Report on the Sectoral Monitoring of Women Fisherfolks and Women and Girls at Risk of Trafficking

PROFILE OF BORONGAN CITY, SALCEDO, and ORAS, EASTERN SAMAR

Borongan is a coastal component city in the province of Eastern Samar. It serves as the provincial capital.

The city has a land area of 475.00 square kilometers or 183.40 square miles which constitutes 10.19% of Eastern Samar's total area. Its population as determined by the 2015 Census was 69,297. This represented 14.83% of the total population of Eastern Samar province, or 1.56% of the overall population of the Eastern Visayas region. Based on these figures, the population density is computed at 146 inhabitants per square kilometer or 378 inhabitants per square mile.

Salcedo is a coastal municipality in the province of Eastern Samar.

The municipality has a land area of 113.80 square kilometers or 43.94 square miles which constitutes 2.44% of Eastern Samar's total area. Its population as determined by the 2015 Census was 22,532. This represented 4.82% of the total population of Eastern Samar province, or 0.51% of the overall population of the Eastern Visayas region. Based on these figures, the population density is computed at 198 inhabitants per square kilometer or 513 inhabitants per square mile.

Oras is a 4th class coastal municipality in the province of Eastern Samar in Region VIII (Eastern Visayas). Oras has a land area of 188.70 square kilometers or 72.86 square miles constituting 4.05% of the total area of Eastern Samar.

Oras is politically subdivided into forty-two (42) barangays. The population of Oras as determined by the 2015 Census was 36,540 representing 7.82% of the total population of Eastern Samar province, or 0.82% of the overall population of Eastern Visayas region. It has a population density of 194 inhabitants per square kilometer or 502 inhabitants per square mile.

Results of Key Informant Interviews

Sectoral Monitoring of Women Fisherfolks and Women and Girls at Risk of Trafficking with Community Women, Women's Organization and CSOs

The Commission on Human Rights Regional Office VIII tapped Terre Des Hommes Netherlands (TdH) as partner organization in conducting the Sectoral Monitoring of Women Fisherfolks and Women and Girls at Risk of Trafficking. TDH is a non-government organization with significant work in the protection of girl children and community women in the province of Eastern Samar. TDF works with the provincial government of Eastern Samar in crafting policies on Gender and Development.

In view of the restrictions imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a combination of face-to-face and remote (through phonecalls) Key Informant Interviews were conducted. The sectoral monitoring was conducted in Borongan City, Salcedo, and Oras, Eastern Samar.

The following are the interviewees:

1. Respondent A, Maliwaliw Women Fisherfolks
2. Respondent B, Member, Maliwaliw Fisherfolks
3. Respondent C, *Danggit* Producer
4. Respondent D, Women Fisherfolk
5. Respondent E, *Danggit* Producer
6. Respondent F, Fish Vendor
7. Respondent G, Resident, Women Fisherfolk
8. Respondent H, Fish Vendor (go with husband in fishing)
9. Respondent I, Fish Vendor
10. Respondent J, Street Fish Vendor
11. Respondent K, Wife of fishing vessel operator
12. Respondent L, Fish Vendor
13. Respondent M, Housewife of fisherfolk
14. Respondent N, Fish Vendor

The common responses of the participants are consolidated while the peculiar answers are highlighted.

1. Roles

1.a. Anong dagat, lawa, ilog, fish pond etc, ang malapit sa inyo?

- Leyte Gulf
- Oras Municipal Water,
- Sometimes cross over to Guiuan, and Giporlos
- Borongan Municipal water
- 50 kilometers from Borongan Shore

1.b Ano – ano ang mga pinagkakakitaan o ibang kahalagahan ang nakukuha ng komunidad sa mga yamang tubig na ito? (fishing, aquaculture, tourism, transport etc)

- **Fishing Products**
- Hamul-od (danggit)
- Balat (sea cucumber)
- Ibat-ibang klaseng isda
- Alimasag
- Similya ng alimango
- Seashells (soso, punaw,
- Bun-ak (parrot fish)
- Seaweeds (lato, euchuema)
- Pasayan, lobsters
- Deep sea fish (tuna, lapulapu, etc.

