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# AQUA FARM NEWS



A publication of the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, Iloilo, Philippines

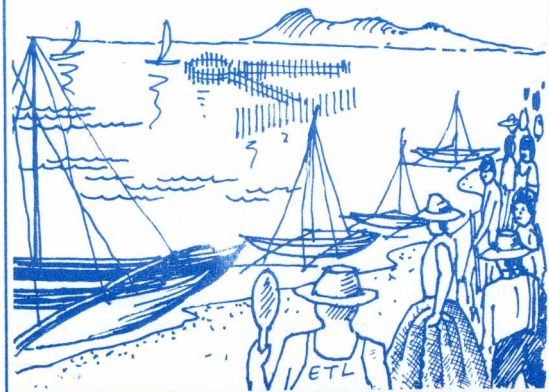
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## NGOs, POs, CO-OPs

# Alternative development

*"The fruits of the earth belong to us all  
and the earth itself to no one." -Rousseau*



*"There are 700,000 small fishermen in the country. They support a community of about nine million people living in 1,000 coastal towns, or two-thirds of the Philippines' total number of municipalities. They produce half of the national fish supply. Despite this vital role, the economic status of subsistence fisherfolk is like that of landless peasants, upland kaingineros, and the urban poor..."*

*"Small fishermen face many other problems. The solutions may be found primarily in proper resource management and active involvement of concerned agencies, institutions, and the fishermen themselves."*

Dr. F. J. Lacanilao, former AQD Chief, in a paper presented at the Regional Symposium on Coastal Waters Rehabilitation and Development, Iloilo City, March 1989.

**People helping people.** Non-government organizations (NGOs) and people's organizations (POs), several of these by and for women, and co-ops or cooperatives exist for this reason. As alternative development tools, they share a common vision: people empowerment, that is, strengthening society's disadvantaged, among the poorest of which are the small-scale fisherfolk. Behind the pooling of resources and expertise is the overall goal of reducing or eradicating poverty and inequality. How these agencies work to advance equal access to opportunities and fisheries resources are discussed in this issue.

Also presented are gender issues specific to fisheries and aquaculture development where existing practices discriminate or oppress women. Ensuring equal rights and opportunities for women is seen as a forward step to true development.

## **Role and Rights of People's Organization**

*The State shall respect the role of independent people's organizations to enable the people to pursue and protect, within the democratic framework, their legitimate and collective interests and aspirations through peaceful and lawful means.*

*People's organizations are bona fide associations of citizens with demonstrated capacity to promote the public interest and with identifiable leadership, membership, and structure.*

*The right of the people and their organizations to effective and reasonable participation at all levels of social, political, and economic decision-making shall not be abridged. The State shall, bylaw, facilitate the establishment of adequate consultation mechanisms.*

**1987 Philippine Constitution**

## **Why NGOs?**

NGOs or non-government organizations have contributed greatly to social change that their existence is institutionalized in the Constitution. Earlier, Section 23 of Article II mandates the State "to encourage organizations that are sectoral, community-based or non-governmental, whose activities must promote the welfare of the Nation."

NGOs come in all sizes and shapes. At last count there are some 1,997 of them worldwide. Non-profit and non-stock, most, if not all, subsist exclusively on grants. The work they do is described variously as either development work, cause-oriented work, social work, or simply alternative development.

NGOs cover a wide variety of concerns, including human rights, community organizing, research, publications, legal aid, peace issues, women's rights, etc. But for all the variegated scope of NGO work, they all advocate certain

ideals and causes. NGO work is advocacy work, and NGO workers are advocates, or if you like, activists, dedicated to the pursuit of certain ideals and committed to their fruition. NGO work cannot be perceived otherwise, or else it is no different from traditional social work, which is part of the problem and not the solution.

NGO work is measured in qualitative terms—the degree of change effected in the individual and the target group and the impact on society at large. All NGO work is ad hoc work; once they've achieved their objectives there is no reason for them to exist. The survival of NGOs depends on the existence of certain problems, which when eliminated would eliminate the NGOs as well. Thus, it is not uncommon for NGOs to proclaim that they ultimately aim to make themselves irrelevant.

Source: **Virgilio S. Labrador. NGO Management. SARILAKAS**, Vol. 2, No. 2, June 1987.

## **A c-o-n-t-i-n-u-i-n-g PROCESS**

PROCESS (Participatory Research, Organization of Communities, and Education Towards Struggle for Self-reliance) is the offshoot of an experiment encouraged by the International Labor Organization to stimulate self-help initiatives among rural communities in Antique and Batangas. Its operations today extend to 10 provinces, touching the lives of thousands of farmers, fisherfolk, women and other marginalized sectors.

Since 1982, PROCESS has facilitated the formation of strong, autonomous people's organizations (POs), building up their capabilities for participatory and self-reliant development. By empowering the masses -- the grassroots -- to protect and advance their interests through collective reflection and action, PROCESS hopes to become progressively "immaterial" as communities develop and increasingly take charge of their own destinies.

The objectives of PROCESS are:

- To facilitate the formation and strengthening of participatory sectoral and multi-sectoral people's organizations at all levels;
- To help the masses develop legal resources to protect their rights, advance their interests and enhance their participation in society and in governance;
- To help communities develop appropriate communications media for information, cultural enrichment and the protection of collective interests;
- To promote social justice through the democratization of access, control and management of productive resources, and the more equitable distribution of benefits and opportunities;
- To promote sustainable development through

the protection, conservation, rehabilitation and wise use of natural resources; and

- To help improve the condition of women through economic, social, cultural and political initiatives and the creation of an environment sensitive and responsive to the needs of women in the Third World.

PROCESS may be reached at its principal office at 54 Estrella Street, Bel Air 3, Makati, Metro Manila (Tel. no. 817-5825). Its regional offices are: in Northern Luzon c/o Romeo Ordoñez, Plaridel, Santiago, Isabela; in Bohol, 55 M. Torralba Street, Tagbilaran City (tel. no. 411-36-41); and in Panay, 31 Avanceña Street, Molo, Iloilo City (tel. no. 77-386).

### **PROCESS and the fry gatherers of Antique**

Since 1983, PROCESS community facilitators have actively helped the coastal fishermen of Antique in their struggle for economic self-sufficiency.

Antique is one of the richest milkfish fry grounds in the country. About half the families living along the coast depend on fry gathering for livelihood. A 1983 survey concluded that bangus fry gathering sustains about 8,000 to 9,000 families in Antique.

The problems caused by the exploitative concession system and the alleged difficulties in marketing bangus fry became the primary concern of PROCESS' organizing efforts in Antique in 1986. The goal was to ascertain the realities of the bangus fry industry throughout the Philippines, and specifically in Antique.

Bangus fry catchers (BFCs) work along the shores of thirteen towns of Antique. Ranked according to the average volume of fry production in 1985, these towns are: Patnongon, San Jose, Barbaza, Culasi, Hamtik, Pandan, Tibiao, Belison, Dao, Sebaste, Anin-y, Laua-an, and Libertad. From these towns, 49 BFCs representing the common experience were interviewed.

After the PROCESS initiative, almost 80% of the BFCs in Antique have become members of a people's organization. Seventy-two percent of the respondents are members and hold responsible positions in 16 people's organizations, all of which are municipality-based.

The organized fry catchers in the different towns find ways to obtain privileges for themselves. They present their demands in unison, and make the town governments listen, assess the merits of their suggestions, and either agree to the fry catchers' stipulations or negotiate a compromise.

