

**Annex 4/4: Country Report of Myanmar**

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# Myanmar's Country Report on The Regional Training / Workshop on Identification of Deep-sea fish

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18-22 January 2009, Samut Prakan, Thailand

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## Experiences of identification of deep-sea fishes as well as coastal fishes

- Since I have been appointed as a Deputy Fishery Officer ( Research ) at the Fishery Resources Conservation and Research Unit, I started to learn marine fish taxonomy and worked on species identification and preservation for many years.
- When senior officials from our unit come back from the survey trips, they brought back fish specimens and requested me to assist them in fish identification, preservation and displaying works.

## Experiences of identification of deep-sea fishes as well as coastal fishes

- Taxonomy works, such as measurement, counting, describes morphological characters of the fish collected from the survey were learned from my senior officials.

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## Major references used for marine fish identification

- Due to insufficient of reference book in fish taxonomy, FAO Species identification guide books are mainly used for identification of marine fishes in Myanmar.
  - Apart from those reference books, information downloaded from the Fish Base web site is also used as a reference for marine fish identification.
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## Retention of scientific fish collection

- Fish specimens collected from the fields were cleaned with sea water or freshwater and stored in the ice water for a while.
  - After than fins and burbles of the fish specimens were fixed with 4% formalin and put into the flat board for taking photograph.
  - After taking photograph, the fish specimens were injected with 4% formalin into the body cavity through anus and into the body through their muscles.
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## Retention of scientific fish collection

- In the field, all injected specimens were tag with wet paper which recorded their scientific name, common name, locality, date of collection, name of collector and stored in the plastic bags.
  - When arrived back to the office laboratory, all the plastic bags were reopened and all the specimens collected from the fields were rechecked and transferred into the respective specimen's jars.
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## Retention of scientific fish collection

- Some selected specimens were put into the special specimen boxes for displaying in the museum.
- Color photos together with their brief description were shown together with the specimens in the museum for students and public who want to learn about marine fish.

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## Networks among fish taxonomists for identification of unknown specimens at national level

- Since there are only fish taxonomist in the Department of Fisheries and the universities, networks among fish taxonomists for identification of unknown species at national level in Myanmar is not large like other developed countries.
- Whenever we have some problem with unknown species, we try to contact with some people who works of fish taxonomy form Marine Science Departments of Mawlmyaing University, Pathain University and Myeik University.

## Networks among fish taxonomists for identification of unknown specimens at national level

- Apart from Marine Science Departments, Zoology Departments of Yangon University and Dagon University were also used as network for identification of unknown fish species.
- In Regional level, California Academy of Science from USA and Department of Fisheries from Thailand are network for Myanmar in identification of unknown fish species.



Specimen fixing for taking photograph

Specimen fixing for taking photograph





Taking fish photograph from specimen box

Taking fish photograph from tray.



Specimen displaying in the museum

Specimen displaying in the museum





Deep-sea shark

Deep-sea squid



Deep-sea lobster

Deep-sea shrimp  
***Heterocarpus gibbosus***

