

MONITORING WOMEN RICE-FISH FARMERS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES WHILE IMPLEMENTING THE SCHEMA

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This paper presents the preliminary observations from implementing the gender monitoring schema in 2 districts of Mahasarakham province in Thailand where 23 women farmers were chosen for monitoring. The presentation will highlight how the framework questions were locally adapted, and how the farmers interacted with the monitoring researchers. Farmers were encouraged to make their own observations, and the regular monitoring visit to women have put the women, who used to be shy in discussing the scientific nature of aquaculture, at the center of rice-fish farming. The process of learning from the farmers, of encouraging women farmers, and recording the monitoring data provided much insight into further refining the schema.