THE AFS JOURNEY TO GENDER EQUALITY IN AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES

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Gender equality matters in the fish sectors

• The **social justice** element
  • Inequality exists and is strongly perpetrated
  • The root causes of this perpetration must be addressed

• **Development and the economy** of aquaculture and fisheries **value chains**
  • Policies and practices are **gender blind** – hence usually gender biased
  • Work is highly differentiated by gender, yet **sex-disaggregated data are not available**
  • Women’s and men’s **work** are **affected in different ways** by rapid value chain changes
  • **Unpaid work** in fish sector households is disproportionately **women’s responsibility**
  • Women and men are **affected differently by disasters** and disaster recovery
The long journey to gender equality

- Where has GAF come from? Where is it now? Where is it going?
- **Activists, researchers** and their professional societies are critical
- **Track** awareness, interest and action
  - By **individuals and institutions**
  - Using data on policies, events, research literature, development projects
  - Charting the journey using Gartner’s **Hype Cycle** ([http://www.gartner.com/](http://www.gartner.com/))
Elements

**A** Expectations due to excitement and aspirations for concept

**B** Expectations due to maturation and growth of potential for impact

A + B = HC

Gartner
The trigger or need

On the rise

Peak of inflated expectations

Sliding into the trough

Trough of disillusionment

Climbing the slope

Entering the plateau

Applying Gartner’s Hype Cycle curves to GAF
Putting gender into perspective

Other forces (globalization, sustainability, aquaculture development, governance reform) are bigger and often counter to achieving gender equality.
The trigger and the rise of expectations

TRIGGER
1979 Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
The trigger or need

On the rise

The trigger and the rise of expectations

TRIGGER

1979 Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

THE RISE

1987 FAO. Women in Aquaculture Workshop
1989 SPC (Pacific) begins WIF work (post-harvest)
1990 AFSIB Women in Fisheries in India Workshop
1990 FAO ALCOM (Africa) project includes gender
1980s-early 1990s Research & action on women in Canadian cod fishery crisis marginalized
Peak of inflated expectations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>WIF Cambodia Workshop</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>AFS WIF Photo comp.</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>UNDP WIF Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop; Iloilo Resolution</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>4th World Conference on Women in Development, Beijing</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>WIF Indo-China Workshop</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Mekong Network on Gender in Fisheries estab.</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>AFS WIF in Asia (Chiang-Mai)</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>Yemaya (ICSF) women in fisheries feminist perspective</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Philippines WinFish estab.</td>
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Sliding into the trough of disillusionment

INTO THE TROUGH......

2001 AFS WIF Global (Kaohsiung)
2004 AFS GAF1 (Penang)
2006 AKTEA (Europe) estab.
2007 AFS GAF2 (Kochi)
2007 FAO SFLP (Africa) gender policy
2010 FAO-NACA Global Aquaculture Conf. gender chapter
2010 ICSF Casting the Net gender workshop
2010 FAO-RFLP (S & SE Asia)
2011 FAO State of Food & Ag. (gender)
2011 AFS GAF3 (Shanghai), FAO workshop
CLIMBING THE SLOPE

2012 GAF3 AFS Special Issue (optimism/pessimism)
2012 CGIAR Gender Transformative Approach
2012 ICAR Gender in Fisheries Roadmap (India)
2012 NACA gender mainstreaming policy
2013 AFS GAF4 (Yeosu)
2013 FAO Fisheries gender audit
2014 Aquaculture without Frontiers Women’s Network
2014 NEPAD (Africa) Gender & youth in fisheries & aquaculture policy
2014 Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines (+ gender)
2014 UN Fish & Food Security report (+ gender)
The trigger or need

On the rise

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Entering the plateau

Entering the plateau ...

WHAT’S NEXT?
What’s next for organizations?

• We **do** want
  • Greater equality in aquaculture and fisheries supply chains
  • Growth and maturation of GAF work
  • More hype and more targeted hype to generate growth and a new plateau
  • More people and organizations motivated and active

• We **do not** want
  • Over-hype
  • Disillusionment and drop out
Look to the organizations: each adopts GAF at its own pace
What’s next for **Pioneer** organizations?

- **Keep going! Do not give up.**
- Capitalise on **previous investments** – including failures
  - Early adopters may risk starting without a sound approach (see Choo & Williams 2014)
- **Learn from others**, including in other sectors, especially agriculture
- Become a **leader** – share your experience
- **Expand GAF** – “grow the field, not be the field” (Joy Anderson, Criterion Institute)
- Improve the **standards** and **speed up progress**
What’s next for the **Majority** of organizations?

- **Get going** and keep going!
- **Learn** from Pioneers and others
- Find ways to **speed up** progress
  - Develop **internal GAF knowledge**
- **Improve on current** practice

International Livestock Research Institute
Gender action timeline (2104)
What’s next for Conservative organizations?

• Do not wait any longer
• Learn from others
• Imagine the potential of adopting GAF approaches
• Enjoy lower entry costs and risks by benefiting from others’ experience
What’s next for AFS-GAF?

• Immediate (GAF5)
  • Political will and gender-inclusive policies (Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines)
  • Information (making better use of our website - Writing Workshop)
  • Capacity building (Gender 101)
  • Projects (NACA-USAID Workshop)
  • Support networks (Networks Meeting, Genderaquafish social media)
  • Support researchers and activists (GAF4 Special Issue, GAF5, Focus India)

• Future
  • A vision, and strategy for greater effectiveness of GAF in AFS
  • Strengthen the Genderaquafish platform
12 November 2014, Lucknow:
10 IFAF Dignitaries take the launch of the GAF4 Special Issue very seriously!
We hope all the fisheries and aquaculture world will also take it seriously.
Have a successful GAF5!
References