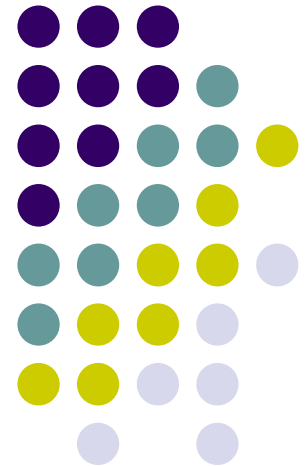


# **AFS GENDER AND FISHERIES NETWORKING EXPERIENCES: WHAT WORKS, WHAT DOESN'T**

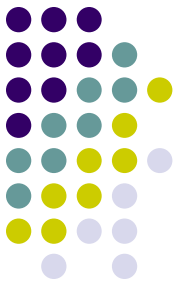
Meryl J. Williams, Poh Sze Choo  
and M.C. Nandeeshha



# 20+ years after we started.....



- Is the AFS GAF “network” getting anywhere?
- Study methods, analytical frame
- Preliminary analysis of the survey responses
- Conclusions



# Are we getting anywhere?

- 20+ years of AFS GAF networking activities
- Patchwork of resources
  - Informal organization
  - WIF/GAF position in AFAF
    - regular symposia/events
    - By not on the main program by choice
    - Opportunistic funds, content, products

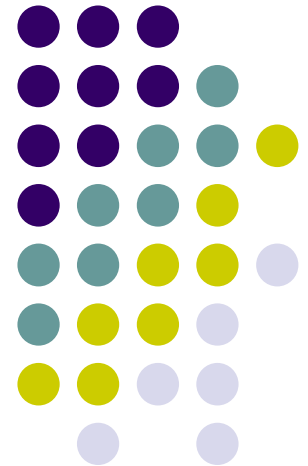
# Study Methods

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Analytical frame

Survey

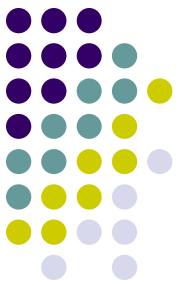
Respondents



# Actor Network Theory



- Analytical frame (Callon 1986)
  - Punctualisation
    - the whole network is greater than the sum of its parts
    - but networks can also collapse
  - Translation – process of forming a network
    - Experts seeking gender equality in the fish & aqua sector
  - 4 steps of a translation
    - *Problematization* – defining problem, actors
    - *Interessement* – recruiting others to the network
    - *Enrolement* – roles defined, actors formally accept
    - *Mobilisation* – 1<sup>0</sup> actors as spokespeople, mobilising passive actors



# Survey and respondents

- Online survey
  - Name, demographics, experience in GAF events
  - Open-ended questions addressing the translation
- Population invited
  - Not a statistical survey
  - 330 invited from previous and current lists
    - old WorldFish list, Genderaquafish.org, Google Group, GAF3 presenters
    - 45 replied, invited to fill in online survey
  - 41 respondents

# Respondents



- **Ann Shriver**
- **Dedi Adhuri**
- **Achini**
- **J. Cleofe**
- **Piyashi DebRoy\***
- **Jennie Dey de Pryck**
- **Nikita Gopal\***
- **Gunilla Tegelskär Greig**
- **Jariah\***
- **Holvoet**
- **K.Kuperan Viswanathan**
- **Cristina P. Lim**
- **Lasse Lindström**
- **Adeleke M Lydia**
- **Corazon Plete-Macachor**
- **Margaret Masette**
- **Marilyn Porter\***
- **Maripaz L. Perez**
- **Mohammad Nuruzzaman\***
- **Ayanboye Oluyemi**
- **Ramachandran C**
- **Ria**
- **Sara**
- **Dr. B. Shanthi**
- **Shyam.S.Salim**
- **Sun-ae li\***
- **Susana V. Siar**
- **Tesfom M A**
- **Nelson Turgo**
- **Prof.(Mrs)Vijayakhader,PhD**
- **Lena Westlund**
- **9 Anon.**

# Demographics of respondents



## Sex, age

- women 78%
- men 22%
- ~ under, over 50 yrs

## Field of expertise

- Fisheries 61%
- Aquaculture 24%
- Gender 54%
- All 17%

## Discipline expertise

gender, anthropology, sociology, geography, economics, trade, policy, management, home economics, food & post-harvest technology, rural dev., social and economic program dev., education, conservation, social compliance

## Work institution

- University 46%
- Gov res 17%
- Dev proj 17%
- Student 10%
- NGO, policy,.. 10%

## Nationality (18)

- Asia: 8 countries, 24
  - Phil 9; India 6
- Africa: 3, 4
- Europe: 3,7
- Nth Am: 2,5
- Australia: 1,1

## Work country/region

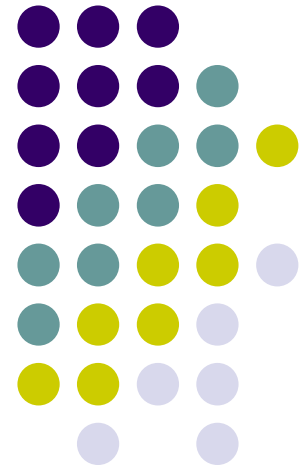
- Asia: 30 people
- Africa: 8
- Europe: 6
- Nth Am: 3
- Australia: 1
- Global: 5

