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GRADA-FIL RESULTS AT A GLANCE: FISH INNOVATION LAB GENDER-RESPONSIVE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

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The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Fish (Fish Innovation Lab) administered the **Gender Responsive Aquaculture/ Fisheries Development Assessment (GRADA-FIL)** to subawardees to gauge the need for resources, trainings, tools, and communications to assist Fish Innovation Lab projects in advancing gender-responsive aquaculture and fisheries development. The GRADA-FIL is also a learning tool that introduces Fish Innovation Lab subawardees to gender-responsive aquaculture and fisheries activities to further benefit their research and related capacity development activities. The GRADA-FIL was administered via Qualtrics during October 2020 to all 2020 Fish Innovation Lab subawardees (*N*= 64). As these projects were just gearing up at the time of survey administration, subawardees were asked to report gender-responsive research activities that were incorporated into the research plans of their new projects.

In this brief, we focus on gender-responsive research activities surrounding three categories, including 1) training and capacity development, 2) interventions and other programs, and 3) development/distribution of resources, inputs, or technologies. For each category, respondents were asked to select from a list of gender-responsive research activities that were incorporated into the reseach projects. We present the results of each of the three categories below. In addition, we briefly discuss the role of the Fish Innovation Lab in supporting researchers' efforts to implement gender-responsive research activities.

GENDER-RESPONSIVE TRAINING AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

As seen in Table 1, of the projects that included **training and capacity development activities**, respondents (n=63) reported that their project 1) tries to recruit an equal number of men and women participants (79.4%); 2) tries to ensure that a mix of female staff and male staff run each training (74.6%); 3) takes into account how men's and women's different roles across the aquaculture/fisheries value chain may influence their training or capacity development needs (68.3%); 4) incorporates ways to mitigate gender norms that can limit women's full participation in training and capacity development activities; and 5) makes accommodations for any unique needs and responsibilities of women participants (54.0%).

TABLE 1. Most frequent responses to the question, "When planning and conducting **trainings or other capacity development activities** for our Fish Innovation Lab Project, my team… (select all that apply)" (N=63)

	% (n)
tries to recruit an equal number of men and women participants.	79.4 (50)
tries to ensure that a mix of female staff and male staff run each training.	74.6 (47)
takes into account how men's and women's different roles across the aquaculture/fisheries value chain may influence their training or capacity development needs (*e.g., women and men are often exposed to different occupational risks due to their roles in the fisheries value chain*).	68.3 (43)
incorporates ways to mitigate gender norms that can limit women's full participation in training and capacity development activities (*e.g., there may be norms against women speaking up in public in the presence of men*).	68.3 (43)
makes accommodations for any unique needs and responsibilities of women participants (*e.g., women's childcare responsibilities may restrict their abilities to attend evening meetings*).	54.0 (34)

GENDER-RESPONSIVE INTERVENTIONS AND PROGRAMS

As seen in Table 2, of the projects that included **interventions and other programs**, respondents (n=58) reported that their project 1) tries to recruit an equal number of men and women participants or beneficiaries (75.8%); 2) takes into account how men's and women's different roles across the aquaculture/fisheries value chain may influence their intervention or program needs (74.1%); 3) tries to ensure a mix of female staff and male staff are involved in planning

and conducting interventions or programs (74.1%); and 4) incorporates ways to mitigate rules, norms, or laws that can limit women's participation (70.0%).

GENDER-RESPONSIVE RESOURCES, INPUTS, AND TECHNOLOGIES

As seen in Table 3, of the projects that included **development/distribution of resources, inputs, or technologies** (n=54), the majority of respondents reported that their project 1) tries to recruit an equal number of men and women participants or beneficiaries (74.1%); 2) takes into account how men's and women's different roles across the aquaculture/fisheries value chain may influence their resource, input, or technology needs (72.2%); 3) tries to ensure a mix of female staff and male staff develop and distribute inputs or technologies (68.5%); 4) incorporates ways to mitigate rules, norms, or laws that can limit women's full access to resources, inputs, or technologies (64.8%); and 5) incorporates gendered preferences when developing resources, inputs or technologies (55.6%).

DISCUSSION: GENDER INEQUALITIES IN AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES

The results of the GRADA-FIL internal assessment indicate that a large number of 2020 Fish Innovation Lab projects seek to include a wide range of gender-responsive research activities. These results suggest that the Fish Innovation Lab's "out the gate" strategy of gender as a cross-cutting theme within each project is an effective means of ensuring that projects strive to be more gender-responsive at the onset. These results offer a "roadmap" for the Fish Innovation Lab to assist subawardees in achieving their gender-responsive goals and developing additional gender-responsive strategies that may help increase the impact of their projects. These resuts also inform resources that will be beneficial to Fish Innovation Lab researchers, including work directly with researchers to help achieve project-specific gender-responsive goals and courses such as, "Increasing Your Gender Responsive Agricultural Development Capacity" and "Your Brief Guide to Conducting Focus Groups in Village Settings," developed by Fish Innovation Lab Gender and Youth Engngement Leads Kathleen Ragsdale and Mary Read-Wahidi and geared towards informing gender-responsive agricultural development.

TABLE 2. Most frequent responses to the question, "When planning and conducting **interventions or programs** for our Fish Innovation Lab Project, my team… (select all that apply)" (N=58)

	% (n)
tries to recruit an equal number of men and women participants/beneficiaries.	75.8 (44)
takes into account how men's and women's different roles across the aquaculture/fisheries value chain may influence their intervention or program needs *(e.g., women tend to supply fish for household consumption while men tend to supply fish for income*).	74.1 (43)
tries to ensure a mix of female staff and male staff are involved in planning and conducting interventions or programs.	74.1 (43)
incorporates ways to mitigate rules, norms, or laws that can limit women's participation *(e.g., limited tenure rights may restrict women's' participation in certain interventions or programs).*	70.0 (40)

TABLE 3. Most frequent responses to the question, "When developing and/or distributing **resources, inputs or technologies** for our FIL Project, my team… (select all that apply)" (N=54)

	% (n)
tries to recruit an equal number of men and women participants/beneficiaries.	74.1 (40)
takes into account how men's and women's different roles across the aquaculture/fisheries value chain may influence their resource, input, or technology needs (*e.g., women are less likely to have access to assets such as fishing gear*).	72.2 (39)
tries to ensure a mix of female staff and male staff develop and distribute inputs or technologies.	68.5 (37)
incorporates ways to mitigate rules, norms, or laws that can limit women's full access to resources, inputs, or technologies (*e.g., women may not have the same ability as men to purchase inputs on their own*).	64.8 (35)
incorporates gendered preferences when developing resources, inputs, or technologies (*e.g., when developing [new] product profiles, women's and men's different consumer needs—such as price or prep time— may influence trait preferences*).	55.6 (30)

ABOUT THE FISH INNOVATION LAB

The Fish Innovation Lab supports the United States Agency for International Development's agricultural research and capacity building work under Feed the Future, the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative. Mississippi State University is the program's management entity. The University of Rhode Island, Texas State University, Washington University in St. Louis, and RTI International serve as management partners.

www.fishinnovationlab.msstate.edu

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