- Nakakakuha ng 12 kilos fresh fish (maximum) – 2 kilos dried boneless danggit
- If not seasoned, fisherman goes to Bunuan owners and buy fish for 80 kilos per kilo t

1.c. Sa iyong pamilya, ano ang pakinabang ng mga anyo ng tubig sa inyo – pinagkakakitaan/ trabaho, pinagkukunan ng pagkain, pahingahan etc.

- Pinangkukunan ng pangkabuhayan/pagkain: (*Main source of income using different methods of getting/catching marine products)*
    - Pangawil (hook and line) - fish
    - Pamana (pointed arrow) - fish
    - Fishing light Attractor (high watts bombilya) – danggit
    - Pukot (fishnets) - fish
    - Gathering of mud crab fingerlings
    - Bobo (wooden bamboo)

- Bintol (lift net) (Alimasag)
- Bunuan
- Paddled boat
- Motorized boat – pulled paddled boat for faster arrival to its destination, fisherman paid 50.00

1.d Bilang babae na nakatira sa isang fishing community, ano ang typical na araw sa iyo? Ano ang iyong mga ginagawa sa bahay at sa labas ng bahay? (Note reproductive work, pre-production work and processing work, and other community work). *(Used the 24 hours calendar to illustrate the common pattern of typical fisher folks family life in Barangay Camtumuja, Salcedo E. Samar. This is also to assess the productive and reproductive role of men and women):*

24 hour Activities	Lalaki	Babae (Typical na asawa ng mangingisda)	Babaing mangingisda **Respondent D**
2:00-3:00 pm	Prepare his paddled boat/motorized Bangka (outside) with other fishermen	Naghahanda para sa mga dadalhin ng asawa sa pagpalaot gaya ng: Gamit sa pangingisda – silip (improvised gaggle), Pana(fish bow), battery, bombilya, wooden paddle, steyro foam with ice, pail, knife, Baon (dinner) and extra na damit ng asawa	Prepare her paddle boat and go with other fishermen. Fishing gears same with men. Mother prepares her fishing gears
3:00 – 8:00pm	Leave for fishing until 5 to 6am the next day	Some women with farm go for weeding, watering and harvesting of rootcrops and vegetables. Wives role: ● drying fish (danngit), ● sell it to *alpor* (a middle man from their barangay buy the marine products – dried fish and sea	Leave for fishing until 5 to 6am the next day, same with fishermen in the community. She also dive with her fish bow Don't go fishing when she has menstruation

		cucumber, tuna and other fish), -look after children and their needs, ● do household choirs, prepare for dinner, folding and keeping of dried cloths. (Reproductive Role) Night Rest	
4:00 6:00am	Paddled back to the Barangay with other fisherman with their fish catch Husbands arrives	Prepare for whole day reproductive activities Keeping things in order (household choirs) inside and outside the house while cooking rice. Pitching water from the shallow wheel Go to store to buy viand for breakfast While husband is still on his way home, wife wash the cloths.. Start washing the cloths, when husbands arrives, she leaves the washing unfinished Prepare and eat breakfast with husband and kids	Paddled back to the Barangay Her parents help her in deboning, cleaning and drying She sell her fish catched in the barangay or to the consolidator
6:00-9:00	Husband to get his fish catch to	Kids keep and clean the mess.	

	designated area in their yard with his fishing gears Husband sleep until 12:00 noon	Wife start deboning the danggit, kids help in cleaning the deboned fish, sometimes wife hired 10-15 years old children to help her need to	
9:00am		Putting salt to danggit for minutes then dry it in solar or mechanical drier.	
10:00		Go back to her unfinished washing	
11:00		Start preparing their lunch	
12:00	Husband eat lunch with family	Clean the mess	
12:00-3:00	Check his fishing gears-bangka, sew or repair nets and sharpening of bow and arrow, recharfe	Nangungutang para may madala ang asawa sa pagpalaot gaya ng gasoline, ice, battery, napunding bombilya kung hindi sufficient ang kita ng nagdaan na araw.	

1.e Ang asawa, anak na babae o anak na lalaki mo ba ay nasa pangisda din? Ano ang kanilang ginagawa? Magkano ang kanilang kita dito?

- Typical family: husbands, go to fishing, wife and children assist in the deboning, drying, selling of dried and fresh fish..
- Common among the 15 respondents, families with children aged 15 above sometimes go with their fathers in fishing but children are not obliged because of their studies/modules.
- Out of School Children and youth forced to go if fathers are not anymore capable to go on fishing,
- Children go to fishing to buy their wants like mobile/cellphone and loads, cloths and personal things

1.f Tinatawag mo ba ang sarili mo na kababaihang nasa pangisda? (women fisherfolk) Bakit oo? Bakit Hindi ? (Ano ang tawag mo sa sarili?)

