

Group based Fish Feed Production

Sundarban, the vulnerable deltaic zone of India is the observer of various types of climatic hazards like cyclone, flood etc. The Kolkata based non-profit organization, DRCSC is trying to reduce the vulnerability and finding out livelihood opportunities to combat the rising climate risks through different interventions under Sundarban Climate Adaptation project. Organic fish feed production is such a kind of livelihood option. On the other hand, the project area is a water-logged area. Every household of this area has one or more than one pond. The local people are also very much fond of eating fish. So, they produce fish in their pond and buy fish feed from market or use local food. The project has a scope of generating group based livelihood option for the empowerment of the group.



All the members of Nibedita Mahila Dal (a Mutual Cooperation Group-MCG formed by DRCSC) of Ramganga village, Patharpratima Block, South 24 Parganas District of West Bengal has chosen the fish feed production as their livelihood option due to its high demand. They took training for it and now they are preparing fish feed collectively with Maize, Mustard cake, Nut cake, Rice and Agrimin Forte (a calcium tonic). They have started their journey during December, 2018.

During the initial stage, the local people have no faith on their product as the members were unable to packet and label it. But, the people have gained their faith after using it and now it has a high demand among them.



It is worthy to mention that due to erratic nature of the climate, pond based ecosystem gets hampered and this external support of organic feed for fish not only gives good nutritious food for fishes but it gives good income for the group-members. The women group have prepared 11 Quintal fish feed till date. Total selling cost is Rs 39,805/-. Their net profit is Rs 5500/-. They want to carry on this activity in the coming days also.

They have also prepared medicated fish feed with Turmeric, Neem leaves, Garlic and Basil Leaves. Only 5 kg medicated fish feed was prepared which has also been sold in the rate of the common fish feed.