

Training Project for Promotion of Community-based Fishery Resource Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam

Report of Phase Three
(10-14 February 2009)



International Cooperative Fisheries Organization
of the International Cooperative Alliance &
Vietnam Cooperative Alliance



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Preface

The International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO) of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) implemented the Training Project for Promotion of Community-Based Fishery Resource Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Asia - 2008 (CFRM Training Project - 2008) in Vietnam during August 2008 - February 2009. Funded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of the Government of Japan, the CFRM Training Project is one of the 'Partnership Strengthening Project' among Japan and ASEAN countries. The Project is designed to contribute to the sound development of the primary industry including fisheries in the region, promote cooperation and exchanges that would lead to increase in income of primary producers and thereby help narrow the gap in their economic status through appropriate interventions.

The purpose of the CFRM Training Project is to promote community-based fisheries resource management by small-scale fishers engaged in coastal fisheries and by their organizations (fisheries cooperatives), strengthen their activities and help contribute to ensuring sustainable production, creation of employment opportunities and poverty alleviation. The CFRM Training Project comprises three Phases, which include: (i) Dispatching of Experts to the country selected by ICFO in Phase One; (ii) Fisheries Resource Management Study Visit in Japan in Phase Two and (iii) a Seminar in the selected country in Phase Three.

The Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA), one of the member organizations of ICFO, assisted ICFO as a local partner organization in implementing the Project in Vietnam. The Project was implemented as per the following schedule:

- 1) Phase One: Dispatching of two experts to Vietnam during 25-30 August 2008. The experts visited the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the Embassy of Japan in Hanoi and various organizations and cooperatives in the Provinces of Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Ben Tre and Ba Ria Vung Tau for discussions and collection of necessary information.
- 2) Phase Two: Fisheries Resource Management Study Visit in Japan during 15-22 September 2008 (Tokyo and Kagawa Prefecture).
- 3) Phase Three: Seminar for Promotion of Community-based Fishery Resource Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam in Nha Trang, Vietnam during 10-14 February, 2009.

The Phase One and Phase Two were successfully completed and their Reports were used as reference material in the Phase Three Seminar. Eighty-eight participants representing fisheries cooperative sector of Vietnam, officials of the MARD (Fisheries & Aquaculture Departments), local officials and advisors and observers participated in the Seminar. Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara, Senior Managing Director, JF-ZENGYOREN represented Chairman, ICFO in the Seminar.

Together with the previous three seminars (8-15 March 1993 in Hanoi; 1-4 April 1996 in Nha Trang; 16-19 January 2002 in Hanoi), which were held under the former MAFF-funded "Training Project for Leaders of Fisheries Co-operatives in the World", this Seminar aimed at capacity building of fisheries cooperative leaders for promoting community-based fisheries resource management and establishing a close linkage with responsible government officials and other stakeholders. At the conclusion of the Seminar, the participants unanimously adopted the 'Nha Trang Resolution', which is a significant step towards developing a healthier and vibrant fisheries and an equally dynamic cooperative base to meet the challenges of community-based fishery resource management in Vietnam.



The adoption of the 'Nha Trang Resolution' has been a collective endeavour and I would like to thank all those who cooperated in bringing together their experiences, ideas and resources for making it possible to adopt the Resolution. I hope that the 'Nha Trang Resolution' will be translated into concrete policies, programmes and actions by the Government of Vietnam and VCA with active cooperation from the fisheries cooperative sector in the country.

I am happy to share with you that the economic cooperation and friendship between Vietnam and Japan has been further strengthened by the signing of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) by the two countries on 25th of December, 2008. I am quite confident that the EPA will pave the way for free flow of finance, goods and technologies/ human resources. If such cooperation can also lead to better fisheries resource management and contribute to sustainable production, coupled with increase in trade and improved economic conditions of fishers in Vietnam, I would be more than happy.

The success of the Training Project in Vietnam in general and the Phase Three Seminar in particular is due to the excellent cooperation and support received from various quarters. In this regard, I would like to first thank Mr Fuminori Miyatake, Deputy Director, International Cooperation Division, International Affairs Department, Minister's Secretariat, MAFF, Government of Japan and Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara, Senior Managing Director of National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations (JF-ZENGYOREN), Japan for taking their precious time to attend the Seminar. I would like to extend my thanks to Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc, Vice-President of VCA; Madam Nguyen Thu Hang, Vice-Chairwomen of People's Committee of Khanh Hoa Province and Mr Pham Trong Yen, Vice-Director, Department of Resource Development and Protection, MARD, Government of Vietnam for their precious time and support to the organization of the Seminar in Nha Trang.

Further, I would like to thank the lecturers, namely Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director, Bay of Bengal Program Inter-Governmental Organisation, Chennai, India; Mr Masaaki Sato, Secretary, ICFO; Dr Sandra Victoria Arcamo, Chief, Fisheries Resource Management Division, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Agriculture, Government of the Philippines; Mr Pinyo Kiatpinyo, President, Federation of Shrimp-Farmer Cooperatives of Thailand and Mr Bui Duc Quy, Vice-Director, Department of Aquaculture, MARD for preparation and presentation of the lectures. Dr Yadava, who is also the main advisor to the Project, deserves a special mention for his whole-hearted cooperation and support to this Training Project from the very beginning. Without his cooperation, the Project would have not have achieved such a good success.

Last but not the least, I would like to thank Dr Nguyen Tien Quan, President of VCA. Although he was unable to attend the Seminar due to his pre-occupation with the Parliamentary work, he directed his deputies and staff to provide full support to the organization and success of the Seminar. In this regard, I would also like to place on record my thanks to Mr Vu Van Dzong, Director General; Ms Tran Thu Hang, Deputy Director; Ms Tran Thi Ngan, Expert; Ms Vu Thanh Thuy, Programme Officer and Ms Nguyen Thi Thu Hao, Programme Officer of the International Relations Department of the VCA. Ms Hang along with Mr Nguyen Van Vung also provided the much-needed interpretation services and I would like to thank both of them.

As chairman of ICFO, I would also like to express my heart-felt thanks to the MAFF, Government of Japan for funding this Training Project.

服部 郁弘

Ikuhiro Hattori
Chairman

International Cooperative Fisheries Organization
of the International Cooperative Alliance

29 February 2008



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The cooperation and assistance received from the following organizations/ and agencies in successful completion of the Seminar for Promotion of Community-based Fisheries Resources Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam is deeply acknowledged:

- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Japan.
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Department of Aquaculture & Department of Exploitation and Natural Resources Protection).
- Vietnam Cooperative Alliance, Hanoi, Vietnam.
- People's Committee, Khanh Hoa Province.
- Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Khanh Hoa Province.
- Khanh Hoa Provincial Cooperative Alliance.





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Participants at the Seminar.

Report of Phase Three

Phase Three of the Training Project for “Promotion of Community-based Fishery Resource Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam” was organized in Nha Trang City, Vietnam from 10 - 14 February 2009. The main activity in Phase Three was a Seminar for “Promotion of Community-Based Fishery Resource Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam”. The Seminar was held from 11 - 13 February 2009 in Green Hotel, Nha Trang. This Report describes the proceedings and conclusions of the Seminar.

Pre-Seminar Activities

2.0 The Project advisors and staff of the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) arrived in Nha Trang City on the afternoon of 9 February 2009 for preparatory arrangements. The advisors and VCA staff discussed arrangements for the Seminar with regard to the conduct of group discussions and translation of the discussions at the Seminar from English to Vietnamese language and *vice versa* for the benefits of those participants who only spoke English or Vietnamese language. To facilitate discussions and group presentation in the Seminar, it was decided that one advisor/VCA staff would be assigned to each group. The facilitators identified for this purpose were Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava (Group A), Dr Sandra V Arcamo (Group B), Mr Masaaki Sato (Group C) and Ms Tran Thu Hang (Group D). It was also decided that Ms Hang and Mr Nguyen Van Dung (English Teacher and Translator) would assist in translations during the Seminar. Mr Vu Van Dzung (Director General, International Relations, VCA) and Ms Hang would serve as the Masters of Ceremony. For group discussion it was agreed to organize the participants under the following four groups.

Group A: Policy and legal support to Coastal Resources Management (CRM)

Group B: Sustainable use of coastal resources and their management

Group C: Institutional arrangements and their roles in CRM

Group D: Livelihoods, security nets and Human Resources Development in CRM

It was also agreed that based on the deliberations, the Seminar would adopt a set of recommendations under the title of ‘Nha Trang Resolution’.

3.0 On 10 February 2009 (forenoon), the advisors and VCA staff visited the famous Nha Trang Oceanography Museum. Established in September 1922, the Museum holds about 20 000 specimens collected over its long history; some full skeletons and others preserved in formaldehyde solution. The Museum also houses a number of stuffed sea mammals and displays of local boats and fishing artefacts. The Institute sponsors ongoing research and community projects, ranging from monitoring aquatic life to developing captive breeding programmes and encouraging preservation and regeneration of local coral reefs. The Museum campus has a marine aquarium and the Department of Marine Plankton. After visit to the Museum, the Group also visited some sites of historical significance in the city.

4.0 In the afternoon, the Group visited the Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (DARD), Khanh Hoa Province and met with the senior officials of the Province. Ms Nguyen Thi Hoa, Vice-Director of the Department received the Group. Mr Dzung introduced the Group and also explained the purpose of the visit to the Department.

5.0 Ms Hoa said that there are 10 cooperatives dealing with fisheries in the Province (7 with capture fisheries, 2 with aquaculture and 1 with ship building). Presently, only two-third of the fishers are members of the cooperatives; others have formed entrepreneur groups. However, as compared to the agricultural sector, fisheries cooperatives are growing in the Province. In the agriculture sector, it is easier to set up cooperatives, but agriculture farmers do not set up entrepreneur groups. In the fisheries



Opening Ceremony of the Seminar.



Top and bottom: Advisors and VCA Officials at the Khanh Hoa Provincial Cooperative Alliance.



Advisors and VCA Officials at the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Nha Trang.



sector, it is easy to set up both. Therefore, fishers have a choice - cooperatives or entrepreneur groups.

6.0 “Sometimes back Fisheries and Agriculture were separate Departments, but they are now merged into the DARD. At the Centre, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) is the nodal Ministry for agriculture and fisheries in the country”, said Ms Hoa. On the issue of loans, Ms Hoa informed that the cooperatives manage their own funds but projects are funded through loans to the cooperatives. The DARD provides guidance for project preparation and also carries out appraisal, if required.

7.0 Ms Hoa said that the Khanh Hoa Province has 30 processing units for seafood exports, of which 20 are certified for export to the European Union. However, raw material is insufficient to meet the processing capacity of the units in the Province. Some raw material is brought from other provinces, but the supply is still less than the demand. The Province exports white-legged shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) to European Union, black tiger shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*) to Japan and groupers to both European Union and United states. People in the Province prefer white-legged shrimp and the brood stock of the species is brought from Thailand. Mr Pinyo Kiatpinyo, Advisor said that the importers should ensure that the imported brood stock is healthy and specific pathogen free. The Federation of Shrimp Farmers Cooperatives would be happy to assist the Khanh Hoa Province in procurement of quality brood stock from Thailand. Mr Kiatpinyo invited the Vietnam Cooperative Leaders to visit his country to see the brood stock production centres. He also informed that in Thailand the small-scale hatcheries were in the process of forming a cooperative.

8.0 Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara, Senior Managing Director, JF-ZENGYRON (National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan) thanked Ms Hoa and other officers of the DARD present in the meeting for receiving the Group. Mr Miyahara said that the Japan-Vietnam negotiations for the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) were in progress. “Since fisheries form an important component of the EPA negotiations, our friendship should be further promoted to ensure that the EPA negotiations proceed smoothly”, said Mr Miyahara.

9.0 The last visit of the day was to the office of the Khanh Hoa Provincial Cooperative Alliance (KHPCA), where Mr Pham Ngoc Le, Vice-President, KHPCA welcomed the Group to the beautiful city of Nha Trang. He said that Nha Trang, located on the South Central coast of Vietnam (on South China Sea), is the capital of Khanh Hoa Province and is both geographically and economically significant. The city has a population of 300 00 inhabitants and is well known for its pristine beaches and scuba diving. The city was once home to the famous French-Swiss bacteriologist, Alexander Yersin, who established the Indochina Pasteur Institute (now known as the Nha Trang Pasteur Institute). The total population of the Province is 1.1 million and the administrative arrangements include eight administrative zones including one city, one town, two mountainous districts and three deltaic districts, and one island district.

10.0 Mr Le informed that the KHPCA comprises 200 members, with 33 members forming the Executive Committee. The Province has a total of 124 cooperatives. The fisheries cooperatives are included under the non-agricultural cooperatives and their functioning in the Province differs from the other Provinces in Vietnam. The fisheries cooperatives are grouped under seven groups; each cooperative providing job to 50-60 laborers. The fishing season is for 6-7 months and the gear & craft are shared by the members of the cooperative. During the remaining months the laborers are engaged in repair and maintenance of gear and fishing vessels. Besides fishing, the cooperatives also engage in aquaculture.

11.0 Mr Le informed that in the agriculture sector, the Province has 73 cooperatives, which are mainly engaged in providing service (inputs such as fertilizers, etc) to the

The Seminar in progress.



farmers. The Province also has three credit cooperatives, which are very effective. About 300 new enterprises are set up every year in the Province. He said that only members of the cooperative could take loan from the credit cooperatives. No collateral was required for loans up to 10 million VND (Vietnamese Dong; 1 US \$ = 17 800 VND approximately).

12.0 Mr Le further informed that tourism, hotels and seafood processing comprised the three main economic drivers in the Province. The Province is also attracting Foreign Direct Investment in the city of Nha Trang and also in the industrial zone. The Province ranks amongst the top 10 provinces of Vietnam and during 2008 the income of the Province was estimated at 4.5 thousand billion VND. The Province has good potential for investment and is gradually moving from agriculture to industrial activities.

13.0 Mr Miyahara thanked Mr Le and other members of the KHPCA present in the meeting for the excellent brief on the Province and the status of cooperatives and their activities. Mr Miyahara informed that besides a strong contingent of participants from Vietnam, the Seminar has received excellent cooperation from the advisors from India, Thailand, the Philippines, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan and the MARD, Vietnam. He hoped that the Seminar would conclude with successful results. Mr Fuminori Miyatake, Deputy Director, International Cooperation Division of MAFF also thanked the KHPCA for organizing the meeting and providing valuable information on Khanh Hoa Province.

Opening Ceremony

14.0 The Seminar was held in the Tai Function Hall of Green Hotel. Eighty-two persons took part. They represented the MARD and DARD of the Government of Vietnam; VCA; academic bodies; fisheries and aquaculture cooperatives from different coastal provinces of Vietnam; MAFF of the Government of Japan; advisors to the Project from the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation, India; Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Government of Philippines; Federation of Shrimp Farmers Cooperatives of Thailand; JF-ZENGYOREN of Japan and International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO) of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA). *Annexure 1* contains the list of participants. *Annexure 2* sets out the programme.

15.0 The Seminar began with the welcome address by Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc, Vice-President, VCA. Mr Cuoc extended a warm welcome to all the participants taking part in the Seminar. On the occasion of the New Year 2009, he wished everyone good health, happiness and success. Mr Quoc thanked ICFO, MAFF and JF-ZENGYOREN for their support to VCA in organizing this Seminar.

16.0 Mr Quoc said that in Vietnam, the cooperative movement in general and the fishery cooperatives in particular had recorded some significant achievements. State support coupled with investments in new equipment and facilities for aquaculture and offshore fisheries were the prime reasons for this success. Presently, in Vietnam there are 478 fishery cooperatives with over 30 000 labourers. The country is striving hard to promote its exports and the fishery cooperatives will have to acquire skills and training in promoting the exports. "During this Seminar, we will learn from the ideas and experiences of experts from abroad. We will also share thoughts and experiences with fishery cooperatives from different provinces of Vietnam about fishery resource management. We will make recommendations to the Government and to other agencies and international organizations in Vietnam and elsewhere, so that they frame policies and take decisions to help small-scale fishers and fishing communities", said Mr Quoc. *Annexure 3* contains the text of Mr Cuoc's welcome speech.

17.0 In her welcome address, Madam Nguyen Thi Thu Hang, Vice-Chairwoman of the People's Committee of Khanh Hoa Province warmly welcomed all international and Vietnamese delegates to the Seminar. She said that taking advantage of a long

coastline, the local authorities of Khanh Hoa Province have tried to develop fisheries and facilitate the growth of aquaculture. They have also urged residents to strictly follow regulations on fishery resource management. While the people of Khanh Hoa Province have a long tradition in fisheries, they ought to enhance skills and learn from international experience to meet the challenges posed by trade liberalization and globalization.

18.0 Ms Hang said that during this Seminar, she would like the participants to discuss fishery resource management issues that confront small-scale fishers. “Co-operatives in Khanh Hoa must learn from the experiences of cooperatives in other provinces and from abroad. We on our part will make recommendations and propose policies that advance the interests of fishery cooperatives and also promote fishery resource management”, said Ms Hang. Concluding her address, Ms Hang wished the Seminar success and thanked the international and national lecturers and ICFO and MAFF for sponsoring the Seminar. She wished everybody a pleasant and productive stay in Nha Trang. *Annexure 4* contains the text of Madam Hang’s welcome address.

19.0 Mr Miyahara, read the message of Mr Ikuhiro Hattori, Chairman of the International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO), who could not attend the Seminar because of other commitments. Mr Hattori asked Mr Miyahara to lead the Seminar.



Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara

20.0 Welcoming the Vice-President of VCA, the Vice-chairwoman of the People’s Committee of Khanh Hoa Province, advisors and participants, Mr Miyahara said that it was a great honour for him to speak at the opening ceremony of the Seminar. Mr Miyahara said that ICFO had conducted three seminars in the past to help strengthen leadership of fisheries cooperatives in Vietnam, with budgetary support from the MAFF, Government of Japan. The first seminar was held in Hanoi in March, 1992, the second was organized in Nha Trang in April, 1995, and the third in Hanoi in January, 2001. These three seminars dealt with a range of issues concerning policy matters and on measures to strengthen fisheries cooperatives in Vietnam, particularly with respect to their organizational and business aspects. Besides, the seminars also discussed fisheries resource management and issues related with the expanding international trade of fish and fishery products.

21.0 Mr Miyahara said that the theme of the Seminar for which we have now gathered here in Nha Trang is “Promotion of community-based fishery resource management by coastal small-scale fishers in Vietnam”. “One of the reasons why ICFO emphasizes on community-based fisheries resource management is that the communities have to play a major role in sustainable development of the fisheries resources in the years to come”, said Mr Miyahara.

22.0 Discussing the global fisheries scenario, Mr Miyahara said that the world’s fish stocks were declining continuously over the years and the fisheries sector was going through one of its most critical phases. Citing Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, he said that more than 75 percent of the world’s major fish stocks were either fully or over-exploited. Mr Miyahara said that there were many reasons for this decline, such as over-capacity and over-fishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU fishing), pollution, etc. At the same time fisheries management in many countries had become ineffective leading to inadequate resource conservation measures. Lack of organized community structures that can stem this decline was also an important reason.

23.0 The 21st century would be a century of critical food, energy and environmental crisis, said Mr Miyahara. The world is also facing the ill consequences of climate

change. The impact of global warming is getting more and more serious by the day. "A rise in sea level triggered by global warming can inundate low-lying areas, enhance erosion, lead to salt water intrusion and salination of coastal plains. It can destroy sensitive habitats, damage the environment and affect tourism by damaging archaeological, religious, historical and cultural sites. Most of all it will impact food production and livelihoods of millions of people across the globe. Many developing countries are facing food shortages and the situation is likely to aggravate if corrective measures are not taken. Therefore, both agriculture and fisheries must be promoted to satisfy the demand for food and save humanity from hunger. The possible shortfalls in animal protein supplies can be offset from the oceans, if they are used wisely to ensure sustainable production", said Mr Miyahara.

24.0 Detailing the context of the present Project, Mr Miyahara said that the present Project had been planned keeping in mind that better fisheries resource management would be the key to success and the communities could play a major role in achieving this success. Therefore, this Project is designed to promote community-based fisheries resource management by small-scale fishers engaged in coastal fisheries and by their organizations, enhance their capacities, strengthen their activities, and help contribute to ensuring sustainable production, creation of employment opportunities and poverty alleviation. Mr Miyahara said that realizing that more than half of world's fish production is contributed by the small-scale fisheries sector, and this sector provides employment opportunities for most of the coastal villages in the world, the Project assumes all the more significance.

25.0 Mr Miyahara hoped that Seminar would be able to deliberate on the issues that confront sustainable development of marine fisheries and emerge with better directions for management of the fisheries resources in Vietnam. The Seminar would also be able to educate, inspire and empower co-operators who in turn will help strengthen the cooperative spirit of small-scale fishers of Vietnam. He also hoped that the recommendations accruing from the deliberations would be translated into action for sustainable development of fisheries in Vietnam. The text of Mr Hattori's message is contained in *Annexure 5*.

26.0 Mr Fuminori Miyatake, Deputy Director, International Cooperation Division, speaking on behalf of MAFF, Government of Japan, said that it was a great honour for him to be at the Seminar. Citing the long history of cooperation with ICFO and ICA, Mr Miyatake said that since 1987 MAFF has supported fisheries cooperatives in Asian countries to help strengthen their capacities and develop the institutions through the trust fund and ICFO has been our main partner in this task. In 2005, the MAFF reviewed and discussed the results of its long-standing cooperation in the marine fisheries sector with the ICFO and developed a new fishery resources management project for small-scale fishers in Asia. This Project started in the Japanese Fiscal year 2006-07 and is being implemented in one country each year. Vietnam is the third country being assisted under this Project.



Mr Fuminori Miyatake

27.0 Mr Miyatake said that the declining fish stocks were posing serious threats to the global food security and also to the livelihoods of millions of fishers. Overfishing and use of unsustainable fishing practices are the major causes. On the other hand, the demand for fish and fish products is increasing, placing larger demand on the supply of quality seafood. In this situation, it is essential to maintain and or restore the fish stocks to the levels of maximum sustainable yield and from this standpoint the present Project has a very important role to play. Mr Miyatake also thanked Dr Nguyen



Seminar in progress.

Tien Quan, President of VCA and Mr Sato, Secretary, ICFO for their cooperation and efforts in preparation of this Seminar and hoped that the Seminar would conclude with fruitful results. *Annexure 6* contains the message of Mr Miyatake.

28.0 Mr Pham Trong Yen, Vice-Director, Department of Fisheries Resource Exploitation and Protection, MARD in his welcome message said that it was a great honour for him to be invited in the Seminar. On behalf of his Ministry he would like to extend sincere thanks to Mr Ikuhiro Hattori, Chairman of ICFO, Mr Miyahara, Mr Miyatake and Mr Sato for selecting Vietnam under this Project in the year 2008-09 and to all those who have extended their cooperation to prepare for this Seminar.

29.0 Mr Yen said that fisheries and aquaculture play an important role in the economy of Vietnam. Aquaculture has made significant progress in the last one decade and now Vietnam stands third in the world after China and India. In 2008, the total fish production was 4.0 million metric tonnes and the country exported seafood worth US \$ 4.5 billion. The sector provides jobs for about 5.0 million people.

30.0 “Like elsewhere in the world, the fisheries sector in Vietnam is also facing several problems, especially with regard to resource management and over capacity of the fishing fleet. We believe that many issues in the fisheries sector in Vietnam can be better addressed in a collective manner and in this regard, the fisheries cooperatives can play a very vital role. We are therefore aiming at strengthening of this sector. I hope this Seminar will provide us regional and international experience on good management of fisheries resources that can lead to sustainable development of fisheries in Vietnam”, said Mr Yen. The text of Mr Yen’s message is contained in *Annexure 7*.

Technical Session

31.0 The Technical Session included six presentations by invited experts, both from Vietnam and from outside. These presentations also set the stage for group discussions in the later part of the Seminar. The first presentation in the Technical Session was made by Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director, Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation, Chennai, India on ‘Results of Scoping Study for Promotion of Community-based Fishery Resources Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam’. The Scoping Study was undertaken by Dr Yadava and Mr Sato, during Phase One visit to Vietnam in August 2008.

32.0 Dr Yadava said that the fisheries sector in Vietnam contributed significantly to the economy of the country and Vietnam is becoming a major player in the global fisheries scenario. Significant developments have taken in Vietnam, especially after the new renovation phase. Fisheries management in Vietnam is a two-tier system, where part of the responsibility lies with the provincial authorities and part with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. A new Fisheries Law, which went into



effect in July 2004 states that fisheries resources shall be subject to the ownership of the people and under the integrated management of the State. This is a significant step towards larger adoption of community-based fisheries management in Vietnam, said Dr Yadava.

