Thematic Studies for ‘Gender in Aquaculture in Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam’

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GENDER ANALYSIS IN AQUACULTURE VALUE CHAIN

A CASE STUDY OF FISH POND FARMER TAKEO, KAMPONG SPEU, CAMBODIA
BACKGROUND

- Around **70%** of population engaged in agriculture.
- Rice - main product - **70%** of the arable land, however, it constitutes only **25%** of the agricultural GDP.
- Livestock & fisheries constitute **40%** of this GDP.
- Fisheries - income and livelihood to around **50%** of the population.
Fisheries total production is around 500,000t annually.

Inland capture fisheries production is around 350,000t annually.

It contributes 10-12% of the total production.

Aquaculture production has grown from 14,000t in 2002 to 74,000t in recent years.
Background...

- No accurate data on the number of households engaged in aquaculture.
- Assumingly, round **64%** of the total number of women in rural area engaged in this sector.
- A survey in 2013, most women are unpaid family workers.
- The Government policy and strategy aims to eliminate gender disparities in wage employment, specifically in agriculture, industry, and service sector.
- Further, the policy aims to improve livelihoods of rural communities, especially of poor women.
Rationale

• Number of studies validates the intense involvement of women in aquaculture
• Numbers of research on gender role, need and aspiration of women have been conducted in post-harvest and community fisheries.
• There have been limited studies on gender in aquaculture, specifically in the grow-out stage, which assumed that more women are involved.
Objective of the Study

• To map the gender roles in the selected aquaculture value chain

• To identify and analyze the roles and activities of women and men in the grow-out stage of the aquaculture; analyzing the gender dimensions

• Identify the gender issues, needs and opportunities in farm management and BMP.
SCOPE & LIMITATIONS

• The study is focused in the grow-out stage of small-scale aquaculture in Cambodia.
• The study is planned to be conducted in Takeo and Kampong Speu, where aquaculture is being intensified.
• Respondents is selected purposively.
• Results of this study do not necessarily represent the overall situation of aquaculture and gender in the country.
Bor Seth, Kampong Speu
Tram Kak, Takeo Province
METHODOLOGY

• Primary and secondary data
• Quantitative and qualitative data
• Primary data – employed 4 tools:
  – Face-to-face interviews (30 farmers/province)
  – Key Informant interviews (4 stakeholders/province)
  – FGD/province (10 stakeholders/FGD)
  – 2 Success stories (1/province)
• Desk Review of documents for secondary data
FINDINGS
Division of Labor

• Women are involved in the whole process of small-scale aquaculture.
• Women have more inputs (6 out of 10 activities) in small-scale aquaculture compared to men (2 out of 10 activities)
• Migration of men is one of the reasons that women has to take care feeding and daily care.
Access to Trainings/Loan

• The 19% attended training are all men. Women could not attend trainings because of their responsibilities in their household (i.e. taking care of their children and cooking food for their HH)

• Both husband and wife have the same access to credit and both of them have loans.
Issues in SSA

• Poor water quality
• Increasing temperature during the dry season
• Lack of water source
• Damaged pond and lost of fish during wet season (flood)
• Lack of technical knowledge and experience (aquaculture)
• Fish diseases, predators and pest
• Lack of inputs, low growth of stocks
• Difficulties in finding food
• Low income, sometimes just enough for food after long period of culture
Issues in Gender...

- Women have more inputs in SSA but lack of training.
- Women are more involved in SSA but less in decision making.
- Women are have more time spent in SSA but less compensated.
- SSA is additional activity and burden of women as they do almost all the tasks.
- Affected the time of women to seek and prepare daily food for their household/children.
Needs

- Better seeds, feeds and commercial pond
- Technical knowledge in management and daily care
- Technical knowledge on how to prevent diseases and predators
- Water source
- Expansion of ponds for economic scale
- Equal opportunities and compensation for both women and men
- Labour should be divided equally in both gender, men should consider loads of women
Opportunities

• Improve SSA could be a good source of income and food for the HH.
• Women accessibility of the area, lessen travel time in seeking food.
• Can reduce expenditure of the HH
• Can support the children to go to school
• Can support HH in case of emergencies
• Can be an additional skills for the women when trained and supported properly.
Women aspirations

- Food security for their household especially to their children.
- Source of income if properly manage and supported technically and financially.
- Feel inspired and motivated when they manage and produce income for the household.
- They can save and support their needs, i.e. social ceremonies and emergencies.
- Additional knowledge and skills once they received trainings and experience.
SUCCESS STORY OF A FISH FARMER BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT OF FEMALE FAMILY MEMBER IN KAMPONG SPEU PROVINCE
Brief of Background

