

The SEAFDEC Gender mainstreaming initiative

Special Session: SEAFDEC's Initiative to Advance Gender Equality in the Fisheries Sector and Aquaculture in Southeast Asia



9th Global Conference on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF9) : Transforming Aquaculture and Fisheries for Gender Justice on 1–3 October 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)



was established in 1967

“to develop and manage the fisheries potential of the region by rational utilization of the resources for providing food security and safety to the people and alleviating poverty through transfer of new technologies, research and information dissemination activities”.



SECRETARIA

1981



TD

Training
Department

1968

www.seafdec.or.th



MFRD

Marine
Fisheries
Research
Department

1969

www.seafdec.org/mfrd



AQD

Aquaculture
Department

1973

www.seafdec.org.ph



MFRDMD

Marine Fishery
Resource
Development
and Management
Department

1992

www.seafdec.org.my



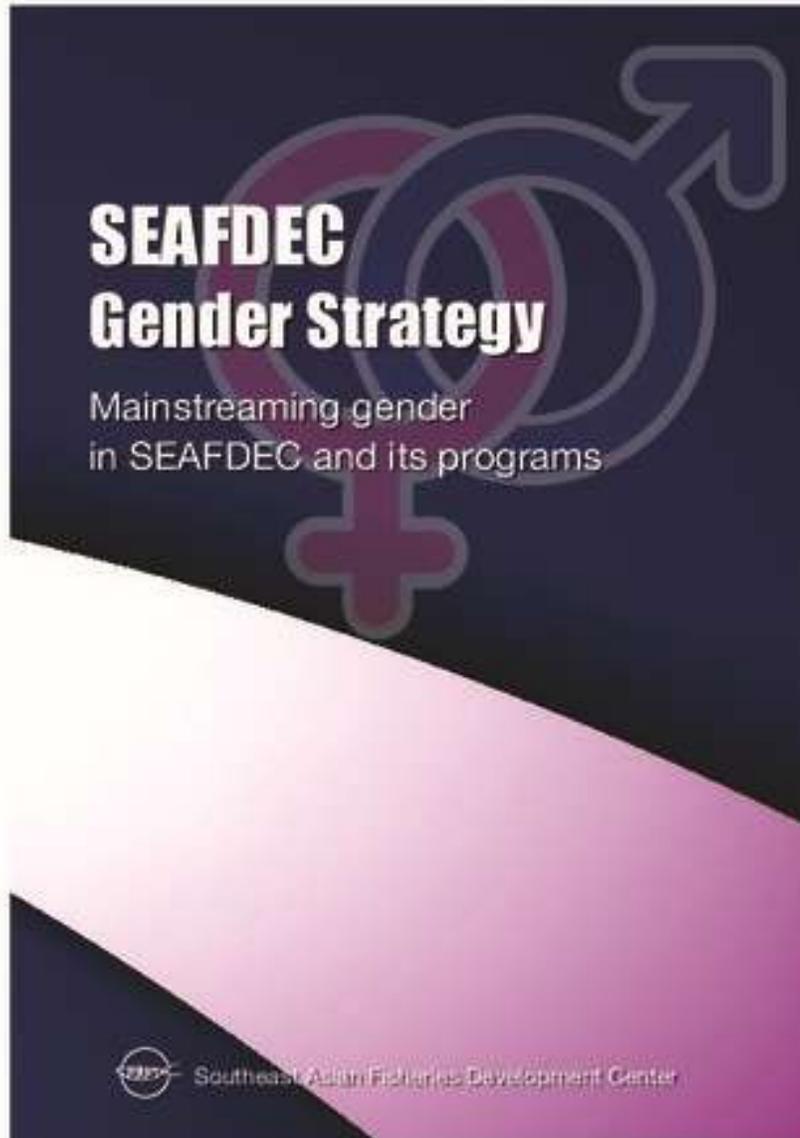
IFRDMD

Inland Fishery
Resource
Development
and Management
Department

2014

www.seafdec.id

SEAFDEC gender strategy



Goal: SEAFDEC as gender-responsive and gender-sensitive in pursuing sustainable development and management of fisheries and aquaculture in Southeast Asia

