



First Circular

Co-Chairs:

Nguyen Viet Manh (Vietnam)
Mohiuddin Munawar (Canada)
Do Van Khuong (Vietnam)

Organized by:

Aquatic Ecosystem Health & Management Society (AEHMS), Canada

Hosted by:

Research Institute for Marine Fisheries (RIMF), Vietnam



OBJECTIVES AND THEMES

The AEHMS 9th International Conference will focus on **Ecosystem Based Management (EBM)**, defined as a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. The concept of EBM involves applying a holistic approach to aquatic resources management rather than focusing on a single species or sector in isolation. EBM may be seen, therefore, as a step towards integrated management ensuring that government and community management actions are complementary, coordinated and directed at achieving common objectives. Identification of major natural and anthropogenic driving forces affecting the ecosystem (e.g. climate changes, invasive alien species, pollution, fisheries and other aquatic resources exploitation), evaluation of their ecological consequences, and their likely impacts on resource management, products and services, are key issues in EBM.

The elements of an ecosystem are interconnected – animals, plants, habitats, and humans.

It makes sense to manage them as a whole rather than as a series of dis-connected parts.

The Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management Society (AEHMS) organizes international conferences every second year. The previous conference was convened in Nanjing, China. It was during that conference that the AEHMS decided to convene its ninth conference in Vietnam to focus on the Asia Pacific region. It is the ambition of the AEHMS 9th Conference to promote and facilitate a discussion between Scientists, Managers and Users of Marine- Fresh- and Brackish Water Ecosystems on status and perspectives regarding application and regionalization of the EBM approach in South East Asia. The Conference welcomes contributions either as oral presentations or as posters from natural, economic, and social sciences as well as evaluations of case studies and policy papers relating to Ecosystem Based Management primarily within three main themes:



1. The Ecosystem Approach to Capture Fisheries Management.

- Identification of main driving forces affecting the marine ecosystem and evaluation of their consequences for capture fisheries management
- Identification and evaluation of candidate indicators measuring ecosystem state and utilization pressure

- Impact evaluation of coastal and marine habitat restoration / rehabilitation programmes
- Life-cycle analysis of key fishery species as a means to improve their management
- The first steps towards the ecosystem approach to fisheries management: Presentation and evaluation of Fleet and Fisheries based approaches
- Participatory and community based approaches to fisheries management at the community, national and regional levels



2. The Ecosystem Approach in Aquaculture

- Progress with integrated aquaculture systems (case study analysis)
- Land and water use planning for sustainable aquaculture
- Codes of conduct and Best practices in Aquaculture
- Optimizing the use of fishery resources in aquaculture
- Involving farmers in aquaculture research – a key issue for sustainability

3. Marine Protected Areas as a tool for Ecosystem based Management

- Function and performance of different types of MPAs (Case study analysis)
- Data requirement and monitoring strategies
- Evaluation of ecological, economical and social effects of MPAs
- Participatory and community based approaches to MPA development and implementation
- Marine habitat planning, spatial planning and zoning of marine areas
- The potential role of MPAs in fisheries resources conservation and management

Cross cutting issues such as climate change, invasive species, regional/international training and agreements are considered important and relevant topics also and contributions are welcomed as far they relate to the main themes indicated above.

RESPONSE QUESTIONNAIRE

Please complete the attached Response Questionnaire and return by **August 31st, 2007**, to Jennifer Lorimer (lorimerj@dfo-mpo.gc.ca). Conference/registration information will be sent to those who complete and return the response questionnaire.

ABSTRACTS

English is the official conference language. All presentations, posters, and abstracts will be in English. Abstracts must be submitted by email by **November 15th, 2007**, to: lorimerj@dfo-mpo.gc.ca, as a Word file. A message stating oral or poster presentation preference is to be enclosed with the abstract. Abstracts have a 300 word limit. Underline the presenting author and include affiliation, address and email of the presenting author only. Abstracts should include objectives, methods, results, and conclusions. Authors will be notified of acceptance by **November 30th, 2007**. Abstracts will be subjected to a standard peer review by the Scientific Committee.

