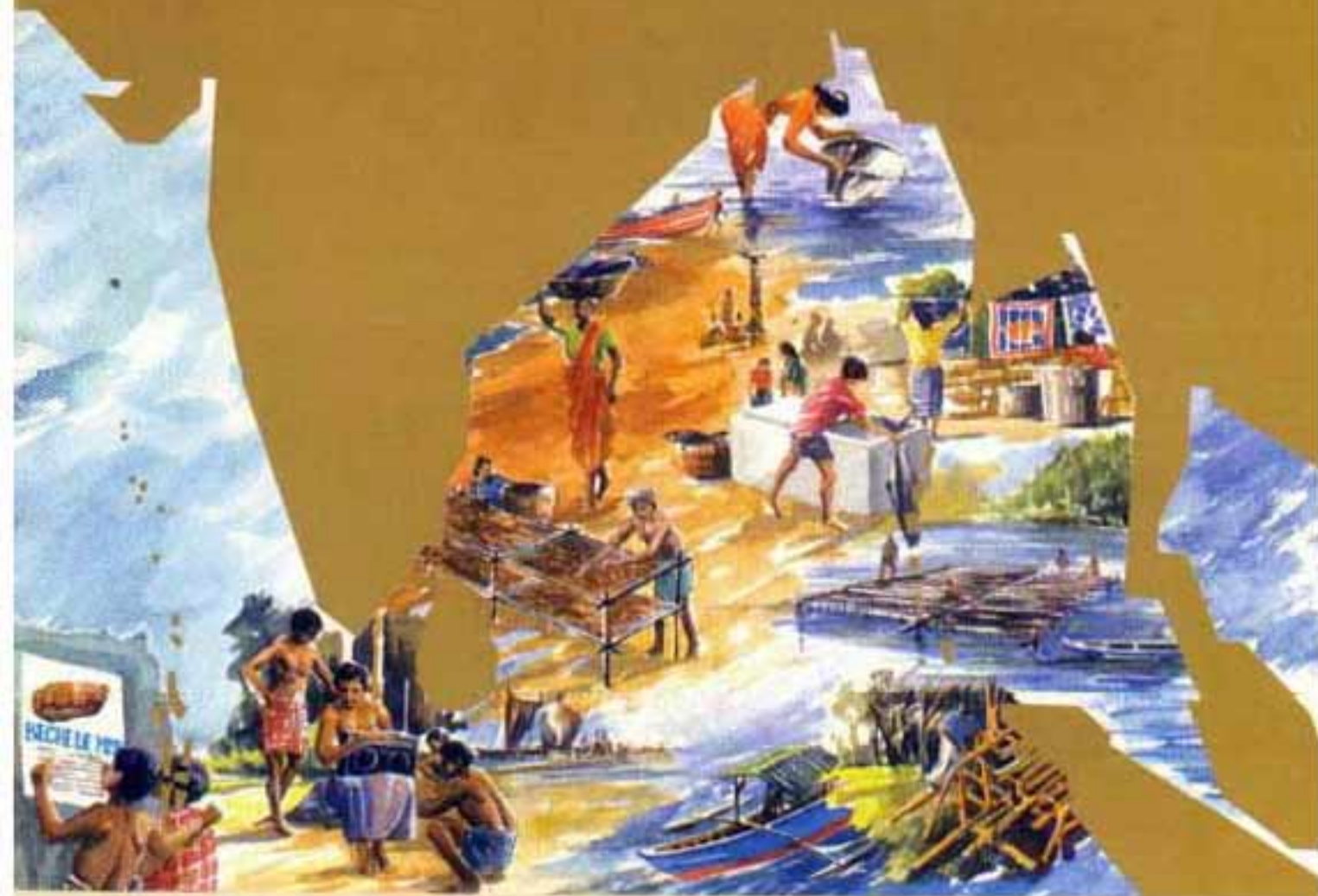


BOBP/WP/84



Flyingfish Fishing on the Coromandel Coast



BAY OF BENGAL PROGRAMME
Small-Scale Fisherfolk Communities

BOBP/WP/84
GCP/RAS/1 18/MUL

Pinyingfish Fishing on the Coromandel Coast, 1988-1991

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BAY OF BENGAL PROGRAMME
Madras, India
1993

There are at least ten species of Flyingfish in the Bay of Bengal but they have not been intensively fished. In order to demonstrate new income-generating activities for small-scale fisherfolk, systematic fishing trials for Flyingfish were initiated by the Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP) in connection with the demonstration of a beachlanding craft being conducted in Thirumullaivasal, Tamil Nadu, India. The trials, between 1989 and 1991, introduced gillnetting, with or without lures and combined gear arrangements for Flyingfish capture to the local fishermen every year in the March-July Flyingfish seasons during this period.

In order to study the economic feasibility of continuing Flyingfish operations in the fishing villages of Tamil Nadu, a marketing survey was conducted in 1990 by the Bay of Bengal's Post-Harvest Fisheries Project, funded by the Overseas Development Administration (ODA), U.K.

This working paper details the trials and indicates that the daily earnings of the fishermen working on the beachlanding craft in this fishery compared favourably with the average earnings of fishermen employed in other fisheries during the same period. The marketing study revealed that there is a market for the fresh varieties of Flyingfish as well as for the dried fish.

The Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP) is a multi-agency regional fisheries programme which covers seven countries around the Bay of Bengal – Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The Programme plays a catalytic and consultative role : it develops, demonstrates and promotes new techniques, technologies or ideas to help improve the conditions of small-scale fisherfolk communities in member-countries. The BOBP is sponsored by the governments of Denmark, Sweden and the United Kingdom, by member-governments in the Bay of Bengal region and also by AGFUND (Arab Gulf Fund for United Nations Development Organizations) and UNDP (United Nations Development Programme). The main executing agency is the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations).

This document is a working paper and has not been cleared by the Governments concerned or the FAO.

January 1993

CONTENTS	<i>Page</i>
1. Introduction	
2. Traditional Flyingfish fisheries	2
3. Features of fishing trials	4
3.1 Fishing gear	6
3.2 Fishing operations	10
4. Results	13
4.1 Fishing effort	13
4.2 The fishing gear	14
5. Economic feasibility	15
Figures	
1. The FRP beachlanding craft IND-20 with Box Drive	iv
2. Coastal area of Tamil Nadu showing operational base and fishing area	4
3. Gillnet for large Flyingfish	7
4. Gillnet for small Flyingfish	8
5. Scoopnet for small Flyingfish	9
6. Arrangement of fishing gear for combined flying fish fishing operations	
APPENDIX	
I. Marketing of Flyingfish	19
Publications of Bay of Bengal Programme	21

Fig. 1. The FRP beaching craft IND-20 with box drive

