



# Gender integration for sustainable aquaculture practices in Southeast Asia

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Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific*

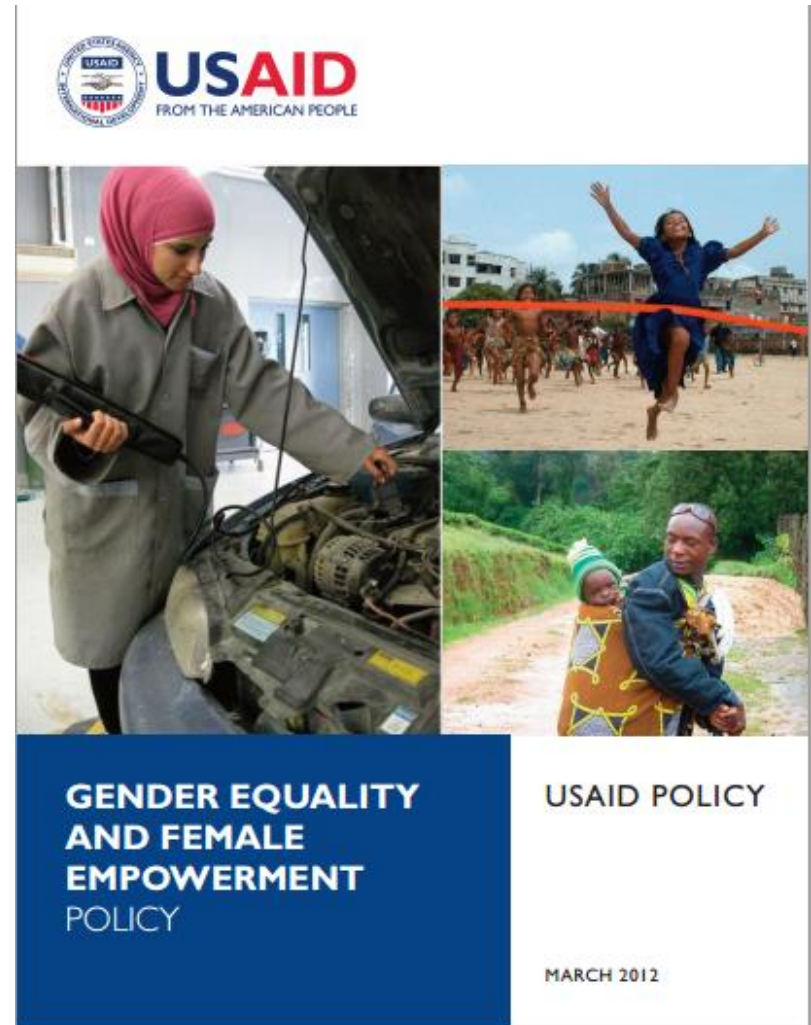
Sustainable Aquaculture Workshop, National Taiwan Ocean University, 3-11 Nov 2014



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# Introduction

“Societies with greater gender equality experience faster economic growth, and benefit from greater agricultural productivity and improved food security.”





- *Nearly 50% of 120 M workers are women (fisheries sector & supply chains)*
- *38 M workers in aquaculture sector, M:F ratio unknown (yet)*



“Gender inequity in the fishery and aquaculture sectors is greater, made worse with the increasing mechanization, modernization and global trade regimes for fish, where women and many low-paid men are at a great disadvantage.”



Dr. Meryl Williams  
Mentor, NACA Gender Programme  
Former DG, WorldFish Center  
<http://genderaquafish.org>



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# Some issues

- Insufficient/Lack
  - Gender disaggregated data
  - Valuation of some aquaculture work, including indirect contribution & benefits
  - Understanding of relations & differences among actors
  - Gender sensitivity in projects, policies, other activities
- Trend – emerging emphasis on gender mainstreaming and integration in aquaculture initiatives
- Focus – some initiatives, constraints





# Gender is ...

- social differences between men and women, boys and girls
- determined by society
- may be learned and changed
- could vary between & within cultures
- Deals with unequal power relations between men and women, from personal to societal levels.





Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

Giving women the same access as men to agricultural resources:

- increase production on women's farms in developing countries by **20 to 30 %**
- raising total agricultural production in developing countries by **2.5 to 4 %**



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# Knowing gender differences

- Differences : affect opportunities to participate, access to resources, decision-making
- Awareness of differences – equal access to opportunities, more targeted programs, policies, development & marketing strategies
- Even if participating – are they getting good value/ payment for the effort?





# Recommendations by Committee on World Food Security on Gender Equity (2014 Report):

- *States: ensure aquaculture and fisheries policies and interventions **do not create negative impacts** on women and encourage gender equality*
- *FAO Committee on Fisheries: should develop **policy guidance** on gender equality and economic contributions*



Source: HLPE 2014

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Secretariat HLPE c/o FAO  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
00153 Rome, Italy

Website: [www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe](http://www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe)  
E-mail: [cfs-hlpe@fao.org](mailto:cfs-hlpe@fao.org)

# Recommendations by Committee on World Food Security on Gender Equity (2014 Report):

- *Committee on World Food Security: promote to **address gender dimensions** in policies and actions*
- *Development assistance programmes: be **gender-aware and give priority** to gender projects.*



Source: HLPE 2014

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# Gender dimensions\*

- Access to resources, information
- Knowledge, beliefs, perceptions
- Practices and participation
- Laws, legal rights, policies, institutions

\* Basis for framework on gender integration – expected to be integral in project activities



# Entry points for gender integration



- Research
- Policy
- Projects
- Education
- Extension
- Marketing
- Capacity building
- Media & communications



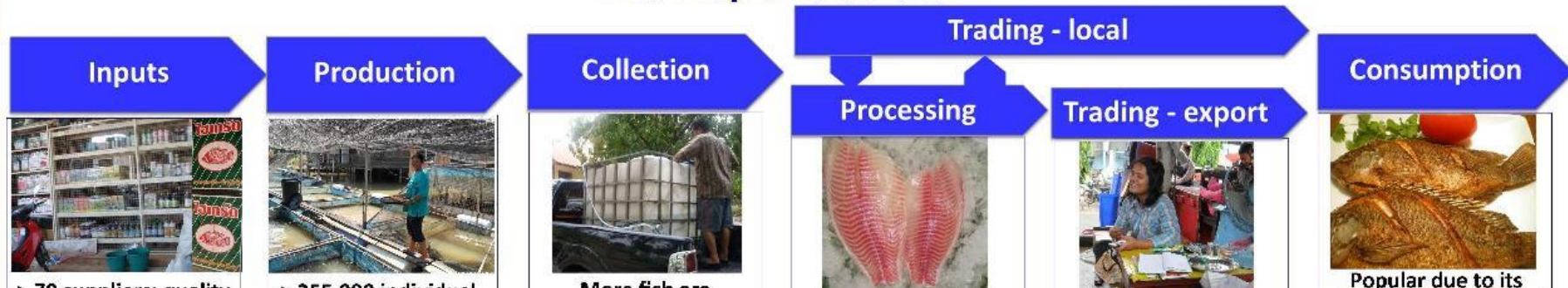
# Shrimp and Tilapia Value Chains in Thailand

## The Shrimp Value Chain



Men and women are involved all throughout the chain, with varying roles and interactions between and among them

