Thematic Studies for 'Gender in Aquaculture in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam'

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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

Gender Analysis in Aquaculture Value Chain: A Case Study of Tilapia Cage Culture in Sakon Nakhon, Thailand

Introduction

- In Thailand gender roles are getting more attention from both government and private sectors;
- Not many studies on how much women contribute to aquaculture development in Thailand;
- Tilapia is the most important cultured fish specie. In 2012, Thailand produced 153,311 tons of tilapia, 20% of which came from cage culture;
- Northeast of Thailand is the most populated and has the lowest per capita income;
- Tilapia cage farming is an important income and protein source for people in the Northeast;
- Sakon Nakhon is one of the most important aquaculture provinces in the region.

Objectives

- To map the gender roles in small scale tilapia cage culture in Sakhon Nakhon;
- To identify and analyze roles and activities of women and men in the tilapia grow-out stage;
- To identify the gender issues, needs and opportunities.

Methodology

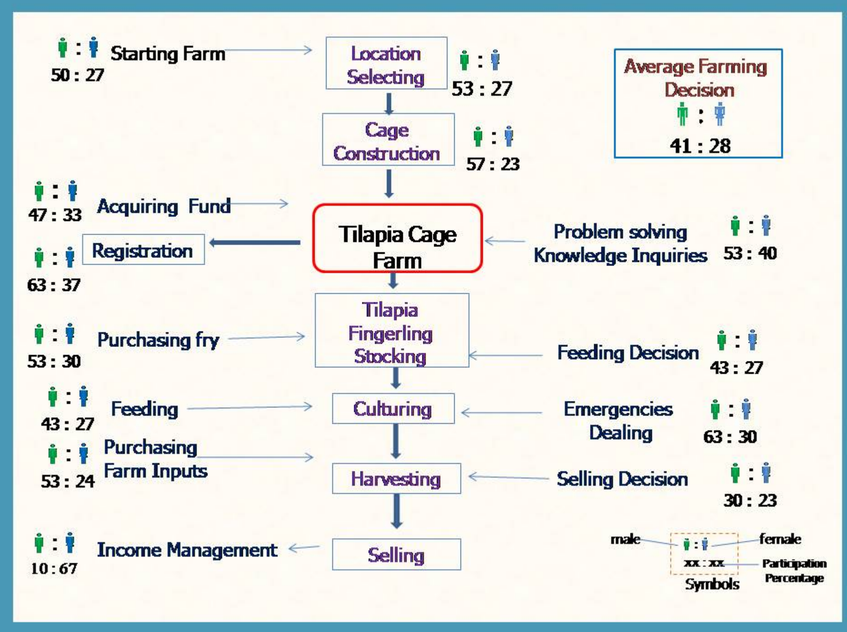
- Population
  - 30 tilapia cage farmers in Sakon Nakhon Province
- Data collection
  - Secondary data
  - Primary data
    - Key informants interviews
    - Sampled tilapia cage farmers interviews
    - In-depth interviews of 9 female cage farmers

- Data Analysis
  - Descriptive and comparative analysis with quantitative & qualitative methods
  - SWOT analysis

Results

	Total	Male	Female
Respondents	30	63%	37%
Cages owned	11.5	13.53	8.27
Crop per year	2.04	2.0	2.09
Stocking Density (fish/m^2)	33.62	29.99	39.84
Labours used	2.1	2.21	1.90
Annual Production (Kg)	10,225.0	10,900.0	8,763.64

	Total	Male	Female
Annual Production (Kg)	10,225.0	10,900.0	8,763.64
Selling Price (US$)	1.95	1.94	1.95
Feed cost (US$)	13,826.0	14,945.6	11,593.4
Total cost (US$)	17,152.6	18,911.2	13,731.4
Cost per kg. (US$)	1.74	1.54	1.86
Profit per kg. (US$)	0.21	0.08	0.41



Conclusion

- Tilapia cage farming in Sakon Nakhon was involved by different gender roles;
- In general, male cage farmers played more roles in tilapia cage farming than female cage farmers;
- There were no rules or regulations preventing female from tilapia cage farming. Female roles in the tilapia cage farms were limited by their responsibilities in the households.

Implication

- Provide training concerning tilapia cage farming specifically to female tilapia cage farmers;
- Tilapia cage farming extension efforts should focus more on the women;

- Encourage cage farmers to process their tilapia production into other value added fish products to lessen their dependence on selling their fresh fish through middle persons or feed agents and allow female to participate more.
- Create more stable and reasonable selling price for fresh tilapia production and increase cost for feed and tilapia fingerlings to reduce risks and create more flavourable situation for female farmers to participate more.

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