

Global Financial Crisis and Fisheries in Southeast Asia



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The Artisanal Fisheries in

1. Artisanal fishing operations are typically family-based
2. 30 million artisanal fishers in SEA
3. Roughly 15% of the people in the region depend on fishing as a significant source of income
4. 50% of total fisheries production in the region comes from artisanal fisheries
5. Annual fishery production is over US\$11 B and income from fishery exports estimated at around US\$ 7 B.

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The Artisanal Fisheries in

1. Average per capita food-fish supply in ASEAN countries in 1997 was estimated at 22.9 kilos
2. Contribution of fish to animal protein intake estimated at 45%.
3. More than 300 million people in the region depend significantly on fish as a source of protein

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The Artisanal Fisheries in

1. Fisheries management in the region is weak
2. Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing is 15% of total catch
3. Over exploitation including IUU is over \$50B annually
4. Governments have been largely ineffective in enforcing fishery regulations

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The Artisanal Fisheries in

1. The reduction in the standing fish stocks in Southeast Asia to less than 25% of their former levels
2. reality that majority of artisanal fishers are generally considered poor by conventional economic measures (average \$2/day)
3. limited access to basic services such as education, health, water and electricity

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The Artisanal Fisheries in

1. lose access to their traditional fishing grounds due to the massive conversion of coastal areas to reclamation, intensive aquaculture and tourism sites
2. coastal zones have been turned into dumpsites of household, industrial and mining wastes
3. belong to the poorest and most socially, politically and economically disadvantaged segments of the society

For

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The Southeast Asia Fish for

1. SEAFish for Justice was established in August 2003 in a regional conference of NGOs and fisher organizations working on fisheries
2. Members are from Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia* and Thailand*
3. Bounded by SEAFish Pool of Consensus

For

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The Southeast Asia Fish for

1. SEAFish envisions equity in access to and control over off-shore, coastal, and inland aquatic natural resources including the end to sufferings seen as severe infringements on basic human rights of people depending (by choice or by circumstance) on it due to unsustainable use of natural resources and/or privatized control over public resource rents

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The Southeast Asia Fish for

1. Currently, SEAFish work evolve on the four themes of:
 1. Fisheries and Trade;
 2. Community-based Coastal Resource Management and Market
 3. Shrimp and Aquaculture; and
 4. Gender Equity and Women in Fisheries

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The Financial Crisis in the

1. Domestic consumption of fisheries products has declined, and wholesale and retail prices are much lower than before
2. Export of fish for Asian market has dragged
3. Prices of input materials sharply go up

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The Financial Crisis in the

1. Consumers look for cheaper food products
2. Strong push to over-exploitation of coastal resources, and discourages processors to continue their operation

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The Financial Crisis in the

1. Lost of market for small producers since processors and exporters are unable to secure orders from importing countries
2. Labor cuts as processors trim their production due to weakening demand for high value fisheries products
3. Continued threat of over-exploitation of fisheries resources

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The Financial Crisis in the

1. “Small fishers can be resilient to the global financial crisis in short term due to their subsistence characteristic but considering that small and artisanal fishers are the poorest among the poor with resources comparatively lower than other sectors, in the end they will suffer most”

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The Financial Crisis in the

1. Export-oriented market cannot insulate the basic sector from this crisis
2. State and intergovernmental initiatives must shift their role to regulation of the market and intensify their programs in rehabilitating the coastal, marine and natural resources which are the source of the “real” economy

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The Financial Crisis in the

1. Developing rural assets and distributing them equitably could increase economic viability of the majority and spur meaningful growth that is based not on mere speculation of financial transaction but on real commodities
2. Improving Fisheries Governance
3. Developing human resource and labor

For

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Thank You

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