



FACT SHEET

Sustainable aquaculture and fisheries in Odisha, India, through technical collaboration with the Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department



Introduction

On June 28, 2016, WorldFish headquarters in Malaysia signed a memorandum of agreement with the Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department (F&ARD) of the Government of Odisha, India, in the august presence of Sri Naveen Patnaik, Honourable Chief Minister of Odisha to implement a project called Technical Collaboration for Implementation of the Odisha Fisheries Policy 2015. It runs from July 2016 to March 2022 (5 years and 9 months). The overall goal of the project is to achieve a “sustainable aquaculture and fisheries sector in Odisha, India, creating employment, stimulating inward investment and contributing to State goals for reducing malnutrition among vulnerable and marginalized communities, particularly women and children.”

Project objectives

- Sustainably increase inland aquaculture productivity and production.
- Improve the business environment for private investment in aquaculture.
- Improve domestic fish marketing and the impact of fish on human nutrition in the state, especially among vulnerable groups in urban and rural areas.
- Provide support for improving the planning and management of existing inland natural aquatic resources for aquaculture.
- Enhance public and private sector capacity for sustainable management of sectoral growth.

Project activities

1. Carp intensification and hatchery upgradation.

- Promote a local tailor-made package of better management practices (BMP) for farming Indian major carps (catla, rohu and mrigal) by private fish farmers and entrepreneurs for sustainable crop intensification.
- Upgrade carp hatcheries for year-round seed production and seed quality improvement using improved varieties and broodstock management.

2. Promote nutrition-sensitive carp-mola polyculture through convergence.

- Promote nutrition-sensitive carp-mola polyculture in Gram Panchayat tanks managed by women self-help groups (WSHG). This is a convergence scheme among F&ARD, Women and Child Development, Mission Shakti, and the Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department.



Project name

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Donor

Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department, Government of Odisha, India

Project duration

July 2016–March 2022

3. Enhance reservoir fish productivity and production.

- Co-manage reservoir fisheries, which involves stocking advanced carp fingerlings raised in captive pen nurseries for stock enhancement and employment of sustainable harvesting methods for sustainable fish production.
- Conduct cage culture for Indian major carps in circular cages.
- Culture sedentary and diversified fish species, such as pangasius, amur carp, anabas, genetically improved farmed tilapia (GIFT), in rectangular cages.

4. Introduce GIFT.

- Hold farm demonstrations of GIFT—a high yielding, hardy and low-cost fish variety—for crop diversification, and introduce an affordable variety of fish to consumers in Odisha by supporting the farmers for market linkage.
- Establish a state-of-the-art GIFT multiplication center and hatchery at the government fish seed farm in Kausalyaganga, Bhubaneswar, for the production of 5 million monosex GIFT seeds annually.

5. Establish a Project Management Unit (PMU) in the Directorate of Fisheries.

- Provide support to the Directorate for proper planning and sustainable management of inland fisheries resources using GIS (Geographical Information System) and Spatial Management tools.
- Establish GIS-based MIS (Management Information System) in the PMU for real-time monitoring of various scheme implementation.

How the project works?

To operationalize the project, WorldFish has established a project management unit (PMU) inside the DOF in Cuttack with 21 national staff: three national expert consultants; five subject matter specialists; three PMU support staff, for monitoring and evaluation, GIS and spatial planning, and communication; and 10 zonal managers based in the office of the zonal deputy directors in various districts. Apart from this, the DOF has deployed two assistant fisheries officers to the PMU for regular project activities. International experts from WorldFish regularly visit Odisha to technically guide and monitor the progress made by the project.

The project staff interact with department officials, including DOF staff and district- and block-level officers, on a day-to-day basis for proper designing, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of various schemes of the DOF under the 5T program of the Odisha government, which envisages a transformation of Odisha through transparency, teamwork and technology in a timely manner. WorldFish project staff provide only technical support to DOF staff. The last-mile delivery of services to beneficiaries and stakeholders is given by DOF staff.

A project steering committee has been set up under the guidance of F&ARD's commissioner-cum-secretary, which approves the annual work plan and reviews the project's progress on both a quarterly and annual basis and provides further guidance for implementation.

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