

# GAF 201 – Advanced Workshop on Gender Analysis in Aquaculture and Fisheries Research: Engendering Value Chain Analysis

## Case Study Exercise

### The Shrimp Industry of Alpha

The marine fisheries sector in Country Alpha is rich, diverse, and important to the national economy. Fishery resources consist of several marine pelagic species as well as shrimp and prawn. Fisheries contribute significantly to GDP, and shrimp exports are an important source of foreign exchange. In addition, roughly 80% of the population consume fish daily, and fish (especially mackerel, sardine, and anchovy) constitutes a large portion of per capita protein consumption, especially by the poor.

Long a traditional, artisanal economic activity, Alpha's fishery has undergone a technological transformation first with the introduction of mechanized trawlers to harvest shrimp and then later outboard motorboats and ring seines for harvesting other fish species. Cold storage, ice, freezing, and improved transportation and telecommunications technologies have further supported the development and expansion of Alpha's fisheries sector. Over the past several decades harvests of shrimp (as well as other marine fish species) initially increased significantly but have plateaued in the past decade. International demand for shrimp remains strong. More recently the state has been promoting the development of aquaculture and the fish meal industry to increase shrimp production for export.

Historically, both men and women have worked in Alpha's fisheries. The traditional gender division of labor was that men harvested fish, and women processed the catch and took it to market. With the economic development of the sector and a recent influx of immigrants from neighboring Country Beta, the labor pool has expanded, and traditional gender roles are changing.

#### Exercise:

1. Elect a rapporteur
2. Imagine and map the shrimp value chain for Country Alpha from a gender-informed perspective. Include the full range of activities, including ancillary activities, types of production (capture/aquaculture), and all actors (paid/unpaid) in the chain. Consider also how the shrimp value chain might connect to value chains for other fish species.
  - What questions do you need to ask to understand gender dynamics and decision-making within the value chain?
  - What makes gender a significant focus of analysis in the shrimp industry of Country Alpha?
  - How can we use this value chain map to understand other dynamics and developments in this fishery?
3. Report back: Identify and share 1-2 "takeaways" from the exercise.

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#### Recommended citation:

Hapke, H.M., Kusakabe, K., Nair, T., Pedroza-Gutiérrez, C. Gopal, N., McDougall, C., Williams, M.J. 2025. Engendering Value Chain Analysis Case Study Exercise. *GAF 201: Advanced Workshop on Gender Analysis in Fisheries and Aquaculture Research*. Pre-conference Workshop, 9<sup>th</sup> Global Conference on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries. Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, September 30, 2025.