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অংশগ্রহণমূলক প্রদর্শনী পুকুর  
পুষ্টি উন্নয়নে বসতবাড়ির পুকুরে কার্প-তেলাপিয়া-মলা মিশ্র চাষ ও  
পাড়ে শাকসবজি চাষ

কৃষকের নাম: চন্দ্রবানু      পিতা/স্বামীর নাম: রুবেল বক্স      গ্রাম: নওয়াগাঁও  
ইউনিয়ন: শ্রীমঙ্গল সদর      উপজেলা: শ্রীমঙ্গল সদর      জেলা: মৌলভীবাজার

বাস্তবায়নে: সূচনা কর্মসূচি, সিএনআরএস, শ্রীমঙ্গল  
কারিগরি সহযোগিতায়: মৎস্য অধিদপ্তর ও ওয়ার্ল্ডফিশ বাংলাদেশ।

  
  
  
  
  
  


Knowledge Product

**Suchana:**

Ending the cycle of undernutrition in Bangladesh

**Demo Pond**

অংশগ্রহণমূলক প্রদর্শনী পুকুর  
পুকুর পানি সংবেদনশীল মাছ চাষ এবং বসতবাড়ি ও  
পুকুর পাড়ে শাক-সবজি চাষ  
পিতার নামঃ আফতাব আলী  
উপজেলাঃ বালাগঞ্জ  
গ্রামঃ আদিতাপুর  
সহযোগিতাঃ ওয়াশফিস বাংলাদেশ  
Save the Children W

**“As a child, most of my dreams involved me taking care of my home and caring for my parents. I never considered earning an income for the family. As the owner of a demo pond now, I can contribute to the nutritional intake of my family, and bring in an income for my family, too.”**

**Jesmin Begum,  
owner of demo farm**



## Introduction

Almost 50% of all children in the Sylhet division of northeastern Bangladesh suffer from stunted growth, a sign of chronic malnutrition. In response to this, Suchana is promoting nutrition-sensitive fish and vegetable production systems in the region to promote sustainable production and consumption of nutritious food items.

The programme aims to reduce childhood stunting by an additional 6% in 235,500 poor and very households in Sylhet and Moulvibazar. Suchana has 8 consortium members to ensure holistic development of intervention communities. Each consortium member contributes to improved nutritional intake, production of nutritious foods, increased incomes, and empowerment for women and adolescent girls through different initiatives.

## Context

It was anticipated that 30% of Suchana beneficiaries have access to ponds and other small water bodies, and were selected to receive support on nutrition-sensitive fish and vegetable production. This focused primarily on carp and Tilapia polyculture, and the production of small indigenous fish species (SiS), especially Mola, and different kinds of vegetables.

There are three categories of aquaculture support provided to beneficiaries with access to ponds and small water bodies. These include: Aquaculture for Homestead Food Production (HFP Aquaculture), Aquaculture as an Income Generating Activity (IGA Aquaculture), and Demo Ponds.

## Demo Pond

Demo ponds act as resource centres to showcase different steps of improved fish farming, and the subsequent results arising from the usage of improved technologies and practices related to aquaculture and horticulture. These ponds support both beneficiary and non-beneficiary groups in the community.

Demo pond beneficiaries receive basic training with their neighbouring beneficiaries, and advanced training on various forms of improved technologies. They attend linkage formation events every season, with local service providers, officials from government departments, and their neighbours, both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.

Demo ponds are often used as learning centres to organise physical training, coaching, and linkage formation for improved technologies. Neighbouring households visit demo ponds to observe changes brought about by updated technologies, and adopt them if they are motivated. Demo pond owners visit their neighbours, who own ponds themselves, to enhance improved aquaculture practices.

The owners of demo ponds are also connected to private and public sector extension support agents. This allows them to act as a point of contact for quality inputs and information for their community. Demo pond owners receive extended support in the form of training, input, technical follow-ups, linkages formation with local service providers and printed guidelines to enhance their fish and vegetable production and marketing systems.