One significant gain of the fry catchers is that now they are allowed to operate the fry grounds as concessionaires themselves. Concessions are awarded to the local fry catchers associations. The operations of the fry grounds become largely an internal matter to the organizations, which institute their own rules and procedures for fry collection, accounting, storage and marketing. The fishermen find many opportunities to engage in problem-solving and decision-making, both essential to voicing.

For instance, the Board of Directors of the various BFC organizations are composed of the respective presidents or vice presidents of the barangay chapters. They consult their constituencies regarding collections, income distribution, and other matters in the concessions. The board members submit all plans to the barangay assemblies for discussion. Objections raised are discussed in the meetings of the board, threshed out, and referred again to the barangay members. The barangay Katilingban Association also try to meet regularly. Through participative mechanisms, the members know about developments in the town and the board of directors of the Katilingban

also have a continuous flow of information from the individual members.

Another effect of organized effort is that the fry gatherers are forced to learn and to understand bureaucratic procedures involved in obtaining concession rights, something that they did not know as mere fry collectors. They discover many alternatives to the old concessionaire-gatherer system. One innovation instituted by the BFCs in Culasi and Barbaza is profit-sharing on the income from bangus. With this arrangement, the fry catchers are spared the risk of not having enough earnings to pay the concession fee. The town extracts revenue from the fry grounds commensurate to the actual fry harvest rather than the projected levels. The Katilingban safeguards the interests of both the municipality (by ensuring that honest and complete reports of fry collections are made) and the fry catchers (by giving them the earnings due them).

Other fry catchers have been able to negotiate lower concession fees from the Sangguniang Bayan. In San Jose and in Belison, the fry catchers succeeded in lowering the fee from P80,000 to P70,000. In Patnongon, the fee remained as stipulated by the town officials, but the KASIPA was able to modify the surety requirements of the concession and to reduce the amount of the first payment. In Hamtik, instead of a straight fee for the concession, the use of collection gears became the basis for the payments.

Since the BFCs themselves had to deal with the municipal councils directly, they had to obtain "bargaining" skills. Thus, the community facilitators engaged them in a series of planning, problem-solving and role-playing sessions, so that they may anticipate what could transpire during the negotiations, and plan their course of action. In the end, the officers and BFCs who took part in these meetings felt greater personal strength and self-confidence than before.

Among the new-found skills of the fry catchers are the ability to preside at meetings, to talk about the community situation and answer questions from members. The BFC leaders also perceive themselves as having developed skills in mobilization. For instance, through the work of these local organizers, the fry catchers in Belison



worked together to build the bodega (storage hut) for the collected fry, and together, built artificial reefs. In Hamtik, the members of the KASIHA not only participate in production activities but also join community affairs such as rallies, independence day parades, and other activities of the barangays. New leaders emerge from these dynamics.

Source: Amaryllis T. Torres and Rosita B. Sia. *A Study of People's Power: Bangus Fry Catchers in Control of Production*. 1988. Southeast Asian Forum on Development Alternatives.

## PROCESS and SEAFDEC/AQD for FAMI

Roughly four kilometers off Culasi, Antique is Malalison Island, site of SEAFDEC/AQD's Community Fishery Resource Management Project or CFRM. (See *Aquaculture Clinic*, p. 22). Complementing CFRM's integrated seafarming and searanching program is PROCESS, the NGO that undertakes the community-organizing and institution-building components of the project. Thus was born FAMI, or the Fishermen's Association of Malalison Island.

The fisherfolk have participated in a series of training activities conducted to strengthen the Association, which will eventually manage the island's resources. The training included (1) Membership Orientation Seminar, (2) Organizational Management and Development, and (3) Project Management and Development.

PROCESS has set four key objectives in the Malalison project: (1) formation of a strong and active people's organization, the FAMI, (2) strengthening of the PO's capability in socioeconomic and political interventions, (3) improving the socioeconomic base of the PO, and (4) empowering the PO through networking with local government units, other NGOs, GOs and support and development institutions like SEAFDEC/AQD.

SEAFDEC/AQD pursues the following objectives for FAMI: (1) to develop model marine hatchery-nursery systems of selected species for culture and release of juveniles; (2) to provide additional livelihood through cultivation of appropriate fishes, seaweeds, molluscs, and crustaceans; (3) to regenerate fish habitats such as coral reefs and seagrass beds; (4) to increase fish stocks by releasing juveniles of suitable species; (5) to develop the community into a strong and organized association granted territorial use rights; and (6) to extend seafarming and searanching activities to other fishing communities.

With an active membership of 46 fisherfolk to date, FAMI is on its second year of operation. While there are yet many areas of improvement in achieving goals, the fact remains that FAMI, SEAFDEC/AQD and PROCESS are getting into one working system to pilot a model of community empowerment and sustainable resource management. The model may then be replicated in other coastal towns in the Philippines.

# **Instruments of development: NAADI and AQUASOC**

## **NAADI**

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The Negros Aqua Agri Development Institute (NAADI) is a consortium of the provincial government of Negros Occidental, Philippine Federation of Prawn Growers, Inc. and the Negros Studies and Development Center of the University of St. La Salle. It is located at the University of St. La Salle campus in Bacolod City and is managed by the Negros Aqua Agri Development Foundation, Inc., a non-stock, non-profit organization with representatives from the provincial government, the university and the industry.

NAADI provides a wide range of support services and facilities to both aquaculture and agriculture sectors, especially to industry technicians and workers, and to farmer-recipients of agricultural lands. In addition to its manpower development program, NAADI conducts research studies in aquaculture and agriculture. Its findings are disseminated through conferences and trade and industry publications.

NAADI plans to have a databank of industry information and research findings and a specialized library available to the public.

The support services offered by NAADI may be provided by SEAFDEC and UPV. But a Negros-based Institute is imperative since Negros is the premier shrimp-growing province in the Philippines. NAADI answers the need for accessible and immediate laboratory service.

### **NAADI's objectives:**

- To provide a resource center for technological transfer and manpower development for the aquaculture and agriculture industries;

- To provide research support for both industries through scientific studies and data banking services;
- To provide a vehicle for information dissemination on issues and developments through seminars, symposia, and public forums; and
- To serve the needs of the industry through policy advocacy before relevant agencies and sectors.

Since its creation in May 1992, NAADI has conducted 16 sessions of the "*Kapihan sa NAADI*," attended by a total of 329 fish and prawn growers, pond technicians, fishery school faculty, media practitioners and extension officers. The *Kapihan* takes up diverse subjects such as plankton as prawn feed in the first 30 days of culture; prevention, detection and control of prawn diseases; pond soil characterization; *Gracilaria* as biofilters; sustainable aquaculture, coastal resource management; culture of seaweeds, etc.

NAADI has conducted 9 seminars on various aquaculture topics in different towns. It has conducted hands-on demonstrations on value-added techniques such as milkfish deboning, smoking of fish, and preparation of fishballs, fishburgers, fish noodles and mussel chippy. NAADI's many activities include information dissemination, technology field-testing with farmer-cooperators, and livelihood enhancement (mud crab fattening, rock-mound fishing project, and nata de coco production and marketing).

U.P. Aquaculture Society, Inc., or AQUASOC as it is popularly known, is a non-stock, non-profit (professional) organization of U.P. alumni in fisheries and allied sciences based at the College of Fisheries, U.P. Visayas, Miag-ao, Iloilo. It was first created as a graduate student organization but is now an affiliate of UPV Alumni Association. It has 22 members at present.

