



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## Gender Analysis Report

FishAdapt Project: Strengthening the adaptive capacity and resilience  
of fisheries and aquaculture-dependent livelihoods in Myanmar



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## Contents

Executive Summary .....	2
Background .....	2
Method and Approach .....	4
Major Findings.....	4
The Reflection of Harvard Analytical Framework.....	6
Recommendation to FishAdapt Project .....	13
Finding of Vulnerability Assessment .....	15
Basic Gender Terms and Definitions .....	16

## Executive Summary

A gender analysis activity was conducted during July and August of 2019 to identify gender issues in fishery and aquaculture households in 9 pilot villages in Yangon, Ayeyarwaddy and Rakhine. The aim of this activity was to identify/ analyze/ and better understand the existing Gender Roles and Gender Gaps on the different activities performed by women/men/ young men/ young women (gender roles), relations between men and women (gender relations), patterns of women's and men's access to, and control over, resources and to pinpoint gender gaps. The activity used Gender Analysis frameworks and revelation of gender gaps formats, through the use of group discussions, participatory approaches and individual interview methods. The needs and priorities of women and men were identified, the differences socially assigned to men and women in the household were mapped, in the context of fisheries and aquaculture communities. A total of 265 people (128 female) participated in the Gender Analysis Framework activity and 90 (54 female) respondents participated in the individual interview of revelation gender analysis question. The activity was organized by FishAdapt staff with the participation of representatives of the Department of Fisheries (DoF). The current report presents major findings, issues and recommendations for the development of the FishAdapt project gender mainstreaming strategy and the integration of gender specific activities into the project plan.

## Background

The fisheries and aquaculture sector in Myanmar is critically important to the country's food and nutrition security and economy. Climate change is forecast to have a significant impact on the sector. For capture fisheries (marine and inland) these impacts include changes in sea surface temperature, higher inland water temperature, changes in ocean currents, changes in the frequency of El-Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events, sea level rise and changing levels of rain and water availability. The aquaculture sector is also exposed to hazards such as salt-water intrusion, flooding of ponds, shortages in water supply, invasive species and ad hoc development planning altering local ecosystem dynamics and undermining their resilience, integrity and functionality. The fisheries sector and dependent livelihoods are also under stress from a range of other factors such as Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, overfishing and pollution. Myanmar is vulnerable to extreme climate events, which have caused significant loss of life, damage to infrastructure and impacted fishers and fish farmers' livelihoods. In order to address these issues, Myanmar has developed its National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) for climate change. In 2015, Myanmar also outlined a range of mitigation and adaptation actions under its Intended Nationally

Determined Contributions (INDC). At present, Myanmar faces significant challenges in addressing these issues and achieving sustainable management and utilization of its aquatic resources. These include weak governance, organizational capacities, institutional arrangements, limited technical capacity and knowledge; and limited resources for the development and implementation of adaptation plans. In order to address these issues and to support implementation of its NAPA, the Government of Myanmar requested FAO (in collaboration with other GEF agencies government agencies, development partners, NGO's and civil society) to prepare this GEF – LDCF funded project. Specifically, the project addresses three main barriers to climate change adaptation, including:

- Lack of climate resilient sector policies, and limited integration of fisheries specific climate responses into national policies
- Lack of capacity and resources within the sector to support communities in planning and responding to climate related stressors and fisheries and aquaculture adaptation to climate change impacts.
- Limited knowledge sharing and communication within the sector and with fisheries and aquaculture dependent communities, limited coordination and lack of real-time/working level understanding of climate change and its' impacts on fisheries, aquaculture and their livelihoods.

The project objective is to assist the government to enable inland and coastal fishery and aquaculture stakeholders to adapt to climate change by understanding and reducing vulnerabilities, piloting new practices and technologies, and sharing information. Key areas of focus for the project will include strengthening of national, regional, and local regulatory frameworks and adaptive capacities, fisheries co-management measures, integrated mangrove fisheries and aquaculture, inland fisheries and small-scale aquaculture, and critical issues related to land and resource tenure. These results will be achieved through four project components, as follows:

- Component 1: Strengthen the National, Regional/ State and Township level regulatory and policy frameworks to facilitate the adaptive capacities of the fisheries and aquaculture sector
- Component 2: Enhanced critical adaptation practices demonstrated by fishers and fishing communities in vulnerable coastal and inland water regions of Myanmar
- Component 3: Develop and apply adaptation models to strengthen the resilience of Myanmar's aquaculture sector to the impacts of climate change.
- Component 4. Knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation, training and scaling up adaptation practices, lessons learned development and dissemination.

Gender and the involvement of women is of particular importance for the project, and the project will fully support gender mainstreaming. A gender strategy will be developed and implemented during the project duration, and specific gender sensitive adaptation technologies and approaches will be developed during the project directly targeting women. The proposed indicators will also ensure monitoring of gender actions.

From July to August 2019, the FishAdapt project conducted a gender analysis to identify/ analyze/ and better understand the existing Gender Roles and gender related issues in nine pilot communities in Yangon, Ayeyarwaddy and Rakhine. The ultimate aim was the development of the gender mainstreaming strategy for the project, to ensure the project can cater to the needs and interest of men, women and youth<sup>1</sup> in fisheries and aquaculture communities, in the context of Climate Change Adaption.

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<sup>1</sup> For statistical purposes, the United Nations General Assembly in 1985 for the International Youth Year first defined youth as people between the ages of 15 and 24. In 1995, when the General Assembly adopted the World Programme of Action for

## Method and Approach

For the gender analysis activity, FishAdapt staff members used participatory approaches, key individual interview (KII) and focus group discussion (FGDs).

## Major Findings

The women (and young women) from fishery and aquaculture households are involved in pre-harvest and post-harvest processes such as fish processing, small-scale fishing, fish selling and fish products distribution to both local and other areas market. Women and young women are the main managers of household tasks, such as food production, and other domestic and reproductive duties, and they have less time available to improve their skills and knowledge on other productive activities. The analysis also found that with regards to decision-making power, the participation and representation of women in decision-making forums is less compared to men.

