

manufacturing practices in the processing of clam meat and lack of value addition of clam meat. To facilitate the knowledge dissemination the clam fisherwomen were grouped into clusters with the help of local project collaborators. The members of the cluster were given training under a comprehensively designed skill development programme where they were exposed to methods for improved method for shucking clam meat with stress of food safety and to various methods of value addition of clam meat. The feedback was evaluated for assessing impact.

GAF PO 03

Socio-economic assessment of Sidi tribes in Veraval, Gujarat, India and scope for intervention for livelihood diversification

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‘Sidis’ or ‘Habshis’ are a unique tribal group with African ancestry, who had been brought to the state of Gujarat in western India through slave trading, like in other parts of the world. Most of the Sidis still live below the poverty line and have poor socio-economic backgrounds. Farm-based activities constituted the main source of livelihood for the Sidi population. As the single source of livelihood, traditional farm incomes were not enough to meet even subsistence needs and the families were forced to combine traditional cultivation with the collection of minor forest produce, maintaining small livestock and migration to urban areas for wage labour. This study was conducted

among the 60 families of Sidi community residing in Veraval, Gujarat as a baseline to assess their socio-economic status for further interventions with respect to fisheries technologies through a Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India funded project being implemented by ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) at Veraval. The average family size was observed to be five. While male literacy rate was 71%, it was only 52% for female. About 60% women had access only to primary education. About 75% of Sidi women had some form of employment, which is higher than many other communities in Veraval. Currently, more than 50% of the Sidi women settled in Veraval are either involved in fish selling or work in fish processing units with monthly incomes between Rs.4000 to Rs.7000. Since women were already involved in the fish business, improving livelihoods through suitable interventions can be undertaken.

GAF PO 04

Traditional fish recipes of fisher households and their significance

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Fish plays an important role in the diet of many cultures. The production from small-scale fisheries provides a major sources of protein in many parts of the world. The role of fisherwomen in nurturing the nutritional security of households is very significant as they are the key home managers in fisher communities. The indigenous knowledge of women in maintaining traditional methods of fish

preparation is often neglected while documenting the Traditional knowledge in fisheries sector. Their ITKs can be related to the household chores and nutritional value of various dishes. This paper tries to document the indigenous traditional recipes collected from fisherwomen of Kerala, under the ESSO-INCOIS funded project on 'Indigenous Traditional Knowledge (ITKs) in marine fisheries sector of Kerala: Analysis and Documentation' that was carried out in collaboration with Vijnana Bharati, New Delhi. Traditionally prepared fish recipes were documented from 23 women from various districts of coastal Kerala. The fisherwomen have knowledge about nutritional and medicinal values of certain fishes and this are incorporated in their daily diet. For instance, women do not feed children with mackerel during summer as they believe that it can also cause allergic reactions. *Cynoglossus* spp. locally known as 'nangu' is cleaned, covered in banana leaf and kept in fire place. It is popularly referred as 'nangu vaatiyath' and is given to ladies soon after delivery as it is believed to heal the internal and external wounds quickly. Some of the typical recipes included *Meenada*, *chaala kothappikkal*, *choraku curry*, *koonthal vara*, *neymeen mappas*, *meenitta cheeni* are some of the fish delicacies prepared in the household of fisherfolk. It is important to identify, document and validate such information to act as repositories for future studies on nutrition and diets.

GAF PO 05

Women in inland capture fisheries in Kerala: An assessment

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Women in fisheries value chains are generally thought to be active in the post-harvest sector. Catching or harvesting fish, whether from inland or marine waters is considered to be a male preserve. Only men have been portrayed as fishing. However evidence shows that women have been traditionally involved in fishing especially subsistence fishing for meeting household food requirements. This activity is more wide spread in shallow waters along beaches and in inland water bodies of various types like rivers, backwaters, lakes, estuaries, *kol* lands, ponds etc. This particular study was exploratory in nature to find out how women actually were engaged in fishing activity and to the extent possible to arrive at a figure on how many women were actually engaged in fish harvesting. The areas covered were Pallithode, Varapuzha, Edavankkad and Kuzhippili in Ernakulam district. Considering that the women harvesting fish were scattered and it was an unorganized activity, the study results are discussed as case studies. Constraints are also briefly discussed.

GAF PO 06

Rural women participation in pre and post-harvest operations of stake net (estuarine set bag) along Aroor fishing village, Alappuzha, Kerala

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Women play a major role in stake net operations in Kerala. Stake net is a conical bag net (non-selective gear) set in