

Sustained Utilization of SEAFDEC Vessel through Collaborative Research Surveys:
Marine Resources Survey of the Gulf of Thailand using
the M.V. SEAFDEC 2

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Abstract

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) through its Training Department (SEAFDEC/TD) has closely collaborated with the Research Institute for Marine Fisheries Research of the Directorate of Fisheries of Viet Nam, Fisheries Administration of Cambodia, and the Department of Fisheries of Thailand, together with representatives from relevant national academic institutions and agencies in Thailand to conduct the Collaborative Research Survey on Marine Fishery Resources and Marine Environment in the Gulf of Thailand from 17 August to 18 October 2018 which made use of the research vessel *M.V. SEAFDEC 2*. A total of Seventy-three (73) survey stations were conducted, *i.e.* forty-nine (49) stations in the waters of Thailand, and twenty-four (24) stations in the waters of Cambodia.

The demersal fishery resources survey was conducted using a bottom trawl. The Oceanographic survey used iCTD to collect relevant oceanographic parameters, *e.g.* conductivity, temperature, and depth by using rosette sampler to collect the seawater. The Marine Debris survey was conducted by visual observation to determine the debris situation in the waters. The bottom sediment sample was collected by grab and core. Other surveys included activities to determine the radiation dose and to assess the radiation risk in marine biota, as well as investigated the source of aerosol in the Gulf of Thailand.

The baseline data on status of the marine fishery resources and marine environmental situations in the Gulf of Thailand were then compiled and used as a scientific reference. The collaborative surveys have also enhanced the research and training capabilities of the participating countries and strengthened technical cooperation among the ASEAN Member States to achieve the effective management of fisheries and the marine environment in the region.

Keywords: Collaborative Research Surveys, M.V. SEAFDEC 2, Gulf of Thailand

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