- All 15 respondents said yes, because it is their main source of income, some are member of organized barangay women's fisherfolks

association only in Salcedo are functional because there were project support provided to the group from BFAR, LGU and NGO.

1.g Sa panahon ng COVID-19 may nagbago ba sa iyong mga gawaing mag-asawa? Pamilya?

- Madami ang nabago. Nahirapan kaming mag adjust, napakahirap lalo lalo na sa pagbenta ng mga marine product-main source of income ng family due to lockdowns.
- Controlled price by the buyer
- Scarcity of fish catch
- Kababaihan ang direktang apektado ng kalamidad, buti nalang walang physical schooling, kulang na kulang ang kita ng pamilya kahit sa pagkain tatlong beses isang araw.

2. Economic Participation and Recognition

2.a.1 Sino ang kinikilalang kasama sa pangisda sa inyong komunidad?

- Mga tatay, male young adult, and children 15 years old above
- Wives sees themselves as women fisherfolks,
- Wives were formed, organized and registered their organization a WOMEN FISHERFOLKS ASSOCIATION
  - 1 lesbian respondent (can get/catch marine products same with men, can produced and process dried fish same with men
  - Wives complement their husbands in the processing and marketing

2.a.3 May mga babaeng nasa pangisda ba? Ano ang ginagawa nila (role in fisheries)?

- Yes, 1 Lesbian go with men in fishing, same number of hours and can do what men do in catching fish
- 2 women go with their husband to assist in fishing, they paddles while their husbands pulls the net
- 14 women complement with their husbands in the marketing and processing
- 14 women do buy and sell

2.a 4 Saan nila ginagawa? (space)

Fishing grounds:

- Leyte gulf
- Oras municipal waters
- Borongan City Water

2.a 5 Ano ang mga gamit nila (equipment)?

Equipment in Fishing:

- Pangawil (hook and line) – can catch fish
- Pamana (pointed arrow) – can catch fish
- Fishing light Attractor (high watts bombilya) – danggit
- Pukot (fishnets) – fish, alimasag
- Gathering of mud crab fingerlings
- Bobo (wooden bamboo) – fish and alimango
- Bintol (lift net) - Alimasag
- Bunuan – varieties of fish
- Paddled boat
- Motorized boat – drag paddled boat to arrive fast to its destination, fisherman paid 50.00
- Battery

Processing Equipment:

- Solar drier
- Mechanical drier
- Knife
- Basin
- Salt
- Freezer
- Pale

2.b.1.Sa iyong ginagawa sa pangisda (pre-production, during, post) – magkano madalas ang iyon kinikita?

- It depends to the climate, season and fish caught:

- Maximum fish caught of a male and 1 lesbian is
  - 12 kilos, when dried to danggit only 2.5.kilos
  - 1,000 to 1,250.00 per day
  - there are times na walang huli, pang ulam lang, minsan wala talaga
  - if not seasoned, fisherman buy fish from the *bunuan* owner amounting to 80.00/kilo then processed it to danggit (dried fish)

2.b.2 Saan napupunta ito?

2.c.1 Ang iyong asawa, magkano kinikita nya sa kanyang ginagawa sa pangisda?

- 1000.00 maximum – 100 minimum kung may huli
- Pag walang huli – Zero (0)

2.c.2 Saan naman napupunta ang sahod nya?

- Karamihan babae ang nagbubudget ng kita ng asawa sa pangingisda, dahil babae naman ang nagmamarket ng produkto binibigyan lang ng asawang babae ang lalaki ng kanyang mga pangangailangan, babae din ang bumibili ng gamit pangingisda ng asawa dahil sya ng madalas na nakakapunta ng bayan.

2.d.1. Ikaw ba ay nakalista bilang woman fisherfolk sa tala ng gobyerno (BFAR or DA)?

- Among 15 women interviewed, only 5 are members of women fisherfolks association in their barangay and they are recognized group in the LGU and BFAR.

