

**MALAYSIA**  
**National Report As of 31 DEC 2021 (for RSTC5)**

**PART 1: Progress and status of project implementation (refers to Annex 1)**

| Indicators   | Name/Location/Province                       | Target Species                                | Status  |                            | Estimated Refugia Size (Hectares) | Marine Habitat linkage           |   | Refugia Profile (done/not yet) |
|--|--|---|---------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
|  |  |   | Adopted | In process (expected date) |                                   | Type (coral, seagrass, mangrove) | Estimated Size (ha)                               |                                |
| Fisheries Refugia Adoption   | Site 1: Tanjung Leman, East Johor, Malaysia  | Spiny Lobster ( <i>Panulirus polyphagus</i> ) |         | 2022                       | 140,023 ha                        | Coral, seagrass                  | Seagrass : 706 ha                                 | Done                           |
|  | Site 2: Kuala Baram, Miri, Sarawak, Malaysia | Tiger Prawn ( <i>Penaeus monodon</i> )        |         | 2022                       | 85200                             | Coral, mangrove                  | Miri-Sibuti Coral reefs National Park- 186,930 ha | Done                           |
|  | Site 3: (if appropriated)                    |   |         |                            |                                   |                                  |   |                                |
| <p><i>If not yet achievement, give a reason and strategic workplan including expected date for completion.:</i></p> <p>For both sites, the estimated refugia size was agreeable among members. The process of adoption will be finalized once the Refugia Management Plan is completed, assisted by the group of experts from Universiti Malaysia Terengganu and as consultant. The expected date of completion will be the end of 2022.</p> <p>As a kick start for management purposes in 2021, DOF has issued instructions for the closed season for lobsters in Tanjung Leman during the peak breeding phase, which starts from July to September. While for tiger prawns in Kuala Baram, the experts suggest implementing the closed season during the peak gonad maturity phase from August to October.</p> |  |   |         |                            |                                   |                                  |   |                                |

*Willingness of fisheries and environment sectors to agree on Establishment of Fisheries Refugia:*

According to socio-economy survey done in 2020 (Norhanida *et al.*, 2020), willingness of fisheries and environment sectors to agree on Establishment of Fisheries Refugia were divided into, (1) awareness, (2) the benefits of refugia and (iii) social and environmental protection. As a conclusion, around 90 % fishers agree on the tiger prawn and spiny lobster refugia establishment. Therefore, the fishers suggested the Department of Fisheries Malaysia do consultation beforehand to ensure consent of all stakeholders involved in this fishery.

DOF has conducted a series of consultations before the proposal of establishing the refugia sites. The talks conducted before 2018 aimed to gather more information about lobster and tiger prawns in terms of distribution, life cycle, and time likely where both species are being targeted by the fishers the most.

After identifying areas and crucial life phases for both species that need to be protected and managed sustainably, DOF, in collaboration with FRI, has drawn up a series of consultations. These consultations aimed to provide exposure and awareness to the government's new initiatives to establish the refugia sites towards the fishers and stakeholders.

List of consultations that has been conducted for lobster Refugia in Tanjung Leman Johor

- 2017- Consultation with the artisanal fishermen from East Coast of Johor
- 2018-Consultation with the trawlers fishermen from Endau dan Sedili and
- 2018-Refugia Project Consultation with various stakeholders
- 2018-Consultation with the fishers from Pahang and Johor
- 2019-Consultation with the fishers from Pahang and Joho
- 2021- Engagement session with trawlers

List of Consultation that has been conducted for tiger prawn Refugia in Kuala Baram, Sarawak

- 2017-Stakeholder Consultation Council on Action Plan and Fisheries Management for the Kuala Baram Tiger Prawan Refugia
- 2018-REFUGIA Fisheries Project Consultation Program with fishers