### Summary findings

- a) Women have limited opportunity to work as wage labor in the fishing sector, especially in commercial fishing business. This could largely be due to the gender stereotypes considering women as physically weak and unsuited to the physical demands of fishing, though more studies may be required to explain the absence of women in commercial fishing boats (not only in Myanmar, but regionally and globally). Due to high insecurity in jobs depending in fisheries, women (mainly young women) are migrating to Yangon, Mandalay and abroad, searching for potential jobs as factory workers or others.
- b) Men, Women and youth from fishery and aquaculture households have poor awareness about action plan, policies and laws related to gender, fisheries and aquaculture, or climate change and disaster.
- c) Women and youth also have limited opportunities to be involved as participants, representatives or leadership positions and decision-making roles in fisheries and aquaculture decision-making bodies, including government administrative structures. This holds true in urban and rural areas, both at local/village administrative levels, and at national levels.
- d) Women (and young women) from fishery and aquaculture, households are involved in pre-harvest and post-harvest activities: fish processing, small-scale fishing, fish selling and fish products distribution local and other markets. However, they lack opportunities to access technical skills to enhance their livelihoods.
- e) Improving women's access to markets and storage of fish through provision of ice will help improve women's roles in fish processing and marketing. There is a need to develop appropriate and conducive marketing facilities in areas where women fishers have easy and unhindered access. Credit policy also needs to ensure women's access to micro finance without having to provide collateral or recommendation by other household members, such as the husband.
- f) Improving women's access to markets and storage of fish through provision of ice will help improve women's roles in fish processing and marketing. There is a need to develop appropriate and conducive marketing facilities in areas where women fishers have easy and unhindered access. Credit policy also needs to ensure women's access to micro finance without having to provide collateral or recommendation by other household members, such as the husband. The further reduction of post-harvest losses and improving fish processing beyond traditional drying and salting should be addressed. Training and support for women should also be provided to improve storage, packaging and distribution of fish as well as the management of enterprises.

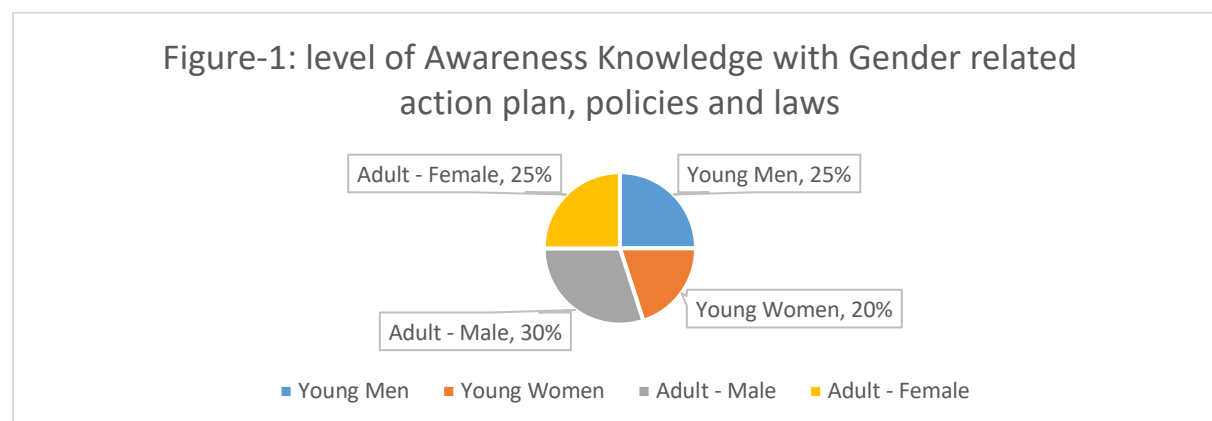
a). Women, in general, have limited opportunity to work as wage labour in the fishing sector, especially in commercial fishing businesses. This is due to the existing gender stereotype reflection that women are physically weak and unsuited to the physical demands of fishing. On the other hand, women and young women are occupied with their family fishing business, and in unsecure job opportunities. Therefore, young women are migrating to

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Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, it again defined youth as 15 to 24, but acknowledged that the age range varies among different countries and societies. (<http://www.fao.org/ruralityouth/faqs.html>)

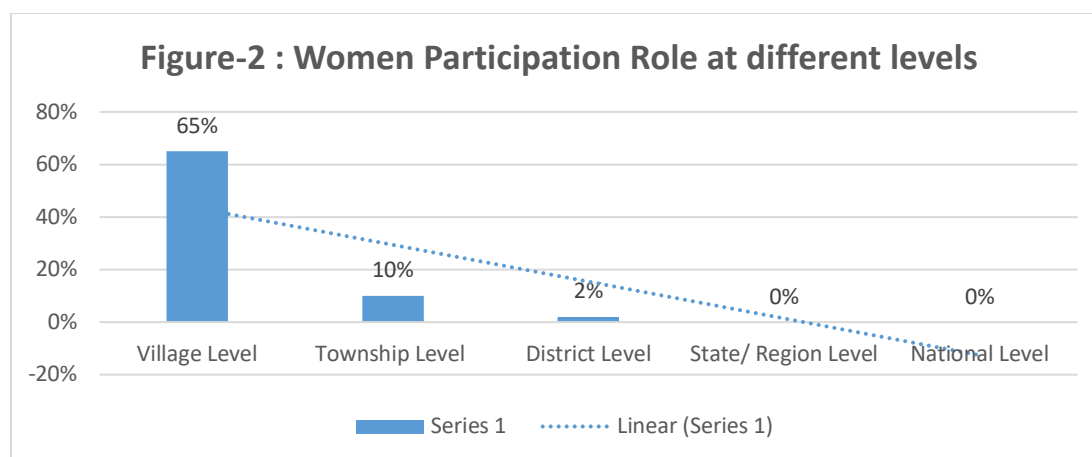
bigger urban areas such as Yangon, Mandalay, and abroad to work in factories and other jobs. These finding reflected that FishAdapt project planned to ensure youth participation a least 25% in all works but it may difficult to reach this target due to this reason.

