MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN FISHERIES EDUCATION AT AIT

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Workshop: Mainstreaming gender in Fisheries Education at GAF7
18-21 October 2018
Where are we now

• Gender and fisheries are taught in two different programs in different departments
  – Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources Management (AARM) and Gender and Development Studies (GDS)

• Current collaboration
  – Student thesis committees
    • Students in AARM doing gender analysis; Students in GDS doing study on fishing communities/ aquaculture
  – Joint research projects
  – Aquaculture students taking Gender courses
Aquaculture Program

• The Aquaculture program started in the early 1980’s
  – The initial focus was on promoting aquaculture for rural livelihood and poverty alleviation
• Current focus is on sustainable intensification
  – more industry-centric curriculum developed recently
  – But there is scope for incorporating social aspects
  – The curriculum revision process is ongoing
• Emphasis on aquaculture over fisheries management
• General lack of orientation on gender topics
• No serious effort so far...
Barriers to develop further collaboration

• Course structure
  – Focused, in-depth courses + 3 credit course
    • Making it difficult to introduce multi-disciplinary contents
    • Making it difficult for students to take courses from other programs

• Difficulty in cross-lecturing
  – How to make the lecture content relevant and relatable to students in the particular discipline.

• Student interests
  – Sponsored students come with own research interests
Way forward

• Make small credit courses
  – Easier for students to take
  – Can also offer as inter-sem courses
  – More multi-disciplinary approach

• Joint classes
  – Peer learning between AARM and GDS students
  – Focus on Integrated Coastal Management (ICM)

• Integrate into existing courses
  – Include socio-economic topics in aquaculture and vice versa
  – Visiting lectures
THANK YOU

subtitle