

# Workshop II: SEAS of change

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**Plan International Asia Hub**  
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# The Thai Fishing Industry



**\$7.3 billion**

worth of export was valued in the Thai Fishing Industry back in 2011 (EJF, 2013)

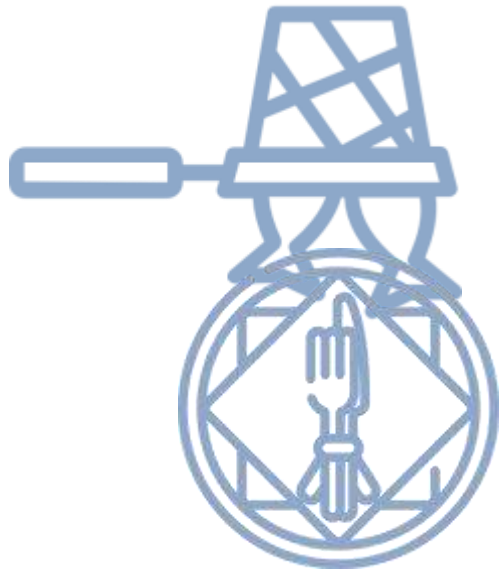
**80%**

of those working in the fishing industry are migrants (ILO, 2015)



Thailand was issued a “yellow card” with threat of sanctions from EU, and placed in Tier 2 under the US’ Trafficking in Persons report for illegal fishing practices and human rights violations

Contributes to a fishing industry that is **free from exploitative child labor** and that **offers decent work opportunities for all**, particularly migrant populations.



Using the **Net-to-Napkin approach**, SEAS looks at critical entry points along the supply chain to fortify it against exploitation and abuse.



The seas project



# THAILAND



Rayong

Trat

Project Sites

Battambang

Prey Veng

# CAMBODIA



## Education

Ensuring access of children-at-risk and children affected by migration to educational opportunities, including non-formal education, mobile-based learning and formal education



Project outcomes

## Livelihood

Linking young parents and youth aged 15-25 to existing organizations that provide life skills, vocational training and other opportunities to improve access to employment and livelihood services



## Social Protection

Linking affected people or those at risk of being involved in child labor and exploitative employment to existing social services in Thailand & Cambodia, and to develop community-based social protection mechanisms in target communities

## Supply Chain Engagement

Promoting greater transparency and accountability along the fishing supply chain, which lead to improved human rights and increased opportunities for decent work especially for migrant populations

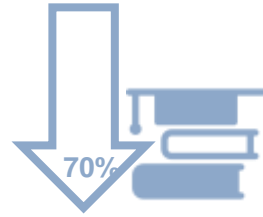
# Into the light

Young female migrant workers in Thailand's seafood sector  
and their access to decent work





# Women in Cambodia



Low literacy rates; 70% dropped out of Grade 8-12



Limited options force girls and young women to migrate to Phnom Penh and other provinces for work



Contribution to the household has been seen to be small



Reduced to supporting roles, making girls and young women vulnerable to early marriage, poverty and subsistence livelihood



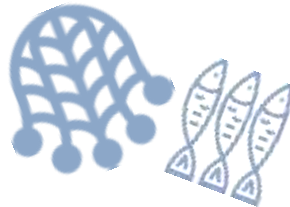
Female-led households face difficulty in accessing social services.



Live with Family Members (either parents or spouses) with **no access to education, training, childcare options and no support for rape, sexual harassment victims.**



Stay at home and share household and child-care responsibilities with other women



Employed in seafood processing, fish sorting or net-repair.