33.0 A SWOT Analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) carried out as a part of the Scoping Study was also presented by Dr Yadava. The SWOT Analysis indicates that while growth prospects of aquaculture are high and the area under aquaculture has rapidly increased, the mechanisms for regulation and infrastructure for production and marketing have not developed in tandem. It also suggests regulation of access in marine fisheries and optimization of effort to stem the decline in respect of many commercial fish stocks. *Annexure 8* provides full text of Dr Yadava's presentation.

34.0 Mr Masaaki Sato, Secretary, ICFO presented a paper on 'Coastal Fisheries Management System and Efforts for Resource Recovery in Japan', prepared by Dr Jun-Ichiro Okamoto, Professor, Faculty of Fisheries Sciences, Hokkaido University, Japan. Mr Sato said that the 1949 Fisheries Law of Japan formed the basis of the present day Japanese fisheries management system. The fisheries management system relies on two pillars - the fisheries right and fisheries licensing adequately supported by the mechanism of democratic decision making. He also presented a detailed account of the evolution of the Japanese fisheries management system from the feudal era to the present day system.

35.0 In the post-World War II period, the Government of Japan initiated reforms in the fisheries management system, said Mr Sato. In line with such reforms, the new Fisheries Cooperative Association Law (FCAL) was enacted, which provided each member with one voting right, regardless of the number of share-holdings in the cooperative association. The new Fisheries Law was enacted soon after the FCAL came into operation. The new fisheries law was mandated to democratize fisheries management system through operation of fisheries adjustment mechanism as well as to improve fisheries productivity through suitable allocation of fishing opportunities and grounds. Under the reformed fisheries right system, the fisheries rights were re-categorized and a fixed term of validity was also prescribed. To meet the objectives of the Law, preparation of master plans for fisheries right and priority order for granting the right were introduced. In addition, fisheries adjustment committees were also established to operate the system in a democratic manner.

36.0 Mr Sato said that the Japanese coastal fisheries management system represented by the fisheries right system could be classified as a good combination of right-based fisheries management and community-based fisheries management systems. He said that local fisheries cooperative associations (FCAs) played a key role in coastal fisheries management. The FCAs originated and evolved from the fisher association in 1885 and are now established as self-regulatory bodies for fisheries management and reconciliation of conflicts among fishers. Almost all fishers from coastal fisheries and the far-sea fisheries sectors are members of FCA. This uniqueness of FCAs enables them to be the key stakeholder in all policy implementation activities, including fisheries resource recovery programmes (RRPs), and as appropriate legal entities to be entitled with the fisheries rights in the coastal waters abutting their areas of jurisdiction.



37.0 Describing the status of fish stocks in Japan, Mr Sato said that about 50 percent of fish stocks faced over-exploitation. RRPs have been introduced to stem this situation in many fisheries. As of January 2008, 48 RRPs have already been agreed and implemented all over the country, of which 17 of them are regional and 30 are local programmes. The government support for implementation of the RRP include (i) financial aid and (ii) stock enhancement. The financial aid may cover compensation for retirement or for cessation of fishing, subsidy for introduction of new gear to meet the requirements of the new regulation and subsidy for activities relating to cleaning of fishing grounds.

38.0 Mr Sato said that the fisheries adjustment committees as well as the FCAs play important roles in implementation and coordination of activities under the RRPs. Citing the example of RRPs in Seto Inland Sea and Miyazaki Prefecture, Mr Sato said that in the Seto Inland Sea, the Japanese Spanish Mackerel (JSM) formed a very popular and expensive fisheries. The drastic decrease in the landings of JSM was seen from 1986 onwards and the fishers and Prefecture authorities feared that the stocks would collapse. Scientific data also confirmed that the stock levels became lower than the carrying capacity since 1992. As a part of the RRP, the fishing seasons were shortened and larger mesh size was introduced. While the goal of the RRP was to reach the levels of 1991, according to recent estimates, the projected stock recovery by 2011 would only reach about 65 percent level of 1991. Though this RRP is regarded as one of the successful conservation programmes in Japan, the recovery projection shows how difficult it can be to achieve the desired goals.



39.0 Notwithstanding many management initiatives taken up by the fisheries sector in Japan, including RRPs, much more is needed to be done towards sustainable exploitation of the resources, said Mr Sato. The FCAs and the fisheries associations have formed the backbone of these management initiatives and the existing fisheries management system provides the right foundation for implementation of the RRPs. Without their existence it would have been a much more arduous task to implement the management programmes in the country. Mr Sato said that the Japanese experience in fisheries management also highlights the importance of stakeholders and their involvement as legitimate entities, which can democratically work for fisheries and resource management.

40.0 In conclusion, Mr Sato said that a strong political will was an essential prerequisite to achieve success in implementation of the management programmes. Delegation of authority/ power to the stakeholders, decision-making using democratic processes, appropriate monitoring, intervention and support by the government were other essential requisites for achieving the desired goals and social equity in the fisheries sector. *Annexure 9* contains the full text of the paper presented by Mr Sato.

41.0 Mr Bui Duc Quy, Vice-Director (Aquaculture), MARD, Government of Vietnam made a presentation on “ Application of Japanese Fisheries Resource Management System to Vietnam - Practical Considerations”. Mr Quy was also a member of the Vietnamese



team that visited Japan in the Phase Two Study Visit under the Training Project. Mr Quy said that as compared to Vietnam, Japan is a highly industrialized nation and the country is implementing various measures such as limiting the fleet size, implementing RRP, improving the environment and placing increased focus on aquaculture to improve the overall fisheries sector in the country. Japan also has a well-established Fisheries Resource Management (FRM) System that works right from the Central to the Provincial and then to the Prefectural levels. The Fisheries Cooperative Associations form the backbone of the coastal fisheries sector in Japan.

42.0 Highlighting the common features of the fisheries sectors of Vietnam and Japan, Mr Quy said that Vietnam being a developing country lags behind in sustainable development of its resources. The large size of the fishing fleet and open access regime in the country makes it difficult to implement sound management programmes. Vietnam needs to optimize its fishing fleet in tune with the harvestable potential. The pressure on the near-shore waters also needs to be reduced by modernizing the fleet and moving it offshore.

43.0 Mr Quy said that the effective utilization of the fishery and aquaculture resources in Vietnam would require re-organization of the fishers and fish farmers into cooperatives or fisher/ farmer associations. The monitoring, control and surveillance programmes need to be strengthened and the investment on research and development requires manifold increase to support fisheries developmental activities in the country. See *Annexure 10* for full text of Mr Quy's paper.

44.0 Dr (Ms) Sandra V Arcamo, Chief, Fisheries Resource Management Division, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Agriculture, Government of Philippines in her presentation on "Application of Japanese Community-based Fisheries Management in the Philippines" provided an overview of the implementation of the Training Project for "Promotion of Community-based Fishery Management (CBFM) by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Asia" in the Philippines. Under the Project, a select group of Filipinos (including Dr Arcamo) went on a study visit to Tokyo and Okinawa in September 2006 to observe and understand the CBFM system of Japan and derive ideas that may be applied to the Philippine setting.

45.0 Dr Arcamo in her presentation compared the geography, economy and fisheries profile of both the Philippines and Japan; the legal frameworks; organizational structures for fisheries resource management; and also the issues, strategies, and effectiveness of each structure. Dr Arcamo said that Japan's FRM is based on traditional systems of sea tenure, protection of small-scale fishers, involvement of fishers in resource management policies, homogeneity and social equity of fishers comprising the FCAs, economically viable and sustainable fishing and fish farming operations, and administrative feasibility of management arrangements and measures. In the Philippines, sustainable use of fisheries resources and rehabilitation of degraded fish habitats were carried out through participatory resource management and capacity building of stakeholders, both at the national and local levels.

46.0 "The application of Japan's FRM in the Philippines poses a challenge due to differences in the legal framework, organizational structure, culture/ customs and attitudes between the two countries", said Dr Arcamo. Nevertheless, existing opportunities in the Philippines for application of some Japanese CBFM experiences were presented that included the current Philippine legal and institutional frameworks such as the Fisheries Code of 1998, devolution of authority to local governments and the establishment of Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Councils (FARMCs). Likewise, better information on the status of fish stocks, greater cooperation between management authorities and research institutions and the expansion and growth of fisheries cooperatives would contribute to the improved implementation of CBFM. Nonetheless, it is very apparent that fishers and the communities play a vital role in carrying out CBFM, be it in the context of Japanese or Filipino culture. Moreover,

success of CBFM depends a great deal on strong political will, autonomous authority for stakeholders, democratized mechanisms, and appropriate monitoring, control and surveillance mechanism and support by government authority. “At the end of the day, the degree of success of CBFM will depend on strong political will, autonomous authority for stakeholders, democratized mechanisms and appropriate interventions and support by government authority”, said Dr Arcamo. See *Annexure 11* for full text of Dr Arcamo’s paper.

47.0 Mr Pinyo Kiatpinyo, President, Federation of Shrimp-Farmer Cooperatives of Thailand presented a paper on “Possibilities of Introducing Community-based Fisheries Resource Management in Thailand”. Mr Kiatpinyo was a part of the Thai delegation that visited Japan in the Second Year’s Training Project in September 2007. Describing the problems faced by the small-scale fishers in Thailand, Mr Kiatpinyo said that over-capacity and open access to fisheries are the two main issues that need suitable management interventions. “While acknowledging these issues, it is generally realized that solutions not only lie in technical interventions, but also in social and economic interventions. Further, finding suitable alternative livelihoods for fishers, within and outside the sector, poses a big challenge”, said Mr Kiatpinyo.

48.0 Examining some of the interventions in post-harvest operations that could help improve the economic base of small-scale fishers in Thailand, Mr Kiatpinyo said that with the improvements in transportation system and better networking, transit time to markets was getting reduced. Further, with the new and emerging opportunities in value addition, focusing on increased efficiency and specialization in value chains, well-planned interventions by the government could go a long way in helping the small-scale fisheries sector. Mr Kiatpinyo’s presentation is placed in *Annexure 12*.



49.0 The final presentation in the Technical Session was made by Mr Pham Trong Yen. In his presentation on “Capacity Enhancement of Fisher Organizations to Promote Management of Fisheries Resources in Vietnam”, Mr Yen said that the fishery sector in Vietnam is highly diversified and developed all over the country, with major concentrations in the coastal areas and around the Islands. The economic policy of the Government in the renovation phase mobilized the active participation of people in the development of this sector. This helped in a continuous growth of fisheries (including aquaculture) and also fuelled the economy, helping Vietnam in its economic integration with the global market.





Participants at the welcome and farewell dinner.

50.0 However, the fast pace of fisheries development in the country also brought in a host of issues, threatening the sustainability of the sector, said Mr Yen. Lack of planning during the development phase has been one of the main reasons for the present situation. While exploitation of the resources received a priority, conservation of the biodiversity, protection of critical habitats and resource regeneration was overlooked.

51.0 In conclusion, Mr Yen said that greater involvement of the local communities has been effective in management of the fishery resources elsewhere in the world and also to some extent in Vietnam. In diverse social and ecological settings, such as those in Vietnam, the resource management models with community participation could be useful. Sound policies would also help in laying down effective norms for management and good governance and support fishers and their organizations. In the longer period, improving the socio-economic conditions of fishers and regulating access to fisheries would be very useful in sustainable development of the resources. *Annexure 13* contains full text of Mr Yen's paper.

Welcome Party

52.0 A welcome party was hosted by the VCA on 11 February 2009 in 'Ghien Ghanh' restaurant, which was attended by all the participants, advisors and senior functionaries of the local administration.

Group Discussions

53.0 To engage the participants in meaningful discussions and arrive at recommendations based on their requirements, the Seminar format included group discussion. At the end of the first day's proceedings the participants were divided into four groups to discuss various issues pertaining to sustainable use and management of coastal resources in Vietnam. The topics assigned to the four groups were as follows:

Group A: Policy and Legal Support to Coastal Resources Management (CRM)

(The topics of discussion assigned to the group *inter alia* included policy support to CRM; legal support to CRM; monitoring, control and surveillance in CRM; inter-sectoral and intra-sectoral conflicts and mechanisms for their resolution).

Group B: Sustainable Use of Coastal Resources and their Management

(The topics of discussion assigned to the group *inter alia* included sustainable fishing practices; conservation and resource enhancement; marketing and cold chain; technological requirements).

Group C: Institutions and their Role in CRM

(The topics of discussion assigned to the group *inter alia* included fisheries cooperatives, including their management bodies and activities; institutional finance; role of other departments and institutions such as universities, national and/ or international NGOs, etc in management of CRM; coordination and linkages among institutions in CRM).

Group D: Livelihoods, Security Nets and Human Resources Development in CRM

(The topics of discussion assigned to the group *inter alia* included alternate livelihoods (*e.g.* Eco-tourism) and additional income generating activities; gender in CRM; training and extension; social security nets for fishers (including insurance for their implements, etc.); safety and health of fishers).

54.0 Each group nominated a chairperson and a rapporteur for facilitating the discussions. One advisor was also assigned to each group to serve as the facilitator. After intense discussion, each group finalized its report for presentation in the Plenary. The group-wise list of participants and their recommendations are presented in box on pages 16-19.

Group 1: Policy and Legal Support to Coastal Resources Management

Group leader: Nguyen Cuu Quoc

Presenter: Nguyen Van Hung

Group members: Van Ngoc Chuong; Nguyen Trinh; Tran Huu Lam ; Nguyen Van Phuc; Nguyen Van Trinh; Dang Ngoc Ha; Nguyen Xuan Chuong; Vo Van Nhay; Mai Thanh Liem; Huynh Nghieu; Pham Le Tan Phong; Nguyen Ngoc Trung; Nguyen Thanh Tai; Hoang Huu Vuong; Nguyen Van Phien.

Group recommendations:

- **Encourage** offshore fishing by prohibiting or limiting the construction/ deployment of vessels below 90 CV (HP). In 1995, the Government initiated a policy worth 4 000 billion VND for building vessels in the capacity range of 180 - 200 CV. This policy should be implemented. Further, areas open for fishing in the sea should be managed by determining the rights, permissions and size of vessels.
- **Support** the fishers and the cooperatives to organize production, processing and trading directly or through the cooperatives and/ or through the federation of fishery cooperatives. The fishers should also be supported during the closed season and to access loan from the state exchequer (public finance).
- **Decentralize** decision-making process and formulation of law by involving fishers and their cooperatives at every stage.
- **Define** clearly the roles and interests of fishers in fishery resource management.
- **Demarcate** areas/ zones for fishing by the cooperatives.
- **Strengthen** enforcement of the laws by properly defining the responsibilities and ensuring coordination amongst the responsible organizations. The fisheries cooperatives should be a part of the enforcement process. The Government should realize the important role of fishers in community-based fisheries resource management and should create favorable conditions for the fisheries cooperatives to develop.
- **Revise** and supplement the application of the conditions in the Government's Decision No 289/TTG -2008.
- **Consolidate** and restructure fishery cooperatives.
- **Set up** funds for supporting fishery resource management.
- **Organize** more seminars and workshops and provide advisory services to fishers on fishery resource management. Under the present ICFO/ ICA/VCA Project, organize an evaluation and monitoring seminar after one year.

Group 2: Sustainable Use of Coastal Resources and their Management

Group leader: Nguyen Van Ai

Presenter: Nguyen Trong Que

Group members: Phung Van Hoa; Le Luan; Pham Van My; Pham Van My; Do Van Minh; Nguyen Van; Nguyen Quoc Hung; Cu Thi Hoang (Ms); Nguyen Quoc Hai; Nguyen Tho; Pham Ngoc Le; Nguyen Thi Hong Anh (Ms); Truong Van Thanh; Nguyen Thi Hong Anh (Ms); Ong Thi Thu (Ms).

Group recommendations:

- **Preserve and develop** the marine resources by managing coastal and offshore fisheries, regulating mesh size, restricting juvenile catch, prohibiting destructive fishing practices and by releasing breeders and gravid fishes back to the sea. Budget for research and development on marine fisheries should be increased.
- **Strengthen** the data/ information collection mechanism and make available quality data for planning and formulation of policies.
- **Implement** regulations on resources management and establish reserve areas/ sanctuaries for fish stocks to rejuvenate.
- **Develop** policies and programmes to remove excess effort from the sector and promote alternate livelihoods opportunities for fishers and their families.
- **Set up** multi-tier fisheries management organizations from central to local level. The Department of Resource Development should have units at the local level.
- **Increase** investment in processing and setting up of aquaculture units, fishing ports and related infrastructure, fish marketing facilities, processing technology, ship building and environment protection, etc.
- **Promote** establishment of cooperatives and cooperative groups for development of aquaculture, processing units and fisheries infrastructure such as fishing ports and fishing quays.
- **Support** funding of cooperatives engaged in resource protection.
- **Motivate** fishers to help in improving the marine environment by removal of garbage and keeping the marine waters clean.
- **Avoid destruction** of mangrove forests, salt marshes and other environmentally sensitive areas as it may have adverse affect on the environment and the resources.
- **Popularize** success stories of cooperatives for adoption by the other cooperatives.
- **Streamline** existing legal provisions and strengthen enforcement.
- **Create** awareness amongst fishers on policies and needs for conservation and develop supporting institutions at the local level for training fishers and other stakeholders. Publicize the policies and legal instruments such as the Fisheries Law, Law on Cooperatives, Decrees, and Ordinances related to the sector through seminars, workshops, mass media, etc. Also arrange an awareness drive and overseas exchange of experts under the present ICFO/ICA/VCA Project.

Group 3: Institutions and their Role in Coastal Resources Management

Group leader: Nguyen Tac An

Presenter: Doan Van Toa

Group members: Le Huu Tuan Anh; Nguyen Chi Linh; Ho Van Vang; Truong Thanh Nghia; Do Thi My (Ms); Hoang Van Hung; Trang Van Tui; Duong Van Huong; Nguyen Xuan Hanh; Dang Van Vinh; Nguyen Nhin; Vo Thien Lang; Dang Van Nam; Do Minh Tri.

Group recommendations:

- **Provide** capital support and technical advice to the fisheries cooperatives to enhance their skills and capacities. The fisheries cooperatives are weak compared to other sectors and concentrated in aquaculture.
- **Enhance** advocacy on sustainable management of the resources.
- **Strengthen** monitoring, control and surveillance mechanism and make penal provisions for violations more stringent.
- **Decentralize** decision-making process and promote co-management of the resources.
- **Improve** coordination among responsible agencies like provincial divisions of resource protection and development, the inspection units and the research institutions.
- **Invest** in human resources, especially in management aspects.
- **Promote** NGOs to facilitate their larger involvement in providing technical and financial assistance to the fisheries sector.
- **Recognize** the role of local authorities in coastal resources management.
- **Establish** Fisheries Consultative Committees to advise the Government on issues such as community-based fisheries management, etc.

**Group 4: Livelihoods, Security Nets and Human Resources Development
in Coastal Resources Management**

Group leader: Phan Chanh Thi

Presenter: Le Manh Linh

Group members: Quach Thu Hung; Tran Van Kien; Kieu Van Vi; Tran Dinh Phong; Tran Thanh Quoc; Tran Nhu Cuong; Nguyen Thi Hoa (Ms); Tran Trung Dung; Dao Mong Uyen; Le Thanh Dung; Phan Thanh Hien; Bui Mau; Du Quan Tong; Le Bich Thuy (Ms); Nguyen Van Thanh.

Group recommendations:

- Recognize the user rights of fisher cooperatives and demarcate zones for exclusive use of fisher cooperatives.
- Develop eco-tourism and wherever possible involve fisher communities.
- Re-organize small-scale fishers and provide support for vocational training to enable them to take up alternative occupations. A master plan should be developed in this regard taking into consideration the educational and financial status of the fishers.
- Ensure the welfare of women fish workers while formulating policies.
- Impart professional training to the management bodies of the cooperatives to enable them to handle the affairs in a professional manner.
- Implement policies and regulations through effective extension mechanisms.
- Grant loans on soft terms to fishers for capacity-building.
- Implement healthcare services for the fishers and create awareness on safety issues.



Field visits.

Plenary Session

55.0 During Plenary Session the four groups presented the observations and recommendations. Each group's presentation was followed by discussions. The recommendations of the four groups are placed in the box on pages 16-19. A drafting committee comprising Mr Vu Van Dzong, Ms Tran Thu Hang, Mr Masaaki Sato and Dr Y S Yadava prepared the draft Resolution (Nha Trang Resolution) for presentation in the closing session of the Seminar.

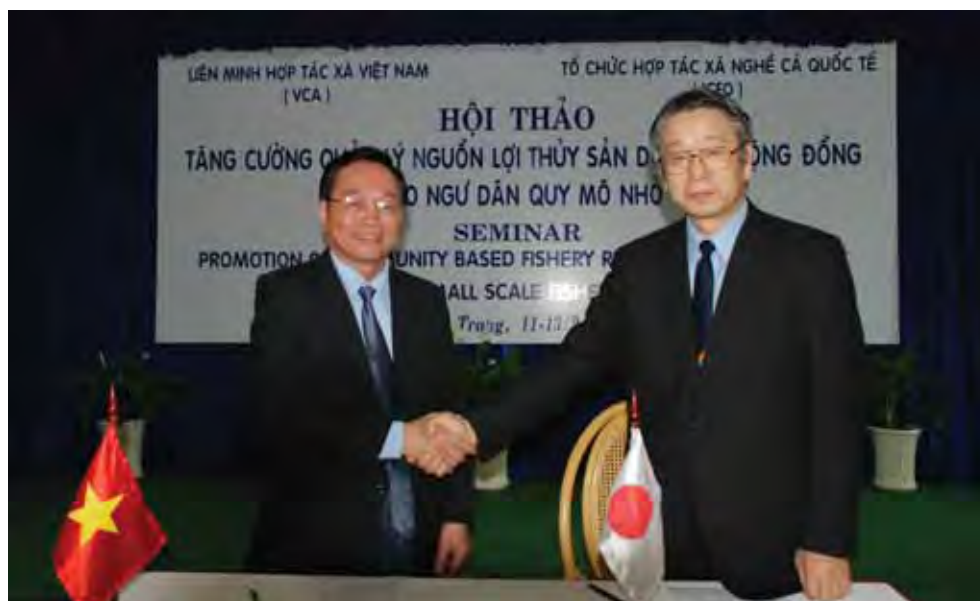
Closing Session

56.0 Mr Vu Van Dzong presented the draft resolutions to the Plenary for its adoption. On the basis of suggestions received, the resolutions were finalized and adopted as 'Nha Trang Resolution'. After adoption, the 'Nha Trang Resolution' was signed by Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc (on behalf of VCA) and by Mr Masaaki Sato (on behalf of ICFO). The full text of the 'Nha Trang Resolution' is in Chapter 2 of this Report.

57.0 Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director, BOBP-IGO, on behalf of the Organizers of the Seminar and fellow advisors/ lecturers thanked MAFF, Government of Japan, ICFO and the VCA for the invitation to participate in the Seminar in Nha Trang and also for facilitating the stay and providing excellent hospitality. Dr Yadava said that he had also visited Hanoi and various other places during the Phase One visit in August 2008. During the earlier visit and now in the Seminar, he had the opportunity of meeting and interacting with a large number of people representing fisheries cooperative sector, government and industry. He found the interactions to be extremely useful, and was confident that the fisheries sector in Vietnam was in safe hands.

58.0 Dr Yadava complimented the VCA for bringing a large number of representatives from the cooperative sector to the Seminar. "This is by far the largest participation in the Phase Three Seminar organized so far under the Training Project. This large participation not only shows the interest of VCA in enhancing the skills and capacities of the cooperatives but also the participants' own interest in sustainable development of the fisheries sector", said Dr Yadava.

59.0 Dr Yadava thanked the participants for their cooperation and collective action in adopting the 'Nha Trang Resolution', which he felt would strengthen their hands in making Vietnam a leader in fisheries and aquaculture in the world.



Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc and Mr Masaaki Sato shaking hands after signing the 'Nha Trang Resolution'.



Participants receiving the 'Certificate of Participation' .





Mr Masaaki Sato being interviewed by the local Press.

60.0 While thanking the Government of Japan for funding the Training Project and the ICFO and VCA for successfully implementing it in Vietnam, Dr Yadava said that the knowledge and experience gained through this Seminar should be further disseminated in the country for development of fisheries and aquaculture. On behalf of the resource persons, he reiterated the commitment to provide technical support in promotion of community-based fisheries resource management in Vietnam. *Annexure 14* contains Dr Yadava's Summing Up Remarks.

61.0 Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara on behalf of the chairman of ICFO, Mr Ikuhiro Hattori, thanked all the participants, advisors and resource persons, officials of MARD and Khanh Hoa Province, VCA and all those who had cooperated to make the Seminar a very productive and useful exercise. He expressed his whole-hearted gratitude to the VCA President, Dr Nguyen Tien Quan; Vice-President Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc; Mr Vu Van Dzong, Director General, International Relations, VCA and Ms Tran Thu Hang, Deputy Director, VCA for their whole-hearted cooperation and hospitality in making the Seminar memorable one.

