

INTRODUCTION



Training fish farmers at a workshop in Kenya. Photo courtesy of Kwamena Quagrainie.

Developing human and institutional capacity in aquaculture has long been a pillar of AquaFish's overall mission to enrich livelihoods and promote health. Aquaculture is an increasingly important tool for overcoming poverty, but its success relies on responsible, well-informed users. With a growing international network of trained aquaculture professionals, AquaFish is able to support the next generation of aquaculturists through a continuous pipeline of knowledgeable aquaculture researchers and professionals.

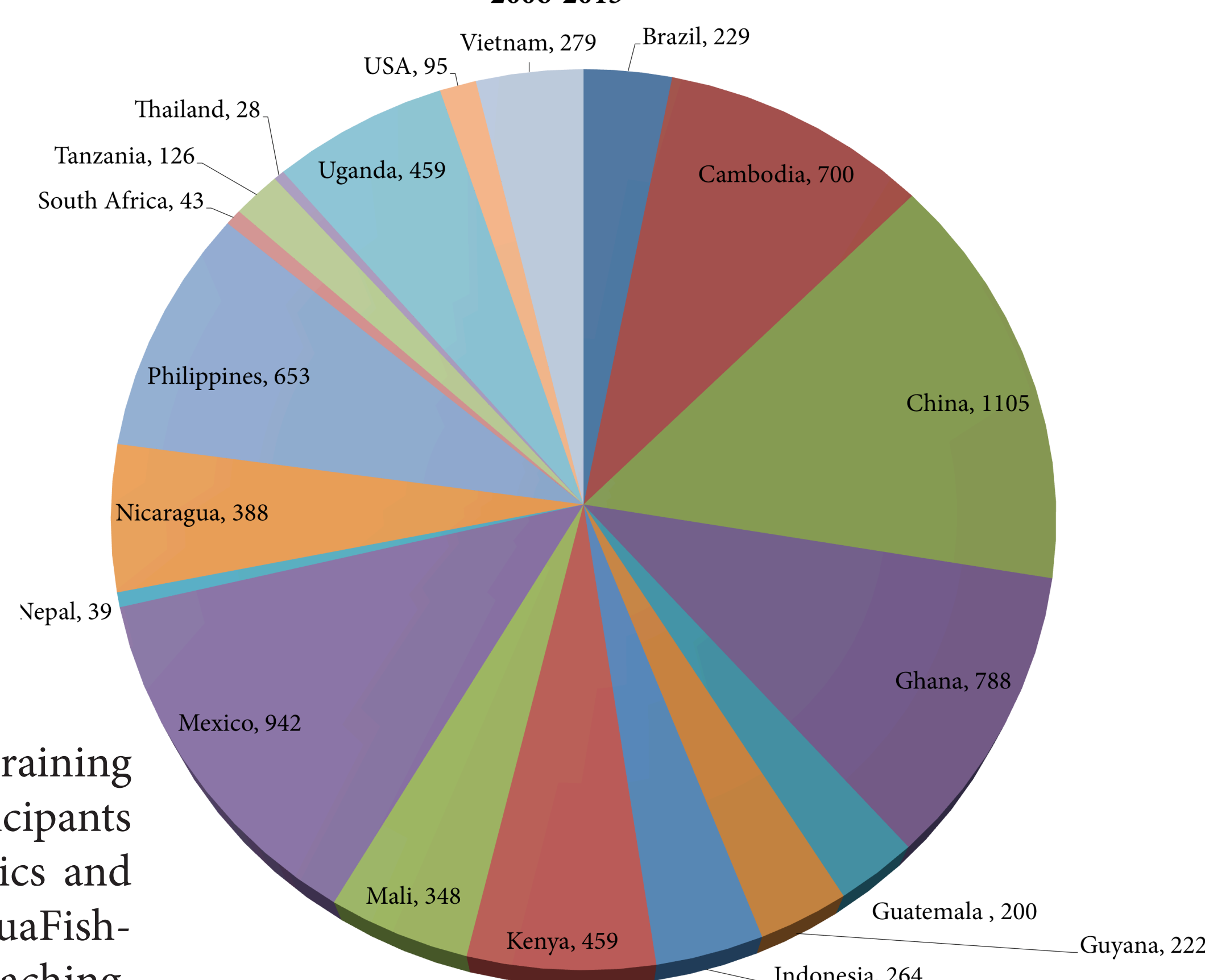


Cage culture training in Cambodia. Photo by Hap Navy.

Short-term Training

AquaFish has helped train over 7000 people through short-term workshops and training events held in 19 different host countries since AquaFish's inception in 2006. Participants represent a diverse demographic ranging from fishers and farmers to academics and government officials. The interdisciplinary, cross-cutting research conducted by AquaFish-sponsored institutions is transferred to stakeholders and end-users through far-reaching, innovative outreach efforts to have the greatest impact on improving livelihoods and fighting poverty.

