


## PARTICIPATION BY INVITATION ONLY


<b>Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation</b>
<b>Ocean Partnership for Sustainable Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation – Models for Innovation and Reform: Bay of Bengal Project (TF 018233)</b>
<b>Regional Dialogue on “Management of Highly Migratory Fish Species in the Bay of Bengal”</b>
<b>23 November 2017; Kochi, India</b>
<b>Prospectus</b>

### 1.0 The Regional Dialogue

A Regional Dialogue on “Management of Highly Migratory Fish Species in the Bay of Bengal Region” will be conducted as a side event at the 11<sup>th</sup> Indian Fisheries & Aquaculture Forum (XI IFAF) organised by the ICAR- Central Institute of Fisheries Technology in association with The Asian Fisheries Society – Indian Branch (AFSIB) on **November 23, 2017 in Kochi, India**.

The purpose of the Regional Dialogue is to (i) support information flow on highly migratory fish stocks (HMFS) from source; (ii) build indigenous capacity within developing countries for the effective management and application of information for development; and (iii) foster cooperation and co-ordination through information sharing.

The Regional Dialogue will bring a pool of experts from India and abroad who will interact with the audience on the management of the HMFS. Senior researchers from prominent national institutions and agencies are being invited to share knowledge in their area of specialisation. Representatives from the four BOBP-IGO member-countries, namely, Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka; and experts on HMFS will deliver talks at the Dialogue. As a conclusion, a panel of experts will discuss and consolidate the outputs to be factored into the existing initiatives for effective implementation of the management of the HMFS in the BoB region.

The Regional Dialogue will also foster a better understanding and potential coordination for conservation and management of the HMFS in the region.

### 2.0 Context

Many of the world’s most valuable fisheries comprise shared and HMFS, and include species such as tunas, billfishes and pelagic sharks. These valuable HMFS are capable of contributing far more significantly to economic growth than is currently the case. The capacity of many tuna fisheries now substantially exceeds requirements for sustainable and optimal extraction. Without an effective management, stocks are already biologically and economically fully exploited or overexploited. This is likely to impact negatively on the economies of many countries, especially where these species form an important source of revenue and livelihoods. The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) has cautioned that the yellowfin tuna is overexploited in the Indian Ocean and the catch should be reduced by 20 to 30 percent. These stocks underpin millions of livelihoods and food security in regions such as the Bay of Bengal (BoB), where 50 percent of the Exclusive Economic Zone-based tuna catch is by local small-scale fishing vessels. In addition to issues

## PARTICIPATION BY INVITATION ONLY

related to overfishing and managing fishing capacity, the other key concerns relate to incomplete data on the stocks and bycatch of Endangered, Threatened and Protected species.

Recognising the range of threats that unsustainable fishing practices pose to marine biodiversity and ecosystem integrity, the World Bank, through a grant received from the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (GEF) is implementing the "Ocean Partnerships for Sustainable Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation – Models for Innovation and Reform (OPP)" Project. Apart from the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO), which has received funds for implementation of the Regional Project in the BoB region, the other recipients are Conservation International Foundation (CI); the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for the benefit of member-countries of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC); the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), and the World Wildlife Fund, Inc. (WWF).

The Project's Development Objective (PDO) is:

*to catalyze pilot investment into selected transformational public-private partnerships that mainstream the sustainable management of highly migratory fish stocks spanning areas within and beyond national jurisdictions.*

The OPP-BOB Project will contribute to the PDO by development of a business plan or plans that will attract investment into a long-term pilot on sustainable fisheries based in the BoB region. Business plan design will consider public-private partnership arrangements based on principles of sound and effective management of HMFS. In order to ensure a strong value proposition for future pilot investment, the Project will undertake detailed analytical and participatory planning focused on a combination of strong fisheries management and access to high value global markets. For further details on OPP-BOB, please visit: [www.oppbob.org](http://www.oppbob.org)

### 3.0 Venue and Time


The Regional Dialogue on **November 23, 2017** will held in Hotel Le Meridien Kochi, India from 09:00 to 17:30 hours. The Meeting Hall will be informed later.

### 4.0 Contact

Director  
Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation  
91, St. Mary's Road, Abhirampuram  
Chennai - 600 018  
Tamil Nadu, INDIA  
Tel: (0091) 44 2493 6188; Fax: 44 2493 6102  
Email: [admin@bobabnj.org](mailto:admin@bobabnj.org); [info@bobpigo.org](mailto:info@bobpigo.org)

\*\*\*

## PARTICIPATION BY INVITATION ONLY


<b>Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation</b>
<b>Ocean Partnership for Sustainable Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation – Models for Innovation and Reform: Bay of Bengal Project (TF 018233)</b>
<b>Regional Dialogue on “Management of Highly Migratory Fish Species in the Bay of Bengal”</b>
<b>23 November 2017; Kochi, India</b>
<b>Agenda (Tentative)</b>

**Time: 0900 – 1730 Hrs**

**Venue: Hotel Le Meridian, Kochi**

Sl. No.	Time	Activity	Speaker
1.	0900 - 0930	Opening Ceremony	
2.	0930 - 1015	Ecological and Economic Importance of Highly Migratory Fish Species (HMS) – <i>State of Knowledge</i>	BOBP-IGO
3.	1015 - 1100	Tuna Fishery Status and Future Management Plans for Indian Ocean	BOBP-IGO
4.	1100 - 1130	<i>Tea/coffee break</i>	
5.	1130 - 1200	Managing Tuna and other Highly Migratory Species – SEAFDEC’s Experience	SEAFDEC
6.	1200 - 1220	Value Addition in Tuna for Marketing of High Value Products	Moon Fishery, Kochi, Kerala, India
7.	1220 - 1240	Ocean Partnership Project for Sustainable Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation – Models for Innovation and Reforms: Bay of Bengal	BOBP-IGO
8.	1240 - 1300	Discussions	Participants
9.	1300 - 1400	<i>Lunch break</i>	
10.	1400 - 1430	Potentialities of Highly Migratory Species in the Exclusive Economic Zone of Bangladesh	Bangladesh
11.	1430 - 1500	Status and Management of Highly Migratory Species in Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka
12.	1500 - 1515	Discussions	Participants
13.	1515 - 1530	<i>Tea/coffee break</i>	
14.	1530 - 1700	Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R&amp;D needs for management of HMS</li> <li>• Market Instruments in Management of HMS</li> <li>• Value addition needs in HMS</li> <li>• Regional cooperation in management of HMS</li> </ul>	Panellists & Participants
15.	1700 - 1730	Closing Ceremony	

\*\*\*