



CASE STUDY

Fish ponds in rice-field landscapes of Cambodia



The system of integration of fish ponds and refugees within the rice fields of Cambodia has grown in recent years, in part due to active community participation and policy support from the Government. The system has been shown to increase water retention in rice field ecosystems, benefiting both aquatic biodiversity and productivity on land and water. The improved management of the rice-fish system has helped Cambodian households better manage droughts and nutrition. Between 2012 and 2015 the system resulted in increases in fish capture of 11%, fresh fish consumption of 14%, quantities of fish processed by 34%, and family income of 22%. From 2016 to 2021, the wider adoption of these integrated systems has led to 150,000 more people eating more fish, 120,000 more people having better access to water, and communities being better able to maintain fish habitat and identify and mitigate climate change vulnerabilities.

References/Source:

Dubois M, Akester M, Ou P, Freed S, Leemans K, Mam K, De Silva S, Smith B, Teoh SJ, Aung HM et al. 2021. Integrated rice and fish systems. Penang, Malaysia: CGIAR Research Program on Fish Agri-Food Systems. Program Brief: FISH-2021-14.