

Annual Report 2012-13



Foreword

In 2013, the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO) has touched the first landmark of successfully completing a decade of service to the cause of sustainable fisheries development in the Bay of Bengal region. In the last ten years, the BOBP-IGO has not only turned out to be a showcase of regional cooperation, but also a 'success story' created by its member-countries and development partners. We salute their commitment to the growth and development of the Organisation.

This third edition of the Annual Report covering the period 2012-13 highlights the work carried out by the Secretariat as per the activities approved by the Governing Council at its Eighth Meeting held in Dhaka during September 2012. As per the decision of the Governing Council to move the reporting period from financial year (April – March) to calendar year (January – December), this edition of the Annual Report has an extended coverage of activities up to November 2013.

In our efforts to meet the objectives and targets set by the Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) 2010-2014, many activities were carried out in close collaboration with a number of institutions,

organisations and individuals from our member-countries and development partners, whom we would like to thank profusely. The funding received from the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is also greatly acknowledged.

Moving towards increased collaborative and participatory approach, this year the BOBP-IGO also forged partnerships with a number of development and funding organisations such as the World Bank, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Mangroves for Future and the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ). Besides, our networking with ground-level fisher associations and community-based organisations further strengthened with additional partnerships and collaborative arrangements.

Looking forward, we see a more challenging role in the region. The SPA 2014-18, once approved by the Governing Council at its Ninth Meeting, will begin from January 2014. It is hoped that this second phase of our five-yearly work programme will further help in meeting the aspirations of our member-countries as also of our development partners.

Yugraj Yadava
Director
BOBP-IGO



Annual Report 2012-13



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About us

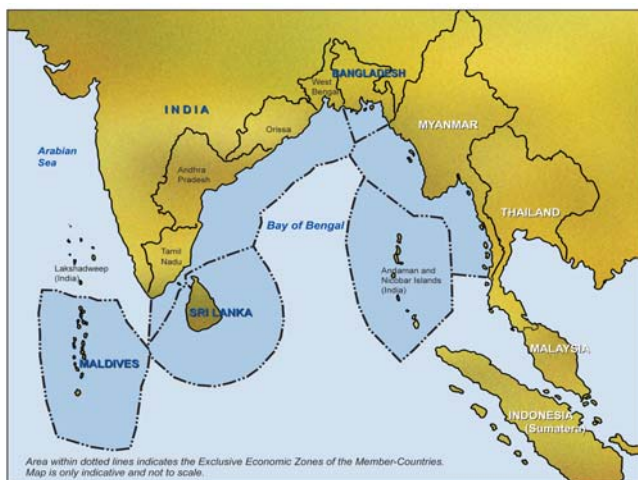
The Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO) is a regional fishery advisory body working in the Bay of Bengal (BoB) region. Its member-countries are Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka. The Organisation was established from the erstwhile Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP) – a field programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations implemented in the region during 1979-2003. Since then, the BOBP-IGO has directed its energies to consolidate the fruits of technological developments in marine fisheries and bringing in socio-ecological sustainability in the sector. The Organisation has been instrumental in popularizing the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (or the CCRF) and in addressing the safety of fishermen at sea and improving their social security net by ushering in many useful policy decisions in the member-countries. The Organisation is also playing a critical role in developing monitoring, control and surveillance system in its member-countries to deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and assisting member-countries in formulation of management plans for important

commercial species to ensure balance in exploitation of the resources.

What sets BOBP-IGO apart is the trust it enjoys from its member-countries as being the ‘Organisation where members can raise their concerns freely and equally and contribute wholeheartedly towards programme development and implementation’.

Working from its headquarters in Chennai, India with a small complement of staff and an ever-increasing network, the Organisation is accessible and approachable to all stakeholders: public and private around the year with skill and determination to address their needs and provide sound options to their problems.

In 2013, the Organisation completed a decade of its existence as an IGO. Looking back, the contributions made during these ten years have been substantial, contributing to useful programmes and activities and forging partnerships with a range of developmental and funding organizations. With the near completion of the first Strategic Plan of Action- SPA (2010 – 2014), the BOBP-IGO is now also embarking on its second SPA (2014-2018).







Vision & Mission

To promote and establish responsible fisheries in a time bound manner to ensure socio-economic well-being of the marine fishers and ecological security of fisheries resources in the Bay of Bengal while catalyzing the growth of the sector to substantiate economic development of the member-countries.



Activities

The BOBP-IGO undertakes the following tasks to achieve the objectives of its Vision & Mission:

- **Implement** programmes and activities which are of immediate requirement for sustainable development and management of marine fisheries;
- **Consolidate** the establishment of an expanded network to share the responsibility of fisheries management, training and information exchange essential to marine fisheries development in the region;
- **Assist** the Members in increasing the livelihood opportunities and improving the quality of life of small-scale fishers in the region;
- **Increase** awareness and knowledge of the needs, benefits and practices of marine fisheries management;
- **Assist** the Members in harmonization of policy and legal framework necessary for sustainable development and management of marine fisheries resources of the region;
- **Train and upgrade** core personnel needed for marine fisheries planning, research, training, extension and development;
- **Establish** a regional information system to provide appropriate information for development, planning, research and training;
- **Assist** the Members in strengthening their national capabilities in development and management of marine fisheries;
- **Transfer** to the Members appropriate technologies and techniques for development of small-scale fisheries;
- **Promote** regional self-reliance in small-scale fisheries development through Technical

Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC) and facilitate the exchange of national experts, technical know-how and information within the framework of TCDC;

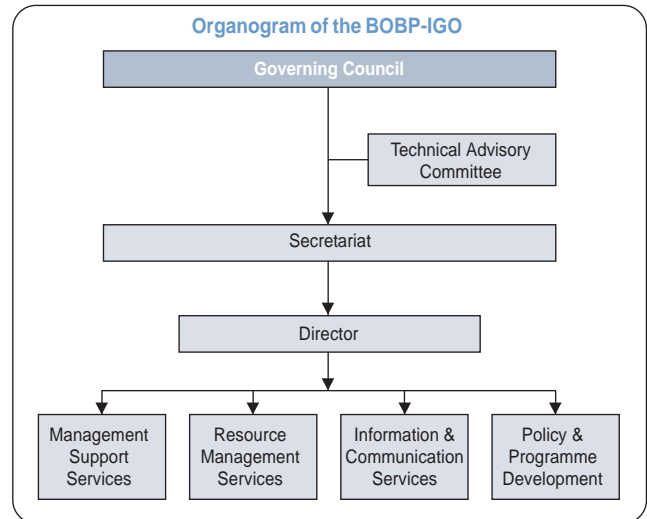
- **Develop** programmes for the promotion of women's participation in marine fisheries development at all levels;
- **Assist** the Members in feasibility studies and project formulation; and
- **Undertake** such other activities related to the objectives of the Organisation as may be approved by the Governing Council.





Organisational structure

The BOBP-IGO is a tri-layered organisation headed by the Governing Council drawn from the constituent Ministry/ Department of Fisheries of the four member-countries. The Governing Council is the apex body of the Organisation and functions through the BOBP-IGO Secretariat located in Chennai, India. The Secretariat is headed by the Director, appointed by the Governing Council, and professional and administrative staff. To help the Governing Council and the Secretariat in designing the work plan and undertake performance evaluation, the Governing Council has appointed the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the BOBP-IGO. The TAC comprises leading marine fisheries research institutes/organisations of the respective member-countries. The TAC meets once in a year to draw up and evaluate the work plan and submits its recommendations to the Governing Council for review and approval.



Strategic Plan of Action, 2010-14

The *Strategic Plan of Action, 2010-2014* (SPA: 2010-14) of the BOBP-IGO was developed and adopted during the Sixth Meeting of the Governing Council of the BOBP-IGO in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 2010. Six areas were identified based on discussions with various stakeholders in the member-countries. These areas are:

- (i) ***Improving Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) of fishery resources in the member-countries. This also includes formulation of Management Plans for commercially/biologically important fish stocks in the region;***
- (ii) ***Safety at Sea for artisanal and small-scale Fishermen;***
- (iii) ***Taking the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries to the grassroots level;***
- (iv) ***Improving health and hygiene in fisheries;***
- (v) ***Adapting to climate change; and***
- (vi) ***Livelihood enhancement for small-scale and artisanal fishers.***

Strategic Plan of Action, 2014-18

The Governing Council at its Eighth Meeting reviewed the progress made under SPA: 2010-14 and advised the Secretariat for preparation of SPA: 2014-18. The SPA: 2014-18 will begin from January 2014 and like its first edition would be proposed for a period of five years *i.e.* ending by December 2018. A major difference between SPA: 2010-14 and SPA: 2014-18 is that the latter one is designed in a project mode with the ultimate objective or goal of setting up of an “***Enabling environment for sustainable fisheries governance in the region***”. The activity matrix includes capacity enhancement, improving fisheries management both at national and regional levels, improving governance of critical habitats, increasing returns from fisheries and livelihood security and also greening the sector. This activity matrix will hopefully produce the following outputs, which will contribute to the overall objective or goal of the SPA: 2014-18. The BOBP-IGO plans to execute the SPA: 2014-18 with leverages from its existing partnerships and with other regional and international organisations.

The expected outputs of SPA: 2014-18

Output 1	<i>Ecosystem-based fisheries management principles are established in fisheries management norms.</i>
Output 2	<i>Returns from fisheries operations are optimized.</i>
Output 3	<i>Human resources in fisheries management agencies have improved.</i>
Output 4	<i>Fisheries livelihoods are secured and they have adequate social security cover.</i>
Output 5	<i>Stakeholders are well-informed about national and international policies and are taking active part in consultative process across genders and social groups.</i>
Output 6	<i>Ecological security of fisheries resources is ensured and green fishing is promoted.</i>

The proposed SPA: 2014-18 was reviewed and endorsed by the Technical Advisory Committee of the BOBP-IGO at its Eighth Meeting (Dhaka, Bangladesh; September 2013) and is now waiting final review and endorsement from the Governing Council.

Time-map for activities proposed in the Strategic Plan of Action, 2010-14

Area	Activities	2010	2011		2012		2013		2014	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Improving Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) of fishery resources in the member-countries. Formulation of Management Plans for commercially/ biologically important fish stocks in the region.	National MCS Plans of Action (Reports).									
	Formulation of Regional MCS Programme.									
	Review of implementation.									
	National Programme for commercially- important fisheries.									
	Regional Programme for commercially-important fisheries.									
	Review of implementation.									
Safety at Sea for artisanal and small-scale fishermen.	Awareness campaign.									
	Developing accident reporting mechanism.									
	Implementation.									
Taking the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries to the grassroots level.	Publication of CCRF+ Technical Guidelines in vernacular.									
	Training for Fisheries Officials on CCRF.									
	Awareness campaigns.									
	Adaptation of the CCRF to meet local needs.									
Improving health and hygiene in fisheries.	Documentation of existing fish handling practices.									
	Analysis of information.									
	Development of training/ policy modules.									
	Implementation.									
Adapting to climate change.	Networking with research institutions.									
	National meetings.									
	Regional meeting.									
Livelihood enhancement for small-scale and artisanal fishers.	Training and advocacy (part of CCRF).									
	Documentation of existing livelihood programmes.									
	Analysis of information.									
	Pilot-scale implementation.									
	Policy suggestion.									



Status of marine fisheries in the BOBP region

The BOBP region

The BOBP region for the purpose of this report is defined as the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) of the four member-countries of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO) viz., Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka (Map on page 5). This area mostly falls under the Food and Agricultural Organization's (FAO) Statistical area 57 and to some extent in area 51 (as in the case of Maldives). Together, these countries have a jurisdiction of about half of the area of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem.

Fisheries production

The total marine fisheries production from the BOBP region has increased substantially from 4.347 million tonnes (mt) in 2010 to 4.929 mt in 2011. This is largely due to increasing production in Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka where marine fisheries production has grown by 3-4 percent per annum during 2000-11. However, the marginal recovery observed in case of Maldives during 2009-10 did not sustain and production declined from 0.122 mt in 2010 to 0.120 mt in 2011. While in case of Sri Lanka, the upward trend seems to be strengthening and production



increased from 0.293 mt in 2009 to 0.332 in 2010 and further to 0.409 mt (estimated) in 2011. In case of India, the data reported by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi shows a remarkable turnaround in 2011 after flattening of the production during 2008-10. Marine capture fisheries production in India has increased from 3.346 mt in 2010 to 3.820 mt in 2011, that is by a margin of 0.474 mt. In case of Bangladesh, marine capture fisheries production has increased from 0.546 mt in 2010 to 0.578 mt in 2011 (Figures 1-4; below and on next page).

