

Beneficial Roles of women in fisheries and aquaculture practices in coastal areas of Bangladesh with some socio cultural confronts



"Towards Ecosystem Based Management of Fisheries: What Role can Economics Play"

About the Project

This study is about 'Emergency Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project(ECRRP) which is being implemented by FAO Bangladesh with the financial assistance of World Bank in south and South west coastal area.

- Recovery and improvement of agriculture sector with its 3 subsector- crop production livestock and fisheries (13 upazilla in Barisal and khulna District)-
- reconstruction and rehabilitation of multipurpose shelters and coastal embankment

Target beneficiary Groups

-landless households; small and marginal farmers; small-scale livestock owners and fishers; and vulnerable groups such as poor and female-headed households- some 104,350 poor people

Therefore it is about to protect and rehabilitate the lives and livelihood of cyclone affected people

Objectives and methods of this study

To identify Women participation in the fisheries sector improvement program and benefits from these participation are the main purpose of this study

Study was conducted in 2 upazilla and both primary and secondary data were collected by:

- reviewing project Document and other related materials
- Focus Group discussion with the women farmers groups (A total number of 10 FGD sessions have been conducted)
- Semi Structured interview with the project mangers(10 person)
- KAP Surveyed among 50 small scale farmers(men and women to assess their knowledge about fish farming and attitude perception towards women participation and benefits in aquaculture sector
- Collected some success cases or stories



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Major Findings

- Women have more knowledge in terms of the management of the production for example, scheduling, harvesting, feeding frequency, removal of unused feeds, etc
- decision about buying fingerlings, stocking and marketing of fish is jointly taken by men and women now
- recognition for women contribution has been started not always in monetary value and food for consumption, but also respect power etc.
- level of fish consumption among women and children and income from this have been increased



major Findings continued

- Women are involved in fish farming in the ponds and cage culture, not allowed in capture fishing in the sea or river
- there are socio cultural restrictions for them to selling produce in the market



Recommendations

- need to put more Gender sensitive indicators in monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the level of women participation and how are they benefited from it
- need to look after the issue that many women farmers want to engaged in aquaculture after the project support is withdrawn. which could be used as investment to continue their involvement?
- Project could support women in their marketing activities by providing local marketing information, improving transportation and provision of credit
- Application of the lessons learnt to future development initiatives.

