

Table S1. Summary of study areas and methodological tools utilized in the study.

District	Study Sites			Methods and sample size*		
	Sub-district	Villages	Major rivers	II	KII	FGD
Barguna	Amtali	Locha, Arpangashia, Angulkata, Tarikata and Sobujbag	Payra	20	6	3
Bhola	Char Fasson	Bodorpur, Mohajonpur, Foridabad, Betua and Char Newton	Meghna	20	6	6
	Daulatkhan	Saidpur, Choukighat, Chorkhalifa Chorpata and Char Borolanchi	Meghna	20	6	4
Chandpur	Haimchar	Lamchor, Char koralia, Majorchar, Mollakandi and Kestopur	Meghna	20	7	5
Patuakhali	Kalapara	Fashipara, Fotapur, Rahmatpur, Nijampur and Kaliapur	Andarmanik	20	6	4
Barisal	Hizla	Uttar Bausia, Dakkhin Bausia, Purbo Palpara, Poshchim Palpara and Tumchar	Meghna	20	5	3
Total	6	30		120	36	25

*II: Individual interview; FGD: Focus group discussions; KII: Key informant interviews.

Questionnaire S1: Questionnaire for Fishers

Part I: Demographic Information of the Respondents

- 1.1 Name of respondent:
- 1.2 Father's name:
- 1.3 Mother's name:
- 1.4 Address: Village: Union:
Upazila: District:
- 1.5 Mobile no:
- 1.6 Age (year)
- 1.7 Sex: Male ☐ Female ☐
- 1.8 Marital status:
- 1.9 Educational status:
- 1.10 Occupation: Primary:
Secondary:
- 1.11 Household members: Male: Female:
- 1.12 Monthly income (BDT):
- 1.13 Number of working day per month (Day):
- 1.14 Household building materials:
- 1.14.1 Wall:
- 1.14.2 Floor:
- 1.14.3 Rooftop:

Part II: Knowledge on fisheries resources and ecosystems

- 2.1 What resources/ecosystem(s) fish are coming in your fishing area?
.....
- 2.2 What is the name of river and location in your fishing area (using Map of the area)?
.....
- 2.3 Write down the fish which are currently available¹? (put × where appropriate)

SL	Name of species	High	Medium	Less

¹ Abundant - supply of fish is available throughout the year

2. 4 What types of fish were available in earlier days (10-20 years) and why?

SL	Name of species	Why it is?
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

2.5 What are the different stages of fish commonly caught in your fishing area?

SL	Species	Juvenile	Adult	Spent
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

2.6 Gear used, species caught and what are the effects on ecosystem

SL	Name of gear	Species caught	Effect on the Ecosystem
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

2.7 List top ten important species in your fishing area

SL	Name of species	Why important
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

2.8 In which season the fishes are available, more available and less available?

[illegible]

2.10 In which location of the river the fishes are found? (priority species, using Map)

SL	Species	Features			Remarks if any
		Location with boundary (km)	Why use* (B/F/N)	Life stage** J//A/B	
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

**J=Juvenile, A=Adult, B=Brood; *B=breeding, N=nursery, F=feeding ground

3 Abundance of major fishes in relation to micro habitats

SL	Features	Types of Fishes Available	Remarks
1	Stiff slope		
2	Gentle slope		
3	Scour		
4	River Trench		
5	Char		
7	Erosion of dike		

4. Do you think the fish habitat is changing? Yes/No. If Yes then why?

5. Do you observed any change in ecosystem? Yes/No. If Yes then what are the changes and why?

6. What are the factors or drivers that regulate and/or negatively affect the ecosystem?

7. Do you have any suggestions for better management of the ecosystem in the Meghna River Basin?