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Gender in Rice-Shrimp Value Chain: A Case Study of Grow-Out Farm in Soc Trang Province, Vietnam

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Presentation outline

1. Researchable issues
2. Objectives
3. Methodology
4. Results
 - General introduction on rice-shrimp rotation value chain
 - Gender issues in grow-out households
 - Gender issues in other actors of value chain
5. Conclusion and recommendations

1. Researchable issues

- Rotation rice-shrimp culture model has strongly developed in coastal province in the MKD (62% of the total shrimp area) (SEAT, 2012). Soc Trang and Bac Lieu are pioneer provinces.
- Soc Trang province:
 - Aquaculture area: > 64 thousand ha;
 - Shrimp culture area: > 37 thousand ha
 - Total aquaculture yield: 180 thousand ton
 - Exported value: 388 mill.USD
- Rice shrimp rotation culture in Soc Trang: My Xuyen (10,000 ha), Vinh Chau (50 ha).



Penaeus monodon

1. Researchable issues (Cont.)



- World Bank (2009) revealed:
 - Marketing and trading shrimp product is done equally between men and women.
 - Women play an essential role in small-scale collection network.
 - Men's roles dominated in intensive shrimp aquaculture as compared to extensive farming system.

Rice shrimp rotation farming is mostly small-scale and extensive system => Don't have much data exist on gender-disaggregated in value chain in VN.

2. Objectives

- To **identify gender roles** (men and women) in rice-shrimp rotation value chain;
- To determine **women's roles** in **grow out node**;
- To analyse gender issues in **other actors** of the value chain.
- To propose a **solution for integrating gender** in rotation rice-shrimp culture in Vietnam.

3. Methodology

Data collection

Secondary data: DARDs' reports, current studies.

Primary data:

Group discussion: key informants; shrimp farmers.

Questionnaire surveys: 1 hatchery and nursery business; 30 rice-shrimp rotation grow – out farms (20 male and 10 female); 2 local traders (1 male and 1 female); 1 processing plant.



