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EMPOWERED WOMEN

CASE STUDIES FROM THE COASTAL ZONE



September 2021

PREFACE

The Blue Gold Program (BGP) is a poverty reduction and economic development program in the coastal region of Bangladesh with a focus on water management and agriculture. Implemented between 2012 and 2021, the program was funded by the governments of Bangladesh and the Netherlands and implemented by the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) and the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE). The Blue Gold Program was established in 2012 as a pilot project in the districts of Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka and Chittagong and expanded to 10 districts nationwide in 2015.

The Blue Gold Program has achieved significant results in improving the livelihoods of coastal farmers and increasing their resilience to climate change. The program has focused on improving water management, increasing agricultural productivity, and improving the income and livelihoods of coastal farmers. The program has also focused on improving the capacity of coastal farmers to manage their own resources and to participate in decision-making processes.

The Blue Gold Program has achieved the following results:

- Increased agricultural productivity and income of coastal farmers.
- Improved water management and reduced water scarcity.
- Increased resilience of coastal farmers to climate change.
- Improved capacity of coastal farmers to manage their own resources and to participate in decision-making processes.

The Blue Gold Program has been a successful example of how to improve the livelihoods of coastal farmers and increase their resilience to climate change. The program has provided a model for how to implement a poverty reduction and economic development program in the coastal region of Bangladesh.

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September 2021

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Empowered Women: Case Studies from the Coastal Zones

gender

Refers to socially constructed and therefore learned roles and responsibilities ascribed to men and women, girls and boys based on their sex. Gender is not the same as sex, the physical and biological attributes that make someone female, male or both. Gender comprises the expectations, roles, attitudes and behaviours of women and men. Gender roles change over time and vary within and between cultures, societies and classes.

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Blue Gold Program Wiki

The wiki version of the Lessons Learnt Report of the Blue Gold program, documents the experiences of a technical assistance (TA) team working in a development project implemented by the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) and the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) over an eight+ year period from March 2013 to December 2021. The wiki lessons learnt report (LLR) is intended to complement the BWDB and DAE project completion reports (PCRs), with the aim of recording lessons learnt for use in the design and implementation of future interventions in the coastal zone.

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