### AQUASOC's objectives:

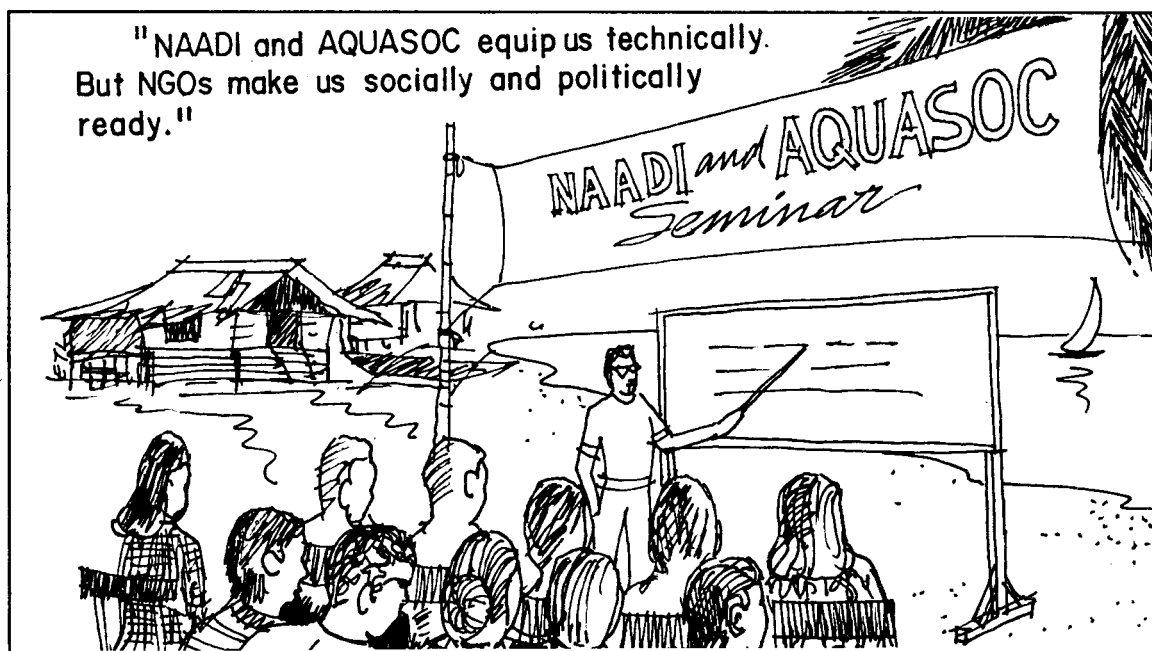
- To promote the development and application of sound and sustainable aquaculture technologies;
- To foster interaction and cooperation among the academe, research, extension, and production sectors through sharing of technologies or experiences; and
- To assist U.P. in its efforts to promote and upgrade aquaculture education.

AQUASOC also undertakes management and consultation projects in aquaculture.

To date, the Society has conducted three national seminars on shrimp culture. The proceedings volume was published in 1988 -- *Technical Considerations for the Management and Operation of Intensive Prawn Farms* edited by Y.N. Chiu, L.M. Santos, and R.O. Juliano. The Society conducted two 12-day training courses -- Fisheries Research Methodology and Technical Writing -- for the Department of Agriculture research staff under the Fisheries Sector Program and for faculty and research staff of fisheries schools and colleges in the country in cooperation with the UPV College of Fisheries.

AQUASOC has organized numerous in-campus research seminars for students, multidisciplinary forums for fishfarmers and lectures for farm technicians and extension workers. It has collaborated with farmers' organizations, government agencies, and private corporations.

AQUASOC won the UPV Chancellor's Award for the Most Outstanding Student Organization for SY 1988-89.





# Statistics show gender bias

**Consider the truths behind these facts:**

*Women.....*

*They contribute over one-half of the world's population.*

*They contribute two-thirds of the world's working hours.*

*They receive one-tenth of the world's total income.*

*They own less than one-hundredth of the world's real property.*

*They comprise two-thirds of all illiterate people in the world.*

*They head one-fourth to one-third of rural households worldwide.*

Source: *"Nanny to the World, Unite!"* International Sharing, Vol. IV, No. 3, December 1989.

## **The number of rural women in poverty is staggering.**

Estimates of the number of rural women living below the poverty line in 114 developing countries, 1988:

Region	Rural women living in poverty (million)
Asia	374
Asia (excluding China and India)	153
Sub-Saharan Africa	129
Near East and North Africa	18
Latin America and the Caribbean	43
<b>Total 114 countries</b>	<b>564</b>
<b>Least developed countries</b>	<b>149</b>

Source: **Jazairy, Idriss, et al.** *The State of World Rural Poverty*, 1992. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Estimates of the number of rural women living below the poverty line in 41 developing countries:

Country	Rural women living in poverty (x 1,000)		Country	Rural women living in poverty (x 1,000)	
	1965-1970	1988		1965-1970	1988
Argentina	665	647	Lesotho	456	459
Bangladesh	24,061	44,887	Malawi	1,796	3,572
Bolivia	1,037	1,808	Malaysia	2,393	1,572
Brazil	15,436	14,228	Mali	1,100	2,425
Chile	364	589	Mexico	5,445	7,089
China	26,376	72,569	Morocco	2,495	3,392
Colombia	2,538	2,473	Nepal	3,594	5,697
Costa Rica	166	285	Pakistan	10,344	13,228
Ecuador	1,151	1,718	Panama	214	405
Egypt, Arab Republic	2,135	5,381	Peru	2,083	2,806
Ethiopia	9,723	13,832	Philippines, The	6,791	12,245
Fiji	62	62	Sri Lanka	14	3,714
Gabon	68	172	Tanzania	4,117	7,225
Gambia, The	80	302	Thailand	8,577	9,040
Ghana	1,836	3,425	Trinidad and Tobago	160	105
Guatemala	1,353	2,084	Tunisia	341	362
Haiti	1,418	1,934	Venezuela	618	681
India	116,194	148,157	Zambia	859	1,888
Indonesia	24,653	23,713			
Iran, Islamic Republic	3,245	4,122			
Jordan	60	112			
Kenya	2,339	6,302			
Korea, Republic of	4,183	1,199			
			<b>Total 41 countries</b>	<b>290,540</b>	<b>425,697</b>

Sources: IFAD documents; ILO, Poverty data base; UND (1990); and World Bank (1990)

## Women work more and play less than men.

Average time spent by small fisherfolk in various activities (in hours per day):

Activity	Men	Women
Domestic duties	0.5 hours	4.5 hours
Agriculture	2.5 hours	2.0 hours
Leisure	5.0 hours	3.0 hours

Source: **Gender issues in fisheries and aquaculture**. 1991. Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) and FAO.

# **The African experience: a case in point**

The burdens and constraints affecting women in Africa cut across national boundaries. The poor quality of life suffered by many rural women in Lesotho and Ghana, Africa, cannot be any worse than in many other countries.

According to the 1984 population census of Ghana, 35% of all households are now headed by women. The number of women farmers has increased at a faster rate than that of men. With cocoa and other cash crops replacing food production as the main activities, many Ghanaian men migrate to other areas to set up their own cocoa farms or to work as laborers, or to urban centers in search of cash and jobs.

In Lesotho, the statistics show that about three-fourths of households are headed by males, but in practice up to 75% of households in some areas are effectively headed by women, again due to male migration to South Africa and to other parts of Lesotho for work. This means that the agricultural work is left to women and children, and this has serious implications for food production.

Women become exclusively responsible for the daily subsistence needs of their families. They have to increase their workload and take over many roles and responsibilities that are typically male, without having the same access to resources.