Analysis method: Quantitative and qualitative methods

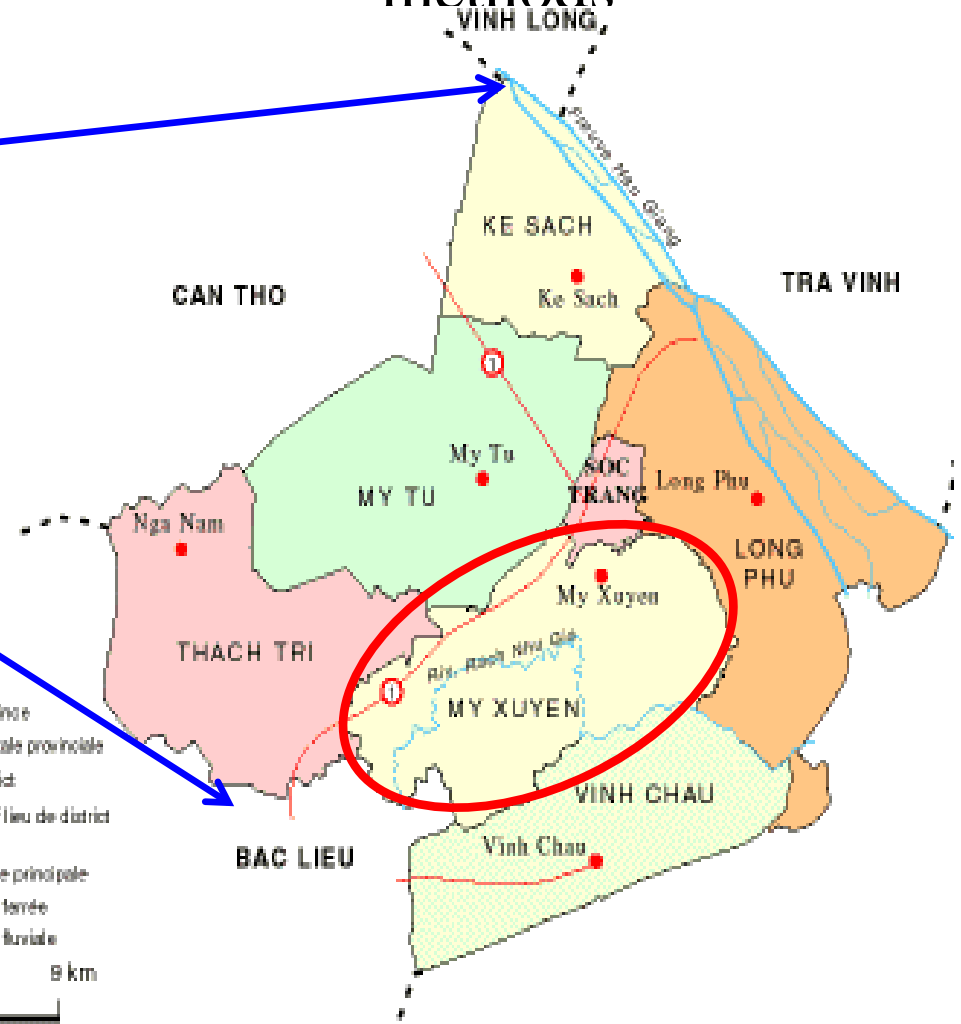
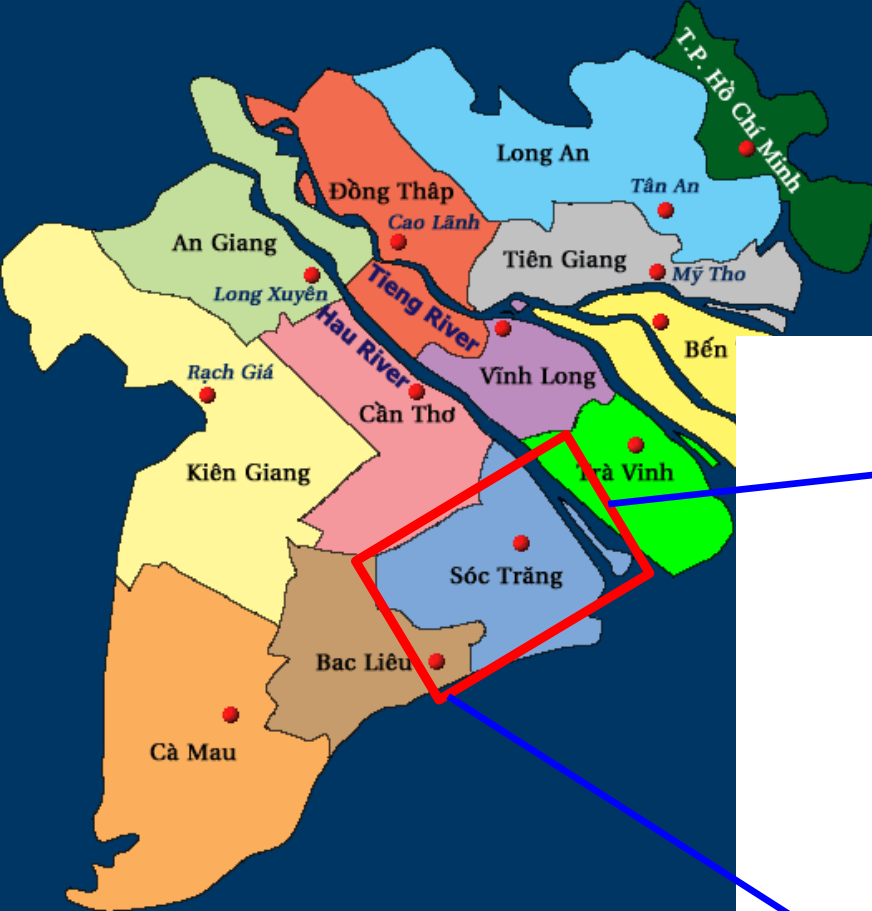


