



Provisional Prospectus and Agenda

I. Background

Blue Horizon: Ocean Relief through Seaweed Aquaculture is a project funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and officially endorsed by the GEF CEO in July 2022. The project has been allocated USD 6 million for implementation over a four-year period (2024–2028)¹. The institutional arrangement for the project includes WWF as the GEF Agency, the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) as the Lead Regional Executing Agency (its Secretariat in Bangkok, Thailand will host the Project Management Unit (PMU), the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) of the Philippines and the Department of Fisheries and Surveillance (DFiS) of Viet Nam as the project executing partners in the Philippines and Viet Nam, respectively, and a Project Steering Committee.

The project comprises four components: 1) Regional approach and capacity for seaweed value chains in Southeast Asia; 2) Enabling Environment for Seaweed Aquaculture in the Philippines and Viet Nam; 3) Seaweed Value Chains (production, processing, and marketing); and 4) Knowledge Management, M&E, and IW Learn (regional). The PMU SEAFDEC will specifically carry out Component 1 and 4 that focus on the development of regional plans and principles of responsible seaweed aquaculture, including a toolkit to guide the application of the principles in developing standards of product, environmental protection, and operational safety. The outputs from component 1 and 4 are expected to foster a harmonized approach across the region. Meanwhile, DOF Viet Nam and BFAR Philippines will implement Component 2 and Component 3 that focus on the development national components of seaweed aquaculture and its value chains.

Under **Component 4**, the project facilitated the establishment of a Project Steering Committee (PSC) to serve as the oversight, advisory, and support body for the project. The PSC consists of representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (VN), Department of Agriculture (PH), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (PH), Seaweed Industry Association of the Philippines, and SEAFDEC. A representative (s) from WWF, as the GEF Agency, will hold an “observer status” in the Project Steering Committee.

The PSC is responsible for approving annual work plans and budgets, as well as any strategic changes, and ensures that the project remains on track to deliver tangible environmental and socio-

¹ SEAFDEC’s activities will be completed within this period, while implementation in the Philippines and Viet Nam will extend to 2029.

economic benefits at both the country and regional scales. The PSC meeting sessions will be organized both virtual and in person.

Following the 1st Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting was successfully conducted on 27–28 November 2025 in Bangkok, the 2nd PSC Meeting, hosted by BFAR, will be convened on 5–6 March 2026 in Palawan, Philippines, to further assess progress, address implementation challenges, and agree on the next phase of activities. Throughout these processes, the PMU SEAFDEC promotes gender-balanced representation within the PSC and ensures that gender perspectives are integrated into project planning, implementation, and evaluation.

II. Objectives of the 2nd PSC Meeting

The objectives of the 2nd PSC meeting are:

1. To provide an overview and status of the Project
2. To review and approve the AWPB Year 2 of the Philippines and AWPB Year 3 of the SEAFDEC PMU
3. To discuss and provide suggestion on contingency plans for addressing project implementation delays.

III. Expected outputs

1. Approval of the consolidate Annual Work Plan and Budget of Year 2 of BFAR and AWPB Year 3 SEAFDEC PMU
2. Suggestions on contingency plans for addressing project implementation delays.

IV. Participants

The PSC members will consist of well-balance representatives from target countries and agencies with equal representation men and women, comprising:

1. Ministry of Agriculture and Environment of Viet Nam²
 - a. Ms. Nguyễn Vũ Mai Anh, DFIS Viet Nam
2. Ms. Drusila Esther E. Bayate, CESO IV Undersecretary for Fisheries Department of Agriculture of the Philippines
3. Xxxx Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines
4. Mr. Alfredo Pedrosa III, Chairman of SIAP (Seaweed Industry Association of the Philippines)
5. Ms. Sampan Panjarat, Secretary General SEAFDEC Secretariat

Meanwhile, the first PSC meeting will also invite observers, comprising:

