Gender issues in shrimp aquaculture

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By: Oxfam and partners
Identifying gender inequalities and possibilities for change in shrimp value chains in Indonesia and Vietnam
Oxfam’s activities in seafood

- Variety of projects and programmes in support of small-scale fisheries, especially in South East Asia: focus on Co-management of fisheries

- Policy advocacy and influencing: support to fisherfolks organisations and NGOs e.g. SEAFish for Justice network, KIARA (Indonesia), Tambuyog (Philipines), FACT (Cambodia), MCD & ICAFIS (Vietnam)

- Global influencing and advocacy: via various MSIs: Aquaculture Stewardship Council, GlobalGap, Aquacultural Feed Dialogues;

**FOCUS ON SOCIAL ISSUES**
*(working together with environmental NGOs)*
Social issues: in the seafood supply chains towards systemic change: together with partners

Due diligence on human right impacts of investments and practices for surrounding communities and small producers

Ensuring decent and gender equal working conditions (*ILO, SA8000 or equivalent*)

Promoting smallholder based fisheries and aquaculture (*smallholders as equal partners, gender equal, external costs are shared, fair pricing*)

Being transparent and accountable: *public disclosure*

Promoting knowledge among consumers (*public information in media, ‘Promotion & Positioning’ in supermarkets and catering*)

Surrounding rural community with their own livelihoods
Social responsibility in aquaculture

Oxfam succeeded to bring in social elements in ASC certification:

**Labour issues:** following ILO and SA8000
(decent work, avoiding child/forced/bonded labour, fair wages, anti-discrimination, anti-harassment)

**Fair and transparent contracts with smallholders**

**Problems between farms and surrounding communities discussed and addressed:** using Participatory Social Impact Assessment tool
(reduced damages to other livelihoods, improved relationships; reduced tensions around the farms)

**Auditors also discuss with people living around the farms**
(transparency, improved reliability of audit; mutual trust)
GRAISEA

(Gender Transformative & Responsible Agribusiness Investments in South East Asia)

• Innovative gender transformative and responsible pilots in seafood value chains: Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam.

• Advocacy towards ASEAN bodies (AMAF, SEAFDEC) and member states

• Advocacy towards seafood companies, regional and global multi stakeholder initiatives (incl. ASIC and ASC). Work on Sustainable Seafood Company Index (with Index Initiative, CSR Asia)
Gender issues

• Part and parcel of Oxfam’s social issues agenda

• Test gender and p-SIA in Vietnam and Indonesia

• In Vietnam with ICAFIS and MCD (Ca Mau and Soc Trang); in Indonesia with WWF Indonesia (Tarakan, North Kalimantan)

• Definition gender transformative: equal access to resources, participation and decision-making, gender responsive policies, change attitudes and norms
Participatory Social Impact Assessment (p-SIA)

p-SIA steps:

- Stakeholder Analysis.
- Description of farm and effects
- Initial listing of probable social impacts:
  - economic aspects, natural resource access and use,
  - human assets, access to physical infrastructure, social
    and cultural aspects, governance aspects
- Deeper research on important impacts.
- Propose adaptations
- Agree on impacts and measures to address them: action planning
Engendering p-SIA

- Not much gender specifics in present p-SIA guidelines

- In Indonesia; use Gender Analysis Pathway (access, participation, control, benefit) methodology

- In Vietnam: using Gender Action Learning System: community-led analysis, visualisation tools, longer process

** Both approaches: invite women to the discussions/analysis, specific gender analysis tools, joint men and women action planning, challenge present norms
Gender Action Learning System

- Developed by Linda Mayoux with Oxfam

- Empowerment: community ownership and actions through participatory exercises and tools: use of drawings/visual tools

- Beyond “gathering of facts”: it aims to surface how differences between men and women are socially constructed
First lessons learned: methodologies

NB initial lessons: only started 2015

- Existing guidelines of p-SIA are fairly gender-blind
- Subsequently also users of the tool (which can be producers, NGOs, service providers) and auditors are not well guided;
- Risk of p-SIA: one-off activity, while gender attention should be part of whole improvement process;
- Longer process: GALS methodology provides elements to increase commitment and challenges existing norms with men and women
First lessons learned: wider

- extensive, improved extensive, intensive: all complex systems with high economic, social and environmental risks: requires high level and specialized knowledge, not just of producers but also of supporters
- ASC but also other shrimp sustainability initiatives have difficulties addressing smallholders: high demands for group management; high costs for improvements
- Engendered p-SIA essential as part of due diligence before large company investments come in;
- Achieving sustainability with small-scale producers: further thinking to be done
THANK YOU

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