

Trawl Fisheries Management Plan for Ba Ria – Vung Tau trawl fishery

The following report presents:

1. A template for the trawl fisheries management plan (FMP)
2. Details of the headings
3. Brief outline of the process needed to develop a FMP

1. Trawl Fisheries Management Plan Template

Trawl Fisheries Management Plan 20xx – 20yy

1. BACKGROUND

Description of the area and resources to be managed.

2. FISHERY MANAGEMENT UNITS (FMU)¹

Description of the different fishery management unit(s) to be managed.

3. VISION The overarching future view of Cambodia's marine fisheries

4. MAJOR THREATS AND ISSUES

Ecological issues

Social and economic issues

Governance issues

5. GOALS OF MANAGEMENT

Higher level goals of management

5. OBJECTIVES, INDICATORS AND BENCHMARKS

Priority issues, objectives, benchmarks for the FMUs, covering:

- fishery resources;
- environment (including critical habitats, biodiversity, etc.);
- socio-economic (especially small-scale fishers livelihoods);
- governance (ability to achieve the plan).

6. MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Agreed measures to meet the objectives within an agreed time frame, including bycatch, habitat protection, socio-economic benefits, good governance, etc.

7. COMPLIANCE

For actions that require rules/regulations – arrangements for ensuring that the management measures are effective.

8. DATA AND INFORMATION NEEDS

Data and information need to monitor implementation of the plan. Clarify where the data are to be found and who collects, analyses and uses the information.

9. FINANCING

¹ The fisheries management unit(s) is the unit to be managed separately of other units. In the case of BRVT, it is the trawl fishery of the BRVT Province.

Major sources of funding.

10. REVIEW OF THE PLAN

Date and nature of next review(s) and audit of performance of management.

An example for Thailand can be found at

https://www4.fisheries.go.th/local/file_document/20220825143505_1_file.pdf

2. Details of the headings in the FMP

This section needs to be read in conjunction with Section 3. How do you develop a FMP?

1. BACKGROUND

[Step 1 of the planning actions described in section 3 below – scoping and defining the FMU]

This section is intended to give the reader an overview of the nature and current situation of the marine fishery. It needs to be brief.

Most of this background can be derived directly from exiting FIP/other reports.

Scope of the FMP

Area of management

- Description of the area to be managed, including, jurisdictions (national/province/district jurisdictions) and ecosystem boundaries. This section should include a map.

Fishing gears covered

- Description of the different trawl gears covered by the FMP

History of fishing and management

- Brief description of the past development of the fishery in terms of fleets, gear, people involved, etc., with particular focus on trawl fishing.

Current status of the fishery

- Description of the fishery resources (main species etc) and fleet/gears used.
- Resource status, both the fishery resource and the supporting environment (e.g. critical habitats).

Socio-economic benefits, including postharvest

- Description of stakeholders and their interests (including socio-economic status).
- Description of other uses/users of the ecosystem, especially activities that could have major impacts and implications for coordination and consultation processes.
- Social and economic benefits, both now and in the future.

Special environmental considerations

- Details of critical environments, particularly sensitive areas and endangered species.

Governance

- Legislative background.
- Existing management/co-management arrangements – roles and responsibilities.
- MCS arrangements.
- Consultation process leading to the plan and ongoing dialogue.

2. THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT UNIT(S) (FMU)

- Description of the different FMUs (if more than one), including the area and resources to be managed in each FMU, including maps at different scales.

3. VISION

[Also Step 1 of the planning actions – agree on a vision]

This needs to be an agreed vision by all key stakeholders. The vision will reflect what they are trying to achieve by managing the fishery. It is a picture of what the stakeholders think the fishery will look like in 30-40 years' time. This is a critical step and not just another consultant's "vision statement."

4. MAJOR THREATS AND ISSUES

[Step 2 of the planning actions- identify and prioritize threats and issues].

The issues need to cover the three main dimensions of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM), -ecological well-being, human well-being and governance.

They may also be different for the different FMUs.

Ecological issues

- Fisheries resources and general environmental issues, including both the impact of the fishery on the fishery resources and the environment and vice versa.

Social and economic issues

- Issues relating to the people involved in fishing, the general public and at the national level, including gender issues.

Governance issues

- Issues affecting the ability to achieve the management objectives.

5. GOALS OF MANAGEMENT

[Also derived from Step 2 of the planning actions – develop goals for the FMP]

Goals is the long term outcome that management is striving to achieve. It often refers to a group of inter-related issues e.g. ecological issues. As with the vision, the goals need to align with the high-level policies and plans (global, regional and national) that have recently published. The goals should cover:

- fishery resources;
- environment (including critical habitats, biodiversity, etc.);
- socio-economic (especially economic performance of trawling and employment);
- governance (ability to achieve the plan).

6. OBJECTIVES, INDICATORS AND BENCHMARKS

[These are developed during Step 3a – develop objectives, indicators and benchmarks]

- Based on the priority issues, objectives are a statement of what the FMP wants to achieve to meet the goals, based on a 3-5 year time frame. Best practice is developing an objective for each priority issue.

- Once the objectives have been agreed, indicators and benchmarks are needed so that progress towards meeting the objective can be monitored and evaluated. Indicators are a variable, pointer, or index that measures the current condition of a selected component of the ecosystem. Benchmarks are a standard against which something can be measured or judged. It can describe where you want to go (target), where you have come from (baseline) or where you do not want to be (limit). Benchmarks for fishery resources have traditionally been called reference points. When indicators are compared with their benchmark (often called a performance measure), progress towards the objective can be evaluated.

