



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



National Workshop on
**Fisheries Management
Inventory (FMInv)**

28 – 30 July 2025
BOBP-IGO Secretariat, Chennai



1. Background

Fish stocks in assessed and managed fisheries are in better condition than stocks in unassessed and unmanaged fisheries. There is also a high correlation between fishery management intensity and outcomes such as stock status. Following a recommendation from the First Session of the Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management of the Committee on Fisheries (<https://www.fao.org/3/cd0256t/cd0256t.pdf>) the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has been developing a global process and tool to gather information on current practices for assessment and management of fisheries aimed at empowering fishery managers to improve sustainability. In this context, the FAO initiated information collection for preparation of Fishery Management Inventory (FMIInv) to share best practices for fisheries assessment and management and to understand “what is working where” in terms of fishery management measures.

In this context, FMIInv is a knowledge production and management tool, which provides information from case studies in a structured manner. It provides appropriate management options based on the fishery's situation/context, and can be used as a tool which fishery managers can refer and use by themselves. The objective of FMIInv is to allow fishery managers, fishers and other stakeholders to access information on other management systems and measures, and their effectiveness or not in achieving the intended objectives. This database is the first step to understanding the context and potential pathways for improvement, and ultimately contribute to the development of management plans in line with the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management.

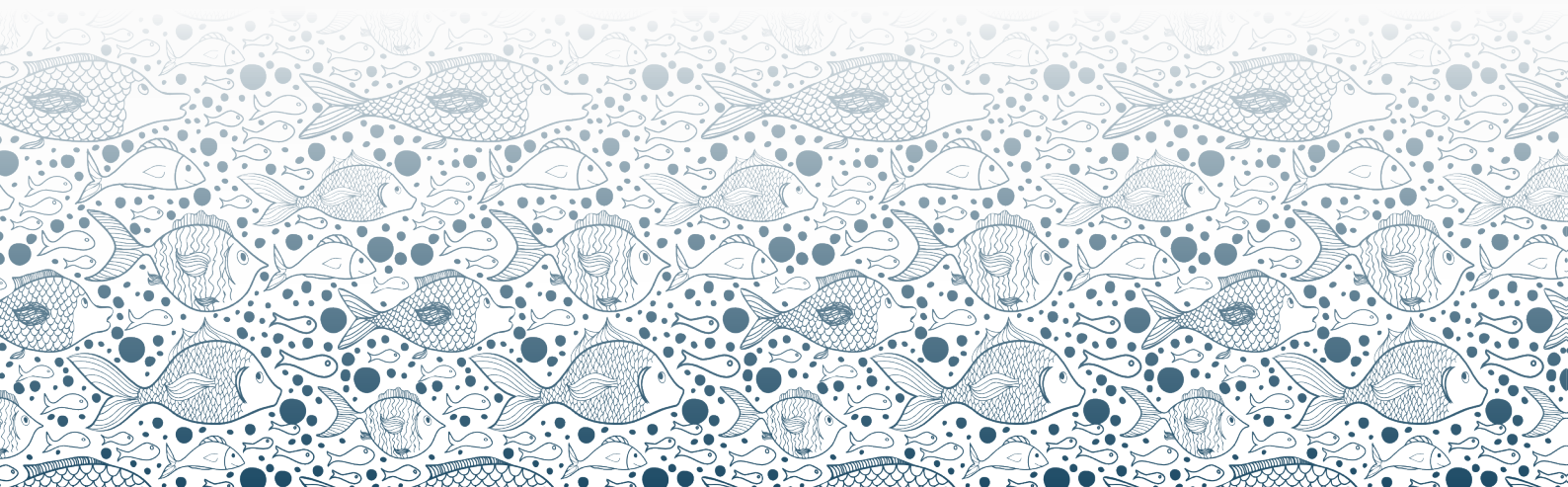
2. FMIInv Pilot Phase: FAO and BOBP-IGO Partnership

The Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO), set up in 2003, is a regional fisheries body, mandated to strengthen cooperation in regional fisheries management.

