

Fish and fishing: a tale across the Indo-Pacific

by Assistant Professor Joyce Ong

The Asian School of the Environment, NTU

Date: **THURSDAY 30 May 2024**

Time: **9:30 AM**

Format: Online

Host: Dr Chim Chee Kong

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/3k6mr8y9>



ABSTRACT:

Fisheries contribute immensely to food security, nutrition and the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people globally, and this is especially true for the many coastal communities in Southeast Asia. Within marine fisheries in the region, multiple challenges such as fishery mismanagement, inaccurate demographics and illegal fishing are still prevalent and hinder the goal of sustainable fish populations. Our lab focuses on contributing age-based demographic information and the environmental drivers of fish growth for multiple species of tropical and equatorial fish species in the region. This is achieved using the otoliths (fish ear stones), which are calcified structures that contain a wealth of information about the fish's life history. We are also interested in characterizing fishing patterns within Southeast Asia using satellite data. Results from selected studies will be shared in this talk, including fish longevity (up to 27 years old for a snapper), environmental drivers of fish growth and the surprising influence of culture and policy on fishing patterns.

About the Speaker:

Joyce is an Assistant Professor at the Asian School of the Environment in Nanyang Technological University (NTU). Before this role, she was a post-doctoral researcher at Rutgers University in the US. She obtained her PhD and BSc from the University of Western Australia and the University of Melbourne, respectively. She also spent 3.5 years working as a researcher at TMSI, where she was lucky enough to explore the biofouled surfaces of jetty pilings and navigational buoys, as well as the beautiful coral reefs of the Southern Islands. Joyce is a marine ecologist and climate change educator who is passionate about the intersections between marine biology, ecology, climate change and fishing communities.