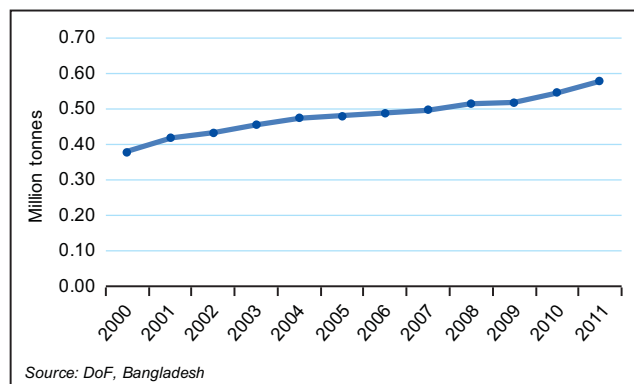


Fig. 1: Marine fisheries production in Bangladesh

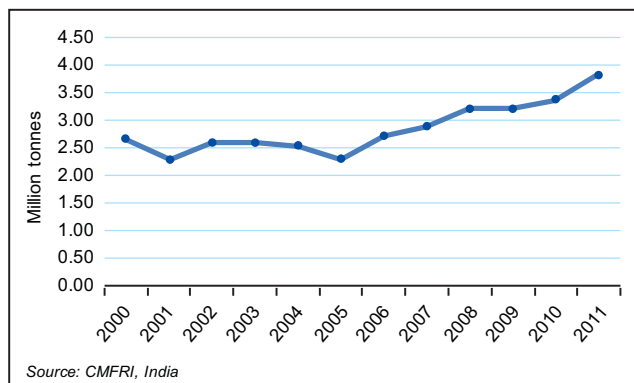


Fig. 2: Marine fisheries production in India

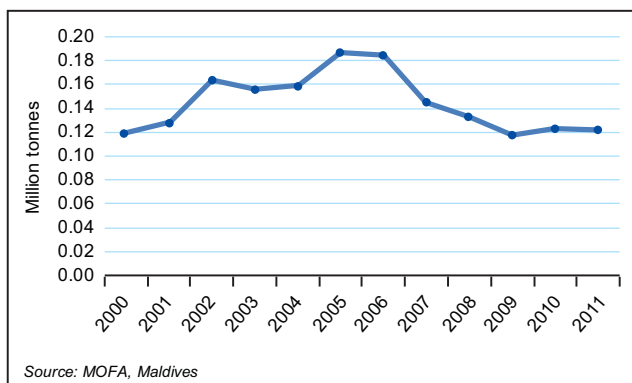


Fig. 3: Marine fisheries production in the Maldives

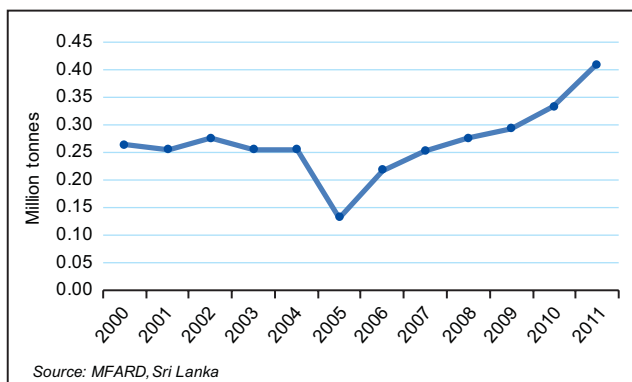


Fig. 4: Marine fisheries production in Sri Lanka



Catch composition

At disaggregated level, Indian oil sardine contributed the largest share of catch during 2000-11. Hilsa, the national fish of Bangladesh, contributed about 5.64 percent of the total landings in the region. However, disaggregated analysis shows that for many species growth has become nearly constant or negative during 2000-11. Production of oil sardine seems to be stabilizing around 0.304 mt with an annual growth rate of 1.18 percent. However, in case of sharks, skates and rays, a negative growth of (-) 2.45 percent is observed. Decline in shark catch coupled with increasing share of small pelagic could be a sign of concern. However, a decline in shark catch may also be in part due to banning of shark catch in the Maldives and some restrictions imposed in India and Sri Lanka in the recent period. In case of tuna fishery, there is a marginal decline in skipjack tuna landings at (-) 0.43 percent per annum. However, landings of yellow fin tuna have increased at 6 percent per annum. The species that contributed most to the development of bottom water trawling in the region, the giant tiger prawn, has contributed about 5 percent to the total landings during this period. However, from near stagnation of the fishery, it seems that the production has reached its limit.

Lack of progress in identification of low value marine fishes remains a concern both from ecological and economic perspectives. From ecological perspective, this may lead to overlooking of loss of biodiversity in marine waters and from economic perspective, it indicates the need for more work on value addition and product development as some species clubbed under the heading 'commercially low value' could also be due to lack of knowledge on these species (Table 1 on facing page).

Marine capture fisheries form an important source of livelihoods along the coastline. South Asia, especially the BOBP-IGO member-countries are host to the largest

**Table 1: Top 25 species in terms of share in landings during 2000-11
in the BOBP region**

Species	Average landings during 2000-11 (tonnes)	Share in total landing (%)	Exponential Growth (%)
Marine fishes (unidentified)	9,07,170.00	23.23	NA
Indian oil sardine	3,04,423.83	7.79	1.18
Croakers, drums not elsewhere included (<i>nei</i>)	2,47,260.25	6.33	-0.78
Hilsa shad	2,20,190.75	5.64	2.74
Bombay-duck	1,92,620.58	4.93	4.16
Clupeoids <i>nei</i>	1,34,389.25	3.44	4.69
Giant tiger prawn	1,85,039.83	4.74	0.48
Skipjack tuna	1,76,967.17	4.53	-0.43
Natantian decapods <i>nei</i>	1,35,470.17	3.47	-0.22
Hairtails, scabbard fishes <i>nei</i>	1,14,776.33	2.94	0.55
Marine crustaceans <i>nei</i>	78,178.67	2.00	7.09
Anchovies, etc. <i>nei</i>	90,507.58	2.32	4.53
Percoids <i>nei</i>	99,086.67	2.54	4.65
Sea catfishes <i>nei</i>	1,00,594.33	2.58	4.39
Indian mackerel	66,109.42	1.69	4.18
Carangids <i>nei</i>	62,049.33	1.59	13.12
Cephalopods <i>nei</i>	79,933.50	2.05	0.89
Yellowfin tuna	64,118.00	1.64	6.00
Sharks, rays, skates, etc. <i>nei</i>	90,591.00	2.32	-2.45
Jacks, crevalles <i>nei</i>	52,915.92	1.35	5.16
Marine crabs <i>nei</i>	30,452.67	0.78	10.37
Ponyfishes (=Slipmouths) <i>nei</i>	57,891.75	1.48	1.17
Butterfishes, pomfrets <i>nei</i>	36,522.00	0.94	5.51
Mulletts <i>nei</i>	26,449.42	0.68	8.55
Flatfishes <i>nei</i>	26,088.67	0.67	6.22

Source: Estimated from FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, Statistics and Information Service FishStatJ: Universal software for fishery statistical time series. Copyright 2011.

Nei: Not elsewhere included.

concentration of small-scale fisheries in the world. Presently, about 1.70 million people are actively going for fishing in the region (including collection of fish seed, excluding fish marketing and other support activities). The number of active fishers in the region has grown by about one percent per year during 2003-12. In Sri Lanka, the number of active fishers has increased by 4.5 percent per year during 2004-12 and in case of India by 2.2 percent during 2005-10. In case of Bangladesh, the number of fishers increased marginally from 0.510 million to 0.516 million. However, in case of Maldives the number of active fishers is decreasing gradually, possibly due to structural changes in the economy (increasing scope in the service sector) and changing demography (improvement in education and the younger generation seeking alternative livelihoods) (Table 2).

Table 2: Growth in number of active fisherfolk in the BOBP region

Country	Base year	Number	Latest year	Number	Growth
Bangladesh(1)	2007	5 10 000	2011	5 16 000	0.3%
India (2)	2005	9 01 815	2010	10 02 723	2.2%
Maldives (3)	2003	14 891	2012	10 264	-3.5%
Sri Lanka (4)	2004	1 32 600	2012	1 80 693	4.5%
BOBP	2003	15 47 019	2012	16 97 040	1.1%

Sources:

(1) *Compendiums of Department of Fisheries, Government of Bangladesh.*

(2) *National Marine Fisheries Censuses 2005, 2010.*

(3) *Basic Fisheries Statistics, Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture, Government of Maldives.*

(4) *Ministry & Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development, Government of Sri Lanka.*

Fishing fleet

As reported earlier, a tradeoff between number and power seems to be at play in the region. In Bangladesh, the number of fishing trawlers has increased from 133 in 2007 to 162 in 2011. In India, the number of mechanized fishing vessels has increased by 13 006 between 2005 and 2010



and in Sri Lanka, the multi-day fishing vessels have increased from 2 460 in 2007 to 3 858 in recent years. In case of Maldives, in consonance with the decreasing population of active fishers, the number of fishing vessels is also on the decline. Maldives provides the data for number of fishing vessels engaged during a particular year and the information shows that, in total, the number of fishing vessels has declined from 3 366 in 2006 to 3 047 in 2009 and further to 838 in 2011. However, in the Maldives while the number of fishing vessels has come down, the average size (overall length) of the vessels has increased manifold.

During the corresponding period, the number of non-motorized vessels in India has nearly halved and thus the total number of fishing vessels has also reduced. In case of Sri Lanka, there is a drastic reduction in the ranks of inboard (engine) single-day fishing vessels, possibly due to the national policy approach towards rationalization of fishing fleet with emphasis on optimizing production from offshore fisheries (Table 3 on age 21).

A note on fisheries production data

For preparation of the earlier status reports, we have used information disseminated by FAO through the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, Statistics and Information Service FishStatJ: Universal software for fishery statistical time-series. Member-countries report their fisheries-related data to FAO, which is then further cleaned at the FAO level to make the reporting homogenous in accordance with its policies. For example, FAO reports data for calendar year while many countries collect data for financial year (April to March). Therefore, there may be some differences in the country reporting and information extracted from the database.

Apart from India, in all the other BOBP-IGO member-countries the concerned Ministry/Department directly collects and reports the data. In case of India, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

(DAHD&F) collects the data from the concerned Department of Fisheries (DoF) of the coastal States and Union Territories. Apart from this, the CMFRI, Kochi also collects and reports the marine catch statistics.

While ideally these two reporting should be similar, in practice there is a significant difference in the trajectories and magnitude of the two reports. FAO is likely to use the data reported by the DAHD&F and while there is some similarity in the magnitude of FAO and DAHD&F data,





Table 3: Changing composition of fishing vessels in the BOBP region

Country/Type of fishing vessel	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Growth (%)
Bangladesh						
Trawler	133	141	167	186	162	6.95
Mechanized	21 433	21 433	26 859	21 016	21 726	0.08
Non mechanized	22 527	22 527	23 329	22 120	23 963	1.06
Total	44 093	44 101	50 355	43 322	45 851	0.61
India (2005 & 2010)						
Mechanized	59 743			72749		4.35
Motorized	76 748			73410		-0.87
Non-motorized	1 07 448			52982		-10.14
Total	2 43 939			1 99 141		-3.67
Maldives (2006 2008-09)						
Mechanized Masdhoni	1 375	1 252	1 304	822	770	-14.62
Mechanized vadhu dhoni	351	357	366	36	21	-54.74
Sailing Masdhoni	111	112	25	20	15	-43.59
Sailing vadhu dhoni	729	635	573	11	7	-73.68
Mechanized Rowing boats	85	131	162	17	25	-36.17
Rowing boats	715	665	617			-7.11
Total	3 366	3 152	3 047	906	838	-4.86
Sri Lanka						
Multi-day Boats	2 460	2 809	2 934	3 346	3 858	11.35
Inboard Single Day Boats	1 060	1 940	958	1 177	953	-6.88
Outboard Motor FRP Boats	15 200	14 747	17 193	18 770	19 709	7.90
Motorized Traditional Boats	1 680	3 179	2 126	2 680	1 842	0.13
Non-motorized Traditional Boats	16 640	17 042	18 243	20 165	19 485	4.96
Total	37 040	39 717	41 454	46 138	45 847	5.93
Region						
Powered	1 80 268			1 94 209		1.55
Non-powered	1 48 170			95 298		-7.14

Source: As in Table 2.



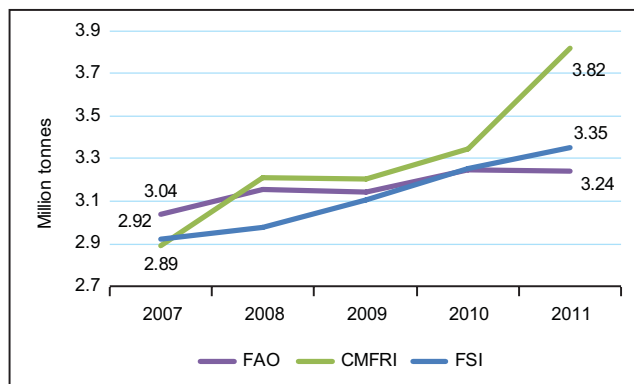


Fig. 5: Differences in the marine fisheries production reported by various agencies in India

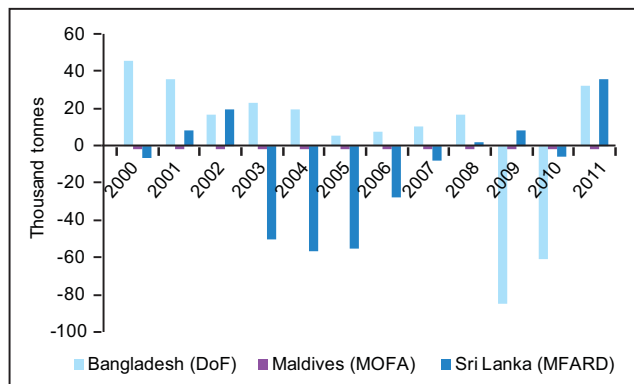


Fig. 6: Difference in production in official statistics and FAO Fishstat J Database

their growth trajectories seems to be different. As per CMFRI estimate, there is rapid growth in fisheries production and the DAHD&F data also indicates the same but with lesser magnitude. The FAO data on the contrary suggest a staggering growth (Figure 5).

