**Baseline study for Development in Telangana state**

**ANN– 4.6**

FCS studied and highlights of institutional feedback

**Fishermen cooperative society (FCS)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **District** | **Geo Code** | **INS.code** | **Society** | | **Membership** | |
| **No** | **%** | **Total** | **Per society avg.** |
| Kamareddy | A1 KMR(M1-M9) | FCS (1-9) | 9 | 14% | 1074 | 119 |
| Karimnagar | A2 KRN(M1-M9) | FCS (10-18) | 9 | 14% | 1152 | 128 |
| Mancherial | A3 MAN(M1-M9) | FCS (19-27) | 9 | 14% | 1296 | 144 |
| Medak | B4 MDK(M2,M7,M8 & M9) | FCS (28-32) | 5 | 8% | 533 | 107 |
| Rangareddy |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wanaparthy | B6WPY(M1,M2,M3,M4,M6,M7,M8 & M9) | FCS (33-40) | 8 | 12% | 205 | 26 |
| Bhadradri | C7BDR(M1,M3,M4,M6,M7,M8 & M9) | FCS (41-48) | 8 | 12% | 417 | 52 |
| Mahabubabad | C8MBD(M1-M9) | FCS (49-58) | 10 | 15% | 1359 | 136 |
| Yadadri | C9YDR(M1,M2,M4,M5,M7,M8 & M9) | FCS (59-66) | 8 | 12% | 1570 | 196 |
| **Total** |  |  | **66** | **100%** | **7606** | **115** |

***Highlights on Institutional feedback***

**Gram panchayats (GPs)**

* The category of water bodies in the GPs studied indicates that 44% are short seasonal, 39% are long seasonal, and 17% are perennial.
* The suggestions by GPs are :
* Stocking of big fingerlings and on the right time
* Marketing support
* Providing training and tech. Support
* Possibility of increase in seasonality by sustainability management approach

**Fishermen cooperative society (FCS)**

* Going by their registration most of these are older societies with nearly 60% of them in the range of 20-50 yrs since registration.
* Measures taken to increase the membership is mostly through awareness programs (50%) and membership campaigns conducted in the villages with substantial fisher population (30%).
* About 50% of the members opine that there has been increase in membership and the majority say that the increase is in the range of 25 to 50%.
* Their involvement in other activities that relate to input supply, providing crafts and gears, facilitation for trainings are all on a limited scale. As for their involvement in the retailing of fish, it is reported only in about 10% of the cases.
* The finance source in FCS is mostly own funds, followed by departmental support and funding by traders. It is notable that institutional finance is almost nonexistent.
* In the last 3 to 5 yrs, it is reported that at least for 2-3 yrs the desired water level did not exist in the water bodies and this as per the feedback adversely affected the fish yield. In fact it is stated by >40% of the respondents that there was acute shortage of water for 2-3 yrs which impacted their livelihoods.
* Collective action among members to be promoted. For Federation, the suggested course of action is to develop an integrated approach in bringing FCS together in effective resource utilisation, better post harvest handling, transportation, storage and marketing net work.

**Women Matsya Mitra Groups (WMMG)**

* The WMMGs being basically SHGs, their main role stated in the feedback relates to helping members in obtaining loans.
* As for specific **activities** nearly 70% of them are into retailing of fish.
* In nearly 70% of the cases the respondents say that they share the profits among the group members depending on their contribution. On bank linkage only about 50% of the groups confirm having a bank account through which they route all the transactions
* Members are willing to take training in fishery related activities (86%).
* WMMGs report that there have been changes in consumer preference in recent years with increased demand for freshness, cleanliness and hygienic conditions.
* They want trainings which can help them to commercialise their ventures and require hand holding in IGPs to be taken up on a larger scale.

**Feedback from other institutions**

* The NGO is involved in tank fisheries since 1980 and they are actively involved in FCS membership. The KVK since 2009 is organising general awareness programs and also involved in distribution of fish seed under Integrated Telangana Development Scheme. They are also conducting training programs for fish farmers.