

Draft slide presentation on the report

Unraveling the impacts of the fishing ban at the Naf River



March, 2024

3/10/2024



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Objectives Of the Study

1. Unraveling the impacts and challenges faced by the fishing community due to fishing ban at the Naf river in Tekanf
2. Exploring solutions and outlining necessary initiatives.

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Methodology of the Study

Qualitative Data Collection:

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

- 10 with Fishery Office, UP bodies and Fishing association leaders.

5 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

- Mixed group from fishing community

Quantitative Data Collection:

- Kobo data collection questionnaire
- 30 staff collected data from **496** fishermen following sampling method

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Study Questions

For qualitative data, key questions are

1. What are the problems that fishing communities are facing after the fishing ban in the Naf River?
2. What solutions do you want in place to solve those problems?

For quantitative data, key question categories are

1. Overall scenario of getting a fishing card, livelihood, education status, relief support from organizations and government, etc.

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Geographical Location Covered

Upazila Name	Union Name	Ward No
Teknaf	Sadar	9,8
	Municipality	Full
	Sabrang	4,5,6,9
	Hnilla	Full
	Whykong	Full

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Limitations

1. We could not enumerate the total fishing households (HHs).
2. Due to national election we faced constrain to communicate with BGB (Bangladesh Border Guard) and District Administration on this matter

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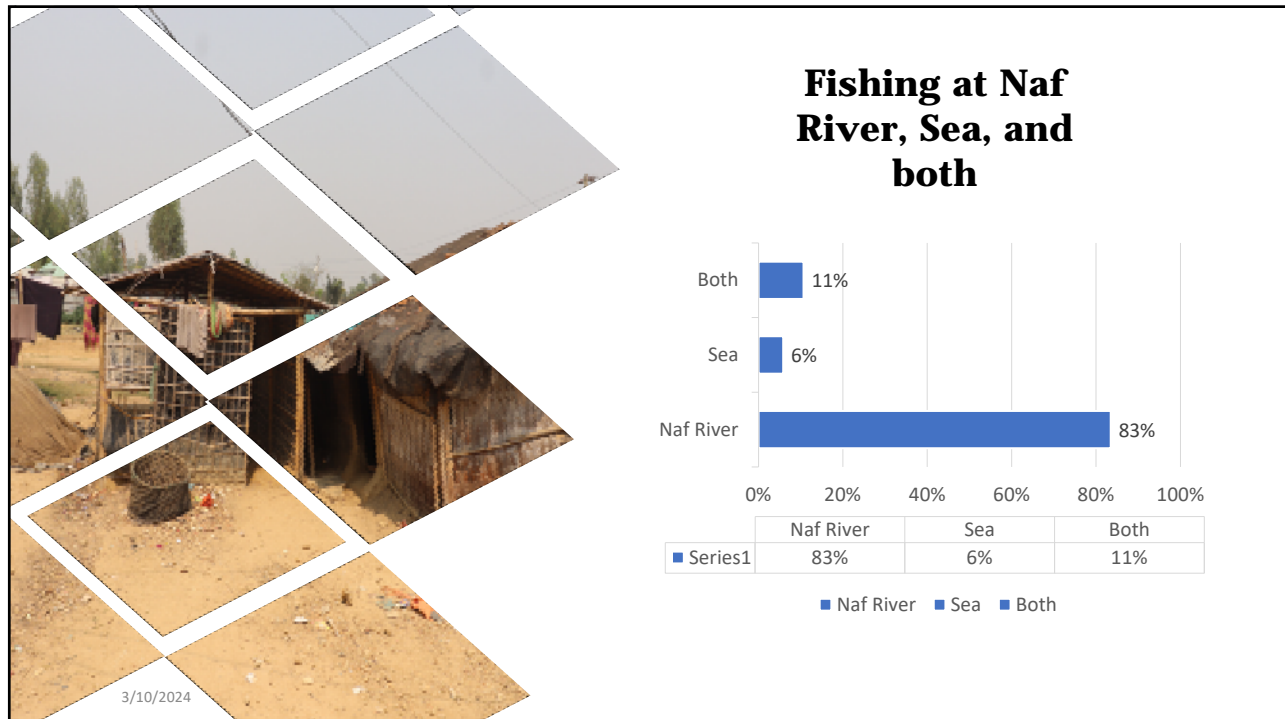
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Fishermen Solely Depend on the Naf River

3000

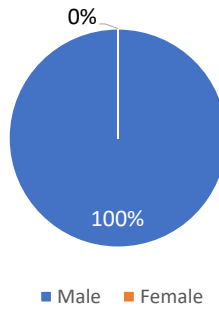
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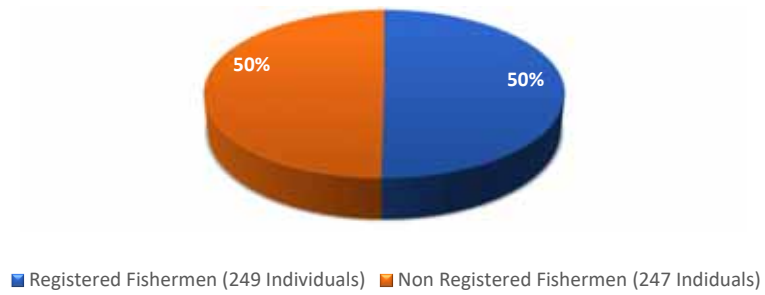
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Male-Female Ratio in Fishing