Women in Thailand





# Migration



"Only" Option



Safety - escape abuse



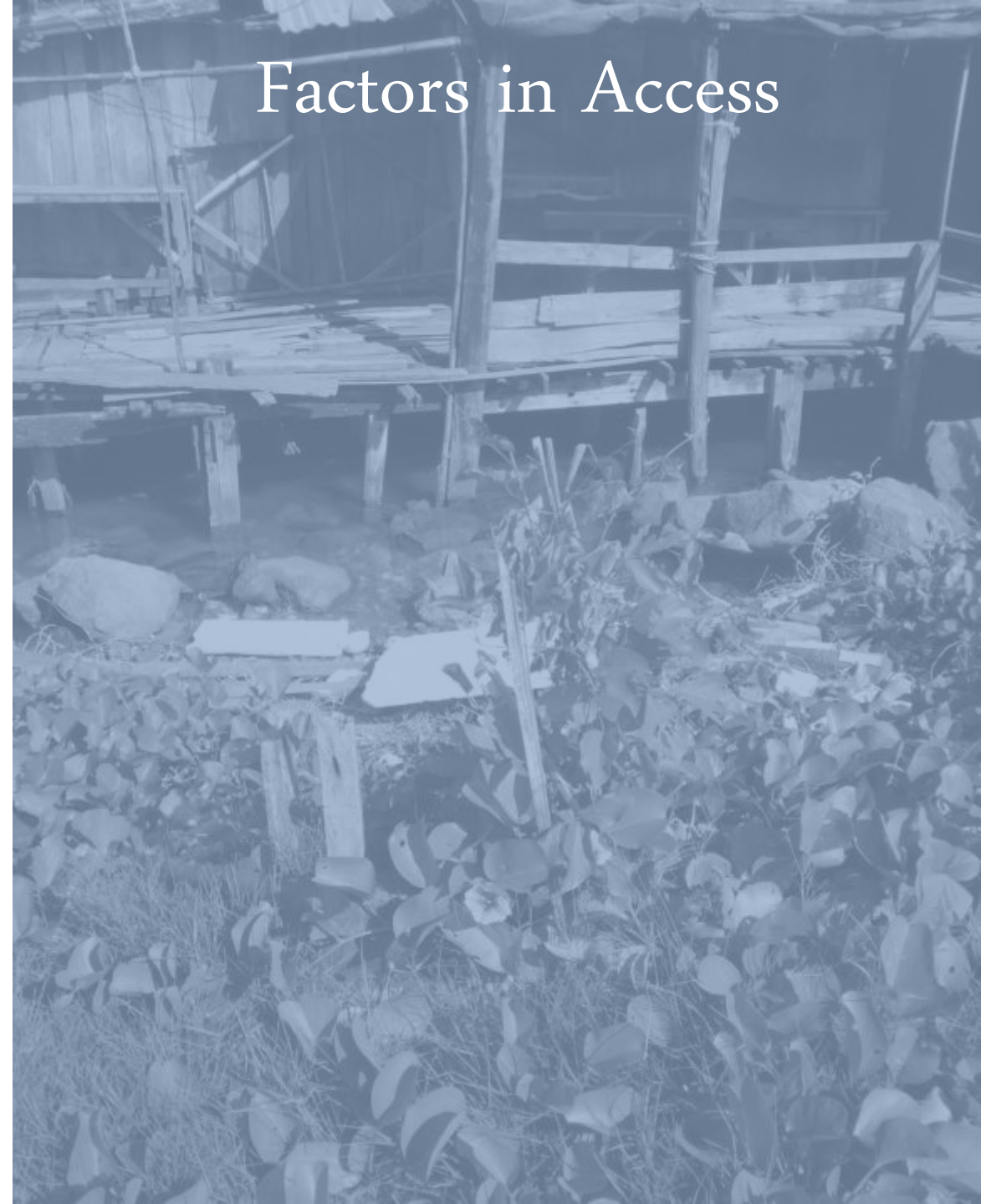
Expectations to help around the house



High cost of "pink cards"

# Factors in Access

- **GENDER STEREOTYPES** limit education, training and work opportunities in Thailand and Cambodia. These further hamper mobility, agency and career development.
- **LANGUAGE, LEGAL STATUS, INFORMATION & JOB STABILITY** en-/disable young women from accessing education or vocational training opportunities, and social services in Thailand.
- **GENDER SEGREGATION** persist in TVET offerings, which further reinforce stereotypes, and discourage women from pursuing work in male-dominated sectors.
- **INFORMAL WOMEN'S GROUPS** offer young women and women support and security especially in Thailand, where they are left alone while male family members are at sea.