2.d.2 Sino sa pamilya ang nakalista? Among 15 interviewed

- All the 15 women interviewed, 5 are members in a local women fisherfolks org. recognized by the bararangay, LGU and BFAR.
- All 15 husbands are member of the fisherfolks association in their communities/Barangays

2.d.3 Kasama ba kayo sa 4Ps?

- Among 15 women interviewed, 11 are member of 4Ps

2.e.1 May organisasyon ba ng pangisda sa komunidad?

- Among the 15 women fisherfolks interviewed, 5 said they are members of the community based women's fisherfolks.
- 3 women interviewees don't have idea if there's a fisherfolks association in their barangays

2.e.2 O mga bantay dagat?

- 3 LGUs has bantay dagat (Oras, Salcedo and Borongan)

2.e.3 Mga fish warden?

- There's a fish wardens in the barangay but none from the 15 interviewed are members.

2.e.4 Sino – sino ang mga miyembro nito?

- karamihan kalalakihan at tanod sa barangay ang miyembro

2.e.5 May mga kababaihan ba?

- None in the barangay where 15 lives.

2.f.1 Sa mga organisasyon ng pangisda – ano ang ginagampanan ng mga kababaihan?

- Of the 15 interviewed, 5 said, they attended meetings and orientation in the barangay and in the LGU. 3 members of an organization are active and affiliated to a municipal federation network of women association. Five (5) members of a local women fisher folks association have accessed and now managing support from the LGU like solar drier, mechanical drier, freezer. Women Association produced ice for fishermen/1 lesbian.

2.f.2 Bahagi ba ang kababaihan sa desisyon/pagpapasya?

- Yes, sometimes women dominate in the decision making especially in managing their husband's income, which sometime the cause of couple's misunderstanding and physical abuse of women.

2.g.1.Sa tingin mo ba sapat ang attensyon na binigay ng sector ng mga mangingisda sa mga kababaihan? Bakit?

- Of the 15 interviewed, only 5 said YES from Salcedo, 10 said no. Dahil babae sila, asawa naman ang nangingisda.
- Of 3 LGUs, Borongan and Salcedo have recognized women organization, none in Oras.
- 1 LGU only men are organized, provided with support like pump boat and fishing gears
- With fishport but not operating and functional

3. Access to information, resources, and food production

3.a.1 May kaalaman ka ba sa mga karapatan at mga benepisyo sa batas ng mga mangingisda?

- of the 15 interviewed, all said yes.

3.b.1 Nabasa o alam mo ba ang mga karapatan ng mga kababaihan sa pangisda na nasa Magna Carta of Women?

● *Hal:* pagkakapantay-pantay sa pag-access, pag-manage, pag-talaga bilang bantay ng mga yamang tubig ng ancestral domain/komunidad; pagkakapantay-pantay sa mga benepisyo na nakalaan para sa pangisda (lease agreements, stewardships), pagkakaroon ng 'women friendly and sustainable agriculture technology through consultation; Karapatan ukol sa production at postproduction (marketing etc.)

- of the 15 interviewed, 5 said yes, 10 said no.

3.c.1 Saan nanggagaling ang mga kaalamang ito?

- Of the 5 who said yes, they heard the info in the trainings/ orientation/ seminars/ celebration they attended in the barangay and in the LGU
- For the 10 they heard it from their husbands, from other women in the neighborhood

3.c.2 Kung walang alam – bakit kaya di mo ito nalaman?

- of the 10 who said No, di sila naiimbita dahil di sila member ng kahit anung organization sa barangay, naririning lang nila sa mga sabisabi sa paglalako ng isda at iba pang marine products sa bayan.

3.c.3 Wala ba pagkakataong makadalo ng meeting etc?

- wala dahil ordinaryung mamamayan lang and hindi sila naiimbita, ang mga malapit sa kapitan lang ang palaging naiimbita.
- may opportunity to attend training but no enough time dahil sa mga gawaing bahay minsan walang pamasahe, walang pagkain if di makapagtrabaho sa isang araw.

3.d.1 May nakukuha ka bang benepisyo sa gobyerno bilang kababaihan sa pangisda ?

- of the 15, 5 are members of the organization, they availed programs from the LGU, BFAR and NGO.
- of the 15, 3 not member of the organization but availed support through their husbands
- of the 15, said 7 none

3.d.2 Ang iyong asawa? (look for access to benefits – kanino nakapangalan?)

- of the 15, 3 husbands availed support from BFAR but owned by the group like PAYAO- deep sea fishing equipment.

