

GENDER MAINSTREAMING ON THE ROLES OF WOMEN ON SUPPLY CHAIN AND CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES OF THE FISHERIES SECTOR

Stephanie S. Pimentel*
Director, Research and Development, Capiz State University
*sspimentel@capsu.edu.ph

The fisheries sector is vital to food security and economic sustainability in Capiz. While both men and women contribute to fisheries, their roles are often shaped by gender norms, affecting collaboration and productivity. This study examines gender participation in supply chain and conservation activities using the Gendered Organization Theory, which highlights gender inequalities in community fisheries settings. A qualitative approach was employed through thematic analysis of gathered data from focus group discussions with men and women from key fishing communities in Pilar, Pontevedra, President Roxas, and Panay. Data collection explores participants' practices, knowledge, beliefs, and challenges related to fisheries supply chain operations and conservation efforts.

Thematic analysis of the data gathered from the focus group discussions revealed that both men and women shared common knowledge of supply chain activities that can be described as highly nature-dependent traditional fishing practices. Both genders possess minimal localized conservation knowledge. Their participation in the supply chain activities revealed two major areas, the men-dominated fishing and the women-dominated marketing activities. In terms of participation in conservation activities, both genders demonstrated common practices. These are NGO-led mangrove planting activities, and the responsible fishing activities. Challenges in the supply chain operations can be categorized into women-centered, environmental, and competition-conflict challenges. Thematic analysis of gathered data pointed out the limited knowledge of conservation practices as the overall hindering factor. This study highlights the need to introduce innovations in supply chain and conservation activities while organizing, supporting, and strengthening fisheries communities to establish gender dynamics that promote sustainable development.