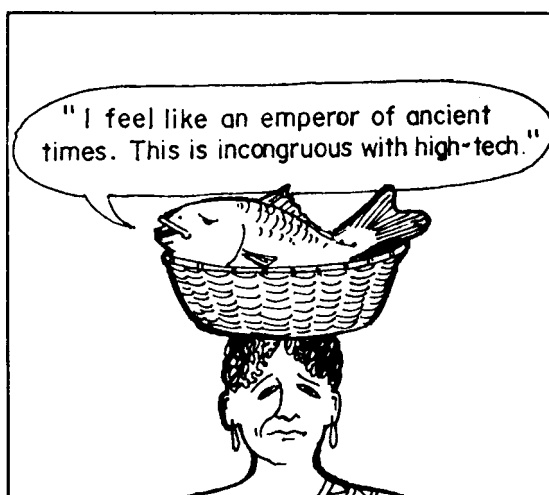
Women are seldom direct beneficiaries of resources such as land, agricultural inputs, training and extension. Lack of credit is often cited by women as the most severe constraint to increasing their production and income. Traditional cultural values often prohibit women from seeking credit.

Limitations also frequently apply elsewhere. Technologies for increasing women's productivity and reducing their household and agricultural labor have not been adopted and made widely available to most women. Nor have technological packages and research adequately taken into account the women farmers.

Rural women in both Lesotho and Ghana do hard manual work using traditional implements and methods. Their days are often long and arduous. Cooking, collecting fuelwood, and fetching water are the most time-consuming domestic chores. In addition, women care for the children, the sick, and the elderly.

In Ghana, women not only work on the family farm, they also farm their own piece of land which is usually farther from the village and has less fertile soil. For these women farmers, a major task is transporting produce from the farm to market, usually by "headloading" for many miles. The average weight of a headload is about 30 kilograms.

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# Six STRONG voices

They came from Asia and the Pacific. They spoke on their varied experiences - how they transcended the limitations and bias attached to women. Their stories shed light on the capacities and vulnerabilities of women farmers in Asia. Theirs were six loud voices in the **Regional Conference on Gender Issues in Agriculture** held in Manila, 5-6 December 1990.

Some had started with a little bit of land and capital; others had practically nothing at the beginning. Some worked with groups from which they drew strength and support; others drew support only from their families. All, however, were driven by the desire to succeed as farmers, to improve their families' welfare, and to contribute to the development of their communities and countries. All shared the conviction that given the opportunities, women farmers could become highly productive members of society.

**Hao Lijun** of the People's Republic of China manages a pig farm in a village on the outskirts of Beijing, under contract from the village government. Starting as a breeder, she assumed greater responsibilities and soon gained confidence in herself. Under her management, the pig farm exceeded its production and income targets and is seen as a model for other ventures. She sees many opportunities for women farmers in the Government's economic reforms which stress farmers' initiative in the countryside. She is optimistic about the advancement of women in China.

**Unaisi Volavola** of Fiji spoke about life as a cane farmer. Upon her father's death, she and her mother assumed responsibility for the farm. While she sees no particular difficulties in being a woman farmer, she is keenly aware of the difficulties that both women and men farmers face in Fiji: lack of technical skill and access to credit and unpredictable weather conditions. Her goals are to provide security for her family and livelihood in the rural areas.

**Malati Mandi**, a landless woman from India, spoke of the hardships she faced for twenty

years as a seasonal migrant worker in an area devastated by drought and increasing deforestation. As tradition and law deprived her of equal pay for equal work and the right to property, she was subjected to indignities and domestic violence. A breakthrough in her life came about as a result of attending a women's camp. After that, she formed with other peasant women an organization that has worked for livelihood opportunities, technological education, environmental awareness, and political power for women.

**Minth Pathammavong** of Laos People's Democratic Republic, a mother of two, spoke about her involvement in their rice farm and small poultry project. Both projects have expanded significantly in the last few years under her and her husband's joint management. She spoke of the benefits of hard work and initiative as they now share the fruits of their work with their employees, their employees' families, and the community. She emphasized the role of agriculture in the development of her country and hopes to help other poor farmers attain similar success.

**Daw Than Shein** from Myanmar talked about her family's work cycle on their farm, which grows wheat, chick-pea, rice and other food crops for the domestic market. One of her goals is to assist the Government in keeping down the prices of basic food commodities through greater productivity.

**Arunsri Nilcharoon**, an agricultural entrepreneur from Thailand, started as one of seven children in a poor vegetable-growing family. Now she is a successful businesswoman who processes and packages fruit and vegetables for export to four Asian countries. Her business owns 80 hectares, employs 200 full-time workers and involves 3,000 families, including contract farmers. Through innovation and determination, she transcended women's constraints in a traditional society.

Source: **Proceedings of the Regional Conference on Gender Issues in Agriculture**. 1991. ADB-UNIFEM, P.O. Box 789, Manila, Philippines.

# **Women in development**

Before 1975, FAO had programs for women that tended to stress their household and reproductive roles. There was little appreciation of the extent of women's contribution to economic development.

With the International Women's Year in 1975, FAO endorsed a number of UN resolutions on the integration of women in agriculture and rural development. The Inter-divisional Working Group on Women in Development was established.

The 1979 World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development was a major turning point in the recognition of women's role in agriculture production. It adopted the Peasants Charter of which one principle was that "Women should participate and contribute on an equal basis with men in the social, economic and political processes of rural development and share fully in improved conditions of life in rural areas."

In 1983, the Home Economics and Social Programme Service of FAO was restructured to focus on women, the Women in Agricultural Production Service.

Recognition of the role of women in fisheries development, particularly in small-scale fisheries and rural aquaculture was made in the Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development endorsed by the 1984 World Conference on Fisheries.

In 1985, the Nairobi World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (1975-85) urged governments to integrate women in all development programs.

In 1986, the Core Group on Women in Fisheries was established to review ongoing and pipeline projects, to determine the possibil-

ity of including women in project activities, to identify any negative impact of development initiatives on women's economic activities, to organize or promote workshops, to identify new pilot activities, and to sensitize experts and decision makers to gender issues.

During the 24th Session of the FAO Conference in 1987, Resolution 3/87 requested a plan of action for the integration of women in development to be prepared and submitted to the 94th FAO Council. The plan included a staff training program on how to integrate women in development.

The 94th Session of the FAO Council in November 1988 unanimously approved a Plan of Action for the Integration of Women in Development. The Plan aims to ensure equal rights and opportunities for women, to augment the information base on women in development, and to formulate policies and develop programs based on this information.

Source: Gender issues in fisheries and aquaculture. Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. 1990.

**Women find support in the Philippine Constitution, Article XII, Section 14:**

## *Women*

*The State shall protect working women by providing safe and healthful working conditions, taking into account their maternal functions, and such facilities and opportunities that will enhance their welfare and enable them to realize their full potential in the service of the nation.*

# Rural women's access to credit

To enhance the role of rural women in development, NGOs have assisted in the establishment of credit programs.

## **Kababaihang Barangay of San Miguel, Bulacan (KBB)**

The KBB (literally Women of the Village) is a loose, cooperative-type association of village women in San Miguel, Bulacan. It was organized in 1977 and by 1985 membership had grown to more than 2,000 women members from about 54 chapters in 45 villages of San Miguel. Various projects are undertaken, ranging from community beautification and family planning information campaigns to income-generating activities such as swine raising. Backyard swine raising has been made possible through the financial support of the Canadian government and UN-ESCAP (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific). Loans from the Canadian government are interest-free while those sourced from the UN-ESCAP are lent to KBB at 1.5% per annum. During the phase of the program financed by UN-ESCAP, KBB decided to undertake a "forced-savings" scheme whereby women beneficiaries were required to deposit half of net earnings from the project in a joint account with the organization (the KBB). Most participants were able to repay the loan and even had enough savings to continue the project on their own.

