

Economy

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Aquaculture-production

Platform to develop for peri-urban aquatic production formed

Dhaka, Nov 23 (BDNEWS) – A National platform was formed Wednesday by different stakeholders of Peri-Urban Aquatic Production to develop the sustainable aquaculture production in the country.

The Bangladesh Fisheries Research Forum (BFRF) was the coordinator of the national platform, which also included the representatives of the different universities of Bangladesh, Fishery Department, Environment Ministry, leading NGOs and Department of Agriculture extension, RAJUK and others.

President of BFRF Prof. M Abdul Wahab said this platform was formed for sustainable eco-friendly aquatic production from peri-urban and urban water bodies of Bangladesh to ensure food, nutrition and employment of the poor.

Other purposes of the platform include development of network among stakeholders nationally and internationally, he added.

William Leschen of the Stirling University, UK, told BDNEWS, "We have already set up a platform for information exchange and mutual support in this field in four South East Asian countries. Now we have successfully set up a platform in Bangladesh."

"We want to have links with kolkata and Bangladesh for broader platform like Bengal Platform for information exchange, sharing the Knowledge and mutual support in this field in South Asia, he said.

Information Coordinator of AFGRP-DFID Anton Immink said three of the four cities of South East Asian countries have already developed successfully the wastewater- fed aquaculture production system.

A number of papers of the project in different South East Asian countries were presented by the experts at the two-day workshop on "Peri-Urban Aquatic Production and Improvement of the Urban Poor in South-East Asia".

The workshop was jointly organised by the Bangladesh Fisheries Research Forum (BFRF), Aquaculture & Fish Genetics Research Forum (AFGRP-DFID), Practical Action Bangladesh and the Production in Aquatic Pre-Urban Systems in the South East Asia (PAPUSSA) at Hotel Civic Inn. The two-day workshop concluded Wednesday.

EU provided financial support for the project in the last three years to develop a good urban aquaculture production. Aquaculture production was successfully developed in Bangkok of Thailand, Phnom Penh of Cambodia, Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi of Vietnam.

About three million people of the country are directly engaged in aquaculture while 5.71 percent of its export earnings come from the fisheries sector.

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