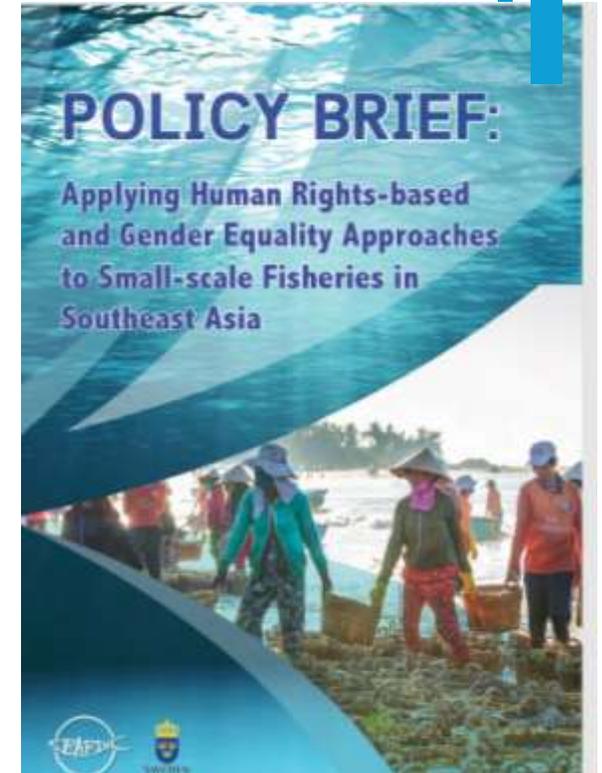
Objective: The SEAFDEC Gender Strategy strives to mainstream and integrates gender perspectives into the SEAFDEC organization and in its programs, projects, and activities to ensure that men, women, and youth at all levels, access equitable benefits in the sustainable development and management of fisheries and aquaculture.

SEAFDEC Gender Strategy

Mainstreaming	Mainstreaming Gender at all level of the Organization
Integrating	Integrating Gender in SEAFDEC Programs and Projects
Incorporating	Incorporating Gender Perspectives in All-Events Organized by SEAFDEC
Boosting	Boosting the visibility of SEAFDEC as a gender-responsive and gender-sensitive organization
Strengthening	Strengthening Further the Cooperation and Collaboration with Member Countries and Other Organizations on Gender Aspects

Policy Brief: Applying human rights-based and gender equality approaches to small-scale fisheries in Southeast Asia

- **Legal Frameworks:** Ensure inclusive fisheries laws addressing conservation, livelihoods, and rights of all actors (men, women, youth, migrants) across the entire value chain.
- **Organizational Development:** Support formation and recognition of representative SSF organizations to enable inclusive participation in decision-making.
- **Empowerment:** Build capacity and raise awareness so communities, especially women and marginalized groups, can claim rights and responsibilities effectively.
- **Participation:** Establish participatory, transparent processes to ensure community voices are recognized in planning and implementation.
- **Policy Coherence & Social Development:** Align fisheries with broader social sectors (health, education, labor, land) through cross-sector coordination to address community needs.
- **Government Planning & Budgeting:** Integrate institutional coordination, gender mainstreaming, and capacity building in SSF programs to maximize long-term social and economic returns.
- **Capacity Development:** Train fisheries officers and related stakeholders to support effective governance and service delivery in SSF.
- **Value Chain Approach:** Address power imbalances and promote equity across all stages—from pre-harvest to market access—using a full value-chain lens.
- **Gender Equality:** Mainstream gender in all actions to ensure equal rights, participation, education, and training for men, women, and youth in SSF development.



Resolution

- Endeavour to sustain the supply of fish and fishery products from the ASEAN region to improve food security, facilitate poverty alleviation, and improve the livelihoods of ASEAN people dependent on the harvesting, farming, and marketing of fish and fishery products by enhancing the necessary national fisheries policies, legal and institutional frameworks that encourage and support responsible fisheries and aquaculture operations, including small-scale operations as well as providing supplementary livelihood options;
- Improve the working conditions of people engaged in fisheries activities, and strengthen measures for the safety of fishing vessels, taking into consideration the specificity of fisheries of the region
- Strengthen the adoption of fisheries management approaches, e.g. co-management and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, at all levels with all relevant stakeholders involved in the process of planning and policy formulation for management of natural resources, conservation, rehabilitation of habitats and protective geographical features, and improvement of human well-being;
- Strengthen the capacity of fisheries communities and the capability of fisheries-related organizations (e.g. by empowering such organizations as appropriate) to implement necessary actions towards increased resilience, improved livelihoods, adoption of supplementary livelihoods, and poverty alleviation, in support of achieving sustainable development with gender integration in the process;
- Enhance safety at sea, decent working conditions, and implementation of onboard fishing vessels sanitation, including the development of new designs for fishing vessels, in compliance with relevant international standards



Resolution and Plan of Action

on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security
for the ASEAN Region Towards 2030



Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)



Gender Mainstreaming in SEAFDEC organization

Capacity building fisheries officers in gender concept and gender mainstreaming



National Training



Capacity building fisheries officers in gender concept and gender mainstreaming
University Training