It is now suggested by the Government of India to use data only from CMFRI. A similar discrepancy is also observed in Bangladesh in the data reported by FAO and the DoF,

especially during the recent years. However, in case of Bangladesh, the DoF is the sole authority, which collects data and also reports to FAO. There are minor discrepancies in the case of Maldives and Sri Lanka data also, which can be attributed to the filtering errors (Figure 6).

As mentioned earlier, the major problem faced by the Secretariat in dealing with different sets of data is the variation they exhibit in trend. For example, for the current reporting period, the FAO data shows decline in production while the data reported by the member-countries shows an increase (Figure 7).

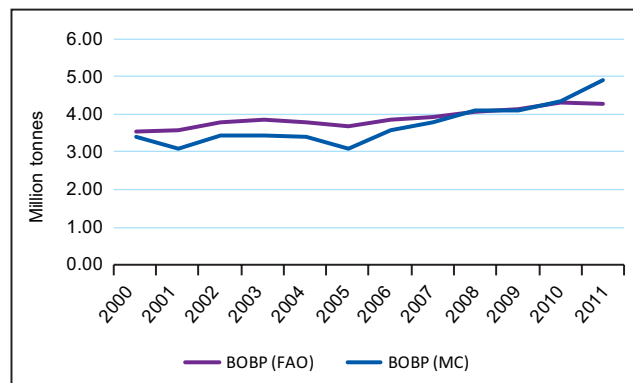


Fig. 7: Different types of trend shown by the two sets of data

In conclusion, it may be mentioned that since the FAO database is used by the global community, it is necessary to ensure that national positions are timely reported and properly reflected in the database. As FAO uses standard statistical methods to clean and filter the reported data, member-countries while reporting may also consider the FAO reporting format so that the reporting matches the FAO criterion.



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Activities and performance: 2012-13

The Governing Council at its Eighth Meeting held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in September 2012 had approved the following activities apart from need-based programmes and other complimentary services (Table 4 on page 26). These activities are spread in three domains: capacity building and information dissemination; fisheries resource management and improving safety at sea for small-scale fishers in the region.

1. Capacity building and information dissemination

Major achievements

- ***Launching of 'Island of Maldives' website on 16 September 2013.***
- ***Mapping of fish markets in Dhaka, Bangladesh.***
- ***Successful completion of Regional Training Programme on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF).***
- ***Publication of CCRF Technical Guidelines in Sinhala Language.***
- ***Policy support during meetings of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and the FAO Committee on Fisheries.***



Table 4: Approved activities of BOBP-IGO for April 2012 to March 2013

Capacity-Building and Information Services	Fisheries Resource Management	Safety at Sea for Small-scale Fisheries
<p>Training Programme for Junior and Middle-Level Fisheries Staff of member-countries on implementation of the CCRF.</p> <p>Translation of the Technical Guidelines of the 1995 FAO CCRF.</p> <p>Regional Conference on Formalization of Cooperation between the BOBP-IGO and Fisheries Research Institutes.</p> <p>Capacity building programmes for improving data collection and traceability.</p> <p>Capacity building for improving food safety.</p> <p>Information dissemination.</p> <p>Preparation of interactive map of fisheries/islands in the Maldives.</p>	<p>Strategic Consultation on Scope of Fisheries Management in the Bay of Bengal Region.</p> <p>Organization of Second Regional Consultation on MCS.</p> <p>Organization of the 3rd Regional Consultation on Preparation of Management Plans for Hilsa and Shark Fisheries.</p> <p>Organization of the 2nd and 3rd Bi-National Workshops on Gulf of Mannar Marine Ecosystem.</p> <p>Preparation of awareness material for implementation of grouper fisheries (Maldives).</p> <p>Scoping study on the status of tiger shrimp brood stock fishery.</p>	<p>Organization of the Fifth International Conference on Fishing Industry Safety and Health (IFISH-5).</p> <p>International Technical Conference on 'Met-Ocean Data and Tsunami Buoys in the Northern Indian Ocean Region'.</p> <p>Trial of the improved model fishing boats and extension to additional areas in Tamil Nadu, India.</p> <p>Provision and analysis of data to identify the causes of accidents.</p> <p>Technical support to member-countries to implement sea safety programmes.</p>

Taking the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries to the grassroots

The CCRF contains international best practices on rights and duties of a wide range of stakeholders. Through this programme, the Organisation is aiming at raising the standard of fisheries governance through awareness building, knowledge creation and capacity enhancement. The major activities carried out under this programme include a regional training course for junior and middle level fisheries officials from developing countries on CCRF, publication of vernacular versions of CCRF and its Technical Guidelines (TGs) and community- level awareness programmes.

Regional Training Programme on CCRF, 19 Jan – 02 Feb 2013

The Regional Training Programme for junior and middle-level fisheries officials on CCRF (RTC-CCRF) was instituted in 2008. The 5th RTC-CCRF was held during 19 January to 02 February 2013 in cooperation with the

Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project (BOBLME). 24 participants, 4 each from Bangladesh, Maldives, Myanmar and Sri Lanka; 5 from India and 3 from Indonesia took part. The objective of the programme was to cultivate the skills of each participant in analyzing fisheries problems from an ecosystem perspective and international best practices. This was achieved through a series of interactive



lectures, field programmes, group exercises and continual evaluation.

Along with the course activities, the participant were exposed to the vibrancy of Indian coastal areas as they traveled to different parts of southern India, visiting fishing hamlets and meeting with fishers and their associations. In evaluating the programme, all the participants highly recommended the programme to their parent organizations. So far, a total of 91 participants from the member-countries of the BOBP-IGO, Indonesia and Myanmar have been trained under the programme. The RTC-CCRF is now receiving wide acclaim and most of our past trainees are holding larger responsibilities in their parent organizations.

Publishing vernacular versions of the CCRF and its TGs

Continuing the activity of translating and publishing the CCRF documents in vernacular, TGs on Integration of Fisheries into Coastal Area Management (TG-3); Fisheries Management (TG-4) and Guidebooks on 'Stopping illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing' and International Plans of Action (IPOA) for reducing incidental catch of seabirds in longline fisheries, conservation and management of sharks and the management of fishing capacity were translated and published in Sinhala language. These TGs and other guidebooks including the IPOAs will be useful for Sri Lanka. The translation of these and other TGs in Dhivehi, Sinhalese and in Telugu (for the Indian East Coast State of

Andhra Pradesh) are in progress. Last year, the Secretariat had printed a set of TGs in Tamil and Malayalam language and provided copies to the corresponding Departments of Fisheries (DoF) for distribution in India and Sri Lanka.

Regional Conference on Formalization of Cooperation between BOBP-IGO and Regional Fisheries Research Institutes (RFRIs)

This activity was proposed to establish mechanisms for exchange of information, collaborative research programmes, training of staffs, etc to deal with the emerging regional issues, such as resource depletion, climate change, post-harvest and developing small-scale fisheries (SSF). However, during discussions with the RFRIs and subsequently during discussions at TAC-7, the issues of ensuring ethical use of data and funding constraints were mentioned. Further, it was also felt that through ongoing collaborative programmes on management of hilsa and shark fishery and governance of Gulf of Mannar (GoM), experience will be gained on mutual cooperation of RFRIs and such experience could then be used to develop a suitable mechanism for formalizing mutual cooperation between the RFRIs and with the BOBP-IGO.





1. Capacity-building programmes for improving data collection

Regional Workshop on Best Practices for Instruments and Methods of Ocean Observation, 19-21 November, 2012

The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT, Chennai) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences-Government of India, in association with the BOBP-IGO and the Joint WMO-IOC Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) organized a Regional Workshop on “The Best Practices for Instruments and Methods of Ocean Observation” in Chennai, India from 19 to 21 November, 2012. The Workshop was one of the first of its kind in bringing together researchers, oceanographers and engineers from the Bay of Bengal region and outside to interact with R&D Managers of reputed manufacturers involved in development of instruments related to Ocean Observation Systems (OOS). 68 participants from 10 countries including the member-countries of the BOBP-IGO, R&D institutions and industry took part.

An awareness building poster against vandalism of Tsunami and Weather Data Buoys ‘*Buoys are for your safety – do not tamper or damage*’ was also produced during the occasion. This multi-lingual poster is now being circulated to concerned agencies in countries in the Northern Indian Ocean to place in coastal areas, landing centers and data buoys to strengthen public opinion to prevent vandalism. A ‘*Training Manual on Best Practices for Instruments and Methods of Ocean Observation*’ was also published on this occasion.

Capacity building programme for improving food safety

The Secretariat in cooperation with the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture (MOFA), Government of Maldives published two guidebooks on tuna fisheries in Dhivehi language. The first guidebook, ‘Guidebook on Tuna Sampling’ was published in July 2012 and the second guidebook, ‘Guidebook on Tuna Handling’ was published in September 2012. It deals with both on-board and at landing site handling of tuna fishery. The Secretariat has requested MOFA for translating the book in English. Tuna fishery



is gaining new heights in the region and such a book will be useful for other member-countries of the BOBP-IGO in improving their capacity in tuna handling and marketing.

Since 2009, the BOBP-IGO has taken a programme on 'Safe Fish' that aims at Improving health and hygiene in fisheries in the member-countries. The strategy adopted for this programme is to first document the existing fish handling practices audio-visually, analyze the information to identify critical areas of improvement and then structure training programmes and policy interventions to address them. Documentation has been completed in all the member-countries and the Secretariat is now involved in processing of the video footage to prepare an educational video on fish handling practices in the region.

Study visit of Bangladesh Shrimp and Fish Foundation

Based on a request from the Bangladesh Shrimp and Fish Foundation (BSFF), the Secretariat facilitated a study tour to see the development of shrimp farming, in particular the farming of whiteleg shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) in Southern India. The objective of the Study was to understand the advantages, benefits and risks as experienced by India in introducing and farming the SPF variety of whiteleg shrimp and the precautionary measures taken to avert any risks; Government policy on introduction of exotic shrimp in India; protocols required for introducing shrimp from external sources; procedures and required laboratory facilities and technical manpower to ensure rigorous quarantine checks on the imported shrimps; and information on the status of domestication and developing SPF shrimp brood stock and post larvae (PL) of *Penaeus monodon* and other shrimp species. The Team visited various shrimp farms in the coastal States of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh and held discussions with Government officials and the shrimp Industry, including processing units and exporters. The Team appreciated the arrangements made by the Organisation and said that

although they had earlier visited Vietnam, Thailand and the United States, their visit to India was most productive and will immensely help in preparing a strategy for further development of shrimp farming in Bangladesh.

Mapping fish markets in Dhaka

The BOBP-IGO since 2012 has undertaken a project on mapping of fish markets in its member-countries. After discussions with the member-countries, it was decided that initially mapping will be carried out in Chennai, India; Dhaka, Bangladesh; and Colombo, Sri Lanka. Such mapping will be useful for planners, traders and consumers and also for understanding the market coverage, designing transportation and cold chain facilities in future. The fish market maps are hosted on the BOBP-IGO website and are linked to a dynamic database making their periodical updates possible. In this reporting year, mapping of fish markets in Dhaka Metropolitan City area was completed (<http://bobpigo.org/fishmarket/dhaka>). Earlier during 2010-11, the Secretariat carried out a detailed study on fish markets in Chennai (http://bobpigo.org/html_site/fishmarket/index.htm). Similarly, one fish market in Colombo (Peliyagoda Fish Market) and the lone fish market in Malé city, Maldives has also been documented under the study.



Development of “Atolls of Maldives” website

During the Seventh Meeting of the Governing Council in Malé, Maldives in June 2011, the MOFA, Government of Maldives had suggested to develop a website detailing attributes of islands and atolls in the Maldives. During the Eighth Meeting of the Governing Council in Dhaka, Bangladesh, the work plan on development of the website was approved. Subsequently during March 2013, a team of officials from the Government of Maldives visited the Secretariat to finalize the modalities for creating the website. This was followed by a week-long training in July 2013 of a four member Maldivian team on data entry, hosting and maintenance of the website and then another onsite training in Malé in late August 2013. The website was finally launched on 16 September 2013 in Malé and can be accessed at <http://www.atollsofmaldives.gov.mv>.



Technical assistance to the member-countries

As per the directions of the Governing Council, the Secretariat analyzed the agenda of important international and regional conferences and provided advisory services to the member-countries.

