



An analysis of social relations outcomes on women participating in small scale fish value chains of *Barbus* and *Engraulicypris* species on Lakes Malawi and Chilwa

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Presentation outline

- Introduction
- Research problem
- Conceptual framework
- Methodology
- Findings
- Discussion and conclusions
- Policy implications
- Acknowledgements

Introduction & context

- Value chains are an increasingly popular approach to understanding complex policy challenges in agricultural and fisheries development
- Women's contribution in fish value chain activities is underestimated
- Decision-making processes undervalues women's economic and social contribution in the value chain
- Limited information on social relations outcomes women involvement in fish value chains

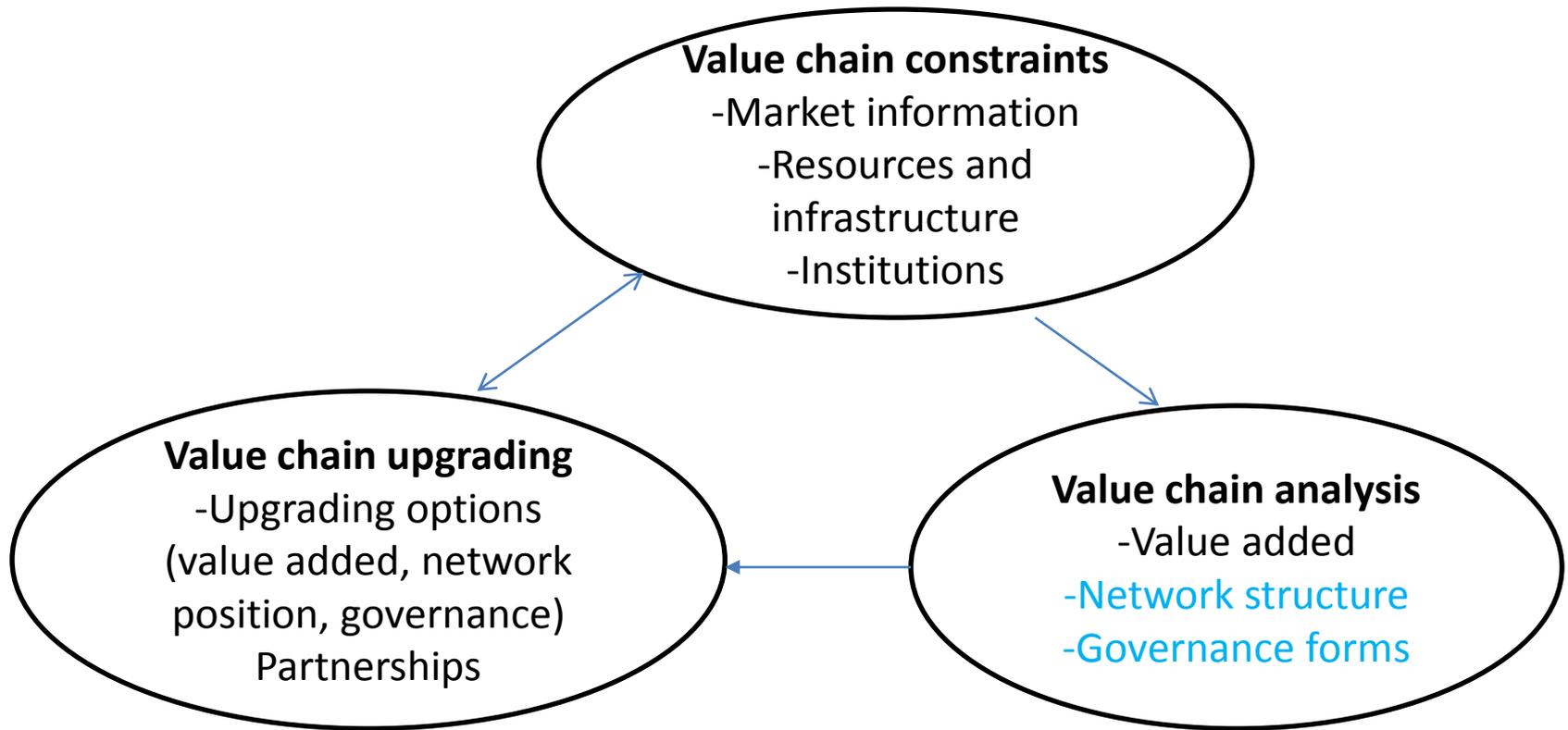
Research objectives

- Investigate and document women's' involvement in value chain activities and their governance;
- Determine the social relation outcomes on women participating small scale fish value chains and
- Examine the obstacles related to women's' participation in the value chains.

