



**The 7<sup>th</sup> Ad-hoc Meeting of the Project Steering Committee for  
the SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF Project on Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of  
Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand**

27 May 2022  
(08:00 – 11:30AM, UTC+7)  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom Platform

**PROPOSED ACTIVITIES UNDER THE UNSPENT**

**Executive Summary**

Referring to the results of the Sixth Ad-hoc Meeting of the Project Setting Committee (PSC6 Ad-hoc) held virtually on 30 November 2021, Viet Nam proposes reducing the budget of 142,608.67 USD from the original budget allocation which is called later as “Unspent” budget. The project steering committee agreed in principal that the remaining budget can be utilized, however, the PCU proposed to discuss on this matter at the Fifth Meeting of the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee (RSTC5) which was conducted during 16-17 March 2022. There are two national proposals are from Cambodia (Annex 1) and Thailand (Annex 2). The proposed budget under the unspent from Viet Nam are as follows:

Proponent	Title of Activity	Budget (USD)
Cambodia	Supporting Operation of Blood Cockle Refugia at Prey Nub, Preah Sihanouk Province and Enhancement of the Stock of Blue Swimming Crab in Kep province	20,000.00
Thailand	Produce detailed site characterizations for 2 priority fisheries refugia sites for incorporation in national and regional data sets	3,000.00
	TOTAL FROM the UNSPENT	23,000.00

Please be noted that at the RTSC5 meeting, the committee endorsed those two proposals for further consideration and approval by the Project Steering Committee.

**ACTIONS BY THE PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE:**

- ❖ The Committee is requested to consider two national proposals endorsed by the RTSC5 for utilizing the unspent budget from Viet Nam.
- ❖ The Committee is invited to comment or advise on the way forward and to adopt the proposed proposals.
- ❖ The Committee is also requested to advise the PCU to manage the remaining budget further to ensure the budget is beneficial to the project target goals and sustainability.

**ANNEX 1: PROPOSED PROPOSAL FROM CAMBODIA**

Country Name	CAMBODIA
Lead Agency Name	Department of Fisheries Conservation (DFC)/Fisheries Administration (FiA)
Activity Title	Supporting Operation of Blood Cockle Refugia at Prey Nub, Preah Sihanouk Province and Enhancement of the Stock of Blue Swimming Crab in Kep province
Component and Activity	<p>1.3.2 Management plans for refugia sites developed through community-based consultations</p> <p>1.4.1 Establish management teams and a site-based volunteer network at 3 sites</p> <p>1.4.2 Conduct practical capacity building programme for management volunteers at refugia site</p> <p>1.4.3 Coordinate monthly training and awareness activities at refugia sites, including pilot management activities</p> <p>1.4.4 Develop and implement collaborative observer and enforcement programme for management plan</p> <p>2.5.3 Compile information and data on landings of priority species (volume/value, fishing areas and gears)</p> <p>3.2.1 Produce locally appropriate public awareness and outreach materials to promote local social, economic and environmental benefits of fisheries <i>refugia</i>.</p>
Reasons	<p>Blood cockle is local specie that not only provides great benefits for community fisheries at Prek Sang Ke village, Tek Thlar commune, Prey Nub District, Preah Sihanouk province in term of food security and incomes, but also exports to Phnom Penh and other provinces. However, this specie suffered seriously from overfishing, illegal fishing, and climate change, affecting the livelihood of local people and marine fisheries resources, especially endangered animal species too.</p> <p>In this situation, Department of Fisheries Conservation collaborating with Preah Sihanouk Fisheries Administration Cantonment of Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries initiated the creation of blood cockle refugia there that contribute to the reduction of overfishing and increasing its stock. Therefore, the proclamation of establishment of management area of the blood cockle refugia at Prey Nub, Preah Sihanouk province has been issued and signed by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries on 28 August 2020 with the size of 116ha at Prek Sang Ke village, Tek Thlar commune, Prey Nub District, Preah Sihanouk province.</p> <p>Today, DFC/FiA do not have budgets to manage the blood cockle refugia, so DFC/FiA has proposed budgets from SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF/ Fisheries Refugia to support the implementation and operation of activities at the refugia site. On other hands, the blood of cockle refugia at Preay Nub is also one of more contribution to output of the fisheries refugia project in term of enhancing access to information relating to the locations and status of coastal habitats and management areas in Cambodian waters.</p> <p>Regarding the enhancement of the blue swimming crab stock, DFC/FiA need to support additional budgets from SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF/Fisheries Refugia Project (unspent budgets) to release the brood stock of blue swimming crab into the water sea in Kep province in order to increase the crab stock.</p> <p>DFC/FiA collaborating with FiAC in Kep and community fisheries to collect buying the crab adults from fishermen and then those crabs are preserved in the cage before releasing them into the sea.</p>