62.0 Mr Miyahara thanked all the participants for successfully completing the Seminar and adopting the 'Nha Trang Resolution', which will give an impetus to furthering fisheries development policies and practices in Vietnam, particularly from the standpoint of promotion of community-based fishery resource management by coastal small-scale fishers in the country. He hoped that 'Nha Trang Resolution' would be translated into action in such a way that meets the natural environment, historical and cultural values of Vietnam.

63.0 Mr Miyahara said that the primary industry, including fishery is the key for development of a country. In this regard, Asia is in a better position when compared to other continents, especially in terms of climate and productivity of the natural resources. Therefore, wise use of the wealth of resources should pave the way for development in this region.

64.0 In conclusion, Mr Miyahara reiterated his thanks to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of Vietnam, People's



Committee of Khanh Hoa Province, and to the Resource Persons for making the fishery sector a reliable and prosperous industry for coastal small-scale fishers in Asia. He hoped that the ties between the fishers in Asia will be further strengthened through such international cooperation. Mr Miyahara's speech is seen on *Annexure 15*.

65.0 Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc proposed the vote of thanks. He thanked the MAFF, Government of Japan and ICFO in supporting VCA in hosting the Seminar, and to the resource persons from abroad and Vietnam for their contributions to the success of the Seminar. Mr Quoc thanked all the participants and fellow cooperators for sparing their valuable time to participate in the Seminar and also for joining hands in adopting the 'Nha Trang Resolution'. "While the Resolution is a significant milestone for the fisheries sector in Vietnam, a larger task now lies ahead of us in implementing the resolution in true letter and spirit", said Mr Quoc. In conclusion, Mr Quoc wished all the guests and participants a safe and comfortable journey to their respective homes. *Annexure 16* contains Mr Quoc's closing remarks.

66.0 The Seminar participants were awarded certificates in appreciation of their participation and contributions to the proceedings. The certificates were presented by Mr Miyahara and Mr Quoc.



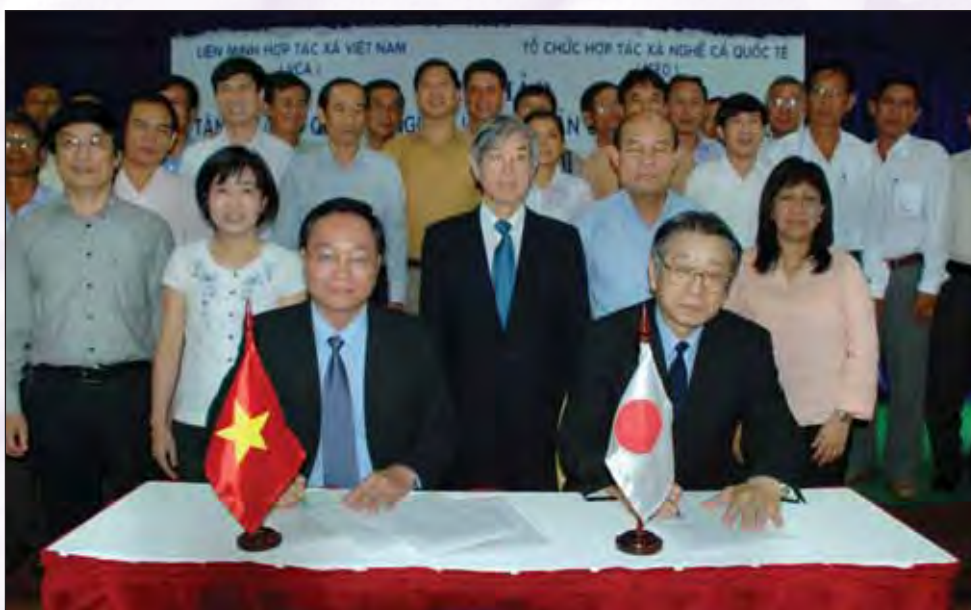
67.0 After the conclusion of the proceedings, the local press interviewed Mr Masaaki Sato on the objectives of the Seminar and the achievements.

68.0 In the afternoon, the participants were taken on a field trip to see fishing activities in the South China Sea. The participants observed purse seining activities by small-scale fishing boats. On their way to the fishing ground, the participants also observed mariculture activities – farming of groupers in net cages placed in the shallow waters.

69.0 A farewell dinner was organized at the 'Gia' restaurant, which was attended by all the participants, advisors and local guests.

70.0 The participants and advisors returned to their respective places on 14 February 2009.





Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc, Vice-President, VCA and Mr Masaaki Sato, Secretary, ICFO signing the 'Nha Trang Resolution' adopted at the Seminar.

The Nha Trang Resolution

of 13 February 2009
at Nha Trang City
Vietnam

We, the concerned leaders of fishery cooperatives, fish farmers cooperative and associations of small-scale fishers and fish farmers of coastal communes in Vietnam, together with our equally concerned officials from the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO) and the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) recognize that:

Vietnam occupies a prominent position in the world's fisheries map and the fisheries sector accounts for 4.0 percent of the national GDP. The fisheries sector has become a key economic industry contributing to creation of jobs, earning of foreign exchange and poverty alleviation. More than four million people are directly employed in the sector and nearly 10 percent of the population derives its main income from fisheries. In the year 2008, the export of seafood from Vietnam was valued at US \$ 4.5 billion.

We further recognize that the fisheries sector in Vietnam is set in a favourable tropical climate with high potential of development in both fisheries and aquaculture. The fisheries resources in the country comprise a long coastline of 3 260 km, territorial waters of about 1.0 million sq. km and a variety of aquaculture resources estimated at about 1.0 million ha.

We further recognize that the marine fisheries resources are showing a decreasing trend and the livelihoods of a large number of small-scale fishers and entrepreneurs stand threatened. The sustainable growth of the marine fisheries sector is affected by factors from both within and outside the fisheries sector.

We also recognize that efficient management of the fisheries resources and environment is essential to meet the food and nutritional requirements of the growing population, sustain the livelihoods of millions of fishers and other stakeholders and maintain the flourishing trade in fish and fishery products.

We agree that strategies for efficient management of the fisheries resources and environment would have to rely on a participatory and community-based approach that promotes awareness, knowledge, voluntary compliance and action to solve problems. We further urge the Government, the VCA, the industry, the non-governmental/ civil society organizations and other community-based organizations to support the strategies and in this regard solemnly **adopt the following resolutions:**

A Resolution affirming to preserve the seas, rivers and their estuaries and other fishery and aquatic resources and to safeguard them from pollution, habitat degradation, illegal fishing and over-exploitation for the food and nutritional security of the present and future generations;

A Resolution committing to help the Government to enforce the laws and decisions concerning fisheries sector and to further assist in the effective implementation of the policies and programmes of the Government towards sustainable use of the marine fisheries resources of the country;

A Resolution urging the Government in collaboration with the fisheries cooperatives, fisher associations and coastal communities to undertake effective measures to optimize the fishing fleet keeping in view the harvestable potential of the marine fisheries resources and also by adopting the 'precautionary approach';

A Resolution requesting the Government to take effective steps in consultation with the fishers and other concerned stakeholders to reduce the growing conflict amongst different groups of fishers and demarcate fishing zones for different categories of fishers;

A Resolution urging the Government to initiate the mechanism for implementing monitoring, control and surveillance in consultation with the fishers and other stakeholders so as to *inter alia* establish closed areas/ closed seasons, regulate mesh size, protect spawning grounds and migratory routes of commercially important fish species and prohibit harmful fishing gear or practices;

A Resolution urging the Government in consultation with the stakeholders to create necessary environment for changes from an open access to regulated open access to fishery and subsequent allocation of rights to fishers;

A Resolution requesting the Government to create adequate infrastructure facilities in terms of fishing harbours and ports, so as to provide safe landing and berthing places for fishing vessels, facilities for repair and maintenance of gear and crafts and to meet the other essential requirements of harvest and post-harvest activities;

A Resolution urging the Government to improve the information base on fisheries and establish a mechanism for regular flow of data/ information and formulate management plans for commercially important fish stocks/ species in consultation with fishers and their cooperatives/ associations and other user groups;

A Resolution requesting the Government to promote integration of harvest and post-harvest activities so as to reduce spoilage of catch, support strengthening of domestic marketing through establishment of cold chain and markets at the local and national levels and also to protect the interests of cooperatives and associations in the global market;

A Resolution urging the Government to create opportunities and an enabling environment to support the participation of fishers and their cooperatives in management of the fisheries resources and in all stages of the developmental processes such as management of fishing harbours and ports, etc;

A Resolution urging the Government Financial Institutions and other fund sources to open windows for long-term loans to fishery cooperatives for investing in marketing and development of infrastructure such as cold storages, etc;

A Resolution requesting the Government to support modernization of the fishing fleet that can be moved for offshore fishing in the country's Exclusive Economic Zone and also in international waters;

A Resolution urging the Government and Insurance Agencies to establish insurance services for fishery cooperatives to protect their assets, life and other risks;

A Resolution requesting the Government to provide opportunities for alternative livelihoods for fisher community in areas such as aquaculture, eco-tourism, etc, which would help in reducing the pressure on coastal fisheries resources;

A Resolution urging the Government to enhance people's participation in the management of natural resources and the environment and to provide incentives to enable the fishers to actively engage in resource conservation measures and voluntary compliance of the fisheries and related laws;

A Resolution requesting the Government to further promote research and developmental activities in the field of mariculture, stock enhancement through sea ranching and other suitable measures, development of management plans for commercially important fish stocks/ species and recovery of depleted fish stocks/ species;

A Resolution urging the Government to implement effectively HRD in fisheries sector especially aimed at the stakeholders at the grassroots level, promote the use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) and further develop fishery information management system;

A Resolution requesting the Government to increase public awareness on the needs of sustainable and responsible coastal resources management, important provisions of the law that relate to fisheries sector and also consider promoting formal and informal education at the school and community levels to inculcate the needs of conservation of the natural resources and inter and intra-generational equity;

A Resolution requesting the Government to reduce overlaps between different management functionaries such as central government and local authorities and converge their policies and programmes for sustainable development of the coastal resources;

A Resolution urging the Government to increase the outlay for development of infrastructure and other basic facilities such as service zones, setting up of modern fisheries centres on the line of export processing zones and improving the competitiveness of Vietnam in global seafood trade;

A Resolution urging the Government to consider setting up of integrated fisheries complexes on the offshore islands to promote harvest and post-harvest activities and other requirements for development of offshore fisheries;

A Resolution urging the Government to improve the social security net of coastal small-scale fishers in areas such as safety at sea and health and general well-being;

A Resolution urging the Government to consider supporting the livelihoods of small-scale fishers during 'closed season' and also to mitigate the financial hardships due to fuel price increase;

A Resolution requesting the Government and the VCA to set up a federation of fishery cooperatives in the country;

A Resolution urging the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other Inter-Governmental Bodies dealing with fisheries and aquaculture and donors to assist the cooperatives through the VCA in strengthening their skills and capacities in community-based fisheries and coastal resources management, and in promoting regional cooperation in the management of fisheries resources;

A Resolution urging the Government to adopt the 'Principle of Subsidiarity' in true letter and spirit, thus ensuring empowerment, social justice and equity.

Done by the participants, resource persons and representatives from cooperatives, associations and small-scale fisher groups, and government and related institutions in the **ICFO/ VCA Seminar for the Promotion of Community-based Fisheries Resource Management by Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam** held in Nha Trang City, Vietnam on 13 February 2009.

Attested by:



Nguyen Cuu Quoc
Vice-President
Vietnam Cooperative Alliance
Vietnam



Masaaki Sato
Secretary
International Cooperative
Fisheries Organization



Annexure 1

List of Participants

A. Participants

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Annexure 2

Programme

Dates 11 - 13 February, 2009	Venue: Green Hotel - Nha Trang 06, Hung Vuong, Nha Trang Khanh Hoa, Vietnam Tel: + 84 58 3525405, Fax: + 84 58 3525865 Website: www.greenhotelinhatrang.com
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Date & Time	Programme
February 09 (Monday) 13:00 - 18:00	Arrival and Registration/ Dinner
February 10 (Tuesday) 08:00 - 14:00 14:00 - 15:30 15:30 - 16:00 16:00 - 17:00	Visit the Island Meeting with the Leaders of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development of Khanh Hoa Province. Meeting with the Leaders of Khanh Hoa Provincial Cooperative Alliance. Meeting of ICFO Secretariat, VCA, Vietnamese and Foreign Lecturers.
February 11 (Wednesday) 09:00 - 10:00	Opening Ceremony 1) Welcome address by: - Mr Nguyen Cuu Quac , Vice-President, VCA. - Madam Nguyen Thu Hang , Vice-Chairwomen of People's Committee, Khanh Hoa. 2) Messages by: - Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara Senior Managing Director of JF-ZENGYOREN, Japan for Mr Ikuhiro Hattori , Chairman of ICFO. - Mr Fuminori Miyatake Deputy Director, International Cooperation Division, Minister's Secretariat, International Affairs Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries, Government of Japan. - Mr Pham Trong Yen Vice-Director, Department of Fisheries Resource Exploitation & Protection, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.
10:00 - 10:30	Group Photo/ Tea/ Coffee Break
10:30 - 17:00 10:30 - 11:00	Technical Session - Lecture No 1 Result of Scoping Study for Promotion of Community-based Fishery Resource Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam. - Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava , Director, Bay of Bengal Inter-Governmental Organisation, Chennai, India.
11:00 - 12:00	- Lecture No 2 Coastal Fisheries Management Systems and Efforts for Resource Recovery in Japan. - Mr Masaaki Sato , Secretary of ICFO, Japan.
12:00 - 13:30	- Lunch
13:30 - 14:00	- Lecture No 3 Application of Japanese Fisheries Resource Management System to Vietnam - Practical Considerations - Mr Bui Duc Quy , Vice-Director, Department of Aquaculture, MARD.
14:00 - 14:30	- Lecture No 4 Application of Japanese Community-based Fisheries Management in the Philippines



Date & Time	Programme
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Sandra Victoria R Arcamo, Chief, Fisheries Resources Management Division, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Agriculture, Philippines.
14:30 - 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lecture No. 5 Possibilities of Introducing Community-based Fisheries Resource Management in Thailand - Mr Pinyo Kiatpinyo, President, Federation of Shrimp Farmer Cooperatives of Thailand.
15:00 - 15:15	- Tea/ Coffee Break
15:15 - 16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lecture No. 6 Capacity Enhancement of Fisher Organizations to Promote Management of Fisheries Resources in Vietnam. - Mr Pham Trong Yen, Vice-Director, Department of Resource Development and Protection, MARD.
16:00 - 16:30	- Summing up/ Directions for next day/ Formation of Groups for Group Discussion
18:00 - 21:00	- Welcome Dinner
February 12 (Thursday)	
09:00 - 10:15	- Group Discussion
10:15 - 10:30	- Tea/ Coffee Break
10:30 - 12:00	- Group Discussion - Continued
12:00 - 14:00	- Lunch
14:00 - 15:00	- Finalization of Report by the Groups and Presentation on the Results of Discussions
15:00 - 15:30	- Tea/ Coffee Break
15:30 - 16:30	- Finalization of Report by the Groups and Presentation on the Results of Discussions - Continued
16:30 - 17:00	- Summing up by chair
18:00 - 21:00	- Dinner
February 13 (Friday)	
08:30 - 09:30	- Preparation of draft Recommendations by each Group
09:30 - 10:15	1) Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Recommendations by each Group • Presentation of 'Nha Trang Resolution' for Adoption
10:15 - 10:30	- Tea/ Coffee Break
10:30 - 12:30	Concluding Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summing up Remarks: Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava - Closing Speech: Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara for Mr Ikuhiro Hattori Chairman of ICFO - Distribution of Certificates: Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara & Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc - Closing Speech: Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc
12:30 - 14:00	- Lunch
14:00 - 17:00	- Field Visit
18:00 - 21:00	- Dinner
February 14 (Saturday)	
08:00	- Field Visit
16:00	Departure of Outstation Participants



Annexure 3

Welcome Address

Nguyen Cuu Quoc

Vice-President, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance

Madam Nguyen Thi Thu Hang, Vice-Chairwoman of People's Committee of Khanh Hoa province; Mr Fuminori Miyatake, Deputy Director for International Cooperation Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan; Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara, General Manager of JF-ZENGYOREN; Mr Masaaki Sato, General Secretary of the International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO); Lecturers from Vietnam and other countries; Delegates and Distinguished guests, Good Morning.

First of all, on behalf of the leaders of Vietnam Cooperative alliance (VCA), I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the delegates taking part in this Seminar. On the occasion of New Year 2009, let me also wish everyone present at this Seminar good health, happiness and success. I thank ICFO, MAFF and JF-ZENGYOREN for their support to VCA in organizing this Seminar.



Delegates,

The cooperative movement of Vietnam in general, and fishery cooperatives in particular, have recorded some significant achievements. A few factors have made this possible. One is State support. Another is the investment by fishery cooperatives in new equipment and facilities for aquaculture and offshore fisheries, and their efforts in strengthening production and marketing by streamlining internal resources.

There are at present 478 fishery cooperatives with over 30 000 labourers in Vietnam. In 2008 and beyond, Vietnam will continue to promote fisheries and expand exports to the extent of US\$ 2.2 to 2.5 billion. To attain this objective, fisheries cooperatives will have to strive hard and acquire skills and training in accessing export markets.

During this Seminar, we will learn from the ideas and experiences of experts from abroad. We will also share thoughts and experiences with fishery cooperatives from different provinces of Vietnam about fishery resource management. We will make recommendations to the Government and to other agencies and international organizations in Vietnam, so that they frame policies and take decisions to help small-scale fishers and fishing communities.

On this occasion, let me on behalf of the VCA express our gratitude to ICFO, MAFF, JF-ZENGYOREN for their assistance and support to fishery cooperatives of Vietnam. We look forward to continuing assistance and cooperation from them.

I declare the Seminar open and wish it all success.

Thank you so much!



Annexure 4

Welcome Address

Nguyen Thi Thu Hang

Vice-Chairwoman of People's Committee of Khanh Hoa Province

*M*r Nguyen Cuu Quoc, Vice-President, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA); Mr Fuminori Miyatake, representative of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan; Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara, General Manager of JF-ZENGYOREN; Mr Masaaki Sato, Secretary of the International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO); Lecturers from Vietnam and other countries; Delegates; Ladies and Gentlemen, Good Morning.

On behalf of the People's Committee of Khanh Hoa Province, I warmly welcome all international and Vietnamese delegates to this Seminar, being jointly held by VCA, ICFO, MAFF and JF-ZENGYOREN in Nha Trang city - Khanh Hoa Province.

Taking advantage of a long coastline, the local authorities of Khanh Hoa Province have tried to develop fisheries and facilitate the growth of aquaculture. They have also urged residents to strictly follow regulations on fishery resource management.

The people of Khanh Hoa Province have a long tradition in fisheries. They have inherited the wisdom of previous generations in capture fisheries and aquaculture. In view of the challenges of trade liberalization and globalization, the fishery sector in Khanh Hoa Province – and fisheries co-operatives in particular – ought to enhance skills and learn from international experience.

At present, there are 11 fishery cooperatives with over 500 labourers in Khanh Hoa Province. They must make the fisheries sector capable of meeting both local needs and those of export. To do so, the fishery sector in Khanh Hoa, and cooperatives in particular, must overcome problems relating to aquaculture techniques, equipment, processing technology and manager training. They must tap new markets and enhance education and awareness on fishery resource management, and make the fishery sector one of the leading economic players in Khanh Hoa.

During this Seminar, I would like the delegates to discuss fishery resource management issues that confront small-scale fishers. Co-operatives in Khanh Hoa must learn from the experiences of cooperatives in other provinces and from abroad. We on our part will make recommendations and propose policies that advance the interests of fishery cooperatives and also promote fishery resource management.

I express my sincere thanks to the international lecturers from Japan, India, Thailand, the Philippines and the lecturers from Vietnam who have given us valuable tips on their experiences.

May I also sincerely thank ICFO and MAFF who sponsored this Seminar. We look forward to further assistance to strengthen fisheries in Vietnam.

I wish all of you a pleasant and productive stay in Nha Trang. I wish the Seminar success.

Thank you!



Annexure 5

Message for the Opening Ceremony

Ikuhiro HATTORI

Chairman of ICFO

Xin chào and good morning!

I am Miyahara, Senior Managing Director of JF-ZENGYOREN (National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan). First of all, I would like to ask for your kind understanding. Mr Ikuhiro Hattori, Chairman of the International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO) could not make it here today because of other commitments. He has asked me to represent ICFO and lead the Seminar. Therefore, kindly allow me to read out his speech.



Mr Ikuhiro Hattori

- Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc, Vice-President of the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA);
- Madam Nguyen Thi Thu Hang, Vice-Chairwoman of the People's Committee of Khanh Hoa Province;
- Mr Pham Trong Yen, Vice-Director, Department of Fisheries Resource Development and Protection, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Government of Vietnam;
- Mr Fuminori Miyatake, Deputy Director, International Cooperation Division, International Affairs Department, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan;
- Distinguished Resource Persons:
 - Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director of Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation;
 - Ms Sandra Victoria Arcamo, Chief, Fisheries Resource Management Division, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Government of Philippines;
 - Mr Pinyo Kiatpinyo, Chairman of Federation of Shrimp Farmer Cooperatives of Thailand;
 - Mr Masaaki Sato, Secretary, ICFO;
 - Mr Bui Duc Qui, Vice-Director, Department of Aquaculture, MARD, Government of Vietnam;
- Officials of the VCA;
- Fellow-Cooperators, Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen;

It is a great honour for me to speak at this morning's opening ceremony. I recall that the ICFO has in the past conducted three seminars to help strengthen leadership of fisheries cooperatives in Vietnam, with budgetary support from the MAFF, Government of Japan. The first seminar was held in Hanoi in March 1993, the second was organized in Nha Trang in April 1996, and the third in Hanoi in January 2002.

These three seminars dealt with a range of issues concerning policy matters and on measures to strengthen fisheries cooperatives in Vietnam, particularly with respect to their organizational and business aspects. Besides, the seminars also discussed fisheries resource management and issues related with the expanding international trade of fish and fishery products. The theme of the seminar for which we have now gathered here in Nha Trang is "Promotion of community-based fishery resource management (CBFRM) by coastal small-scale fishers in Vietnam". One of the reasons why ICFO emphasizes on community-based fisheries resource management is that the communities have to play a major role in sustainable development of the fisheries resources in the years to come.



As we are aware the global fisheries is going through one of its most critical phases. The world's fish stocks have been declining continuously over the years. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, more than 75 percent of the world's major fish stocks have been either fully or over-exploited. There are many reasons for this decline, such as over-capacity and over-fishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated or IUU fishing, pollution, etc. At the same time fisheries management in many countries has become ineffective leading to inadequate resource conservation measures. Lack of organized community structures that can stem this decline is also an important reason.

I have been often saying that the present century would be a century of critical food, energy and environment crisis. The world is also facing the ill consequences of climate change. The impact of global warming is getting more and more serious by the day. A rise in sea level triggered by global warming can inundate low-lying areas, enhance erosion, lead to salt water intrusion and salination of coastal plains. It can destroy sensitive habitats, damage the environment and affect tourism through damage to archaeological, religious, historical and cultural sites. Most of all it will impact food production and livelihoods of millions of people across the globe.

Last year we witnessed unprecedented increase in the price of food items, especially in the developing countries. Many developing countries also faced food shortages. This situation is likely to aggravate if corrective measures are not taken. Therefore, both agriculture and fisheries must be promoted to satisfy the demand for food and save humanity from hunger. The possible shortfalls in animal protein supplies can be offset from the oceans, if they are used wisely to ensure sustainable production.

It is in this context that the present Project has been planned. While planning the Project, it was also kept in mind that better fisheries resource management would be the key to success and the communities could play a major role in achieving this success. Therefore, this Project is designed to promote CBFRM by small-scale fishers engaged in coastal fisheries and by their organizations, enhance their capacities, strengthen their activities, and help contribute to ensuring sustainable production, creation of employment opportunities and poverty alleviation.

Realizing that more than half of world's fish production is contributed by the small-scale fisheries sector, and this sector provides employment opportunities for most of the coastal villages in the world, the Project assumes all the more significance. Thus, ensuring better quality of life for small-scale fishers is one of the important objectives of the activities of the ICFO. To make this happen, economic empowerment of fishers and their organizations, which is cooperatives, is also essential.