Figure 1: Study area

- CAN THO** Province
- SOC TRANG** Capitale provinciale
- MY TU** District
- My Tu Chef lieu de district
- Route principale
- Voie ferrée
- Voie fluviale
- 0 9 km

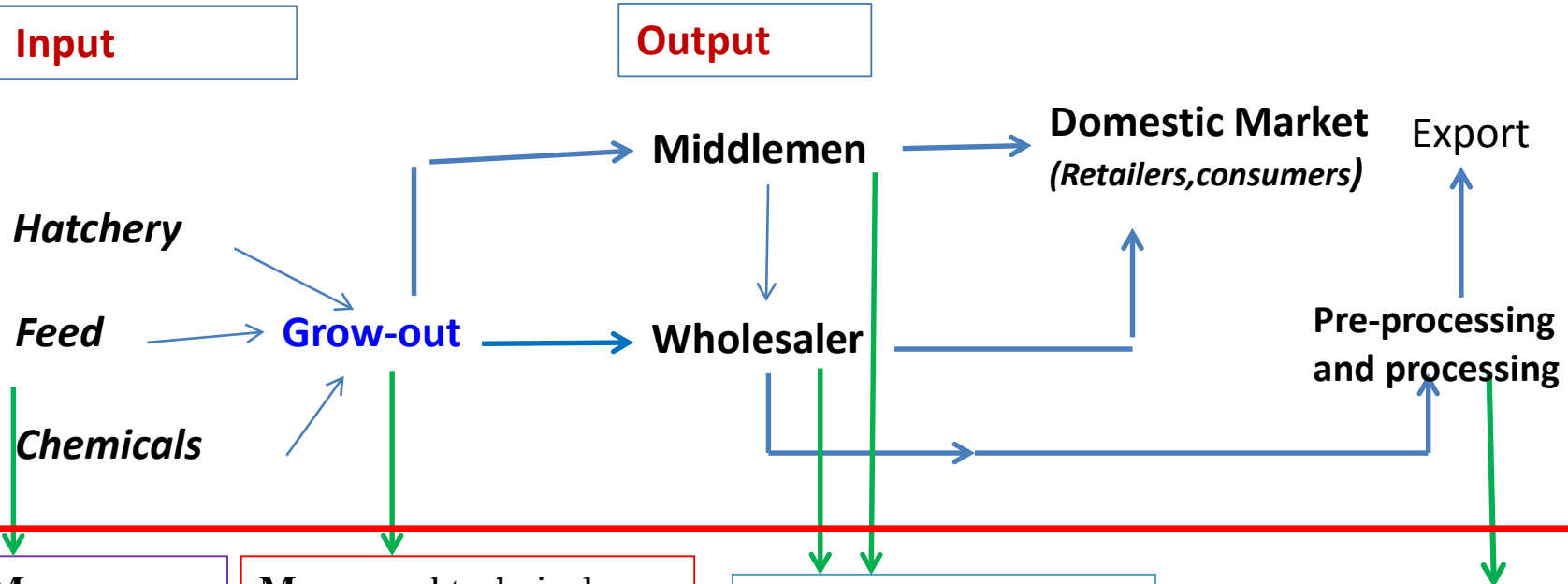
4. Results

General introduction of rice shrimp rotation value chain

- Main actors:



General information on gender roles in rice shrimp value chain



Men:
management,
technical
application,
...

Women:
accounting,
housework,
cleaning.

Men: pond technical
management: shrimp
health care, seed
purchasing, harvesting,...

Women: feeding, soling,
financial monitor, house
care, child care, cooking,
livestock...

Men: transportation,
drivers, frozen shrimp
and physical other hard
work

Women: sizing,
cleaning, financial
monitoring.

**Women (main labor
forces):** office &
financial work, lab
work, processing,
cleaning ,

Men: Technical
management, carrying,
cleaning, Packing,...

