

WOMEN IN FISH PROCESSING IN NAM XOUANG RESERVOIR, LAO PDR



The 8th Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF8) on 21-23 November 2022

Dongdavanh Sibounthong
Ratana Tiaye
Jariya Sornkllieng

Outline

- **Information of Nam Xouang reservoir**
- **Project background**

- **Women group fish processing**
- **Conclusions**

Information of Nam Xouang reservoir

Nam Xouang reservoir

Lao PDR

Thailand



12.4 km²

9 km

4.5 km

Nam Xouang reservoir

Phone Hong District (North NX.)

Ban Nathep

Ban Phonxay

Ban Phone Kong

Ban Nongphung

Ban Phone Sung

Ban Changsavang

Ban Dongkhao

Ban Tao Tan

Ban Mai

Ban Sivilai

Naxaythong District (South NX.)

Ban Sivilay

Ban Phoxay

Ban Phone Thong

Ban Phosy

Ban Thum



FG: gill net, cast net, lift net, hook, spear

Fish caught at Nam Xouang reservoir



Barbodes rhombeus
Cyprinidae



Chotala ornata
Notolelidae

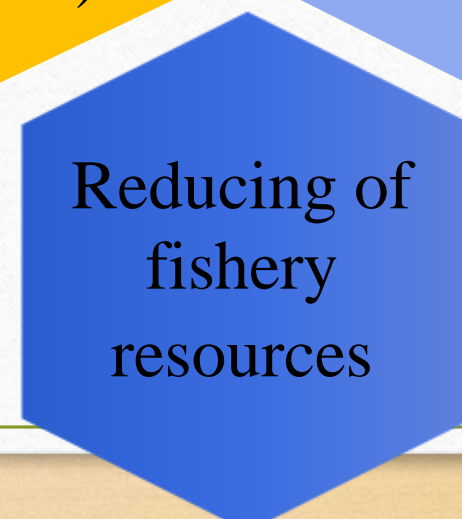
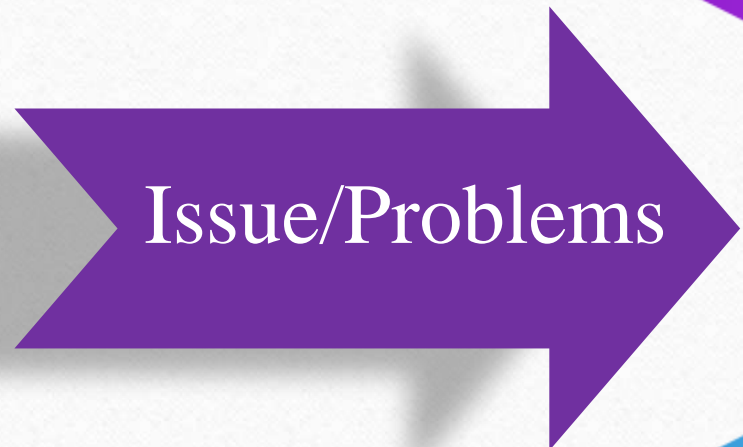


Barbonymus schwanenfeldii
Cyprinidae

Project background

The project Facilitating Fisheries Activities Information Gathering Through Introduction of Community-based Resources Management/Co-management in Lao PDR in Nam Xouang Reservoir

- Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) cooperated with the Department of Livestock and Fisheries (DLF), Lao PDR
- The project was conducted from 2017 to 2019
- A baseline survey was conducted to collect information and identify the issue for the fisheries management plan



Overall goal

Sustainable utilization of fishery resources and fishers' livelihood security in Nam Xouang reservoir

Objective

The abundance of fishery resources and improve of fishers' livelihood in Nam Xouang reservoir

Outputs

1. Fishery Management Committee (FMC) was established
2. The fishery rules & regulations in the reservoir were improved and strengthened
3. The fisheries management in the conservation zone improved
4. Fishers' income improves by promoting fish processing

Women group fish processing

Women groups establishment

Fishers' income improves by promoting fish processing

For

Fishers' livelihood security

Two women groups were established in the year 2019

- Group 1: 12 women from 5 villages of Naxaithong district
Some member of this group are traditional experiences
- Group 2: 10 members (9 women and 1 men) from 3 villages of Phonhong district Vientiane province)

Group capacity

- Study trip for fishery management & fish processing
- Training & Workshops on fish processing



Improve of fish processing technique & value-added

Product of the group : Sour fish (*som ton*)



Capital Lao kip (USD)

120,000 (8.00)

Selling Price Lao kip (USD)

150,000 (10.00)

Benefits Lao kip (USD)

30,000(20.00)

Product of the group : Sour fish eggs (*som khai pa*)



Capital Lao kip (USD)

150,000(10.00)

Selling Price Lao kip (USD)

200,000 (13.00)

Benefits Lao kip (USD)

50,000(3.00)

Product of the group : Fermented fish (*pa dek*)



| Capital Lao kip (USD) | Selling Price Lao kip (USD) | Benefits Lao kip (USD) |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 7,500(0.50) | 15,000 (1.00) | 7,500(0.50) |

Product of the group : *Wrapped sour fish (som hor) main and famous product*



| Capital Lao kip (USD) | Selling Price Lao kip (USD) | Benefits Lao kip (USD) |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 6,000 (0.40) | 10,000 (0.70) | 4,000(0.30) |

Product selling

Direct selling

- Sell to school for the school lunch program
- Members take for retailer sell to the village
- Wholesale to the retailed seller in a nearby market village

Middle person collect to sell in another province

1. Houaphanh Provinces
2. Xayyabuly Province
3. Luangprabang Provice
4. Oudomxay Province
5. Vientiane capital

Management and benefit

- The women plan to sell the products 2-3 times per month according to orders.
- They will split the income between the seller (5%) and those processing the fish (95%).
- Each family can receive an income of approximately **1,500,000 kip (USD100)** per month from wrapped sour fish products.



Conclusions

- There are four products of the women's group that produce by order, however, *Wrapped sour fish (som hor) main and famous product that women gain income.*
- By doing this activity, the women in the villages feel empowered as they can contribute to the income of their households and fishing community, thereby improving their livelihoods.
- Since the women use existing fishery resources in their areas, they are not affected by the disruptions in the distribution of raw materials brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The women are now planning to increase the number of products they can make and to learn more techniques to improve product quality so their business activity can thrive.
- Therefore more study trips and training for women capacity building to earn more income

Thank you

