











# Quality and sustainability in Freshwater Aquaculture through Participatory Guarantee Systems

Sustainable Aquaculture for Food and Livelihood (SAFAL)

### Introduction

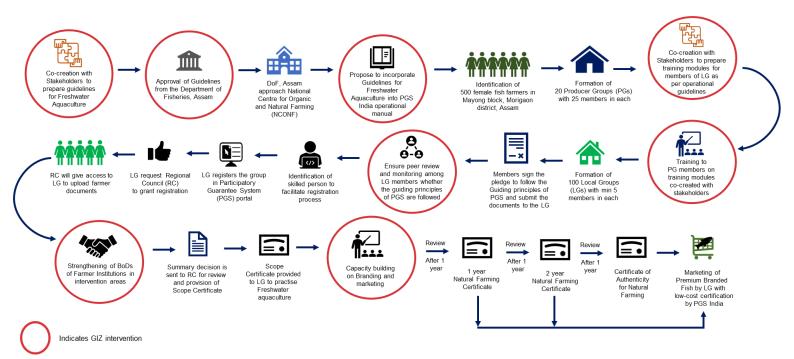
On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH implements the Indo-German Development Cooperation Project "Food Security through Integrated Aquaculture" (EIAA) in cooperation with the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAHD), Government of India. The project aims to increase the production of fish from sustainable aquaculture along with the associated increase in income and demand for labour. The political and institutional framework conditions for the implementation of sustainable and resource-saving aquaculture shall be improved while complementing various Indian government schemes, especially the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). EIAA is part of the Global Programme on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture (GP Fish) under the Special Initiative "Transformation of Agricultural and Food Systems" by BMZ. The project is locally known as "Sustainable Aquaculture for Food and Livelihood", hereafter referred to as SAFAL.

Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) in India is a government-initiated quality assurance certification system for organic products, particularly aimed at small-scale farmers. The system operates on a peer-review model where farmers in a group inspect each other's farms to ensure adherence to organic standards, fostering trust and knowledge sharing.

The Department of Fisheries (DoF), Assam, in collaboration with SAFAL, GIZ, and ICCSPL (Innovative Change Collaborative Services Pvt. Ltd), has embarked on the PGS project in freshwater aquaculture. It is being implemented in natural fish farming practices within the Mayong development block of Morigaon district, Assam.

This initiative involved women fish farmers from Champabati Meen Palan Samabay Samitee (Champabati Co-operative) in Morigaon district, Assam. Recognizing the potential of this model, DoF, Assam, has taken steps to incorporate co-created guidelines on freshwater aquaculture into the operational manual of PGS India to establish a pioneering and replicable model for other Indian states. The primary objective of this project is to pilot natural farming of Indian Major Carps (IMC) following the co-created guidelines of the PGS for freshwater aquaculture.

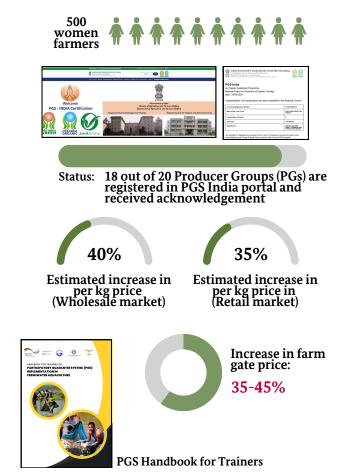
### PGS in freshwater aquaculture - Process development



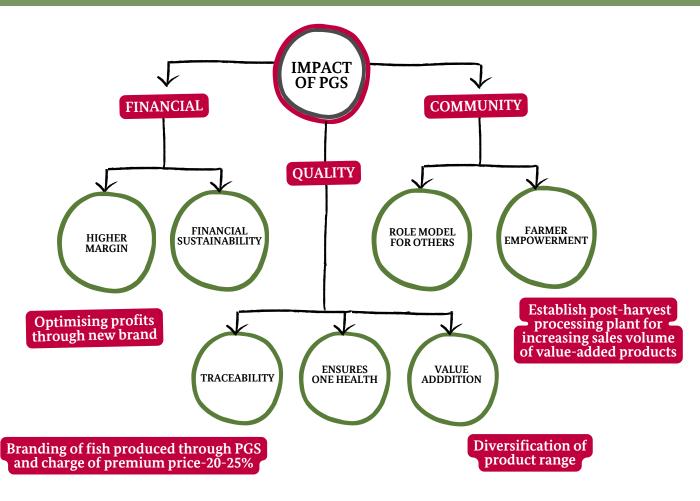
## Intervention highlights



Disclaimer: The geographical map used is for informational purposes only and does not constitute recognition of international boundaries or regions; GIZ makes no claims concerning the validity, accuracy or completeness of the maps nor assumes any liability resulting from the use of the information therein.



# Impact and strategies of PGS in freshwater aquaculture





PGS activities at Champabati Meen Palan Samabay Samitee



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