Gender issues in value chain actors

a) Seed production and business stage

- 30 labors: 6 administrative workers (5 men, 1 woman); 10 technical workers (male); 10 sale workers (men); 4 supporting workers (women).



- Men roles: general management, technical application (broodstock health care, breeding, water exchange; fertilizing, packing)
- Women roles: accounting, housework, cleaning.



b) Middlemen/trader actor

- Ownership: both men and women;
- Management: brothers and sisters or relatives.
- Hiring labors: majority is men (around 10 people), local labors.
- Men are paid **20% higher** than women.



- **Men's roles:** business management, product collection and carrying, drivers, frozen shrimp,...



- **Women's roles:** financial control, sizing, cleaning, and some simple activities.



c) Processing plant

- ***Women:*** office work, financial work, lab work, shrimp processing, cleaning equipment and processing ground,
- ***Men:*** Technical management, carrying, cleaning, Packing,.....

Gender roles in production credit issue and ownership (grow-out farmers)

Indicators	Unit	Value
Percentage of farm with loans production	%	33.3
Gender representation in borrowing: - Male	%	50
- Female		40
- Both		10
Gender representation in loan payment: - Male	%	60.0
- Female		30
- Both		10
Production land ownership: - Male	%	86.7
- Female		13.3

Men and women share relative equally in credits

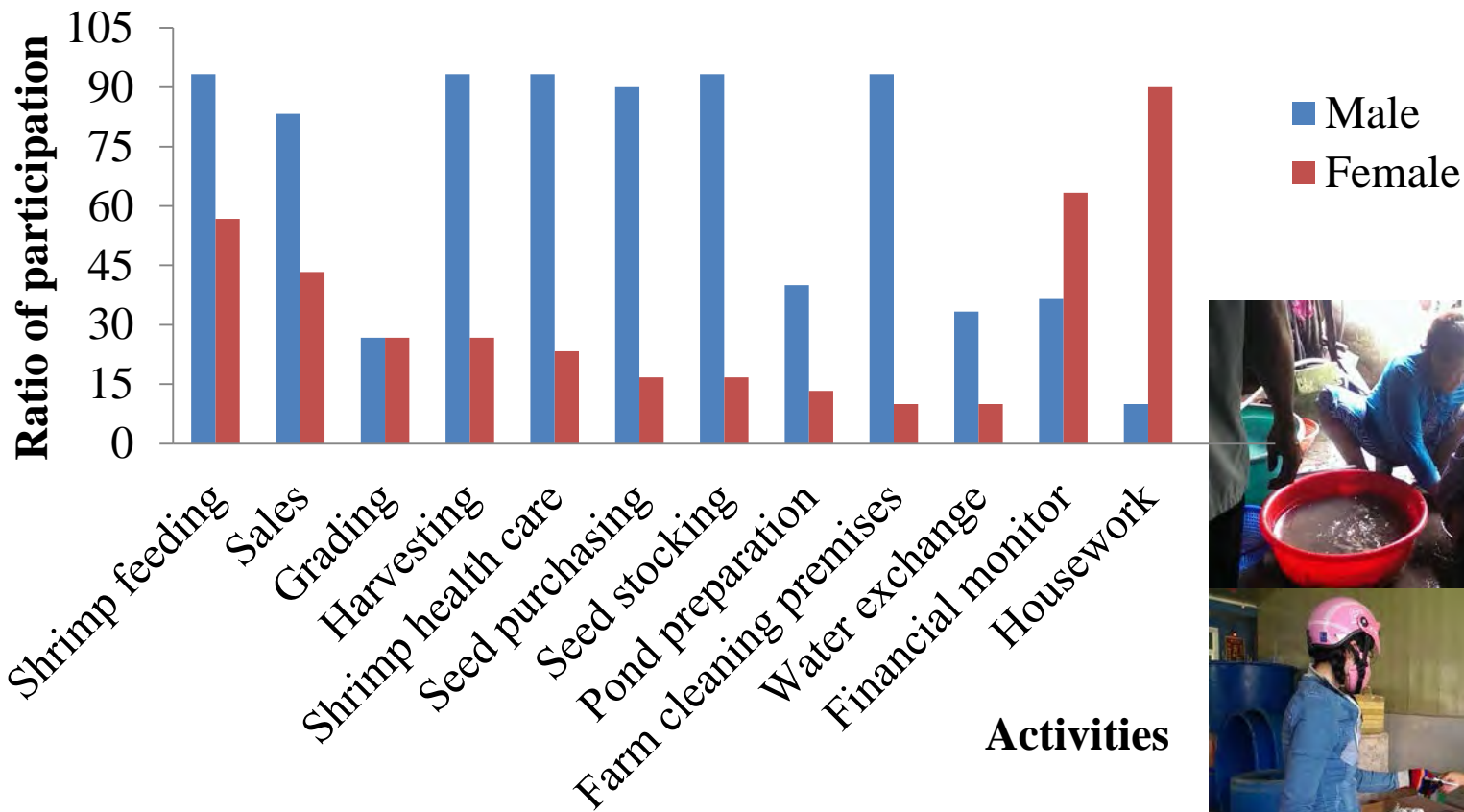
Men's role dominates women

Land preparation:

- Men plays main roles in pond operation (technique).
- Female also contributed significantly roles: purchasing chemicals/lime, hiring labor for dredging,...

Production decision making:

- By men in consulting to the wives



Activities

- Men: participate in all activities with high ratio
- Women: involved in most of activities

Financial profile of rice-shrimp

Indicators	Unit	Mean	STD
Production/ha/crop		1,647.29	624.14
Total production cost/kg/crop	1000 vnd	78.37	37.35
Selling price	1000/kg	164.72	45.46
Total production cost /ha/crop	Mill. vnd	116.44	45.5
Total revenue/ha/crop	Mill.vnd	280.66	145.78
Profit/ha/crop	Mill.vnd	1,647.22	126.83
<i>Profit/household/crop</i>	<i>Mil.vnd</i>	<i>113.3</i>	<i>92.5</i>