Number of AquaFish Sponsored Short-term Trainees by Country 2006-2013



Institutional Capacity Building

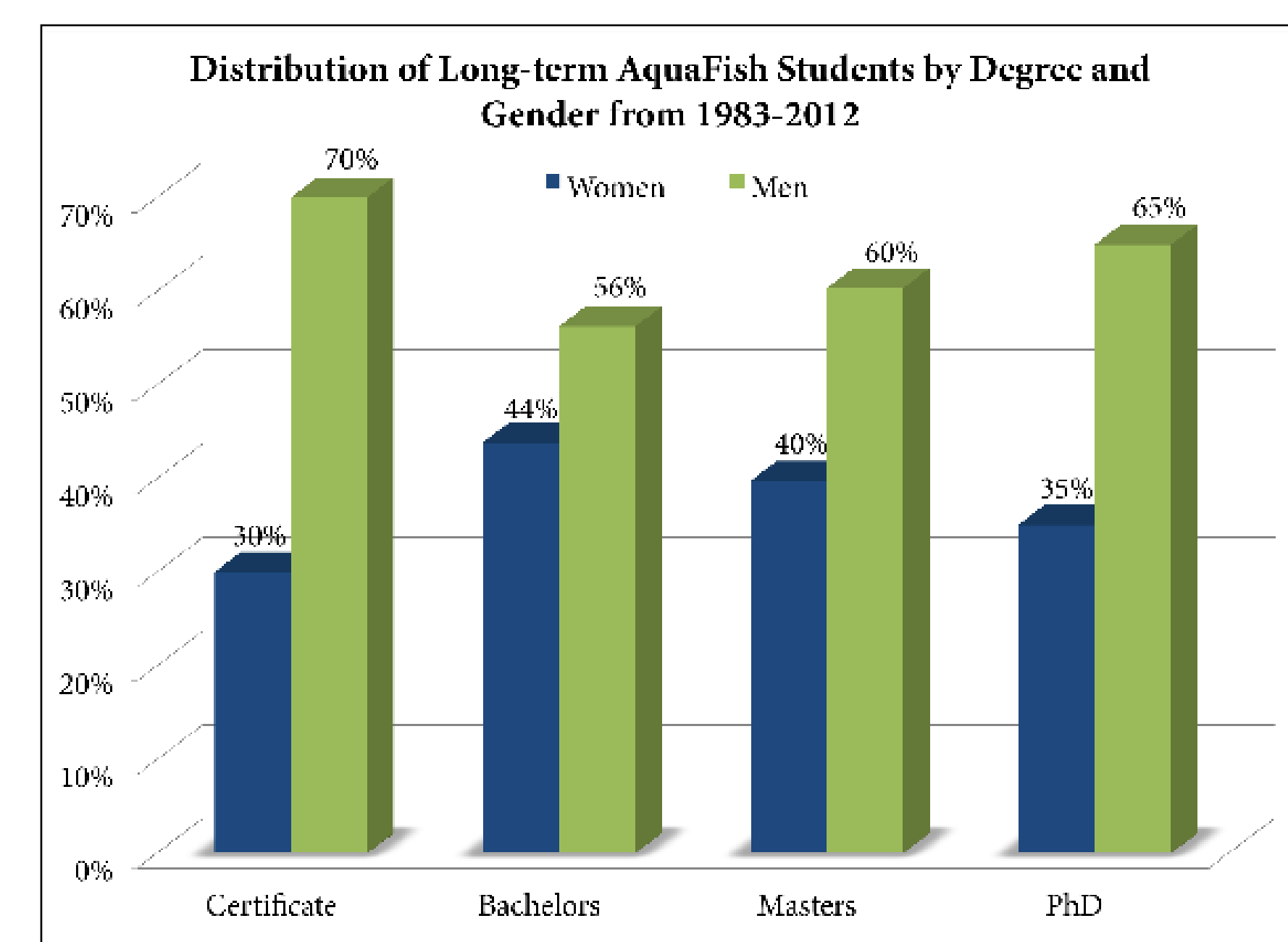
AquaFish is working to strengthen institutional capacity through partnerships between US and Host Country institutions. Short- and long-term training programs are run collaboratively and offer students access to mentorship, professional staff, and professional opportunities such as participation at conferences, symposia, and other regional and international meetings.



Woman feeding snakehead in Vietnam. Photo by Prum Somany.



Knowledge sharing among family members. Photo by Prum Somany.



Long-term Training

Since 2006, AquaFish has supported 344 long-term degrees, including Bachelor's, Master's, and PhDs. Nearly half (48%) of these degrees were awarded to women. Almost all long-term training remains in-country, enabling significant cost-savings and allowing students to gain from network development. Institutions benefit from the growth and continuation of academic programs, and host countries benefit from research on the ground, as well as retention of expertise.

- 99% of students trained in the US return to their home country to contribute
- 100% of students trained in Host Countries remain to contribute



Women at a workshop in Kenya. Photo courtesy of Kwamena Quagrainie.