I do hope that through this Seminar, and also keeping in mind the resolutions of the previous Seminars on this subject, we will be able to deliberate on the issues that confront sustainable development of marine fisheries and emerge with better directions for management of the fisheries resources in Vietnam. At this point I must also make a mention of Vietnam's joining the WTO on 11th January 2007 and suggest that besides discussing issues concerning fisheries resource management, we may also use this platform to discuss trade issues of mutual significance.

I hope that this Seminar will educate, inspire and empower our fellow co-operators who in turn will help strengthen the cooperative spirit of small-scale fishers of Vietnam, so that they enjoy a better quality of life and further contribute to enhancing the national food security and economic development of this beautiful country – Vietnam.

I am sure that the recommendations or resolutions that would accrue from your deliberations would be translated into action for sustainable development of fisheries in this country. Therefore, I would request each one of you to actively take part in the discussions and find ways for better management of fisheries resources in Vietnam.

I pray for every success of the seminar.

Thank you very much!



Annexure 6

Message for the Opening Ceremony

Fuminori Miyatake

Deputy Director, International Cooperation Division
International Affairs Department, Minister's Secretariat,
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Government of Japan

- Mr Nguyen Cuu Quoc, Vice-President, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA);
- Madam Nguyen Thi Thu Hang, Vice-Chairwoman, People's Committee of Khanh Hoa Province;
- Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara; Senior Managing Director, JF-ZENGYOREN - the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan.
- Distinguished Resource Persons:
 - Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director of Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation, Chennai, India;
 - Ms Sandra Victoria Arcamo, Chief, Fisheries Resource Management Division, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Quezon City, Philippines;
 - Mr Pinyo Kiatpinyo, Chairman of Federation of Shrimp Farmer Cooperatives of Thailand;
 - Mr Masaaki Sato, Secretary, International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO);
 - Mr Pham Trong Yen, Vice-Director, Department of Resource Development and Protection, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Government of Vietnam;
 - Mr Bui Duc Qui, Vice-Director, Department of Aquaculture, MARD, Government of Vietnam.
- Fellow-Cooperators, Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen;

Xin chào!

It is a great honour for me to be in Nha Trang on the occasion of the Opening Ceremony of the ICFO/ VCA Seminar on 'Promotion of Community-based Fisheries Resource Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam.' I would like to say a few words on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan.

The MAFF and the ICFO of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) have a long history of collaboration. Since 1987, our Ministry has supported fisheries cooperatives in Asian countries to help strengthen their capacities and develop the institutions through the trust fund and ICFO has been our main partner in this task.

In 2005, the MAFF reviewed and discussed the results of its long-standing cooperation in marine fisheries sector with ICFO, and based on the developments and emerging needs of the sector developed a new fishery resources management project for small-scale fishers in Asia. This project, which started from 2006, is a five year project, funded by the MAFF and implemented by the ICFO.

As we are all aware, the declining fish stocks are posing serious threats to the global food security and also to the livelihoods of millions of fishers. Although there are many reasons behind this decline, but overfishing and use of unsustainable fishing practices are the major causes. On the other hand, we are also seeing the increasing demand for fish and fish products due to concerns emanating from animal health problems



such as BSE and the avian flu. Besides, people's awareness concerning their health and healthy seafood has also increased, placing larger demand on the supply of quality seafood.

In view of the above situation, it is essential to maintain and/ or restore fish stocks to the levels of maximum sustainable yield and from this standpoint the present Project has a very important role to play. In this regard, I must also emphasize that effective coordination between fishery cooperatives and administrative institutions will be the key towards good governance and management of fishery resources in Vietnam.

Finally, on behalf of our Ministry, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Dr Nguyen Tien Quan, President of VCA as well as Mr Sato, Secretary, ICFO and to all those who have extended their cooperation to prepare this Seminar.

I hope this Seminar will conclude with fruitful results and lead to further sustainable development of fisheries in this beautiful country, Vietnam.

Thank you very much!





Annexure 7

Message for the Opening Ceremony

Pham Trong Yen

Vice- Director

Department of Resource Development and Protection
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Government of Vietnam

*M*r Nguyen Cuu Quoc, Vice-President, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA); Madam Nguyen Thi Thu Hang, Vice-Chairwoman, People's Committee of Khanh Hoa Province; Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara; Senior Managing Director, JF-ZENGYOREN; Mr Fuminori Miyatake, Deputy Director, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan; Mr Masaaki Sato, Secretary, International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO); Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director, Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation; Resource Persons from different countries, my colleagues from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; Leaders of Cooperative Societies from Vietnam; Ladies and Gentlemen; a very good morning to you all.

At the outset, I would like to express my sincere thanks for being invited to this ICFO/VCA Seminar on 'Promotion of Community-based Fisheries Resource Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam' and to share my thoughts on the development of fisheries and aquaculture in Vietnam.

On behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Ikuhiro Hattori, Chairman of ICFO, Mr Kuniyuki Miyahara of JF-ZENGYOREN, Mr Fuminori Miyatake of MAFF and Mr Sato of ICFO for selecting Vietnam under this Project in the year 2008-09 and to all those who have extended their cooperation to prepare for this Seminar.

As we are aware, fisheries and aquaculture plays an important role in the economy of Vietnam. Aquaculture has made significant progress in the last one decade and now Vietnam stands third in the world after China and India. In 2008, the total fish production was 4.0 million metric tonnes and the country exported seafood worth US \$ 4.5 billion. The sector provides jobs for about 5.0 million people.

Like elsewhere in the world, the fisheries sector in Vietnam is also facing several problems, especially with regard to resource management and over capacity of the fishing fleet. We believe that many issues in the fisheries sector in my country can be better addressed in a collective manner and in this regard, the fisheries cooperatives can play a very vital role. We are, therefore, aiming at strengthening of this sector.

I hope this Seminar will provide us regional and international experience on good management of fisheries resources that can lead to sustainable development of the sector in Vietnam.

Thank you very much!



Annexure 8

Result of Scoping Study for Promotion of Community-based Fishery Resource Management by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam

Yugraj Singh Yadava¹

Abstract

This paper is based on the results of the Scoping Study carried out by a team of experts who visited Vietnam in August 2008. The fisheries sector in Vietnam is a significant contributor to the economy of the country and this paper highlights the developments that have taken place in the sector since the country entered into a new growth phase in the year 1986.

Fisheries management in Vietnam may be viewed as a two-tier system, where part of the responsibility lies with the provincial authorities and part with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. A new Fisheries Law, passed by the National Assembly in November 2003, went into effect on July 1, 2004. The Law states that fisheries resources shall be subject to the ownership of the people and under the integrated management of the State.

Co-management of fisheries resources, first highlighted in Vietnam in May 1995, is now gaining acceptance. The concepts of co-management are now also supported by provisions in the law and increased recognition from the local governments.

The Government has set targets up to 2010 for both fisheries and aquaculture. Marine aquaculture followed by off-shore fisheries are considered to have the best growth prospects.

A SWOT Analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) has been carried out for the marine fisheries sector of Vietnam. While growth prospects of aquaculture are high and the area under aquaculture has rapidly increased, the mechanisms for regulation and infrastructure for production and marketing has not developed in tandem.

1.0 Introduction

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam is the easternmost country on the Indochina Peninsula in Southeast Asia and covers an area of approximately 3 31 688 km² (excluding Paracel Island or Hoang Sa and Spratley Inland or Truong Sa). The country is endowed with great physical beauty and diversity. The northern parts consist mostly of highlands and the Red River Delta. In the southern region, the Mekong delta covers about 40 000 square kilometers, and is criss-crossed by a maze of canals and rivers.

With a population of over 86 million, Vietnam is the 13th most populous country in the world. Since introduction of *doi moi* or economic reform package in 1986, which paved the way for market economy in Vietnam, there is a turnaround in the economy. It achieved around 8 percent annual GDP growth from 1990 to 1997 and continued at around 7 percent from 2000 to 2005, making it the world's second-fastest growing economy. Some salient features of Vietnam are given in the box on page 61.

The fisheries sector is a significant contributor to the economy of Vietnam. Promoted by the Government with the aim of eliminating hunger, reducing poverty and increasing people's income, the Vietnamese fisheries have recorded remarkable growth in recent

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Population	8 61 16 559 (July 2008 est.)
Literacy (15 years and above)	90.3%
GDP (Purchasing power parity)	\$221.4 billion (2007 est.)
Worldwide Quality-of-life Index, 2005	61 out of 111
Human Development Index	109 out of 177
Global Competitiveness Report	77 out of 125

years. It has registered about 6 percent cumulative annual growth rate (CAGR) during the period 1950-2006, contributing about 4 percent of GDP. With over 10 percent of the total export earnings, fisheries remains the third most important export-oriented sector, after garments and the crude oil industry, and ahead of agricultural products such as rice and rubber.

Fisheries provides majority of the animal protein for the country. Per capita consumption of fish was 19.4 kg in 2003. More than four million people are directly employed in the sector; nearly 10 percent of the population derives its main income from fisheries. However, most fishers and aqua farmers are small-scale producers.

With an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 1 million km², Vietnam is enriched with many water bodies. The country's coastline stretches for more than 3 260 km. The fisheries sector in Vietnam comprises three main sub-sectors; the marine, the inland and the aquaculture sub-sectors. Marine fisheries are the biggest contributor to the fisheries production, followed by aquaculture. However, the composition dynamics (Figure 1) shows that since 1990s, aquaculture is rapidly increasing while marine fishery is slowing down and inland fishery is staggering (Table 1).

Figure 1: Composition dynamics of total fisheries production in Vietnam, 1950-2006

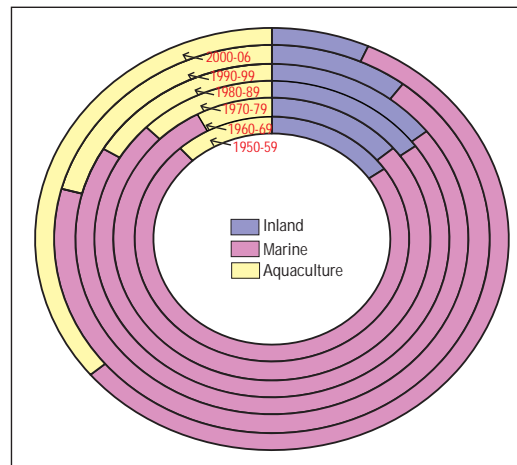


Table 1: Composition dynamics of total fishery production in Vietnam, 1950-2006

Period	Contribution (%)		
	Inland	Marine	Aquaculture
1950-59	15.26	73.08	11.66
1960-69	14.01	78.09	7.91
1970-79	15.06	72.56	12.38
1980-89	14.38	69.24	16.39
1990-99	10.14	68.95	20.90
2000-06	6.69	57.30	36.01

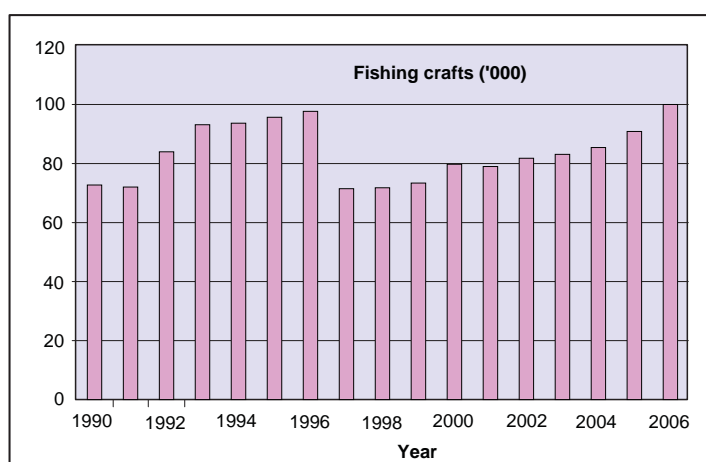
Computed from FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, Fisheries Information, Data and Statistics Unit. FISHSTAT Plus: Universal software for fisheries statistical time series. Version 2.3.2000

2.0 Marine Fisheries

According to the latest evaluation, the marine fish stock in the country's EEZ is 4.2 million tonnes, in which the annual allowable catch is estimated at 1.7 million tonnes. Vietnam has four main fishing areas: Gulf of Tonkin, shared with China; Central Vietnam; South-eastern Vietnam; and South-western Vietnam (part of Gulf of Thailand), shared with Cambodia and Thailand. Marine catches are highest in Central and Southeast Vietnam. The Mekong river delta provides over 75 percent of the total marine landings. In 2006 the total landings were estimated at 3.67 million metric tonnes, of which the marine capture fisheries, inland capture fisheries and aquaculture contributed 1.82, 0.16 and 1.69 million metric tonnes respectively.

In recent years, the number of fishing boats has increased considerably in Vietnam. It has increased from 44 000 in 1991 to 90 880 in 2005 and is assumed to cross 1 00 000 by now (Figure 2). There is no control over entry of fishing boats and with the increasing fisher population, the number of small boats is also increasing at about 2 300 boats per year.

Figure 2: Growth of fishing crafts in Vietnam



The marine fisheries of Vietnam are small-scale, operating mainly in coastal areas. Due to excess fishing effort in the coastal waters, some resources are showing signs of overexploitation. To stem this decline, the Government is promoting offshore fishing and shifting some groups of fishers to other fields of business activities such as aquaculture, trading, tourism services, etc. The monitoring, control and surveillance system is also weak and the marine waters are in open access regime. As a result, foreign boats often penetrate into Vietnamese waters and fish illegally. They fish off shore during the day and near shore at night time. The quantity of marine catches taken by foreign fishing boats is estimated of about 1 00 000 tonnes/ year.

The overcapacity in the coastal waters has led to decline in the CPUE, which has declined from 1.11 tonne/ hp/ year in 1985 to 0.34 tonne / hp/ year in 2005². While at the same time fuel price has increased many times, implying loss for fishers. In May 2008, the Government³ announced a subsidy of about US\$ 3 500 a year for fishers buying a new boat with an engine of 90 hp or more. However, there is concern that it may accelerate the resource depletion in the country.

² Manh, Son Dao, Research Institute for Marine Fisheries, Status of marine fisheries resources and capture fisheries in Vietnam, prfisheries.alaskapacific.edu/Conference/Docs/Day1/A05-Vietnam-Vihn.ppt (accessed September 2, 2008).

³ Voice of America (08 May, 2008), "Overfished Vietnam Subsidizes More Fishing Boats" <http://www.voanews.com/english/archive/2008-05/2008-05-08-voa15.cfm?CFID=34193847&CFTOKEN=45819200> (accessed on 2nd September, 2008).

A number of the fishing gear used in Vietnam result in high catches of trash fish. Trawlers (single and pair) typically land between 50 and 70 percent of non-table species of fish, which are used (i) for direct feeding to fish or livestock; (ii) in the manufacture of fish sauce (*nuoc mam*) or fish meal or (iii) for conversion into fish sauce. Trash fish landings are estimated at 33 percent of the total marine fish landings. Southeast region accounts for two thirds of the trash fish production.

3.0 Coastal Aquaculture

The Government's programme for development of aquaculture in the period of 1999 – 2010 (Decision No 224/1999/QĐ-TTg dated 08/12/1999) was initiated with the objectives of providing food security and creating raw material resources for exports.

Based on the initiatives of the Government and the efforts of the farmers, the volume of aquaculture has increased significantly from 1 27 000 tonnes in 1986 to over 2.1 million tonnes in 2007. This increase in production is achieved both from increase in area under culture and productivity. The area under culture has now reached about one million ha, which is nearly double the area under culture in 1990. The additional areas were sourced from conversion of flooded and low-yielding areas to aquaculture.

Vietnam's aquaculture utilizes a wide range of species that provide significant potential for aquaculture development. Many new species with good potential have also been introduced to increase the number of species under cultivation. These new species include cobia (*Rachycentron canadum*), abalone (*Haliotis spp.*), maculated ivory whelk (*Babylonia areolata*), silverlip pearl oyster (*Pinctada maxima spp.*), whiteleg shrimp (*Penaeus vannamei*) and barramundi (giant sea perch- *Lates calcarifer*).

Marine aquaculture: In comparison with other countries in the region, mariculture is yet to be developed in Vietnam. However, fattening of young wild fish (mostly caught by hook and line) in cages is becoming more and more popular. One of the difficulties of mariculture is the availability of quality seed through controlled breeding. Unlike fresh water species, the artificial reproduction techniques for sea fish are still not well developed.

Brackish aquaculture: Vietnam has huge potential of coastal aquaculture with shrimp farming being dominant. Improved extensive and semi-intensive methods are most commonly adopted by the farmers. Productivity from extensive and semi-intensive farming is on an average 300 kg/ha and 1 500-2 000 kg/ha respectively. Presently, the area used for intensive and semi-intensive farming accounts for 10 percent of the total area under aquaculture. The enormous increase in shrimp farming has had some negative impacts such as mangrove destruction and siltation of inland areas.



4.0 Post-harvest and Marketing

Seafood is the third major export product of Vietnam after textile-garments and crude oil. The total annual processing capacity of the export oriented plants is estimated at 0.5 million tonnes/year. To deal with new challenges and competition, Vietnamese export processing establishments are continuously improving their management and working conditions, including procurement of modern machines and equipment in order to achieve automation and greater efficiency. The main export markets are USA (35%), Japan (26%), China/ Hong Kong (7%) and Europe (6%). The main export products are shrimp, fish, squid, cuttlefish & octopus and dried seafood items. Frozen shrimp is the highest export earner, pulling 40 percent of the total revenue. In 2008, the export values touched US \$ 4.0 billion mark.



Vietnam does not import much fish, but the small quantities of imported product consist mainly of raw material for processing and re-export. Imports also play the role of cushioning seasonal variations in domestic aquaculture and capture fisheries.

Vietnam is now among the top ten countries in terms of volume of trade and its opportunities are increasing due to Vietnam's accession in WTO and international and regional fisheries organizations. However, the fisheries sector in Vietnam is facing a lot of challenges and difficulties such as the backward technology and facilities, low economic efficiency and environmental degradation, etc.

5.0 Management and organization

Fisheries management in Vietnam may be viewed as a two-tier system, where part of the responsibility lies with the provincial authorities and part with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD). The latter has taken increasing responsibility for overall protection and enforcement during the 1990s. Under the MARD are the provincial, district and village Fisheries Authorities within the Peoples Committee, which basically organize fisheries in their own jurisdiction.

The overall development objectives of the Government for the fisheries sector are to increase employment opportunities, income and living standard of fishing and aquaculture communities (social objectives, cohesion); to increase the contribution of fisheries to national economic and social development, including social stability and national security (growth, stability and security); to improve nutritional standards of the people by increasing the supply of fish and aquatic products for domestic consumption (health); to increase exports and foreign exchange earnings by increasing supplies to export and by improving the value added and the processing of fishery products (balance of payment, growth, international competition); and to strengthen the sustainable development of fisheries through improved management of fishery resources and habitats (protection of resource base, monitoring and control).

The development policies of the government are summarized in the fisheries sector Master Plan of 2004. The Ministry (MARD) remains responsible for sector planning; though much detailed planning is now undertaken at provincial and lower administrative levels in line with the decentralization policies of the Government.

Input and output controls: Input controls are limited to a modest number of gear size and type restrictions, but are seldom enforced due to budgetary constraints. Fishing

licenses are imposed, but many fishermen appear to ignore them. Licenses are granted on the basis of submitting a number of supporting documents such as vessel inspection and registration papers. The marine capture fisheries are in open access *e.g.* a license application generally leads to a license being issued. The total allowable catch (TAC) is set for five different areas; Tonkin Gulf, Central Region, South-eastern Vietnam, South-western Vietnam, Sea Mouth and the total Sea Area. The total estimated fish stocks are 4.18 million tonnes and the TAC is set at 1.67 million tonnes.

A new Fisheries Law was passed by the National Assembly in November 2003 and went into effect on July 1, 2004. The Law states that fisheries resources shall be subject to the ownership of the people and under the integrated management of the State. It aims to promote economic effectiveness in accordance with the protection, rehabilitation and development of fisheries resources and biodiversity and protection of the environment and development in accordance with national and provincial master plans.

As experience is gained with the implementation of the law, it may be necessary to amend it, pass appropriate decrees that define the rights of government, fishers, aquaculturists and other stakeholders. In principle, government intervention in the sector can best focus on setting the framework for development, regulation (*e.g.*, effort limitation), monitoring, control and surveillance, and extension and information dissemination. Involvement in investment decisions should be limited to ensuring environmental sustainability, social aspects such as employment promotion or diversification and adherence to the prevailing laws and policies of the government. At the same time, a consultative process with all key stakeholders should be employed through an enabling framework, when formulating management and resource conservation plans.

Research and extension: The Research Institute of Marine Products (RIMP) in Haiphong is the main fisheries research institution in Vietnam. The Institute focuses on biological aspects and is engaged in resource monitoring and stock assessment. The Vietnam Institute of Fisheries Economics and Planning (VIFEP) in Hanoi is also involved in fisheries management issues. Three Research Institute for Aquaculture (located at Habac, Ho Chi Minh City and Nha Trang) carry out scientific research and provide extension services, mainly on fish breeding and seed production and farming techniques. A University, which has focus on fisheries research and development, is also established at Nha Trang. The National Fisheries Extension Center and Information Center carry out the extension activities.

There are also a large number of unions/associations/cooperatives in the fisheries sector, which support the development of the fisheries sector. Some of the prominent ones are the Labour Union of Vietnam's Fisheries Sector, Vietnam's Fisheries Association and the Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers.

Co-management: The concept of co-management was highlighted in Vietnam during May 1995. Since then, co-management has made substantial progress. In particular, the rights to manage inland waters have been passed to communes. In coastal areas, pilot marine co-management schemes have commenced in at least four provinces (Quang Ninh, Khanh Hoa, Binh Thuan and Yen Bai). Co-management principles are being applied under the World Bank/GEF/DANIDA financed Hon Mun MPA project. In brackish water aquaculture,



awareness of co-management principles is more widespread, but there is a need to provide guidance to Department of Agriculture (provincial) and farmers in implementation, for example, in environmentally sound water and drainage management.

The Fisheries Sector Programme, FSPS II, funded by Denmark, highly emphasizes the strengthening of capture fisheries management under the pilot project in Quy Hong. Co-management is also promoted under the new Fisheries Law of 2004.

There is also support under the government's grass-roots democratization policy, which delegates substantial power to the communes in the planning, development and management of their resources.



6.0 Development Prospects/Strategies

Fisheries in Vietnam have been recognized by the Government as one of the main sectors of economy. The (marine) aquaculture sector is having the best prospects for the future, followed by off-shore fisheries. The Government has set targets up to 2010 for both fisheries and aquaculture, which are shown in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2: Fisheries Production Targets in Vietnam, 2001, 2005 and 2010

Items	2001	2005	2010
Marine capture fisheries, 1 000 MT	1 320	1 350	1 400
- Inshore	870	800	700
- Off-shore	450	550	700

Table 3: Aquaculture production targets in Vietnam, 2001, 2005 and 2010

Items	2001	2005	2010
Production of Aquaculture, 1 000 MT:	850	1 150	2 000
- freshwater fish	500	600	870
- black tiger shrimp	120	200	360
- marine finfish	10	38	200
- bivalve mollusks	140	185	380
- others	40	127	190
Export value from aquaculture, US\$ million	500	1 400	2 500
Employment (1 000's of people)	555	1 400	2 000
Aquaculture areas (1 000's of ha):	700	850	1 000
- fresh water (1 000's of ha)	340	530	650
- brackish-water and marine (1 000's of ha)	300	320	350

*Cited from FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Country Profile of Vietnam
(Source: Master Plan of Social-Economic Development of Fisheries Sector,
Ministry of Fisheries)*

7.0 Summing up

A SWOT Analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) has been carried out on the marine fisheries of Vietnam and is presented in Table 4. However, some of the important issues are flagged in the following paragraphs.

The fisheries data in Vietnam is deficient and lacks reliability. Dearth of funds and human resources are the two main reasons for inadequate attention to information collection, collation and dissemination. As a result, available information is not sound enough to make effective policy decisions. The fisheries sector is suffering with overcapitalization implying increased fishing effort/ number of vessels and fleet capacity (hp) combined with decreased catch per unit effort. This is aggravated by the fact that larger trawl vessels continue to fish in coastal waters. Despite the 2004 Fisheries Law, implementation and control is still very difficult.

Lack of infrastructure facilities is a major constraint to divert effort from inshore waters to offshore fisheries. Though data shows under-exploitation in offshore waters, considering the poor quality of data and illegal fishing in offshore waters such diversion needs careful planning.

Lack of public finance is another constraint, especially for small-scale fishers who are economically not sound. As a result, a large part of the fleet runs on second hand and old engines which undermines the safety of fishers at sea. A decline in coastal aquatic resources in recent years has caused an increased pressure on the livelihood of millions of people who depend on the coastal fisheries resources.

