



# MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN FISHERIES EDUCATION AT AIT

Kyoko Kusakabe and Salin Krishna  
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# 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



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