- Ms. Chheung Ngim, 54 (a housewife and fish farmer)
- Mr. Ken Heng, 56 (a rice and fish farmer)
- 4 Children, 2 young grandchildren
Getting started of the Family

• 1998: dug 2 ponds and tried by themselves (failed)
• 1999: added 4 ponds (Prasak&Fia - gave seeds)
• 2000-2001: trained on technical pond preparation and spawning in HAPA (common carb) Prasak&FiA - 250$
• 02-03: expanded land & ponds to breed and spawn (also concrete tank breeding & spawning)
• 2004: training on breeding in Thailand (AIT project)
• 05-07: more ponds & continued breeding, spawning, stocking, nursing both seeds and breeders
• 2007: bought a tractor
• 2008: baca catfish spawning in Indonesia (Jica)
Growing up stage of the Family

- 2009: bought a pick-up car and study visit in VN (giant prawn stocking/culture)
- 10-11: expanded land & ponds - catfish breeding
- 11-12: more land, ponds & concrete tanks (frog breeding & nursing)
- 12-13: more land, ponds and continued breeding and stocking for market demand.
- 13-14: expanded and restored the big ponds to stock more for supplying at larger size of stock, local consumption as well as market demand.
Remarkable grow of the Family

- few Species - 7 species
- Inv: from 250$ - 4000$
- Inc: increasingly grow from 250$-5000$/y
- few ponds -24ponds/tanks (C: 3x4, S:8x10, L:30x40)
- Few thousands - more than 300,000 seeds
- Less than 1ha - 3ha farm
- Bigger land and house space
- Equipments, machines, tractor, vehicle...
- Send children to Universities
Women Involvement in the Hatchery Farm
Activities in Growth out stage

Involved in hatchery and grow-out stage

• Check & Mgt the pond (if any death fish, feed remains or not.
• Feeding of the fish
• Check and fix all the work in the hatchery farm
• Selling seeds of fish and frogs
• Control overall business activities in the hatchery farm (collecting, weighing, selling)
Activities in Growth out stage

• Prepare all the tools, materials for breeding
• Inject medicine for the fish to breed
• Prepare the net nest for seeds
• Pump water in the tanks (put seeds in the tank)
• Clean up the tools and the breeding areas
Issues in involving this Grow-out stage

- Lack of fund to expand the SSA
- Low production in the grow-out stage (lost, mortality, diseases, predators, and pesticide).
- Lack of labour around the village
- Over workload for a housewife farmer (exhausted)
The Need

- Fund for expanding SSA
- New water pumping machine
- Lack of labor in the village
- Hatchery and breeding tools
- Technical support to breed other species especially freshwater giant prawn
- Good source of water for breeding
- Breed other species with good price
The Opportunity

• Establish hatchery and pond to grow both breeders and seeds
• Developed technical skills
• Developed Network both government and NGOs
• Increasing demand of seeds and support of other fish farmers
• Extension officer for SSA
The Aspirations

• FiA recognized and certified as successful hatchery farmer in the commune in 2009.
• Received gold medal from the Minister of MAFF.
• Number of training certificates from FiA
• Certificate of training completion from Thailand, Vietnam, and Indonesia
• Source of food and income for the HH
• Increase of properties/assets
• Motivated from the recognition of people in the commune and in the province
Her success and failure

• Start in early 1998 but failed to produce.
• Received training from PRASAK organization.
• Did not stop and try to produce fingerlings.
• In 2000 start to produce fingerlings and grow it by themself.
• Slowly through daily activities and training from different providers, I perfect the breeding, spawning, nursing and grow-out.
General Conclusion

- SSA in Cambodia is semi-intensive or most of the time extensively implemented.
- Women are involved in almost all activities of SSA.
- Since SSA is HH activity, women are not fully compensated.
- Although women almost do all activities, they are not supported technically and financially.
- Although women are involved in all activities of SSA, they do not have equal decision with men.
- SSA has potential as source of food and income when properly supported.
- Government should develop a policy to be able to address issues and needs of the HH involved in SSA.
Recommendations

• Provide technical support to the HH especially women involved in SSA.
• Find right time to train women as they are busy with their other activities in the HH.
• Find a way that men and women will have equal responsibility in SSA activities
• Provide equal decision making in SSA especially women are fully involved in almost all activities
• Support women to have equal compensation and benefits from SSA
• Improve SSA to become an economic source of livelihood of the household.
• Develop Strategy and Action plan in promoting gender in the Aquaculture Development sector at the national and regional level
Thank You!