COMPLETION REPORT

Modeling of Seafood Production and Marketing Systems of Bangladesh by Supporting Japanese Experiences for Ensuring Food Security and Enhancing Blue Economy in Bangladesh

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The present study investigated the general features and trends of the seafood sectors and identified the seafood production processes, prospects and challenges in Bangladesh and has been evaluated the importance of seafood cultivation for enhancing the blue economy in Bangladesh. The multi-methods research techniques were used in this study include in-depth questionnaire survey and semi-structured interviews as the field data collection from two coastal districts Khulna and Cox's Bazar which are selected on the basis of their closeness to the coast of the Bay of Bengal and seafood production zone in Bangladesh. In addition to being an important to gather some information from Japanese seafood companies and institutes which is a leader in Asia in the science of fisheries and seafood cultivation techniques and quality control schemes. The consumption of seafood is increasing in the both case countries Japan and Bangladesh. On the other hand, in Bangladesh is facing many challenges of seafood production, supply and marketing inside the country as exporting as well. The findings of this study reveal that the most important challenges for seafood cultivation in Bangladesh is to lack of knowledge of the seafood processing systems, ensuring quality control due to low prices of seafood and lack of export subsidies. Also, in this study a conceptual SSD (Sustainable Seafood Development) model has been developed to make several scenarios how developing country like Bangladesh is able to improve the seafood production processes.

Most of the peoples of case country Bangladesh are not aware about the importance of seafood cultivation in the country how to practice ocean resources like seafood as alternative food for ensuring food security. In Bangladesh, it is also required to develop new technology to improve the seafood industrial facilities to capture adequate amount of seafood, cold storage to keep stock and process seafood for greater market value and increased profit. Though the seafood in Bangladesh is mostly tasty and good quality but due to lack of ensuring Quality Control Certification, the seafood companies cannot export seafood in foreign countries. Bangladesh Government and seafood industries can take some initiatives for improving the seafood cultivation techniques and ensuring quality control. Particularly, by supporting EU food safety compliance and Japanese seafood cultivation techniques, it can help boost the blue economy and promote exports to ensure food security in Bangladesh. It needs to involve local and foreign investors and legislative authorities to enhance the investments with a proper legislative guideline to develop sustainable seafood cultivation. In Bangladesh, no straight forward planning has yet been made to develop the sustainable seafood production and enhancing blue economy. The Bay of Bengal and the coastal regions can play a very important role in the economy of Bangladesh. In that case, to formulate an integrated plan for the development of sustainable seafood cultivation in Bangladesh, to use modern technology and to build a skilled manpower in this sector for quality enhancement

Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.)

- 1. 28-06-2019, Social Science Faculty, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh, Annual Seminar, Title of Presentation: "Blue Economy: Seafood Production Prospects and Challenges in Bangladesh" presented by Professor Dr. Md. Nazrul Islam.
- 2. 3 November, 2020, jointly organised an International Webinar by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Maritime University (BSMRMU), Mirpur, Dhaka, Bangladesh and Nuffic OKP (Netherlands), Title of Presentation: "Modeling on Seafood Production in Bay of Bengal Region and Challenges for Strengthening the Blue Economy in Bangladesh" Presented by Professor Dr. Md. Nazrul Islam

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