While growth prospects of aquaculture in Vietnam are very high and the area under aquaculture has rapidly increased, the mechanisms for regulation and infrastructure for production and marketing has not developed in tandem. In many areas, this has resulted in water supply systems not meeting the standards required for aquaculture operations; lack of quality seed in sufficient quantities; poor health management and disease prevention measures, especially in shrimp farming sector; lack of environmental protection for aquaculture areas; dearth of capital for investment in aquaculture infrastructure; limitations on availability of man power, skilled staff and workers; and insufficient administrative capacity for the sector. The bulk of the fingerlings stocked in marine cages are wild caught, which puts a high pressure on the already over-exploited marine resources.

Future demand for fish meal is expected to increase dramatically as an ingredient in aquaculture feed. Currently, 90 percent of fish meal is imported and the development of Vietnamese aquaculture will therefore be influenced strongly by the price for fish meal and oil in the international market. Fish meal produced domestically is mostly of poor quality because trash fish is degraded by the time it reaches the fish meal plant.





Table 4: A SWOT Analysis on Fisheries Sector of Vietnam

Fisheries resources			
Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
<p>One of the fastest growing economies of the world.</p> <p>One of the top fish-producing nations in the world.</p> <p>A long coast line of 3 260 km.</p> <p>An EEZ of one million sq. km.</p> <p>Favourable climatic conditions.</p> <p>Potential of increasing fish production from the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and deep sea.</p> <p>Large population of fishers with good maritime skills.</p>	<p>A large population dependant on fisheries as a source of livelihood. While 10 percent of the population depends on fisheries for livelihood, only 4% of GDP is generated from it.</p> <p>A large number of small-scale fishers (over 84% fishing boats of <90 Hp).</p> <p>Fishing methods resulting in large catch of trash fishes. Trash fish landings are estimated at 33 percent of total marine fish landings.</p>	<p>Over 200 fish marine fish species with about 130 species of high commercial value.</p> <p>The new policy of the government to subsidize fishing boats with engine capacity of 90 hp or more is aimed at encouraging diversification of fishing fleet.</p> <p>There are more than 4 000 islands, which could provide logistic services and transshipment facilities of products onshore, and provide shelter for fishing vessels during inclement season.</p>	<p>Fishing activities mainly take place in near shore areas, resulting in high fishing pressure, overexploitation and decline of the living resources in the coastal waters.</p> <p>Unregulated increase in fishing vessels @ about 2 300 additional boats per year during 1981-2003.</p> <p>Declining catch per unit effort; from 1.10 tonnes /Hp in 1985 to 0.35 tonnes /Hp in 2003.</p> <p>Collapse of some species or stocks.</p> <p>Unpredictable changes to marine ecosystems.</p> <p>Rise in operational costs, e.g. fluctuating fuel price.</p> <p>Requests for some large fishing grounds to be banned for environmental or stock conservation reasons.</p>
Resource management & policy			
Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
<p>The new fisheries law of 2004 states that fishery resources shall be subject to the ownership of the people and under the integrated management of the State.</p> <p>Established registration & licensing procedures for domestic and foreign fishing vessels - over 80 percent of the boats in marine fisheries are licensed.</p> <p>Setting up ban areas and closed season to protect spawning and nursery grounds.</p> <p>Establishment and consolidation of the marine protected areas.</p>	<p>Numerous small fishing boats are still operating in the coastal areas and there are no effective measures to monitor and control the fishing fleet.</p> <p>The fisheries sector is still backward in terms of fishing techniques as well as preservation and processing. Moreover, infrastructure facilities such as fishing ports and harbours are inadequate and also poorly maintained.</p> <p>Low efficiency of enforcement. The coastline is long, the patrol boats and staff are few.</p>	<p>Decentralized planning - Basic planning takes place at the commune level, with plans aggregated at district, province and ultimately national level. Plans include annual budgets and medium-term (5-year) and long-term (10-year) development goals.</p> <p>Programmes for disseminating and raising public awareness on protection of marine environment and fisheries resources.</p> <p>Active fisher cooperatives</p>	<p>The fisheries data in Vietnam is deficient due to dearth of funds and human resources. As a result, available information is not sound enough to make effective policy decisions.</p> <p>Lack of infrastructure and facilities like boat and engine repair workshops is a major constraint to divert fishing effort from inshore fisheries to offshore fisheries.</p> <p>Lack of public investment in safety at sea. Especially the small-scale units,</p>

Monitoring and controlling fisheries operations at sea and preventing pollution in aquatic habitats.	The cost of law enforcement is also very high.		being quite old and passing through several hands are vulnerable. Inter-sectoral conflicts, especially between marine aquaculture and coastal fishing.
Aquaculture and inland fisheries			
Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
Over 10 000 sq km of inland waters and 9 02 229 ha of land for aquaculture. Use of a wide range of species - potential for further aquaculture development. Continuous government support.	A large number of small -scale fish farmers (about 77 % of households conducting aquaculture have under 0.1 ha of pond area). The mechanisms for regulation and infrastructure for production and marketing has not developed in tandem with the growth of aquaculture. Poor health management and disease prevention measures, especially in shrimp farming sector and lack of environmental protection for aquaculture areas. Hatcheries are not evenly distributed over the country. Farmers in the highlands do not have easy access to seed and fingerlings. Less development in mariculture compared to other countries in the neighborhood.	Large coastal areas and coastal waters amenable for aquaculture/ mariculture. Increasing productivity in the aquaculture sector. From 0.63 tonnes per ha in 1990 to 1.61-1.98 tonnes per ha in 2006-07. Increasing thrust by the Government for raising catfish in the Mekong River Delta and provision of free extension services and state owned hatcheries for fresh water aquaculture. Developing new species, <i>e.g.</i> , cobia, seaweed, sea cucumber, sea bass, etc.	Increasing drought and climate variability is affecting production in inland fisheries. Increasing pressure on resources due to rapid urbanization and other coastal activities. Poor water supply systems and lack of quality seeds. Dearth of capital for investment in aquaculture infrastructure. Limitations on availability of man power, skilled staff and workers and insufficient administrative capacity for the sector. The bulk of the fingerlings stocked in marine cages are wild caught -high pressure on marine resources. Water quality and infectious disease outbreaks could impact production and consumer confidence. Competition for water resource. Intense development of Asian aquaculture, which may pose stiff competition to Vietnamese farmers.
Fish processing			
Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
332 export oriented processing plants with an annual input requirement of 5 00 000	Excess capacity of processing plants, unstable supply of raw material and lack of	Apart from the public processing units, the private processing enterprises are also	Unstable, often inadequate raw material supply. Inconsistent timing,

tonnes/ year. Investments in management and working conditions and modern machines and equipment in order to achieve automation of producing procedures. Advanced technologies, including post-harvest preservation, surimi production, transportation of fresh fish, individual quick freezing (IQF), etc. are being increasingly used.	efficient control over quality of raw material. Traditional processing units lack development of new products and access to credit. Shortage of quality raw material like tuna and non-tariff barriers are some of the main problems obstructing further growth of international fish trade.	coming up strongly. Development of cold chain for domestic processing and marketing. Quality management programmes supported by the government. Preferential policies from the government in terms of interest rate to small and medium-sized enterprises for “green” technology. The increased availability of high-quality human resource due to relevant training programmes.	quality, and price of some raw material. Lack of long-term investment in product development (few R & D departments in place).
Fish marketing			
Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
Among the top ten countries in terms of volume of trade. Good trade relationships with Asian markets, especially Japan. Strong branding and global recognition. Established positions in most leading markets. Initially established channels of distribution. Full membership of WTO.	Price fluctuations. Multi-tier domestic marketing channel – presence of intermediaries Lack of access to capital. Uncoordinated marketing efforts among exporters.	New fisheries policy targeted at improvement of product and support to the sector. Seafood consumption is growing worldwide. Rising demand for fresh and value-added products. New markets developed for diversified fisheries products such as Africa, Middle East, and South America.	Entry of more and more countries in export market. Poor business management skills, lack of strategic vision of many Vietnamese managers.
Institutional Support			
Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
The New Fisheries Act of 2004. Decentralized planning. Research support. Dedicated governmental Fish Marketing Organization. Long history of fisheries cooperatives,	Ineffective role of fisher cooperatives and fishers group in institutional arrangement. Lack of manpower in responsible agencies reduces efficacy. Lack of opportunities for training and skill enhancement.	Newly developed policies targeting community participation, standardization of product and clear delineation of authority. Many project-based implementation of Fisheries Co-management (FCM) and implementation of community-based fisheries resource management (CBFRM) on the basis of Japanese models.	Passing through command-type of economy to economic liberalization. However, presence of governmental agencies in every aspect of the activity might distort market forces. Unknown levels of acceptance of stakeholders of FCM and CBFRM. Presence of vested interests in fisheries sector.



Annexure 9

Coastal Fisheries Management Systems and Efforts for Resource Recovery in Japan

Jun-ichiro Okamoto¹

Summary

The present day Japanese fisheries management system is based on the provisions contained in the 1949 Fisheries Law of Japan. These provisions relate to two fisheries management systems, the fisheries right and fisheries licensing, and the mechanism of democratic decision making. The Japanese coastal fisheries management system represented by the fisheries right system could be classified as a good combination of right-based fisheries management and community-based fisheries management systems. The local fisheries cooperative associations (FCAs) play a key role in coastal fisheries management in Japan. The FCAs originated and evolved from the fishers association in 1885 and are established as self-regulatory bodies for fisheries management and reconciliation of conflicts among fishers. The membership of the FCAs covers almost all fishers from coastal fisheries and the far-sea fisheries sectors. This uniqueness of FCAs enables them to be the key stakeholder in all policy implementation activities, including fisheries resource recovery programmes (RRPs). Thus, the local FCAs are regarded as appropriate legal entities to be entitled with the fisheries rights in the coastal waters abutting their areas of jurisdiction. Under the conventional fisheries management measures, about 50 percent of fish stocks in Japanese waters face over-exploitation. To stem the situation, RRP were introduced for many fisheries in the country. In implementation of the RRP, the fisheries adjustment committees as well as the FCAs play important roles and also coordinate between different stakeholders.

1.0 Introduction

Fisheries resource deterioration is one of most serious problems in many countries as well as in the international waters. Fisheries authorities and policy makers all over the world are saddled with this issue. Though deterioration of the fisheries resource could be ascribed to both natural and man-made causes, such as climate change and degradation of habitats by coastal development and pollution, over-exploitation of the fisheries resources is also a major cause. Therefore, the fisheries sector should also own the responsibility to rectify the situation. In this regard, the kind of fisheries management system that should be adopted for fisheries management assumes significance.

It is well recognized that both rules and incentives to fishers can have significant effect on the long-term sustainability of fisheries. In this regard, the implementation of right-based fisheries has been considered as an important mechanism for effective management of the fisheries resources. From all practical angles, the Japanese coastal fisheries management could be considered as the right-based fisheries management system, which is practiced in combination with the community-based fisheries management (CBFM) system. According to Professor Kenneth Ruddle of the Kansei-Gakuin University in Japan, CBFM is not a new concept in coastal fisheries management. It was widely used in the fishing villages in Asia and the Pacific area before the modern systems replaced it with their highly centralized and top-down approach. This paper, describes the Japanese coastal fisheries management system and the resource recovery programmes (RRPs) implemented in the country.

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(Email: jokamoto@fish.hokudai.ac.jp). The paper was presented in the Seminar by Mr Masaaki Sato, Secretary, ICFO.

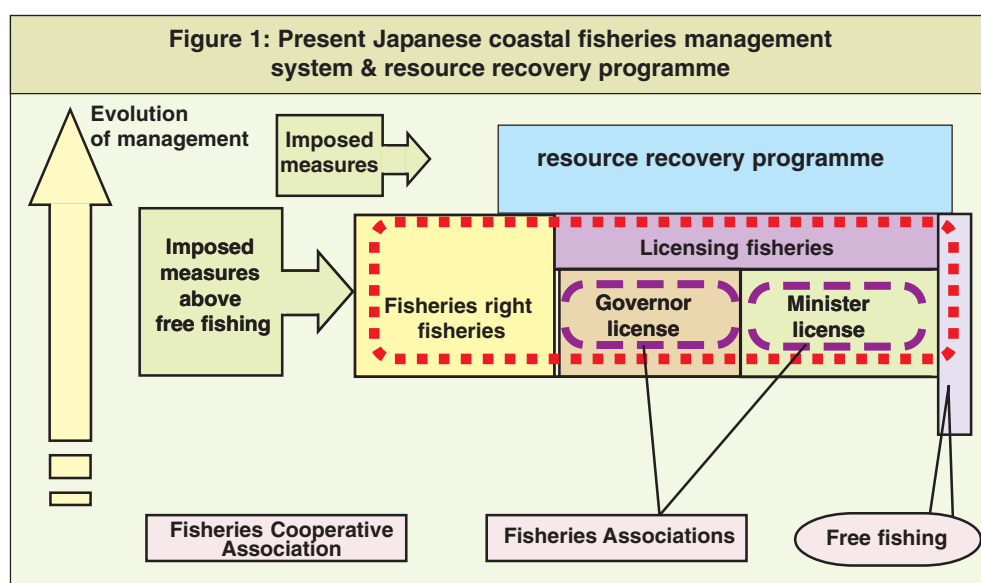
2.0 The Japanese Coastal Fisheries Management System

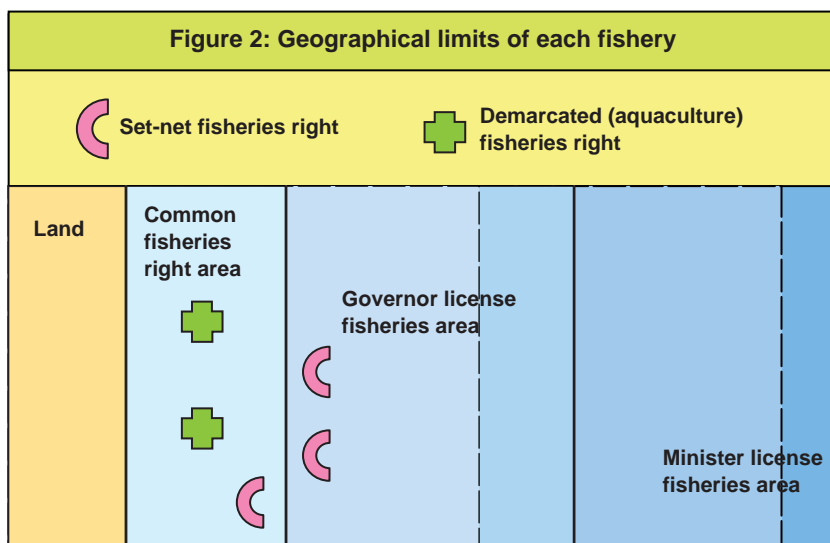
The Japanese coastal fisheries management system is well known and has been a favourite topic of scholars of fisheries management. The Japanese fisheries management system derives its strength from the 1949 Fisheries Law of Japan and comprises two distinct management norms. The first one is based on allocation of fisheries rights in the coastal waters, which is said to be unique to Japan. The second one deals with fisheries licensing system and is a common practice all over the world. In Japan, the fisheries licensing system comprises the governor licensing system and the minister licensing system.

In the Japanese legal context, fisheries resources in public waters are considered under non-ownership. In other words, nobody can claim ownership of fisheries resources in such waters and anyone can access the resources unless there is a regulation against free-fishing. Since it is well recognized that unregulated fishing causes social conflicts and depletion of fisheries resources, most public waters activities in Japan are regulated by the licensing system and fisheries right system. The only scope of free fishing in Japan is left to the pole and line fishing. It is now also well recognized that with advanced fishing technologies, the conventional fisheries management systems (such as licensing) are finding it difficult to address the issues of sustainable exploitation and resource conservation.

In Japan, the fisheries right system covers fisheries in the inshore waters and its outer limit is generally up to less than three nautical miles from the coast line. There are two types of fisheries rights. The first one is known as the common sea fisheries right and demarcated fisheries rights for aquaculture, which is granted to the fisheries cooperative associations (FCAs). The second fisheries right is the set-net fisheries right and large-scale demarcated fisheries right, which is granted to individual fishery operator or a proprietor. The governor licensing system covers relatively small-scale mobile fisheries, but the area of coverage does not have clear outer limit boundary. The minister licensing system covers relatively medium or large-scale mobile fisheries, and the regulated area by minister licensing system may extend to even foreign waters (Figures 1 & 2).

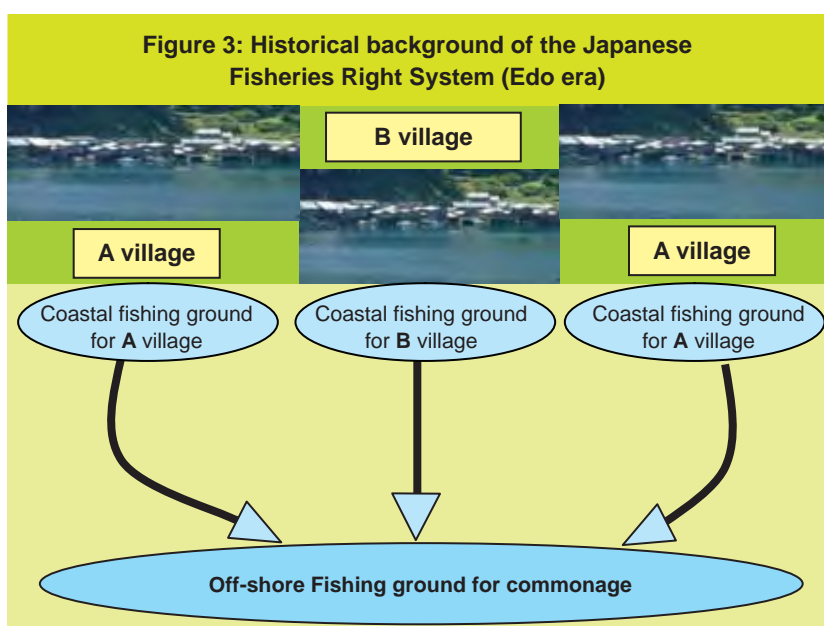
The history of Japanese fisheries right system dates prior to the shift of power from the feudal regime to the modern centralized system in 1868. During the feudal regime, the inshore fishing grounds were left to the management of adjacent villages, and offshore fishing grounds were commonage for fishers capable of paying pay tax to the





local lord (Figure 3). Although the fisheries management by the villages in the inshore fishing grounds seemed typical of CBFM, but it did not necessarily mean that the fisheries management was based on a democratic pattern.

After the shift of power from the feudal regime to the Emperor government in 1868, the new central government tried to reform fisheries management system. In 1875 it was declared that all waters belonged to the government and those willing to fish should pay rent. This declaration denied the customary rights to the villages as established during the feudal period. This policy intensified conflicts among fishers all over the country who sought new fishing opportunities under the new declaration and also tried to protect the vested fishing opportunity provided under the feudal regime. Since it became difficult for the central government to resolve conflicts arising out of the new policy, the declaration was withdrawn within one year of its issue and the old customary fisheries management rules were restored. However, the government issued a new decree in 1885 to establish fisher associations based on social and geographical



considerations in the coastal areas. This decree also stipulated that the fishers be members of the association.

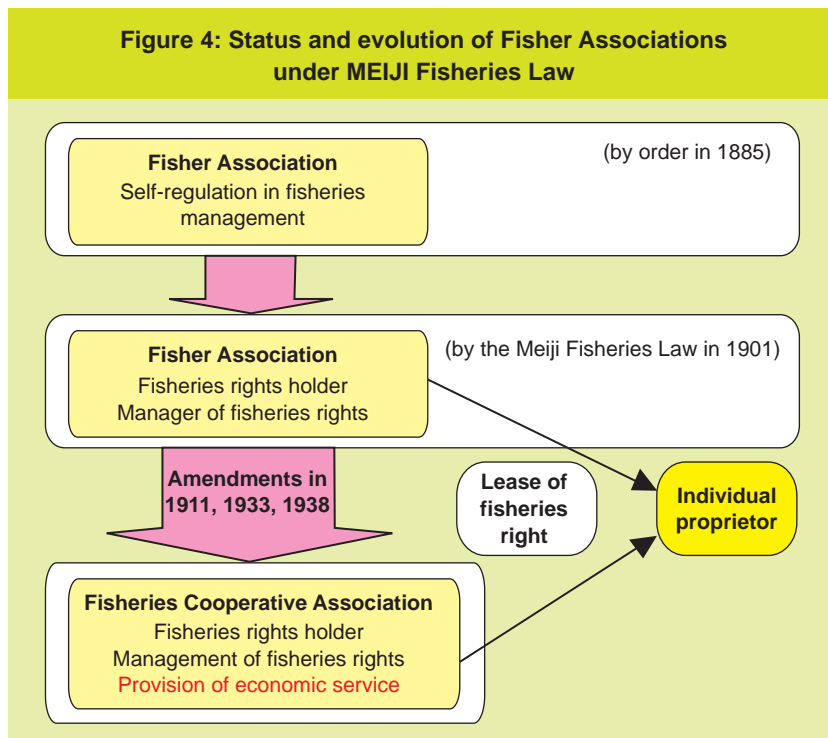
The decree also prescribed functions for the fisher associations, which stipulated that the associations will act as self-regulatory bodies, engage in fisheries management and reconciliation of possible conflicts, and collect fisheries tax for the government. While this was a practical way of solving the problems, it did not mean that the central government gave up the administrative control of fisheries management. In 1901, the central government finally introduced the new legal system for fisheries management in the form of Meiji Fisheries Law, which provided fisheries right system for use of fishing grounds. This law once again formalized the control of the government on fisheries resources.

Under the Meiji Fisheries Law, the fisheries right system was classified into four types, namely (i) set-net fisheries right for fixed gear like set-net, (ii) demarcated fisheries right for aquaculture, (iii) specific fisheries right for beach net, onshore dip-net, etc. and (iv) exclusive fisheries right for fisheries of demersal species like shellfish, sea weeds in inshore fishing grounds. While fishing of demersal species under the exclusive fisheries right was regarded as the innate right of the coastal villages, exclusive fisheries right confined within the demarcated area was granted to only fisher associations and not to the village. The fisheries right became valid by local government authorization such as grants. However, the fisheries right system under the Meiji Law had some shortcomings, which created conflicts in the society. One of the major flaws was that once the fisheries right was acquired, it could be automatically renewed and transferred. The fisheries rights were also granted on first-come first-serve basis with little thought on long-term planning.

The Meiji Fisheries Law provided legal status to the fisher associations. However, the fisher associations suffered in the initial stages due to lack of finances to run their activities. In response to requests from fisher associations, a series of amendments took place in the regulations and the fisher associations gradually evolved into fully functional fisheries cooperative associations (FCAs), providing multiple economic services such as finance, collective sale of catch and procurement of products to its members. Due to such beneficial developments, the membership of FCAs cover not only coastal fishers, but also offshore and far-seas licensing fishers who live in village near the fishing ports. The important role that these FCAs play in resource management has also made them the most appropriate entities in the fisheries sector in Japan. The status and evolution of fishers associations under the Meiji Fisheries Law is shown in Figure 4.

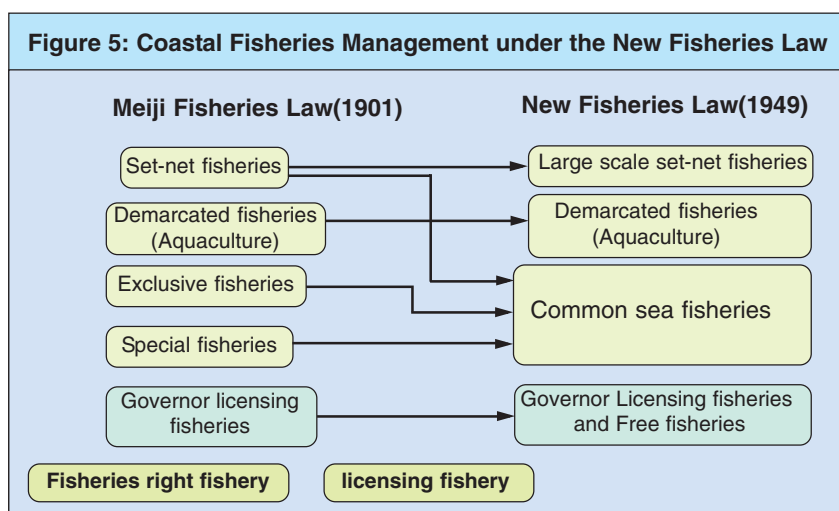
Although the Meiji Fisheries Law transformed the old customary fisheries management rules into a modern legal system, the Law had some faults. These flaws led to concentration of profitable fisheries rights, because fisheries right could be transferred as permanent private property right. Even FCAs sometimes allowed richer fishers to manage and use exclusive fisheries right by taking on lease in exchange of money.

