Workshop on fuel savings in fisheries Colombo, 22 May 2024

Conclusions

- The bulbous bow is a suitable innovation for multiday fishing vessels.
- Innovation in a bulbous bow is feasible for most fishing vessels younger than 10 years in operation, both financially and technically.
- Fuel savings of the bulbous bow > 4000 litres/year =>1.3 to 1.7 million LKR/year per vessel.
- The build quality of multiday fishing vessels needs improvement to ensure strength, safety and increase their life-span.

Multiday fishing vessel owners and fishers are interested in other innovations to save fuel cost:

- Rudder improvements
- Anti fouling coatings
- More efficient engines
- Make use of data and technology to fish smart (Route planning ocean currents)
- Forecasting of fish migration to facilitate catchability by fishers (reduce search time)

Recommendations for next steps

- Integrate expressed interests in the upcoming project (GCF).
- Support interested fishers with bulbous bow design assistance.
- Collect more data from fishers on economic performance -> increase policy influence from fishers.
- Investigate HDPE hull options for fishing vessels and design & test vessels.
- Increase access to credit/loans for innovation to modernize fishing vessels, save fuel and increase fishing efficiency.
- Integrate cold storage in new build longline vessels to secure fish quality/higher grade products and higher prices for fishers.
- Establish sales contact with processors and invest in traceability to get obtain higher prices on the world market.
- Investigate whether the use of a mother vessel and transshipment of catch at sea could generate fuel savings and higher quality fish in the market.