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|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2018-Engagement Session on the Management of the Proposed Establishment of Tiger Prawn Refugia with Stakeholders</li> <li>● 2021-Consultation Session for the Establishment of Tiger Prawn Refugia with Zone A, Zone B and Zone C7 Ship Owners in Miri and Bintulu</li> <li>● 2021-Engagement Session on the Management of the Proposed Establishment of Tiger Prawn Refugia with Stakeholders</li> </ul> <p>As a result of the consultation and engagement sessions that the department has conducted, most fishers understand and agree to comply with the proposed implementation of the closed season for both species.</p> |
|--|--|

| <b>Indicators</b>   | <b>Site</b>                            | <b>List of the key community/stakeholder</b>  | <b>Issues/problems in the establishment</b>   | <b>How to achieve?</b>   |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <i>community / stakeholder engagement in establishing of Fisheries Refugia and implementation of agreed management measures</i> | ● R<br>e<br>f<br>u<br>g<br>i<br>a<br>1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● East Johor traditional fishers (near shore)</li> <li>● Trawl net operators and fishers (commercial)</li> <li>● Island inhabitants/tourism operators</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Unclear/lack of information about the implementation of refugia and its rules</li> </ul> <p>Compliance with “no-take” rule during specific refugia close season period</p>                           | Stakeholder consultations and public awareness   |
|   | ● R<br>e<br>f<br>u<br>g<br>i<br>a<br>2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fishermen</li> <li>● Miri Port Authority</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Level of awareness/understanding the benefit of tiger prawn refugia</li> <li>● usage conflict- overlap of refugia areas, more development to expand Kuala Baram to a larger shipping port</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explanation and consultation by Department of Fisheries</li> <li>● Meeting and discussion with Miri Port-win-win situation</li> </ul> |

| <b>Indicators</b>   | <b>Progress and status</b> | <b>Remarks</b> |
|---|----------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Reform of national policy, legal and regulatory frameworks</i> |                            |                |

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><i>governing the management of fisheries refugia</i></p> |  |  |
|---|--|--|

| <b>Indicators</b>  | <b><i>Sharing country experience on changing of fisherfolk attitude</i></b>   | <b>Remarks</b> |
|--|---|----------------|
| <p><i>Status of enabling environment reform including extent of behavioural change among small-scale fisherfolk at refugia sites</i></p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fishermen's participation in the management of refugia's is vital and urgent. The high degree of trust and understanding between the Department of Fisheries and members of the fishing community may be strengthened and extended throughout the Department so that fishers can rest certain that the Department is truly committed to safeguarding the sustainability of fished resources.</li> <li>2. For the sustainable use of fisheries resources, active participation of fishermen and fishermen's communities is essential. It will pave the way for co-management, in which both resource users (fishers) and government agencies (Department of Fisheries) collaborate to address management concerns and share decision-making duties before taking action.</li> <li>3. The Department of Fisheries has also designed and implemented several educational programs for fishers and the public on the importance of working together to safeguard fisheries resources and livelihood.</li> </ol> |                |

**PART 2: Statistical Data**

| <b>Indicators</b>  | <b>Type of Boat</b>     | 2005 | 06   | 07   | 08   | 09   | 10   | 11   | 12   | 13   | 14   | 15   | 16   | 17   | 18   | 19   | 20 |  |
|--|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----|--|
| <i>Number of fishing boat at refugia sites from 2005 - 2020<br/>Site 1:</i>                            | Trawl net               | 275  | 264  | 262  | 256  | 270  | 277  | 275  | 280  | 260  | 251  | 249  | 242  | 199  | 199  | 185  |    |  |
|  | Drift net               | 900  | 1122 | 1183 | 1524 | 1539 | 1836 | 1485 | 1415 | 1459 | 1575 | 1581 | 1572 | 1525 | 1525 | 1509 |    |  |
|  | Traps                   | 13   | 15   | 12   | 18   | 15   | 15   | 21   | 23   | 21   | 23   | 25   | 25   | 17   | 17   | 14   |    |  |
|  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |
|  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |
|  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |
|  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |
| <i>Number of fishing boat at refugia sites from 2005 - 2020<br/>Site 2: Kuala Baram, Miri, Sarawak</i> | Traditional Zone A boat |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 54   | 42   | 59   | 55   | 53   | 49   | 43 |  |
|  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |
|  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |
|  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |
|  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |
| <i>Number of fishing boat at refugia sites from 2005 - 2020<br/>Site 2:</i>                            |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |
|  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |
|  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |  |