Capacity building fisheries officers in gender concept and gender mainstreaming



Regional Training

Conduct gender analysis for project planning



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4x6XBZf5vU>



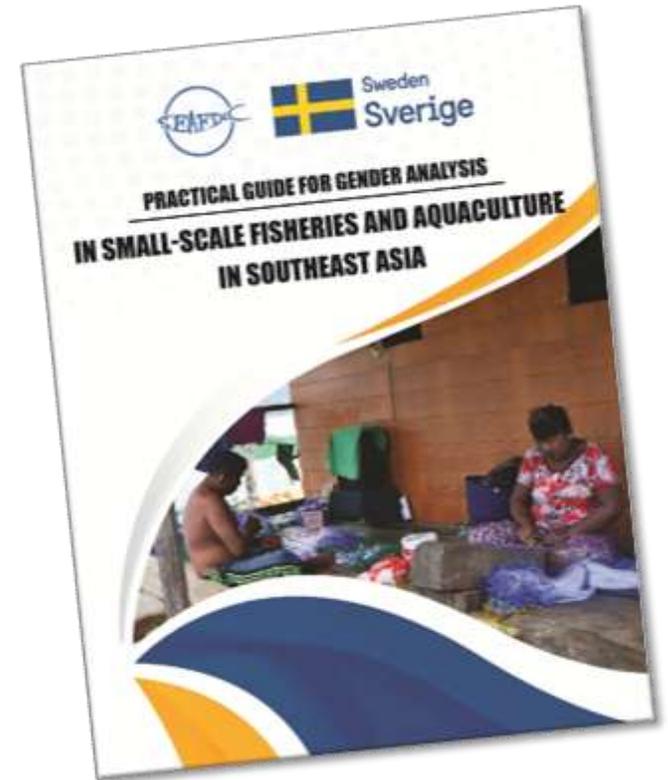
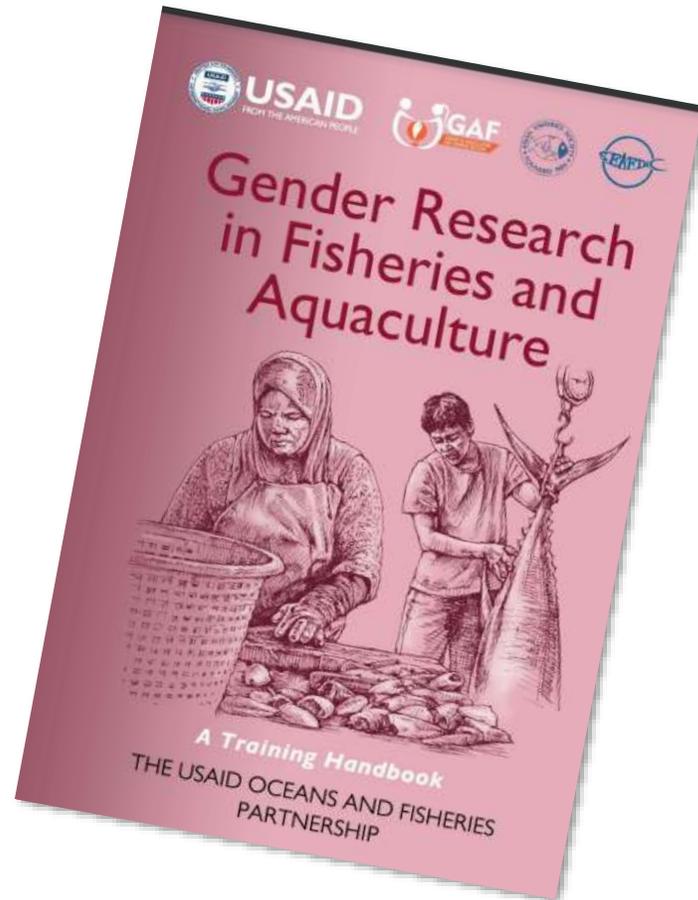
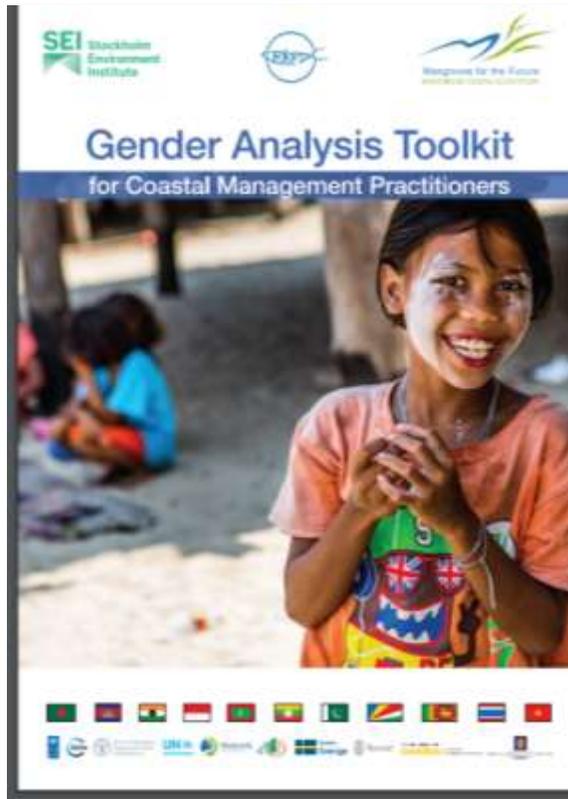
Conduct interventions to improve the livelihood of women and men in the fishing community



Decent work

IMPROVING FOR GOOD LIVING CONDITIONS
FOR CREWS

Gender analysis guide



Conclusions





Thank you for
your kind
attention