



Fact Sheet

Suchana:
Ending the cycle of undernutrition
in Bangladesh

Suchana Aquaculture and Fisheries

Background

About 30% of Suchana beneficiary households (BHHs) with access to ponds and other water bodies were targeted for pro-poor, nutrition-sensitive aquaculture and fisheries and vegetable gardening interventions. The major objectives of this intervention are to increase production and consumption of fish towards enhancing the dietary diversity of women of reproductive ages, and children who are 6 months to 23 months old. The intervention involves:

- **Homestead food production (HFP) aquaculture:** carp-Tilapia polyculture along with small indigenous species (SiS), especially Mola
- **Innovative fisheries management** for flooded ponds
- **Subsistence fishing** from open water bodies and floodplains, along with fish drying
- **Demo ponds (demonstration ponds)** through participatory farmers' trials
- **Semi-intensive culture of mono-sex Tilapia for very poor households** as income generating activities (IGAs)

Interventions

A total of 64,681 BHHs received support in the form of input for aquaculture and fisheries. Support also included:

- Training on improved management practices for nutrition-sensitive aquaculture and fisheries

- Coaching and technical follow-ups throughout the year
- Critical input like lime, fish fingerlings, and fish feed for fish culture, and seeds, seedlings, and cuttings for vegetable gardening
- Establishing demo ponds (demonstration ponds) through participatory farmers' trials
- Capacity building of local fish hatcheries, nurseries, patilwalas (fingerling retailers), fish feed retailers, vegetable seed sellers and other market actors
- Involvement of the Department of Fisheries (DoF), and the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE)
- Developing linkages with local value chain actors and service providers from both public and private sectors

Approach

- Nutrition-sensitive
- Market-based
- Gender-sensitive
- Climate-conscious
- Climate-resilient
- Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC)

Impact



52.6%

women of reproductive ages consumed diversified diets



42.8%

children between 6-23 months old consumed minimum diversified diet

Source: Suchana Impact Evaluation conducted by icddr,b in 2019-20

Homestead Food Production (HFP) aquaculture



BDT 1,750

start-up input given to each beneficiary



39,883

beneficiaries received technical training

Fisheries: subsistence fishing and dry fish



BDT 1,750

start-up input given to each beneficiary



15,327

beneficiaries received technical training

Income Generating Activities: aquaculture and fisheries



BDT 8,000

start-up input given to each beneficiary



8,389

beneficiaries received technical training

Demo-ponds



BDT 4,500

beneficiaries received technical training



1,082

demo pond beneficiaries given technical training

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