GOAL 14 : LIFE BELOW WATER

KERALA

1. **ECO-LABELLING INITIATIVES -**

Eco-labelling initiatives are being promoted for sustainably managing marine fisheries by harnessing consumer power to bring about positive change in the fisheries sector. After the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) granted certification to Ashtamudi short neck clam fishery in Kerala, 10 types of fisheries (blue swimming crab, shrimp, red ring shrimp, squid, whelk, flower shrimp, cuttlefish, lobster, skipjack tuna and Japanese threadfin bream) are being targeted for getting the MSC certification.

ANDHRA PRADESH

2. **POLICY INTERVENTION FOR FISHERIES** - (CLOSELY TIES IN WITH ***SDG 2***)

The state government identified its fisheries sector as one of the growth engines for achieving double digit inclusive growth. The sector contributes to 5.4% of the GDP and provides employment opportunities to nearly 14.5 lakh. The government announced the Andhra Pradesh Fisheries Policy 2015 envisaging to achieve 42 lakh tonnes of fish and prawn production with GVA of ₹80,000 crores by 2020, duly providing fiscal incentives in fisheries and aquaculture. The Visakhapatnam Regional Centre of the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute undertakes research on areas such as impact of climate change on marine fisheries, development of Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs), pollution and litter in coastal and marine ecosystems and their impact etc.

All freshwater ponds have been regularized, duly addressing all the environmental issues by the District Level Committees. The registration of aquaculture farms has been taken through Meeseva (online process) in a transparent manner with a time bound schedule in West Godavari and Krishna Districts. Remote sensing based resources survey was conducted with AP Space Application Center (APSAC), which identified 0.64 lakh hectares of additional potential area for expansion of the aquaculture in the state in 2015. Accordingly, the Government has permitted taking up aquaculture in DKT/ Assigned Government lands and provided fiscal incentives for promotion of aquaculture under AP Fisheries Policy 2015. Task force teams were constituted with

convergence and extending effective services to aqua farmers through IFFCO – Kissan Mobile Advisories and toll free services for disease surveillance and monitoring in shrimp farming.

- To ensure the conservation of marine fishery resources, the government imposed a ban period of 61 days and strictly implemented it by providing relief at the rate of INR 4000 per affected fisherman family through Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT).
- For Reservoir Fisheries Development, the stocking of 80-100 mm size advanced fingerlings at the rate of INR 2000 has been taken up in all potential reservoirs to enhance productivity- the process is monitored through a web-enabled network.
- Captive seed nurseries are promoted at reservoirs and perennial tanks for rearing fry to fingerling size to ensure the supply of quality seed, high survival rate and additional income to the fishing community.

3. **WATER QUALITY MONITORING AND COASTAL OCEAN MONITORING AND PREDICTION SYSTEM (COMAPS)** -

Andhra Pradesh, on its eastern side, has about 960 km of sea-coast of Bay of Bengal which is put to use for different activities. Three major rivers, Godavari, Krishna, and Pennar join the coast of Bay of Bengal. Water quality of these major rivers directly impacts the quality of coastal waters of the state. Under the National Water Monitoring Program, in view of threat due to discharges such as sewage from urban areas, agriculture run-off, and industrial effluents are the potential threats to the water quality of the coastal waters, the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board carries out monitoring of river water quality on a monthly basis at 18 stations along their path and the coastal waters of Bay of Bengal on a monthly basis at 39 points under COMAPS.

Apart from aforementioned best practices, Andhra Pradesh's SDG Vision Document "ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 2030", details further major policies and strategies to achieve benchmarks for SDG 14 - LIFE BELOW WATER, provided as follows-

- *Announcement of Port Policy and Maritime board bill*
- *Strengthening Integrated Coastal Zone Management Program (ICZMP)*
- *Restoration of Marine ecosystem by mangroves plantation*
- *National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystem*
- *Sagarmala Project*

KARNATAKA

As per the Karnataka's SDG Vision Document, detailing the state's strategy to achieve benchmarks for SDG 14 - LIFE BELOW WATER, the state has focused on the following approaches-

