

FAO Fisheries Sector Support Programme

FAO Cox's Bazar

14 May 2019



FAO Priorities in Bangladesh

- ❑ Reduce poverty and enhance food security and nutrition;**
- ❑ Enhance agricultural productivity through diversification and/or intensification, sustainable management of natural resources use quality inputs and mechanization;**
- ❑ Improve market linkage, value addition, quality and safety of the food system;**
- ❑ Further improve technology generation through better producer-extension-research linkage;**
- ❑ Increase resilience of communities to withstand 'shocks' such as natural disaster, health threat and other risk to livelihood.**

FAO Projects with the Department of Fisheries (DoF)

On-Going Projects:

- Supporting the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries management considering climate change and pollution impacts- EAF Nansen Programme;**
- Support to countries to address Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing;**
- Technical Assistance To Reduce Food Loss In The Capture Fisheries Supply Chain;**
- Technical support for Stock Assessment of Marine Fisheries resources in Bangladesh;**
- Community-based climate resilient fisheries and aquaculture development in Bangladesh;**

Understanding the importance of the Fisheries Sector

- ❑ Fish make up a considerable amount of the protein intake for both refugee and host community population; fish are among the most highly preferred foods and market prices are steadily increasing.
- ❑ Fishing communities are amongst the poorest communities in Cox's Bazar, which is amongst the poorest districts in Bangladesh. The social considerations are complicated.
- ❑ The strain of overfishing has depleted stocks of key species, as competition for marine resources continues to grow
- ❑ Unsafe practices and fishing condition results in numerous deaths of fisherman every year, particularly in the cycle monsoon seasons.

Cox's Bazar Fisheries

- **The aquaculture sub-sector has great growth potential through the widespread adoption of technology.**
 - **Demand is growing due to the Rohingya influx and there is increased potential to develop value chains and exploit the tourism market.**
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- Pond Fisheries:**
 - Current production per decimal of water body is 1.5-2.0 Kg which could be increased to 10 kg per decimal;
 - Market/Production Potential is about 85% (currently achieving 842.30 MT/yr out of a potential 5,615 MT/yr);

 - Inland Fisheries:**
 - Yearly Imports from other areas are about 22,000 MT/yr (Total Production in Cox's Bazar district is about 38,000 MT/yr including rivers);

FAO Fisheries Resilience Strategy

- ❑ Increase capacity of host community on commercial fish farming through adoption of **Good Aquaculture Practice (GAP)**;
- ❑ Strengthen supply chains and facilitate private sector to establish fish nurseries locally to **build the supply of Quality fingerlings/fry's**;
- ❑ Promote **alternative IGA introduction** in vulnerable fisherfolk households and communities to diversify livelihoods; safe dry fish production, dike cropping, small livestock, etc.;
- ❑ **Build Government Capacity** to regulate, manage and protect fish stocks.
- ❑ Promotion of **Sustainable Harvest and Safety-At-Sea** practices for fisherfolk.

Union-Level Aquaculture Extension Service Project

FAO is supporting this **Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock Programme**, aimed at increasing income generation and household income nutrition.

The program assist **Common Beneficiary Groups (CBG)** with refurbishing of 'derelict' ponds by providing inputs and land lease agreement support.

FAO Support:

Year 1 (2018): Support to two initial groups; Horikhola and Palongkhali.

Year 2 (2019): Expansion of the program to seven CBGs - lessons learned will help to identify challenges and opportunities for expanding the programme across the district.

Locations

List of Existing and Potential Ponds to for Improved Aquaculture

Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations

SL	Pond area (Dec.)	Ownership	Culture type	Village, Ward and Union	Upazilla	Contact person
1	200	private	Traditional	Jaduamora (Nayapara), 4, Nila	Teknaf	Julficur Ali Butti
2	250	private	Traditional	Ruhulardaba, 8, RatnaPalong	Ukhiya	Shama Akter
3	250	private	Traditional	Poijarbaparpara,4, Ratnapalong	Ukhiya	Amir hamja
4	100	private	Traditional	Patabari,5, HolidaPalong	Ukhiya	Md. Sorower kamal Badsha
5	218	private	Traditional	South Maijpara, 3 Eidgha	Sadar	Md. Harun Rashid
6	210	private	Traditional	Vharuakhali-West, Vharuakhali	Sadar	Shaimunur rashid Amily and Jafur Alam
7	170	private	Traditional	Soudagar para, 1, Kuruskul	Sadar	Mohammad Ali
8	60	private	Improved- FAO intervention	Horikhola CBG	Teknaf	Kamal chakma
9	200	private	Improved- FAO intervention	Phalongkhali CBG	Ukhiya	Syed Alam

Awareness Raising Campaign: Behavior Change Communication

- Awareness campaign in fishing communities regarding fish breeding seasons and 'Jatka' conservation (small fry). All 8 sub-districts.
- Prohibition of 'destructive gear'; current nets and 'Set-bagnet' nets.
- Overfishing in artisanal zone (up to 40m depth of Sea) as a large number of small scale fisher.

Challenges and Lessons

- **Seasonality is critical** – stocking timing is critical to water temperature and growth.
- **Organizational Development Support** must accompany technical inputs.
- **Community contribution** (financial, labor, time) is key to success.
- **Pond depth** of at least 4 to 6 feet is recommended.
- **Fingerling supply** is hampering local production costs –establishment of a nursery should be considered.
- Income generation can be achieved quickly with **fast growing fish species**

Snaps