After World War II (1945), the Japanese society entered into a democratic phase. During this period, the country also suffered acute shortage of food and there were around one million fishers without suitable fishing equipment and gear in the coastal fishing villages. This situation led to urgent actions and the government initiated reforms in the fisheries management system to address various needs, such as democratization in fisheries management and improvements in production related activities. In line with such reforms, the new Fisheries Cooperative Association Law was enacted in 1948. This Law provided each member with one voting right, regardless of the number of share-holdings in the cooperative association. Immediately after enactment of the Fisheries Cooperative Association Law, the new Fisheries Law was also enacted.



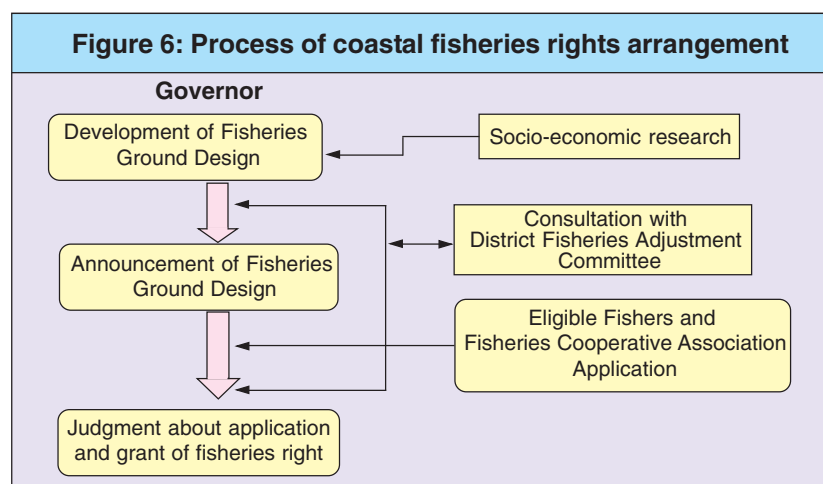
The objectives of the new fisheries law was to democratize fisheries management system through operation of fisheries adjustment mechanism as well as to improve fisheries productivity through suitable allocation of fishing opportunities and grounds. Under the reformed fisheries right system, the four types of fisheries rights were re-categorized and a fixed term of validity was also prescribed. To meet the objectives of the Law, preparation of master plans for fisheries right and priority order for granting the right were introduced. In addition, the system of fisheries adjustment committee was also established to operate the system in a democratic manner.

Through reclassification of fisheries right, the exclusive fisheries right was re-named as common fisheries right, and small-scale set-net fisheries and some net fisheries were converted into common sea fisheries right. Most part of the special fisheries right for mobile net fishing was converted into governor licensed fisheries (Figure 5).



The diving fishery to collect shell-fish, collection of seaweed and shell-fish in coastal areas, pole and line fishing around reefs, bottom fixed gill-net are small-scale in nature and can be done by individual fishers. Accordingly, these types of fisheries were legally classified as common sea fisheries and such fisheries rights were open for members of the FCA. However, the FCA is required to lay down internal rules to manage the use of fisheries right by members in order to prevent overexploitation of the resources.

The fisheries adjustment committees were established to involve fishers in the fisheries management system. One such committee was established in each Prefecture and some big Prefectures like Hokkaido also have plural district committees. These committees comprise nine representatives of fishers elected from the district, four persons representing fisheries scholars and two persons representing public interest are nominated by the governor. To avoid political influence in decision-making, representatives of the Local Assembly are not permitted to be represented on these committees. The function of the district committee is very significant. The governor has to consult the committee whenever a new fisheries regulatory measure is proposed for introduction. If appropriate, the committee can also independently issue its own decree for resource conservation and coastal fisheries management. The process of coastal fisheries rights arrangement is presented in Figure 6.



In addition to the district committees, there are three regional fisheries adjustment committees. Established in 2001 the regional fisheries adjustment committees are relatively new bodies. These committees address new issues at the regional level, such as resource recovery programme (RRP) and adjustment of fisheries interests between coastal and offshore fisheries. The structure and function of regional fisheries adjustment committees are same as those of the district committee.

The process of granting fisheries right is based on scientific assessment and is transparent and open. Firstly, the prefecture government develops the fisheries ground design based on scientific information on fisheries resources and related socio-economic aspects. Such designs provide information on the type of fishery right



that should be allowed, the site, period and also the category of people to whom the rights should be allotted. Once this exercise is complete, the fisheries ground design is announced to public and based on the applications received from the fishers or FCAs, the prefecture government grants fisheries right to applicants in conformity with the required qualification and the priority order of the applicants. The governor also consults the district adjustment committee at every stage of the process before the rights are granted.

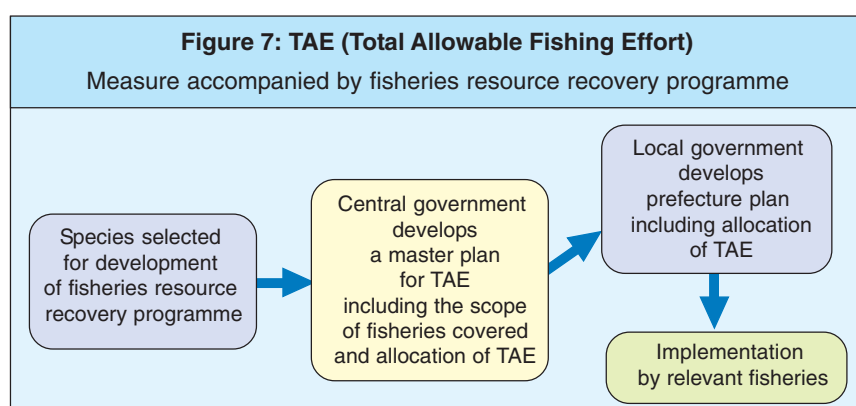
Despite various measures adopted for fisheries management, resource deterioration does occur. To correct this situation, the government has introduced various programmes to restore the resource. These include stock enhancement programmes such as farming and release of seed and fry in to the sea. The seed requirements for such activities are met from the stock enhancement centers set up by the national and prefecture governments.

Though the Japanese fisheries are managed under relatively elaborate systems, the real status of fish stocks in Japan is unfavorable to fishers and policy makers. According to the national fisheries research agency, 48 stocks (49%) out of 98 stocks in 2006 were at levels lower than average of past 20 years' indicators. In order to restore the stocks, the government started the RRP in the year 2001. After ratification of the United Nation Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Japanese government also introduced the concepts of Total Allowable Catch (TAC) in 1996 and the Total Allowable Effort (TAE) system for resource conservation in 2001. The species under the TAC and TAE in Japan during 2006 are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of fish stocks in Japan under the TAC and TAE systems (2006)

TAC (Total Allowable Catch)	TAE (Total Allowable Effort)
7 species (Pacific saury, Alaskan pollack, Jack mackerel, Sardine, Pacific mackerel, Japanese common squid, Snow crab)	9 species (Flathead flounder, Pacific sand lance, Spear squid, Roughscale sole, Brown sole, Marble sole, Willowy flounder, Globefish, Japanese Spanish mackerel)

In case of Japan, the TAE has been considered as the total fishing vessel-days. The TAE has been introduced in conjunction with the RRP and at present nine species are listed for TAE. Once the TAE is authorized under the master plan for RRP by the central government, each portion of TAE is distributed to prefectures and relevant fisheries. If necessary, the relevant authority can also make the given TAE a legal condition through regulations for the relevant fisheries (Figure 7).



The target species for the RRP are selected after consultations by the Regional Fisheries Adjustment Committees. Such selections are based on the master plans developed by the central government for stock recovery. The master plans sometimes include many actions for each player. Generally, the RRP resort to actions such as restrictions on fishing ground, season, mesh size, body length of catch, etc for the fishers. The national and/or prefecture government, based on the agreement of fishers, also considers additional regulatory measures, financial support and stock enhancement programmes in support of the RRP. At the local level, the prefecture government sometimes takes initiative to organize stakeholder consultations and encourages discussions among stakeholders. In development of local RRP, the district fisheries adjustment committee plays the same role as that of the regional committee for the regional programme. An overview of the how the RRP are planned for implementation is given in Figures 8 & 9.

Figure 8: Fisheries Resources Recovery Programme

Purpose of Programme

- 1) Comprehensive resource oriented management
(National and regional level)

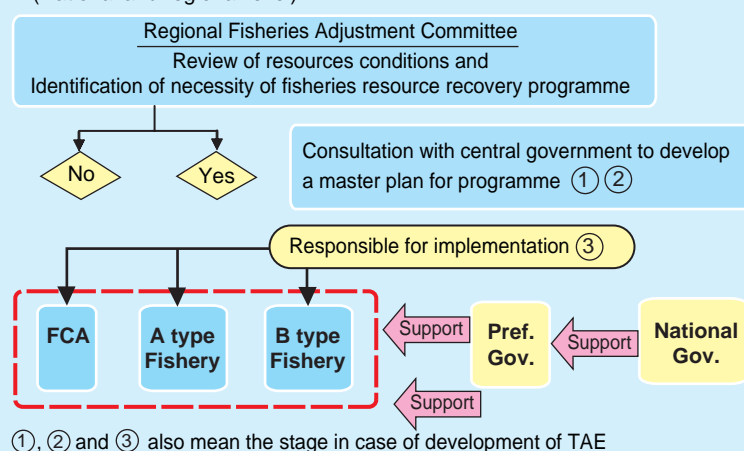
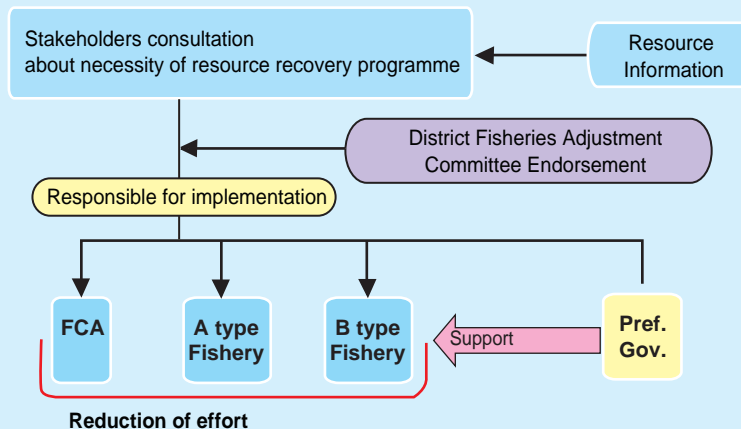


Figure 9: Fisheries Resources Recovery Programme

(local and prefecture level)



3.0 Resource Recovery Programmes

As of January 2008, 48 RRP have already been agreed and implemented all over the country, of which 17 are regional and 30 are local programmes. The government support for implementation of the RRP could include (i) financial aid and (ii) stock enhancement. The financial aid may cover (i) compensation for retirement or for cessation of fishing, (ii) subsidy for introduction of new gear to meet the requirements of the new regulation and (iii) subsidy for activities relating to cleaning of fishing grounds (Table 2).

Table 2: Government support for implementation of resource recovery programme

Support programmes	Contents of programmes
Support for reduction of fishing effort by fishers	
1. Support for scrapping fishing vessels	Aid for compensation for scrapped fishing vessel
2. Support for improving gear, cessation of fishing	Aid for new gear, compensation for releasing small fish, charter of vessel for activities other than fishing
2. Support for resource enhancement	Aid for seeds production and release thereof, research
3. Support for improving environment in fishing ground	Aid for cleaning fishing ground and neighboring area

In Japan there are many successful stories of fisheries RRP. The first example is a regional programme for the Japanese Spanish mackerel (JSM) implemented in the Seto Inland Sea. The JSM is very popular and expensive fish in the Western part of Japan, especially in Kansai area. The fishing grounds of this species are formed from spring to winter somewhere in the Seto Inland Sea. Therefore, stakeholders of many Prefectures are involved in the fishery (Table 3 gives details of the major gear targeting JSM).

For fisheries management purposes, the Seto Inland Sea is divided into 8 areas. According to the 2003 census, the total fishery operators of gill-nets in the Seto Inland Sea Area were about 6 400. Each Prefecture and fishery independently adopted its own management norms, which were inconsistent with each other.

Table 3: Major fishing gear targeting Japanese Spanish mackerel

Prefecture	Fishing gear	Total number of licenses (2001)	Area
Osaka	drift gill-net, trawl line	558	Bay of Osaka
Hyogo	drift gill-net, trawl line, purse seine	3 625	Bay of Osaka Eastern Seto Inland Sea
Okayama	drift gill-net, trawl line, trawl net	386	Eastern Seto Inland Sea
Tokushima	drift gill-net	28	Eastern Seto Inland Sea
Kagawa	drift gill-net, trawl line	1,574	Eastern Seto Inland Sea
Hiroshima	purse seine, drift gill-net	172	Central Seto Inland Sea
Ehime	drift gill-net, trawl line	486	Central Seto Inland Sea
Yamaguchi	drift gill-net	627	Western Seto Inland Sea
Ooita	drift gill-net	123	Western Seto Inland Sea
Fukuoka	drift gill-net	15	Western Seto Inland Sea
Wakayama	Trawl line	Free	Eastern Seto Inland Sea

The drastic decrease in the landings of JSM was seen from 1986 onwards and the fishers and Prefecture authorities feared that the stocks would collapse. Subsequently, the scientific data also confirmed that the stock levels became lower than the carrying capacity since 1992. With the decrease in landings, the unit price increased and since 1998 the increase in unit price of fish could no more make up for decrease of catch. Therefore, the need to restore stock was more critically recognized by fishers. Through a series of consultations, the stakeholders finally agreed for a RRP in 2002, with the goal of recovering the stocks to the 1991 levels by 2011 (Figure 10). The fishers and the Prefecture governments agreed on a unified plan to reduce the fishing efforts and the central government also decided to support implementation of the programme, if necessary. The measures adopted by each Prefecture to recovery of the JSM is given in Tables 4 & 5.

Figure 10: Objectives of fisheries RRP for JSM

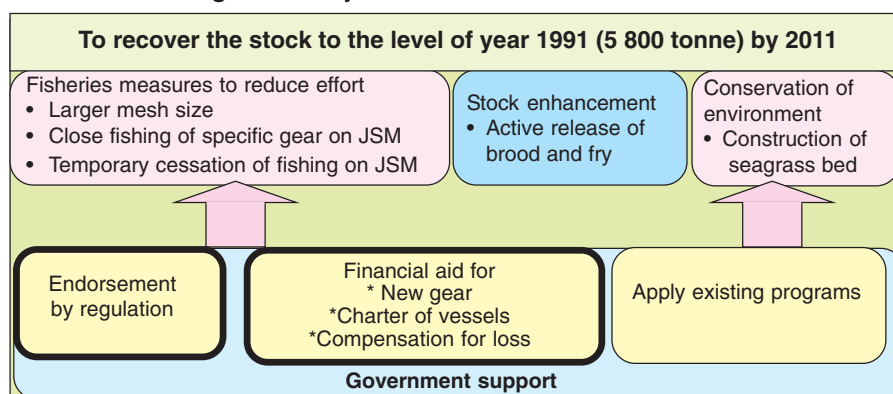


Table 4: Measures by each Prefecture before implementation of RRP

Prefecture	Regulatory measures	Voluntary measures
Osaka		Mesh size (<>10cm), length of net(<3000m,<3000are)
Hyogo	Closed hour (16:00–05:00)	Mesh size (>10.9cm), size of net (<1600are)
Okayama	Size of net(<1600are,<620m)	Mesh size(>10.6cm)
Tokushima		Mesh size(>10.9cm), size of net (<2000m)
Kagawa	Size of net (<620m)	Mesh size(>12.1cm), size of net (<1085m)
Ehime	Mesh size(>10.6cm), size of net (<1000m)	
Hiroshima	Mesh size(>9cm) , size of net (<1000m)	
Yamaguchi	Mesh size (>10cm), size of net(<1800m)	
Ooita	size of net (<1500m)	
Fukuoka		

As a part of the RRP, the fishing seasons were shortened and larger mesh size was introduced. While the goal of the RRP was to reach the levels of 1991, according to recent estimates, the projected stock recovery by 2011 would only reach about 65 percent level of 1991. The catch in 2005 was 1 351 metric tonnes, which is about 50 percent of the 1992 catch (2 051 metric tonnes). Though this RRP is regarded as one of the successful conservation programmes in Japan, the recovery projection shows how difficult it can be to achieve the desired goals.

The second example is of the fisheries RRP in Miyazaki prefecture. The marble rock fish constitutes a major species in the long-line, pole & line and small trawl net fisheries.

Table 5: Introduced regulated measures to reduce fishing effort on JSM stocks (CS: closed season, BMS: bigger mesh size)

Area	Fisheries	Introduced regulated measures
1	Trawl line, etc	Closed season (CS) for JSM (5/15~6/20)
2	Drift gill-net Trawl line	Closed season (6/5~7/11), bigger mesh size (>10.6cm) CS for JSM (5/25~6/30)
3	Drift gill-net Trawl line Purse seine	CS (9/1~11/30), BMS (>10.6cm) CS for JSM (9/1~11/30) Reduce catch by 20% from average of last 5 years
4	Drift gill-net Trawl line	CM (9/1~11/30), BMS (>10.6cm) CM for JSM (9/1~11/30)
5	Drift gill-net Purse seine Small type gill-net	CM (9/1~9/30), BMS (>10.6cm) Reduce catch by 20% from average of last 5 years Totally cessation
6	Drift gill-net	CS (9/1~9/30), BMS (>10.6cm)
7	Drift gill-net	CS (5/1~5/31), BMS (>10.6cm)
8	Drift gill-net	CS (5/1~5/31), BSM (>10.6cm)

About 1 800 fishing vessels are engaged in this fisheries and more than 70 percent are coastal fishers. Since 2000, the species recorded a drastic decline in the landings and the total catch value also decreased. Through a series of consultations, the stakeholders finally agreed to work on a RRP in the year 2005. They agreed on measures such as (i) introduction of refugia, (ii) close of fishing for long line for a period of six months every year, (iii) and introduction of body length limit for other fisheries. In addition, the Prefecture government agreed for a stock enhancement programme. So far, the results of the RRP are not evident as the programme started only two years back.

Notwithstanding the many management initiatives taken up by the fisheries sector in Japan, including the RRP, it is seen that much more needs to be done towards sustainable exploitation of the resources. It is also noteworthy that the FCAs and the fisheries associations have formed the backbone of these management initiatives. The existing fisheries management system has also provided the right foundation for implementation of the RRP. Without their existence it would have been a much more arduous task to implement the management programmes in the country.

The Japanese experience in fisheries management also highlights the importance of stakeholders and their involvement as legitimate entities, which can democratically work for fisheries and resource management. In this regard, the regional guidelines for co-management (using group user right as supplementary guidelines) for responsible fisheries in Southeast Asia, prepared by the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, could be a good source of information for consultation.

4.0 Conclusion

In conclusion, it would be appropriate to say that strong political will is an essential pre-requisite to achieve success in implementation of the management programmes. Secondly, delegation of authority to the stakeholders is important as it enables them to assume ownership of the resource and its management. Thirdly, all decision-making that is based on democratic processes ensures smooth implementation of the activities. Fourthly, appropriate monitoring, intervention and support by the government are also essential in implementation of such programmes so as to achieve the desired goals and social equity. Lastly, it may also be necessary for the beneficiaries to bear to a reasonable extent the expenses towards financial and physical inputs for resource conservation, which is a common asset for society. Such an involvement would help beneficiaries realize the ownership of the resources and their sustainable use.



Annexure 10

Application of Japanese Fisheries Resource Management System to Vietnam - Practical Considerations

Bui Duc Quy¹

Abstract

As compared to Vietnam, Japan is a highly industrialized nation and the country is implementing various measures such as limiting the fleet size, implementing resource recovery programmes, improving the environment and placing increased focus on aquaculture to improve the overall fisheries sector in the country. Japan also has a well-established Fisheries Resource Management System that works right from the Central to the Provincial and then to the Prefectural levels. The Fisheries Cooperative Associations form the backbone of the coastal fisheries sector in Japan.

The fisheries sectors of Vietnam and Japan have many common features. However, Vietnam being a developing country lags behind in sustainable development of its resources. The large size of the fishing fleet and open access regime in the country makes it difficult to implement sound management programmes. Vietnam needs to optimize its fishing fleet in tune with the harvestable potential. The pressure on the near-shore waters also needs to be reduced by modernizing the fleet and moving it offshore.

The effective utilization of the fishery and aquaculture resources would require re-organization of the fishers and fish farmers into cooperatives or fisher/ farmer associations. MCS programmes need to be strengthened and the investment on research and development requires manifold increase to support fisheries developmental activities in the country.

1.0 Introduction

Japan is a major fishing nation and in 1983 the fish landings in the country were estimated at 13 million tonnes. In recent years the production has come down, due to various reasons such as reduction in the distant water fishing fleet and also sustainability issues in the near-shore fishing areas. In order to have sustainable harvests from its marine resources, Japan is implementing various measures such as limiting the size of the fishing fleet, resource recovery, improving the environment and increasing focus on aquaculture.

2.0 Fisheries resource management system of Japan

The Fisheries Resource Management (FRM) System of Japan works right from the Central to the Provincial and then to the Prefectural levels, maintaining close collaboration and cooperation at all stages. The system defines fishing grounds and manages exploitation levels through grant of licenses, etc. The system is adequately supported by law, which governs fishing ports and harbours, marketing, aquaculture and the cooperative.

The Fisheries Cooperative Associations (FCAs) form the backbone of the coastal fisheries sector. They work on the principles of 'doing business together and saving together'. In the process the individual member of the FCA stands benefitted. The FCAs are highly market savvy and engage in providing loans, building infrastructure, purchasing and selling products, promoting insurance, processing and value addition,

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training and skill enhancement of their members, environment enhancement and providing market-related information to its members.

In Japan, the overall management responsibilities of fishing ports lies with the government, but the day to day management and operation is carried out by the cooperative located in that area. In case of any damage to the facility due to natural disasters, the Central government provides 2/3 coverage and the balance is met by the local government. In case of major



disasters, the Central government provides full coverage. Each port has a management board, the cost of which is paid by the Prefecture government.

Aquaculture is being promoted in the country as a means of increasing fish production, reducing pressure on the capture fisheries and also for sea ranching, especially of such species whose natural populations have reduced over the years. A legal framework provides the necessary support for carrying out aquaculture on sustainable basis. The FCAs, who wish to undertake aquaculture, do so after approval of their plans by the Prefecture government.

Cooperatives play an important role in marketing; in classifying and grading fish and managing fisheries market. Fishers sell their products through the cooperative by using the auction system. There are two kinds of wholesale fisheries markets under the Law on Wholesale Fisheries Market. The Central Wholesale Markets, serving more than 200 thousand people, are managed by the Central government; and the Local Wholesale Markets are managed by the Prefecture government or the city authorities. Fish markets are constructed as per the design given by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and licenses are granted by the Minister. The wholesalers are granted licenses by the Minister, while the middle wholesalers are licensed by the Market Management Board. The markets work on the principles of transparency and fair price at all levels.

The policies and programmes of the government are decided following an elaborate process of consultation at different levels. The local authorities also provide guidance for implementation at the local level. The important components of the policies and programmes include Total Allowable Catch and Effort (TAC & TAE); limiting number of fishing vessels proportionate to size of the harvestable stock; management of the fishing grounds; protection to juveniles and broodstock; and Resource Recovery Plans (RRPs). The Fisheries Research Institutions and their centres undertake work on production of juveniles for stocking and the costs are covered by the Prefectures. In some cases the FCAs also share the cost.



3.0 Important issues in applying Japanese fisheries resource management system to Vietnam

Generally, fisheries in Vietnam and Japan have many similar characteristics. Both have small as well as large-scale commercial fisheries. The small-scale is large in number and highly scattered in the coastal areas. The in-shore waters have high fishing pressure and in some areas the stocks are depleted. It is felt that the way Japan addresses these common issues would be of use to Vietnam in improving its fisheries sector.



Vietnam has a coastline of 3 260 km and territorial waters of 1 million km², located in the tropical monsoon region. In 2006, the estimated fish landing in Vietnam reached 3.7 million tonnes, of which about 2.0 million tonnes were contributed by capture fisheries and the balance 1.7 million tonnes by aquaculture. During the same period, the exports touched US \$ 3.36 billion.

The fishing fleet in Vietnam in 2005 was estimated at 90 880 with a total power of 5 318 000 CV (average 58.5 CV/vessel). The country has 65 fishing ports and 50 harbours that provide the landing and berthing facilities to its fishing fleet. Most of these ports and harbours lack the essential facilities.

