Population Ageing in Fishing Community: Gender Issues and Policy Concern

Tengku Aizan Hamid, Jariah Masud
Nik Mustapha Raja Abdullah,
Ismail Abd Latif, and
Zumilah Zainallaluddin

Universiti Putra Malaysia
Serdang, Selangor
Malaysia
Outline of talk

• Malaysia’s demographic scenario
• Population profile in the fishing industry
• Related policies
• Implications of the population profile.
• Conclusion
Percent Increase in Population Aged 65 and Over: 2008 to 2040

Source: U.S Bureau, International Data Base
Percent Increase in Population Aged 65 and Over: 2008 to 2040

Source: U.S Bureau, International Data Base

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
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<td>Total</td>
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Employed persons in fishing industry by sex & stratum, Malaysia, 2009 (‘000)

- Male: 117.9 (97%)
- Female: 3.6 (3%)

- Urban: 46.7 (38%)
- Rural: 74.8 (62%)

Percentage distribution of female employed persons in fishing industry by age groups and years

Source: Dept. of Statistics, Malaysia, Labour Force Survey Report
Percentage distribution of male employed persons in fishing industry by age groups and year

Source: Dept Statistics, Labour force survey
Age distribution of employed persons in fishing industry by state, Malaysia, 2000

Number of fishermen in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak by age groups, 2007

Source: Fisheries Development Authority of Malaysia (2008) Fishermen Socio-economic and Household Data
Employed persons in fishing industry by state, Malaysia, 2000

Education level of fishers in traditional and commercial fishing

Source: SENDI 2007
Mean number of children of fisher family

Source: SENDI report, 2007
Percentage distribution of traditional and commercial fishing by age groups, 2007
**Age Distribution of Employed Persons in Fishing Industry by Ethnicity, Malaysia, 2000**

Policies Related to Fishing Industry

• National Agriculture Policy, 1998-2010
  ❖ Maximize income through optimum use of resources

• National policy on sustainable food supply, 2008-2010

• National Agrofood, 2011-2020

• National Key Economic Area (NKEA)1, 2010-2020
National Agrofood Policy

• Increase income and supply of food
  ❖ Chapter on sustainable capture fishing
    • Increase tonnage
      – Increase commercial vessels
      – Increase productivity of current vessels
    • Management of fish resource
      – Compliance with conduct of responsible fisheries
      – Licensing of equipment
      – Registration of fishers
  • Rationalization of DOF and LKIM functions
  • Development of human resource in deep sea fishing
  • Management of infrastructure of fishing landings
Agriculture NKEA

**Target:**
Job creation- 74,000 jobs opportunities
Increase income of farmers, 2-4 folds

**Enablers:**
- Providing incentives for anchor companies;
- Changing regulations and policies;
- Strengthening logistics infrastructures;
- Ensuring sufficient pipeline of human capital, and
- Strengthening the adoption of good agriculture practice
Implications of Population Profile

• Labour force is ageing
  ◆ Address labour issues of different fishing sectors

• Poorly educated human resource
  • Technology transfer

• Foreign labor

• Old age security
Conclusion

• **Policy is in place to revolutionise the industry**

• **But the basis of policy may not reflect the characteristics of the fisher folks**

• **Investing in the human capital**
  - Increase productivity
Conclusion

- Wholistic programme development in all sectors of the fishing industry
  - Now focus on deep sea
    - Not really fisher centered policy
- Development of gender and vulnerable group for financial security in old age
- Need for more population based data in the fishery sector
Thank You
For Your Attention