Examining Nutrition Impacts of Horticultural Innovations in Bangladesh

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Project Overview

- 9 communities in Southern Bangladesh are testing 3 innovative technologies:
  - CoolBot™ controlled cold rooms for storage of fish and horticultural crops
  - UC Davis Chimney Dryer for improved solar drying of fish and horticultural crops
  - Floating gardens for use on fish ponds to grow vegetables
- Improving horticulture, aquaculture productivity and value chains
- Households include producers who are not part of current or past USAID programs

Cold Room Establishment

- Construction and electricity connection take time
  - Alternative power source (solar with electricity?)
- Generator backup need
- Short-term storage more feasible for summer vegetables and fruit
- Project support dependency

UC Davis Chimney Dryer

- Size
  - Larger size for commercial use
- Weather
  - Not possible to dry during rainy season
  - Damage due to weather elements
- Food habits
  - Vegetable drying not very popular
  - No established market for dried vegetables (just fish, spices, pulses, fruits)

Floating Gardens

- Plant suitability was not known
- Pest and rodent issues
- Earlier production (seedlings)
- Organic production
  - Issues with pests
  - Farmers prefer consuming produce rather than selling it

Thank you!