

Essential EAFM

Developing capacity in the Ecosystem

Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)

The ecosystem approach offers a practical and effective means to manage fisheries more holistically. It represents a move away from fisheries management that focuses on target species, towards systems and decision-making processes that balance environmental, human and social well-being within improved governance frameworks.

For many, these are new concepts and considerations. Decentralization policies have also left local units with the challenging task of developing management plans that not only work locally, but also fit into broader fishery/ecosystem strategies. The Essential EAFM training course has been designed to address these capacity development needs and provides the practical skills, tools and resources to do so.



Essential EAFM will:

- build capacity and understanding of ecosystem approaches
- empower local fishery units to develop realistic fishery management plans that work in complex local situations
- put effective participatory processes and stakeholder engagement at the heart of fisheries planning
- help balance diverse interests and reduce user group conflict
- help unlock financial resources

The Essential EAFM training course

The Essential EAFM course focuses on the development of professional planning, analytical and interpersonal skills needed for better structured management processes as well as more informed decision-making. These skills will help lead to improved preparation and implementation of fisheries management plans that are more ecologically sound and account for human needs while promoting good governance.

Use of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management has been endorsed by:

- United Nations General Assembly (2012)
- UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) (2012)
- World Conservation Congress (2012)
- World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002)
- Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in Marine Ecosystems (2001)

Essential EAFM course materials are available for free

A complete set of Essential EAFM course materials has been developed and is available free of charge. These include learning modules, presentations, tools to be used at different stages in the EAFM process, a resource guide, handbook, session plans and workbooks.

To download the course materials or for more information visit

www.boblme.org/eafm

or contact: rcu@boblme.org

About Essential EAFM

Who is the training for?

This Essential EAFM course targets mid-level managers and staff working with fisheries, environment, economic development and planning departments who are responsible for administering or managing fisheries and the associated marine environment. The course is equally suitable for junior-level staff or students at fisheries research institutes and colleges.

What fisheries can the training be applied to?

The EAFM course can be applied to any fisheries system. Teaching material focuses on Asian coastal marine capture fisheries however by changing the focus and examples, it could equally be applied to inland or offshore fisheries as well as aquaculture. The principles and the approach to management planning are the same.

How is the training delivered?

Essential EAFM is delivered in a highly interactive manner, featuring numerous activities to fully engage participants. By the end of the course trainees will have a firm understanding of how and why EAFM can be used to sustainably manage fisheries. They will also have hands-on experience of the steps needed to develop an EAFM plan.

Who should deliver the training?

The Essential EAFM course would ideally be delivered by institutions or departments involved in capacity development. This could include government agencies, fisheries colleges and universities as well as environmental bodies or non-governmental organizations.

Essential EAFM is a collaboration between:



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