

Acknowledgements

The 6th Global Symposium on Gender and Fisheries (GAF6) was held during 3-7 August 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand at the 11th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (11AFAF). The event, the biggest yet of our gender in aquaculture and fisheries (GAF) symposia, was supported by many organisations and individuals who have helped us progress GAF issues over nearly 20 years. We wish to especially thank the Asian Fisheries Society and its Council, the Local Organising Committee of 11AFAF in Bangkok under the leadership of Dr Cherdasak Virapat, Director General of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) for full support in the overall hosting of GAF6.

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The GAF6 began with the GAF 101 half day training workshop, resulting from recommendations of previous GAF events. This workshop was attended by nearly all the presenters at GAF6. It was designed, led and delivered

by Marilyn Porter, Holly Hapke, Kyoko Kusakabe and Susana Siar. In addition to contributed papers, special theme sessions were held on: *Implementation of the gender elements of the Voluntary Guidelines on Small-Scale Fisheries*; *Gender in fish trade and value chains*; *Focus Thailand and Mekong Region: GAFin Thailand/ Mekong Region*; *Regional updates on gender in fisheries and aquaculture*; *Panel on the Fish Industry, Gender and Social Development*. Several regular sessions were also held.

A feature of GAF6 was the art competition for Thai junior and senior high school students, held on 4 August 2016. The competition was organized by the Faculty of Fisheries, Kasetsart University, the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific and the USAID Oceans and Fisheries Partnership. This was a first such event for GAF and was premised on involving youth to raise awareness on gender sensitivity and advocacy.

The publication process for this Special Issue has been similar to that used in past GAF events. The patience of the authors and co-authors of the published papers and their attention to making the necessary revisions is greatly appreciated. We also gratefully acknowledged the help rendered by Prof. Mohamed Shariff, Editor of the Asian Fisheries Science journal for his guidance and suggestions in finalising the papers in this Special Issue.

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