The Sixteenth Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was held in Freemantle, Australia from 22 to 26 April 2012. Except Bangladesh, the other three member-countries attended the Session. Decisions taken at the IOTC are having far reaching implications for the member-countries as they are consolidating their tuna fisheries. The BOBP-IGO Secretariat analyzed the agenda for the 16th Session in the background of the objectives and the role played by IOTC and resource potential and prepared a detailed note on the agenda items and provided it to the Government of India. Similarly, the Government of Sri Lanka was assisted in preparing its draft National Plan on Sharks for placing at the IOTC Session.

The Thirtieth Session of COFI was held from 9 - 13 July, 2012 in Rome, Italy. The COFI is steadily emerging as a global forum for policy directions in fisheries. The Secretariat completed a thorough analysis of the agenda



items of COFI and shared it with the member-countries in accordance with the directions of the Governing Council. In October 2013, assistance was also provided to Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka at the Seventh Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture held in St Petersburg, Russian Federation.

Awareness building programmes: Celebrating the International Year of Coastal and Marine Biodiversity

To mark the 'International Year of Coastal and Marine Biodiversity' (2012), a set of two posters were published. The posters '*Save Coastal Biodiversity – Let Nature Thrive*' and '*Save Coastal Biodiversity – Better earth, better life, better tomorrow*' depict the importance of biodiversity in sustaining nature and importance of traditional knowledge in conservation of biodiversity. The poster '*Save Coastal Biodiversity – Let Nature Thrive*' was published in English and the poster on '*Save Coastal Biodiversity – Better earth, better life, better tomorrow*' was published in English, Bangla, Dhivehi, Sinhala and Tamil languages. The posters have been appreciated for their content and design in engaging the audience.

Information dissemination & social networking

BOBP-IGO @ YouTube

The YouTube channel of BOBP-IGO is gradually gaining popularity. Since 23 October 2010 to 30 November 2013, the channel has attracted 20 670 views and during the reporting period the channel attracted 13 400 views. The viewers are distributed not only in South Asia but also in Europe, Gulf and the USA. While initially the engine maintenance videos attracted the viewers, recently



Top 10 videos in BOBP-IGO @ You Tube

1.	Therukoothu (A Street Play)
2.	Seaweed Culture in Mandapam
3.	Improving Safety and Health of Fishing Communities (Safety at sea) : A Bay of Bengal Initiative
4.	Use of ice aboard fishing boats of Andhra Pradesh
5.	Maintaining long tail engines used by fishermen in India and Sri Lanka (Tamil version)
6.	Maintaining Marine Engines in Fishing Boats of Bangladesh (Bangla version)
7.	BOBP-IGO: Maintaining Marine Engines in Fishing Boats
8.	Cleaner fishing harbours in the Maldives
9.	Pollution in fishing harbours
10.	Maintaining long tail engines used by fishermen in India (Telugu version)

videos on Therukoothu, a Street Play in Tamil and video documentary on Seaweed Culture in Mandapam, India are attracting more views. Among the engine maintenance videos, vernacular versions in Tamil, Bangla and Telugu are attracting more views than the English versions. This highlights the importance of communication in vernacular to reach the people. The BOBP-IGO channel in YouTube can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/user/BOBPIGO>.

BOBP-IGO @Facebook (at www.facebook.com/BOBPIGO)

In our endeavor to keep connected with our colleagues around the world, the BOBP-IGO joined Facebook in February, 2012. By the end November 2013, 244 fisheries professional, environmental enthusiasts from 24 countries across Asia, Europe and America are subscribing it. The Facebook page highlights events organized by the BOBP-IGO and important issues in fisheries and environment. The Secretariat is also assisting community-based fisheries organisations, the District



Fishermen Youth Welfare Association, Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India (www.facebook.com/DFYWA) and the Association of Deep Sea Going Artisanal Fishermen, Thoothoor, Tamil Nadu, India (www.facebook.com/ADSGAF) in setting up of their Facebook pages.

Library services and distribution of publications

The Secretariat regularly receives reprint orders and provides library services to host of organisations, research scholars, students and individuals from both within and outside the region. Besides, sets of publications (extra copies received from time to time from FAO and various other organisations on exchange basis or as gratis) are provided to various fisheries organisations in the member-countries. The Secretariat maintains one of best libraries in the World on the subject of small-scale fisheries.

Creation of digital library of visuals

The Organisation's visual archives have a collection of more than 100 000 images from the bygone era of 35 mm slides to the present days in the form of photographs, film negatives, positive slides, digital images. To save this invaluable heritage for posterity, the

BOBP-IGO and the BOBLME Project are collaborating in Digital Management Application that will help managing this huge collection of images in digital format.

The application so far contains details of more than 50 000 photos from 7 member-countries of the erstwhile BOBP, South East and Far East Asian Countries. It organizes the images in different categories such as location, event, date and photographer and also provides searchable keywords.



In addition, this application can also be used for modifying photographs. For developing this application, over 35 000 negatives and positive slides and digital images have been archived and all images can be downloaded with high resolution. The work is still continuing.

Publications

The BOBP-IGO since its beginning is using publications as a means to reach people and create awareness. The annual table calendar for the year 2013 was produced to mark 10 years of institutionalization of the BOBP-IGO. The 12 months of the year vividly depict the various activities undertaken by the Organisation facilitating development of the sector during the last decade.



Technical support

The BOBP-IGO is providing technical know-how to the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), India in formulating and implementing its activities, especially in the marine fisheries sector. Earlier, the Organisation assisted NFDB in modernizing a fish market in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh. Similarly, the Organisation also provided technical information on undertaking capacity building of SSF in sea safety/CCRF to the FAO Country Office in Bangladesh under the Emergency Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project implemented after the cyclone Sidr that hit coastal Bangladesh in November 2007.

Technical Details

Programming: HTML/Java Script, PHP

Database: MySQL

Web server: Apache

Architecture: MVC architecture.

2. Greening the fisheries sector – new initiative of the BOBP-IGO

Marine fisheries is one of the energy inefficient economic activity. According to a 2005 study, it has consumed about 1.2 percent of global fuel consumption and directly emitted more than 134 million tonnes of CO₂ in the atmosphere at an average rate of 1.7 t of CO₂ per tonne of live-weight landed product in 2000. Fishing grounds in which heavy fuel use was particularly widespread in 2000 included the western Pacific and adjacent seas, the Bering Sea, and coastal waters of the northeastern and southwestern Atlantic and the northern Indian Ocean. In case of India, it was estimated that for every tonne of fish caught, the CO₂ emission increased from 0.50 to 1.02 t during 1961-2010. Larger mechanized boats (with inboard engine) emitted 1.18 t CO₂/t of fish caught, and the smaller

motorized boats (with outboard motor) 0.59 t CO₂/t of fish caught. Among the mechanized craft, the trawlers emitted more CO₂ (1.43 t CO₂/t of fish) than the gillnetters, bagnetters, seiners, liners and dolnetters (0.56–1.07 t CO₂/t of fish).

However, there is scope to reduce CO₂ by setting emission norms and improving fuel efficiency of marine fishing boats. The 2012 FAO Report on the State of Fisheries and Aquaculture suggested that “The fishing sector should strive to further lower its fuel consumption and decrease ecosystem impacts... it is well demonstrated that through technological improvements, gear modifications and behavioral change, the fishing sector can substantially decrease the damage to aquatic ecosystems, reduce (GHG) emissions and lower operational costs for fuel without excessive negative impacts on fishing efficiency.”

Fuel consumption is particularly higher in multiday fishing vessels in which engines are used for (i) propulsion, (ii) maintaining auxiliary services such as lighting, charging of navigation and communication equipment, and (iii) precaution, fearing that it may be difficult to restart the

- 1 Tyedmers, P., R. Watson and D. Pauly. 2005. *Fueling global fishing fleets*. *AMBIO: a Journal of the Human Environment* 34(8): 635-638.
- 2 Vivekanandan E, V. V. Singh and J. K. Kizhakudan. 2013. Carbon footprint by marine fishing boats of India. *Current Science*, Vol. 105, No. 3, 10 August 2013.



engine, fishermen keep the engine running even during the idle time. In this regard the potentiality of solar energy has long been advocated as it can be used to reduce fuel consumption in these vessels by meeting their power requirements for (i) auxiliary services and (ii) precaution given the exiting state of solar power units (SPUs) and their cost. The BOBP-IGO joined hands with the Association of Deep Sea Going Artisanal Fishermen (ADSGAF) based in



Thoothoor, Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu and private entrepreneurs to probe the cost-benefit matrix of using solar power in the marine fishing vessels. Under this initiative, trial runs of two fishing vessels fitted with SPUs were undertaken. It was found that during an eight day voyage, a fishing vessel could save about 20 litres of diesel per day. The fishing vessels ply for about 250 days in a normal fishing year. That is per year, a vessel can save about 5000 litres of diesel. In Thoothoor, there are about 200 multiday fishing vessels and it is possible to save about $5000 \times 200 = 10\,00\,000$ litres of diesel or about 2730 tonnes of CO₂ per year. For the fishermen, it also means savings of millions of rupees, especially in the face of rising fuel price.

National Strategic Consultation on Green Technology for Fisheries Sector, Nagercoil, India, 12-13 July 2013

The ADSGAF in collaboration with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India and the BOBP-IGO organized a 2-day National Consultation on green technology for the fisheries sector in Nagercoil, Kanyakumari. The objective was to share the findings on pilot-scale utilization of solar power in maintaining auxiliary activities on-board fishing vessels, understanding technical requirements and policy support in scaling up adaptation of solar power in fishing vessels, reducing fuel consumption to improve profitability and in the process reducing carbon footprints of fishing operations. About 109 stakeholders from various Ministries/Departments of Central and State Governments, solar power industry, academicians, regional and international organisations, financial and banking service providers and fishermen took part. The consultation positively accredited the scope of using solar energy in fisheries sector, forged platform for cooperation among the academicians, industry and the users and recommended the R&D requirements and policy support necessary to develop this venture.



3. Fisheries resource management

The objectives of this Programme are to stem resource depletion in the marine waters and to promote the principles of responsible fishing practices in the member-countries. The programme also aims at community mobilization by involving fisherfolk and women in resource monitoring.



Major achievements

- **Convergence towards understanding issues in governance of small-scale fisheries.**
- **Institution of a committee to develop the National Plan of Action for Hilsa fisheries by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DAHD&F), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India (The Secretariat since 2008 is working with the Government of India on the development of hilsa management plan).**
- **The Sri Lankan National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing (The Secretariat had earlier assisted the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development (MFARD), Government of Sri Lanka in developing its plan for improving fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance and addressing issues arising from the European Union Regulation on IUU fishing).**
- **Regulation prohibiting catching of Thresher Shark in Sri Lanka issued in July 2012 (The Secretariat is engaged with the MFARD to develop shark-plan and facilitated stakeholder consultations on conservation of shark fishery)**
- **Issuing of 'shark fin attached' policy advisory by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. The Secretariat carried out extensive stakeholder consultations and also facilitated campaign by an NGO, Humane Society International in this regard. Fisherfolk, especially those engaged in shark fishing have welcomed the advisory and informed that shark finning on board fishing vessels is not practiced in India as shark meat enjoys a large domestic market and the policy advisory further strengthens their responsible approach to shark fishing in India.**

Strategic Consultation on Scope of Fisheries Management in the Bay of Bengal Region: Organisation of National Strategic Workshops on Governance of Small-Scale Fisheries

The Secretariat in association with the member- countries organized three National Workshops on Governance of Small-Scale Fisheries. The National Workshop for Bangladesh was held in Dhaka from 29 -30 April, 2012. The National Workshop for Sri Lanka was held in Colombo from 30-31 August, 2012 and the National Workshop for India was held in Chennai from 10-11 January 2013.

The National Workshops were attended by a wide range of stakeholders representing policy makers from concerned Ministries and Departments including the Ministry/ Department of Fisheries, fisheries officials, Navy/Coast Guard, financial and banking services providers, industry,

academia and civil society organizations. Major outputs of these National Workshops were arriving at an agreement on defining the scope of SSF within the national context and also specifying its attributes. The National Workshops were also successful in addressing broader policy issues such as positioning SSF in the framework of economic development in the coastal areas *vis-à-vis* other activities, gender mainstreaming and desirable targets for long-term growth of the sector. The table (on facing page) summarizes the major outcomes from these consultations:

The Final Reports of these National Workshops are awaiting publication. The National Workshop for Maldives is expected to be organized during early part of 2014.



National Strategic Workshop on Governance of Marine Small-Scale Fisheries in Bangladesh, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 29 - 30 April, 2012	National Strategic Workshop on Governance of Marine Small-Scale Fisheries in Sri Lanka, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 30-31 August, 2012	National Strategic Workshop on Governance of Small-Scale Fisheries in India, Chennai, India, 10-11 January 2013
Partners		
Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock and Department of Fisheries, Government of Bangladesh	Ministry and Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development, Government of Sri Lanka	The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and the National Fisheries Development Board
Issues explored		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defining the SSF – its attributes and scope Integration of SSF with national and international economy Identifying and addressing technology and capacity building needs Addressing Implementation and information gaps Global positioning of the SSF 		
Defining the SSF in national context		
Fisheries involving commercial, subsistence and artisanal fishing households using relatively small amount of capital and energy, fishing vessels up to 15 m length overall (LOA) with carrying capacity of maximum 10 mt, making short trips ranging from 1-12 days, fishing within 40 m depth during high tide deploying 2-20 crews, mainly for local consumption. and/or export	Fishing mainly for the domestic market by individuals or co-operatives or other community-based organizations in territorial sea or EEZ, without boats or boats of less than 18 m, which are non-motorized or motorized with less than 70 hp engines, with no or very low usage of fuel and technology.	Traditional or owner-operated or entrepreneurship fisheries (not by large companies) using boats less than 24 m length, using relatively small amount of capital and energy, making single-day or multi-day fishing trips, providing for domestic consumption or export.

