

Workshop on Fisheries Cooperation 8-10 May 2007, Phuket



The Workshop on Fisheries Cooperation was held on 8-10 May 2007 in Phuket, Thailand. The Workshop was attended by delegates from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The objectives of the Workshop are; to review status of fisheries and priority areas of needs in the Member Countries, to discuss implementation of the three approved projects including clarification on operational plan for the project on ecosystem-based fishery management in the Bay of Bengal, to review area of cooperation and activities approved since 2001 as well as Terms of Reference of Sectoral Committee on Fisheries 2007, and to formulate future programs (2008-2010), TOR and 3-year fisheries action plan (2008-2010).

The Workshop also noted priority needs of respective countries, of which common priority need for fisheries cooperation among the participating countries can be summarised as follows:

- Awareness building of potential expansion of aquaculture and application of appropriate technology and new cultivable species for aquaculture.
- Development of infrastructure and its accessibility.
- Organised database and information system.
- Development of hatchery for seeds
- Inland and rivers fisheries conservation and management.
- Regulation of fisheries and uncontrolled fishing practices.
- Quarantine and fish health.
- Market development and facilitation.
- Knowledge exchange program through training and seminar.
- Development of Fish processing and improvement of product quality.
- Development of fisheries in the seep seas and improvement of fisheries management.