

Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Science of
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GAF PO 01

Developing resource based income generation model through fish value addition: A case study in Kadamakudy

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In Kerala, fisherwomen are mostly involved in the pre-processing activities pertaining to fisheries and aquaculture which hardly ensures regular income. Value addition in fishes may lead to better income generation and sustainable livelihood security. ICAR-CIFT, as a part of village adoption programme, initiated a study on socio-economic empowerment of fisherwomen of Kadamakudy, Ernakulam. Local fish production includes species like tilapia which are marketed fresh in the neighbouring markets fetching low prices. The resource based income generation model was envisioned in this study through empowerment of existing women SHGs, promoting entrepreneurial unit through intervention of apt fish processing technologies using local fishery resources in addition to support by way of linking the entrepreneurial unit with marketing and funding agencies under different schemes of governments. Enthusiastic fisherwomen representing various defunct SHGs were formed as a potential group through number of sensitization programmes, imparted skills in value addition through trainings and technology demonstrations and motivated to take up some venture in a business mode. Market feasibility studies were done for value

added products in the neighbouring town and adopting consumer-oriented marketing strategies, the selection and promotion of right value added products was done. Fish value addition taken up by the fisherwomen of Kadamakudy was a successful endeavor which has led to generation of more than 30% additional family income. This paper discusses the success of the fisherwomen in establishing small-scale business in fish value addition through SWOT analysis and highlights the gender empowerment.

GAF PO 02

Effective utilisation of clam resources: A way forward to women empowerment in the Perumbalam village, Alappuzha district, Kerala

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The black clam fishery in Kerala contributes to subsistence fishery of the local coastal communities of the Perumbalam island in Vembanad lake. Around 250 families are engaged in clam fishing activities in 8 wards of the island which comes under the Chertala taluk, Alappuzha district, Kerala. The clam is harvested by the fishermen and meat shucked and marketed by the fisherwomen. The present study undertaken as part of a DST, Government of India funded project, investigates the scope of strengthening capacities of the clam fisherwomen of the island by transfer of technology on specific areas as a tool to reduce drudgery and effective income generation. Participatory methods were followed for assessing issues and arriving at strategies. The specific issues were recognised as ignorance in good

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