## **BFAR-ESCAP tie-up**

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) with financial assistance from UN-ESCAP in Palawan, Davao and Pangasinan accomplished the following:

- Enhanced the immediate utilization of manpower skills, technology and local resources into viable livelihood projects;
- Provided employment and additional source of income for the women (mostly housewives) in their respective fishing communities;
- Helped the women acquire basic tools in fish processing e.g. ladle, kettle, drying tray, tongs, pin plate, pail, styrofoam, etc.;
- Stimulated socioeconomic development;
- Contributed to the improvement of nutrition especially among school children;
- Helped the small fish traders in the locality to earn something for their daily needs; and
- Helped promote the export of shellcraft products (e.g., project of Luciente Uno in Bolinao, Pangasinan).

The loan fund has grown from P63,579 in 1984 to a total of P79,359 due to interest income earned from the bank and interest and penalty charges collected from the borrowers as of October, 1987.

## **Rural Improvement Clubs (RICs)**

The Rural Improvement Club in the Philippines is a voluntary grassroots organization of rural women geared toward improving the family life. The RICs have been promoted by the government nationwide through the Bureau of Agricultural Extension (now Agricultural Training Institute), since the early 1970s. These RICs are engaged in homemaking concerns that include food and nutrition, clothing, family life and child development, home industries, beautification programs and community projects that are basically the women's domain. These clubs are linked with other organizations through municipal, provincial, regional, and national networks. In 1982, the Department of Agriculture introduced the RICs to cooperative projects. This led to the registration in 1986 of 14 RICs as cooperatives, six of which are credit cooperatives.

Guidance in the organization and management was provided by the Department of Agriculture through the Regional Action Officer of the Department of Agrarian Reform. Seed funding was obtained from the Agrarian Reform Education Service which is the Secretariat for the National Coordinating Committee of the FAO programme sponsoring the development of rural women's club.

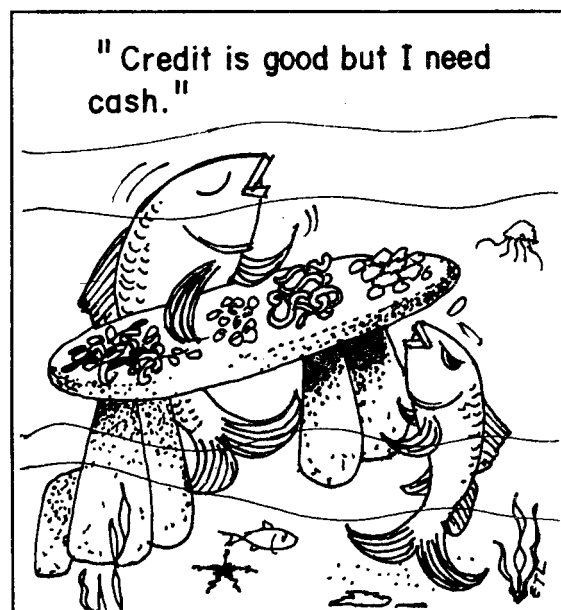
Source: BFAR brochure, undated; **Studies in Rural Finance and Development**. 1993. Agricultural Credit Policy Council.

## **To borrow or not to borrow?**

More often that is **not** the question. The money problem of the small fishfarmers is where to run to for much needed funds. In the Philippines, small-scale fisherfolk have traditionally relied on informal lenders in the absence of personal funds and access to bank credit.

An assessment of credit practices and its availability in five coastal communities was made by Giselle PB.Samonte and Rolando S. Ortega of SEAFDEC/AQD with funding from the International Research Centre of Canada.

Ninety-six percent of the respondents in Culasi, San Jose, Concepcion, San Dionisio, and Nueva Valencia consider fishing as their major source of income. Average income from fishing is P2000/month (25 Philippine Pesos = US\$1). Hook and line, gill net, jigger, and spear are the common fishing gears used.



Of the fisherfolk surveyed, 291 or 83% obtained credit from both formal and informal sources. Nearly all (97%) of those who sought credit borrowed from informal or non-institutional sources such as relatives, friends, store owners, traders, employers, private lenders and town funds. The remaining 3% borrowed from credit unions, rural banks, government banks (Development Bank of the Philippines), cooperatives, and commercial banks.

The amount of credit availed by the fisherman varied by source. Informal credit sources extended loans from as low as P20 to as high as P20,000. Formal credit sources offered P500 to P6,000 credit lines.

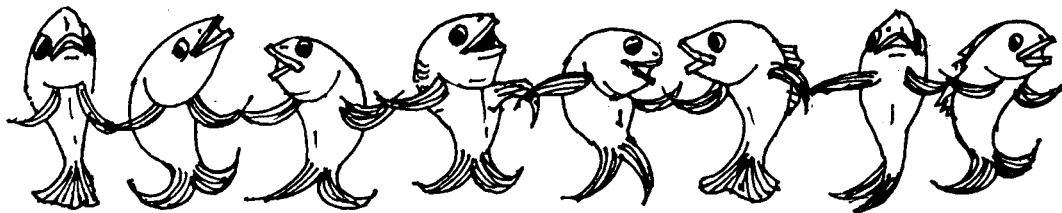
Credit was used for food and household expenses (by 65% of the fishers), fishing operations (28%), social occasions (17%), hospital and medical expenses (14%), and education of children (5%). Credit for fishing operations paid for hired labor, fuel, normal repairs of fishing boat and gears, and purchase of fishing boat engine, and fishing gear.

Informal credit sources were preferred over formal credit sources for the following reasons: accessibility (said 51% of the fishers), fast credit extension (31%), liberal terms (25%), only source known by the fisherman (18%), buyer of fish (6%), source of household goods (2%). Liberal terms included no collateral requirement and longer and more flexible repayment schemes, which usually coincided with fishing operations.

Most of the fishermen (81%) surveyed did not encounter repayment problems. Of the 19% who had difficulty repaying their debts, lack of funds (57%) and low catch (43%) were cited as the primary reasons.

## **For social and economic benefits**

# **Fishers unite !**



Cooperatives are being organized for small fishers or fisherfolk so that they may realize for themselves the social and economic benefits of organized cooperation. Many of the problems that beset fisherfolk lie in the economic and social activities of the people. Cooperatives bring them together, teach them how to become self-reliant and aware of their social responsibilities. Cooperatives provides small fisherfolk opportunities to identify and discuss their major problems systematically, and take definite steps in solving them. Through cooperatives, the fishers learn to make right decisions. They learn to pool their meager capital and other resources together so that they can be on equal footing with large business enterprises. They can then secure the services and goods they need to increase their production and income.

Adequate marketing, improved purchasing schemes, storage and transportation facilities -- all these must be established so that fishers can get more for what they sell. Fishers must be taught new and scientific ways of doing things and provided with better access to credit at reasonable interest rates. By investing more, fishers can produce more. New opportunities for employment must be created. Fatalism, indifference to community problems, and overdependence must be overcome. Fishers must, therefore, be organized in ways that will strengthen their self-reliance and cooperation as well as their inherent capacity to solve most of their problems.

Source: Instructor's Manual (Samahang Nayon for Fishermen). Bureau of Cooperatives Development. Department of Local Government and Community Development.

The Samahang Nayons were pre-cooperative organizations that mushroomed in the mid '70s. Many of these have registered with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) as full-blown cooperatives.