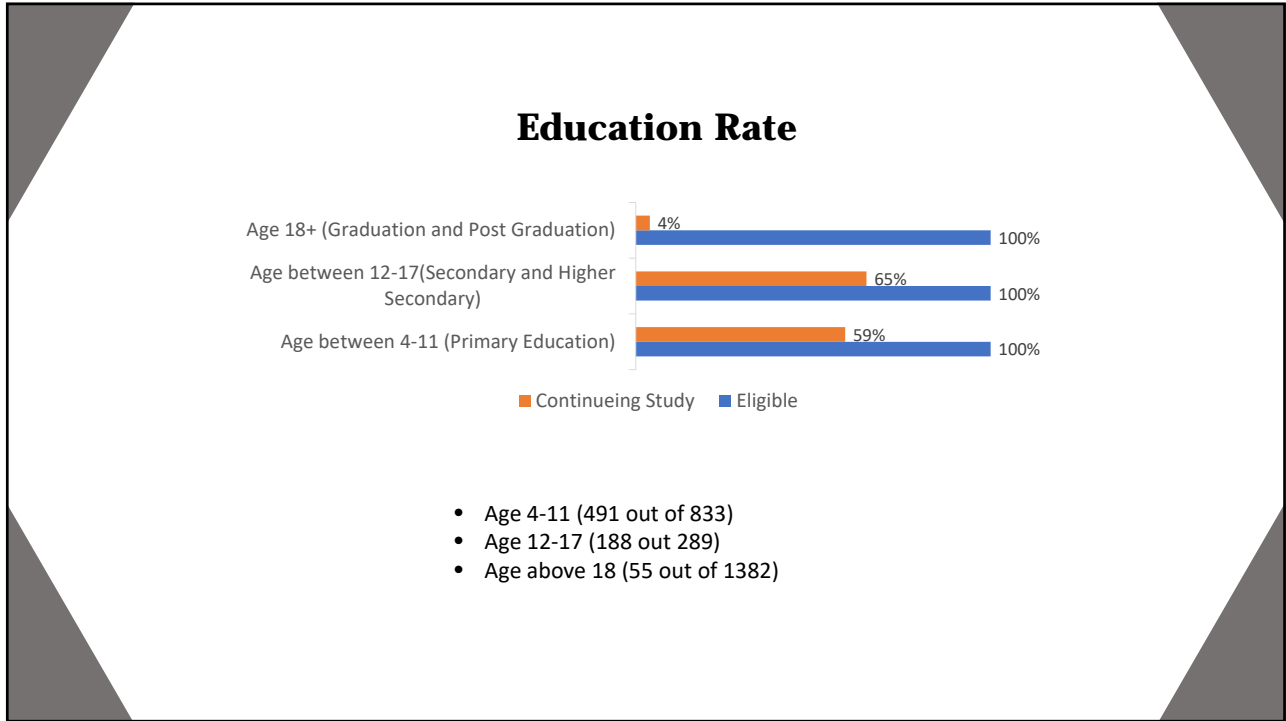


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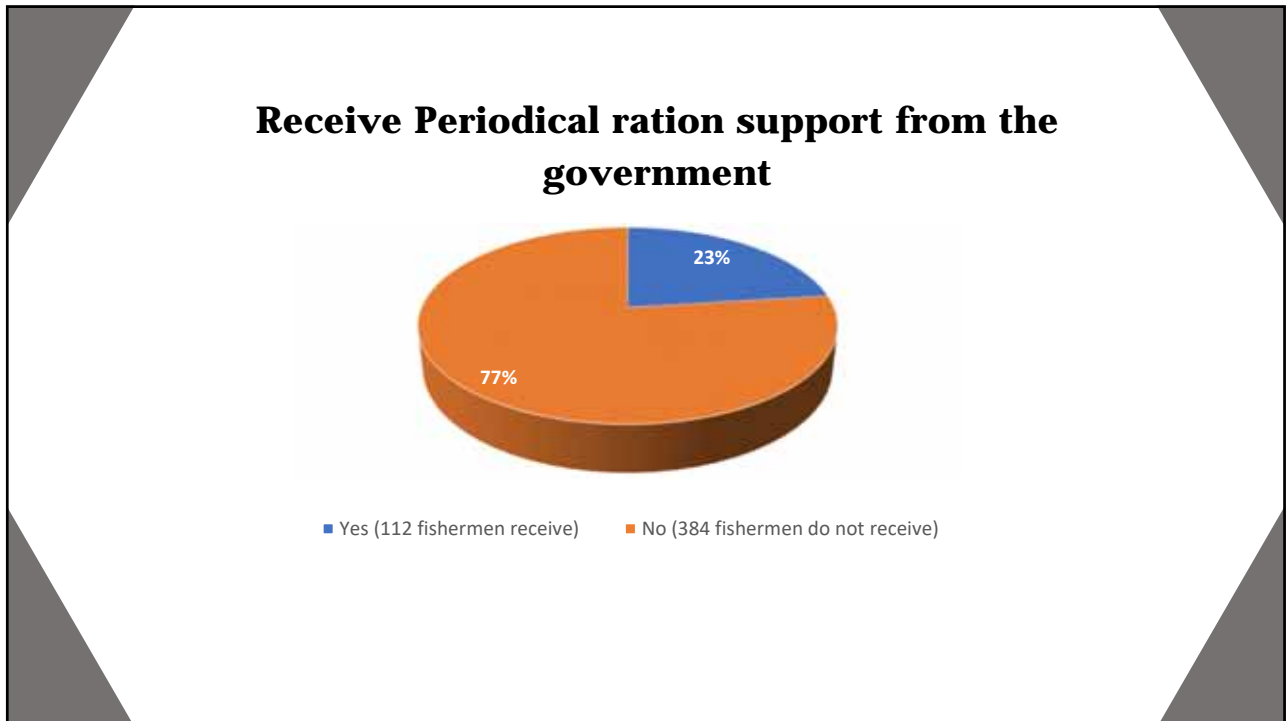
Registered and Non-Registered Fishermen



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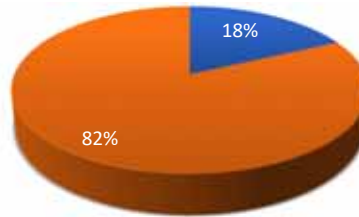


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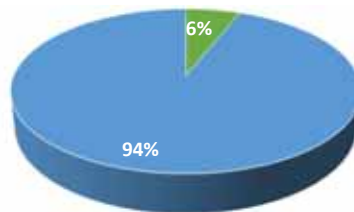
Support receive from NGOs



- Yes (91 fishermen received support from NGO)
- No (405 fishermen did not received support from NGOs)

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Early Marriage Rate



- Yes (29 individuals)
- No (467 individuals)

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Fishing ban causes a serious impact on the livelihood of the fishermen:

- The ban, has significantly changed the livelihood landscape for 496 interviewed fishermen.
- 349 individuals have turned to day labor to secure earnings, resulting in a change in living standards.
- Competing with Rohingya laborers for work opportunities
- Others adopted professions are driving auto rickshaws, farming, starting small enterprises, and small-scale fishing in ridges.
- Facing serious hardship to adapt alternative occupations.

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Fishing ban causes a serious impact on the livelihood of the fishermen:

- 90% of interviewed fishermen have experienced a substantial decline in income ranging from 50-60% since the ban.
- Many fishermen are taking loans to sustain their livelihoods, leading to significant struggles with repayment.
- Selling household assets for survival has become a common practice among fishermen.
- The opportunity to cut wood and farm in forest land is no longer available due to Rohingya camps.
- Fishing equipment, including damaged boats and rotten nets, symbolizes financial loss and faded lives for these communities.

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Contradictory Issues related to fishing at the Naf River

- Fishermen urges that, the effectiveness of the fishing ban is not served
- The ban has resulted in a significant loss of livelihoods 3000 fishermen