BOBP-IGO partnered with the FAO during the pilot phase of FMIInv data compilation for selected fisheries in its member countries (Bangladesh, India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka). BOBP-IGO adopted the data template developed by FAO and contributed in developing the database for 21 fisheries, covering a wide spectrum of fishery types, management systems, and management measures from the four countries, which was periodically reviewed and finalized by the FAO. The required information was collected from researchers, managers, and other stakeholders associated with fisheries (e.g., through literature surveys, interviews and questionnaires).

3. FMIInv Phase II: Developing a Validated FMIInv Database

Building on the information collected in pilot phase, FAO and BOBP-IGO propose to develop a fully validated database for shortlisted fisheries, through a participatory process involving all stakeholders. In this connection, National Workshops are planned to review the implementation of current fisheries management plans or interventions for three or four fisheries in each country.



From a series of discussions with experts from the FAO, BOBP-IGO and other stakeholders, the following four fisheries have been shortlisted for the workshop:

- (i) Ashtamudi Lake Short-Neck Clam Fishery, Kerala**
- (ii) Palk Bay Blue Swimming Crab Fishery, Tamil Nadu**
- (iii) Lakshadweep Islands Tuna Livebait Fishery**
- (iv) West Bengal Hilsa Fishery**

Fisheries managers, researchers, fishers and other stakeholders with reasonable knowledge and hands-on experience on the identified fishery will be reviewing the fishery using a set of structured questions and hold discussions among themselves to draw practical insights on the fisheries management.

4. Overview of National Workshop

4.1. Specific objectives

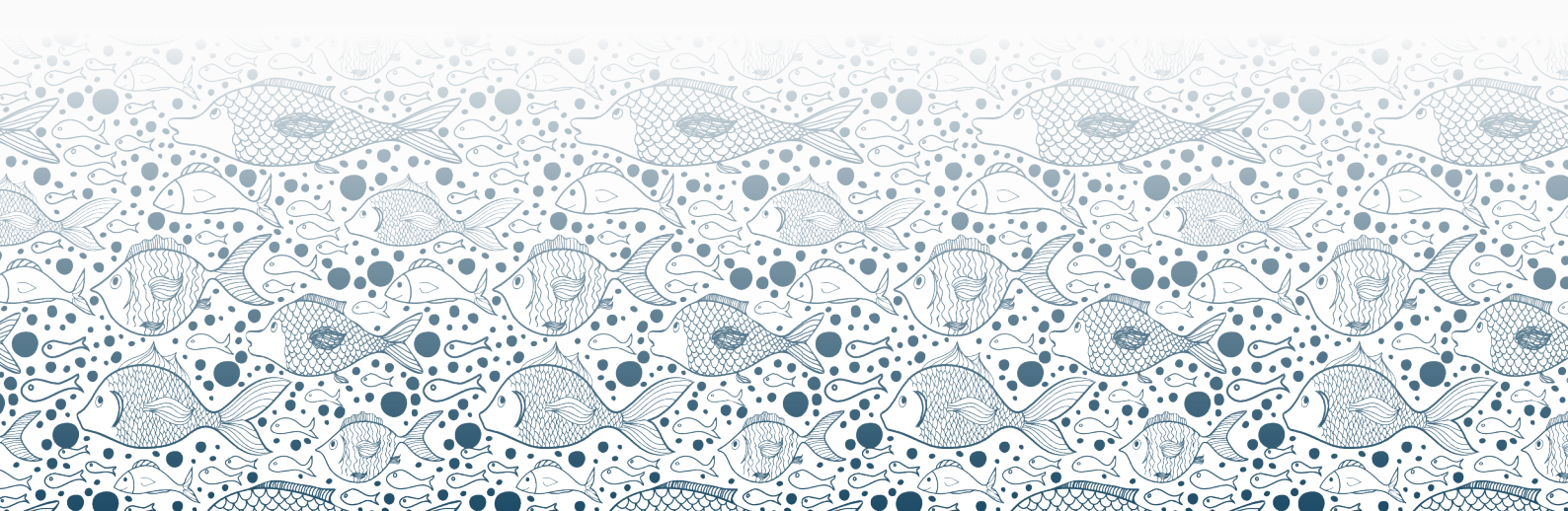
- To understand the implementation challenges of current fishery management plans/measures through participatory assessment and cross-learning among fishery managers, researchers, and stakeholders.
- To foster inclusive dialogue among fishers, managers, and NGOs to co-develop actionable solutions and finalize context-specific management actions for sustainable and participatory fisheries governance.

