From the lake to the plate:
Assessing gender vulnerabilities throughout the fisheries chain

Lake Selingué, Mali

Charlotte Howard (Tindall) &
Katrien Holvoet

Equipe: Fatmata Bah, Doumbia Fousenyi; Yattara; Oulematu;
Lake Selingué

Bamako 150km

Faraba

Komona
Key findings

- Gender analysis starting at the community and going through entire chain:
  1. Reduces vulnerability and poverty especially among marginal groups e.g. women
  2. Contributes to sustainable fisheries management
An illustrative example

1. Post-harvest vulnerabilities

Power relations:
- No fixed price
- No alternative markets
- Pay after sale
- Reduced prices high season

Change in roles:
- Risk aversion
- Less involved in trader association management
  - vehicle
  - association credit
- Lower literacy

Fishing community

Bamako Markets

Credit
Access to markets

Ice

Distributors
Wholesalers
Traders
Collectors
Motor
Fishers
Paddle
1. Post-harvest vulnerabilities

Bamako Markets

Fishing community

Distributors

Wholesalers

Traders

Collectors

Motor Paddle

Fishers

Cascade of losses

Post harvest losses
1. Post-harvest vulnerabilities

- Improved credit system
- Improved conservation & participative management
  - Fewer losses – focus on value rather than volume = sustainable fisheries
  - Better negotiation position = reduced vulnerability

- Fishers
- Collectors
- Traders
- Wholesalers
- Distributors

- Bamako Markets
- Fishing community
Summary

- Gender analysis throughout commodity chain
- Link communities with their markets
- Assists not just women but also entire community and sustainability of their resources
- For more information: c.howard@mrag.co.uk

Fisheries chain

Producers (Fishers)  Post harvest sector