3.e.1 Ngayong COVID-19 Pandemic – anong mga benepisyo o ayuda ng gobeyrno para sa sector ang alam mo?

- Of the 15, all said no support provided to the fishing sector, availed only Social Amelioration, food packs, supplemental social amelioration from the Eastern Samar Provincial government

3.e.2 Alam mo ba ang SURE COVID AID2?

- No

3.e.1 Nakatanggap ba kayo ng ayuda sa gobyerno?

- Yes, Of the 15, 7 availed Social Amelioration Program
- Of the 15, 8 availed the Supplemental amelioration program from the provincial government
- Of the 15, all availed relief packs from the LGU and barangays
- Of the 15, 5 received support from NGO and private individuals
- Of the 15, 8 received packs from food for work

3.e.2 Ano ang mga ito?

- food packs, cash

3.e.3 Sapat ba?

- No

4. Experiences of Marginalization, Stigma, Discrimination

4.a.1. Sapat ba ang kinikita ng pamilya para sa pangangailangan?

- No

4.a.2. Nakakakain naman ng 3 beses isang araw sa lahat ng pagkakataon?

- of the 15, 9 said they eat 3 time a day (rice and viand). 4 families rice and for dinner they substitute it with rootcrops. 2 families eats 1- 2 times daily rice with coffe (stick) and sugar as viand if no catch.

4.b.1 Maayos ba ang trato sa inyo ng barangay, ng gobyerno, ng mga ahensya ng gobyerno

kung kayo ay nagtatanong o nag aavail ng mga benepisyo para sa mga mangingisda?

- Of the 15, 14 said yes, 1 encountered not so good treatment from LGU - if meron opportunity for them sasabihin ng taga LGU, ipaubaya nalang sa iba dahil myembro ka naman ng 4Ps.

5. Trafficking and Gender-Based Violence

5.a.1 Bago pa man ang pandemya, may naririnig na ba kayong karahasan laban sa kababaihan sa inyong komunidad?

- Of the 15, 3 yes, 12 said no.

5.a.2. Ano ang mga porma nito?

Hal: (a) may pambubugbog ba ng asawa?; (b) may nagaganap ba na trafficking o prostitusyon ng mga bata o babae? (sex kapalit ng pera o bagay o iba pang benepisyo); (c) panggagahasa o ibang pang aabusong seksual?; (d) online sexual violence/cybersex dens; (e)pang-aalila – pagtrabaho na walang bayad. Pambayad utang atbp.

- Sex kapalit ng pera o bagay o iba pang benepisyo sa mga tripulante ng fishing vessel (kubkuban).
- Physical abuse

5.b.1. Ano sa tingin nyo ang ugat ng karahasan?

- Abuser talaga ang lalaki, lasinggero ang lalaki
- kahirapan (prostitution in exchange of money or fish)

5.b.2. Ba't sya nangyayari?

- Of the 15, 5 said binubugbog ang asawa dahil mahilig mangutang ng posyetuhan ang babae di alam ng lalaki
- 5 said nagger na babae at laging pinag iinitan ang lalaki,
- 3 says lasengero ang lalaki, pinapapahiya ng asawang babae ang lalaki.
- 2 answered abuser talaga ang lalaki kaya nananakit ng babae.

5.c.1 Paano tinutugunan ng komunidad at pamahalaan ang iba't ibang porma ng karahasan?

- Of the 15, 5 bare members of GBV Watch group, renereport namin sa LGU WCPD sa hotline nila pero kung nirereklamo na, pinapatawad ng babae dahil walang maghahanap buhay sa kanila.
- Hindi minsan pinakikialaman ng Barangay dahil away daw ng mag asawa yun.

- Pinapatawag sa barangay at tinutulungan ang mag asawa para maayos sila.

5.d.1.May mga anyo ng karahasan ba na nangyari sa panahon ng lockdown?

- of the 15, all said YES, physical, economic, emotional na pang aabuso.

5.d.2 Ano ang mga ito?

- rape
- incest rape
- attempted rape in the isolation facilities
-pagpapahiya sa asawang babae
-hindi pagsusustento ng lalaki sa pamilya
-pangbubugbog
-panglalait ng lalaki sa babae

6. General Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic

6.a.1 Paano kayo, bilang manginigsda, naapektuhan ng pandemya?