	Therefore, the stock enhancement of the crab is also one of the project output in term of Improving the management of critical habitats for crab stocks via strengthening the enabling environment and knowledge-base for fisheries refugia management, and enhancing access to information relating to status and trends in crab stocks and their habitats in Cambodian waters.
Activity Description	<p>To achieve above mentioned component and activities, proposed activities are described as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Prepare 3 years action plan for blood cockle refugia management,</li> <li>– Educate and disseminate about the important of blood cockle and closed season of blood cockle ,</li> <li>– Monitor, Patrol, and crack down illegal fishing at the refugia site,</li> <li>– Organize every three month-meeting with PDoA/FiAC, district and local authorities, community, and fishermen,</li> <li>– Produce extension materials to distribute to district and local authorities, community, and fishermen,</li> <li>– Demarcate the boundary of blood cockle refugia site,</li> <li>– Build and deploy the concrete boxes into the refugia site,</li> <li>– Conduct a field survey of information and data on landing site and social economic of fishermen, and</li> <li>– Release brood stock of blue swimming crab in the nature.</li> </ul>
Expected Output(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Participate and support from Fishermen and Community Fisheries as well as local authorities in the protection of the marine fisheries resource</li> <li>– Increase marine fisheries resources and blood cockle stock</li> <li>– Improve Food security and incomes of local people</li> <li>– Enhance the stock of blue swimming crab</li> </ul>
Period	(from March 2022 to March 2023 )
Amount of Budget Request	20,000 USD ( USD 15000 for supporting operation of blood cockle refugia at Preay Nub, Preah Sihanouk Province, and USD 5000 for the enhancement of the blue swimming crab stock in Kep province)
Cost Elements/ Budget line(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– BL1200 covers the total expenditures of USD 5500 related to following proposed activities : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prepare 3 years action plan for blood cockle refugia management</li> <li>○ Conduct a field survey of information and data on landing site and social economic of fishermen</li> </ul> </li> <li>– BL2200 covers the total expenditures of 4500USD related to following proposed activities : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Educate and disseminate about the important of blood cockle and closed season of blood cockle,</li> <li>○ Monitor, Patrol, and crack down illegal fishing at the refugia site,</li> <li>○ Produce extension materials to distribute to district and local authorities, community, and fishermen, and</li> <li>○ Demarcate the boundary of blood cockle refugia site.</li> </ul> </li> <li>– BL 3200 covers the total expenditures of 6000USD related to following proposed activities :</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Build and deploy the concrete boxes into the refugia site, and</li> <li>○ Release brood stock of blue swimming crab in the nature.</li> </ul> <p>– BL 3300: covers the total expenditures of 4000USD focusing on following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Organize every 3 month-meeting with PDoA/FiAC, district and local authorities, community, and fishermen.</li> </ul>
<p>Remaining of the Budgetas of 31 Dec 2021</p>	<p>– Remain budget after reduction of 10% in January 2020= USD 156,676.18</p> <p>– Total expenditures of December 2020 = USD 50,002.22</p> <p>– Total expenditures of December 2021 = USD 30,518.58</p> <p>Therefore, Remain budget in December 2021 = USD 76,155.38 USD</p>

**ANNEX 2: PROPOSED PROPOSAL FROM THAILAND**

Country Name	Thailand
Lead Agency Name	Department of Fisheries
Activity Title	2.8.1: Produce detailed site characterizations for 2 priority fisheries refugia sites for incorporation in national and regional data sets
Component and Activity	<b>Component 2:</b> Improving the management of critical habitats for fish stocks of transboundary significance via national actions to strengthen the enabling environment and knowledge-base for fisheries management in Thailand <b>Activity 2.8:</b> Strengthening the information base for planning, monitoring and evaluation of management at priority fisheries refugia sites
Reasons	For dissemination of the detailed site characterizations, including socio-economic characteristics, for 2 priority fisheries refugia sites in Thailand
Activity Description	Printing the reports on fisheries refugia profiles and socio-economics of the 2 priority fisheries refugia sites
Expected Output(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 copies of Technical Report on Fisheries Refugia Profile for Thailand: Trat</li> <li>• 50 copies of Technical Report on Fisheries Refugia Profile for Thailand: Surat</li> <li>• 50 copies of Study Report on Area Context and Socio-Economic Conditions of Coastal Communities in Trat Province: Fisheries Refugia Management for Short Mackerel in Trat Site</li> <li>• 50 copies of Study Report on Area Context and Socio-Economic Conditions of Coastal Communities in Surat Thani Province: Fisheries Refugia Management for Blue Swimming Crab in Surat Thani Site</li> <li>• 50 copies of National Guidelines for Establishment and Operation of Fisheries Refugia: Thailand</li> </ul>
Period	(from June 2022 to July 2022 )
Amount of Budget Request	3,000 USD
Cost Elements/ Budget line(s)	BL 5202 : Printing of the reports for dissemination : 3,000 amount in USD
Remaining of the Budget as of 31 Dec 2021	24,432.83 USD (Reference Document: Cash Advance Request for Q1/2022)