## The Tilapia Value Chain





# Relationships/interactions



Wife owner/manager,  
husband assists



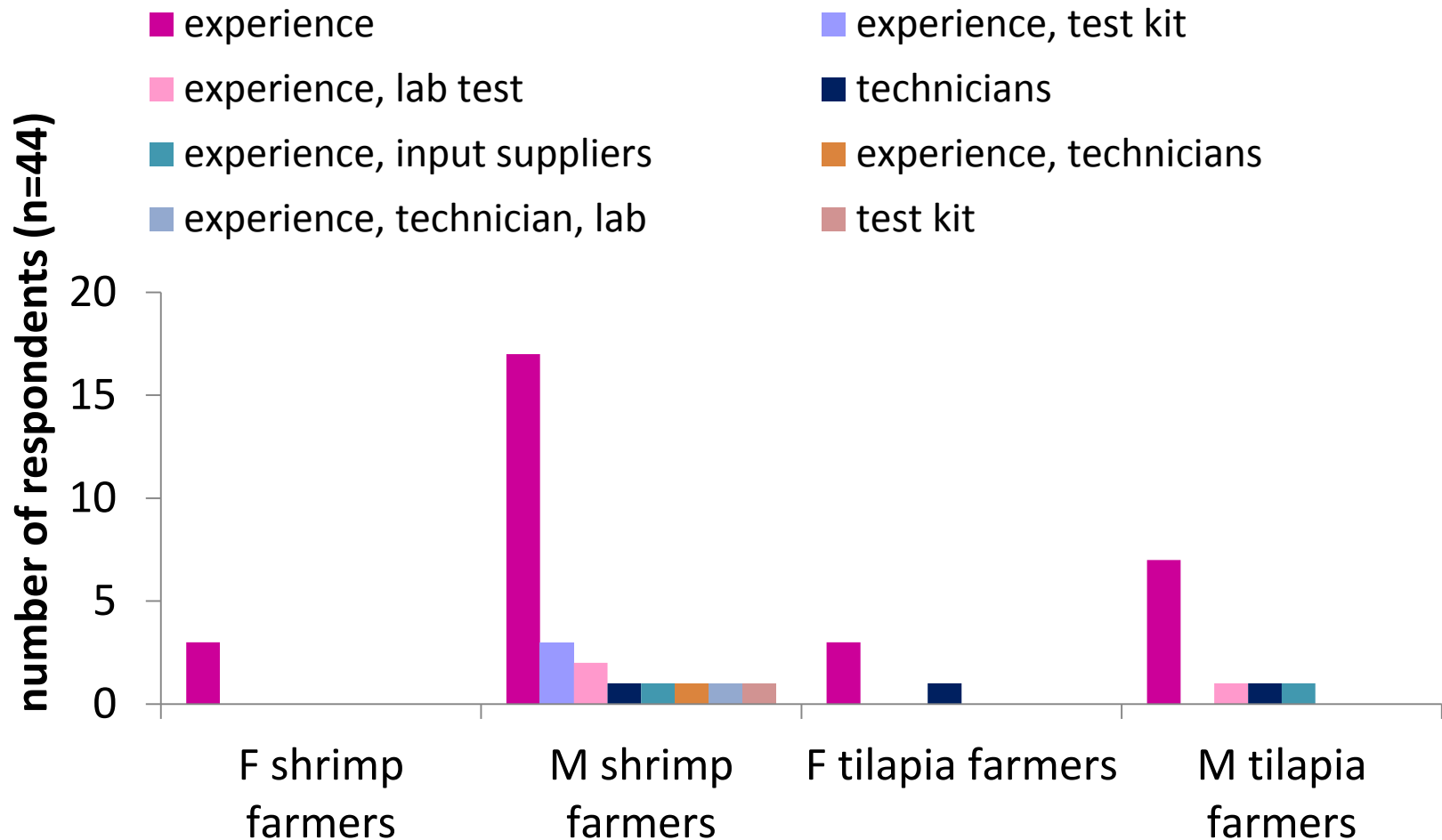
Couple caretaker



Male owner/  
manager, wife has  
own business



# Farmers' basis of diagnosis



- Why? in addition to How?
- Implications?





# Faces in Farms

Owner-manager



Co-owner & co-manager

Co-owner

Owner / teacher



Manager

Worker

Couple workers

Male worker/  
Couple workers?



