Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

Swiss Confederation



The Meloy Fund's Fisheries Ecosystem Technical Assistance Facility (TAF)

Country/region Indonesia, Philippines

Rationale

More than a billion of the world's most climate vulnerable people depend on coastal fisheries for their main source of protein. These coastal fisheries provide half of the world's fish catch and 80-90% of employment to the fisheries sector. In addition, the major share of critical marine habitat including coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds are critical providers of climate change mitigation and resilience.

Against this background, a coastal fisheries impact investment fund called Meloy Fund was set up to promote investment and livelihoods in an underserved but high-value sector in the Philippines and Indonesia. It aims to incentivise the development of sustainable fisheries by making debt and equity investments in fishing-related enterprises that support the recovery of coastal fisheries in Indonesia and the Philippines.

Executing agencyMeloy Fund

Project duration 2018-2024

Total budget CHF 1,500,000

SECO contribution CHF 1,000,000



Such fishing boats often used in small-scale coastal fisheries in Indonesia (© Meloy Fund)

Objectives and activities

The Meloy Fund's Fisheries Ecosystem Technical Assistance Facility (TAF) is managed by Meloy Fund and fulfils the vital task of supporting the Fund to develop the requisite coastal fisheries ecosystem needed to facilitate successful investment in the sector at scale. As such the TAF plays a critical role to ensure that the Fund's financial and impact goals are achieved.

Specifically, the TAF provides two types of services:

- Business Development Services to help improve the Fund's investees' financial management, operational efficiency, corporate governance, and strategic planning.
- Fisheries Technical Assistance to set up multi-stakeholder efforts to steer small-scale fisheries towards sustainable practices, develop sustainable seafood supply chains, and provide accurate fisheries impact measurement and reporting.

The TAF is currently supporting an Indonesia octopus processor and trader, a Filipino tuna processor and exporter, and the application of seaweed traceability in Indonesia and the Philippines.

Governance structure

The TAF committee is composed of SECO, the TA officer (who runs the TAF), and the Meloy Fund. The TAF committee serves a decision-making advisory and consultative role.

As a decision-making body, the TAF Committee approves each Meloy Fund investee TA strategy, reviews any conflict of interest relating to technical assistance matters, and approves any material change to the Fund's TAF policies and procedures. As a consultative body, the TAF committee will provide advice to Meloy Fund in all relevant technical assistance matters of the Fund and upon request, including assessing technical assistance opportunities or material risks the TAF may face.

Results to date

The TAF, which supports the Fund to facilitate investment, has supported the octopus processor for the HACCP B certification. The company is currently pursuing BRC Global Standards for the food industry, also assisted by the technical assistance.

The tuna company has increased the quality of tuna caught by its partner fishers. Overall, the AB grades tuna quality has increased from 18% to 46%, which resulted in increased revenue of each vessel by 12% to 130%.

SECO Indonesia, July 2021

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