**“We produced 130 kg of fish, of which 110 kg consisted of carp and 20 consisted of SiS. This is all due to the usage of climate-smart technologies. We now produce enough to meet the daily consumption needs of our own household, and that of our neighbours, and we even have enough remaining for sales!”**

**Jesmin’s father**



## Objectives of aquaculture and horticulture interventions

- To disseminate improved pro-poor, nutrition-sensitive aquaculture and horticulture technology at the community level
- To demonstrate women-friendly Mola harvest practices among the community and its uses for the benefit of young children
- To establish aquaculture extension agents at the community level

## Aquaculture and horticulture in Suchana

- 235,579 beneficiary households were selected for nutrition-sensitive horticulture interventions till November 2020
- 55,210 BHHs supported with training for HFP-Aquaculture and Fisheries like subsistence fishing
- 8,389 IGA-BHHs supported with training for income generation through aquaculture
- 1,082 BHHs received support to establish demonstration ponds (Demo ponds)

## Support provided for aquaculture and horticulture

- Technical training
- Door-to-door follow-up
- Input supplies including vegetable seeds, fish fingerlings, lime, and fish feed
- Development of linkages with local service providers and market actors (input sellers and output retailers)

## Outcomes of demo ponds and aquaculture activities

- Average annual fish production increased from 35 kg to 69 kg per beneficiary household for Demo Pond Aquaculture (Rapid Assessment 2018)
- Average annual fish production increased from 38 kg to 86 kg per beneficiary household for IGA Aquaculture (Semi-Annual Survey 2019)
- Average annual fish production increased from 26 kg to 42 kg per beneficiary household for HFP Aquaculture (Semi-Annual Survey 2019)
- 42.7% reproductive age women of HFP-Aquaculture households consumed a minimum diversified diet (Semi-Annual Survey 2019)
- 36.0% children (6 to 23 months of age) of HFP aquaculture households consumed minimum diversified diets (Semi-Annual Survey 2019)

## About Suchana

**Suchana: Ending the cycle of undernutrition in Bangladesh** is a multisectoral nutrition programme that aims to reduce chronic undernutrition leading to stunting among children under two years of age living within 235,500 poor and very poor households in the Sylhet and Moulvibazar districts of Bangladesh. The programme involves an integrated approach to nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions, and is a sustainable and replicable model that can be scaled to other regions.

**“I am very pleased to get critical inputs (lime, fish fingerlings, fish feed and vegetable seeds) from Suchana that help to create production opportunities, more profit, more diversified food, opportunities for better use of resources, and better use of our skills.”**

**Doli Begum,  
a demo pond operator**



## Intervention principles for aquaculture and horticulture

<b>Strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supply of inputs (fingerlings, feed, seed, fertiliser), and technical services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suchana homestead and local communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Output market</li> </ul>
<b>Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identification and development of appropriate production technology</li> <li>Supply chain development of quality input: fingerlings, feed, seed, seedlings, and fertiliser</li> <li>Linkage formation with local public and private service providers: Department of Fisheries (DoF), Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), hatcheries, nurseries, mobile fish fry vendors, and input suppliers for feed, seed, and fertilisers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group formation for aquaculture and horticulture</li> <li>Needs assessment and plans to develop the household</li> <li>Adaptive research to develop appropriate farming technologies</li> <li>Capacity development, skills training, technical follow-ups, and coaching</li> <li>Participatory Farmers' Trial (PFT) Demonstration Ponds for lead farmers</li> <li>Support with input, technical guidebook, and record keeping</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Linkage formation between output buyers and producer groups</li> <li>Facilitation of group marketing for the benefit of Suchana beneficiaries</li> </ul>
<b>Implementers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enterprises and organisations providing goods, services, information, and finances for aquaculture and horticulture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Households that are enabled to utilise the support provided for aquaculture and horticulture for consumption and sales</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enterprises and organisations providing goods, services, and information required as needed, shifting small-scale farm production at market prices</li> </ul>

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