



# Capacity building on ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM) in Semporna

This subproject was designed to promote EAFM in the fishing industry for both small and commercial scale fisheries using a variety of non-formal learning techniques in collaboration with Department of Fisheries Sabah, the Department of Fisheries Malaysia, and the Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin.

## Goal 2

Ecosystem approach to management of fisheries (EAFM) and other marine resources fully applied

## Main Objective

Strengthen the implementation of ecosystem-based management of coastal fisheries

## Deliverables

- 30 stakeholders with increased knowledge and capacity to play a role in EAFM and at least four stakeholders with experience to apply EAFM in a particular fishery;
- An Essential EAFM (E-EAFM) Manual for Fishing Operators adapted from essential EAFM for resource managers or middle managers and EAFM for leaders, executives, and decision makers;
- An E-EAFM Manual for Fishermen adapted from EAFM for the proposed Tun Mustapha Park, to complement the Essential EAFM Manual for Fishing Operators;
- Draft management plan for grouper fisheries and LRFFT in Semporna, Sabah; and
- Knowledge products, e.g., report on status of the LRFFT in Sabah, ethnobiological information on the biology and ecology of groupers, and value chains of groupers in the LRFFT.

## Achievements

- Conducted two batches of E-EAFM training to build capacity in implementing EAFM in Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia. A total of 55 trainees made up of fishers, cage operators, traders, public officers, dive-tourism operators, an academic researcher, representatives of a local civil society group, fisheries managers, and officers from the Department of Fisheries (DOF) in West Malaysia participated;
- Pilot-tested the translated E-EAFM training modules from English to Bahasa Malaysia. These training modules were slightly modified from the original E-EAFM modules that was developed by the Coral Triangle Consortium;
- Developed an additional module that illustrates how fishers and cage operators directly involved in the harvest, trading, and culture of coral reef fishes, as well as non-fishers from the trading, public, and tourism sectors can participate in EAFM; and
- Contracted the study on the Population Genetics Structure of *Plectropomus leopardus* (leopard coral grouper) in the Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion to the Borneo Marine Research Institute (BMRI) of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) in collaboration with DOF Sabah.