- di makalabas ng barangay para magbenta ng product
- walang biyahe
- binabarat ang product namin ng "alpor" o consolidator ng produkto sa barangay
-wala makain
-kulang ng livelihood opportunity
-di makalabas ng bahay dahil sa contact tracing

6.b.1.Kumusta ang gawain mo sa bahay sa panahon ng pandemya, gumaan ba o bumigat?

- Bumigat dahil sa module ng mga bata, kulang na din ang pahinga, kulang ang oras nakakadagdag ng stress ng pamilya

6.c.1 May naranasan ba ng mga panghaharass, paglabag ng karapatang pantao sa komunidad sa gitna ng lockdown o ECQ?

- **YES**
    - physical abuse
    - Rape
    - Incest rape
    - Forced labor
    - Alleged prostitution of minors in Borongan

6.c.2. May naapektuhan bang mga kababaihan sa pangisda?

- Yes for the physical, economic and emotional abuse due to stress caused by pandemic.

6.d.1 Sapat ba ang pagtugon at ayuda ng gobyerno?

- Hindi

6.e.1 Paano nalampasan ng pamilya ang kahirapan na dulot ng pandemya? Paano nagtutulungan ang komunidad ng mga mangingisda?

- Communities borrowed from microfinance/lending institutions like ASA, DUNGGANON and others to survive.
- Families borrowed from stores in the barangay and to be paid if there enough fishcatch.
- Families sell properties to survive.
- Children are forced to work
- Children engaged in domestic work like *katulong* (girls and young women), *laborer* (boys and young men) to help family to survive.

7. Recommendations

7.a Ano ang rekomendayson nyo sa pamahalaan para:

7.b Mapabuti ang kalagayan ng mga mangingisda?

- DA BFAR to immerse with fisherfolks communities to feel their needs that they may be able to design their programs and support sensitive and responsive to the real needs of the fisherfolks community.
- Responsible/concerned agencies to inform and educate the people in government programs and teach them how to access

7.c Mapabuti ang kalagayan ng mga kababaihan sa pangisda?
7.d. Para matigil at matugunan nag karahasan laban sa kababaihan;
7.e Paano mai-angat ang sector pagkatapos ng pandemya o sa pagharap ng New Normal?

- Intensify information campaign against GVB in the communities as a result of this pandemic
- Government to provide financial access to women's for livelihood opportunities to support the family augment their family income

- Conduct psychosocial support to women in the community to have the capacity adjusting to the new normal condition/scenarios
- Government to intensify formation, organizing and capacity building of women's group in the community that this organization/association of women may serve as support system to women in the community.

7.f Ano ang mensahe bilang kababaihang mangingisda sa sector ng pangisda?

CONSOLIDATED ANSWER

- Malaki ang maiitutulong naming mga kababaihan sa fisherfolks sector kung mabibigyan lang kami ng pagkakataon
    - Una, malaman ang role namin hindi lang sa bahay, sa mga asawa at mga anak namin, matulungan kaming mga kababaihan kung anu ang pwede maiambag ng kababaihan sa fisherfolks sector sa income generating, karamihan sa mga kalalakihan lang ang programa nila. Meron din po kaming kakayahan makilahok maging productive pero kulang ang aming kaalaman at opportunidad para sa aming mga kababaihan sa fisherfolks sector.
    - Intensify government campaign again gender based violence, set up and support in the strengthening of community structures like the VAWC desk become functional and responsive.
    - Barangay to be more transparent of their programs and budget to encourage and motivate community to meaningfully participate especially in identification of issues for planning and budgeting purposes.
    - Bring government programs to the people that they make access it, transportation coming back and forth to LGU is a great challenge for community folks. (New normal)
    - Involve and engage communities in planning processes to have sensitive and responsive programs

Results of Key Informant Interviews

Sectoral Monitoring of Women Fisherfolks and Women and Girls at Risk of Trafficking with Service Providers

The following are the respondents/interviewees:

1. Ulysses E. Pomarejos, Fishery Program Coordinator OPAS Eastern Samar
2. Joven O. Norcio, BFAR – Eastern Samar
3. Catherin Poro, Provincial WCPD
4. Brenda Basada, Assistant WCPD
5. Yolanda Perez, PIACAT Secretariat
6. Evelyn Caliba, DRR Officer

The common responses of the participants are consolidated while the peculiar answers are highlighted.