# Recommendations

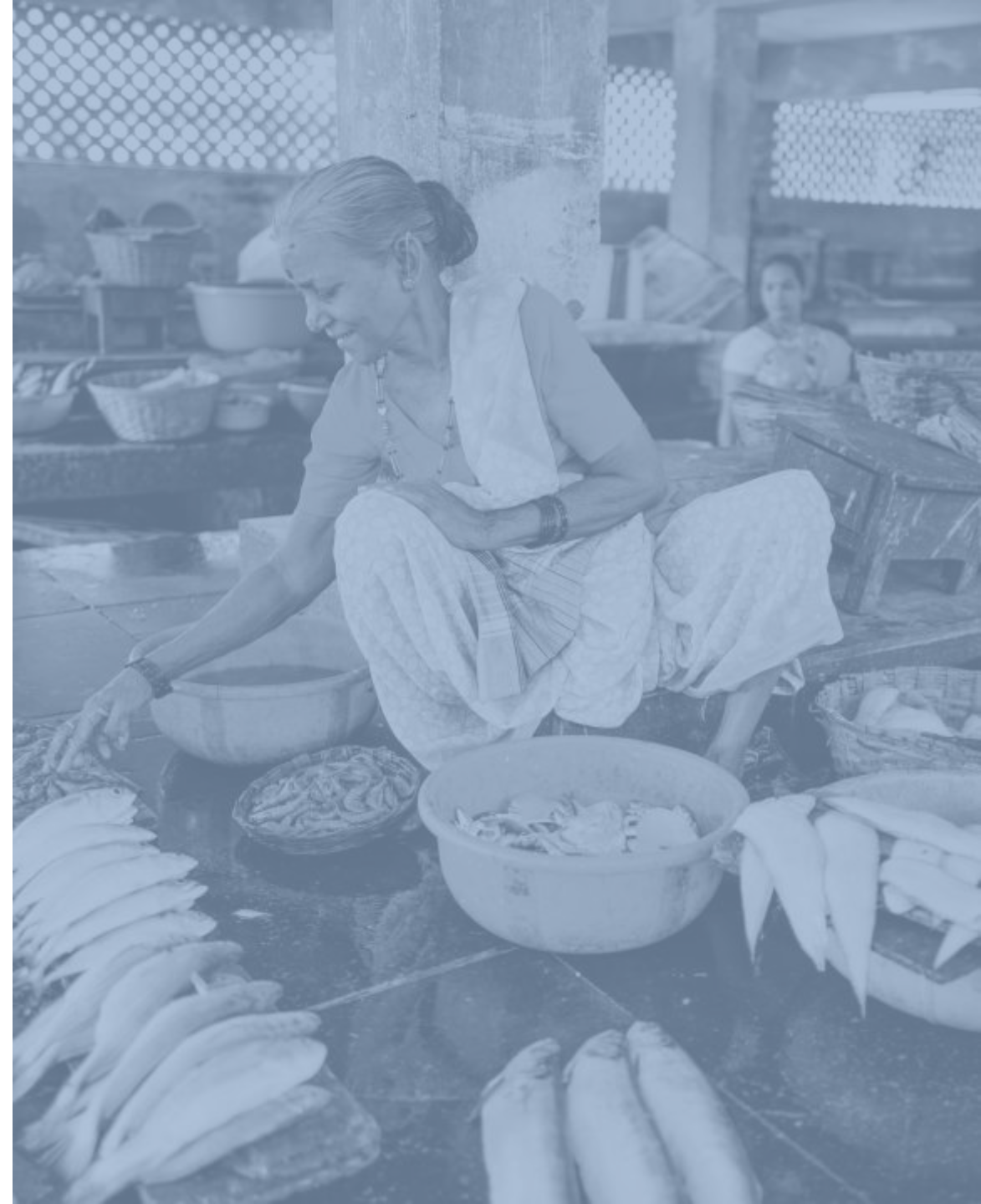




- Advocate for the delinking of stay permits from employment permits in Thailand
- Engage employers to invest and support women's employment in the supply chain
- Train migrant women workers on knowing and claiming their rights
- Disseminate job and pay information of different employers in Rayong and Trat
- Support peer groups among migrant women, especially in disseminating information and providing a support system to each other
- Organize a community-based childcare support center, funded by either contribution from parents themselves, local government and/or employers
- Provide gender-awareness training to eliminate gender stereotyping in the workplace



- Provide in-school facilities in schools that support girls to continue their education, such as childcare for younger siblings and counselling for children living without their parents
- Enhance school curriculum to be gender-inclusive and relevant to vocational training and the pursuit of gainful employment
- Engage parents, male relatives and husbands to encourage women to expand their occupation choices and have access to different careers.
- Organize formal skills training sessions, focusing on skills that will lead to a better income and away from traditional skills such as sewing and handicraft to reduce enforcing gender stereotypes
- Organize young women's group which meet regularly to share information and experiences, and connect members to mentors



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