- Implementation of government-implemented management measures, including the 61 days fish ban, Creation of awareness about government rules and their application with the cooperation of fishers
- Strengthening organizations and cooperatives of fishers, and proper coordination and discussion of problems of all the associations on one platform to compel the government to meet their demands
- Identification of changes in pollution sensitive aquatic animals and initiation of measures to improve the ambient coastal water quality
- Ensuring zero discharge of industrial effluents and urban sewage, Strengthening CRZ and Coast Guard monitoring of pollution levels and sea-water quality.
- Increasing the protected areas, introducing No-Go Zones to rejuvenate areas with fish populations - fishing grounds with ecologically sensitive areas and threatened species should be protected from trawling and other fishing methods. All trawlers and other gears should be fitted with GPS.
- Uniform fishery management rules and regulations such as control on fishing intensity, eligibility for fuel subsidy; sustainable fishing practices, zoning regulations, closed seasons and areas etc.
- Compensation/insurance should be developed to provide relief for fishers for the loss and damage of assets and income/employment due to climate related factors.
- Regulation of expansion of capacity and species utilized by fish-meal plants which utilize the by-catch representing a large number of marine biodiversity species.
- Need for spatial planning of cage enterprise to minimize the adverse ecological-social impact of increasing density of mariculture cage farms in estuaries and coastal waters.
- Introduction of legal provisions in CRZ/Environment Act to increase access to small-scale fishers, supply of potable water, fresh water for hand washing and cleaning of auction halls, ETP and drainages inside the harbour.
- The government in consultations with fisher organizations and experts should identify the sustainable fishing practices and those who adopt such practices may enjoy the progressively higher subsidy, while discouraging unsustainable practices.

MAHARASHTRA

4. **SINDHUDURG MAINSTREAMING PROJECT** -

The project has invested heavily in a multi-pronged approach to improve the sustainability of fisheries, protect the rights of access of artisanal fishers, act against illegal fishing activities, and build sectoral partnerships to diversify and improve the livelihoods of coastal communities. The Departments of Forestry and Fisheries work with the fishing communities to adopt better sustainable practices and fishing gear that reduce bycatch, keep off-takes within safe ecological limits, and protect sensitive habitats that are crucial for breeding successes of threatened species. It aims to reduce fishing pressure by creating new opportunities for sustainable livelihoods, especially for women and youth. These include value-addition to fisheries operations, production activities such as small-scale farming of mangrove crabs and oysters, and a range of activities linked to responsible ecotourism.

GUJARAT

5. **UPGRADATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FOR SHIP RECYCLING IN ALANGAND SOSIYA** -

Implemented by the state's Maritime Board to conserve marine life, the project aims to promote environmentally sound and safe ship recycling in Alang and Sosiya areas in Gujarat, by upgrading ship recycling related facilities and introducing preventive measures which comply with international conventions, thereby contributing to environmental conservation and sustainable development of the industry in the state. The project adopts ways to recycle ship disposals appropriately.

TELANGANA

As per Telangana's SDG Implementation Document 2018, the state's strategy to achieve benchmarks for SDG 14 - LIFE BELOW WATER, the state has focused on the following major policies and strategies-

- Promotion of Fish and Prawn Production
- Strengthening Dry Port since the state has no coastal line
- Development of In-land fisheries.

TRIPURA

Although the state does not have a sea coast, as per the Draft Vision 2030 document, detailing Tripura's 7 year strategy to conserve and sustainably use oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, the state has focused on the following-

- Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDA) will be strengthened
- Investment in river water management
- Maintaining the culturable water area

- Implementation of the National program for Fish Seed Development in all districts
- Adoption of modern aqua technology
- Preservation of aquatic plants species

ODISHA

As per Odisha's SDG Indicator Framework Document, some state-sponsored schemes implemented to achieve benchmarks for SDG 14 - LIFE BELOW WATER include -

- Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project
- Livelihood Support to Marine Fishermen, and Welfare of fishermen
- Development and promotion of Marine Fisheries, Intensive Aquaculture & Inland Fisheries
- Reservoir Fisheries Development
- Provision of Fisheries Machineries / Equipments
- Implementation of Fishery Policy
- Development of Brackish Water Aquaculture
- Matsyajibi Unnayana Yojana (MUY)

UTTAR PRADESH

6. **GANGA ACTION PLAN AND YAMUNA ACTION PLAN** -

The project addresses the abatement of severe pollution of the Ganga and Yamuna Rivers with the objective to improve water quality in River Ganga and Yamuna by augmenting sewage treatment system capacity with construction and rehabilitation of the sewerage system and by improving pro-poor component (construction of community toilets, Dhobighat etc.) in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. The project aimed at developing 39 treatment plants (2000 MLD).