

## GAF OR 06

### A study on gender mainstreaming and impact of self help groups in Indian marine fisheries sector

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**A** study was made on the impact of 750 selected 'Self Help Groups' (SHGs) in

gender mainstreaming in marine fisheries sector and assessed the level of performance and extent of empowerment through appropriate indices of measurement from SHGs of 25 different fishery based micro enterprises from 5 maritime states of India such as Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha. The gender analysis and economic feasibility analysis based on personal interview and focus group interaction meetings with members of SHGs were undertaken. The male and female counterparts of the families of respondents were separately interviewed to assess the gender mainstreaming impact in terms of equity and equality to access and control over the resources, participation profile, decision making, gender need analysis etc. Analysis of data was essentially done with descriptive statistics such as mean, frequency, percentages, chi-square etc. and there was no significant difference in the response of men and women counterparts in many of the activities of the enterprises, however, differential gender response was observed between the selected states. As practical extension part, organized 120 fisherfolk interaction meetings and imparted 45 Entrepreneurial Capacity Building (ECB) Training programmes for the SHGs on the identified micro enterprises by HRD intervention programmes. The major micro enterprises of the SHGs studied were cage culture, bivalve farming, fish aggregating devices, Chinese dip net, clam processing, fertifish, fish amino acid, fish drying, seaweed culture, aqua tourism, seafood kitchen, value addition, fish vending, fish marketing, ornamental fish, ready to eat and cook items, fish feed, aquaponics etc. The success case studies elucidated can be used as a model for promoting group action and as a practical manual for mobilizing SHGs in any key areas on a sustainable basis.