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# Gender issues in farms

	Owner and or Manager	Worker	Couple Workers	Worker's family on farm
Gender	M, F	M, F	M, F	Wife, kids
Thai/migrant	Thai	Thai, migrant	Thai, migrant	Thai, migrant
Access to opportunities e.g. training	Yes Few hired F managers	Some, mainly on farm	Some, mainly on farm	Education for kids Wife can work outside but limited for migrants
Salary	Income from farm	Yes	Individual or couple	Wife no even if helping in work
Benefits (bonus, housing, water, etc.)		yes	yes	House, water, safety
Quality of life based on needs		Better off	Better off	Better off
Social protection		Needs more esp for migrant workers		

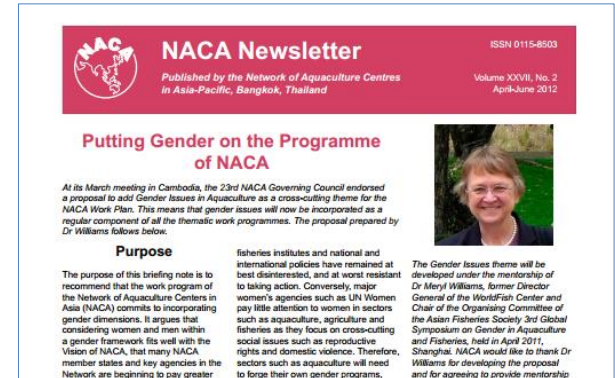


# NACA'S Gender Programme

2012 – Gender mainstreaming into NACA programmes & activities

2013 – GAF4 workshop: NACA to take a leading role in raising the profile of gender equality opportunities & issues

2014 – USAID/MARKET Project, GAF5, others



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# Maximizing Agricultural Revenue through Knowledge, Enterprise Development and Trade (MARKET) Project

## **“Thematic Studies and Outreach on Gender in Aquaculture in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam”**

Gather information

Raise awareness

Advocate

for improved recognition of gender roles, policies, & programs in aquaculture for sustainable & responsible development



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# FEED THE FUTURE

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



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## MARKET PROJECT

- Gender assessment for commercially important species in selected ASEAN countries
- Develop case studies focusing on gender aspects of selected aquaculture value chains
- Dissemination and presentation of findings and recommendations to relevant stakeholders
- Develop a regional gender in aquaculture practitioner network



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# Project Locations & Partners



## Inst. for Fisheries Economics & Planning

- Gender Assessment Report

## Fisheries Administration

- Gender Assessment Report
- Aquaculture systems

## Cantho University

- Tilapia cages
- Rice-shrimp farms

## Department of Fisheries

- Gender Assessment Report
- Tilapia cages
- Shrimp farms



# Gender Assessment Reports

- Review of national policies supporting gender equality in both outside and inside the fisheries and aquaculture
- Participation by gender in the aquaculture sector
- Key issues in women empowerment
- Gender in professional organizations



# Gender Assessment Reports – Initial results

- National level: gender concern with various levels of commitment and degrees of success
- Global Gender Gap Index of 4 countries – still low ranking : 60L 65T 73V 104C out of 135 countries
- Needs to link efforts at national level with concrete implementation to improve GGGI
- Studies done – more descriptive but lack analysis on reasons and benefits





# Gender Case studies



- Mapping of gender roles in the selected aquaculture value chain
- Roles and activities of women and men in the grow-out stage of the aquaculture
- Gender dimensions - division of labour, decision making process, benefit sharing and access to resources
- Issues, needs and opportunities in fish health management, farm management and BMP, feed management, processing, food quality, safety and marketing



# Cambodia

- Research concentrated on gender roles in fisheries, post-harvest fisheries, needs and aspirations of women in the fisheries sector
- Limited studies on gender issues in aquaculture especially in grow out farms
- More women involved in aquaculture due to men's migration for other job opportunities



Source: Sochivi, et al., 2014



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# Cambodia

- Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE):
  - Skills training
  - Promoting, enhancing women-led MSMEs
  - Improving livelihoods of rural communities
- 60,000 households engaged in pond aquaculture



Photo: USAID MSME Project

- Gender roles & involvement in various value chain nodes are undocumented, except post-harvest (more women)