Organisation of the Second Regional Consultation on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance and further assistance to member-countries on implementation of the National Plans of Action

Presently three major exercises are on-going in the region: (1) rebuilding of fisheries sector in northern Sri Lanka; (2) issuing of Biometric ID cards for fisherfolk and online registration of fishing vessels under the ReALCraft database in India; and (3) issuing ID cards to fisherfolk in Bangladesh. In Maldives, there have been two significant changes during the last 3 years in the form of complete prohibition on shark fishing and trade and promoting tuna longlining. In Sri Lanka, there is also a significant development in offshore fishery and recently the Government has also developed a plan for preventing IUU fishing. The Secretariat is monitoring these developments which signal progress in the National Plans of Action earlier developed by the member-countries and emerging challenges to ensure better MCS in near and offshore fishery.



Preparation of Management Plans for Sharks and Hilsa Fishery: Organisation of Regional Workshops on Hilsa and Sharks

Shark fishery

The BOBP-IGO is closely working with the Toothoor-based AD SGAF, which is traditionally engaged in targeted shark fishing to understand community perceptions in managing shark fishery. A recent study tour (September and November 2013) was also carried out in Gujarat, where shark landings are the highest in the country. Earlier in 2011, the Organisation also assisted Sri Lanka to carry out stakeholder consultation in development of its national shark plan. The Government of Sri Lanka has recently issued a Notification (No. 1768/38, Dated July 27, 2012) prohibiting catching of 'thresher sharks' in Sri Lanka.

The Secretariat is now focusing on Bangladesh to consolidate information on shark fishery and arranging stakeholder consultations to streamline preparation of shark action plan in Bangladesh. While initially it was expected that these activities would be carried out simultaneously, it was found that due to different stages of development in the shark fishery in the member-countries and diverse socio-economic situations, adequate resources could not be provided for simultaneous activities and a hence a progressive approach has been adopted.





Hilsa fishery

The major development in case of hilsa fishery is the setting up of a committee by the DAHD&F, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India where the Secretariat is entrusted with coordinating and capacity-building activities. The issue was also raised during the Joint India-Bangladesh Ministerial Level Meeting where the Secretariat provided a progress report to the Government of India. The BOBLME and BOBP-IGO have also consolidated their work programmes and will now be working closely in achieving the objectives. The Secretariat has also prepared a detailed bibliography on hilsa fishery. The bibliography contains 818 citations starting from the work of Hamilton on hilsa fishery to the latest publications as of 30 November 2013. This dynamic bibliography is expected to serve one-point reference for works to be carried out for preparation of management for hilsa fishery in the region.

Second Bi-National Stakeholder Consultation on Sustaining the Gulf of Mannar Ecosystem and Its Resources, Jaffna, Sri Lanka, 18 – 20 June 2012

The Second Bi-National Stakeholder Consultation on Sustaining the Gulf of Mannar (GoM) Ecosystem and Its Resources was held from 18 – 20 June in Jaffna, Sri Lanka involving stakeholders from India and Sri Lanka. The Consultation was jointly organized by the BOBLME and the BOBP-IGO. 48 participants representing governmental agencies; research institutes and universities; fisherfolk associations of both the countries and concerned international organisations including the Organisers took part. The aim of the Consultation was to carry forward the recommendations of the First Consultation held in Rameshwaram, India during September 2011, including (i) developing necessary collaborative projects and programmes, (ii) identifying and defining the scope of action of concerned agencies (BOBLME and its partners), and suggesting institutional arrangements for fostering bilateral cooperation between India and Sri Lanka in the GoM. On fostering collaborative programmes, the Consultation requested the Secretariat to draft Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) on the proposed bi-national committees/teams identified during the Consultation. These draft MoUs will be further considered and finalized during the third and final Consultation. Towards this the Consultation agreed that the concerned countries nominate four focal points from each country representing their fisheries and environment ministries, research institutions and national level NGOs. Along with the main event, the participants also visited Thalai Mannar locality in the GoM and interacted with the Sri Lankan fishers.



Hilsa fisheries in Bangladesh: Turnaround story

Hilsa (*Tenualosa ilisha*) is the most important single species fishery and also the national fish of Bangladesh. The fish is internationally famed for its nutrition, taste and delicacy. It is an anadromous fish completing its lifecycle in inland and marine waters. Thus, hilsa is also fished in both inland and marine waters. It accounts for nearly half of the total marine catch in Bangladesh and supports about 4 60 000 fishers directly and about 2.5 million people indirectly (trading, processing, etc).



During the period 1985-2000, the number of mechanized and non-mechanized boats fishing hilsa increased from about 6 000 to 25 000. Result: the catch per unit of effort (CPUE) started to fall down making this once lucrative fishery a matter of concern for all. The falling catch also led to the rise of *jatka* (juvenile hilsa) fishery and the stock came under a monumental pressure. Due to increased effort, production did show a rise, but the catch composition gave a dismal picture of heavy percentage of juveniles in the landings. It was now clear that the iconic hilsa was under pressure and the fishery faced the prospects of

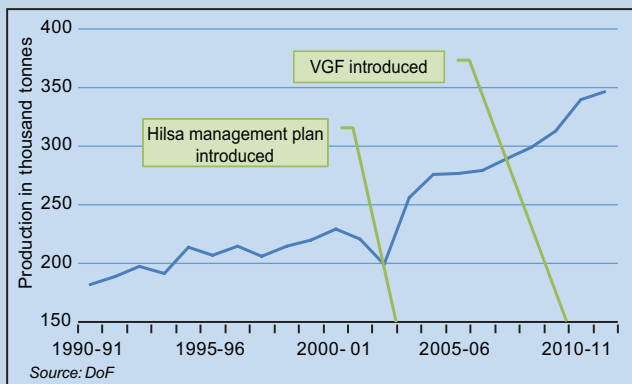
collapse. Anthropogenic impacts on the inland waters further aggravated the situation.

To stage a reversal, the Department of Fisheries (DoF) under the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MoFL), Government of Bangladesh in consultation with the Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute decided to proceed with the conservation of *jatka* by declaring 5 fish sanctuaries in the nursery and spawning grounds of major river systems and protection of berried hilsa catches for 11 days during the peak breeding season. Thus in 2003, the Hilsa Fisheries Management Action Plan was initiated for protection of *jatka*. The Action Plan has a well-defined implementation strategy, delineation of responsibilities, identification of target community and specific time-frame for implementation under the Protection and Conservation of Fish Act, 1950.

However, hilsa fisheries being the sole livelihood for thousands of people, these measures were initially not popular and violations often occurred. Subsequently, the DoF implemented one of the largest and intensive awareness campaigns on benefits of *jatka* conservation through media and extension services. Improvement in the hilsa landings following the ban also swayed public opinion in favour of the ban, although the livelihood issue still remained a burning issue. To overcome this problem, the Government extended the Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) Programme in 2009-10 to the *jatka* fishers by providing them rice during the ban period and also simultaneously conducting programmes for creation of alternative livelihoods.

Today, the impacts of these measures are quite evident. The average growth rate has nearly tripled and hilsa production in 2011-12 touched a record high of 346 thousand tonnes. Although the issue of over-capacity

Trend of hilsa production in Bangladesh



still exists and benefits are yet to be maximized, the fishery is moving towards a healthy state. It is indeed a success story in fisheries management.

Management measures

- **Jatka protection and conservation:** *Jatka* (up to 23.0 cm size) catch, transportation, marketing, selling and possessing is banned between 01 November and 31 May every year under the Protection and Conservation of Fish Act, 1950.
- **Declaration of hilsa sanctuaries:** Five sites in the coastal areas of the country declared as hilsa sanctuaries under the said Act for effective conservation of *jatka* in the major nursery areas and maintenance of fish bio-diversity.
- **Conservation of gravid hilsa for uninterrupted spawning:** Every year the highest number of ripe and running hilsa are caught during 5 days before and 5 days after the Full Moon of *Barapurnima* (Full Moon of *Durga Puja*) in October (Ashwin-Kartik). Transportation, stocking and marketing of hilsa banned each year in the entire country during the peak breeding time.
- **Assistance to fisher families:** 30 kg rice distributed per family per month for 4 months (Feb-May) in 16 Districts. More than 0.2 million *jatka* fisher families assisted under the VGF Programme since 2009-10.
- **Alternate livelihoods:** Special vocational training for *jatka* fishermen arranged and logistic support for alternative livelihoods provided.





Mangroves for the Future Regional Project on Living Resources of the Gulf of Mannar: Assessment of key species and habitats for enhancing awareness and for conservation policy formulation, 2012-14

The BOBP-IGO is also cooperating with the Mangroves for the Future (MFF) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in implementation of a two year project entitled, "Living Resources of the Gulf of Mannar: Assessment of key species and habitats for enhancing awareness and for conservation policy formulation." The project is jointly implemented by the India and Sri Lanka Country Offices of MFF/IUCN. The Inception Workshop for the MFF Regional Project on GoM was held from 30-31 May 2013 in New Delhi, India.

The aim of this regional initiative is to address the threats to marine and coastal biodiversity in the GoM from a regional perspective through bridging information gaps, awareness creation and policy advocacy. Based on the outcome of the Inception Workshop, the MFF/IUCN Regional Office prepared a project matrix. It was decided that the BOBP-IGO will monitor the implementation of the project and also assist India to start the project activities in India, a meeting for which was held in Chennai on 02 September 2013. The Secretariat has also prepared a detailed bibliography on the scientific work carried out in the GoM. This database will be useful to analyze areas where research has been concentrated so far and areas which need more elaborate research while avoiding duplication of work.

Workshop on Welfare Measures for Marine Fisherfolk in Tamil Nadu: Design and Implementation Issues, Chennai, India, 17 June 2013

The Public Affairs Centre (PAC), Bangalore in association with People's Action for Development (PAD) implemented a project in the Gulf of Mannar (GoM) on "Enhancing Community Centered Governance in Climate Change Affected Coastal Areas" during 2010-13. The GoM is an



ecologically sensitive area which supports different livelihoods in its domain. These livelihoods, such as fisheries and palmyra tapping are vulnerable to the changing climate. In this backdrop, the project aimed at understanding community perception on issues regarding climate change and their coping strategies while assessing the state of governance and scientific information on climate change. It was expected that the exercise would culminate in a dialogue process between the communities and the policy makers towards enhancing community centered governance in climate change affected coastal areas. The BOBP-IGO provided support to the PAC in this regard and assisted in organizing a one-day Workshop on 'Welfare Measures for Marine Fisherfolk in Tamil Nadu— Design and Implementation Issues' on 17 June 2013 in Chennai. The objective of the Workshop was to share findings of the PAC-PAD study. The Fisheries Management Resource Centre (FishMARC), the Affiliated Network for Social Accountability-South Asia Region (ANSA-SAR) and Think Tank Initiative (TTI) were the other partner agencies in this initiative.

Workshop on Climate Change and Livelihoods in Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu: Design and Implementation Issues, Chennai, India, 18 June 2013

Pursuant to the first Workshop, a one-day workshop on “Climate Change and Livelihoods in the Gulf of Mannar Region” was also organized in Chennai on 18 June 2013 to deliberate on findings of the PAC-PAD project with relation to the impact of climate change. The Workshop generated significant interactions between fishermen and government officials on issues of livelihoods and climate change emphasizing the need for institutional reforms and addressing gaps in implementation processes. The BOBP-IGO also assisted PAC in organization of this Workshop.

Preparation of awareness material for implementation of grouper fisheries in Maldives

The Secretariat assisted the MOFA, Government of Maldives in creating awareness on ‘Grouper Fishery Management Plan’ developed and adopted by the Ministry during 2011-12. To this effect, the Secretariat has published two posters, ‘Prohibited Sizes for Harvest and Export of Grouper’ and ‘The 5 Sites Protected under the Maldives Grouper Fishery Management Plan’ in Dhivehi and English Languages. The posters will be useful for informing the fisherfolk even in the distant atolls about the management plan and promoting responsible grouper fishery in the Maldives. The awareness material also includes a set of posters printed on synthetic water proof paper allowing the poster to be kept on the boat for ready reference.



Scoping study on the status of tiger shrimp brood stock fishery

The main objective of the scoping study on tiger shrimp brood stock fishery is to ensure sustainable management of wild shrimp brood stock resources by controlling fishing effort, reducing hauling period, improving brood shipment system, establishing polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test of brood and PL and hatchery operations by encouraging and creating awareness amongst the fishing fleet and hatchery operators. The BOBP-IGO in cooperation with Marine Fisheries Office, Chittagong, DoF, Government of Bangladesh organized a workshop on 29 September 2013 in Chittagong, Bangladesh to initiate the study. So far the Secretariat has also completed desk research on the issue and prepared an information base.