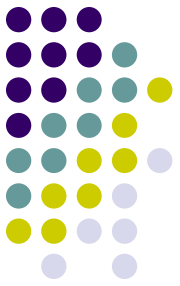


# Analysis of Responses

## Organised by steps in the translation

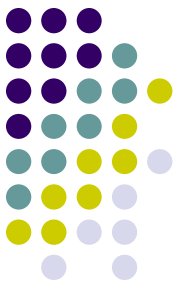
1. *Problematization* – defining problem, actors
2. *Interessement* – primary actors recruit others to network
3. *Enrolment* – roles defined, actors formally accept
4. *Mobilisation* – primary actors become spokespeople, seek to mobilise passive actors to action





# 1. Problematisation

- Richest set of responses addressed this step, referring to current reality
- 3 recurring themes
  1. Gender is only “bycatch” in fisheries
  2. We don’t have the facts
  3. Gender is only weakly institutionalized



# 1. Problematisation

1. Gender is only “bycatch” in fisheries
  1. Apathy, ignorance, even antagonism to GAF
  2. Gender bias and ignorance is fatal to women’s prospects
  3. Humanize the fisheries curriculum
  4. Value addition of women unrecognized
2. We don’t have the facts
  1. Need for disaggregated stats, illuminating knowledge
  2. From fish to supply change approach is a big change
3. Gender is only weakly institutionalized
  1. GAF is only night job vs main (day) job
  2. GAF cut first if funds reduced, e.g., Mekong R. Comm. - depunctualisation
  3. Network has weak capacity to initiate



## 2. Interesement

### 1. Who

#### 1. In the network

- Core group, champions, leader, broader audience, the young

#### 2. In the field

- Fisherfolk (women and men)

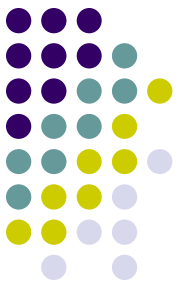
### 2. How

#### 1. In the network

- Regular updates but not overload, funds, events, more members, use comfort zones of existing networks, e.g., FSS

#### 2. In the field

- Whole community, not just women, reach and educate the “men with folded arms”



# 3. Enrolment

## 1. Who

- Grass roots women
- Get to the top by a coordinated approach, but be alert to gender complexities (e.g., women's envy, patriarchal attitude of senior women)
- Broaden the geography, e.g., to North Atlantic

## 2. How

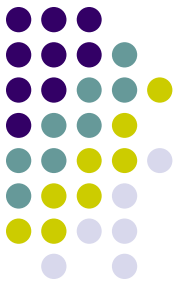
- Integrate gender to strengthen the fisheries mainstream
- Incentives, e.g. direct professional benefits



# 4. Mobilisation

## 1. Who

- Government and policy makers - bosses must buy in since they set the political and development agenda;
- Managers and extension officers - since development projects go through their office for implementation;
- Researchers - especially those from the natural sciences;
- Donors - funds are still not forthcoming
- Women and men - many are still ignorant of the issues



# 4. Mobilisation

## 2. How

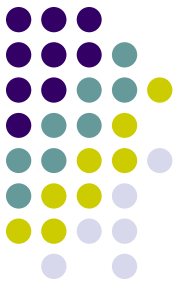
- In the network
  - Coordinated projects across sites
  - Genuine interest, not top-down project groups, e.g., SFLP experience
- In the field
  - Enrich connections and information flow for women
  - Women must be in all decision-making
  - Resources needed
- New institutes
  - A dedicated international center
- GAF '101' training materials

# Stories



- Philippines
  - WINFISH, Bur. Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
  - Cebu Technology University programs
- India
  - Self Help Group cases
  - Other studies, e.g., Mumbai Versova Koli





# Conclusions

## 1. Problematisation

1. Considerable progress made in general understanding
2. Much more specific detail needed
3. Weak strategic messaging, tho' sufficient material to start
4. Still limited set of actors

## 2. Interessement

1. Weak, but rich set of ideas on how to do it
2. Leaders, champions, active core group still to emerge

## 3. Enrolement

1. As above, but will not progress until the critical people step up

## 4. Mobilisation

1. Relies on Interestment and Enrolement unless major opportunity for rapid progress can be found

# Conclusions



## 1. Problematisation **3**

1. Considerable progress made in general understanding
2. Much more specific detail needed
3. Weak strategic messaging, tho' sufficient material to start
4. Still limited set of actors

## 2. Interessement **2**

1. Weak, but rich set of ideas on how to do it
2. Leaders, champions, active core group still to emerge

## 3. Enrolement **1**

1. As above, but will not progress until the critical people step up

## 4. Mobilisation **1**

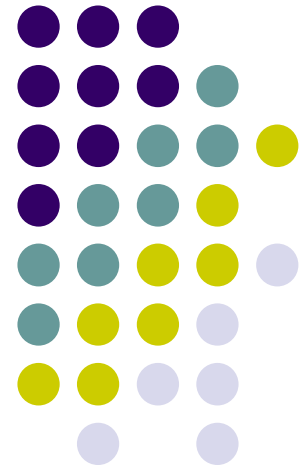
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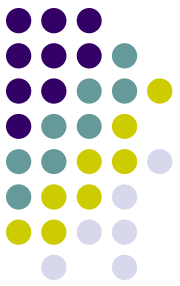
# The burning questions

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If not us, then who?

If us, then how?





# References

- Callon, Michel (1986a). Some elements of a sociology of translation: Domestication of the scallops and the fishermen of St Brieuc Bay." In: John Law, ed. (1986). *Power, action and belief: A new sociology of knowledge*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul.

# Networking activities – AFS ++