b). The Analysis reflected that Men, Women and Youth from Fishery and Aquaculture household lack awareness and understanding of the related policies and laws of the fishery and aquaculture sectors, as well as those concerned with women's rights such as CEDAW, NSPAW, PoVaw. The pipe chart shown that less 30% of men (youth young men) and women (youth young women) from communities have the awareness knowledge on gender related policies and laws. **(Figure -1)** The recommendation is that measures should be put in place to improve their access to awareness opportunities related to laws and policies of fishery, aquaculture, climate change, disaster risk reduction that had been adopted by Myanmar National Government. The FishAdapt project should create non-traditional opportunities such as the organization of consultation and awareness workshops with stakeholders and community, Township/ District, Regional/State and National levels. Women and Decision-making key area of NSPAW mentioned that to increase women's participation in the development and implementation of sustainable practices is extremely important for sustainable development.



c). Women and youth have very poor opportunities to be involved as participants, representatives, decision-makers and similar leadership roles in fishery and aquaculture sector activities, such as meetings, training, workshops and government administrative structures. The Figure-2 resulted of individual interview to 90 respondents and shown that 65% of women are getting participation opportunity at community level but other Township, District, State/ Region and National levels are quite low as shown as in the chart. When considering gender mainstreaming in activities, project should focus not only on the number of participant and representatives, but also if women are involved in leadership and decision-making roles. The FishAdapt project planned to form different committee and working groups at all levels to achieve the project objective; to enable inland and coastal fishery and aquaculture stakeholders to adapt to climate change by understanding and reducing vulnerabilities, piloting new practices and technologies, and sharing information. Therefore, project team should encourage and consider women and youth participation and representation in different level committee and working groups. If so, they can be involved in decision making and representative roles, and freely participate in opportunities related to fishery and aquaculture sector development and adaption. The Project also should do awareness raising activities about the benefits of women's participation in leadership and decision-making roles at different levels.





d). To increase the capacity of women in urban and rural areas to implement community-based initiatives, collaborating with local women's groups is very much important. Nowadays, women and women's groups are lacking good collaboration with village administrative, village development committee and others. Therefore, FishAdapt project should collaborate with women's groups or invite women to increase their capacity, which will contribute to Climate Change Adaptation.

e). Governments should introduce policies and programs that meet the needs of women in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, recognizing and valuing the role they play and empower them at all decision-making levels - from the household to the government. One of the first actions needed to redress gender inequities is to increase awareness of gender issues and to dispel perceptions that women are weak and helpless. Networking should focus on awareness building through communication and exchange of ideas, experiences and approaches that improve the quality of life for women in fisheries, making their lives more productive and fulfilling.

f). The important role that women play determining and guaranteeing food security and well-being for the entire household is being increasingly recognized. However, further support is needed in different areas. Improving women's access to markets and storage of fish through provision of ice will help improve women's roles in fish processing and marketing. There is a need to develop appropriate and conducive marketing facilities in areas where women fishers have easy and unhindered access. Credit policy also needs to ensure women's access to micro finance without having to provide collateral or recommendation by other household members, such as the husband. The further reduction of post-harvest losses and improving fish processing beyond traditional drying and salting should be addressed. As women undertake the majority of fish processing, their participation is crucial for their livelihood development. Training and support for women should also be provided to improve storage, packaging and distribution of fish as well as the management of enterprises.

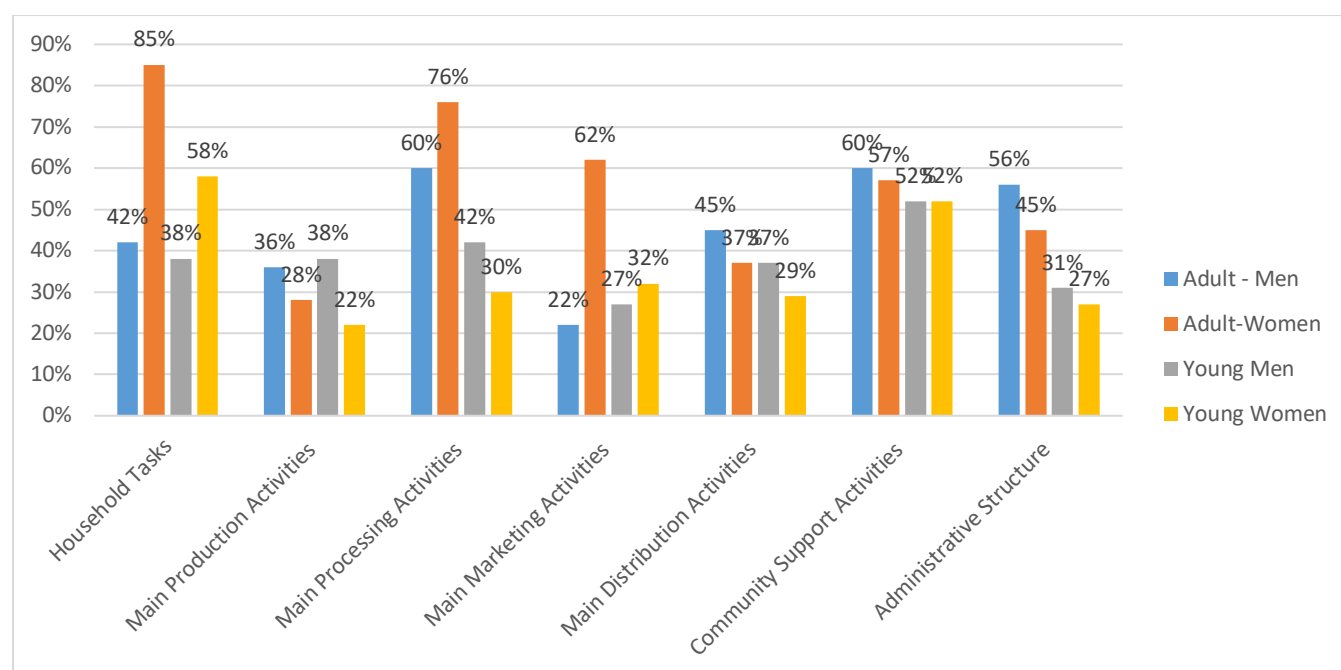
## The Reflection of Harvard Analytical Framework