Need based/New programmes undertaken by the Secretariat during the reporting period to contribute to the improvement of fisheries resource management

National Workshop on “Deep Sea Fisheries: Assessing the Potentialities and Needs”, Chennai, India, 6 - 8 August 2012

The AD SGAF in association with the BOBP-IGO organized a three-day National Workshop on “Deep Sea Fisheries: Assessing the Potentialities and Needs” in Chennai from



6 - 8 August 2012. The larger objectives of the National Workshop were to assess the status of the resources that the artisanal and small-scale fishers can sustainably exploit by extending their reach as also endurance to fish in the deeper waters. The Workshop also aimed to address the post-harvest issues (including marketing); effective use of ICT and other social and economic dimensions of SSF in general and the deep sea going artisanal fishers in particular. The Workshop suggested a set of recommendations for further promotion of deep sea fishing in India. Although, these community-driven recommendations were made in the Indian context, they would be useful in the context of deep sea fishery of the other member-countries also. Some of the major recommendations are as follows.

- *Considering the dynamics of fishing in the offshore waters, a regular scientific monitoring programme is necessary. Such programme should also take into account qualitative information from the fisherfolk to analyze and establish status of the offshore fish stocks. These results should be shared with the fishing community and other stakeholders.*

- *Developing fishing fleet for offshore fishery should be guided by the precautionary principles by taking into account best scientific evidences. Considering the constraints in supply of quality wood for building of fishing vessels, alternative material such as steel and FRP should be used. There is also a need to arrange/develop transport/carrier fishing vessels that would bring tuna catch to the shore and supply necessary inputs to the offshore fishing vessels. This way fish can be brought in better condition and reduce wastage due to the long journey undertaken by the fishing vessels to the shore for unloading and refueling.*
- *Ensure that fisherfolk receive remunerative prices for their catch.*
- *Raise awareness about, and ensure access to government welfare programmes for women in fishing communities. Extend credit and finance to women to undertake economic activities related to fishing, fish processing, marketing and other allied activities.*
- *Provide training in navigation and use of communication devices to fishermen, including provision of High Frequency radio sets.*

National Result Sharing and Scoping Workshop on Outcomes of the Fisheries Management for Sustainable Livelihoods Project (FIMSUL), Chennai, India, 22-23 November 2012

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the BOBP-IGO organized a two-day National Workshop on sharing the results of the Project on “Fisheries Management for Sustainable Livelihoods (FIMSUL-I)” and also for preparing the next phase of the Project. The Workshop was organized in Chennai from 22–23 November 2012. The National Workshop was attended by 51 participants representing 36 national and

international organisations, including senior officials from the Government of India and the coastal States/Union Territories (UT), fisheries research and educational institutions and non-governmental and civil society organisations. The FIMSUL Project was designed in the backdrop of the unprecedented catastrophe brought about by the December 2004 Asian tsunami. The disaster exposed the vulnerabilities of the fisheries livelihoods and highlighted the need for a long-term policy for sustainable development of fisheries sector in the region. Subsequently, a scoping study carried out by the FAO, the World Bank Group (WBG), the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) and the BOBP-IGO in 2006 validated this requirement and proposed addressing the needs through a comprehensive project. This resulted in the formulation of the FIMSUL Project.

The FIMSUL Project was implemented in Tamil Nadu and the UT of Puducherry (beneficiaries) during April 2010 to December 2011 to support the respective Governments in the development of a policy framework for better management and use of marine fisheries within their jurisdictions. The Project was funded by the World Bank Trust Fund (WBTF) and executed by the FAO.

The implementation of the Project was supported by the DAHD&F, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and the DoF of the Governments of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

The objectives of the National Workshops were to (1) share the policy recommendations of the FIMSUL Project and its broad implications; (2) share experience and prospects of the Project by the Governments of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry; (3) examine the need for similar projects in other coastal States/UTs and to decide on the modalities for implementing such a project in the other interested States/UTs; and (4) develop a roadmap for implementation of the policy recommendations (outcomes) of the FIMSUL Project, including planning for the second stage of the Project in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

World Bank/BOBP-IGO Regional Workshop on Fisheries in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, Chennai, India, 4-5 March 2013

The BOBP-IGO in collaboration with the WBG organized a Regional Workshop in Chennai from 4-5 March 2013 to contribute to the overall process of addressing the needs for improved governance of tuna fisheries on a regional basis in the Indian Ocean, with special reference to Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ). The objectives of the Workshop were to (i) identify and discuss key issues affecting tuna fisheries exploitation in the Indian Ocean in general; (ii) consider and analyze options for improved regional fisheries governance in proximity to the Bay of Bengal in particular; and (3) identify and examine the key elements of a future pilot to test a new regional fisheries governance framework with particular reference to ABNJ. A total of 32 participants representing governmental agencies, research organisations and private sector representatives from Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka, civil society organisations and experts took part.





It was recommended that a pilot-scale project may be prepared aiming at developing soft skills in accordance with the guidelines of the WBG. While field activities of the pilot-scale project could be limited to India, the other BOBP-IGO member-countries would also get exposure in terms of knowledge sharing and participation and development of soft skills. It was also suggested that in case of India, the pilot-scale project will build on and compliment the outcomes of the FIMSUL Project for developing a policy framework for better management and use of marine fisheries within their jurisdictions.

4. Improving safety at sea for small-scale fishers

The objectives of this Programme are aimed at improving the livelihoods of small-scale fishing communities by decreasing the number of accidents at sea and the effects of such accidents. Within the overall objective, the programme specifically focuses on fisherwomen and children to mobilize them for onshore monitoring and pre-voyage checks to ensure real-time reporting and reduction of accidents due to personal negligence.

Major achievements

- **Introduction of Group Insurance Scheme for Fishermen in Bangladesh.**
- **Introduction of web-based accident reporting system in Sri Lanka (Advocated in BOBP-IGO and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health –NIOSH safety at Sea Programme including suggestions for a reporting format).**
- **Promoting the use of FRP floats in mechanized fishing boats.**

Introduction of Group Insurance Scheme in Bangladesh – a successful initiative by Jiban Bima Corporation, Government of Bangladesh in cooperation with the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Department of Fisheries, and the BOBP-IGO

Background

Marine fisheries sector is one of the major livelihood options practiced along the entire 710 km coastal stretch of Bangladesh. An official estimate shows that 0.516 million people are directly involved in marine fisheries and fisheries related activities. With an average household size of six (06), about three million (30 00 000) people depend on marine capture fisheries for their livelihoods. Marine fisheries is also one of the riskiest occupations in the world. The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimated the fatality rate at 24 000 per year. In case of Bangladesh, a tropical country with frequent cyclonic storms, it is even more risky to fish. In every fishing village of Bangladesh, 4-5 families can be found having suffered from fishing-related accidents. Since fishing is the only livelihood option for these people, disability or death due to accidents takes the whole family towards destitution. There are no social safety nets, formal or informal to cover these families during the crisis period, and to assist them to recover from such crises.



Work done

Following the 26 December 2004 Asian Tsunami, vulnerability of fisherfolk families around the Bay became quite well-documented. To improve the fisheries livelihoods, the FAO in association with the ILO and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) with funding support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) instituted a Global Project on 'Safety at Sea' during 2007 - 2010. The BOBP-IGO was the implementation partner of the Programme in South Asia covering four countries, Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka. In addition, the BOBP-IGO also signed a MoU with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH, Alaska Centre, USA) to improve accident reporting system in the fisheries sector in the region. Under this programme, a National Workshop was organized in Bangladesh on 'Safety at Sea for Small-scale Fisheries' in Chittagong from 21- 22 January 2008 in coordination with the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MoFL), Government of Bangladesh. During this National Workshop, the issue of vulnerability of fisherfolk was raised. It was also recommended that the Indian insurance model for SSF could be followed to improve livelihood security of fisherfolk families from such vulnerabilities in Bangladesh.



The Indian model

The Government of India (Ministry of Agriculture) in association with the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd (FISHCOPFED) is running a *Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen*. Under this scheme, fisherfolk licensed/identified or registered with the State/UT Governments are insured for INR 100,000 (about US \$ 1666) against death or permanent disability and INR 50,000 (about US \$ 833) for partial permanent disability. The strength of this scheme is that by pooling the risks of a large number of fisherfolk (3,681,607 people in 2013), the Insurance Company could successfully implement the scheme. In addition, since the premium is coming from a single source or maximum two sources in the case of both Central and the concerned State sharing the premium, administrative cost is very low. Even for settlement of claim, the initially processing is done by the concerned DoF, which further reduces the administrative costs.

Advocacy and awareness building

The challenge was two folds: first, to encourage the fishers and second, to suggest a suitable option to the Government. In terms of organizing the fishers, it was observed that they usually operate from a particular fishing harbour or fish landing centre (FLC). There is very nominal migration from one FLC to another. On their part, a FLC generally caters to 8-10 fishing villages. Therefore, by covering one FLC, it is possible to reach 8-10 fishing villages. In addition, it was observed that there are three types of fishermen, first, those who are engaged in daily fishing in near-shore waters at artisanal scale; second, those engaged in small-scale multi-day fishing vessels; and third, those engaged in trawlers and larger powered fishing vessels. These groups are partially closed groups with fishers generally bonding within their own occupational groups. The type of documentation required to access any insurance programme was also another area of concern.

While the issue of identification was addressed through formation of cooperatives, for personal identification, the national identity card issued by the Government of Bangladesh was found suitable.

In the next step, the findings were discussed with Jiban Bima Corporation (JBC), a state-owned life and general insurance company in Bangladesh. The JBC suggested that to ensure a low cost insurance service for the fisherfolk, a group insurance scheme as implemented in India would be suitable. In addition, as there is little or no information on mortality statistics of the fishermen, it would be difficult to create their risk profile. To address this information gap, pilot-scale surveys were conducted in some major fishing harbours and FLCs of Bangladesh and also implemented an accident reporting system with the help of the DoF, Government of Bangladesh in Chittagong, the biggest fishing centre in the country. The accident reporting system was jointly developed by NIOSH and BOBP-IGO.

Based on the findings from the pilot-scale survey and accident reporting system, the Government was requested to consider a group insurance scheme as per the community profile. These findings were discussed in a national stakeholder consultation on 19 December 2010 in Chittagong and were also recommended during the National Strategic Workshop on Governance of Marine Small-Scale Fisheries in Bangladesh held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 29 - 30 April, 2012. Based on the findings and technical requirements from JBC, fishers were proposed to organize in groups of minimum 50 persons. It was also agreed that the DoF would assist in organizing the fishers, thus building their confidence and also playing the role of a negotiator, if need arose.

Impact

The JBC launched a group insurance programme on "Community-based Insurance for Coastal Fishermen" on

18 October 2012 in Satkhira District of Bangladesh. Within 8 months of launching, 15 000 fishers have enrolled in the scheme and the number is increasing significantly. So far, about 65 fisher groups have been formed with membership varying from 50 to 100. To accelerate the implementation of the scheme and monitor its progress, JBC and the DoF organized a national workshop on 04 May 2013 and proposed setting up of joint working committees at four levels: National, District, Sub-district and Union (collection of villages). Apart from government officials and insurance personnel, fisher representatives are also members of these committees.

The Scheme

Under the 'Community-based Insurance for Coastal Fisherfolk Scheme', a minimum of 50 fishers are needed to come together to form a registered association or a cooperative society. The fisher association then collects premium from the members and pays the premium to JBC through bank transfers. The annual per capita premium is BDT1240 (about USD 15) for a sum assured of BDT 200 000 (USD 2450). The scheme covers normal death, accidental death and permanent disability. For missing persons, the scheme provides that if someone remains missing for six months his nominee will get 50 percent of the claim and the rest will be given after three years. As of now, partial disability is not covered under the scheme. The term of the plan is for three years. To further simplify the premium collection process, JBC recently suggested that the proposed Union Committees would act as an intermediary to collect premium from fisher societies within its limit and also assist in settling the claims.

Construction of improved model fishing boats and their extension to additional areas in Tamil Nadu, India

The BOBP-IGO concluded trials of the prototype fishing vessels IND- 30 and IND- 30A built under the 'Global Project on Safety at Sea' adhering to international safety



standards in Devaneri, a fishing village about 60 km south of Chennai city. The early feedback from the user group shows that the prototype vessel is relatively heavy and it is difficult to use the vessel for beach landing, especially on the surf-ridden coasts. Based on this feedback, a new trial is now being conducted in Chirala, Andhra Pradesh.

Provision and analysis of data to identify the causes of accidents

The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Government of Sri Lanka has set up a web portal for reporting of accidents at sea. The database shows that between April and September 2013, there are 15 incidents at sea and in at least four cases human lives were lost.

The surveillance programme initiated at the Marine Check Post of the DoF, Government of Bangladesh at Patenga, Chittagong in 2008 is still continuing. The objective of this surveillance programme is to collect and collate data on fishing related injuries and mortalities. The Organisation is also providing training to AD SGAF to undertake community surveillance in Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu, India.

