

UNDERSTANDING GENDER ROLES IN THE MANGROVE REFORESTATION PROGRAM IN BARANGAY TALOKGANGAN, BANATE, ILOILO, PHILIPPINES: A CASE STUDY

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In any development project, people's participation is a major factor that causes the success or failure of the undertaking. Hence, understanding the roles played by the people behind development projects is essential for a meaningful implementation and policy recommendation.

This study was conducted to describe the roles played by men and women members of the Talokgangan Concerned Citizens Association (TACCAS), a People's Organization, in the mangrove reforestation program in Barangay Talokgangan, Banate, Iloilo, Philippines. A semi-structured interview was used in the study and complemented by a Focus Group Discussions (FGD).

Findings reveal that the majority of the members of TACCAS are women (84.62%), above 50 years of age, have reached Elementary level of education, and have been residents of the place all their lives. Respondents' main reasons for joining the TACCAS are to help their community, benefit from government projects, organize as a group and because they see TACCAS as source of income. Further, women play a significant role in most of the activities of the mangrove reforestation project as compared to their men counterparts. Women's participation is higher in the planning process, during meetings, nursery development and maintenance, as well as mangrove management and protection. Men on other hand are more involved in the construction and maintenance of fence in the mangrove area. Some of the issues encountered by the members include lack of support from other community members, lack of funds, and conflict within the household which can lead to marital disputes.