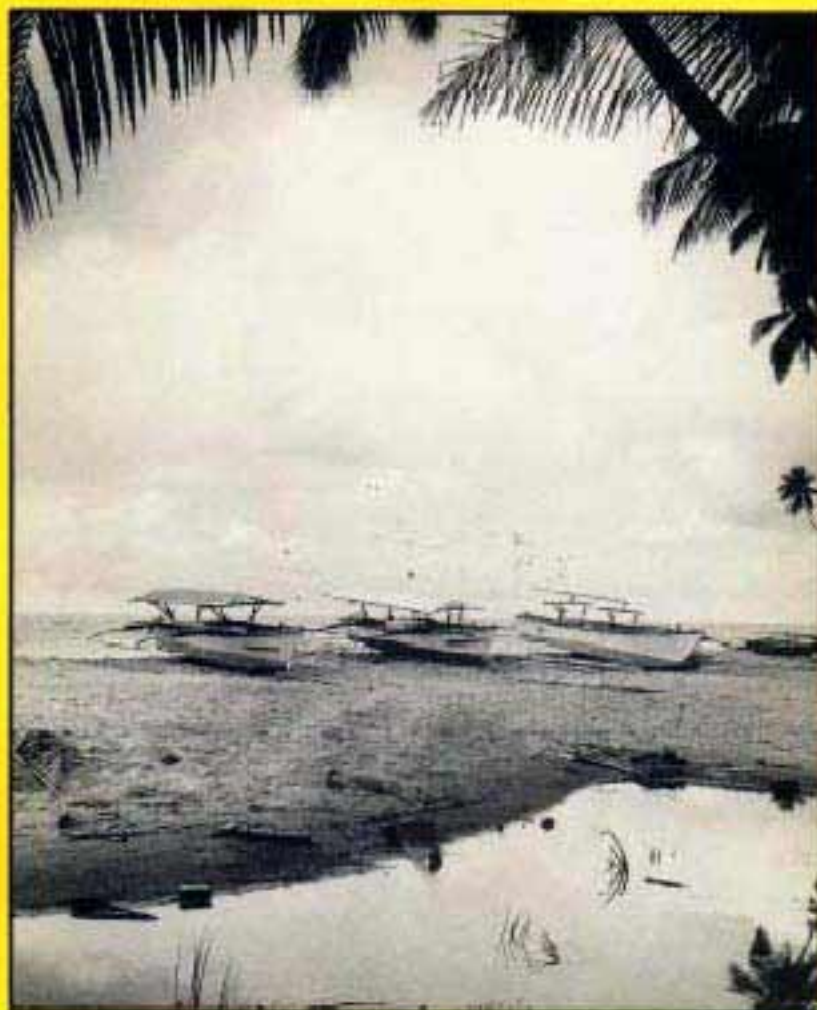


THE FISHERIES AND FISHERFOLK OF NIAS ISLAND, INDONESIA



A description of the fisheries
and a socio-economic appraisal of
selected fisherfolk communities
on this island off Sumatera

BAY OF BENGAL PROGRAMME
Small-Scale Fisherfolk Communities

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THE FISHERIES AND FISHERFOLK
OF NIAS ISLAND, INDONESIA

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This paper is a background document for the planning and programming of a Fishing Technology subproject for support by the Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP). It has been prepared in two parts.

Part I is a brief and factual presentation of data and information on the main features of the small-scale marine fisheries of Nias Island, Indonesia, which is the result of a preliminary field survey undertaken in June and October 1988 by O. Pajot, Senior Fishing Technologist, BOBP. It is based on observations and discussions during field visits to the main fishing villages and on information and data provided by the District Fisheries Service of Gunung Sitoli in Nias Island. In the absence of reliable statistics, some of the data given are estimates and should, therefore, be regarded as orders of magnitudes and trends.

Part II presents data and information on the socio-economic situation of the fisherfolk communities of Nias Island. It is the result of a socio-economic appraisal undertaken by Philip Townsley, a BOBP socio-economist, during the period October 1989 to January 1990 in eleven villages in seven subdistricts of Nias Island.

The preparation of this paper is an activity of the BOBP for the development of fisherfolk communities and has been undertaken jointly with the Provincial Fisheries Service of North Sumatera Province.

The BOBP is a multi-agency regional fisheries programme which covers seven countries around the Bay of Bengal — Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The programme plays a catalytic and consultative role — it develops, demonstrates and promotes new techniques, technologies or ideas to help improve the conditions of small-scale fisherfolk communities in member-countries. The BOBP is sponsored by the governments of Denmark, Sweden and the United Kingdom, by member-governments in the Bay of Bengal region, and also by UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund), AGFUND (Arab Gulf Fund for United Nations Development Organizations) and UNDP (United Nations Development Programme). The main executing agency is the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations).

This document is a working paper and has not been cleared by the FAO or the Government of Indonesia.

December 1991

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(based on a report by G Pajot, Senior Fishing Technologist, BOBP, in 1988)

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Fig. 1 Geographical location of Nias Island