The Harvard Analytical Framework is also called the Gender Roles Framework or Gender Analysis Framework that was developed by the Harvard Institute for International Development in collaboration with the WID office of USAID, and based on the WID efficiency approach; it is one of the gender analysis and planning frameworks often used in gender research in natural resource management. The aim of the Harvard framework is to demonstrate that there is an economic rationale for investing in women AND men, by taking into account their specific gender roles. The Harvard Analytical Framework was used to collect information from the community and from households. It describes who does each activity, who has access and control of resources and the influences on gender roles. The **Activity Profile** answers the question "Who does what?" for all relevant productive and

reproductive tasks. The **Access and Control Profile** identifies the resources used in the tasks identified in the Activity Profile, and defines who has access to these resources and who controls their use. It also identifies the benefits that realized from each activity, and who has access to and control over these benefits. The identifies factors that cause the differences of roles of each gender identified in the two profiles. These may indicate areas where there is opportunity to change gender roles. The framework consists of a matrix for collecting data at the community and household levels. It has four interrelated components:

1. The Activity Profile
2. The Access and Control Profile
3. The Gender Analysis Matrix
4. The Gender Needs Analysis Framework

**Figure-3: The reflection of Activity Profile: Focus on Men and Women's relationship**



Household Tasks	Main Production Activities	Main Processing Activities	Main Marketing Activities	Main Distribution Activities	Community Support Activities	Administrative Structure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Food preparing</li> <li>- Washing clothes</li> <li>- Caring the children</li> <li>- Collect the water</li> <li>- Buy needed thing for house</li> <li>- House construction/ maintenance</li> <li>- House cleaning</li> <li>- Household financial management</li> <li>- Feeding to animals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Find the capital fund for business</li> <li>- Find the fishing ground</li> <li>- Find the feed for crab</li> <li>- Buy the net</li> <li>- Buy the boat and machine</li> <li>- Installing the net</li> <li>- Repair the net</li> <li>- Hire the labour</li> <li>- Buy the needed materials for business</li> <li>- Fishing</li> <li>- Preparing the fish/ prawn pond</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collect raw fish</li> <li>- Selecting fish</li> <li>- Scale scraping</li> <li>- Fish slicing</li> <li>- Fish head cutting</li> <li>- Fish cleaning</li> <li>- Fish salting</li> <li>- Dry fish</li> <li>- Fish carrying</li> <li>- Shrimp boiling</li> <li>- Fish cooling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collect the fish price information from different market</li> <li>- Negotiate price of fish</li> <li>- Sale directly at local market or village</li> <li>- Sale at other market and village</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fish cooling</li> <li>- Fish carrying</li> <li>- Manage or help the delivering process from village to other village or town</li> <li>- record the account books</li> <li>- maintain the communication with fish retailer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- help and involve at village's donation ceremony</li> <li>- help and involve in social services activities at village</li> <li>- involve in the sport teams</li> <li>- attend the training related with disaster, climate change adaptation subject</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- member of Single group for social services</li> <li>- work as 10 household leader</li> <li>- member of community based groups</li> <li>- member of social services groups</li> <li>- member of village level Maternal and Child Welfare Association</li> </ul>

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- Caring the family member health - Collect the house debt - Work for HH income	- Fixing the needed thing at fish/prawn pond - Do the watchman/ women at fish/prawn pond - Do the aquaculture business - Inform the fishing ground information	- Shrimp smoking, drying - Sun drying - Mud crab tying - Dry fish collecting	- Send the selected fish to fish retailer - Fish weight - Collect the fish sale's debt		- attend first-aid training - help for village road maintain process - attend village meeting	- member of parent and children association - member of women affair's association - member of loan groups
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Activity profile tool reflected examines the gender-based division of labor among men and women, young men and young women. It shown their roles and responsibilities distributed between men (young men) and women (young women) in the fishery and aquaculture sector relevant to FishAdapt project. Mentioned above figure shown the division of labor in seven area at community from Gender perspective; who does what. All of the analysis based on differentiation of men and women's tasks categorized productive and reproductive activities of 9 pilot communities. Their tasks are listed from the point of view of domestic tasks, economic tasks, social tasks which are overwhelmed to the project objective of their role of participation, decision making and leadership, especially for the women. According to the data shown in the figure, women's roles in most categories of tasks are in high rank. Especially, Household task, Main Production Activities and Main Marketing Activities are higher than men and youth. However, there is also less recognition of their roles in income generation by household members. Also, the distribution of work on each category shows that Household tasks, which include most domestic work, consume a lot of time and energy of the women and they have less time to get involved in other social and economic categories. On the other hand, due to their heavy workload, they have limited time to improve their skills and knowledge to access and control over resources and benefits. In the main production activity, women have less job opportunities.

