Bhutan
Nepal
India
Bangladesh
India
India
Dhaka
Thakurgaon
Lalmanir Hat
Pirganj
Saidpur
Rangpur
Dinajpur
Jamalpur
Jamalpur
Chhatak
Bogra
Mohanganj
Sylhet
Santahar
Nawabganj
Mymensingh
Gouripur
Rajshahi
Habiganj
Ganges
Ishurdi
Bhairab Bazar
Pabna
Brahmanbaria
Kushtia
Faridpur
Narayanganj
Munshiganj
Comilla
Lakshami
Jessore
Chandpur
Khagrachari
Khulna
Noakhali
Nazir Hat
Rangamati
Bagerhat
Barisal
Bhola
Chandraghona
Patuakhali
Chittagong
Satkania
Mouths of the Ganges
Cox's Bazar
Bay of Bengal
Myanmar
(Burma)

Local Food Chains & Employment

- Income from ‘shrimp’ in extensive ponds southeast Bangladesh is less than half of total pond income
- Employment gains for the poorest groups

‘The fifth quarter… considering the whole animal

Zinc levels in freshwater prawn claw are 100x more than in the premium ‘tail’

Legs

Freshwater prawn brains contain n-3 at levels of more 750mg per 100g edible product-equivalent to those in the ‘best’ marine species

Heads

Australian AID

Ministry of Labour and Labour Relations

International Labour Organization

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பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்திக் கருத்திட்டத்தினூடாக மக்களை வலுவூட்டல்

LOCAL EMPOWERMENT THROUGH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (LEED) PROJECT

Reasons for LEED strategy to diversify income from wild fisheries

- Contribution from wild catch to national production was declining (3% to 5%).
- Dwindling resources, productivity as a result of income.
- Difficulty in planning their lives. Poverty was high in the community.
- Women and others were not included in the development process.

What LEED project has done in aquaculture in the north

- Carrying out VCD studies in the aquaculture.
- Support to set- p women/coop-managed aqua farms for sea cucumbers, sea bass, milkfish, prawns, mud crabs.
- Promoting value addition and setting up value-added enterprises along the value chain.
- Linking with markets.
- Facilities to establish supporting industries (feed, boats, fishing gears, etc.
- Linking with the BDS services (training, technology, finance, markets).

Aquaculture's contribution to poverty reduction in the north

- Aquaculture growth reflected in all value-chain segments of the industry.
- Basic income of USD 30 per month has increased to USD 600-700 per month.
- A source of employment for poor young men and women (more than 60% are women).
- Contributes to food security for those who are more vulnerable (30-40% of beneficiaries are highly vulnerable).
- Assured a consistent income for the poor (more than 80% of the people).

Mainstreaming Gender

- More women are employed, and upward mobility for women assured.
- Changes in attitudes of men regarding women contributing to the family, community and economic role in development.
- Improved active participation of women in membership and board of director levels in cooperatives.
- Women's equal participation in development activities is widely recognized (local and provincial levels).
- Policy areas: Review of cooperative bylaws and development of status ultimately in national policy to recognize women's role in cooperatives.

Lessons Learned

- Huge potential for rural economic development (risks of other opportunities are high/lack of market/SME failures).
- Market-based, demand-oriented interventions helps to solve complex issues such as indebtedness and vicious cycle of poverty in the fisheries sector.
- Strict management and technology/monitoring and support services, etc. should be in place. Start with species that depend on naturally available feeds and build on it.
- Will only be viable if it is commercial scale and linked with the market. Income should be visible. Private sector participation is a must (community/cooperative/private sector model).
- Community awareness and participation is also compulsory as there are community level issues to be solved.