

## Workshop Report

### **Fisheries and Aquaculture Response in Emergencies**

organized by

**ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai**

10-12 March, 2016

**Venue: Fisheries Research Centre, AAU, Jorhat, Assam**

A 3 days Workshop on '**Fisheries and Aquaculture Response in Emergencies**' was organized by ICAR-CIFE at Fisheries Research Centre (FRC), Assam Agriculture University (AAU), Jorhat 10-12 March, 2016 as per the recommendations of FAOs Emergency Response and Guidance in Fisheries and Aquaculture. Aim of the workshop was to raise awareness to diverse stakeholders about the vulnerability of the sector, current frameworks for response and need to be better prepared through appropriate trainings.

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, AAU, Jorhat, Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, graced the Inaugural Programme as Chief Guest. In his inaugural speech, Dr. Bujarbaruah appreciated efforts of Dr. Gopal Krishna, Director & Vice Chancellor, ICAR-CIFE Mumbai to conduct 3 days workshop on this topic with a diverse stakeholder group. He mentioned that in the North-East region recurring floods cause havoc to the fishery resources and often making rural people homeless. Recurrent flood menace cause vast damage to the capture and culture fishery resources almost every year. He mentioned that another impeding threat to fishery resources is the scarcity of water. He stated that damage need assessment in agriculture and animal husbandry has been done but not much in fisheries. This should be taken into consideration so as to have an integrated approach across sectors so as to have a road map to tackle disasters related to fisheries.

Workshop was attended by 33 participants representing NGOs Dhan Foundation, Society for Rural Development (SORDEC), Indian Red Cross Society, Cheelbanda Beel Unyan Samiti, Kalanpur Yuva Sangh, College of Fisheries, Raha, ICAR-CIFRI, KVK, Department of Fisheries, Assam and Department of Fisheries Shillong and Progressive fish farmers from Dakshin Beelgaon Sanghtan. A total of 70 participants attended the inaugural programme with dignitaries Dean (Home Science), Dean (Horticulture), Dean (Sericulture), DSW, Director PG Studies and Chief Librarian. Two sets of books from FAO on Guidelines for fisheries and aquaculture sector on damage and needs assessment in emergencies and Fisheries and aquaculture emergency response

guidance were provided to participants. Dr. H.C. Bhattacharya, Director Extension Education, AAU, Jorhat and Dr. D. K. Borah, Dean, Agriculture stressed that state of Assam faces two extremities i.e., flood and droughts and added that there are measures which are taken in case of agriculture and livestock but in case of fisheries there is a need to have sector specific measures. Dr. Bibha Chetia, Incharge, FRC explained the flood coping strategies with reference to North Eastern states. Dr. P.P. Srivastava, Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer, NEH region, ICAR-CIFE and Dr. Rupam Sharma, Principal Scientist presented the activities undertaken by ICAR-CIFE specially for NEH region.

Dr. G.N. Hazarika, Director of Research (Agri), AAU, Jorhat in his valedictory address on 12.3.16 thanked ICAR-CIFE for conducting such a programme and urged the participants that to work in this field and communicate the work done with each other to build strong networks.

Dr. Arpita Sharma, Principal Scientist, CIFE, Mumbai coordinated the workshop and provided knowledge on topics like cross cutting issues affecting vulnerability, importance of building back better, damage need assessment, value chain, livelihood and ecosystem approaches to be used in emergency response etc. through participatory teaching methods like group exercises, case studies, role plays and interactions to the workshop participants.

Participants appreciated efforts of ICAR-CIFE for organizing this workshop from which they have increased awareness about the vulnerability of the sector, current frameworks for response and the need to be better prepared. Judging from the participants' feedback the workshop was successful in achieving workshop objectives.

### **GLIMPSES of PROGRAMME**



Dignitaries and Participants of the Workshop



Valedictory Programme