

## GENDER IN RED TILAPIA VALUE CHAIN IN VIETNAM

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This study aimed to address gender issues in red tilapia cage culture in Vietnam. Secondary data was collected from Tien Giang's Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and related studies. Focus group discussion was conducted with target farmers and local fishery managers. Primary data was collected through direct interviews with red tilapia farmers in Tien Giang province through semi-structured questionnaires. This study focused on the grow-out actors in the tilapia value chain. Tilapia seed, feed and chemicals were the main inputs for grow-out production. Tilapia produced from cages was sold to middlemen, wholesalers, domestic markets or processing plants. At the input provision node, men played important roles while women were involved in feeding brood-stock, counting fish larvae and feeding in nursing stage. Women played main roles in saving revenues obtained from grow-out production, and in selling and buying as brokers, wholesalers, in domestic markets and being the main labour workforce in processing plants. In tilapia grow-out cage culture, men played the main role in production, while women are in charge of financial monitoring viz, in 43% of the households (HHs), house work (83.3% HHs), cage preparation, fish classification, feeding fish health care, harvesting and sale, price negotiation, and spending decisions. Thus women play a main role in HH's income distribution. In terms of technical and financial indicators, the cage volume was  $100 \text{ m}^3$ , and pellet feed was used and FCR was 2.0. The Stocking density was  $282 \text{ ind.m}^{-3}$ , with 677 kg of fingerling per cage and the yield was  $7.3 \text{ tonnes cage}^{-1}$ . The total revenue was VND 3.16 bil.cage<sup>-1</sup> crop<sup>-1</sup> and profit was VND 73.2 mil.cage<sup>-1</sup> crop<sup>-1</sup> were high. Harvest size were and  $459 \text{ g.ind}^{-1}$  and total production cost was VND 242 mil.cage<sup>-1</sup> crop<sup>-1</sup>. The selling price was VND 41.1 thousand kg<sup>-1</sup> fish. Women lack of technical knowledge and the cages location were far from the river bank. These are the main constraints for women involvement. So, women need to be trained in tilapia culture technique and improved empower.