



Initiative to promote small scale fish farming in

through Asia, the East.

integrated fish farming presents

the first working day was given over

to group discussions and the development of

recommendations for national plans.

Resources a success

It was clear from the presented

papers and discussions that the

successful introduction of small-

scale farming can generally be

linked to the availability of

essential resources. Experienced

extension workers,

demonstration facilities and

established schemes for the

supply of fry are basic

requirements.

Examples of successful

adoption in Bangladesh,

presented by Dr Mohammed



Dr Abdel Fawaz El Gamel, senior lecturer at the World Fish Centre in Cairo was a keynote speaker and resource person at the Union workshop

Ahmed Magid, Director General of the Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, clearly illustrated these resources, with considerable international and government assistance. There are now some 5 million families involved in small-scale aquaculture, supporting up to 25 million family members in rural communities.

Training and demonstration facilities are well established and there are 800 technicians supplying fry, mostly various carp species and catfish. Plans developed within the National Fisheries Policy of 1990 have encouraged entrepreneurship and provided the necessary infrastructure and human resources.

Programmes are largely aimed

at the landless poor, unemployed men and women and small, marginal farmers. The benefits are healthier diets and improved family income and living standards.

Exchanges between rural development specialists representing Asian and African countries are of particular value in the context of small scale aquaculture.

In many parts of southern and southeast Asia, fish and rice are dietary staples and aquaculture on all scales is long established. This cultural and economic environment helps promote the adoption of small-scale farming.

With the notable exception of Egypt, and to a lesser extent Zambia, Nigeria and Malawi there are far fewer examples from

Africa than from Asia of farms adopting small-scale fish farming practices. This presents an ongoing challenge to government and development organisations. Exchanging ideas and experiences through training focused on fish farming with rural development activities is certainly one positive way

Afro-Asian Rural Development Association

The mission of AARDO is to help strengthen national networks with regard to rural development. This is achieved through programmes of both resource development and up of pilot projects, collaboration with international

and regional organisations, strengthening of centres of excellence and dissemination of information. AARDO will follow the Oryz work up with a number of technical working sets in Malaysia, dealing freshwater prawn and marine shrimp fishery management and freshwater aquaculture.

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Fresh farmed carp supplies an early morning market in Laos. Fish supplies from small-scale farming requires