

FISH NET

Fisherfolk Integration for Sustainable Habitat and Natural Ecosystem Transformation

"From the edges of the coast to the center of the conversation."

Funded by:
Ocean Community Empowerment and Nature Programme

Supported By: UK International Development

Aligned with:
Bangladesh's National Fisheries Strategy,
Marine Biodiversity Treaties, SDG 14 (Life Below Water)

Project Duration: December 2024 – May 2028

Consortium Lead: Uttaran

Consortium Members: Action Against Hunger, CNRS, WJCC, CBDP and SheRee

Technical Support by: University of Chittagong (Marine Sciences and Fisheries (FMSF) Department)

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Uttaran

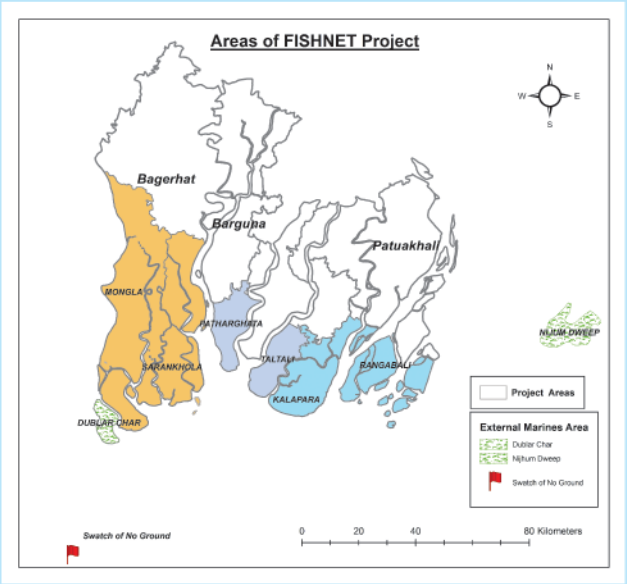
ACTION AGAINST HUNGER
ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM

SheRee
Alternative Way of Women Empowerment

CNRS

CBDP

Women Job Creation Centre
Working for Women and Children



GOAL

To support the government in successfully achieving its target of sustainably managing at least 10% of its marine waters through community-led approaches while also extending Marine Protected Area (MPA) efforts to inland waters. This initiative aims to promote sustainable marine industries and address the structural marginalization of fisherfolk across Bangladesh.

The Urgency of FISHNET

30%
Beel (Tidal floodplain)
Has been declined

93%
Disparity in daily wage
men agreed that women
in the industry
do not receive equal pay.

90%
Fisherfolk have no agricultural
land Vast majority lack
land ownership or
functionally landless

88%
Fish Decline
Sharp drop in Ganges
fish population

12%
MPAs
Remains below the
national commitment of
marine areas as MPAs

80%
Artisanal Fishing
Reliance on
traditional methods

4
Billion
Worth of Hilsha
fish lost annually

80%
lack life-saving equipment
fishermen lack life-saving
equipment on board

Key Objective : Integrated Approach

Primary Objective

Organize and strengthen capacity of fisherfolks, allied CBOs, CSOs, and LNGOs, building networks for active engagement with public departments and policy processes to address vulnerabilities, ensure equitable access to marine resources, and protect the ecosystem.

Secondary Objective 1

To improved conservation and restoration of the marine ecosystems, and pilot community-managed Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) including tidal floodplains, inlets/canals, and estuaries.

Secondary Objective 2

Improve resilience, lessen dependency on marine resources, and empower women in fishing and ocean dependent households by facilitating access to public and common pool resources/services, and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

Key Interventions

Empowering Communities:

10,000 marginalized fisherfolk organized in 400groups, 68 CBOs/CSOs , and 18 Union/ Upazila fedarations

Strengthen fisherfolk networks and governance structures

Engage CSOs like Bhumi Committee & Paani Committee for legal rights and advocacy

Conservation through Local Knowledge:

Pilot 5 CMMPAs in estuaries, inlets and tidal flood plains

Train 30 community para-biologist to monitor biodiversity and IUU fishing monitoring

Develop 5 localize land zoning guidelines and enhance IUU fishing monitoring

work with hatchery entreprenuers to reduce wild larvae collection

Establish community led Biodiversity Protection Committees (BPCs) for MPA management

Reduce Marine Pollution and establish sustainable waste management

Dignified Livelihood & justice

Provide legal and administrative support to help landless fisherfolk access public resources

Train small fisherfolk and provide improved tools for sustainable fishing and fair pricing

Support 2000+ women to shift from Unsafe Shrimp by fry collection to sustainable livelihoods

Engage 850 Households to eliminate child labour by offering:

- Informal education (Under 15)
- Vocational training (Age 15-18)
- Alternative income support for families

Promote eco- friendly, multi species shrimp farming to reduce environmental harm

Provide safety gear to 200 boats and establish early action protocols with key stakeholders

Equip fishers with forecasting systems and lifesaving protocols

Key Expected Results: A Transformed Coastline

30%
Decrease in resource disparities among stakeholders

1000
HHs access productive assests

2000+
Women shift from illlegal wild larvae to sustainable income

70%
Improvement in capacity strengthening effectiveness

8
Networks expansion by the end of the project

30%
Increase in habitat restoration

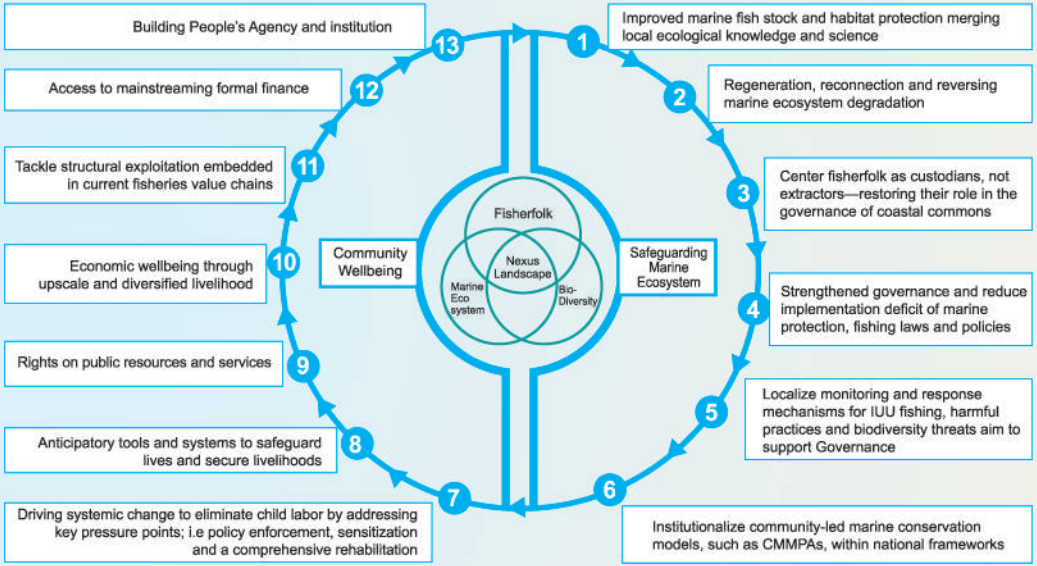
80%
Implementation of zoning governance by the end of the project

90%
Implementation of early action protocols by the end of the project

30%
Decrease in child vulnerability by the end of the project

45%
Increase in alternative livelihood adoption by the end of the project

45%
Increase in fish stock recovery by the end of the project



Support or Collaborate with

FISHNET

Contact us to learn more about how you can get involved

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