



# **WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES**

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In 2013, Philippines ranked:

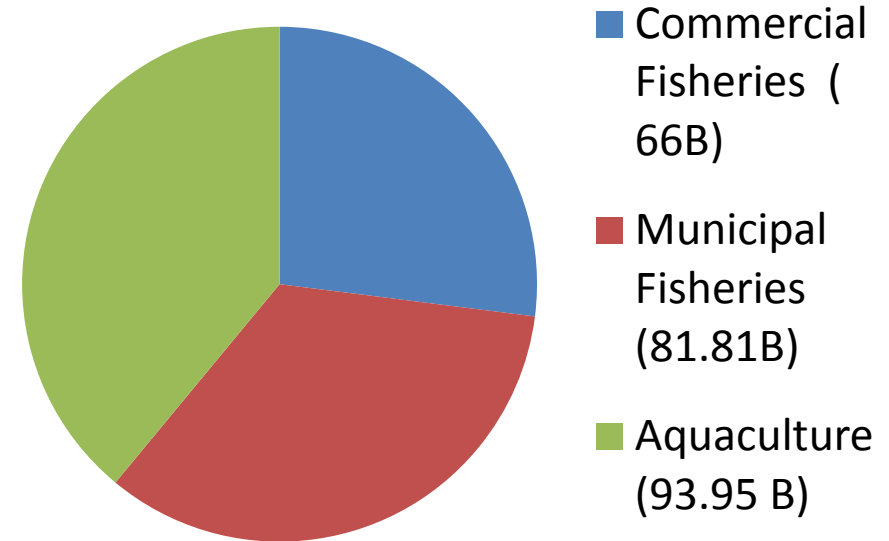
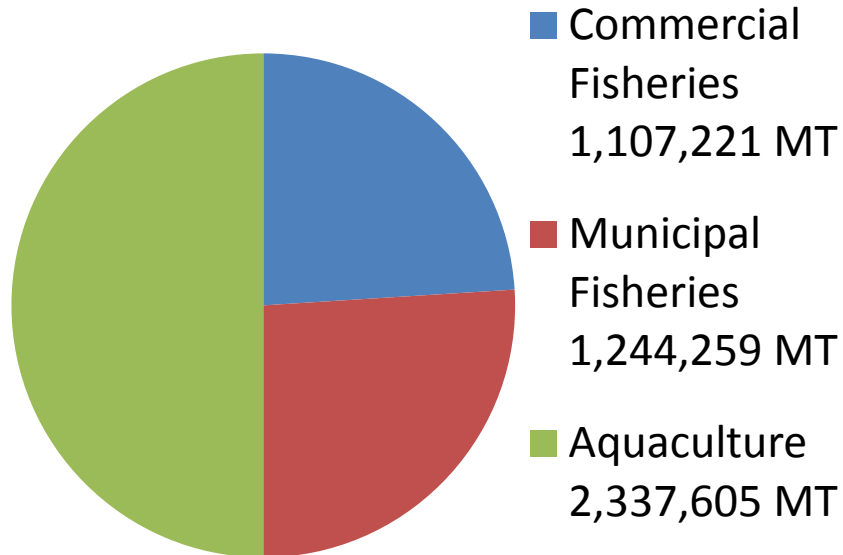
- 7<sup>th</sup> among the top fish producing countries in the world (fish, crustaceans, mollusks, and seaweeds)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world's largest producers of seaweeds
- 11<sup>th</sup> in the total global aquaculture production



## Total fish production, by sector in 2014

**Quantity = 4,689,085 Metric Tons (MT)**

**Value= 241.944 Billion Pesos**





## 2014 Aquaculture production

- Brackishwater fishpond
- Freshwater fishpond
- Fish pen and fish cage in fresh and marine waters
- Mariculture of oyster, mussel and seaweeds



## Major species produced in aquaculture in 2014

Species	Quantity (MT)	Percent (%)
Seaweeds	1,549,575.98	66.29
Milkfish	390,232.53	16.69
Tilapia	259,198.16	11.09
Shrimps/ Prawns	50,820.76	2.17
Others	87,781.09	3.76
Total	2,337,608.52	100.00



## Aquaculture production both in volume and value in 10 - year period

Year	Volume of fish production (MT)	Value of fish production (in'000 Php)
2005	1,895,847.30	49,169,787.90
2006	2,092,275.80	55,671,892.80
2007	2,214,826.20	61,597,274.20
2008	2,407,697.90	81,669,480.60
2009	2,477,392.00	81,493,357.50
2010	2,545,967.10	82,857,454.50
2011	2,608,119.80	85,996,428.00
2012	2,541,965.40	92,289,924.70
2013	2,373,386.50	93,731,169.90
2014	2,337,605.00	93,949,010.00



## Areas where development is apparent

- Volume of production
- Culture system
- Species cultured
- Technical know-how
- Seed production system
- Market



# Major driving forces for aquaculture development

- Increased demand
- Availability of inputs and technology
- Increased government attention and support
- Profitability
- Established market





Aquaculture is an important tool for food security and poverty alleviation

In 2002, an estimated 226, 195 aquaculture operators were recorded



Aquaculture in the Philippines is dominated by men and women are a minority

Women involvement is in various stages in aquaculture operations especially in rural aquaculture

In most commercial farms, women are given challenging roles requiring greater responsibilities



## Niche of women in aquaculture

Farm owner

Farm manager

Farm technician

Farm laboratory analysts

Technical sales representatives (Feed, probiotics and other aquaculture inputs)

Researchers

Extension workers

Educators

Consultants



## Causes of less number of women involvement in aquaculture

- Limited opportunities
- Low confidence of women to assume greater responsibilities



# Recommendations to encourage more women involvement in aquaculture

- More rigid training in the university





- Capacity/capability enhancement of faculty teaching aquaculture
- Promote gender equality and sensitivity in the academe and aquaculture companies



## Conclusion

Aquaculture in the Philippines is flourishing and contributes to food security and poverty alleviation

Participation of women in aquaculture in terms of number is low but they occupy high impact niches

The manner the students were trained in the university affects their confidence to assume greater responsibilities and roles in aquaculture



# Acknowledgement

World Aquaculture Society- Asian Pacific Chapter