

Contribution to Household Income and Empowerment: The Case of Married Women From Fishing Households in Guimaras, Philippines

By

Alice Joan G. Ferrer
Arthur P. Barrido

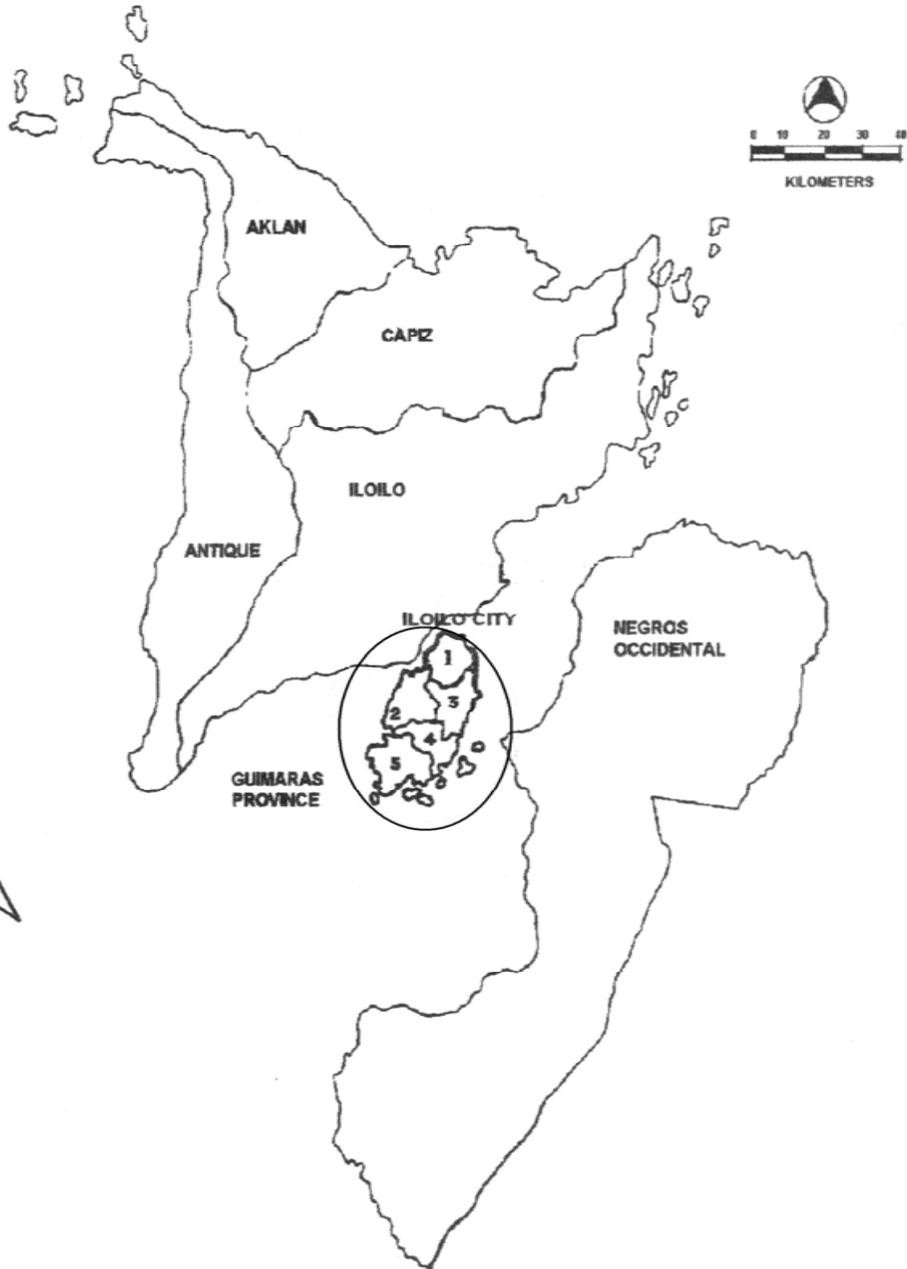
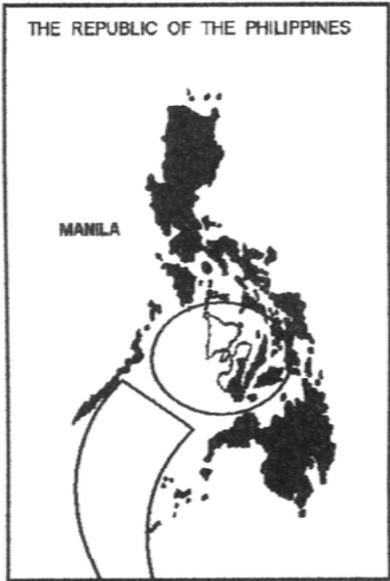
University of the Philippines in the Visayas

BACKGROUND

- Guimaras
 - Fishing is a major industry
 - 54 of 98 barangays are coastal
 - Poverty incidence, 32.7 %
- Oil spill tragedy – August 11, 2006
- Rehabilitation plan
 - Empowerment and women situation are given scant attention in the proposed livelihood interventions

OBJECTIVE

- To provide baseline information on women situation which can serve as input in the design of better livelihood programs.