In the CDA list for Western Visayas as of December 31, 1993 are the following fisherfolk cooperatives and allied associations:

### **Aklan**

Ibajay Fishfarmers Multi-purpose Cooperative (MPC)  
Pob. Ibajay

Tangalan Fishermen MPC, Dap-dap, Tangalan

Yamang Dagat MPC  
Brgy. Poblacion, New Washington

### **Antique**

Libertad Fishermen Primary MPC (PMPC)  
Barusbus, Libertad

Kooperatiba Kang Mangingisdanga Naga-ugyon  
sa Kauswagan sa Brgy. Lumanggab  
Guija, Bugasong

Imba Seaweeds Planters & Fishermen MPC  
Brgy. Imba, Caluya

Casay MPC, Brgy. Casay, Anini-y

San Roque MPC, Brgy. San Roque, Anini-y

Kooperatiba kang mga Semilyador kag Mangingisda  
Centro Sur, Culasi

Ipil Aquamarine MPC, Ipil, Barbaza



Atabay Farmers and Fishermen MPC  
Brgy. Atabay, Tobias, Fornier

Katilingban kang mga Imol nga Mamumugon  
sa Jinalinan (KAIMAJIN)  
Jinalinan, Bugasong

### **Capiz**

Capiz Shell Divers & Fishermen MPC, Roxas City

Bangbang Inland Fish-Farmers MPC  
Bangbang Cagay, Roxas City

Capiz Fish Catchers MPC, Lebas, Roxas City

Farmers & Fishermen MPC, Brgy. Balogo, Pilar

Capiz Fish Farmers MPC, Roxas City

Ivisan Fishpond Operators MPC  
Poblacion Norte, Ivisan, Capiz

Ayagao Fishermen MPC, Brgy. Talon, Roxas City

### **Guimaras**

M.Chavez Small Farmers Fishermen MPC  
San Miguel, Buenavista

Lebas Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Small Farmers  
and Fishermen MPC, Lebas, Buenavista

Buenavista Fishpond Operators MPC  
Pob. Buenavista

Canhawan Small Farmers/Fishermen MPC  
Canhawan, Nueva Valencia

Sto. Domingo Farmers & Fishermen MPC  
Sto. Domingo, Nueva Valencia

Igang Fishfarmers & Vendors MPC  
Igang, Nueva Valencia

### **Iloilo**

Asosasyon sang Magagmay nga Mangingisda sa  
Miag-ao, Iloilo (AMMMI), Miag-ao, Iloilo

Barosbos Farmers/Fishermen's MPC  
Brgy. Barosbos, Carles

Carles Farmers/Fishermen's MPC, Pob. Carles

Barotac Nuevo Fishfarmers' MPC, Btac. Nuevo

Jalata Fish Farmers' MPC, Talisay, Btac. Nuevo

Oton Small Fishermen's MPC, Botong, Oton

Polis Primary MPCL, Polopina, Concepcion

Concepcion Trawl Operators PMPC, Concepcion

Dangulaan Farmers & Fishermen's MPC, Anilao

Jalaud Integrated Farmers & Fishermen's Coop., Inc  
Jalaud, Btac. Nuevo

Iloilo Prawn Growers Coop., Inc., Molo

Concepcion Small Fishermen PMPC, Pob. Concepcion

### **Negros**

Balas Daku Small Fishermen MPC, Brgy. Japitan, Escalante

Sitio Kalipay Small Fishermen MPC  
Sitio Kalipay, Brgy. Escalante (Old)

Cadiz City Queens Fishers MPC, Cadiz City

Fish Producers Coop., Inc., Daan Banua, Kabankalan

Dangal Small Fishermens MPC, Dangal, Brgy. Calumangan

Saraet Artificial Reef Fishermen MPC, Himamaylan

San Jose Small Fishermen MPC, Kalubihan, San Carlos City

Chambery Small Fishermen MPC, Manapla

Kapunungan sa Mangingisda sa Pasil MPCL  
Sitio Pacil, Brgy. Punao, San Carlos City

Inayawan Farmers & Fishermens MPC, Cauyan

Tolabon Fisherfolks MPC, Brgy. Tolabon, Himamaylan

Bacolod Prawn Processing MPC, Tangub, Bacolod City

United Fishermen MPC, Bago, Brgy. Ermita, Sipaway Island

Sicabanhon Fishers MPC, Brgy. Sicaba, Cadiz City

Nauhang Bangus and Prawn Fry Catchers MPC, Sipalay

Brgy. Cayhagan Small Fishermen MPC, Cayhagan, Sipalay

Bulwangan Small Fishermen MPC, Hinobaan

Lerio Fishermen MPC, Calumangan, Bago City

Old Sagay Small Fishermen MPC, Old Sagay

San Juan Fishermen MPC, Brgy. San Juan, Pontevedra

Madalag Fishermen MPC, E.B. Magalona

Caliling Small Fishermen and Fry Catchers MPC, Cauyan

## **CCP says it all!**

That's short for "Cooperative Code of the Philippines" or Republic Act No. 6938 which is anchored on the belief that "by organizing as a group, (people) become stronger and are, therefore, in a better position to secure benefits for themselves." Chapter I, **General Concepts and Principles**, says it all for cooperatives. Excerpts:

**Declaration of Policy** - It is the declared policy of the State to foster the creation and growth of cooperatives as a practical vehicle for promoting self-reliance and harnessing people power towards the attainment of economic development and social justice. The State shall encourage the private sector to undertake the actual formation and organization of cooperatives and shall create an atmosphere that is conducive to the growth and development of these cooperatives.

Toward this end, the Government and all its branches, subdivisions, instrumentalities and agencies shall ensure the provision of technical guidance, financial assistance and their services to enable said cooperatives to develop into viable and responsive economic enterprises and thereby bring about a strong cooperative movement that is free from any conditions that might infringe upon the autonomy or organizational integrity of cooperatives.

Further, the State recognizes the principle of subsidiarity under which the cooperative sector will initiate and regulate within its own ranks the promotion and organization, training and research, audit and support services relating to cooperatives with government assistance where necessary.

**General Concepts** - A cooperative is a duly registered association of persons, with a common bond of interest, who have voluntarily joined together to achieve a lawful common social or economic end, making equitable contributions to the capital required and accepting a fair share

of the risks and benefits of the undertaking in accordance with universally accepted cooperative principles.

**Cooperative Principles** - Every cooperative shall conduct its affairs in accordance with Filipino culture and experience and the universally accepted principles of cooperation which include the following:

*Open and Voluntary Membership* - Membership in a cooperative shall be available to all regardless of their social, political, racial or religious background or beliefs.

*Democratic Control* - Cooperatives are democratic organizations. Their affairs shall be administered by persons elected or appointed in a manner agreed upon by the members. Members of primary cooperatives shall have equal voting rights, one-member-one-vote principle.

*Limited Interest on Capital* - Share capital shall receive a strictly limited rate of interest.

*Division of Net Surplus* - Net surplus arising out of the operations of a cooperative belongs to its members and shall be equitably distributed for cooperative development, common services, indivisible reserve fund, and for limited interest on capital and/or patronage refund in the manner provided in this Code and in the articles of cooperation and bylaws.

*Cooperative Education* - All cooperatives shall make provision for the education of their members, officers and employees and of the general public based on the principles of cooperation.

*Cooperation among Cooperatives* - All cooperatives, in order to best serve the interest of their members and communities, shall actively cooperate with other cooperatives at local, national and international levels.

## With the CDA, easy does it!

Mandated to implement the CCP is the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) which took over the functions of the defunct Bureau of Cooperatives Development. The CDA is the government agency in charge of the registration and regulation of cooperatives.