1. Situationer of women fisherfolks;

● Does the office have sex disaggregated data of fisherfolks in the region? How many are the recorded women fisherfolks?

- For BFAR and OPAS, they have data particularly on fisherfolks but only those organizations registered and provided with agency's support.
- Estimated 5% only of women fisherfolks (dominated by male groups) are registered and availed programs and support in their database-OPAS
- For PSWDO and WCPD, they have data for cases reported/referred to them.
- For PPDO, they have data generated from different agencies. The province have no GAD data base based on guidelines of JMC 2013

● Based on agency data, what the current state of fisherfolks in the region/province? (explore kinds of fishing, numbers, income of the sector)

Kinds of fishing:

- Pangawil (hook and line) - fish
- Pamana (pointed arrow) - fish
- Fishing light Attractor (high watts bombilya) – danggit
- Pukot (fishnets) - fish
- Gathering and selling of mud crab fingerlings
- Bobo (wooden bamboo)
- Bintol (lift net) (Alimasag)
- Bunuan
- Paddled boat
- Motorized boat – pulled paddled boats for fast arrival to its destination, fisherman paid 50.00

- Deep Sea fishing (Kubkuban o PAYAO)

Numbers (Estimates)

- There are 395 (registered large and small) scale fisher folks registered organization provided with support by BFAR in partnership with Office of the Provincial and Municipal Agricultural Services with mix of male and female membership from 2017 to present.

Income (of fisherfolks)

- Income varies on the types of fishing equipments, distance, season and types of marine resources catched/gathered.
- Large scale - like deep sea fishing catches 1st class marine product (tuna, lapulapu, blue marlin etc.., with higher value/income – Php 3,000/week (2-3 times a week) minimum income if it is seasoned (*habagat*-March to September). For *amihan (October to February,)* fishermen encountered difficulties. Maximum of 500 – 1000 per week. They cannot go on fishing due to bad weather.

● **What issues of fiherfolks are particular to the region?** ***Responses mostly contributed by Office of BFAR and OPAS***

- Decreasing fish catch due to excessive/exploitation/over fishing through illegal method of fishing.
- Depleted fishing grounds.
- Only with capacity to buy fishing equipments can/have access opportunities in fishing
- Others are deprived because they don't have extra amount to buy fishing equipments
- Women are considered "*taga supporta*" of their husbands. They are mostly into reproductive work. No or very limited access to government opportunities because almost all of the government projects are designed for men.
- Price from the fishermen controlled by middle man, but the market price is very high
- Families with no alternative income suffer more, they borrowed money from their *"amo" consolidator/middle man* to survive – *controlled by middle men*
- Children are pushed to work to contribute daily income for the family (kargador, domestic works)
- Fisherman family forced to migrate to big cities to look for opportunities
- Government support to fisherfolks are taking for granted, not sustained – DOLE-OUT system

- Seasonal
- Duplication of support from BFAR and OPAS (lack of coordination)
- Poor enforcement of Fishery laws
- Poor turn-out of loans
- Poor participation from marginalized fisherfolks sector from the identification of problem, planning and implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- Top to bottom resulted to insensitive and unresponsive to the needs of the sector
    - Political intervention – programs of the government used for political agenda
    - Not sustained because programs and services are delivered for compliance only – low level of staff commitment
    - Very slow delivery of programs and project – SAAD project started 2017 but there are still project not yet delivered.
- OPAS Staff is amenable that he is not confident of his present job as Head/Coordinator of the OPAS Fishery Department; his professional preparation is not in lined to his present job assignment.
- Attitudinal problem of both fisherfolks and implementor.

● **What about women fisherfolks? Are they recognized as fisherfolks independent from their fisherman husbands?**

- In 3 municipalities, only Salcedo has recognized women fisherfolks orgazization registered in the DOLE, OMAS, and BFAR
- Oras and Borongan. Only male fisherfolks are recognized and registered.

● **Does the agency have data on GBV/trafficking in fishing communities?**

- No data – OPAS and BFAR
- WCPD and PSWDO – they only data they have are general information of victim-survivors of GBV cases reported to them.

