

Catalysing Gender Justice through Nature-Based Solutions: Lessons from GESI Mainstreaming and Case Study from Malaysia

9th Global Conference on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF9)

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Background

Approach:

Focused not only on understanding Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in nature-based aquaculture but also on the process of implementing a GESI research.

Key Objectives:

- Deepen our understanding of aquaculture-dependent communities.
- Analyze how social & non-social scientists can integrate GESI into their work.
- Promote effective collaboration social & non-social scientists.

Our Aim:

By bringing together experts from different disciplines, we generate deeper insights that enhances our understanding of community issues.



Our Approach for a Gender Equal and Inclusive Research

- **Plan:** Developed a project-specific GESI Action Plan through team workshops to guide our efforts.
- **Capacity Development:** Conducted GESI training and participated in Aquadapt Peer-learning events.
- **Interdisciplinary Pairing:** Paired social scientists with non-social scientists to collaboratively design and implement case studies.
- **Implementation:** Conducted qualitative case studies at two sites and are finalizing our quantitative surveys.
- **Sharing and Influencing:** We are sharing our findings through workshops, presentations and in the form of articles to influence for change.



Key Lessons Learned

On Co-learning & Implementing Research

- **Interdisciplinarity:** Allows us to view problems from various aspects to find more effective solutions.
- **Success of Collaboration:** Requires shared interest, continuous commitment, and flexibility.
- **Internalize:** Principles, not just knowing the words/jargons.
- **Reflection and communication:** Ongoing, continuous process throughout the entire research.
- **Sharing back:** Fosters transparency and accountability.
- **Data only has power when it's used:** Use it to influence for change.



The way forward

Beyond the project:

Our approach is about jointly identifying issues within aquaculture communities and pave way to address these at institutional levels (communities, research groups, state agencies) as part of NBS.

Catalyze justice, foster change:

The potential for collaborative GESI research to foster lasting, systemic change within research groups, communities and institutional structures.





Thank you!