

## Office of Agricultural Affairs, Royal Thai Embassy, Washington D.C.



## 94th Anniversary of the Foundation Day of the Department of Fisheries, Thailand "The Perseverance and the Development of Sustainable Fisheries"

September 21st 2020, at Aanon Conference Room, the Department of Fisheries (DOF), Thailand celebrated "94th Anniversary of the Foundation Day of DOF" together with "the National Fisheries Day 2020". It announced that DOF is paving the way to make fisheries products to become the main commodity of the country that has the ability to compete in the world market. In this occasion, Mr. Chalermchai Sriorn, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives gave remarks, released 1,940,000 aquatic fisheries through online to 4 major rivers in Thailand, gave awards to the best farmers and officers, and congratulated to DOF on its award received in 2020. Later, Mr. Meesak Pakdeekong, Director – General of DOF, stated that DOF has given a significant focus on developing and managing fishery industry to be strong, sustainable, and able to produce the high standard of the fishery products. Furthermore, DOF has committed to combat illegal fishery activities to make fishery sustainable and to create stable careers to fishermen. As a result, Thailand has ability to produce and process fishery products of more than 1.5 million tons per year and has exported more than 200 billion baht each year.

In the past years, fishery industry faced with tremendous obstacles and hinderances from natural disasters, price decline, technical barriers to trade from importing countries, and COVID – 19 pandemics. Thailand was able to find the solution to the problems based on the Minister's advice and the national policy concerning fishery matters. DOF has taken the advice and the policy into consideration and launched various projects such as, the sustainable fishery management on the basis of education and cooperation of every sector, the elevation of the fishery productions under a slogan "Marketing Leading Production", enhancing manufacturers to produce fishery products that satisfied the consumers' demand, improving the standard of the fishery products to be in the same level of the international standard, and creating traceability system of the fishery products to work efficiently. In addition, DOF has encouraged fishery producers to sell their products through online system known as "Fisheries Shop", set up fishery measures to balance the production capacity of aquatic animal in nature, and made use of researches effectively.

DOF has also committed to propel its missions successfully in accordance with the Thai government and the Ministry's policy, and to improve Thai fishery sector to be sustainable. This approach will help fisherman to have a better quality of life, perform legal fisheries, and

cherish natural resources. Moreover, DOF has given awards to recognize people and agencies dedicating hard work to fishery industry such as the award of Smart PIPO (Port-In, Port-Out), the award of Smart Investigator, the award of Smart Vessel, the award of Smart Port, the award of the best fisherman, and the award of the best officer. The DOF's Director – General concluded that DOF is going to devote and keep developing Thai fishery industry for farmers, fishermen, and Thai people to have access to marine resources in a sustainably and prosperously manner.

Source: 94 ปี กรมประมง "ยืนหยัด พัฒนาการประมงอย่างยั่งยืน" ในโอกาสวันสถาปนากรมประมง และวัน ประมงแห่งชาติ ประจำปี 2563

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