Easy does it! Fifteen members can start it. The CCP empowers cooperatives to:

- Encourage thrift among the members;
- Generate funds and extend credit to the members for productive and provident purposes;
- Encourage among members systematic production and marketing;
- Provide goods and services to the members;
- Develop the expertise and skills of the members;
- Acquire lands and provide housing benefits for the members;
- Ensure against losses of the members;
- Promote and advance the economic, social and educational status of the members;
- Establish, own, lease or operate cooperative banks, cooperative wholesale and retail complexes, insurance enterprises, agricultural and industrial processing facilities, and public markets;
- Coordinate and facilitate the activities of cooperatives; and
- Undertake any and all other activities for the effective and efficient implementation of the provisions of this Code.

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## The African experience...from page 10



Hired labor is used by women farmers in Ghana mainly for land clearing and weeding; it is expensive and difficult to come by.

Women in Lesotho also find it costly to hire labor; remittances are generally too small to cover the cost when there are competing claims on them. For much of the busiest agricultural period, majority of the labor force will be women.

Lack of work animals, particularly oxen for plowing, is a major problem for women farmers. Women do not have the right to sell farm crops despite the labor they have put into producing them. Women bear the brunt of farm management, but they do not have the right to choose which crops to grow.

Despite women's labor on the farm, domestic responsibilities, and contribution to household income, expenditure decisions are dominated by men.

The pattern of migrant male labor, the harshness of subsistence conditions, and the legal, cultural and social disadvantages of women lead to enormous strains on marriages. Marital instability, desertion, and family break-up are becoming all too common, further pushing women towards severe poverty.

Source: *The State of World Rural Poverty*. 1992. International Fund for Agricultural Development. New York University Press, N.Y.

## Small people thinking big

    Miag-ao, Iloilo, April 8, 1994 -- Stacks of white basins immediately catch attention as the visitor enters the AMMMI premises. The white basins contrast starkly with the aquamarine sea, a sight to behold on a beautiful summer day. The AMMMI Building is nestled under coconut trees in Barangay Palaca, one of the nine coastal barangays of Miag-ao. Nets hang on long bamboo poles, some to dry, the rest waiting to be cut up into a fry sweeper, the survival weapon of the AMMMI fisherfolk.

    AMMMI -- what's d-a-a-t? It is the household word for **Asosasyon sang Magagmay nga Mangingisda sang Miag-ao, Iloilo**. PROCESS foundation started the ball rolling for AMMMI in 1987 with members from 150 families. Doubled to 300 families at the latest count, AMMMI has a net worth of more than P500,000 according to the town mayor's secretary who is helping the association revise its "*Konstitusyon kag Bylaws*." It has a concrete office building, modest in size, about 4x5 meters. Photos on the wall documents AMMMI's social activities (e.g., crowning of Barangay Fiesta Queen) that break the placid life of rural fisherfolk.

    AMMMI comprises 9 barangays, each represented in the Board of Directors, by 2 or 3 directors depending on the number of members from the barangay. The Board of Directors meets every first Sunday of the month. The 300 or so members each pay a one-time membership fee of P20.

    Life is better now than when there was no **Asosasyon**. Now the fry catchers enjoy a better price for their fry, reason enough for other family members to be more industrious in combing the shore waters. Middlemen no longer come to rush them with their cheap buying price. Direct buyers, mostly pond operators from Capiz and other Iloilo towns come to the AMMMI bodega for their fry supply.

    AMMMI's one great bonus for the environment is that it also acts as a *bantay dagat* to prevent illegal fishing. Certainly, it would be injurious to their interest if the fishes are blasted by dynamite.

    Gumban likes to speak for AMMMI in the absence of Rodrigo Frigillano, the president. He said the association has just negotiated a 5-year lease from the municipal government for their fry-gathering activities.

    And what would be the worst thing that could happen to this most successful people's organization? "Politics," said Jose Eiman, Administrative Officer of the municipal office. Eiman hopes politics won't destroy the association. Whether this vote-rich organization will allow politics to mar its operations remains to be seen.

    Oton, Iloilo, April 11, 1994 -- His name is Perfecto Rotone, fry gatherer. At 42, he looks near retirement probably because the hardship of eking out a living makes him and his fellow fry gatherers age early.

    There are about 45 of them registered members of the **Oton Small Fishermen Multipurpose Cooperative, Inc.** in Barangay Botong. The name is written big on a rusty board, courtesy of a beer brand. OSF-MPCI is the acronym but OSF is commonly used to refer to the association, and is painted on all co-op property. With a P30-membership fee and annual dues of P5 each, a fry gatherer

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**Support  
Sustainable  
Aquaculture**

---

enjoys the benefits of membership -- better price for the fry, loans for the fry collecting gear and low price for the commodities sold in the co-op's consumer store. OSF is encouraging other fry gatherer to join the co-op, and some have applied.

Unlike the bigger association in Miag-ao, OSF's office cum bodega is a nipa-and-bamboo cottage squatting on a non-member's property. The landlord who lives affluently in the town proper provides the site rent-free. Rotone's own house stands beside the co-op bodega. "We are squatters here," he says. His brother, the co-op chairman, was at the time in a neighboring town working as a carpenter. Fry gatherers often have other jobs on the side.

How much does a fry gatherer earn? On a good day during the peak months of April to June, Rotone could gather some 2,500 to 3,000 fry. This entails five hours of being in the water under the scorching sun. At P60 or P70 per thousand fry, Rotone considers this wonderful income. He does this without the help of his wife who tends the stove and the three kids. Of course, not every day is a good day, and the fry season is too short.

Aside from fry gathering, how else do the members augment their income? The co-op owns a pumpboat and fishing net called "kurantay," the catch of which means co-op income. "We get dividends from the sale of the fry and from the income of the 'kurantay' and the consumer store," Rotone said.

Rotone said he was very glad about the

creation of the co-op in 1991. Before they got organized, they were helpless against the low price of the fry set by the middlemen, especially with the fry gatherers outbidding themselves in lowering their price. Their co-op has such other committees as Finance, Health, and Service (manual labor) to respond to their other needs. "We have a strong *bayanihan* spirit," Rotone said proudly, narrating how they help each other's families. They hold monthly meetings to discuss their problems. All the co-op members are now familiar with the word "dividends."

What problem does he see at the moment? "Over there," and he gestured at the vast expanse of blue water "are millions of *lampirong* (*Placuna placenta*) now as big as a twenty-five centavo coin, but these are destroyed when a trawler passes by. So, we also act as *bantay-dagat*."

How else can the co-op increase its income? Rotone said he is interested in salt-making aside from fry gathering. This was already discussed in one of their meetings and they are awaiting technical assistance from the government. "Now, if we could also increase our capitalization..." is the translation of his crisp vernacular, wishing for more of the same from a religious group who helped them get organized.

AMMMI and OSF-MPCI both illustrate a people's struggle for self-reliance. With PROC-ESS having phased out itself, AMMMI now stands on its own. OSF-MPCI, on the other hand, still needs an NGO, Good Samaritans or the like in the struggle for self-reliance and stability.