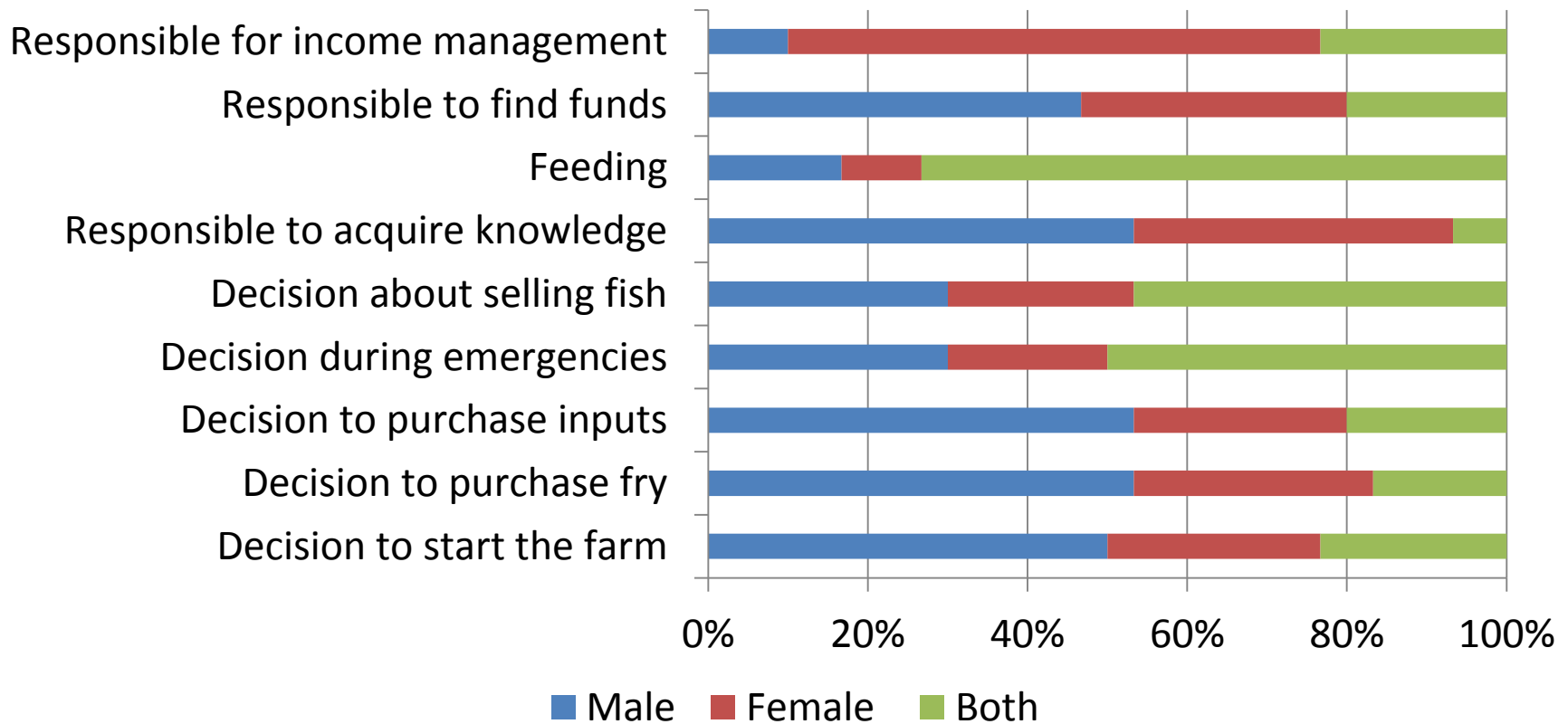


# Thailand

- Gender promotion in fisheries sector is a policy of DoF (mainly at national level)
- Gender networks participation – national and regional
- Gender high on Thailand's agenda including budget allocation – but still no continuous/concrete action plan to make gender a cross cutting issue in projects including fisheries and aquaculture
- Other initiatives more gender focused, including a few publications but not updated