**Figure-4: The Reflection of Access and Control Over- It was indicated % and √ based on village Household population)**

Resources	Who has access to?				Who has control over to?				Remark
	Men	Women	Young men	Young Women	Men	Women	Young Men	Young women	
Fishing at Mangrove Forest	71%	26%	46%	17%	√	√	√		
Gather firewood at mangrove forest	17%	8%	11%	5%	√	√	√		
Gather Firewood at other places	92%	58%	53%	35%	√	√	√	√	
Finding feed for Crab	63%	16%	34%	8%	√	√	√	√	
Netting Fix	74%	50%	50%	30%	√	√	√	√	
Farm Own	44%	34%	14%	13%	√	√	√	√	
Boat own	68%	33%	16%	2%	√	√	√	√	
Fishing Gears Own	70%	5%	28%	0%	√	√	√	√	
Bicycle and Motorbike Own	48%	37%	60%	42%	√	√	√	√	
Public Transport - Haw Lar Gyi/ Tote Tote access	73%	53%	52%	48%	√	√	√	√	
clean water (water shortage at summer season)	100%	100%	100%	100%	√	√	√	√	
electricity (88 % HH can use)	100%	100%	100%	100%	√	√	√	√	
have toilet (90 % HH has toilet)	100%	100%	100%	100%	√	√	√	√	
attended primary education	84%	91%	100%	95%	√	√	√	√	
attended secondary education	55%	42%	88%	88%	√	√	√	√	
attended high education	25%	17%	68%	74%	√	√	√	√	
access to credit/ loan	45%	72%	18%	22%	√	√	√	√	



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health services/ hospital (limited access)	70%	70%	70%	70%	√	√	√	√	
Eat fish	100%	100%	100%	100%	√	√	√	√	Decreasing
Income from Animal Sales	100%	100%	100%	100%	√	√	√	√	
Attend to training (knowledge advancement)	48%	43%	46%	48%	√	√	√	√	
Information Received (weather)	62%	63%	61%	61%	√	√	√	√	
Fishing Labour (Note: women works part time labour)	70%	42%	52%	27%	√	√	√	√	
Casual Labour	70%	37%	42%	35%	√	√	√	√	
Garden Own	17%	17%	0%	0%	√	√			

**Figure-5: The The Reflection of Gender Analysis Matrix**

Dimension of Gender Analysis	Men	Women	Young Men (15-24 years old)	Young Women (15-24 years old)
<b>Other income – generation source</b> What other activities they do? When (seasonal)? Where (Location)?	Men are doing casual labour, livestock, farm labour, small business, copartner jobs at their village and other places when the fishing season off.	Women are doing activities such as livestock, grow the betel and vegetable plant, vendor, sale the vegetable and goods, tailoring, working at factory, and stitch the leaves of nipa job at their village. Some women are working as factory labour after migrant from village.	Young men are doing activities such as: copartner, farm labour, livestock, and casual labour at villages while fishing season is off. Most of young men are migrating to Town areas to work as casual labor and factory jobs for the whole year.	Young women are doing activities such as: the collect firewood/ sale it, grow the vegetable and betel, tailoring, netting fix, sale the vegetable and goods, labor for farm and vendors at their village. Many young women are migrating to Town places to work as garment jobs.
<b>Assets &amp; Capabilities: related to Fisheries/ Aquaculture Sector only</b> What kind of Assets they have? Do they have capabilities/ skills manage above assets? What challenges and constraints they have to manage above assets?	Men owned the boat, machine boat, different fishing nets, fishpond, and fishing gears. Most of these assets being registered by their name. They have the capacity to manage these assets. Men are facing the weather and climate change effected issues, broke down the boat machine at sea, labor and money to maintain these assets. Sometimes, men floated with boat two or three days due to boat machine broken down and extra part are not able to repair at sea.	Women said that even their household assets owned title by their husband name, they also owned these assets such as boat, machine boat, different fishing nets, fishpond and fishing gears. But they said they don't have capabilities and skills to manage/use these assets well. The hiring labor, maintain process, raw materials, and weather/ climate change are making challenges and creating constraints for women.	Young married men, they owned the boat, machine boat, different fishing nets, and fishing gears. Most of these assets being registered by their name. They have the capacity to manage these assets. Young men are facing the weather and climate change effected issues, broke down the boat machine at sea, labor and money to maintain these assets.	Young married women, they said that even their household assets owned title by their husband name, they also owned these assets such as boat, machine boat, different fishing nets, fishpond and fishing gears. But they said they don't have capabilities and skills to manage/use these assets well. Young women are same situation as women, and they are not considering to manage their household assets. Sometimes, men floated with boat two or three days due to boat machine broken down and extra part are not able to repair at sea.

## Gender Analysis Report/ FishAdapt Project- GCP/MYA/020/LDF

<b>Health</b>  Please describe the two common disease in your communities.  Do they have challenges/ issues to access health services/ treatment?	Hypertension, diabetes, seasonal flu, and arthritis of all four limbs are happening to men.	Hypertension, menstrual disorder, diabetes, seasonal flu, and arthritis of all four limbs are happening to women.	Young men are suffering only the seasonal flu.	Young women are suffering the menstrual pain/ cramps and nerve pain.
	Most of villages out of 9 pilot community, are facing transportation issues, no medical practitioner or nurse at their village. Some nurses are in the village, but nurses don't have all medicine that needed by community. Especially, more than 50% of pregnant women are most difficult to deliver baby at their villages and as a result many children are born on the way to the hospital.			