7. MANAGEMENT MEASURES

[These are developed during Step 3b – management measures]

- Agreed measures to meet the objectives within an agreed time frame, including controlling fishing operations, habitat protection, achieving socio-economic benefits, good governance, etc.

8. COMPLIANCE

[These are also developed during Step 3b – compliance]

- For actions that require rules/regulations describe the arrangements for ensuring that the management measures are effective.

9. DATA AND INFORMATION NEEDS

[These are developed during Step 3b]

- This section describes the data and information needed to monitor how well the plan is achieving its objectives.

10. FINANCING

[This is the last action in Step 3b]

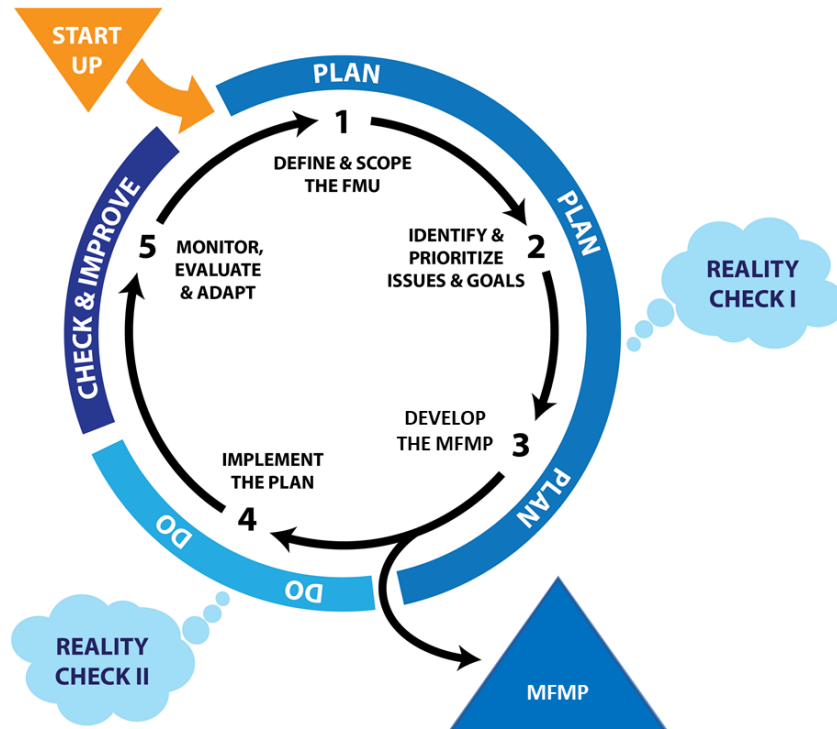
- Describe the amount and source of funding to implement the plan.

11. REVIEW OF THE PLAN

- This section just describes the date and nature of review(s) and when audit(s) of performance of management will be carried out.

3. How do you develop a FMP?

A typical management cycle consists of PLAN, DO, CHECK AND ADAPT.



Before starting the planning process, it is necessary to prepare the ground.

Startup: Preparing for the FMP and engaging stakeholders

- Startup tasks needed to initiate the planning process and stakeholder participation, including forming a co-management team of key stakeholders;
- Identify and prioritize stakeholders; and
- Engage stakeholders through co-management.

Three steps of planning

The three steps of planning then follow:

Step 1: Define and scope the fishery

- Provide background to BRVT trawl fishery;
- Agree on the FMUs to be included in the FMP; and
- Undertake visioning and be able to agree on a vision.

Step 2: Identify and prioritize issues and goals

- Identify the issues (cover the 3 components of FMP – ecological, human and governance)

- Develop goals for the FMP (based the issues and the high-level policies and plans); and
- Prioritize issues through risk assessment to limit the issues to those that a 5-year plan can address.

Step 3a: Develop objectives, indicators and benchmarks

- Develop management objectives; and
- Develop indicators and benchmarks related to the objectives.

Step 3b: Management measures, compliance, finance & finalize FMP

- Identify management measures and how to ensure stakeholders compliance;
- Include financing mechanisms in the plan; and
- Bring it all together – finalize FMP and plan the review process

Reality Check I

Part way through the planning process (usually at the stage of formulating goals), stakeholders need to take a step back and assess whether the goals are really achievable.

How to make the FMP effective?

After the plan has been developed it needs to be implemented. This is step 4 of the management cycle. Its implementation also needs to be monitored so that it can be modified through an adaptive management process – Step 5.

Implementing the plan

Step 4: Formalize, communicate and engage

Steps 4.1, 4.2 & 4.3

- Formally adopt the FMP;
- Develop an implementation plan; and
- Develop a communication strategy.

Reality Check II

- Check on the status of the FMP implementation;
- Consider whether implementation is in line with the principles of EAFM;
- Check on the practicalities – is the supporting environment in place? and
- Revisit the constraints and opportunities in meeting your FMU goals.

Checking progress and adapting

Step 5: Monitor, evaluate and adapt

Steps 5.1 & 5.2

- Monitor how well management measures are meeting goals and objectives;
- Plan what has to be monitored, why, when, how and by whom;

- Evaluate monitoring information and report on performance; and
- Review and adapt the plan.