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USAID Oceans Updates

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USAID Oceans Launches New Video on Seafood Traceability Technology: How it Works and Why it Matters

Many of us know the importance and value of sustainable, traceable seafood, but how well do you understand how traceability data is captured and used to trace the seafood that makes it to your plate? Learn how the USAID Oceans and Fisheries Partnership is developing and deploying technology for seafood traceability in Southeast Asia and the many benefits that extend beyond your dinner plate. [Watch USAID Oceans' newest video to learn more.](#)



USAID Oceans' Gender Research Training Handbook Garner Interest, Spanning Over 60 Countries following its Release

On October 18-20, 2018, USAID Oceans participated in the 7th Gender in Agriculture and Fisheries (GAF7) Conference in Bangkok, Thailand. At the conference, USAID Oceans launched and distributed its new [Gender Research in Fisheries and Aquaculture: Training Handbook](#), developed collaboratively by the Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries Section of the Asian Fisheries Society, leading academic experts, and USAID Oceans' technical experts. USAID Oceans' newly selected gender grantees also attended the conference, for an immersive week-long orientation with the Oceans team. [Read more.](#)



USAID Oceans Brings Additional Vessels “Online” in Indonesia Electronic Catch Documentation and Traceability Pilot

USAID Oceans conducted a second installment of at-sea data capture technology and provided technical assistance to its First Mover partners in Bitung, from October 22-26, 2018. The installed Pointrek technology is a two-way communication vessel monitoring system (VMS) with real-time catch reporting that enables fishers to capture seafood traceability data directly at its point of catch. Following installation, USAID Oceans conducted trainings with its First Mover partners to simulate the use of the technology. [Read more.](#)

USAID Oceans Advances Regional Readiness for Traceability System Design, Development with Catch Documentation Assessments



Community members from Kelantan, Malaysia meet with USAID Oceans to discuss community-based fishing organizations during the Malaysia CDT Gap Analysis research process. Photo: USAID Oceans/F. Maruf

Since its launch in 2015, USAID Oceans has worked to engage ASEAN and Coral Triangle Member Countries to advance their capacities to accomplish end-to-end seafood traceability. To support its regional partners in their journey to transparent, full-chain traceability, USAID Oceans has worked closely with the governments of Malaysia, Vietnam, and Thailand to assess their current catch documentation practices, identify their strengths and weaknesses, and provide recommendations and guidance to leverage existing strengths toward the implementation of robust electronic traceability systems. [Learn more and access the just-released CDT Gap Analysis Reports.](#)

Our Ocean 2018: USAID Oceans Partners Pledge Commitments to Sustainability, Traceability, Maritime Security



Panelists at the October 2018 Our Ocean Conference in Bali, Indonesia. Photo: USAID Oceans/M. Donnelly

On October 29-30, 2018, USAID Oceans joined members of government, private sector, and philanthropists in Bali, Indonesia for the fifth Our Ocean Conference. Over the two days, US\$10.8 was pledged in commitments by members of the public, private, and NGO sectors in support of marine protected areas, climate change, sustainable fisheries, marine pollution, the blue economy, and maritime security. At the conference, USAID Oceans was joined by many of its partners including Thai Union, Yayasan Masyarakat dan Perikanan Indonesia, the SOCSKSARGEN Federation of Fishing and Allied Industries, Inc., Anova Food, LLC, and others, many of whom made meaningful commitments for the year ahead. [Learn more about USAID Oceans' partner commitments at the Our Ocean Conference.](#)

USAID Oceans Participates in the Coral Triangle Initiative's 14th Senior Official Meeting to Advance Regional Fisheries Management, Gender Equity

On December 9-15, 2018, USAID Oceans attended the Coral Triangle Initiative for Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security's (CTI-CFF) Fourteenth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-14) in Manila, Philippines to advance regional fisheries management and gender equitable supply chains. At the meeting, USAID Oceans presented the world's first known sub-regional fisheries management plan for adoption to support ecological, human, and governance priorities in Southeast Asia's Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape—the world's most biodiverse marine area; and facilitated discussions to ensure regional fisheries supply chains are fair and equitable workplaces. [Read more.](#)

Call for Partner Submissions - As our valuable partners in the field and around the globe, USAID Oceans wants to hear from you! We would like to feature the work you are doing to further traceability and sustainable fishing in our eNewsletters and program web portal. This may include activity updates, upcoming trainings and events, or newly released research or resources. [Click here](#) for guidelines and instructions on how to submit.



The USAID Oceans and Fisheries Partnership (USAID Oceans), a partnership between the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), is working to strengthen regional cooperation to combat IUU fishing, promote sustainable fisheries, and conserve marine biodiversity in the Asia-Pacific region. The backbone of the program is the development and implementation of financially sustainable Catch Documentation and Traceability (CDT) systems that are integrated with existing government systems, incorporate human welfare data elements, and are demonstrated within an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) framework. For more information on the USAID Oceans program, or any of this issue's stories, please contact info@oceans-partnership.org.

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