GENDER DIMENSIONS OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT:
IMPLICATIONS FOR COASTAL AQUACULTURE AND FISHING COMMUNITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES

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AQUACULTURE & FISHERIES + DISASTER + GENDER

• Small-scale aquaculture and fisheries play an increasingly important role in contributing to better nutrition and food security. However, these practices are vulnerable to severe weather and many nations that invest in fisheries and aquaculture are subject to frequent typhoons.
• In 2013, the Philippines faced the largest storm to ever hit land. Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) affected an archipelago of low-lying islands with a population dependent on its surrounding natural resources. One year later, Typhoon Hagupit made landfall.
• The literature suggests that women are treated differently at all stages of disaster; from the initial warning period to the relief and recovery period.

PHILIPPINES AND TYPHOONS:
• The Philippines suffers more natural hazards (e.g. earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, typhoons, floods, etc.) than any other country.
• 29 million Filipinos (36% of the population) depend on agriculture and fishing to make a living.

Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) 2013:
- Figure 1. The typhoon’s trajectory through the Visayas region of the Philippines, from east to west. Provinces are color coded according to the number of damaged houses. Black circles indicate study focus areas.

Typhoon Hagupit (Ruby) 2014:
- Figure 2. A schematic produced by FISHASIA, NOAA and the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) comparing super typhoons in Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR).
- Figure 3. The typhoon’s trajectory through the Visayas region of the Philippines from east to west. Provinces are color coded according to the number of damaged houses. Black circles indicate study focus areas.

FISHERIES, DISASTER MANAGEMENT, AND GENDER-RELEVANT LEGISLATION IN THE PHILIPPINES:
Republic Act No. 8550 is one of the first major pieces of legislation to recognize gender differences in fisheries and aquaculture. It required the formal recognition of women who are directly and indirectly engaged in fisheries.

Three-year Framework Plan for Women was passed in 2001, which provided guidelines on methods for preparing gender and development plans.

APEC conducted a study examining the status of gender integration in disaster management in the Philippines.

The Philippines Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act was passed in 2010 which aims to ensure that disaster risk reduction and climate change measures are gender responsive...

METHODOLOGY:
• An in-depth review of current and past literature on gender integration in disaster management in fishing and aquaculture communities;
• Secondary data collected for data triangulation;
• 28 Semi-structured interviews;
• The interviews were selected via snowball sampling;
• 17 women and 11 men were interviewed.

RESULTS: GENERAL TRENDS IN RESPONSES

By scale:
• Agencies are now particularly aware of what is gender and development. Unlike before, they were in denial...
• He gets the registration... but what about the women who don’t have a husband... even women themselves don’t consider themselves as women fishers... they were socialized to think they are only in support...
• “There is no formal link [of] gender concerns with DRR. What they have right now is how to apply a gender lens.”
• “Women project is very successful, when in the women have the primary role in management.”

By sector:

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<th>Disaster Management</th>
<th>Fisheries/aquaculture</th>
<th>Women’s empowerment</th>
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<tr>
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Table 1. Breakdown of interview respondents by sector and scale of governance.