In Vietnam, the total area under aquaculture is estimated at about 1.0 million ha. Extensive fish farming is practiced in about 90 percent of the total area and intensive in the remaining 10 percent. There are about 20 000 aquaculture farms and aquaculture activities have been expanding. There are 600 fishery cooperatives with a total number of 25 000 people, who are mainly engaged in aquaculture cooperatives. In addition there are 11 000 fishery cooperative groups with about 80 000 members. The cooperatives in Vietnam are owned, controlled and operated by their members who are mostly poor and lack capital for enhancing their activities.

Recovery of the natural resources: Vietnam is a developing country and as compared to Japan it has many problems in developing its small-scale fisheries sector. The country lacks sound policies on fisheries resource management. Due to lack of funds,



research initiatives on seed production of important species for sea ranching is inadequate. Due to fund constraints, most of the time small-sized seed is released and the mortality rate of such seed is very high. Further, research on environmental and resource protection has been initiated recently and it will take some time before results are seen. Presently, the facilities for undertaking such research are also meagre. The country is unable to formulate management plans for important stocks due to lack of quality data and international cooperation in this regard is also weak and needs strengthening.



4.0 Suggestions

Vietnam needs to optimize its fishing fleet in tune with the harvestable potential. The pressure on the near-shore water needs to be reduced by modernizing the fleet and moving it offshore. The fishermen also need to be organized to fish in collective manner, thereby reducing their operational costs. Post-harvest and marketing infrastructure requires re-structuring to streamline the distribution channels and reduce post-harvest losses.

Aquaculture, as a means of increasing fish production and stock enhancement needs promotion in a big way. Aquaculture should also be popularized to reduce pressure on the coastal fisheries and as an alternative livelihood option for fishers. To order to achieve the above, adequate funding would be necessary.

Sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture in Vietnam will require suitable policies and plans, which aim at optimum utilization of the coastal resources and wise usage of the scarce water resources. The devolution of power from Central government to the local authorities should be complete and usage rights of the coastal water fronts should be vested with the community. Zonation of the coastal waters will ensure adequate opportunities for the small-scale fishers to fish and earn livelihoods. The government should make all efforts in bringing private-sector investment into the fisheries sector in both harvest and post-harvest operations and also in aquaculture. Investments should be made in building modern fishery centres all along the coastline and the same should be linked to the high-tech processing zones. The safety and welfare measures of fishers should be increased and the application of information technology for increasing fishing efficiency; market and trade-related data on fish and fish products; awareness on conservation and policies and programmes on sustainable fishing; etc should be promoted to benefit the sector.



The effective utilization of the fishery resources would require re-organization of the fishers into cooperatives or fishery associations. Similarly, the aquaculture

farmers need to be grouped into cooperatives to take collective decisions in procurement of inputs and also bargain for the best price for the produce and marketing. Collectively, they can invest in many activities for benefit of the community and development of the resources. The government already has supportive policies for fishery cooperatives to build their infrastructural facilities and procurement of equipment, and to organize their processing and marketing activities. The government may further consider handing over the management and operation of the fishing ports to the fishery co-operatives.

Vietnam has suitable areas in the coastal region to promote mariculture. Communities should be organized to undertake mariculture activities. To make aquaculture sustainable, efforts should also be made in the areas of community management, irrigation for supply of quality water and outlet channels for waste water, inputs such as feeds, health management and application of code of conduct for good management practices, etc. Further, it is also essential to establish traceability mechanism to meet the growing demands of the consumer for safe and healthy seafood and develop a sound system of early warning systems in both meteorology and health aspects.

The present monitoring, control and surveillance mechanism (MCS) in Vietnam is weak and needs strengthening in terms of registration and licensing of fishing vessels, mesh size regulations, closed season, closed areas for protection of spawning habitats, free access to fish during their migratory runs, etc. Additional manpower will be essential to implement the provisions of MCS, The investment on research and development requires manifold increase. Additional funding would allow research work on recovery of fish habitats and breeding of commercially important marine species for propagation and also for aquaculture purposes.

With the advances in science and technology, it is essential to upgrade the skills of fisher and other stakeholders from time to time. For this purpose, seminars, workshops and meetings should be organized and the electronic and print media should be used to the fullest extent. With the growing trade, movement of exotic aquatic animals, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, it is essential to have greater cooperation with the countries in the region and also expand international cooperation in the field of fisheries and aquaculture. Simultaneously, the cooperation of inter-governmental and UN agencies working in the field of fisheries and aquaculture should also be sought for sustainable development of the resources.





Annexure 11

Application of Japanese Community-based Fisheries Management in the Philippines

Sandra Victoria Arcamo¹

Abstract

The paper is an overview of the first year of implementation in the Philippines of the Training Project for Promotion of Community-Based Fishery Management (CBFM) by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Asia that is funded by the Japanese Government and implemented by the International Cooperative Fisheries Organization. The Project is expected to contribute to the sound development of the fisheries in the region, promote cooperation and exchanges that would lead to increase in the income of the industry through appropriate interventions.

The paper describes the geography, economy and fisheries profile of both the Philippines and Japan; the legal frameworks, and organizational structures for fisheries resource management; issues, strategies, and effectiveness of each structure. Subsequently, it discusses the applicability of Japan's Fisheries Resource Management in the Philippines considering the differences in the legal framework, organizational structure, culture/customs, and attitudes between the two countries.

It was apparent that fishers and the communities play a vital role in carrying out CBFM be it in the context of Japanese or Filipino culture. Moreover, success of CBFM depends a great deal on strong political will, autonomous authority for stakeholders, democratized mechanisms, and appropriate monitoring, intervention and support by government authority.

1.0 Introduction

The Training Project for Promotion of Community-Based Fishery Management (CBFM) by Coastal Small-scale Fishers in Asia is funded by the Japanese Government (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries or MAFF) and implemented by the International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO). The Project is expected to contribute to the sound development of the fisheries in the region, promote cooperation and exchanges that would lead to increase in the income of the industry through appropriate interventions. The Project commenced in 2006 and will terminate in 2011. The Philippines was selected in the first year of the Project.

Ten people representing the fisheries agency and fisheries cooperatives from Palawan and Davao City visited Tokyo and Okinawa, Japan in September 2006. The study visit was conducted to understand the Japanese CBFM system and pick up possible derivations for the Philippine CBFM policies and programs.

While in Tokyo, the group visited MAFF (Central Government



Participants from the Philippines in Phase Two Study Visit to Japan in 2006.

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Fisheries Agency), ICFO (National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations or JF-ZENGYOREN), and the Tokyo Central Wholesale Fish Market at Tsukiji. Thereafter, the group flew to Okinawa to visit the Prefecture Government of Okinawa, local Fisheries Cooperative Associations (FCAs) and their local markets, and the local wholesale fish market at Naha.

2.0 Philippines' Fisheries Resource Management

The Philippines archipelago has a long coastline and consists of three main islands: Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao and 60 coastal provinces. It has more waters than the 7 100 islands and is estimated to cover 2.2 million sq. km.

The coastline is very important in terms of food security, industry, political, and socio-economics. It provides the medium for economics and business enterprise, transportation in and around the islands, fisheries, aquaculture as well as mariculture, tourism and last but not the least, employment to a substantial number of the population.

In 2003, the Philippines ranked 8th among the top fish producing countries in the world with its production that constituted 2.8 percent of the total world production of 146.27 million metric tonnes. In 2004, the country ranked 11th in the world in aquaculture production with 4.5 percent share to the total global aquaculture production of 42.3 million metric tonnes. Moreover, the Philippines is the world's 2nd largest producer of aquatic plants (including seaweeds) having produced a total of 1.39 million metric tonnes or nearly 11.58 percent of the total world production of 12 million metric tonnes (FAO website).

In 2005, fish production was 4 161 870 metric tonnes valued at PhP146 332 848.82. By sector, municipal fisheries sector was estimated at 34.1 percent of the total production, aquaculture at 33.6 percent and commercial fisheries 32.3 percent. In terms of monetary value, the industry was noted to rate a large share next to agricultural crops for Gross Value Added in Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry Group.

However, the fisheries sector is in distress. The prominent issues are resource depletion due to overfishing and the use of destructive fishing methods, degradation and loss of marine habitats, stiff competition among the resource users that would include both the nationals and foreign fishers, and persistent poverty among the coastal populace and fisherfolk.

Legal framework: The management of the fisheries with the objective of making it sustainable rely on two important fisheries legislations namely Presidential Decree 704 and Republic Act 8550. The old fisheries code (Presidential Decree 704) contains

fisheries laws that set the stage for sustainable fisheries resource management (FRM). It includes management measures such as limiting access *e.g.* closed seasons, closed areas with specific orders coming from the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (top-down), some mention of Local Government Units (LGUs) jurisdiction, prioritization of municipal folk, and enforcement procedures, fees, and sanctions.

On the other hand, the recent fisheries code (Republic Act 8550), is an improvement of the old law. It retained the old law and modified some to provide better management. It includes resource rent that was based on resource valuation studies, limits access not only among commercial fishers but also municipal fishers based on resource studies, places local government in full control of management measures within the municipal waters, empowers communities on resource management measures through local advisory groups *i.e.* Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Councils (FARMCs), and elevates conservation and management into an integrated manner between and among stakeholders and ecosystems from watershed to reefs. In addition, there are new government circulars that detail advocacy and support participatory fisheries management.

FRM structure: The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) is the national agency tasked or mandated to conserve and manage the fisheries and aquatic resources in a sustainable manner for the Filipino people. The BFAR Hqs provides directions to the regional as well as provincial offices, which are also the field-level units. BFAR works very closely with the LGUs who have jurisdiction regarding fisheries resource management in the municipal waters (0-15 km from the shoreline), and other stakeholders such as the communities.

FRM in the Philippines has gone through a transformation from the 70's where attention was focused solely on fish production. By mid-70's as exploitation increased, there were increased conflicts among the different resource users. Realization that fisheries resources is limited crept in and by the late 70's and 80's coastal resource management, particularly fisheries resource management started and proceeded in full throttle through the 90's. There were several FRM projects that promoted policies and strategies for sustainable management of fisheries resources. In 2000, the country became a member of several regional fisheries management bodies. As a compliant member, it was incumbent on the country to enact resource management measures within national maritime waters that compliment regional resource management measures.

FRM strategies: Rationalizing the sustainable use of fisheries resources and rehabilitation of degraded fish habitats are done through participatory resource management (managers and stakeholders). Similarly, capacity building for FRM is also



undertaken both in the national and local agencies and the stakeholders. Opportunities are also made available for income diversification to wean the users from the depleted resources, alleviate poverty and raise environmental awareness through information education campaign (IEC).

FRM effectiveness: There are positive effects emanating from the FRM activities. Indications from biophysical parameters have shown positive results on resource recovery. Further, good governance was well promoted and instituted and illegal fishing declined significantly. The FRM practitioners have also increased in number and are available for sound advice to both mandated agencies and the communities.

In addition, FRM is slowly being viewed in an integrated manner considering there are no defined barriers among marine ecosystems/environments. Local institutions have been strengthened in terms of FRM understanding and capacity; participatory planning in addressing local issues are practiced more often than usual, and socio-economic conditions have enhancement, as evident in the communities.

3.0 Japan's Fisheries Resource Management

An island nation in East Asia, Japan is located in the North Pacific Ocean off the coast of the Asian continent with a land size of 378 000 sq. km. It is composed of four large main islands that comprise 95 percent of its territory, and 3 000 smaller islands that comprise the remaining 5 percent. It has 29 750 km of irregular coastline and an Exclusive Economic Zone of 4.5 million sq. km.

The coastline of Japan is economically important as this is where hundreds of towns and villages given to fishing, whaling and aquaculture are located as well as several major international ports and many huge industrial complexes. On the other hand, most of Japan's urban centers are located on or near the coast. In many urban-industrial areas, the coastline has been extended by reclamation projects to create new land for sprawling factories, oil storage tanks, expanded harbor facilities, airports and other uses.

Fisheries play a vital role in food security in Japan. Total production volume as of 2003 was noted at 6 083 kilotons; details by category are as follows:

- 2 543 kilotons offshore fisheries (medium-sized vessels)
- 1 577 kilotons coastal fisheries (small boats, set nets)
- 1 251 kilotons marine aquaculture (oysters, scallops, seaweed, yellowtail, sea bream)
- 602 kilotons far seas fisheries (large vessels outside of Japan)



Coastal fishing by small boats, set nets, or breeding techniques contributes about one-third of the industry's total production, while offshore fishing from medium-sized boats accounts for more than half of the total. Deep-sea fishing by large vessels operating far from Japan makes up the remainder. There are 6 300 fishing communities and 230 000 fishermen, 85 percent of which come from the coastal areas.

Presently, seafood sufficiency is estimated at 54-55 percent. Fish is second only to rice as a staple in the Japanese diet. Japan's fishing fleet provides most of the fish consumed domestically, although due to rising demand and decreasing catches, fish imports exceed exports. The government hopes to raise self sufficiency to 65 percent by 2012 but this is going to be a challenge as the fishing communities are located in geographically disadvantaged areas. Likewise, new entrants into the fishing sector are few and the elderly among the fishers outnumber its youth. The younger generation is inclined to join professions other than fishing. Currently, fish stocks are declining due to overfishing of spawners and juveniles, and habitat destruction, particularly the sea grass beds and tidal flats. Moreover, large fishing vessels operating in distant water fishing grounds are restricted due to tightened international regulations.

Legal Framework: The basic FRM system was developed several hundred years ago (early 17th Century), during the reign of the military shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu. In order to assure a steady supply of high-quality protein for the growing city, the shogun established a series of officially recognized fishing villages around the shores of northern Tokyo Bay. In return for supplying a portion of the catch to the shogun's castle, each village was granted exclusive rights to the resources in the waters immediately adjacent to the community. Access to deeper water further from shore was shared by several communities.

The tradition of exclusive inshore rights for fishing communities during the Tokugawa Period has come to be known as the exclusive common rights. The coastal fishing communities maintained autonomic nature and thus had their own rules on the use of common-property resources. The exclusive community-based rights in the in-shore waters and the shared rights in offshore waters are two major features of the present FRM system, handed over from generation to generation.

The Meiji Fisheries Law of 1901 was Japan's first legal document that institutionalized their fisheries management system. It was an advancement of the feudal system. The law made a distinction between fishing rights and fishing licenses. Fishing rights were granted for harvest of demersal species and for the use of small trap nets and other fixed gear. Fishing licenses were granted for harvest of migratory species using active gear. The formation of fishing associations was encouraged in each fishing village. Fishing rights were granted only to these associations. Fishing licenses, on the other hand, were granted to individuals or companies either by the MAFF or the Prefecture.

The Meiji Fisheries Law of 1901 was amended with the Fisheries Law of 1949. The latter law provides the legal framework under which fisheries regulations can be established by a combination of Prefecture government, FCAs and special fisheries regulatory commissions. One major feature of this latter law is decentralization of management responsibility. While the national government directly manages large-scale and international fisheries, responsibility for medium and small-scale fisheries is delegated to the Prefecture government. Likewise, the Prefecture government, while it directly regulates mobile fisheries, responsibility for stationary gear and sedentary resources is delegated to the FCAs. Moreover, Regional Fisheries Coordination Committees (RFCCs) are established and they play vital roles in decision making process and formulation of management options. Members of the Committees are chosen by the national government from among representatives of the offshore fishers and fishery experts.

FRM Structure: The coastal fishing communities of Japan are autonomous in the sense that they have their own rules on the use of common-property resources. These communities are well-established fishing villages with various mutual assistance groups and village-level organizations. It is a social structure that relies on kinship, friendship, mutual help and obligation. This traditional community structure became the foundation of the fisheries cooperatives. The FCAs came to be gradually recognized as the management group of such rights to which the rights were granted. These associations began to represent the village in terms of resource management. The FCAs were formally established based on the FCA Law of 1948.



The fishers actively and fully take part in fisheries resource management efforts with their self-imposed rules that are fine-tuned from time to time. This system ensures high compliance within an FCA. Beside FRM, the FCAs are multi-purpose in their businesses/activities and provide various services for the members. The organizational structure of FCAs is three tiered: the national, prefecture and local levels. The National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations (JF-Zengyoren or Japan's Fisheries Group) represents the national level, the Prefecture Federation of FCAs (Ken-gyoren) at the Prefecture level, and the different FCAs and their fisher members at the local level. Fishers at the local level belong almost 100 percent to FCAs.

Fishing Rights: The Fisheries Law adopts three categories: free fisheries, license fisheries and fishing right fisheries. No government permission is required in free fisheries. On the other hand, a license from either the Prefecture or national government is necessary to participate in license fisheries. Finally, fishing rights are issued by the Prefecture government for harvesting of sedentary species, for use of trap nets and other fixed gear, and for coastal aquaculture.

Fishing rights are likened to a property right that is an entitlement to operate fisheries. It is deemed a real right commensurate to that granted on land area. However, the holders of fishing rights are prohibited from indulging in free transactions *e.g.* to lease, to use and set it as mortgage and other prohibitions as required by Sea-Area Fishery Coordination Committee of Inland Water Fishing Ground Management Committee. The fishing right types are as follows:

- (i) Set net (duration 5 years): fixed gear at a place of over 27 meters in depth *e.g.* yellowtail set net, salmon set net;
- (ii) Aquaculture right (duration 5 years; some to 10): operate aquaculture in some area *e.g.* aquaculture of laver, oyster culture by using spat collectors, fish culture in pens, aquaculture of *Penaeus japonicus* in enclosure, hard clam culture by spreading baby clams on the sea bottom; and
- (iii) Common fishing right (duration 10 years): operate fisheries of common use in specified waters *e.g.* taking of abalones, top shells, and sea urchins as well as small set net fishery, fixed gillnet fishery, inland water fisheries.

FRM Strategies: Japan has been trying to restore its resources by limiting fishing efforts under the fishing license system, and utilizing the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and the Total Allowable Effort (TAE) systems. The TAC system is designed to control fishing by limiting catches to pre-fixed TAC ceilings for stocks that are caught in large numbers and are of high economic value or have poor resource conditions and are subject to the urgent conservation management system. On the other hand, TAE system is designed to control fishing by limiting fishing efforts to pre-fixed TAE ceiling on the number of operation days multiplied by the number of fishing boats, and so

forth. In addition, it embarks on Resource Recovery Plans (RRPs). Comprehensive resource recovery measures are implemented for fish species subject to recovery. The measures include reduction of fishing efforts through releasing of seedlings and conservation of the environment of fishing grounds. The national or local governments formulate these plans depending on the scope of the targeted waters.

FRM Effectiveness: The FRM system of Japan is effective in the sense that the practice began in the feudal period and is carried on to modern times. Furthermore, this traditional system of sea tenure was legally recognized through the Meiji Fisheries Law as amended by the Fisheries Law. The institutionalization of such system provides strong protection to small-scale coastal fishers. Considering the Japanese nature/culture, there is respect for the traditional local resource management system and the norms that is embodied in it. Moreover, the fisher members take active part in fisheries resource management.

The FCAs subsist due to economic profitability, administrative feasibility, straightforward enforcement, and less economic cost on regulation. However, it was noted that conservation focus were given to some identified commercially important species instead of a holistic perspective in the light of Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management. It is too exclusive that there needs to be coordination among the many diverse user groups, each of which attempts to maximize its own share of the resource leading to overfishing. Social sanctions may be effective in a close-knit village but virtually useless in terms of poaching e.g. recreational gathering of shellfish and other resources.

4.0 Observations

FRM in Japan is quite extensive as demonstrated by the strong political will that exists in the national down to the Prefecture governments, and the active participation of ZENGYOREN, KEN-GYOREN and the FCAs. The role of the FCAs in FRM system is very impressive. They engage in resource management and conservation, ensure compliance of rules and regulations, anti-pollution activities, etc. Likewise, they have strong lobbying powers and they play several functions such as credit, supply, marketing and guidance activities. They operate their fish markets in landing areas and are engaged in joint marketing business. At the outset, substantial information is available on commercially important fish stocks to assist the Fisheries Agency and the FCAs in coming up with appropriate management options. The FCAs practice self-regulation thereby cutting on economic costs. Excessive competition is also reduced to a minimum since everybody gets a fair share of the economic benefits that accrue from the fisheries.

The implementation of the RRP to address the declining resources due to overfishing is significant. These plans are formulated based on extensive studies on the status of the resources, actual fishery operations and after thorough consultation with fishers.



In addition, information culled from centralized auction market of fishery and other products are used to determine the productivity of the fishing grounds that is important in the decision making process. It is interesting to note that so far the FRM strategies instituted under the RRP have yielded positive results.

5.0 Applicability in the Philippines

Replication of Japan's FRM in the Philippines would rest on strong leadership and good governance, right values and attitudes, discipline and industry, as well as finance and technology in the country. Political will in all levels of governance would make a big difference in the implementation of FRM. Although some changes have been seen in the last decade, still a lot more is required to improve good governance relative to FRM in the Philippine setting. Discipline and industry among the fishers are very important in pursuing any developmental effort. There is still much to be desired in putting the common good first and foremost before individual interests. This will be difficult in an environment where the problem of poverty has not been completely solved and appropriate technology is still deficient.

Nevertheless, there is likelihood that the FRM system of Japan may be applicable in the Philippines taking into consideration some modifications in the culture, systems and laws of the country. The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998 presents robust opportunities for sustainable fisheries. It comprises the country's primary legislation for fisheries and aquatic resources. It allocates the jurisdictional responsibilities over fisheries between the national government and the cities and municipalities, through the legal definition of municipal waters extending from the shoreline up to a maximum of 15 kilometers offshore. It also includes practically all fishery violations existing in Philippine law and consolidates them in a chapter on prohibitions and penalties. It is the nearest that any national law has come to referring to an integrated framework for management of coastal resources.

The Code has devolved extensive fisheries management powers to the cities and municipalities specifically. Within the 15 kilometer municipal waters, they exercise general jurisdiction over fisheries which include management powers through the enactment of ordinances and law enforcement, imposition of license fees, charges and rentals, closed seasons, and the designation of fish reserves, refuges, and sanctuaries.

The Fisheries Code also mandates extensive consultation and cooperation between the LGUs and national government, with recommendations from the former being essential for certain actions of the latter, particularly in the case of setting of catch limits; designation of reserves for special or limited use, educational, research or special management purposes; and limitation or prohibition of fishery activities in overfished areas.



To support the LGUs in the management of fishery resources, FARMCs are created in all cities and municipalities abutting municipal waters. FARMCs are basically multi-sectoral councils with advisory and recommendatory functions, providing assistance to the national or LGUs in matters of fishery development planning, enactment of ordinances, managements, and enforcement. They serve as the main sounding board for the local governments in matters of fishery management.

Moreover, the government collaborates closely with the academe/research institutions relative to management of fisheries resources. Currently, some information on the status of fish stocks is available to policy makers and resource managers to come up with the appropriate management options.

There are large number of fisheries cooperatives registered in the country today. These are operating individually with very poor performance due to lack of income or profitable businesses. They are in dire need of substantial intervention from the government and the NGOs to ensure good performance. In addition, support should be extended to efforts on legislative and policy advocacy to establish a favorable environment for the fisheries cooperative to grow and develop into viable and strong socio-economic organizations.

The private sector and the fisheries industry also collaborate with the government in terms of finding a balance between fisheries resource management and economics. The government has closely coordinated with the industry in terms of formulating policies and alternative livelihood assistance for those who would be at a disadvantage with the resource management interventions. Moreover, both put in efforts for establishing a country position for alternative fishing areas outside national jurisdiction and into neighboring coastal states EEZs to ease fishing pressure on national fishing grounds and provide livelihood for a substantial number of the coastal population.

In the final analysis, it is very clear that fishers and the communities play a vital role in carrying out CBFM, be it in the context of Japanese or Filipino culture. At the end of the day, the degree of success of CBFM is measured by various parameters that would include strong political will, autonomous authority for stakeholders, democratized mechanisms and appropriate monitoring, interventions and support by the government.





Annexure 12

Possibilities of Introducing Community-based Fisheries Resource Management in Thailand

Pinyo Kiatpinyo¹

Abstract

The small - scale fisheries face many difficulties. Over-capacity and regulating access to fisheries are the two main issues that need suitable management interventions in this sector. While acknowledging these issues, it is generally realized that solutions not only lie in technical interventions, but also in social and economic interventions. Further, finding suitable alternative livelihoods for fishers, within and outside the sector, poses a big challenge. This paper examines some of the interventions in post-harvest operations that can help improve the economic base of small-scale fisheries sector.

With improvements in transportation system and better networking, transit time to markets is getting reduced. Further, series of value adding activities have emerged, focusing on increased efficiency and specialization in value chains using a number of pre-processing and re-processing techniques. Well-planned interventions by the government, especially in the post-harvest activities can go a long way in helping the small-scale fisheries sector.