1. Mr. Dan D. Baliao, Chief of Office AQD

² Join online

2. Ms. Ida T. Capacio, National Project Focal Point
3. Mr. Duy Nguyen Phuong, WWF Viet Nam
4. Mr. Muhamad Nour, Project Manager/Technical Advisor
5. Mr. Joseph Faisan/Technical Specialist
6. Ms. Onjira Korboon, Policy Officer
7. Ms. Thanitta Sooklam

V. Meeting Venue

The meeting will be held at Coron, Palawan, 5-6 March 2026

VI. Provisional Agenda and Timetable

Time	Agendas	Annotation
Day 1 – 5 March 2026		
08.30-09.00	Registration	
09.00-09.30	Agenda 1: Opening of the Meeting 1. Welcome Remarks by BFAR/PH 2. Country Remarks by SEAFDEC 3. Country Remarks by DFIS/VN Self-Introduction of Participants	After remarks delivered by each agency. MC invites the participants to introduce themselves
09.30-09.45	Agenda 2: Introduction, Objectives and Adoption of the Agenda 2.1 Brief Explanation on Workshop’s objectives, Workshop’s Agenda and arrangement 2.2 Any other issues for the attention of PSC or the secretariat	Chairperson and PM
09.45-10.30	Agenda 3: Project Overview and Status	PM and BFAR to present brief information on the Project information and the status. The Meeting is invited to take note.
10.30-11.00	Group Photo and Coffee break	

11.00-12.00	<p>Agenda 4: Report on the outcomes of the 1st PSC Meeting including recommendations</p> <p>Q&A</p>	<p>PM and BFAR to present the follow up of the 1st of the 1st PSC Meeting. The PSC members requested to consider, are agree and provide observation, comments and advice.</p> <p>PM to present key results after 1st PSC Meeting</p>
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch break	
13.00 - 15.00	<p>Agenda 5: Consideration and Approval of Consolidated Annual Workplan and Budget</p> <p>8.1 SEAFDEC Year 3</p> <p>8.2 BFAR/PH Year 2</p>	<p>PM and BFAR to present the draft consolidated Annual Workplan and Budget. The Meeting is requested to consider and approve the Annual Workplan and Budget.</p>
15.00 – 15.30	Coffee Break	
15.30 – 16.00	Agenda 6: Regional and national activities Synchronization of SEAFDEC and BFAR/DFiS	
16.00 – 16.30	<p>Agenda 7: Finance progress</p> <p>SEAFDEC</p> <p>BFAR</p>	<p>PM to present actual spending and remaining budget of SEAFDEC and BFAR to provide update on the grant agreement</p> <p>The Meeting is requested to take note of the financial status of each agency</p>
16.30 – 17.00	<p>Closing Day 1</p> <p>Evaluation Day 1</p>	<p>PMU to provide feedback form for participants</p>
Day 2 – 28 November 2025		

08.30 – 09.30	Agenda 8: Discussion on the contingency plans for addressing project implementation delays.	PM will moderate this Agenda to come up with the recommendation on contingency plans for addressing project implementation delays the. The Meeting is requested to take note.
09.30 – 10.30	Agenda 9: Update the Gender Action Plan and Stakeholder Engagement Plan	PM to moderate the agenda. The Meeting will review the Gender Action Plan.
10.30 – 10.45	Coffee break	
10.45 – 11.45	Agenda 10: Conclusion and next steps and Endorsement of PSC recommendations: 13.1 Summary of major discussion and recommended action points and follow-up actions 13.2 Endorsement of the recommendations 13.3 Discuss and propose next PSC meeting (date and venue)	PM presents the summary of major discussion and recommended action points and follow-up actions. The Meeting is requested to adopt the recommendation. The Meeting is invited to consider the date and venue of the next PSC meeting
11.45 – 12.00	Agenda 11: Closing of the Meeting	MC will invite Chairperson to convey closing remarks