**Figure-6: The Reflection of GENDER NEEDS ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK**

Factors	Practical Needs		Strategic Needs	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
Fisheries Soft skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical skilling up training on different fishing nets fixing and repairing</li> <li>• Advance skilling up training on fish processing products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install and repair the fishing net skill training</li> <li>• Boat's machine repair technical training</li> <li>• High carpenter skill up training on boat making</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical skilling up training on different fishing nets fixing and repairing</li> <li>• Advance skilling up training on fish processing products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install and repair the fishing net skill training</li> <li>• Boat's machine repair technical training</li> <li>• High carpenter skill up training on boat making</li> </ul>
needed visible items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trainer</li> <li>• Training Materials and package</li> <li>• Require materials</li> <li>• Budget for training expense</li> </ul>			
Aquaculture Soft skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical skill for clean water, pond cleaning, systematic water in/ out skill, systematic aquaculture system Training for different fish and prawn</li> </ul>			
needed visible items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trainer</li> <li>• Technical Training materials and package</li> <li>• Materials include machine for practical use</li> <li>• Budget for training expense</li> </ul>			
Gender Skill / Awareness (Needed soft skills and visible items)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• need gender focal person or committee as bridge to access gender relevant information, documents and knowledge</li> <li>• need to organize quarterly meeting if gender committee formed at the village</li> <li>• want to get the updates, information and knowledge of FishAdapt project via gender focal person</li> <li>• want to attend gender knowledge training for (2) days</li> <li>• want to access a resource that can provide books of fishery, aquaculture, disaster, climate change, gender and other relevant area</li> <li>• want to attend knowledge awareness events such as 16 Days of Activism, International Women's Day, International DRR Day, International Climate Change Day, Fisheries Day</li> <li>• want to access to action plan, laws and legal frameworks of fisheries, gender, climate change and disaster</li> </ul>			

**Gender attitudes and stereotypes reflected by 90 respondents from 9 pilot communities in Yangon, Ayeyarwaddy and Rakhine**

**How much community aware on Gender aspect?**

About 60% of respondents are aware of gender, gender mainstreaming and women empowerment via TV channels and awareness session by Community Driven Project (CDP). However, they do not know the full meaning and how-to linkage gender into village development activities. Community lack of information related to this topic because they are not involved in all activities of CD projects. Therefore, a gender awareness platform is essential for all community to implement a gender mainstreaming and women empowerment approach. Respondents also requested for FishAdapt to ensure awareness platform to access the gender related knowledge.

**The measurement of community awareness on gender related policies, conventions and committee.**

In this session, the project team measured the community's awareness related to NSPAW, CEDAW, MNWC, and PoVaw. Only 30 respondents out of 90 were aware the NSPAW and PoVaw through the TV channels such as Hluttaw and MRTV-4. These channels shown the live show of Hluttaw activities, Myanmar Women's Day, International Women's Day and 16 Days of Activism events. Almost 90 respondents were aware the name of CEDAW and MNWC. They have seen the information and awareness events via many TV channels. MNWC had formed in all village and members are servicing for the women rights and violent issues. Most communities are more familiar with the MNWC than others. All the respondent considered that communities are lacking access to knowledge in these topics, however. Communities preferred access to this information is through books, news and leaflets. They would like to participate in the events, which related with women such as 16 Days of Activism and Women's Days. The recommendation to FishAdapt project is that to ensure the establishment of knowledge transfer and to organize gender related events in all communities.

**How is the current situation of women, men and youth participation in different fishery and aquaculture activities?**

Women and men's participation level is almost equal balance at village level meeting and training. This is because women often substitute their husband while they are occupied in other productive activities. However, women have very low participation in Township and District levels meetings, workshops, and events. Women have less awareness than men on the issues discussed in those levels. Both women and men of these communities have no opportunities to participate in State and National levels training, workshop, and events.

**How is the current situation of decision-making and representative by women, men and youth in different fishery and aquaculture activities?**

30 % (both men and women) of the 90 respondents reflected that women are taking 30% the decision-roles of family matters such as household business, children's education community activities. Women have difficulties participating as equal decision-makers for the household matters because of their less income produced, even though they contribute with domestic and reproductive task. The important role that women play determining and guaranteeing food security and well-being for the entire household is increasingly being recognized. However, further support is needed in different areas. Improving women's access to markets and storage of fish through provision of ice will help improve women's roles in processing and marketing. There is a need to develop appropriate and conducive marketing facilities in areas where women fishers have easy and unhindered access. Credit policy also needs to ensure access to women to micro finance without having to provide collateral or recommendation by other household members such as the husband. The further reduction of post-harvest losses and improving fish processing beyond traditional drying and salting should be addressed. As women undertake the majority of fish processing, their participation is crucial for their livelihood development. Training and support for women should also be provided for the storage, packaging and distribution of fish as well as the management of enterprises. Women need extra help to access assistance. Creative schemes are needed to allow women access to the means for their improvement, including capital, equipment and technology, credit and loans, training and education. Women's access to all of these enabling

factors usually lags far behind those of men in fisheries in every society. It is necessary to facilitate access to credit to improve women's capability to profit from their economic activities in the sector. Women can expand the enterprise of processing or marketing their husband's catch, possibly within a cooperative set-up, if they can obtain loans. However, access to credit for fishery-related processing is often only available through male-dominated fishery cooperatives, another barrier to women. Other actions to support entrepreneurship could include training on financial management, and subsidies for women's enterprises.

**How women and men are involved in the processing, Marketing and Distribution of fishery and aquaculture?**

Even though women are usually not involved in the fishing activity (especially in offshore fisheries), they are active in processing, marketing and distribution of fishery and aquaculture products. Women's roles in the fishery and aquaculture sectors is a part of their activities as wives, mothers, caregivers and homemakers includes: fisherwomen, processing fish, selling fish, making and repairing nets, drying and salting fish, working as part/ full- time labour for processing fish and farms. Women from fishery and aquaculture households often face the following burdens and issues in their lives.

- Overworked with household business, domestic works and family caring
- Unrecognized and undervalued contributions when making decisions for family/household and community activities
- Lowly-paid and vulnerable employment opportunities
- Illiterate
- Lack of health services access especially for pregnant women
- Lack of opportunities for upgrading their knowledge and technical skills.
- Low self-esteem to raise their voice in meetings especially when meeting with higher level people

Youth and women are lacking opportunities to be involved in village development activities and other income generating activities. To the changes in the ecosystem has highly affected rural village's main economics resources, and many people are migrating to the Township area to work in factories.