1.0 Introduction

When discussing the requirements of management for small - scale coastal fisheries sector, it is often said that fisheries management for such a sub- sector might not be required since additional management arrangements only add to additional burden on people who are already socially and economically weak. This might be true, if the management actions are based on a top-down approach. However, if the sector is left on its own, the situation may further deteriorate and the small-scale fishers might be further marginalized. In the end, the issue boils down to what type of management interventions would be most appropriate for this sub-sector and the modalities of their implementation.

Let us consider another case. When we discuss the issue of overcapacity in small-scale coastal fisheries, it is again commented that any reduction in the capacity or regulating access might adversely impact on their livelihoods. It is also suggested that while regulating access to fisheries, alternative livelihoods need to be explored, preferably in their own settings.

The difficulties faced by small-scale fishers are well known to us. Although the issues are not insurmountable, yet it is becoming increasingly difficult to find appropriate management solutions to such problems. The discussions often focus on the root causes of the problem, which are linked to social and economic attributes of small-scale fisheries sector. We, therefore, acknowledge that a problem exists and the solutions not only lie only in technical interventions but also in social and economic interventions. While examining the possibilities of introducing community-based fisheries resource management in Southeast Asia, this paper attempts to examine a couple of issues that are important for improving the livelihoods of small-scale fisher communities.

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2.0 Managing Small-scale Fisheries

Small-scale fisheries and over-capacity: Achieving sustainability in small-scale fisheries in the Southeast Asian region is impeded by over-capacity in the sector - too many fishers competing for too few fish. Due to difficulties in implementing appropriate fisheries management systems in coastal areas in the region, fisheries are unregulated and operate in an open access regime. Declining daily catches are making it difficult for the small-scale fishers to sustain livelihoods and making the households vulnerable to chronic poverty. Using illegal and destructive fishing gear and practices are becoming increasingly attractive as a desperate short-term attempt to maintain livelihoods. Considering the lack of alternative income-generating opportunities in rural fishing communities, there are few options to improve the situation. This vicious cycle would further aggravate the poor socio-economic status of the fishing community, as well as the ecological status of the aquatic resource base. In the following paragraphs some post-harvest interventions are discussed, which have important bearing on the livelihoods of small-scale fishers in the region.

Post-harvest Interventions: Right from the stage when a fish is landed on-board fishing vessel, value addition can increase the shelf-life of the landed fish. Value addition requires both human and financial capital and includes knowledge and skills. Fish processing in the region is traditionally linked to surplus catches in some parts of the year. Excess fish is preserved for sale and consumption later in the year. Small-scale operators appear to maintain considerable control over fish processing, especially traditional activities such as fermented fish sauce.

Nevertheless, this pattern is changing. As transportation system is improving, additional investments are taking place. Networks are being established resulting in transfer of technologies and reduction in transit time to markets. A series of value adding activities have emerged, focusing on increased efficiency and specialization in value chains using a number of pre-processing and re-processing techniques. Some such developments and the issues associated with them are described below:

- **Diversity of products:** A range of products including dried, smoked, and fermented fish are getting increased market share as their demand has increased in growing urban markets. However, due to high degree of control by bigger traders, share of small-scale fishers and farmers in increasing revenue from retail markets has diminished.
- **Cultural importance of traditional products:** The demand for specific traditional products has increased. However, it appears that demand is guided by ethnicity, which may restrict the potential for alternative, innovative value-added products.
- **Grading and labeling:** Value-addition includes skill-based activities such as grading and labeling.
- **Economies of scale:** The significant investment required for commercial fish processing indicates a fundamental obstacle to small-scale fishers in getting extra income. It is widely evident that larger and more powerful operators manage to force the price down and effectively out-compete household level operators.
- **Regional and global markets:** Exposure to international markets appears to have positive and negative effects on small-scale fishers and fish farmers. Both customary and formal institutions that address financial risks should be promoted to mitigate the impacts of global economic fluctuations, protecting already vulnerable farmers and fishers.



- **Economic and business management**
– Business management requires fishers and farmers to use market information and coordinate supply and demand for products. Responses to markets and resource fluctuations occurring over extended periods require information as well as technical marketing expertise. The poor performance of fishers and farmers to win high prices for their produce is often associated with lack of market expertise. Capacity building of both individuals and farmer groups to better understand market processes will encourage stronger negotiating power and fair market access.
- **Social and financial debt** - Traders, fishers and farmers alike are dependent on their ability to secure a supply of fish by retaining trading capital and relations. Middlemen minimize their risk through indebting fishers and supplement fish trade with alternative products. More research is needed to identify the role of social and financial debt in securing both food and income.



Market access: Market access is defined as the ability, rather than the right, to benefit from social relationships and institutions limiting participation in trade. In particular, access is a form of social capital comprising trust, rules, norms and sanctions, which are used to establish and maintain participation in trade.

Fishers and traders in each country negotiate their positioning within trade networks through a broad set of cultural and societal factors. Market access is most often limited by: i) the availability of marketable fish, ii) capital iii) and the ability to negotiate trade relations with traders and middlemen. In addition, access is controlled by a combination of debt-tied and social obligations based on ethnic, familial and socio-political ties between fishers and traders. Often the importance of initial credit transaction is secondary to the traders with which they are indebted.

Despite often being grouped together as 'middlemen', the traders, collectors and wholesalers that facilitate trade comprise a diverse range of individuals who negotiate their position in response to prevailing social and environmental conditions. Although widely perceived as exploitative to small-scale fishers and farmers, these 'middlemen' play an important entrepreneurial role in trade; absorbing considerable risks and financing market access for otherwise disenfranchised people.

Production management: Increasing the production of fish is widely perceived by government and communities alike as a way of gaining access to markets. In each case the burden is on the state, rather than individuals or communities, to address the socially and culturally embedded constraints on increasing access and value added production.

- Aquaculture is noted by government and communities alike as showing the greatest potential for filling the growing deficit between supply and demand. However, the ability of farmers to adopt



and practice aquaculture is not well understood, nor is the contribution to increasing market access and value added production.

- Fisheries enhancement - is also noted as having the potential to supplement declining stocks. Its contribution to secure livelihoods for small stakeholders is not yet well understood except in small enclosed water bodies. In addition, widespread promotion may encourage a false expectation of stock improvement, and subsequently higher fishing effort, leading to further over-exploitation.



3.0 Conclusion

While production is an important aspect of fisheries management, aquaculture and enhanced fisheries should not be developed in lieu of the responsible management of existing capture fisheries resources. Capture fisheries remains most valuable to the majority of rural communities in terms of both food and income security and should be supported by the government.

Food and income security of fishers, fish farmers and traders is limited by their ability to participate in a range of social, familial and financial arrangements. Specialization and intensification in production restrict their ability to either invest in existing activities or diversify into new activities. As the financial costs of fishing, farming and trading increase, control over production is concentrated with in a smaller and more powerful group. It is, therefore, important to assist fishers in diversification of livelihood activities, especially outside the fisheries in order to minimize their vulnerability to both resource decline and market fluctuation.





Annexure 13

Capacity Enhancement of Fisher Organizations to Promote Management of Fisheries Resources in Vietnam

Pham Trong Yen ¹

Abstract

The fishery sector in Vietnam is highly diversified and developed all over the country, with major concentrations in the coastal areas and around the Islands. The economic policy of the Government in the renovation phase has mobilized the active participation of people in the development of this sector. This has helped in a continuous growth of fisheries (including aquaculture) and has also fuelled the economy, helping Vietnam in its economic integration with the global market.

However, the fast pace of fisheries development in the country has also brought in a host of issues, which threaten the sustainability of the sector. Lack of planning during the development phase is one of the main reasons for the present situation. While exploitation of the resources received a priority, conservation of the biodiversity, protection of critical habitats and resource regeneration was overlooked.

Greater involvement of the local communities has been effective in management of the fishery resources elsewhere in the world and also to some extent in Vietnam. In diverse social and ecological settings, such as those in Vietnam, the resource management models with community participation can be useful. Sound policies can lay down effective norms for management and governance and support fishers and their organizations. In the longer period, improving the socio-economic conditions of fishers and regulating access to fisheries can be very useful in sustainable development of the fisheries sector.

1.0 Introduction

Vietnam has a coastline of 3 260 km interspersed with numerous swamps, lagoons and bays. Fed by a large network of rivers and streams, the aquatic resources of the country harbour many valuable and rare fish species. Located in the tropical monsoon region, the large coastal area (three times larger than land) is annually flooded by the rivers and their tributaries and has developed favourable conditions for sustenance of a strong fisheries sector in Vietnam. Although the fishery sector in Vietnam is highly diversified and developed all over the country, yet the major concentrations are in the coastal areas and around the Islands.

As a traditional profession in Vietnam, fisheries identifies itself with the daily livelihoods of many communities in the rural, remote, hilly and Island areas. During the renovation period of the country, the fisheries sector, especially aquaculture has developed rapidly, reaching over 1 million hectare in recent years. In capture fisheries, the yield has also increased, although not as much as that in aquaculture. The export of seafood has been significant and in 2008 the exports were estimated at US \$ 4.5 billion. The contributions of the fishery sector to the GDP is about 4 percent and it has now become a key economic sector attracting foreign investment, creating jobs and contributing to poverty alleviation. The sector is also contributing to the nutritional security of the Vietnamese people in all parts of the country.

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The economic policy of the Government in the renovation phase has mobilized the active participation of people in development of the fisheries sector. This has helped in continuous growth of the sector and has also fuelled the economy, helping Vietnam in its economic integration with the global market.

2.0 Issues in organizing and managing fisheries resources

The fast pace of fisheries development in Vietnam has also brought in a host of issues, which threaten the sustainability of the sector. Fish yields from the marine resources are tapering off and many fishing vessels operating in the offshore waters are recording losses. The near-shore fisheries resources are also overfished, impacting the livelihoods of the coastal fisher communities. Habitat destruction, especially the cutting of mangrove forests for aquaculture, increasing urbanization and indiscriminate release of untreated industrial and domestic waste has adversely affected the fisheries resources, marine biodiversity and natural habitats in the country.

The 2004 Report of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment on the Environmental Status of Vietnam states that only about 20 percent of the coral beds are in good condition; the remaining 80 percent is under threat of being destroyed. Similarly, the mangroves being an important habitat for the fisheries resources, are getting reduced every year- an estimated 200 000 ha of mangrove forests already destroyed in the last two decades for setting up of shrimp farms. The other resources facing destruction are the sea grass beds. Unfortunately, this is happening when legislation such as Decree No. 128/2005 ND-CP dated 11/10/2005 and Circular No. 02/2008/TT-BNN guiding the implementation of the above Decree is in force for protection of the fisheries resources.

Lack of planning during the fisheries development phase is one of the main reasons for the present situation in the country. While exploitation of the resources received a priority, conservation of the biodiversity, protection of critical habitats and resource regeneration was overlooked. As management decisions were centralized, the participation of the local people in planning for sustainable use of the resources and their protection remains weak and unorganized.

The marine fisheries resources in Vietnam have been estimated at 3.1 - 3.2 million tonnes, equivalent to the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) of 1.4 - 1.5 million tonnes (Dao Manh Son, 2003). However, the present level of harvest is estimated at 2.06 million tonnes (2007 Report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development), which is exceeding the MSY by 0.5 million tonnes. The yield in respect of species such as snappers, goatfishes, lizard fishes, eels and abalones has been reduced significantly and the estimates on yield levels in respect of some other species are even more disturbing.

The management and protection of fisheries resources are mainly vested with the Department of Fisheries Resources Exploitation and Protection and branches of the Fisheries Resource Protection and Fishery Inspection wings. These agencies are unable to effectively discharge their responsibilities due to shortage of manpower and also a limited mandate for protection and management of the resources. Thus the dual role of engaging in fishery production, as well as in protection and management of resources is not very effective. Protection of the fisheries resources requires sound management techniques with greater involvement of the community.



The Government through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and other concerned wings of the Government has initiated many steps towards protection of the resources, such as promulgation of the environmental and fishery laws, decrees and instructions on administrative punishment for illegal and destructive activities violating the fisheries resources.

The Parliament of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam approved the Fishery Law on 16/11/2003 and the same is in force since 1/7/2004. Chapter II of the said law relates to protection and development of the fisheries resources and the provisions are contained in four Articles. Article 7 relates to the protection of the habitats of fisheries species; Article 8 deals with the preservation, protection, re-creation and development of the fisheries resources; Article 9 explains the mechanism for planning and management of the inland and sea preservation zones; and Article 10 talks about the financial resource to re-create the fisheries resources. In addition, the Prime Ministerial Decision No. 131/2004/QD-TTg dated 16/7/2004 provides approval to the protection programme and fisheries resource development activities, and instruction No. 01/1998/CT-TTg of the Prime Minister strictly forbids use of explosives, electricity and poison to exploit the fisheries resources.

In 2008, the Government has issued the following legal documents relating to protection of fisheries resources:

- Decision No. 485/QD-TTg dated 02/5/2008 of the Prime Minister approving the project: Protection of valuable and rare aquatic plants, which are in danger of extinction by 2015; the vision by 2020.
- Decision No. 1479/QD-TTg dated 13/10/2008 of the Prime Minister approving the project: Planning the system of inland areas by 2020.
- Decision No. 27/2008/QD-TTg dated 01/02/2008 of the Prime Minister approving the project: Comprehensive survey of ecological diversity and fisheries resources in the coastal areas of Vietnam, and planning and building systems of the preservation zones and sustainable development.
- Decision No. 82/2008/QD-BNN dated 17/7/2008 of the Minister of the MARD for announcing the list of valuable and rare fishery species facing the danger of extinction.



Together with the implementation of the above projects and plans, the planning system for sea preservation zones is now being finalized for submission to the Prime Minister for approval. These regulations have contributed to complete the legal framework and basis for the development of the fisheries resources in the coming years in the country.

3.0 Enhancing the support of the fisher communities for management of the fisheries resources

It is widely agreed that one of the main reasons for degradation of the fisheries resources in Vietnam is the non-participation of the fisher communities in conservation and protection of the resources. However, the following Cooperatives/ Association can be cited as good models where sound fisheries management is carried out with the active participation of the community:

- *Rang Dong Cooperative (Ben Tre Province)*
- *Dai Thanh Cooperative (Nam Dinh Province)*
- *Fishery Association (in Hue city)*
- *Giao Thuy mollusk breeding association (Nam Dinh Province)*
- *The management of the resources with local authority participation in Ran Trao (Khanh Hoa Province)*

Greater involvement of the local communities has been effective in management of the fishery resources elsewhere in the world and also to some extent in Vietnam. Places where local participation in managing fishery resources is significant, better results are seen in the environment and resource protection; coordination of stakeholders (fishers, traders, government) in management of the resources and better conflict resolution; increased awareness and knowledge of the community; reduction in management cost; and improved implementation efficiency of the rules and regulations.

In diverse social and ecological settings, such as those in Vietnam, the resource management models with community participation are likely to differ from area to area. Depending on the objectives and the capacity of the community, the models could be based on a cooperative, group or fishery association basis. However, the legal framework to support such community involvement has so far not devolved from the Central government to the local governments and this may pose a hurdle in effective implementation of the community- based fisheries resources management (CBFRM).

Nevertheless, in some Provinces such as Hue, Nam Dinh, Binh Dinh and Ben Tre, effective models of CBFRM have been established mainly due to the developmental needs and the





determination of the local authorities. Since the budget for operation of these models is meagre, therefore their present scope is limited and may not be sustainable in the long run. Further, there is little effort in popularization of CBFMR, which is also limiting the expansion of such practices to other parts of the country.

The following steps may be useful to support fisher organizations in adoption of CBFMR in the short-term:

Improve awareness of fishers in participatory approach to management: This is an important activity and two issues need to be emphasized - knowledge and awareness on sustainable development and improving understanding on core issues of management. One of the important aspects of improving awareness on sustainable development and the role of community activities is setting up of management groups at the local level to participate in the management process more actively and positively. People, who clearly understand the impact of the management model, will motivate and encourage other people to better implement the management model. This process can be facilitated by the Central Government.

To educate and improve awareness on CBFMR: Awareness through print and electronic media (pamphlets, posters, short documentaries, etc) can be effectively used. The awareness material can also be useful in better understanding of the management units and organizations on their roles and responsibilities in protecting the fisheries resources. Similarly, training and skill enhancement of fisheries staff at various levels (inspectors, staffs in-charge of the conservation zones, etc.) can be useful in improving their understanding of the functions and responsibilities in sustainable development of the resources.

Establish core management units: Core management units should be established to form the nucleus of management programme. Such units should comprise people who are experienced and have the will and capacity to participate in the activity. The members can also set examples to encourage and attract the community for jointly implementing the management programmes.

Formulate appropriate management norms: Management norms should be fixed based on certain criteria which not only meet the needs of the community but also encourages their participation and ensures equity. Management plans should be detailed, clear

and concise with well-defined objectives, timelines and output. The plan should also be flexible to allow mid-term corrections and adjustments.

It is also essential to maintain effective coordination with all parties concerned such as the local authorities, police, revenue offices; ministries/departments/institution; fishery extension centers; fisher communities; etc in formulating and implementing management regulations and to achieve its objectives. The management norms, regulations, etc, should be community-driven while the other stakeholders should provide necessary support as and when required by the community. The regulations will be well-accepted and enforced by the community if the role and responsibility is well-defined and has the agreement of all the parties.

Support in terms of policies and financial assistance: Sound policies can lay down effective norms for management and governance and support fishers and their organizations. Such norms should provide details on the mechanisms of financial and technical support; mechanisms of protecting valuable and rare aquatic plants and animals; benefits to the community from participation in the conservation programmes – the rewards and punishments. Allocation of funds for the purpose should be adequate and cover all aspects such as establishment of conservation zones; *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation programmes; and organizing trainings and awareness programmes. The funding mechanisms should also cover long - term and preferred loans for households participating in protecting and developing fisheries resources, including managing fish nurseries and breeding grounds, artificial reproduction of valuable and rare species, etc.

4.0 Conclusion

In the longer period, it would be necessary to develop policies for developing livelihoods, providing safety nets for fishers and their families, improving their socio-economic conditions and simultaneously limiting, controlling and reducing pressure on fisheries, in other words regulating access to fisheries. Adoption of CBFRM practices can come very handy in implementation of these measures.





Annexure 14

Summing up Remarks

Yugraj Singh Yadava

Director, BOBP-IGO

Ladies and gentlemen!

On behalf of the Organizers of this Seminar and my fellow speakers, Dr Sandra Victoria Arcamo, Mr Pinyo Kiyatpinyo and Mr Masaaki Sato, I would like to thank the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan and the International Fisheries Cooperative Organization (ICFO) for inviting us to this Seminar in Nha Trang and also facilitating our stay and visit to some of the most beautiful and interesting places in Vietnam.

I also had the opportunity of visiting Hanoi and various other places during the Phase One visit in August 2008. During the earlier visit and now in this Seminar, I have had the opportunity of meeting and interacting with a large number of people representing the fisheries cooperative sector, the government and the industry. I have found the interactions to be extremely useful, especially in this Seminar, and I must say that the fisheries sector of Vietnam is in sound hands.

The Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) has done a wonderful job in bringing large number of representatives from the cooperative sector to this Seminar. This is by far the largest participation in the Phase Three Seminar that we have so far organized – the first in Palawan in the Philippines and the second in Bangkok, Thailand. This not only shows the interest of the VCA in enhancing the skills and capacities of the cooperatives but also the participant's interest in sustainable development of the fisheries sector.

I must also take this opportunity of congratulating you all for your cooperation and collective action in adopting the 'Nha Trang Resolution', which I am sure, will strengthen your hands in making Vietnam a leader in fisheries and aquaculture in the world.

While thanking the Government of Japan for funding this Training Project and the ICFO and VCA for successfully implementing it in Vietnam, I would like to say that the knowledge and experience gained through this Seminar should be further disseminated in the country for development of fisheries and aquaculture. On behalf of the resource persons, I would like to reiterate our commitment to provide technical support to your efforts in promotion of community-based fisheries resource management by coastal small-scale fisheries in Vietnam.

In conclusion, I wish you all the best for your safe return to your family and friends.

Thank you!



Annexure 15

Closing Speech

Kunyuki Miyahara

Senior Managing Director, ICFO

*M*r Nguyen Cuu Quoc, Vice-President of Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA);
 Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director of BOBP IGO;
 Mr Pinyo Kiatpinyo, President, Federation of Shrimp Farmer Cooperatives of Thailand;
 Ms Sandra Victoria Arcamo, Chief, Fisheries Resources Management Division, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Agriculture, Government of Philippines;
 Mr Pham Trong Yen, Vice-Director, Department of Resources Development and Protection, MARD, Government of Vietnam;
 Mr Bui Duc Quy, Vice-Director, Department of Aquaculture, MARD, Government of Vietnam;
 Officials of VCA;
 Participants;
 Ladies and Gentlemen.

I would like to thank all of you for successfully completing the seminar.

I believe that the 'Nha Trang Resolution' that we have adopted today will give an impetus to furthering the fishery development policies and practices in Vietnam, particularly from the standpoint of promotion of community-based fishery resource development by coastal small-scale fishers in the country.

The primary industry, including fishery, is the key for development of a country. In this regard, Asia is in a better position when compared to other continents, especially in terms of climate and productivity of the natural resources. Therefore, wise use of the wealth of resources should pave the way for development in this region.

I hope that the 'Nha Trang Resolution' would be translated into action in such a way that meets the natural environment, historical and cultural values of Vietnam.

To speak of the food production industry, I would like to inform you that food self-sufficiency rate in Japan is only 40 percent in terms of calories. Compared to this, Vietnam is self-sufficient in many food items including rice. Under the very difficult economic situation that the world is facing today, this self-sufficiency in food is an important strength of Vietnam. Sound governance and sustainable use of the fisheries resources would further contribute to Vietnam's economic development and the country would emerge much stronger under the present precarious situations.

I believe that ICFO will continue to cooperate with you in your pursuit for development of fisheries in this country. If the seminar would contribute to helping you for this purpose, I would be more than happy.

Lastly, let me reiterate my thanks to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of Vietnam, People's Committee of Khanh Hoa Province, Resource Persons and particularly Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, as main advisor to the Project, for his unselfish cooperation for the cause of making the fishery sector a reliable and prosperous industry for coastal small-scale fishers in Asia.

I hope that the ties between us fishers in Asia will be further strengthened through such international cooperation.

Thank you very much!



Annexure 16

Closing Speech

Nguyen Cuu Quoc

Vice-chairman, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance

*M*r Kuniyuki Miyahara, Senior Managing Director, JF-ZENGYOREN; Mr Masaaki Sato, Secretary, ICFO; Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director, BOBP-IGO; Dr Sandra Arcamo, Chief, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources; Mr Pinyo Kiatpinyo, President, Federation of Shrimp Farmers Cooperatives in Thailand; Officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; Follow Cooperators, Ladies and Gentlemen.

First of all, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Government of Japan and the ICFO in supporting the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance in hosting the Seminar for the 'Promotion of Community-based Fisheries Resource Management by Small-scale Fishers in Vietnam'. I would also like to thank the distinguished resource persons, namely Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Dr Sandra Victoria Arcamo, Mr Masaaki Sato and Mr Pinyo Kiatpinyo and the distinguished lecturers from Vietnam – Mr Pham Trong Yen and Mr Bui Duc Quy for sharing their valuable experiences with the participants. Finally, I would like to thank all participants and fellow cooperators for sparing their valuable time to participate in the Seminar and share their experiences. I am also grateful to all of them for joining hands in adopting the 'Nha Trang Resolution', which I feel is a significant decision for the fisheries sector in Vietnam. However, a larger task now lies ahead of us in implementing the Resolution in true letter and spirit.

While we tried our best in making you stay in Nha Trang comfortable and enjoyable, there might have been some shortcomings. Therefore, please accept our apologies for any inconvenience caused to you during your stay in Nha Trang. We wish you all a safe and comfortable journey back home.

Thank you!



Annexure 17

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFCC	Area Fisheries Coordinating Committee
BFAR	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
BOBP-IGO	Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation
CBCRM	Community-based Coastal Resources Management
VCA	Vietnam Cooperative Alliance
CM	Co-management
CRM	Coastal Resources Management
CRMP	Coastal Resources Management Programme
DA	Department of Agriculture
DOF	Department of Fisheries
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EIA	Environment Impact Assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FA	Fisheries Association
FARMC	Fisheries and Aquatic Management Council
FCA	Fisheries Co-operative Association
FMO	Fisheries Management Organization
FRM	Fisheries Resource Management
ICA	International Cooperative Alliance
ICFO	International Cooperative Fisheries Organization
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
JFM	Japanese Spanish Mackerel
JF-ZENGYOREN	National Federation of Fisheries Co-operative Associations
LGU	Local Government Unit
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance
MPA	Marine Protected Area
RFCC	Regional Fisheries Co-ordination Committee
RRP	Resource Recovery Plan
TAC	Total Allowable Catch
TAE	Total Allowable Effort

