

ARDQIP rated as a highly successful.

Aquatic Resource Development and Quality Improvement Project (ARDQIP), which was funded by the Asian Development Bank and the government of Sri Lanka and implemented under the Ministry of Fisheries & Aquatic Resource Development has received a very high rating (highly successful) at the Project Completion Review Mission conducted by the Asian Development Bank recently. Main implementing Agency for the Project was National Aquaculture Development Authority (NAQDA) of Sri Lanka. This 30 Million US Dollar project aimed at promoting market driven Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture development, specially in rural areas to enhance food security and reduce poverty. This seven year project was closed in September 2010.

ARDQIP activities such as Rehabilitation/Expansion of NAQDA's fish Breeding Centres, Establishment of community based mini-nurseries, and promoting private sector involvement in fish seed production has resulted in increasing fish fingerling output to 47 million fish fingerlings (2010) from 3 million (2003). Annual Inland fish production has increased from 30,000 tons in 2002 to 52400 tons in 2010 mainly due to project interventions such as increased stocking of fish fingerlings, scientific management of fisheries in reservoirs and culture based fisheries development.

ARDQIP strengthened NAQDA through the provision of much needed infrastructure and through Human Resource Development. Infrastructure provided to NAQDA includes (i) Expansion of pond space/hatcheries at Aquaculture Development Centres (ii) Head office building at Battaramulla,. (iii) National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Training Institute (NIFATI) at Kalawewa. (iv) Shrimp Hatchery Complex at Battuluoya (v) Buildings for the Regional Aquaculture Extension Offices at Ampara, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Polonnaruwa and Moneragala (vi) Shrimp health management and Brackish water Laboratory at Baththuluoya.

Technical staffs as well as non-technical staff of NAQDA were provided with training in Sri Lanka and abroad under the Capacity Development Programme of NAQDA. Around 60 technical personnel from NAQDA received training abroad under the project.

ARDQIP was responsible for the establishment of the Centre for Aquatic Animal Disease Diagnosis and Research Centre (CADDAR) at the University of Peradeniya. This centre now considered as the centre of excellence in respect of fish health management. ARDQIP supported introduction of new technologies and adaptive research programmes such as Artemia Farming and Processing; Tilapia cage culture; seed production methods for CBO adoption; Genetic improvement of cultured fish, Cryopreservation of fish gametes.

ARDQIP provided training for more than 5000 fish farmers/inland fishers with the aim of capacity building. Around 40 fishers/farmers received training abroad under the project.

Establishment of the New Central Fish Market complex at Peliyagoda was entrusted to the Project at a later stage and ARDQIP was able to complete construction in 18 months.

Project Completion review Mission of the ADB assessed the Project based on extent of achieving objectives, outputs achieved against the performance targets, relevance, effectiveness in achieving outcome, efficiency in achieving outcome and outputs, sustainability and Impact. Project overall has been rated as highly successful.

Ministry is very proud of this achievement as the Executive Agency for the Project. We congratulate the Project director and Staff of ARDQIP and staff of NAQDA for the excellent work.



Shrimp Hatchery Complex at Battuluoya



Aquatic Animal Disease Diagnosis and Research Centre (CADDAR) at the University of Peradeniya

