

## Project Update: September 2017

July- August 2017

Exposure visit to fishery department, social fencing of golden Mahasheer fish's habitat and baseline survey were major activities of last two months. Three days exposure visit (3rd to 5th August 2017) of 11 local people to the coldwater fisheries research centre, Bhimtal and Pantnagar were done. The feedback of participants were motivating:

"It was a great experience; it was the first time for me to visit any scientific research center. I realized that our government and scientists are making a great effort to conserve freshwater fishes and their habitat; we must help them for the cause".

Participant: Surendra Singh Village: Gingira

"I want to thanks, Mr. Shankar Datt to give me a chance to visit the institute. I was afraid to start fishery, I thought, it was a very difficult job and demand huge resource and technical expertise. After the exposure visit, I am confident to start my fishery activities".

Participant: Harish Chandra Village: Nagtale

Secondly, seven important sites of the species habitat were socially protected. Rules and regulations were decided with local people to socially fence the areas. Students and local youth were trained to implement the activities effectively.

Furthermore, a participatory baseline survey was done in a 20 km area of the Ramganga River. Social and ecology parameters were studied and recorded. Focus group discussions, participatory learning and action and participatory ecosystem study were the tools to do the survey. Finding of the study would be published in a scientific journal.



Left: Participants during Exposure visit to fishery department. Right: Volunteers during social fencing exercise.



Left: Ecosystem study during baseline survey. Right: Students and local youth during social fencing.