**What kind of GBV issues are happening in the communities and how communities are accessing the Gender Based Violence services?**

Domestic violence issues such as quarrel between husband and wife, exploitation issues for working hours and wages are occurring in these 9 pilot communities. When people face these issues, they can report to several services such as village administrator, women committee and police office at their village or near Township. These services called to both husband and wife to investigate the situation. After that, these services make peace for both of them as instructed to sign confession promise letter and transfer to respective services for the big issues. Most of issues can handled by village and Township level. People also appropriately satisfied and they would like to see more smooth process in future. Both husband and wife are satisfied with these services but they are interested to see what are the more right way to take action in order to national laws and policy.

**How are women, men and youth involved in community support activities and administrative structure?**

Many different community support activities are being carrying out by community members. The main activities are donation ceremony, funeral, religious ceremonies and events, volunteer services for village development such as road, school, community building and others. All men, women and youth are actively volunteered and there is no discrimination by the community for their participation.

However, both women and youth have low participation in the village administrative structure roles such as village administrator role, 100 or 10 household's leader, community based supporting group member for village development, and leadership roles in village committees. Some adult women are involved there but with very low representation. For sustainable development, inclusive participation by all community members is critical, including women and youth. The recommendation to FishAdapt project is to increase women and youth's participation into project activities from the beginning, in areas such as planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluation.

**Main challenges of Fishery and aquaculture Household:** In all 9 pilot communities, the main income sources are related to fishery, aquaculture and agriculture. Youth, Men and Women are involved in different layers. Among these activities, the following challenges for fishery and aquaculture households were agreed during the group discussion, part of the gender analysis framework in 9 pilot communities.

- Low incomes and fishery/ aquaculture productivity.
- Limited access to loan services
- Low job opportunities for women as daily wages labour
- Lack of access and control over to technical and skills
- Insufficient technologies to fix fishing gear at their community
- Transportation barrier (more barrier in raining season)
- Limited access to information and laws
- Lack of health services especially pregnant women
- Limited control over the mangrove aquaculture and fishery
- Negative impacts of climate change

**Vulnerability:** Group discussion respondents in 9 pilot communities identified that women and youth are the most vulnerable to access and control over resources, and have less participation, representation, and decision-making roles in fishery and aquaculture sectors. Poorest families, women headed household, pregnant women, and children are included in the higher vulnerability groups related to disaster risks.

**Health Situation at community:** Among 9 pilot communities, only 4 communities where closed to Township are access to the community health services. Remaining 5 communities are facing big challenges for their treatment. Especially pregnant women face trouble to deliver their babies due to bad transportation from their villager to Townships. Some women deliver their baby on the way to the hospital, with the high health risks posed for the mother and child related to this.

### Recommendation to FishAdapt Project

Based on findings of the gender analysis, the following recommendations should be included into the 4 components of the FishAdapt project.

Key recommendations include:

#### Component 1: Strengthen policy frameworks of the fisheries and aquaculture sector

1. FishAdapt project should create non-traditional opportunities such as to organize consultation and awareness workshop involved by stakeholders and community at community, Township/ District, Regional/State and National levels, and ensure the participation of women and youth
2. Set up a system of Gender Focal Points to help disseminate gender related information, in addition to the legal and policies, and ensure they reach at the community level (e.g. printed versions)
3. Strengthen and enhance women's decision-making and representative roles through awareness training workshops and by supporting their participation in meetings and workshops
4. Ensure access to the laws, action plans and legal frameworks by stakeholders based on relevant with their levels.

**Component 2: Enhanced critical adaptation practices demonstrated by fishers and fishing communities to the impacts of climate change**

1. Ensure that the project interventions address both men's and women's needs related to climate change, and are included as part of the climate change adaptation plan for fishery communities
2. Strengthen and enhance the women's leadership, decision-making and representative roles at the project intervention activities in fishery communities.
3. Gender session or relevant inputs should be included in the fishery training and workshops, including in the capacity needs assessment.
4. Take into account gender equality and equity considerations for those communities benefiting from FishAdapt interventions, including the promotion of gender sensitive adaptation technologies.
5. Organize gender and women's empowerment awareness events relevant with fishery, climate change and disaster such as International DRR Day (13 October), International Climate Change Day (21 September), Fisheries Day (21 November), etc.
6. Ensure access to the laws, action plans and legal frameworks of fishery by stakeholders relevant with their levels.

**Component 3: Develop and apply adaptation models to strengthen aquaculture sector to the impacts of climate change.**

1. Ensure that the project interventions address both men's and women's needs related to climate change, and are included as part of the climate change adaptation plan for aquaculture communities
2. Strengthen and enhance women's leadership, decision-making and representative roles at the project intervention activities at aquaculture communities.
3. Gender session or relevant inputs should be included in the aquaculture training and workshops, including in the capacity need assessment.
4. Take into account gender equality and equity considerations for those communities benefiting from FishAdapt interventions, including the promotion of gender sensitive adaptation technologies.
5. Organize gender and women's empowerment awareness events relevant with the aquaculture, climate change and disaster such as International DRR Day (13 October), International Climate Change Day (21 September), Fisheries Day (21 November), etc.
6. Ensure access to the laws, action plans and legal frameworks of aquaculture by stakeholders relevant with their levels.

**Component 4. Knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation, training and scaling up adaptation practices, lessons learned development and dissemination.**

1. Develop Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy that addresses project level issues with a gender sensitive monitoring and evaluation system
2. The comprehensive gender-sensitive M&E requirement should include the collection of gender-disaggregated data throughout the project cycle, placing appropriate emphasis on inputs, outputs, outcomes and impact indicators
3. A specific gender section should present at project report that should be written by project team and partner organization.
4. Gender relevant inputs should be included in the M & E system.