Significance of the study

- It contributes to the WorldFish Centre's Fish Trade Programme
 - Result No.1: 'to generate information regarding factors affecting women participation in fish trade'
 - Result No. 3 'to identify capacity needs of women processors and traders to enable them expand trade opportunities'

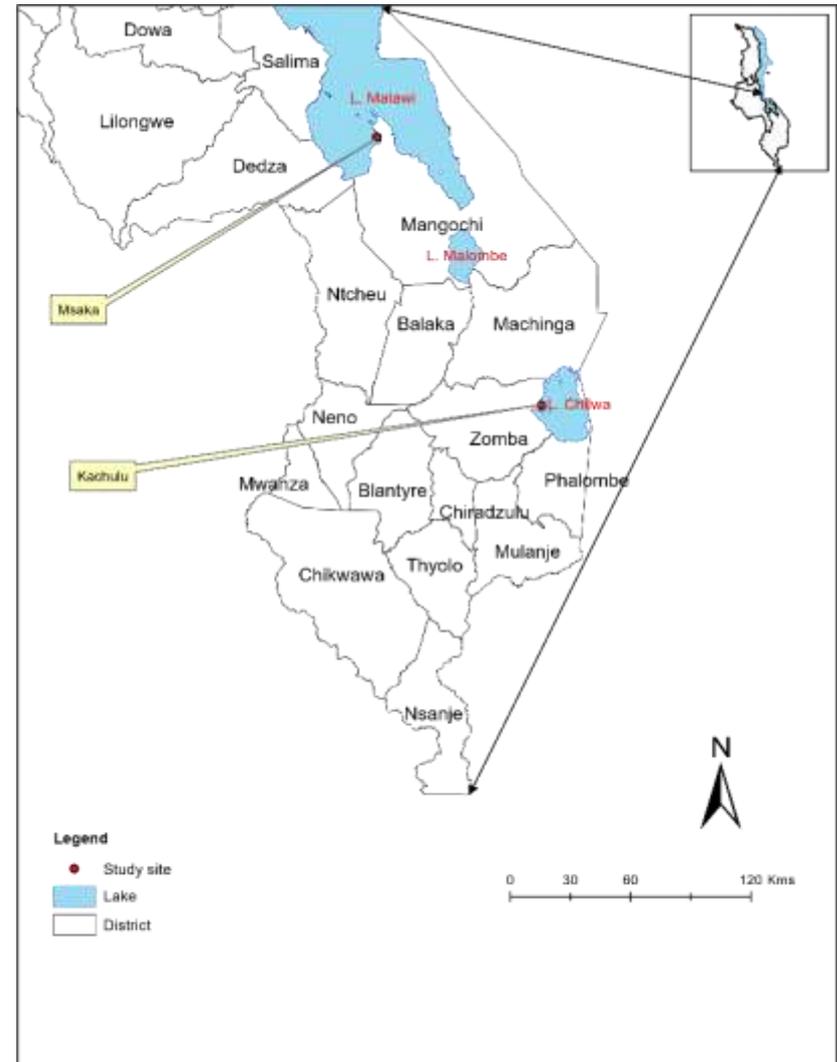
Conceptual framework



Global value chain analysis framework (Trienekens, 2011)