4.2. Key benefits to participating stakeholders

- Opportunity to showcase the local management practices to global audience.
- By participating in the workshop, fishery managers and researchers will be able to reflect on the effectiveness of management plans and measures and explore how these can be improved through cross-learning.
- For fishers and other resource users, the workshop offers an opportunity to share fishery-related issues and opportunities to voice their opinions and aspirations regarding the changes needed from a management perspective.

4.3. Expected outcomes

- Document grassroots-level challenges in implementing management plans and measures for the respective fishery, and identify mutually agreed solutions for their effective implementation among different stakeholders.
- Facilitate conversations among various stakeholders including fishery managers, fishers, and NGOs to raise awareness about the importance of management plans and measures for sustainable fisheries management.



4.4 Agenda

- On 28th & 29th July 2025, Fisheries Managers and Researchers will discuss on the 4 short-listed fisheries in breakout groups.
- On 30th July 2025, Fishers, Researchers, NGOs will discuss on the 4 short-listed fisheries in breakout groups.

Resource persons from FAO and BOBP-IGO will facilitate the discussions of the breakout groups. The detailed Agenda is placed in this Prospectus.

4.5 Facilitators

FAO	Dr. Carlos Montero Castaño	<i>Fishery Officer, NFIFM Assessment and Management, Rome</i>
	Dr. Varun Tandon	<i>Fisheries Consultant, NFIFL, Rome</i>
BOBP-IGO	Dr. E. Vivekanandan	<i>Senior Scientific Consultant, Chennai</i>
	Dr. K. Sunil Mohamed	<i>Chair, Sustainable Seafood Network of India (SSNI), Kochi</i>
	Dr. P.S. Ananthan	<i>BOB- Fellow (Social Science) & Principal Scientist, ICAR- Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai</i>

4.6 Participants

Fishery managers involved in implementing management plans and measures, researchers involved in developing these plans and measures, and fishers/NGOs engaged in following and supporting these plans at the grassroots level.



Provisional Agenda

Venue: BOBP-IGO Secretariat, Chennai

Session I (Fisheries Managers & Researchers)

28 July 2025

Time	Agenda
09:30-09:45	Welcome, introduction of participants
09:45-10:15	- Overview of the FMInv project and tool - Overview of the FMInv Workshop
10:15-11:00	National fisheries policies & legislations - Presentation by BOBP - Participants interaction
11:00-11:20	Morning tea
11:20-13:00	Breakout group discussion on implementation of management plans & management measures
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	Breakout group discussion on implementation of management plans & management measures (continued)
15:30-15:50	Afternoon tea
15:50-17:00	Breakout group discussion on implementation of management plans & management measures (continued)
17:00	Close for the day

29 July 2025

Time	Agenda
09:30-11:00	Breakout group discussion on implementation of management plans & management measures (continued)
11:00-11:20	Morning tea
11:20-13:00	Breakout group discussion on implementation of management plans & management measures (continued)
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	Plenary session & close for the day
15:30-15:50	Parting tea

Session II (Fishers & Researchers)

30 July 2025

Time	Agenda
09:30-09:45	Welcome, introduction of participants
09:45-10:00	- Overview of the FMInv project and tool - Overview of the FMInv Workshop
10:00-10:30	National fisheries policies & legislations - Presentation by BOBP - Participants interaction

Time	Agenda
10:30-11:00	Breakout group discussion on implementation of management plans & management measures
11:00-11:20	Morning tea
11:20-13:00	Breakout group discussion on implementation of management plans & management measures (continued)
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	Breakout group discussion on implementation of management plans & management measures (continued)
15:30-15:50	Afternoon tea
15:50-17:00	Plenary session & close for the day

Session III (FAO & BOBP)

31 July 2025

Time	Agenda
09:30-13.00	Workshop outcome discussion (FAO & BOBP)



BOBP

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