



FACT SHEET

ECOFISH II

Enhanced Coastal Fisheries in Bangladesh II

Background

ECOFISH II, is a 5-year project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). WorldFish Bangladesh is implementing the project in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries (DoF) in Bangladesh. ECOFISH II also collaborates with universities, conservation organizations, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). ECOFISH II assisting the DoF in generating science-based information and engaging local fishing communities and other stakeholders in establishing co-management in accordance with the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) framework, with a focus on Hilsa, riverine native catfish (Pangas), and other major coastal and marine fisheries resources. The project also aims at improving ecosystem health and enhancing artisanal fishing communities resilience through nutrition-sensitive alternative income-generating activities (AIGAs) and women's empowerment. ECOFISH II interventions focus on the Zone of Resilience (ZOR) - Cox's Bazar district, the Nijhum Dwip Marine Protected Area (MPA), and some important areas of the Meghna River Ecosystem (MRE).

Goal and objectives

The overarching goal of ECOFISH II is to improve the social and ecological resilience of coastal fisheries, securing equitable food, nutrition, and livelihood benefits for artisanal fishing communities. The specific objectives are the following intermediate results (IRs):

- IR1:** Improved management and governance of natural resources that form the foundation of fisheries.
- IR2:** Improved equity and resilience of food, nutrition, and livelihood benefits.

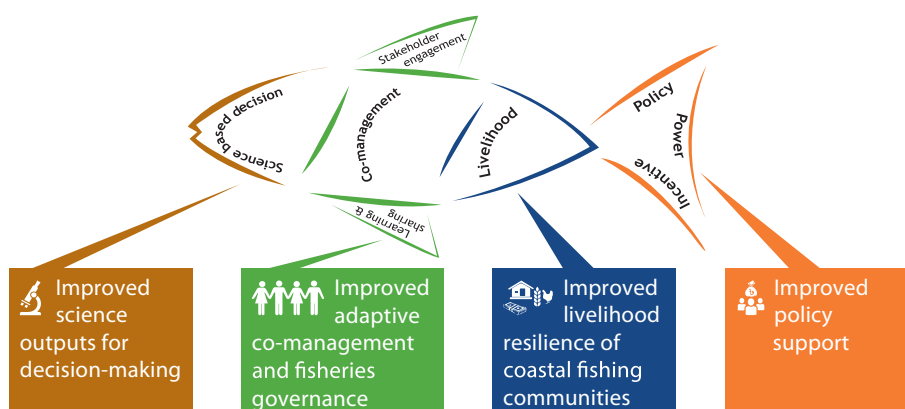
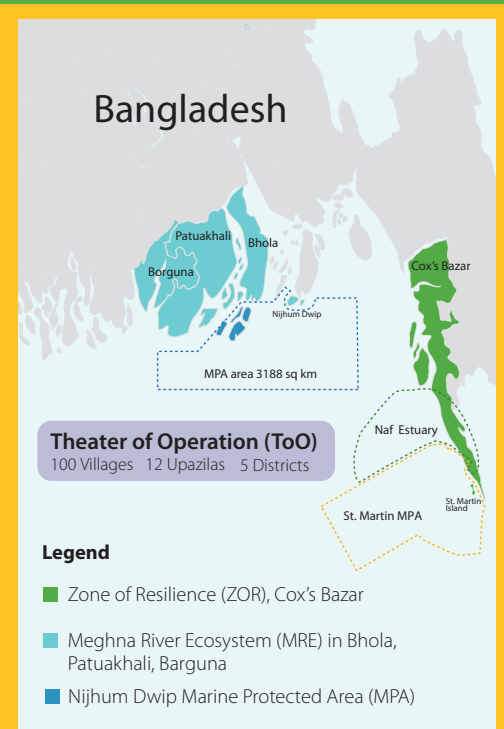


Figure 1. Specific objectives of ECOFISH II



Project name
Enhanced Coastal Fisheries in Bangladesh II (ECOFISH II)

Donor
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

One CGIAR research program
Resilient Aquatic Food Systems

Project duration
December 2019 – November 2024

Partners
Department of Fisheries (DoF), Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University (BSMRAU), Noakhali Science and Technology University (NSTU), Chattogram Veterinary and Animal Science University (CVASU), Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), TMSS, Shushilan

Approach

Along with the DOF and other partners, ECOFISH II's comprehensive activities include improving livelihood resilience, establishing adaptive co-management, conserving biodiversity, and improving ecosystem health.

Following the ecosystem approach to fisheries resource development and the conservation of megafauna through awareness and motivation.

Providing diversified livelihood support for empowering fisherwomen and initiating women's income and nutrition groups. Creating alternative income-generating options for artisanal fishing communities. Improve fishing households' resilience by developing appropriate technologies, environment-friendly climate-smart seaweed, and green mussel farming in marine environments.

Expected outputs

- The biodiversity of fish, crustaceans, and megafauna in the Naf Estuary and Cox's Bazar coastal waters assessed.
- The spawning season of major commercial marine fishes identified.
- Adaptive co-management in fisheries resources management introduced and institutionalized
- Livelihood in artisanal fishing communities in ZOR, MRE, and MPA improved.
- Fisherwomen are socially and economically empowered.
- Appropriate technology for marine seaweed, green mussels, and crab farming developed and market linkages established.
- Safe dry fish production from pelagic smallish and other demand-driven fishes adopted by fisherwomen as an income-generating option.

Key facts

- Number of Direct Beneficiary Fishing Household- 15,000
- Number of Citizen Scientist- 50
- Number of Blue Guards- 140
- Number of Women in Income and Nutrition Group (WING)/Community Saving Group (CSG)- 250
- Number of Landing Center-based Co-management Committee-10
- Fisheries Conservation Group (FCG)- 400



Figure 2. ECOFISH II focus areas.

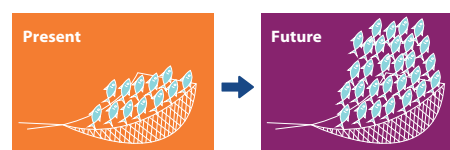


Figure 3. Fish yield sustainably improved.

Disclaimer

The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of WorldFish and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

Contact

Mohammad Mocarrom Hossain, PhD
Chief of Party/Team Leader, ECOFISH II

WorldFish Bangladesh
House 335/A, Road 114, Gulshan-2,
Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh
Phone: +880-1713077026
E-mail: Mocarrom.Hossain@cgjar.org

Citation

This publication should be cited as: WorldFish. 2023. ECOFISH II. Enhanced Coastal Fisheries in Bangladesh II. Penang, Malaysia: WorldFish.

Creative Commons License



Content in this publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC 4.0), which permits non-commercial use, including reproduction, adaptation and distribution of the publication provided the original work is properly cited.

© 2023 WorldFish.

For more information, please visit www.worldfishcenter.org