# Gender roles in tilapia farming in Thailand: a case study



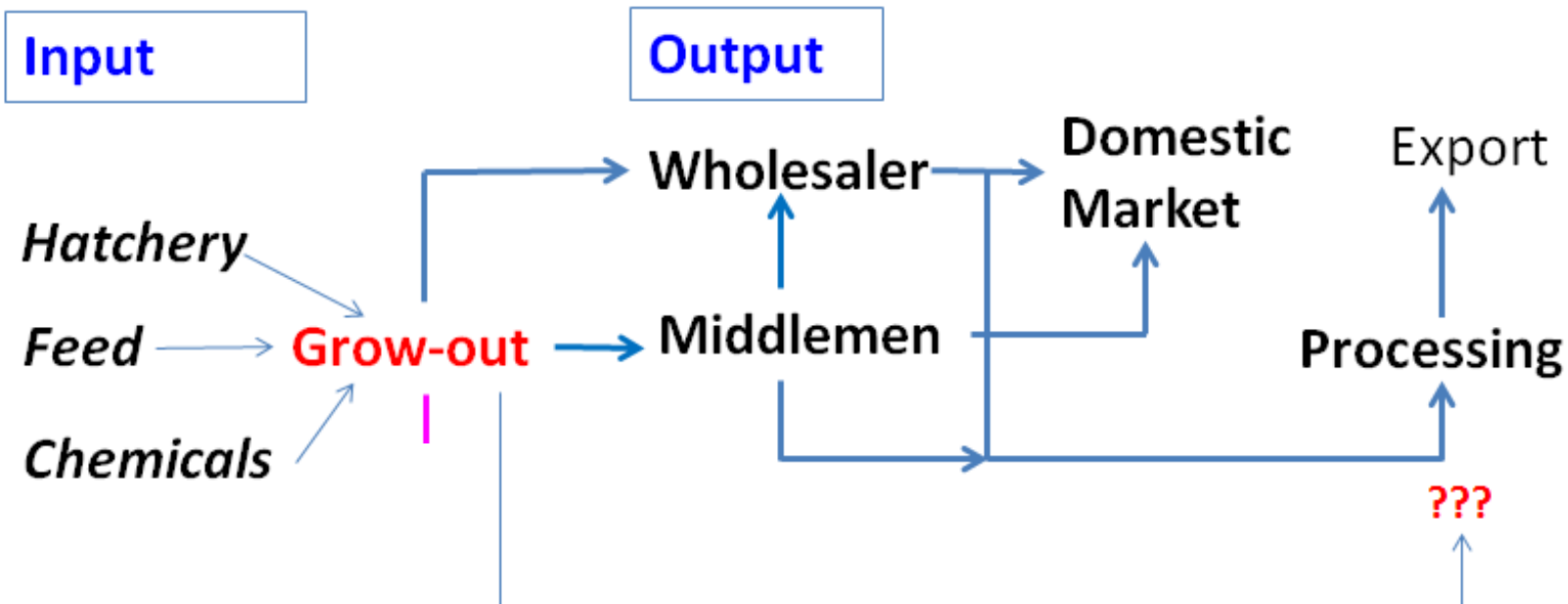
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What are the implications?