-JCL



## **Filipino Cooperative Philosophy**

**Cooperatives as social enterprises shall dedicate themselves to ideals committed to the total development of man and the conservation of resources for sustainable development.**

**Cooperatives shall be organized based on felt needs and their development anchored on the efficient utilization of private and communal resources.**

**Cooperatives shall serve as stewards of natural resources both land- and marine-based to maintain ecological balance.**

**Cooperative members as social entrepreneurs shall promote and practice social accountability.**

**Cooperatives shall promote unifying Filipino values which will enhance active members' participation.**

**Cooperatives shall share common symbols that will give each member identity, enhance his dignity and self-respect, and deepen his social commitment.**

**Cooperatives shall pursue goals and make decisions based on complementation and consensus to foster harmonious relationship among members.**

**Cooperatives recognize the interdependence of the various sectors of society. Thus, they shall endeavor to resolve conflicts -- social, political, economic and cultural -- in a non-adversarial and non-confrontational manner.**

**Cooperatives shall take an active leadership role in the community which shall promote unity, peace and stability.**

**Cooperatives shall work towards the attainment of genuine social justice and economic nationalism.**

**Source: Cooperative Code of the Philippines and Related Laws**

# Aquaculture clinic

(*Radyo ng Bayan* interview last Feb. 28, 1994 of SEAFDEC/AQD Chief Efren Ed. C. Flores on the Community Fishery Resource Management project at Malalison Island, Culasi, Antique)

**Radyo ng Bayan (RB): What is resource management and why do we have to properly use our resources?**

Dr. Efren Ed. C. Flores (ECF): The proper use of our resources so that they will still be there for many generations to come.

**RB: What is community fishery?**

ECF: A community involved in the use of its fish and other aquatic resources. So, community fishery resource management is the proper use of fish and other aquatic resources in the community. Government has been telling our people for over twenty years now what not to do in order to protect our fishery resources. Do not use dynamite, cyanide or muro-ami for fishing, do not overfish, etc. etc. Community Fishery Resource Management (CFRM) emphasizes the do's and not the don'ts. The positive approach. CFRM transfers the responsibility of managing the fishery resource to the fisherfolk -- the community -- the users of the fishery resource.

**RB: Who are the players in this project?**

ECF: The fisherfolk (the fisherman and his family), the community organizer (NGO, PROCESS), the fishery technical group (SEAFDEC), and the local government (barangay, municipal, provincial).

**RB: What are the tasks or work to be done?**

ECF: The fisherfolk must learn from the community organizer how to organize themselves into an association which will be the legal body to implement the CFRM activities. The fisherfolk then learn from the technical group how to use their fish and other aquatic

resources, like the establishment of fish sanctuary, the use of artificial reefs, and seafarming. Included here is the business aspect like marketing and the establishment of cooperatives.

In turn, the community organizer and the technical group learn from the fisherfolk about their community fishery in order to effectively teach them. This is because conditions in one community differ from those in another. Like where to place the artificial reefs. The fisherfolk who know the fishing grounds well should be able to contribute much information. The fisherfolk is the source of information about the fishery.

The local government, on the other hand, provides the legal support by through resolutions for the establishment of fish sanctuaries and the issuance of territorial use rights in fisheries (TURF). The establishment of fish sanctuaries is a management scheme, and the TURF gives the fisherfolk association the legal right to manage the community fishery.

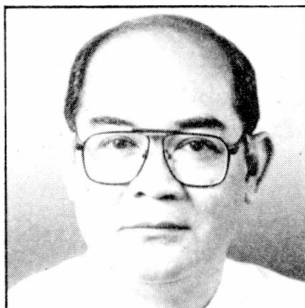
The TURF is the heart of the CFRM, The fisherfolk association will manage their fishing area when given the right to do so. The details of how the area will be managed will again differ from one community to another because of differences in type of fishery, fishing ground, traditional practices, and opportunities.

**RB: What is the time frame for the project?**

ECF: This is where previous projects on resource management have failed. Before, most projects were done in a month's time and at most, a year. The tasks or work just mentioned

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## SEAFDEC Council reappoints Dr. Flores



Dr. Efren Ed. C. Flores

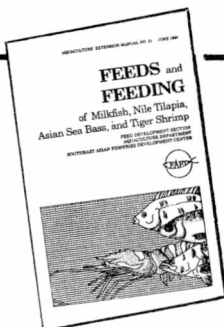
The SEAFDEC Council, governing body of the four SEAFDEC key departments, has renewed the appointment of Dr. Efren Ed. C. Flores as Chief of the Aquaculture Department for another two-year term. Dr. Flores first assumed the position on April 9, 1992.

An advocate of environment-friendly and sustainable aquaculture, Dr. Flores has directed the research thrust of AQD towards this end. He is also pushing for an expanded training program at AQD, e.g., the Third Country Training program or TCT which will focus on coastal aquaculture.

As AQD's Chief Executive Officer, he has increased the financial benefits of employees and has provided them with uniforms. He has strengthened the institution's external and internal funding and improved its infrastructure facilities.

Dr. Flores finished his B.S. Fisheries at the University of the Philippines (1964), M.S. Fisheries at the Nagasaki University (1972), and Doctor of Fisheries at Hokkaido University (1979), the last two degrees as a Monbusho scholar in Japan.

### OFF THE PRESS



**Feeds and Feeding of Milkfish, Nile Tilapia, Asian Sea Bass, and Tiger Shrimp** by MN Bautista, IG Borlongan, MR Catacutan, RM Coloso, PS Eusebio, NV Golez, OM Millamena, GG Minoso, VD Penaflorida, PF Subosa, and NS Sumagaysay. Aquaculture Extension Manual No. 21 published 1994 by the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department. 97 pp. Price: ₱ 50.

The manual covers the known nutrient requirements, practical feeds, and feeding management of tropical fishes and shrimps. A useful guide for cost-effective fish and shrimp diets for the aquaculture industry.

### AQUACULTURE CLINIC ... FROM PAGE 22

cannot be effectively done in a year's time. CFRM changes the way of life in a community. It is a continuing learning process for the fisherfolk. A time frame of five years should result in a solid fisherfolk association. The study on the fishery resources alone has taken 3 years. This is followed by the introduction of seafarming, establishment of sanctuary, deployment of artificial reefs and searanching. CFRM in Malalison includes income-generating activities undertaken by the community organization. It would be very boring for the fisherfolk if all that is happening is community-organizing for five years without seeing any change in their fishery resources or in their incomes.

**RB: Where does the success of the project lie?**

ECF: In having sufficient time to learn and in the full participation of all players.



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**AFN is a production guide for fishfarmers and extension workers. It discusses the technology for cultured species and other recent information excerpted from various sources.**

In citing information from AFN, please cite the institutional source which is not necessarily SEAFDEC/AQD. Mention of trade names in this publication is not an endorsement.

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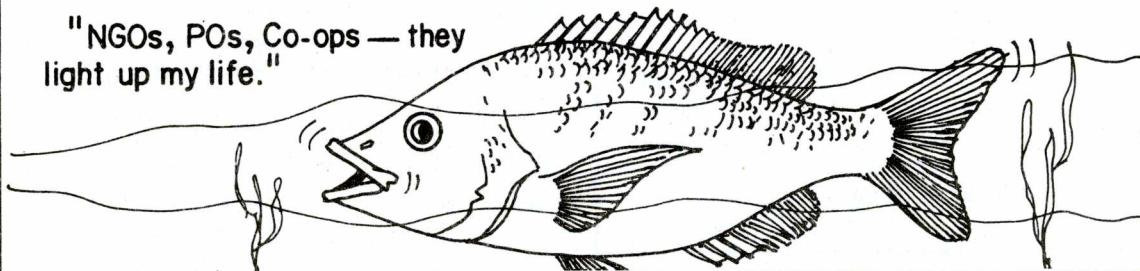
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"NGOs, POs, Co-ops — they  
light up my life."



by E. Ledesma



*Better life through aquaculture*