- LEGEND:**
- 1 MUNICIPALITY OF BUENAVISTA**
 - 2 MUNICIPALITY OF JORDAN**
 - 3 MUNICIPALITY OF SAN LORENZO**
 - 4 MUNICIPALITY OF SIBUNAG**
 - 5 MUNICIPALITY OF NUEVA VALENCIA**

METHODOLOGY

- Survey - January 6 – March 15, 2007
- 123 married women from fishing households
- 16 barangays in 5 municipalities
- Descriptive statistics
- Chi-square

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RESULTS

Characteristics	<i>N</i> = 123
Age (mean)	41.51
Number of children (mean)	2.9
At least high school graduate (%)	43.90
Household members (mean)	5.10
Household income (PhP/US\$, mean)	84883.66 1821.54
Own land where house is built (%)	47.15
Own house (%)	99.19

Characteristics	<i>N</i> = 123
House roof is made of light materials to predominantly light materials (%)	51.22
House wall is made of light materials to predominantly light materials (%)	73.17
Has electricity (%)	70.73
Latest monthly electric bill (Php/US\$, mean)	260.84 5.59
Owns a TV set (%)	52.85
Owns a radio (%)	62.60
Owns a refrigerator (%)	17.89
Communal deep well as source of drinking water (%)	34.15

Work Profile of the Women-participants

	N=123
No reported sources of income	17.07
With work/sources of income	82.93
With regular work	3.25
With other sources of income	80.49
single source	61.62
more than two sources	38.38

*including one with regular income

** for the 99 women

Other sources of income

Characteristic	N=123
Gleaning	49.99
Trading/Peddling/Vending	27.27
Hog Fattening and Poultry	12.12
Service work	11.11
Mat weaving	10.10
Sari-sari store/storekeeping	7.07
Farming/farmworker	7.07
Salt-making	7.07
Charcoal-making	5.05
Vegetable raising	3.03

Average Earnings of Women and Share in the Household Income

Item	Amount
Estimated annual income from regular source (PhP/US\$)	78,221.46 1678.57
Estimates annual Income from other sources of income (PhP/US\$)	20,799.39 446.34
Income (all sources) average	23,011.18 493.80
% share of women's income to household income (<i>N</i> =123)	21.66
Share = 0 (<i>n</i> =21)	17.07
0 < share ≤ 50 (<i>n</i> =84)	68.29
Share > 50 (<i>n</i> =18)	14.63

Empowerment Indicators

	%
Share the performance of household chores with husband	98.37
Can express opinions freely	96.75
Believed that she should be working	95.93
Understand that role may differ from that of husband	90.24
Understand now that division of work between husbands and wives should be fair and acceptable to both sides and should not involve the domination of one over the other	89.43
Enjoys freedom of movement	86.18

	%
More active and visible member of community and organizations	74.80
Have greater say within the family when it comes to money matters	47.15
Understand more that the way she and her husband relate with each other can be changed	45.53
Have more control of, compared with husband, to factors of production such as land, labor, credit, training, marketing facilities and other services and benefits	37.39
Have own money to buy things need	36.59
Decide alone what to do in a day	29.27
With personal savings	28.46
Care of the elderly and children remains the major task	91.87

Empowerment Indicators and Share in Household Income

	Yes	No
Share the performance of household chores with husband	21.86	10.13
Can express opinions freely	21.75	19.03
Believed that she should be working.	21.84	17.48
Understand that role may differ from that of husband	21.90	19.48
Understand more now that division of work between husbands and wives should be fair and acceptable to both sides and should not involve the domination of one over the other	22.31	16.20
Enjoys more freedom of movement	22.39	17.14

More active and visible member of community and organizations	22.85	18.14
Have greater say within the family when it comes to money matters	24.35	19.27
Understand more that the way she and her husband relate with each other can be changed. ^a	<i>25.56</i>	<i>18.41</i>
Now have more control of, compared with husband, to factors of production such as land, labor, credit, training, marketing facilities and other services and benefits ^a	<i>27.26</i>	<i>18.32</i>
Have own money to buy things needed ^a	<i>30.33</i>	<i>16.66</i>
Now decide alone what to do in a day	23.86	20.75
With personal savings ^a	<i>29.50</i>	<i>18.53</i>
Care of the elderly and children remains the major task	21.57	22.75

a – significant at $\alpha = 0.05$

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The 123 married women from fishing households
 - engaged in various activities to earn a living
 - locked in low paying self-employed jobs
 - contribute about a quarter to household income
 - women with higher averaged contribution to household income seem to be more empowered
- The findings
 - support the belief that women who contribute in household income are more empowered women
 - provide explicit support for increasing women's income and support for the policies aimed at ensuring women's income.
 - Such policies could consist of promoting women's education, micro-credit, and skills training, among others.

- Empowerment concerns must be considered in livelihood support programs.
- The situation of the women must be considered in the design of livelihood programs for the residents of Guimaras, in general, and for the fishing households, in particular.

The image features a blue gradient background. The top portion is a lighter, hazy blue, suggesting a sky with soft, wispy clouds. A horizontal line, representing the horizon, separates the sky from the water below. The bottom portion is a deeper, more saturated blue, representing the surface of the ocean with subtle ripples. In the center of the image, the text "Thank you!" is written in a white, sans-serif font.

Thank you!