- The presence of Rohingya robbers alarmingly impacted the fishermen
- Fishermen being forced to provide ransom to Rohingya robbers or face brutal torture.



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Negative coping mechanism for surviving

- Fishermen left families and married Rohingya women in camps.
- Families displaced selling their residences.
- Risking life to go to Malaysia.
- Becoming the victim of human trafficking causing deaths and providing ransom



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Fishing ID and Ration Support from the Government

- 400-500 fishermen at the Naf River still lack IDs (Fishing Identification Card).
- Respondents' experiences of providing bribes for obtaining IDs.
- Deprived of the rightful rations despite possessing valid IDs.



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Fishing ID and Ration Support from the Government

- 77% of respondents receive no government ration support.
- Disagreement in the fishing community, with two different associations.
- Responders express frustration as they receive no support from the government if any fishermen die during fishing.

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Recommendation

- Address these prevailing issues and bring solutions
- Withdraw the fishing ban.
- Fix a timebound for fishing, and select an area for fishing.
- If necessary, they will deposit their IDs to the responsible authority while going to fish.
- Identify the most vulnerable fishing families and provide them with financial support.
- Create alternative livelihood opportunities.
- Provide livelihood opportunities to women-headed fishing families.

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Recommendation

- Ensure government ration support for all fishermen.
- Identify fake fishermen and seize their IDs.
- Bring them under NGO support.
- Provide loan facilities without interest.
- Provide skill development and technical training, especially for women.
- Provide them boat so that they can fish at sea.
- Strengthen the security measures at the Naf River.



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