5. Publication of materials for knowledge sharing and awareness raising such as leaflets, fact sheets and training manual should translate to the local language to be aligned with gender sensitive language approach for community access, and develop one case study addressing gender issues in the FishAdapt project

### Crosscutting Component – Gender

1. Develop a gender strategy and the implementation of a gender action plan to be implemented during full project intervention
2. Assign Gender Focal Point at different levels for the dissemination of information, knowledge sharing and gender awareness documents
3. Empower and increase the % of women and youth participation and improve the representation of their roles in project intervention activities
4. Develop community mobilization and multimedia campaigns and event using informal community groups and engage women, men, young men and young women in advocating gender equality and women's empowerment.

## Finding of Vulnerability Assessment

**Sensitivity<sup>2</sup> to Climate Change and Related Hazards:** In conducting the vulnerable assessment (VA), the project team and the community were identified gender equality situation by using gender role analysis tool. Participants reported that Tsunami, Tornado, Strong wind/ squall, saltwater intrusion are the natural hazards mostly happening at their communities. In addition, the assessment also identified sensitivity areas of the communities and they are listed as follow.

- ❖ depletion of fisheries resources
- ❖ having poor quality housing
- ❖ access to private and public extension services
- ❖ water quality
- ❖ Financial Resources

The findings suggest that the impacts of different kinds of natural disasters and climate change are increasing occurring at the targeted fishing and aquaculture livelihood dependent households. Furthermore, the assessment also listed different vulnerable community groups including children, disable persons and old people. Thus, the consideration for greater gender equality is needed for the communities.

**Adaptive Capacity for Climate Change Related Hazards:** The findings of the VA suggest that

- ❖ communities are lacking social safety nets and networks when cyclones hit,
- ❖ lacking cyclone shelter and do not have climate proof infrastructure,
- ❖ do not have any social safety net and network, and thus has lower fishery resource management as well as not having sufficient human resources (i.e knowledge and technology) to reduce the impacts of storm surge on aquaculture ponds,
- ❖ Lacking climate proof infrastructures and lack of financial/capital to invest in their housing.
- ❖ Weak on Embankment management, as well as renovating of fish and drinking water ponds.
- ❖ less mangrove forest along the coastline areas.

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<sup>2</sup> Sensitivity means the quality or state of being sensitive to climate change and natural hazards. FishAdapt project VA Summary document.

- ❖ Do not have alternative livelihood activities
- ❖ Lacking important institution links for better management options
- ❖ Poor cooperation and collective decision-making role/ power
- ❖ Women are less involved in leadership roles

The preliminary assessment findings suggest that the communities are lacking proper adaptive capacity to respond to the increasing impacts of climate change and thus need to have better community planning so that the communities can enable to implement the necessary of climate change adaptation's options in the face of increasing climate change and natural hazards.

### Basic Gender Terms and Definitions <sup>3</sup>

**Gender:** It describes the socially constructed roles and responsibilities of women and men, and includes expectations held about characteristics, and likely behaviors of both men and women; the roles that we learn to fill from childhood onward. In short, gender refers not to women or men per se, but to the relations between them, both perceptual and material.

**Sex:** It refers to the genetic and physiological characteristics and traits that indicate whether one is male or female.

**Gender equality:** It is the result of the absence of discrimination on the basis of a person's sex in opportunities and the allocation of resources or benefits or in access to services.

**Gender equity:** It entails the provision of fairness and justice in the distribution of benefits and responsibilities between men and women. The concept recognizes that men and women have different needs and power that these differences should be identify and address in a manner that rectifies the imbalances between the sexes.

**Gender relations:** It refers to social relationships between men and women within a specified time and place. These social relationships explain the differences in power relations between the sexes.

**Gender roles:** Gender roles are learned behaviors in a given society/community that condition which activities, tasks and responsibilities are perceived as male and female. They are reflected in activities ascribed to men and women on the basis of perceived differences which are reinforced through the gender division of labour. They vary among different societies and cultures, classes, ages and during different periods in history. In general, gender roles can be categorized as: productive, reproductive and community roles.

**Productive role:** Productive roles include all tasks which contribute to the income and economic welfare of the household and community. These include the production of goods and services for income or subsistence. Both women and men perform a range of productive roles. For example in agriculture, productive activities include planting/cultivation and livestock rearing.

**Reproductive role:** Reproductive activities are those activities carried out to reproduce and care for the household. Activities such as child bearing, cooking, washing, cleaning, nursing, and taking care of the sick in a household are reproductive roles. This work is mostly done by women.

**Community role:** Community roles are those activities undertaken at the community level to meet the communities' basic needs. They can be seen as community managing role, which included provision and

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<sup>3</sup> Resource: Taken from CASCAPE Manual Gender Analysis Tools, by Biruktayet Assefa and Nina de Roo, 2015 – available here: [https://agriprofocus.com/upload/CASCAPE\\_Manual\\_Gender\\_Analysis\\_Tools\\_FINAL1456840468.pdf](https://agriprofocus.com/upload/CASCAPE_Manual_Gender_Analysis_Tools_FINAL1456840468.pdf)

maintenance of scarce resources of collective consumption such as water, health care and education. Women are usually undertaken primarily these activities. Community roles also include social and political activities at the community and local levels. This also includes social events such as ceremonies and celebrations where communities participate in groups. Men are dominated most of these activities.

**Empowerment:** It refers to the process of increasing the opportunity of people to take control of their own lives. It is about people living according to their own values and being able to express preferences, make choices and influence – both individually and collectively – the decisions that affect their lives. Empowerment of women or men includes developing self-reliance, gaining skills or having their own skills and knowledge recognized, and increasing their power to make decisions and have their voices heard, and to negotiate and challenge societal norms and customs.

**Gender needs:** Gender needs arise because the needs of men and women are different, i.e. men and women have different gender roles, they do different types of work, have different degrees of access to services and resources, and they experience unequal relations. In gender analysis, a distinction made between practical gender needs and strategic gender needs.