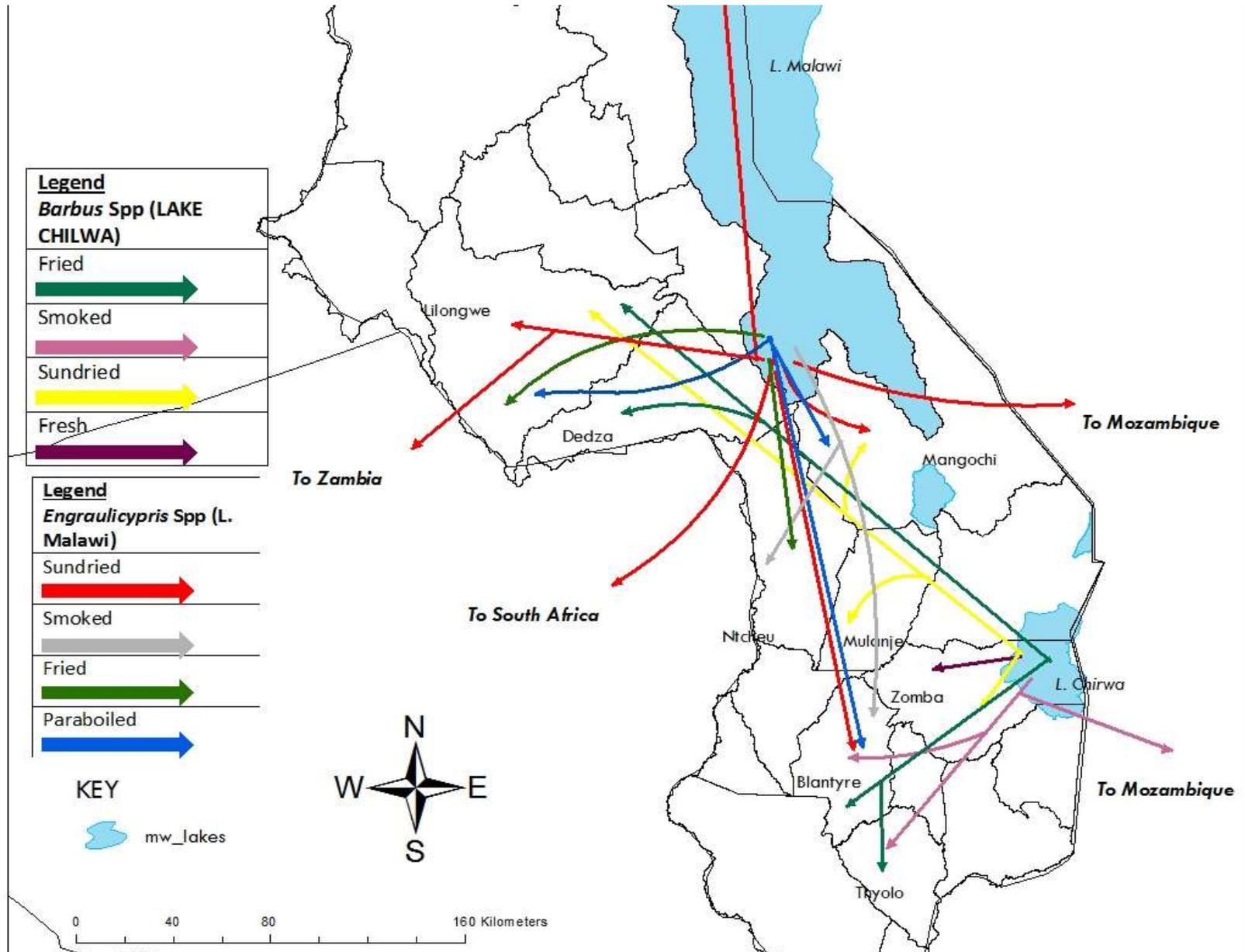
Methodology

- GTA
 - Gender Household
- Appreciative Inquiry in the FGD and KII

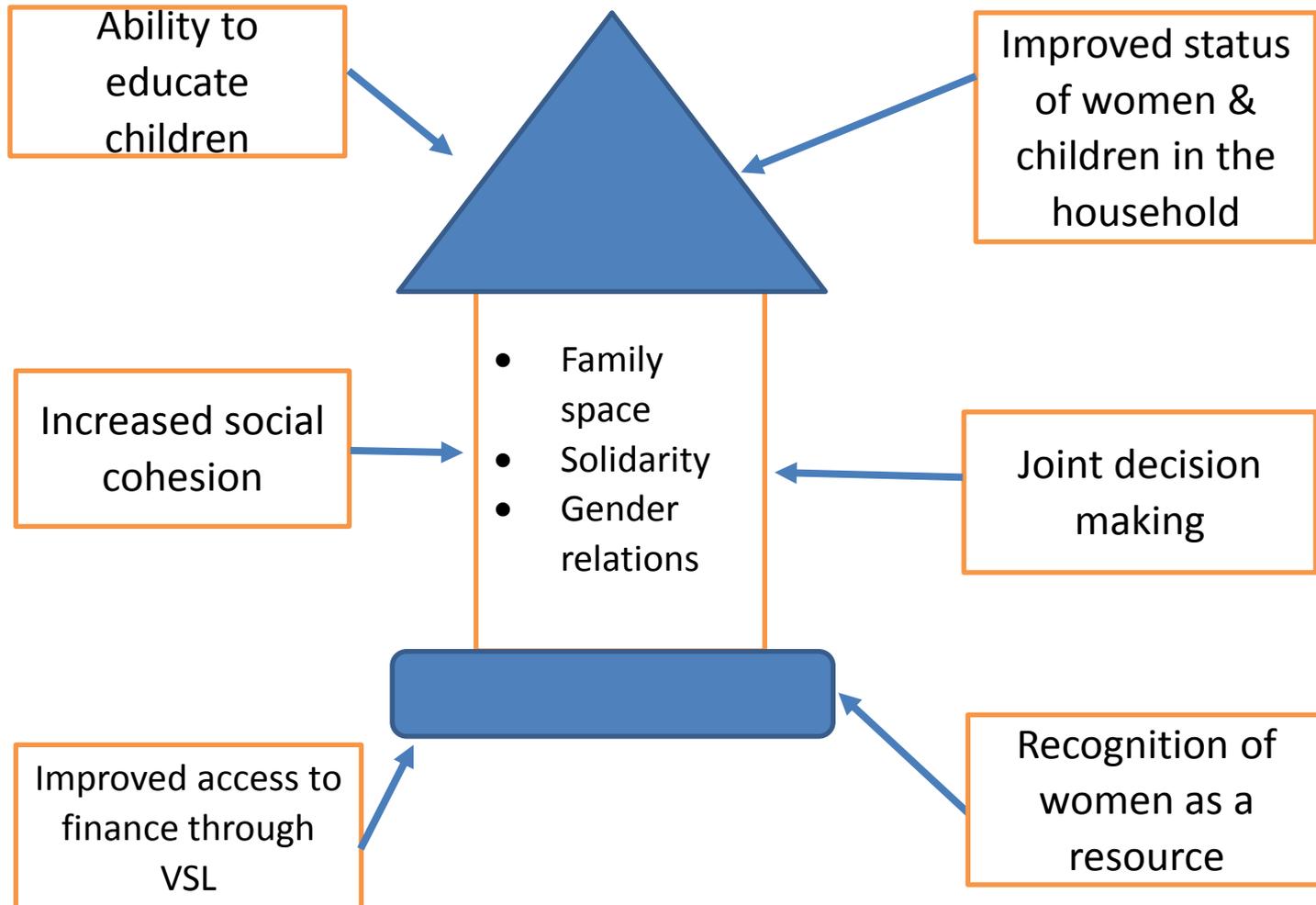


Findings

Fish flows from Kachulu & Msaka to various Markets



Social outcomes at household



Personal empowerment

- In an FGD interview with women
- In Msaka it was reported that *“we have acquired greater optimism, and self-esteem in addressing problems”*.
- In Kachulu women said *“Some of us have gained leverage in household bargaining and we are able to save, obtain credit and invest”*.



Wider community social relations

- Structural patterns of interactions
 - Supportive and collaborative outcomes
 - Social networking outcomes
- Relational patterns of interactions
 - Mutual trust and respect
 - Social solidarity and identity

Obstacles facing women

- early marriages
- domestic violence
- polygamy

Discussion and conclusions

- Women tend to be well integrated in most of the value chain nodes at the two study sites.
- Women participation in value chain activities has significant social gains for individuals as well as households and the community at large.
- Social outcomes are based on structural and relational patterns of interactions
 - inculcating women's' ability to meet their basic needs.
- Participation has not significantly transformed structural gender norms

Policy implications

- The complexity of a shift in gender relations at household and community levels requires many inputs and considerable time.
- Need for debates and discourse on acknowledging, recognising and improving the role women in fish values chains and the challenges they encounter in Malawi and SADC

Acknowledgements

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Thanks for you
attention

Contributions are welcome!!!!!!!!!!!!