowledging significant improvements in the process, several recommendations were adopted at both workshops, including: investigation of areas to ensure a long-term funding of the NSAP sampling system; re-developing database systems; review of methods to better estimate the annual catch estimates for the small-scale hook-and-line fisheries; and documenting all steps involved in compiling and providing data to be used in the catch estimation process. These recommendations will be implemented by relevant agencies with the assistance of WCPFC and SPC.

Others. During the second quarter, SPC hosted Tuna Data Workshop in Noumea, New Caledonia, and data managers of the three participating countries attended the workshop to understand all data-related issues and to build their capacity for data collection and submission.

In the third quarter, WPEA OFM will have the second Project Steering Committee meeting during the Seventh Regular Session of the WCPFC Scientific Committee in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, 9-17 August. Other activities in this quarter include development of national tuna management plan and capacity building in stock assessment.

For more information please contact SungKwon Soh (Mr), Regional Project Manager at SungKwon.Soh@wcpfc.int or visit the project website at <http://www.wcpfc.int/west-pacific-east-asia-oceanic-fisheries-management-project>.

Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action (ATSEA) Programme

Contributed by Gabriel Wagey (Regional Project Manager)



Papua New Guinea is now part of the ATSEA Programme. Following from the decision of the first project board meeting, PNG has now formally become a participating country in the ATSEA programme. This was made possible through the letter of request received by the project management office from the National Fisheries Authority on 26 May 2011. The ATSEA Project Manager with UNDP Regional Technical Advisor visited Port Moresby in June to discuss the status of the programme and explore funding opportunities for PNG participation.



2nd ATSEA Cruise. The first ATSEA cruise, conducted in May 2010, was primarily focused on the physical and biological aspects, including surface sediments, biodiversity and fisheries analysis of the ATS to the north of the Australian boundary. The 2nd ATSEA cruise conducted in June- July 2011 covered biological aspects of the northern Australian and Timor Leste waters. Scientists from Australia, Indonesia and Timor Leste have been working together on board the RV Solander. The oceanographic cruises have increased the awareness of littoral nations of the ATS on the importance of regional cooperation to safeguard shared natural resources. Data from the two cruises will show the current condition of the ATS region.

First Technical Meeting for the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA). A workshop

to discuss and complete the biophysical and socio-economic profiles of the ATS was conducted in Dili in the end of March 2011. The meeting conducted an expert consultation and presentation on biophysical and socio-economic profiles of the ATS. A roadmap to finalize the TDA was agreed on. The meeting was attended by experts from Australia, Indonesia and Timor Leste, as well as a TDA International Consultant.

Participation in Australian Marine Sciences Association Conference. ATSEA has participated in the 48th annual Conference of the Australian Marine Sciences Association (AMSA), in Fremantle, Western Australia. ATSEA conducted one full session on marine science, connectivity & research cooperation in the Arafura & Timor Seas on 7 July 2011. ATSEA also put up an information booth at the conference.

Future Activities

The project will be involving in several milestones activities including:

- Arafura and Timor Seas Expert Forum (ATSEF) regional Steering Committee Meeting; 5-6 September 2011 in Darwin Australia.
- ATSEA TDA Technical Workshop - II, 8-9 September, 2011 in Bali, Indonesia.
- Participation at the IWC6, 17-20 October 2011 in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

For more information please contact Gabriel (Tonny) Wagey, Regional Project Manager at GabrielW@unops.org or visit the project website at <http://atsea-program.org/>.

SULU-CELEBES SEAS SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT (SCS SFM) PROJECT

Contributed by Annadel Cabanban (Senior Fisheries Expert)



UNDP/GEF Project

“Sulu-Celebes Sea Sustainable Fisheries Management”

First Technical Workshop & First Project Steering Committee Meeting



UNOPS



Manila, Philippines, 12th to 15th April 2011

Technical Workshop. The project conducted its first technical workshop on 12 and 13 April 2011 to have a common understanding of the application of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries management, at the Demonstration Sites, Tarakan, Indonesia, Semporna, Malaysia, and Zamboanga, Philippines, and to identify the various indicators for the EAF management, among others. The workshop identified indicators, data requirements and methodologies for data collection covering fishery resources, ecological, social and governance aspects of the project.

Project Steering Committee Meeting. The first Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting was held on 14-15 April 2011 in Manila. The major agreements from the meeting included the following:

- Confirmation of the composition of the PSC to include country representatives, Conservation International, UNDP and UNOPS
- Terms of References of the Project Management Bodies: PSC; Technical Advisory Group, National Coordinators, Inter-ministerial Coordinating Committees
- Annual Workplan and Budget 2011 to 2014
- Date of the First Technical Advisory Group Meeting and Second Project Steering Committee Meeting – 14 to 18 November 2011

Identification and Initial Prioritization of Transboundary Environmental Problems in the Sulu-Celebes Sea. The first regional workshop for the TDA was held in Manila on 28-30 June 2011. The geographic scale for the TDA was agreed upon, which includes the watersheds and drainage basins surrounding the SC LME. The temporal scale at which the environmental problems may still have impacts was set to 2020; transboundary problems were identified and scored on their impacts from the present to 2020. The initial prioritization, based only on the perceived severity of environmental impacts at present and in 2020, resulted to the following transboundary priorities:

- Rank 1 – Habitat loss and community modification
- Rank 2 – Unsustainable use of marine resources (fisheries)
- Rank 3 – Pollution
- Rank 4 – Freshwater shortage
- Rank 5 – Climate Change
- Rank 6 – Invasive and Alien Species

The workshop participants also identified the environmental and socio-economic indicators and data requirements of the transboundary problems. Data-gathering by the technical task teams on these indicators and consultations with the National Coordinating Units of Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines are planned in July to September 2011.

Coordination Meetings. During the period, the project was represented in various forums including the following:

- 12 – 13 May 2011 – Annual Meeting of the SSME Sub-committee on Sustainable Fisheries, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia
- 1 to 3 June 2011 – Study on the Economics of Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Coral Triangle, Inception Meeting, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Metro Manila, Philippines
- 14-18 June 2011 – Coral Triangle Initiative Symposium, Asia Pacific Congress, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Calendar of events, July, August, and September 2011

National Consultations and Workshops, Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis

- 13-15 September 2011 – Philippine National Consultation and Workshop, Metro Manila (tentative)
- 20-22 September 2011 – Indonesia National Consultation and Workshop, Jakarta
- 27-29 September 2011 – Malaysia National Consultation and Workshop, Kota Kinabalu

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