VENUE, TRAVEL INFORMATION & ACCOMMODATION

The Conference will take place in Hanoi Horizon Hotel, Hanoi, Vietnam – a Five Standard Stars Hotel which is located in the heart of the City and takes 30 minutes from Noi Bai International Airport.

Participants are responsible for arranging their own accommodation. We have arranged a block of rooms at very special rates at Horison Hotel. Check its website for details (www.swiss-belhotel.com/hanoi). Please mention AEHMS 2008 when making your reservation in order to get the special rate. The Hanoi Horison is holding a limited number of rooms for conference participants until *January 15th, 2008*. It is recommended that bookings be made in advance of that date.

Room Type	Preferred Rates (USD)
Single Room	105.00++
Double Room	120.00++

Tel:+84-4-7330808, Fax:+84-4-7330888 Website: www.swiss-belhotel.com
 Address: 40 Catlinh Street, Hanoi, Vietnam
 Contact Person: smnguyet@hanoihorisonhotel.com.vn; smhuong@hanoihorisonhotel.com.vn

If participants would like to stay in less costly hotels, please consider the following:

1. Pacific Hotel - 3 stars Hotel, located in Old street of Hanoi
 30-32 Cua Nam Street, Hoan Kiem, Hanoi
 Room rate: from 25 - 50 USD
 Tel: +84-4-9362587
 Fax: +84-4-9361798
 Email: pacifichotels@hn.vnn.vn
 Website: www.pacifichotel.com.vn
 Transportation to Horison Hotel: 10 minutes by taxi (about 2- 3 USD)
2. Hanoi Hotel - 4 stars Hotel
 Location: 5 Minutes to Horisin Hotel
 Room Rate: 85 USD++
 Please contact with local organization for reservation
3. Trade Hotel - 3 stars Hotel
 Location: 25 Ngoc Khanh Street, Hanoi (near the Ministry of Fisheries)
 Price: 48-58 USD Net
 Please contact with local organization for reservation

Transportation from the Airport to the Hotel: The Noi Bai Airport Taxi will be available outside the Airport (about 10 USD from the Airport to the Horison Hotel). The Local Organization will meet participants upon arrival and provide the guidance.

FIELD TRIP

A one day fieldtrip to Ha long Bay - the UNESCO World Natural Heritage situated in the north-east region of Vietnam, taking 4 hours by bus Hanoi. Hạ Long Bay is a part of the Gulf of Bắc Bộ and covers a total area of 1,553 km², including 1,969 islands of various sizes, 989 of which have been given names. There are two kinds, limestone and schist, which are concentrated in two main zones: the south-east and the south-west. The average geological age of the islands is between 250 and 280 million years. The densely concentrated zone of stone islands, grottoes and caves, world famous for its spectacular scenery, forms the central zone of Hạ Long Bay.

PUBLICATION PLANS

Selected manuscripts originating from the conference will be considered for publication subject to peer review. Manuscripts will be published either in a special issue of the journal, Aquatic Ecosystem

Health and Management (AEHM) or in a book under the Ecovision World Monograph Series. Instructions to author on the preparation of manuscripts can be found on the AEHMS website: www.aehms.org. Due to the large number of manuscripts expected the AEHMS has set page limit guidelines as follows: Keynote: 8-10; Oral: 8; Poster: 6 printed pages, including tables and figures (Text: Times New Roman 11 pt, Margins: 2.5 cm (1"), Paper: letter size 21.6x28 cm (8.5x11")). For more information please contact Dr. M. Munawar, Chief Editor (munawarm@dfo-mpo.gc.ca). Manuscripts will be due **April 30th, 2008**.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATIONS

Steering Committee

Nguyen Viet Manh (Vietnam, Co-chair)
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Vietnam: Nguyen Trang Nhung (nguyentranhung@mofi.gov.vn)



DEADLINES TO REMEMBER

Response Questionnaire: August 31st, 2007

Abstract submission: November 15th, 2007

Registration: December 31st, 2007