

TOOLS FOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. A REVIEW OF THEIR CURRENT STATUS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM ASIAN EXPERIENCES.

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Traditionally, development projects devoted to the fisheries sector have been mostly centered on technical issues, lacking gender mainstreaming during the identification, implementation and monitoring processes. In other instances, development projects may have women as a target group, but have not addressed the broader gender related implications of their activities on men, households and society at large. This paper addresses the current status of the means available to incorporate the gender dimension in fisheries development projects. First, it provides a critical analysis of some of the tools available to integrate the gender dimension, proposed by several international organizations working on livelihoods, and second, it evaluates their applicability in fisheries development projects, specifically in the project cycle. In recognition of the absences of and gaps in tools for gender assessment, the FAO Regional Fisheries Livelihoods Programme (RFLP) has developed a handbook for gender mainstreaming in fishery-related project cycle management. This paper reports on the main findings, conclusions and joint recommendations of a workshop conducted to discuss these tools, through the experiences and lessons learned from researchers and representatives of development institutions from different countries in Asia.