



## Your tasks in FIP Vung Tau Q1 - 2023

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Hi

Although the FAP activity 2. has an objective of "Improve the quality of data collected for BVRT trawlers", that objective will not be met with just sub-RIMF carrying out limited sampling at sea, three ports and several factories. This will require more work as described in the activity:

2.1.1 Review existing systems and identify gaps
2.1.2 Conduct workshop with key stakeholders to agree on how to upgrade existing systems
2.1.3 Trial the upgrade with selected vessels and DARD/Sub-DOF cooperation
2.1.4 Mainstream the improvement through DARD/Sub-DOF

It also links to activity 1.2 - Mechanisms for fisheries information sharing with DARD, Sub-DOF BRVT and BRVT port authorities. Again, limited sampling by sub-Rimf will not meet this objective. Activity 1.2 has a number of important sub-activities

1.2.1: Map existing fisheries information owners and sources of data among stakeholders
1.2.2 Assess the current mechanisms for sharing data and information
1.2.3: Key stakeholder workshop to agree on what data and information needs to be shared (e.g. vessel data, catch data, IUU data etc) and agree on the best mechanism for sharing (e.g. expand existing databases, open access portal etc)
1.2.4 Develop mechanisms for sharing of data and information

I do not think we should raise expectations too high about what the sub-Rimf sampling will do. This fisheries data issue has been ongoing for many years and various interventions haven't really changed the system to anywhere near the standard of other ASEAN countries. However, just improving our understanding of the trawler activities and catch will be very useful.

After studying the "Trawl data fishery collection plan", I think the objectives of this sub-activity could be:

Observers at sea

1. Describe the catch and species composition of a sample of fishing vessels at sea
2. Describe in detail the species composition of the reduction component of the catch, including the surimi catch that could end up in a fishmeal plant as by-product

Note: Categorized as "true trash fish", "poor quality high-value fish" and "juveniles of high-value fish".

3. Describe the fishing activities of the vessels, including fishing grounds, transshipment and landing procedures
4. Describe any interaction with ETPs

Port sampling

1. Describe the catch and species composition of a sample of boats at three fishing ports
2. Describe in detail the species composition of the reduction component of the catch, including the surimi catch that could end up in a fishmeal plant as by-product
3. Compare these results with the official GSO data for those ports
4. Describe the market chain process at the port for different market groups, including the reduction component (trash fish and surimi by-products)

Factory sampling

1. Describe in detail the composition of the reduction component of the catch and it's source, which is used to manufacture fish meal.

Also note that actual data collection by RIMF, was not a sub-activity in the revised FAP. However, it is worthwhile doing if funding is available and should improve our understanding of the fish meal industry and future fisheries management planning, but not necessarily improve the quality of data collected for BVRT trawlers. Experience from past projects has shown that donor funds can provide better data during the course of a project, but these data collection schemes are not followed through by the government after funding stops. In fact, they are often a point of conflict as the project data do not match the "official catch figures". The "official figures" are used by policy makers to check against production targets, and are also sent to the FAO to become part of their global data base.

Hope this helps your discussions.

We also need to discuss further what you mean by a "fishery portal where we can pool all data and information related to multi-species fisheries". Is this just the new sample data or are we trying to include all types of data as outlined in activity 1.2?

Derek

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