Gender Equality

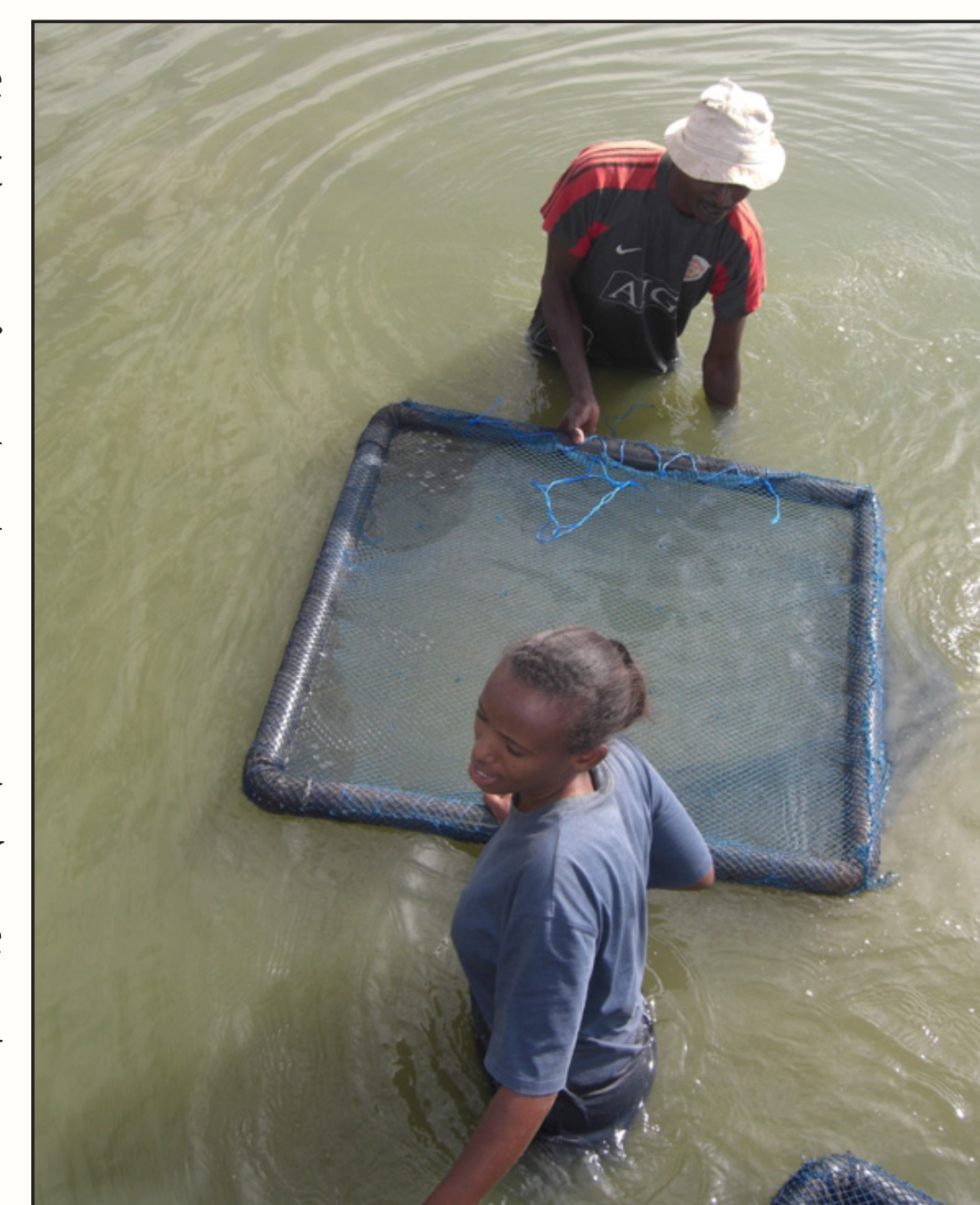
GENDER EQUALITY

Providing equal educational and training opportunities for men and women in aquaculture is a critical component of AquaFish's capacity building effort. AquaFish recognized that marginalization of women within the sector, the chronic social and economic inequalities, and the vulnerable roles held by women in aquaculture and fisheries sectors hamper development goals. As aquaculture continues to expand, it is critical to ensure that men and women alike have access to advances in aquaculture development and the potential benefits of new growth.

AquaFish is helping women empower themselves through providing training and education that offer the tools needed to increase bargaining power and open up new career opportunities. A gender inclusiveness strategy is integrated into each of the core research projects sponsored by AquaFish, and each project has at least one gender-focused investigation.



Mali 2010. Photo courtesy of AquaFish.



Cage cum pond trial, Kenya. Photo courtesy of Purdue University.

Increasing Access for Women

AquaFish is increasing opportunities for women in aquaculture and fisheries by using Gender Integration Benchmarks. For projects completed from 2006-2011, benchmarks included:

- 50% female participation at all sponsored activities.
- Collecting and analyzing disaggregated data from individual projects to gauge the success of gender integration activities.
- Tailoring specific extension and technical services related to sustainable aquaculture and aquatic resource management to women along the aquaculture value chain.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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