● **What are the identifiable trends?**

- Reported cases of GBV in the WCPD and PSWD are increasing but very few goes to Prosecutor's office.
    - GBV Cases are:
        - Physical Abuse
        - Economic Abuse
        - Incest
        - Attempted rape

        - Attempted rape in the isolation facility
        - Molestation
        - Rape
    - Report of alleged trafficking of minors in Borongan referred to Provincial WCPD for surveillance
    - Stalking online

2. **Policies and Programs;**

● **Are there policies adopted by the agency pertaining to fisherfolks? Women fisherfolks?**

- Yes, in Salcedo. LGU with partner CSO set guidelines in determining what support to be given/provided to local organization based on their need. KAKASA is a federation of women's association of Salcedo in which women fisherfolks sector are member. KAKASA is very active women group with active representation at the municipal development council. KAKASA helps local women associations in accessing, implementing and sustaining projects and supporting them in organizational development concerns.

● What are the general programs of the agency for fisherfolks before the ECQ?

- BFAR – Implementation of SAAD Program of 2017
    - Provision of fishing gears/equipments, fingerlings, seaweeds planting materials
    - Provision of Technical Support through capacity development in augmenting existing fishponds
    - Connecting/linking fishermen's product to market
    - support to fisherfolks organizational development
    - Enforcement of Laws
    - Establishment of fish landing

- OPAS Fishery Unit
    - Provision of fishing paraphernalia's to large and small fisherfolk is the province
    - Capacity building support from pre to post harvest of fishery products like how to grow tilapia, bangus, seaweed and drying, processing, packing to marketing after the post harvest.
    - Organizational Development and institutionalization of fisherfolks association
    - Partnership and Networking to lined agencies and other government and non government programs and services that

will complement to OPAS programs and services from greater impact.

- WCPD as mandated by law
  - Raising community awareness on rights of children and women (face to face and in social media)
  - Rescue and respond to reports
  - Facilitate the case build up for cases of GBV in coordination with other lined agencies for support
- PSWDO as mandated by law not only to fisherfolks
  - Preventive programs – women's month, livelihood
  - Response
  - Rehabilitate through residential facility – Bahay Darangpan
- DRR as mandated by law following Provincial DRRMC Plan
  - Preparation and mitigation on the possible impact of hazards
  - Recues, Relief, Recovery to Rehabilitation
- PPDO – GenderFocal Point
  - Coordination
  - Planning
  - Ensure the implementation of GAD
  - Monitoring
  - Evaluation
  - Consolidation
  - Reporting

● Are there specific programs for women fisherfolks in accordance with the MCW?

- Yes there is, reflected in the GAD Plan of the Province per agencies

● Does the sector currently benefit (in terms of program and benefits) from the GAD budget of the agency?

- Yes but very limited

3. **Covid 19 Impact and program**

● During ECQ, what programs were developed to assist fisherfolks during crisis?

- BFAR- only implement what is planned with budget allocation, some organization mostly men visits their office for technical support
- OPAS – less program to fisherfolks because of COVID, skeletal force were formed some Technicians are advised to work from home because they are over 60.

How many beneficiaries are there to the programs?

- Only few (estimated 10 programs delivered to organization) due to lockdowns and avoidance to contacts

● How many beneficiaries were able to avail?
- BFAR estimated to 10 associations provided with support
- OPAS estimated 10 programs delivered

● Are these programs available for women?
- Mostly for men – provision of fishing equipments/gears, fingerlings
- Visit to existing fishponds managed by mostly men

● What impact of the pandemic on the sector have you documented?
- None

End: Recommendations to empower the sector, specifically to address invisibility, undervaluation, and underrepresentation of women fisherfolks? Recommendations to enhance agency response to the sector:

- Bottoms up planning and budgeting with meaningful participation of women
- Invest in organizational development for women
- Agencies to closely coordinate to avoid duplication of support
- Conduct research or situational assessment/consultation to potential beneficiaries of the proposed program to become more sensitive and responsive programs and support
- Agricultural technicians to immerse in the community to feel the needs of the community.
- To involve more women and other sectors like PWD and children and youth for them to become more productive.
- Higher ups to assess and evaluate programs – not to be used by Politicians for their interest
- DA to assess and evaluate their programs of effectiveness, sensitivity and responsiveness
- Provide incentives to committed and hardworking staff to motivate and encourage commitment of others
- BFAR and OPAS are frontliners too. Boarder check points should not impose very strict measures to their staff.
- More capacity building to staff especially on fisheries and women's participation, what role of women in men's fields, what program that makes women productive.