

## Outcomes from gender focused interventions for the shrimp PL collectors: Case of a fisher's slum from southwestern coastal region of Bangladesh



Mohammad Nuruzzaman  
Khandaker Rashidul Hasan and Gitte Andersen

# Presentation outline

- Introduction
- The interventions
- The outputs and outcomes
- Lessons learning
- Conclusion
- Recommendations

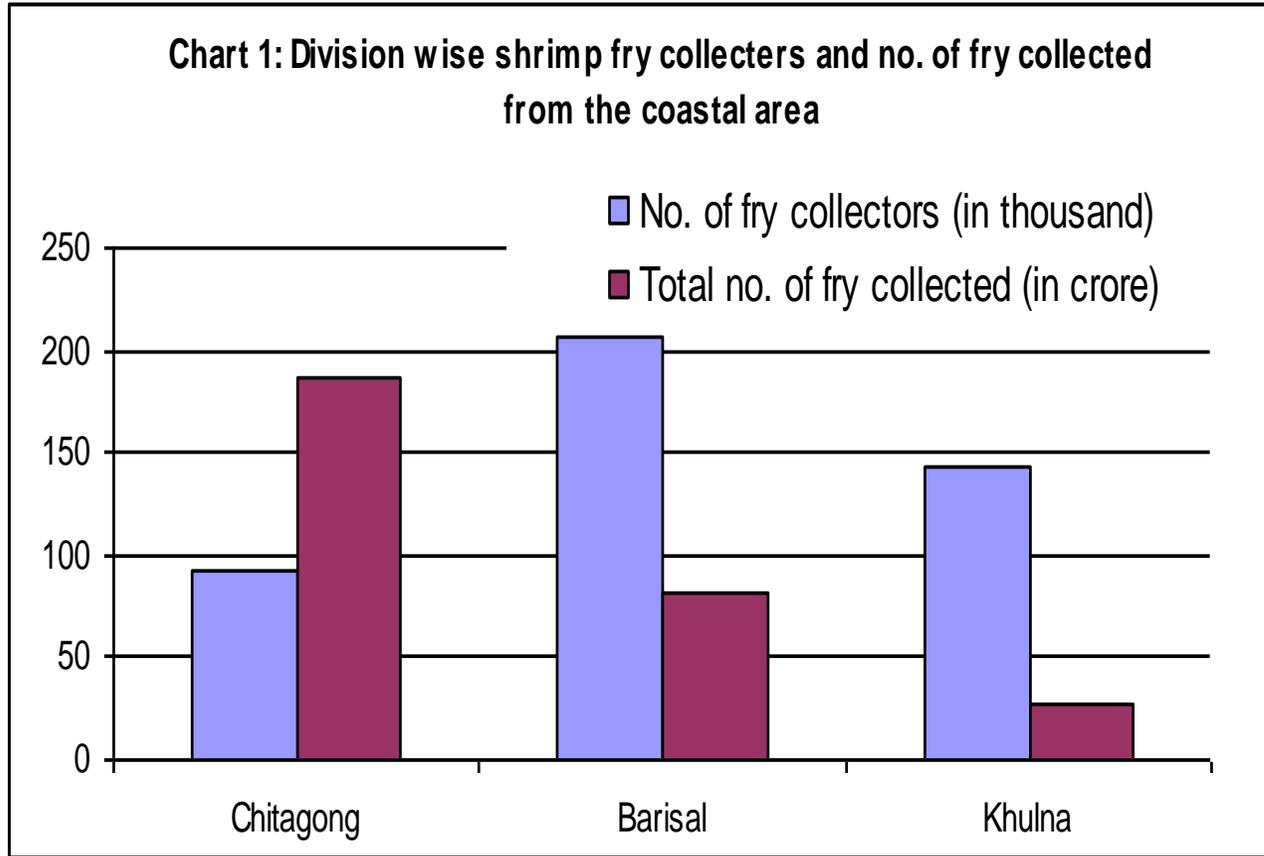


# Introduction

- Shrimp industry in Bangladesh play significant role in the economy
- PL fishery comprises about half a million coastal people, about 50% of them are women and children
- Government banned wild PL fishing since 2001
- Failure to produce enough PL from hatcheries lead to wild PL fishing to continue
- GOB/UNIDO took development initiatives including gender focused pilot activities



# Distribution of PL collectors



# Gender focused interventions

- Selected a slum comprising 487 hh
- Formed women groups from 120 PL collectors
- Pedagogy and life-skill training through 4 Community Schools
- Rain water harvest and storage facilities
- Books and dresses for the school going children of group members
- Small business training on AIG
- Regular wage compensation for participants



# Outputs

Setting of 4 Community School run through local committee

Most participants from literacy and life skill training learned reading and writing



# Outputs

Installed Rain Water Harvest system in 4 Schools



# Outcomes

- Out of 120, most of them started land based economic activities
- 5 started small shops, 3 tutoring, 3 started tailoring and two started duck rearing and another 2 women PL collectors vending vegetables
- Better school results by the children
- One became Ward Member for local UP
- 2 Women became School Teacher
- 12-15 women migrated country side and engaged in better job



# Lessons learned

- Gender focused awareness building and motivation by local 'Community Organizers' found works better
- Involving Community Leaders both in planning and implementation contribute better participation
- Adult education for women PL collectors helped them to understand value of education and contributed to school performance of their children
- Trained women can move for changed life and better empower
- Women voice better heard and counted



# Conclusions

- Progress made better sustained through engagement of LGI and NGOs
- Regulations of ban & monitoring of wild PL fishing done by Coast Guard/DOF
- Replication of the interventions in other areas may help adopt better livelihoods
- Infrastructure development
- The poor PL fishers deserve positive interventions to reduce poverty and inequality



# Recommendations

- Large number of small-scale fishers including women across the remote coastal areas are left out and often fail to benefit from results of mainstream development.
- Interventions on alternative livelihoods particularly for women PL fishers are imperative across the coastal villages.
- Operation of shrimp hatcheries to meet PL demand will lead automatic reduction of wild PL collection



## Community School for the PL collectors





Local Committee and participant PL collectors

## Local Committee





Very difficult to access

# *Thank you*

## **Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries Expanding the Horizons**



**7<sup>th</sup> Global Conference on Gender  
in Aquaculture and Fisheries**

18-21 October 2018

Bangkok, Thailand

[www.gafconference.org/](http://www.gafconference.org/)

