

SEAG-Symposium, 27.-31.8.2001, Los Baños, The Philippines

**“Resource Management:
Private-Public Partnership and Knowledge Sharing”**

**Economic Contribution of Women
In Fishery Development**

Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University, Bacnotan La Union, Philippines

Florentina S. Dumlao, Racel R. Masangcay and Malaya O. Gayo

ABSTRACT

The United Nations call for a fuller integration of women in the economic, social, political and cultural life of their respective societies. In the Philippines, the involvement of women as a resource and partner in the management of fishery production technologies contributes to socio-economic development. In Asia, women on the average constitute 40% of the agriculture workforce. They produce 50-60% Asia 's food requirement.

The study determined the economic contribution of women in fishery development in La Union, Philippines. The descriptive method was used involving 100 respondents.

The fishery production profile covered monoculture (milkfish (*Chanos chanus*) and tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus* and *Oreochromis mosambicus*) and polyculture (milkfish + tilapia and milkfish + siganids (*Siganus guttatus*)). Milkfish production provided the respondents an annual income of ₱70, 030.65, while tilapia production, ₱13, 372.50.

All the respondents spent from 1 to 10 hours a day in attending to their reproductive, productive and work. On reproductive work, the respondents consumed 7.68 hours a day, 2.72 hours for productive and managing work and 1.54 hours a day in performing their multi-farious task.

A respondent earned ₱29.03 a day for performing reproductive work, ₱43.33 for productive work and ₱38.38 for managing work or an average annual income of P 29,234.62. The amount represents the value of unpaid labor or their contribution to economic development in performing their triple roles in fishery production.

On the average participation, about 26 respondents allocated two hours a day in attending to any of the different aquaculture-based management system. Moreover, nine respondents utilized hours a day for crop-based and animal-fish farming system.

Women are also active members of private organizations with the purpose of sustaining and managing fishery as natural resource.

Constraint encountered by women, as equal or full partners of men in economic development, were household activities, child bearing/rearing chores and lack of knowledge and skills on fishery production. Problems associated with fishery resource development were degradation of the coastal area, poor implementation of laws, illegal fishing, and coastal protection.

Keywords: Women in Development, Economic Contribution, Fishery