Organisation of Strategy Workshop on Communication Needs of Marine Fishermen in Tamil Nadu

A two-day strategy workshop on communication needs of marine fishermen was held on 9 - 10 November 2013 at Chennai. The Workshop was jointly organized by the DoF,

Major accident reported to DFAR during April to September 2013			
Date	District	Casualty	Type of vessel
29 April 2013	Matarra	Boat and fisherman missing	IMUL
08 June 2013	Matarra	Boat missing	IMUL
12 June 2013	Chilaw	Boat capsized due to rough waves, fishermen died	OFRP
10 July 2013	Negombo	Fisherman missing	OFRP
15 July 2013	Chilaw	Fishermen died	OFRP
30 July 2013	Chilaw	One fishermen died, one injured	OFRP

Government of Tamil Nadu, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), fishMARC and the BOBP-IGO. The objectives of the Strategy Workshop were to (1) assess the communication needs in terms of technology and equipment for improving safety at sea; (2) evaluate available technologies and their financial requirements; and (3) chart a roadmap for integrating communication needs in a larger fisheries management framework. Over 150 participants representing the government, fishermen organizations, service providers, NGOs, communication system experts, technocrats, academia and scientists took part. The Workshop chalked out different sets of communication needs and measures for different types of fishing operations and also stressed on policy needs to sustain the communication infrastructure.





Participation in international activities by the Secretariat

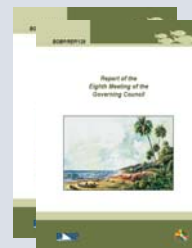
During the reporting year, the BOBP-IGO Secretariat participated in several national and international workshops to share its experience, learn from the initiatives of other organisations and to raise the profile of the region. The following Table gives a snapshot of these activities.

#	Meeting/Training/Workshops	Date	Place
1.	National Consultation Workshop on Coastal & Marine Biodiversity: Gaps, Challenges & Opportunities	11 – 13 April 2012	Ahmadabad, India
2.	International Symposium on “Future Vision on Human being and the Sea after the Restoration from Earthquake Disaster”	13 – 19 May 2012	Tokyo, Japan
3.	30 th Session of FAO Committee on Fisheries	09 – 13 July 2012	Rome, Italy
4.	FAO Brainstorming Workshop to Develop a Perspective Plan & Strategies for the Development of Fisheries & Aquaculture in India (1 st)	03 August 2012	New Delhi, India
5.	Conservation of bio diversity for enhancement of livelihood security in coastal & marine areas	16 – 17 August 2012	Chennai, India
6.	Core Committee Meeting on National Plan of Action on Hilsa Fisheries	03 – 04 September 2012	Kolkata, India
7.	BOBLME Expert Consultation on Mainstreaming Research for Ocean and Resource Management	14 September 2012	Kochi, India
8.	4 th Regional Consultative Forum Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission	15 – 20 September 2012	Da Nang, Vietnam
9.	BOBLME – MFF Scientific Presentation Workshop	01 – 04 October 2012	Phuket, Thailand
10.	Regional Workshop on Policy Directions in Fisheries, Coastal and Marine Environment and ICM in the BOBLME Countries	02 – 04 October 2012	Penang, Malaysia
11.	XI Conference of Parties Convention on Biological Diversity	11 October 2012	Hyderabad, India
12.	2 nd Meeting of Expert Committee on Climatic Change/Sectoral Innovations	30 October 2012	New Delhi, India
13.	National Seminar on Traditional Knowledge & Management Systems in Fisheries	31 October 2012	Kochi, India
14.	Launching of the Community- based Insurance Scheme for Coastal Fishermen in Bagerhat & Pirojpur Districts of Bangladesh	04 – 07 November 2012	Bagerhat & Pirojpur, Bangladesh
15.	MSC Developing World Working Group Meeting	12 November 2012	London, United Kingdom
16.	35 th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee	25 – 28 November 2012	Chiang Mai, Thailand
17.	Global Symposium on Aquatic Resource for Eradicating Hunger and Malnutrition – Opportunities and Challenges	04 – 06 December 2012	Mangalore, India
18.	FAO Brainstorming Workshop to Develop a Perspective Plan & Strategies for the Development of Fisheries & Aquaculture in India (2 nd)	15 December 2012	Hyderabad, India
19.	FAO Brainstorming Workshop to Develop a Perspective Plan & Strategies for the Development of Fisheries & Aquaculture in India (Final)	19 – 21 February 2013	New Delhi, India
20.	Seventh MIMA International Conference on the Straits of Malacca	24 – 25 June 2013	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

List of publications of the BOBP-IGO: 2012-13

Reports

1. Annual Report of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation, 2011-12, September, 2012.
2. Report of the Eighth Meeting of the Governing Council of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 11-12 September 2012.
3. Report of the National Result Sharing and Scoping Workshop on Outcomes of the Fisheries Management for Sustainable Livelihoods Project (FIMSUL), Chennai, India, 22-23 November 2012.



Books/ Guides/Translations

4. Guide Book on *Tuna Handling* (in Dhivehi Language), September, 2012.
5. Training Manual on Best practices for Instruments Methods of Ocean Observation, November, 2012.

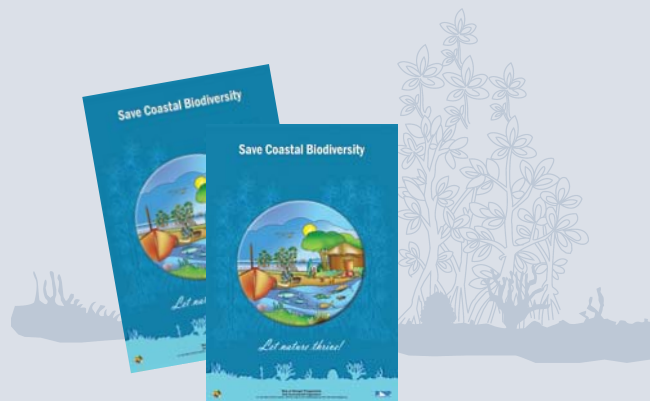


Posters & Calendar

6. Awareness Building Posters on Biodiversity (in Sinhala and Dhivehi Languages): *Save Coastal Biodiversity – Better earth, better life, better tomorrow*, August, 2012.



7. Awareness Building Poster on Biodiversity (in English Language): *Save Coastal Biodiversity – Let Nature Thrive*, August, 2012.
8. Awareness Building Poster against vandalism of Tsunami and Weather Data Buoys: *Buoys are for your safety – do not tamper or damage*, November, 2012 (Reprinted).
9. Desktop Calendar of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation for the year 2013.
10. Awareness Building Posters on *Prohibited Sizes for Harvest and Export of Grouper* (in Dhivehi and English Languages), September, 2013 (different sizes).
11. Awareness Building Posters on *The 5 sites Protected under the Maldives Grouper Fishery Management Plan* (in Dhivehi and English Languages), September, 2013 (different sizes).





Status matrix of activities undertaken by the Secretariat during 2012-13

Special Programmes	Capacity Building & Information Services	Fisheries Resource Management		Safety at Sea	
Preparation of Draft SPA: 2014-18	Training Programme for Junior and Middle-Level Fisheries Staff of member-countries on implementation of the CCRF.	Strategic Consultation on Scope of Fisheries Management in the Bay of Bengal Region.		Organization of the Fifth International Conference on Fishing Industry Safety and Health (IFISH-5).	
	Translation of the Technical Guidelines of the 1995 FAO CCRF.	Organization of Second Regional Consultation on MCS.		International Technical Conference on “Met-Ocean Data and Tsunami Buoys in the Northern Indian Ocean Region”.	
	Regional Conference on Formalization of Cooperation between the BOBP-IGO and Fisheries Research Institutes.	Organization of the Third Regional Consultations on Preparation of Management Plan for Hilsa and Shark Fisheries.		Trial of the improved model fishing boats and their extension to additional areas in Tamil Nadu, India.	
“Greening the Fisheries Sector”	Capacity building programmes for improving data collection and traceability.	Organization of the Second and Third Bi-National Workshops on Gulf of Mannar Marine Ecosystem.		Provision and analysis of data to identify the cause of accidents.	
	Capacity building for improving food safety.	Preparation of awareness material for implementation of grouper fisheries (Maldives).		Technical support to member-countries to implement sea safety programmes.	
	Information dissemination.	Scoping study on the status of tiger shrimp brood stock fishery.			
	Preparation of interactive map of fisheries/islands in the Maldives.				
Colour scale (% of work completed against annual target)		100	75 – 99	50 – 74	<50

The Millennium Development Goals and the BOBP-IGO

The year 2000 is a watershed in the timeline of global development initiatives and also for the BOBP-IGO. In September 2000, possibly one of the largest gatherings of the heads of nations and civil society organizations took place at the UN Headquarters, New York to address the wide-spread human misery in a time-bound and concrete manner. Lessons learned from decades of developmental initiatives led the nations to adopt the United Nations Millennium Declaration, aimed at forging a new global partnership to address extreme poverty, hunger, well-being and knowledge - with a deadline of 2015 - that become known as the Millennium Development Goals or the MDGs in short.

During the same time, a field project of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, the Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP), which catalyzed fisheries development in the Bay of Bengal region since the late seventies was about to complete its lifecycle. It is during this period that the BOBP member-countries reiterated the importance of the fisheries sector in addressing poverty and food security and paved the way for setting up of an Inter-Governmental Organisation to take care of the unfinished agenda of the BOBP and beyond.

The BOBP-IGO which came into being in 2003 with the membership of Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka is since then contributing to the motto of FAO: "Food for All". As we come to understand, food for all cannot be ensured just by ensuring a steady supply but also matching it with improved access and buying power. However, in marine fisheries, steady supply is also becoming a big challenge!

Adopting a multi-pronged approach, the BOBP-IGO has been working with the fisherfolk and governmental

agencies in improving the situation and bettering the lives of millions of fishers and their families in the member-countries. With the active promotion of the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), both at the policy and grassroots levels, efforts are being made to ensure responsibility in fishing operations – thereby improving the chances of sustainability.



Fishing is inherently risky, and actually one of the riskiest livelihoods in the World. In the developing countries, pauperization of fisher families is less due to falling catches and more due to fatalities. A non-existent occupational safety regime is to blame for this. BOBP-IGO in association with its international development partners carried out a study to gauge the magnitude of the problem and follow it with a series of interventions in the form of policy advisories, technical support and training and capacity building. While we are still far from an ideal occupational safety regime, both policies and awareness are there now to expedite the process.

Finally, the journey that began in isolation is now blossoming into a strong partnership at all levels- local, regional and international.

While there are no set parameters to measure the contributions of the fisheries sector towards the fulfilment of the MDGs, the following table summarizes the contributions of the sector and the BOBP-IGO towards the 8 MDGs.

Goals	Statement	Contribution of the marine fisheries sector and the BOBP-IGO
1.0	Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	Marine capture fisheries is a source of livelihoods to about six million fisherfolk families in the region directly and about five times of this population indirectly. The BOBP-IGO is working with stakeholders in developing fisheries management plans and improving post-harvest operations, which will improve the food supply as well as income of the fisherfolk. BOBP-IGO has also catalyzed the development of national plans for fisheries MCS and curbing IUU fishing in its member-countries, which is especially benefitting the marginalized artisanal fishermen using non-powered boats.
2.0	Achieve universal primary education	Economic burden is often the major impediment towards education. By promoting improved fisheries management and post-harvest practices, the BOBP-IGO is contributing towards eliminating this burden. Improved post-harvest operations are especially leading to better income for fisherwomen, many of whom are engaged in fish marketing and thus directly benefitting the family.
3.0	Promote gender equality and empower women	By facilitating stakeholder participation in the decision-making process, the BOBP-IGO is trying to improve gender equality in the sector. The Organisation is also supporting several women SHGs, thus helping them to be empowered at the least financially.
4.0	Reduce child mortality	Consumption of fish is now well-documented to improve the general well-being of expecting mothers. However, there are many cultural and personal barriers against consumption of fish in the region, especially in India. This is observed across all the income groups. However, low income groups suffer most as fish is a cheap source of nutrients. The BOBP-IGO through promotion of hygienic fish markets and encouraging development of value added products is trying to break this barrier. Within fisherfolk families, this issue is being addressed by improving their economic well-being and social safety nets.
5.0	Improve maternal health	By contributing to financial betterment of fisherwomen through better post-harvest operations and organizing women SHGs, BOBP-IGO is improving their access to health services and also nutritional security. Further, by ensuring supply of quality fish, nutritional needs to maintain a good maternal health is achieved.
6.0	Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases	BOBP-IGO as a part of its 'Safety at Sea' programme is conducting awareness campaigns at the community level for protection against HIV infection. Often medical practitioners are also engaged during these campaigns to address the health issues, including HIV/AIDS.
7.0	Ensure environmental sustainability	Within its capacity and along with its developmental partners, the BOBP-IGO is striving to promote enabling policies, effective implementation and community aspirations to curb IUU fishing, destruction of critical habitats and pollution of marine waters. A recent example is the ongoing work with the BOBLME Project and the IUCN/MFF on improving governance of the Gulf of Mannar- a shared critical ecosystem between India and Sri Lanka.
8.0	Develop a global partnership for development	Within one decade of its establishment, the BOBP-IGO is now working with majority of international development and funding agencies including the World Bank, FAO, SIDA, IMO, ILO, ICFO and its regional partners, APFIC, BOBLME, NACA, SACEP and SEAFDEC. This strengthening of partnerships is bringing synergy in work, novel ideas and technology and developmental funding to further propel fisheries development in the region.