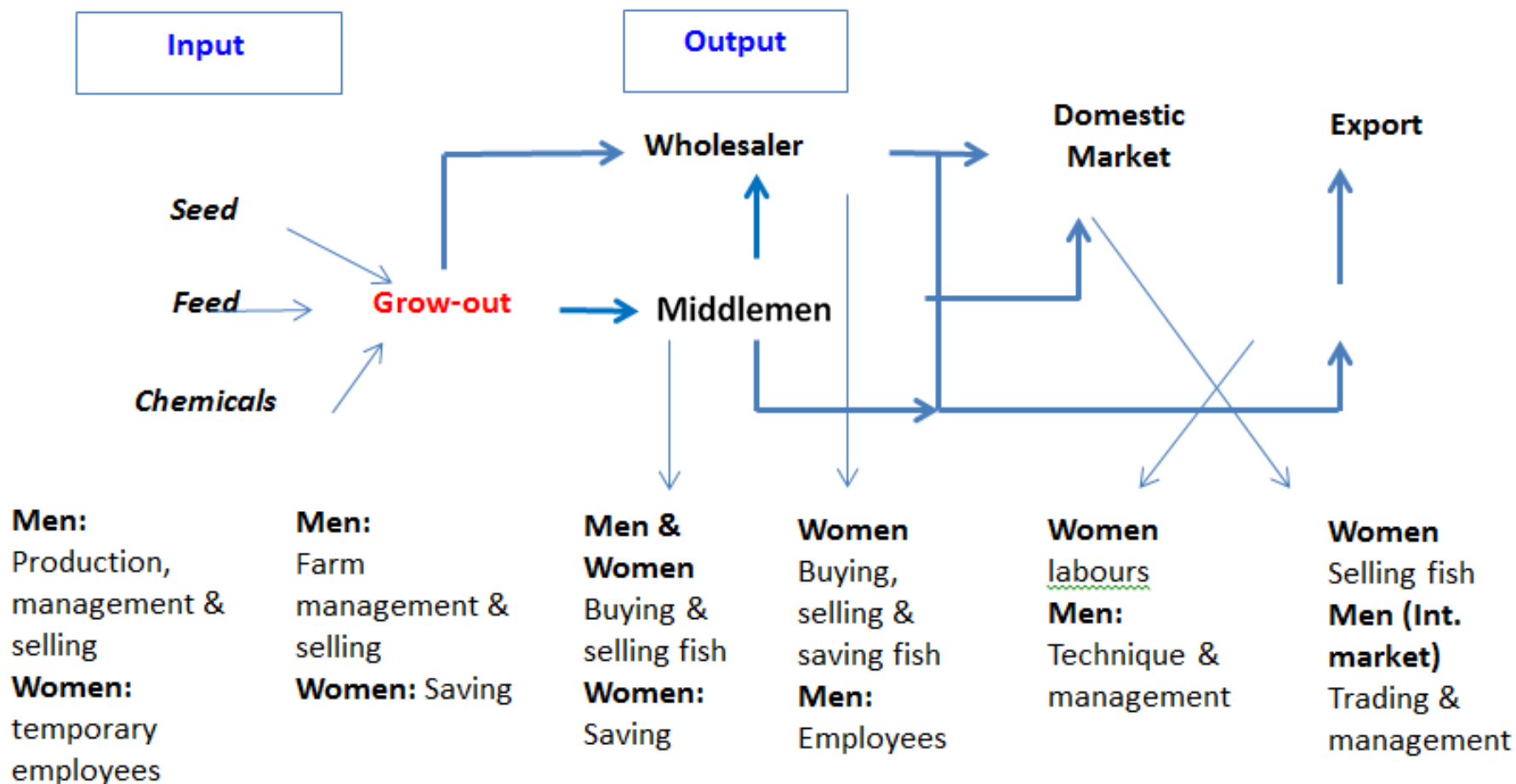




# Vietnam: Tilapia Value Chain



# Vietnam: Tilapia Value Chain



Source: T. H. Minh, et al., 2014



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# Other initiatives



NGF supported by MRC



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# Global Symposia in Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries



12-15 November 2014  
Lucknow, India

- Women fishers, climate change, and natural disasters
- Methods and approaches in gender planning and budgeting
- Gender in sustainable fisheries and aquaculture management
- Global innovations
- Towards GAF 101 - Mainstreaming Gender into Aquaculture & Fisheries Education
- Gender Aquaculture and Fisheries Writing Workshop



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# Aquaculture without Frontiers - Women's Network

- To further the promotion of women's, family and community issues in AwF projects, in collaboration with other groups working on the same goals and activities
- Composed of volunteers from Asia, Oceania, Europe, Africa, North America
- More info: <http://www.aquaculturewithoutfrontiers.org/womens-network/>





# In Conclusion ...

- growing interest in gender integration in aquaculture and fisheries
- lack of capacity to implement effective programs which integrate the gender dimensions
- adding a gender dimension in aquaculture value chains gives assurance that seafood products are produced sustainably (assuming environmental, economic and other social considerations are met)



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# Thank you.



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