Rice-shrimp occupies more than 80% of the total income, women contribute appropriate 40%.

Gender role in post-production stage

Indicators	Gender in family labors		
	Male	Female	Both
Gender in soling decision	50.0	20.0	30.0
Gender in price negotiation	50.0	26.7	23.3
Gender in income spending decision	16.7	50.0	33.3
In come distribution	Priority mark (1 – 3)		
- Reproduction investment	2.63±1.23		
- Household expenditure	2.84±1.04		
- Saving	1.73±0.32		
- Others	1.50±0.70		

Women: keep the money; strong power in spending decision

CONCLUSION

- Women increasingly express their role in rice-shrimp value chain in most actors, particularly:
 - ✓ *Seed production*: men cover the majority of work with their technical skill and physical strength. **Women show their roles in supporting activities.**
 - ✓ *Production*: Men play role in technical management and marketing communication. **women contributed strongly in financial control and house works in family.**
 - ✓ *Middlemen*: appropriate for women in ownership and production monitor; **workload** => requiring **men labors**; women labor only involve in shrimp sizing.
 - ✓ *Processing plant*: women involve mainly in office work, processing as labor; men involve in technical management, carrying product.

- In rice-shrimp rotation system, women involve mostly in assistant works and household works. Women are in charge in saving and financial control in grow out farming; middlemen as owners & manager; employees in processing plants.
- Obstacles prevent women participating in rice-shrimp value chain:
 - Relative hard work requirement.
 - Technical skills and knowledge, especially in seed production, nursery and grow-out farming
 - Traditional empower => Men are households leader

Recommendations

- Women should be trained in shrimp culture technique for further deeper involvement in production.
- Women should involve more work in market communication, share house works for men as well as be improved empowerment.
- It needs to study deeply in empowerment (5 domains: production, resources, income, leadership and time) of rice-shrimp value chain in further.

Thank you for your attention!