Meeting our international obligations

International Treaties and Agreements	Fisheries-related objective	Nature of assistance to member-countries to meet the objectives
Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna, (CITES), Washington DC, 1973.	To ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species in the wild.	Assistance in developing national and regional shark plans. Advocacy in general for fisheries management to avoid over-exploitation of the stocks.
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, (CMS) 1979.	To conserve marine migratory species throughout their range.	Preparation of management plan for sharks and hilsa fishery.
United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), 1982.	Defines the rights and responsibilities of nations in their use of the World's oceans. It provides that all States have a duty to protect and preserve the marine environment.	Conducting capacity enhancement programmes, promoting FAO-CCRF, improving fisheries MCS and developing management plans and fostering cooperation in management of critical habitats such as the Gulf of Mannar (GoM).
The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, (UNFCCC) 1992.	To stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.	Scoping use of solar energy in fisheries sector; promoting energy-efficient fishing practices.
The FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), 1995.	Guidelines for ensuring sustainability of fishing by adopting responsible fishing practices.	Regular training programme on CCRF, awareness programme and information dissemination in vernacular.
UN Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA), 2001.	Conservation of straddling stocks and highly migratory species such as sharks.	Assistance in developing national and regional shark plans, harmonization of fisheries policies.
The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), 2002.	Protection, management and sustainable use of the biodiversity.	Improving fisheries MCS, awareness campaign, developing fisheries management plans.
Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, 2002.	Ensuring conservation of critical habitats.	Setting up of platforms for regional dialogue and fostering cooperation in management of critical habitats. Advisory on setting up of MPAs.
International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974.	Minimum safety standards in construction, equipment and operation of fishing vessels.	Guidelines on boat building and repair of FRP fishing vessels, awareness material, bringing navy/coastguard, Departments of Fisheries and fishermen together.
International Labour Organization: The Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188)	To ensure that fishers have decent conditions of work on board fishing vessels with regard to minimum requirements for work on board; conditions of service; accommodation and food; occupational safety and health protection; medical care and social security.	Bringing guidelines to improve safety at sea, analysis and reporting on accident data, technical interventions, training and awareness programmes.
UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), 2000	Sustainable development.	Ensuring food supply by post-harvest interventions, capacity enhancement and support to women fisherfolk, developing fisheries management plans.
Agreement for the establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), 1996	To ensuring, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilization of tuna, tuna-like species and associated fishery.	Training programmes on strengthening data collection, training programme on CCRF, Management Plan for sharks, advocacy and stakeholder consultation ensuring sustainable use of sharks.



Our partners

#	Organisation	Website
1.	Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC), Thailand	http://www.apfic.org/
2.	Association of Deep Sea Going Artisanal Fishermen (ADSGAF), India	http://www.deepseaindia.in/
3.	Bangladesh Coast Guard (BCG), Bangladesh	http://www.coastguard.gov.bd/
4.	Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Bangladesh	http://www.fri.gov.bd/
5.	Bangladesh Shrimp and Fish Foundation (BSFF), Bangladesh	http://www.shrimpfoundation.org/
6.	BASTOB- Initiative for People's Self Development, Bangladesh	http://www.bastob.org/
7.	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)- Fisheries Group, Thailand	http://www.bimstec.org/
8.	Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project (BOBLME), Thailand	http://www.boblme.org/
9.	Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), India	http://www.cifri.ernet.in/
10.	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA), India	http://www.ciba.res.in/
11.	Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), India	http://www.cife.edu.in/
12.	Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Training (CIFNET), India	http://www.cifnet.nic.in/
13.	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), India	http://www.cift.res.in/
14.	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), India	http://www.cmfri.com/
15.	Ceylon Fisheries Corporation(CFC), Sri Lanka	http://www.fisheriescorporation.gov.lk/
16.	Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation (CFHC), Sri Lanka	http://www.cfhc.slt.lk/
17.	Cey-Nor Foundation Ltd. (CEYNOR), Sri Lanka	http://www.ceynor.com/
18.	Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), India	http://aquaculture.tn.nic.in/
19.	Data-Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) - Joint body of WMO & IOC	http://www.jcommops.org/dbcp/
20.	Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries (DAHD&F), Ministry of Agriculture, India	http://dahd.nic.in/
21.	Department of Coast Conservation(CCD), Sri Lanka	http://www.coastal.gov.lk/
22.	Department of Fisheries (DoF), Bangladesh	http://www.fisheries.gov.bd/
23.	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DFAR), Sri Lanka	http://www.fisheriesdept.gov.lk/
24.	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH	http://www.giz.de/en/
25.	District Fishermen's Youth Welfare Association (DFYWA), India	https://www.facebook.com/DFYWA/
26.	Fisheries Management Resource Centre (fishMARC), India	--

#	Organisation	Website
27.	Fishery Survey of India (FSI), India	http://fsi.gov.in/
28.	Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO), Italy	http://www.fao.org/fishery/
29.	Indian Coast Guard (ICG), India	http://www.indiancoastguard.nic.in/
30.	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), France	http://ioc-unesco.org/
31.	Inter-Governmental Organization for Marketing Information and Technical Advisory Services (INFOFISH), Malaysia	http://www.infofish.org/
32.	International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), India	http://www.icsf.net/
33.	International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO), South Korea	http://www.icfo.coop/
34.	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Italy	http://www.ifad.org/
35.	International Labour Organization (ILO), Switzerland	http://www.ilo.org/
36.	International Maritime Organization (IMO), United Kingdom	http://www.imo.org/
37.	International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-Related Activities (IMCS), United States of America	http://www.imcsnet.org/imcs/
38.	International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Switzerland	http://www.iucn.org/
39.	Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP), United Kingdom	http://www.gesamp.org/
40.	Mangroves for the Future (MFF), Thailand	http://www.mangrovesforthefuture.org/
41.	Marine Research Centre (MRC), Maldives	http://www.mrc.gov.mv/
42.	Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), United Kingdom	http://www.msc.org/
43.	Mechanized Fishing Boat Owners Association, Bangladesh	--
44.	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Japan	http://www.maff.go.jp/e/index.html
45.	Ministry of Environment & Forests (MOEF), India	http://envfor.nic.in/
46.	Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture (MOFA), Maldives	http://www.fishagri.gov.mv/
47.	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development (MFARD), Sri Lanka	http://www.fisheries.gov.lk/
48.	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MOFL), Bangladesh	http://www.mofl.gov.bd/
49.	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MOLF), Myanmar	http://www.myanmar.gov.mm/ministry/live&fish/
50.	Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF), Indonesia	http://www.dkp.go.id/dkp5en/
51.	MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), India	http://www.mssrf.org/
52.	National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA), Sri Lanka	http://www.nara.ac.lk/
53.	National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR), India	http://www.nbfgres.in/

#	Organisation	Website
54.	National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), India	http://nfdb.ap.nic.in/
55.	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), United States of America	http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/
56.	National Institute of Fisheries and Nautical Engineering (NIFNE), Sri Lanka	http://www.nifne.ac.lk/
57.	National Institute of Fisheries Post-Harvest Technology and Training (NIPHATT), India	http://www.ifpkochi.nic.in/
58.	National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), India	http://www.niot.res.in/
59.	Public Affairs Centre (PAC), India	http://www.pacindia.org/
60.	Rashtriya Life Saving Society (RLSS), India	http://lifesavingindia.org/
61.	RESTORE (an NGO based in Andhra Pradesh), India	--
62.	SAARC Coastal Zone Management Centre (SCZMC), Maldives	http://www.sczmc.org/
63.	South Asian Cooperative Environmental Program (SACEP), Sri Lanka	http://www.sacep.org/
64.	South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS), India	http://www.siffs.org/
65.	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), Thailand	http://www.seafdec.org/
66.	Tamil Nadu Fisheries University, India	http://www.tnfu.org.in/university/wp/
67.	The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Nepal	http://www.saarc-sec.org/
68.	United Nations Development Programme – India Country Office, India	http://www.in.undp.org/india/
69.	United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), Switzerland	http://www.unitar.org/
70.	Visakha (an NGO based in Andhra Pradesh), India	--
71.	World Bank Group, United States of America	http://www.worldbank.org/
72.	World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Switzerland	http://www.wmo.int/
73.	WorldFish Centre (WFC), Malaysia	http://www.worldfishcenter.org/

Apart from the above partners, the BOBP-IGO is also working with many private sector agencies in the area of technology development, green energy and fisheries policy making.



Training of fisheries officials and fishers

Training of fisheries official and fishers in various aspect of fisheries management is one of the main activities of the BOBP-IGO. Since 2008, the Organisation has trained 322 persons, including 165 fisheries officials, 147 fishers and 10 boat builders. These training programmes are custom-made to suit the requirements and levels of skill in the region and are not only useful for the BOBP-IGO member-countries but also for other countries in the region. Presently, the Organisation has two regular training programmes on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, targeted at junior and middle-level fisheries officials and Strengthening Data Collection & Stock Assessment in Fisheries. These training programmes are conducted in cooperation with the premier research institutes of the region and the BOBLME. The table below gives a snapshot of the officials and fishers trained by the BOBP-IGO during 2008-13.

Fisheries Officers and fishermen trained by BOBP-IGO during 2008 to 2013

Training Programme	Bangladesh	India	Maldives	Sri Lanka	Myanmar	Indonesia	Total
Regional Training Course on Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (2008-13: 5 Programmes)	19	21	20	21	8	3	92
Training Programme on FRP Boat Construction (2009: for boat builders)		10					10
Training Programme on life saving techniques, rescue, navigation and communication at sea (2009-10: 3 Programmes for fishers)	21	70					91
Adapting to Climate Change: Field-level Capacity Enhancement Programme in Fisheries Sector (2009)		15					15
Study Tour and Training Programme on Fish Processing Technologies (2010)			4				4
Workshop on Improving Communication Skills in Fisheries (2010)		16					16
Strengthening Data Collection & Stock Assessment in Fisheries (2011-12)	4	4	4	4			16
Study visit of the delegates from Bangladesh to learn about shrimp farming experience in India (2012)	8						8
Study Tour of deepsea fishermen from India to Sri Lanka (on post-harvest activities, boat building and communication, 2013)		4					4
Training programme on use and assembly of solar lantern units (2013)		52					52
Training programme on maintenance, database operation, hosting and troubleshooting of 'Atolls of Maldives' website (2013: 02 programmes)			14				14
Total (17 Programmes)	52	192	42	25	8	3	322

Staff position during April 2012 - March 2013

#	Staff	Designation	Date (month/ year)	
			Joining	Leaving
Professional				
1.	Y S Yadava	Director	05/03	Till date
2.	R Mukherjee	Policy Analyst	09/09	Till date
3.	Md Sharif Uddin	Fisheries Resource Officer	07/12	Till date
4.	S Jayaraj	Publication Officer	08/06	Till date
General Duty/Consultants/Casual Assignments				
5.	V Srinivasan	Administrative Assistant	11/06	Till date
6.	R Ponnuchamy	Consultant	11/10	05/13
7.	T Vaidyanathan	Consultant	08/12	08/13
8.	F Hanfee	Consultant	07/13	Till date
9.	P Umakandan	Consultant	08/13	Till date
10.	V Venkatesan	Consultant	WAE Basis*	
11.	Cheryl Verghese	Secretary	01/08	Till date
12.	M Krishna Mohan	Secretary	01/08	Till date
13.	Em Shivakanth	Videographer	WAE Basis*	
14.	M Shamsuddin	Chauffeur	05/03	Till date

* When Actually Engaged

Audited Consolidated Financial Statement for the year 2012

Details	Year 2012			
	Receipts		Payments	
	US \$	INR	US \$	INR
Opening Balance	6871.75	376366.00		
Income				
Contributions from Member Governments	90247.07	4942832.00		
Other sources	206711.34	11321580.00		
Government of India Reimbursements for Office Expenses	54055.63	2960627.00		
Redemption from Reserve Fund	36795.33	2015280.00		
Sale Proceeds	3618.57	198189.00		
Total	398299.69	21814874.00		
Expenditure				
Administration Expenses			11462.26	627788.00
BOBP-IGO Activities			118130.42	6470003.00
Office Maintenance			65522.57	3588671.00
Printing			15914.90	871659.00
Reserve Fund			63903.60	3500000.00
Salary and Allowances			114736.37	6284111.00
Closing balance			8629.58	472642.00
Total			398299.69	21814874.00
The figures are also reflected in INR since the Audit is carried out using INR as the base currency.				
Currency Exchange rate as on 31 December 2012 is US \$ = INR 54.77.				

Contact details of BOBP-IGO focal points

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The BOBP-IGO Team



*Sitting (L-R): S Jayaraj, Y S Yadava, Md Sharif Uddin, Rajdeep Mukherjee
Standing (L-R): M Krishna Mohan, S Samsudeen, Cheryl Verghese, V Sreenivasan, P Umakandan*



**BAY OF BENGAL PROGRAMME
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