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सत्यमेव जयते
मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

Sustainable Aquaculture

Approaches in Resource-Efficient & Environmentally Friendly Aquaculture

1. Local Advisory Service and Capacity Building: Community Resource Person (CRP)

The CRP model is a community-led framework where trained local fish farmers provide extension services and advise rural farmers. CRPs are working as door-step knowledge disseminators, supporting up to **25** farmers each. Currently, **500+** CRPs create a robust, localized support network that empowers farmers to make informed decisions, fostering resilience and self-sufficiency across communities.

2. Aquaculture Business School (ABS):

ABS is an educational financial literacy programme teaching farmers to utilise aquaculture to diversify their income from different agricultural sources. Up to now, **20** locally capacitated ABS trainer are teaching **2000+** farmers, to evaluate profitability, assess investment needs, and manage risks across income sources. ABS builds financial expertise and risk management skills among farmers, driving profitable aquaculture practices and enabling economic diversification.

3. Aqua Entrepreneurship (AE) Initiative:

The AE Initiative provides standardized procedure to identify and support high-potential rural operators along the aquaculture value chain. The initiative imparts essential business education and technical skills, enabling potential entrepreneurs to run efficient, profitable businesses. AE drives economic growth in rural areas by nurturing entrepreneurship, creating job opportunities, and elevating small-scale aquaculture enterprises.

4. Community Information and Satellite Centre (CIC & SC):

CICs and SCs serve as agroecological kiosks that provide rural communities with essential access to digital resources and information. Each centre is accessible to **400+** local farmers and is equipped with technologies such as smart phones with internet access, knowledge material and small meeting spaces. **10** CICs and **20** SCs bridge the digital divide, improving rural connectivity and enabling farmers to make informed decisions for sustainable agriculture.

5. Participatory Guarantee System (PGS):

PGS is a community-based certification model that assures sustainable practices and natural standards in aquaculture farming. Through community involvement, PGS offers low-cost certification, currently allowing **500+** farmers to supply verified, sustainable fish to domestic markets. PGS plays a crucial role in promoting sustainable agriculture and empowering farming communities in supplying certified fish to the domestic markets and local consumer.

6. Farmer Institution Real Time Monitoring System (FIRMS):

FIRMS is a QR-code-based digital tool that supports real-time data sharing and monitoring for farmer institutions. Paired with the Farm Record Book, FIRMS allows farmers to record, track, and analyse their data collectively and individually for better resource management. FIRMS empowers farmers with actionable insights, promoting efficiency and transparency in managing agricultural practices and boosting productivity.

7. Multi Stakeholder Platform (MSP):

MSPs are collaborative platforms that foster policy dialogue and support sectoral development in aquaculture. By connecting local value-chain actors with policymakers, two local MSPs address sectoral challenges and drive actionable solutions. MSPs strengthen the aquaculture sector by facilitating policy alignment, enhancing stakeholder collaboration, and accelerating sustainable growth initiatives.

Approaches implemented in India by the project Food Security through Integrated Aquaculture (EIAA), locally known as Sustainable Aquaculture for Food and Livelihood (SAFAL) as part of the GIZ Global Programme Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture

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