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ABSTRACTS

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Gender differences in Indian marine fisheries - a comparison of census statistics

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India is among the top ten fish producing countries in the world with 4 million people carrying out fishing and allied activities for their livelihood. The fisheries sector has long been considered a male domain throughout the world. In India, women have a high level of involvement in the workforce of the marine fisheries sector and their engagement in fishing allied activities such as marketing, labour, processing, making or repairing of nets, is more significant than often presumed. According to the marine fisheries census 2010, women comprise 67% of the labour force in fishing and allied activities in India. It is very evident that women dominate in marketing and processing activities in marine fisheries as 82% of the fisherfolk engaged in marketing and 89% of the fisherfolk engaged in processing are women. An analysis was carried out to find out the gender differences in fishing allied activities by evaluating the dissimilarity indices and the way in which they have changed over the past two marine censuses 2005 and 2010. One of the common measures used for assessing segregation between two groups is the Index of Dissimilarity which ranges from 1 to 100. As measured by the index, the level of occupational difference declined from 64 to 39 in 2010. It is also observed that gender concentration of some activities like marketing and processing activities increased over the period. Substantial differences were noticed in allied activities and the degree of these differences varied depending on several factors such as education, religion, ownership of crafts and family size.

Keywords: Gender differences, census statistics, marine fisheries, India

Carbon trade-offs assessment in coastal fisher households of Alappuzha, Kerala

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The adaptation and mitigation of impacts of climate change are complex, difficult and multi-dimensional undertaking, but are prerequisites for lessening the realised impacts of climate change. Projections on carbon emissions at the household level in the climate change context need to be developed as the first step for future analytical and empirical models and for planning better management adaptations. In this regard, the carbon budgeting assessment was done in the selected coastal fisher households in the Alappuzha district of Kerala. The objective was to assess the major sources of carbon emission and sequestration in the household and village level. The study also analyse the perception of the fishers towards the carbon budgeting. The study assessed the various carbon emission sources and the average amount of net carbon traded across households. The study focuses on the need for providing guidelines for the policy makers in developing a framework for carbon emission reductions and developing carbon sequestration measures like mangrove afforestation, solar panels, wind energy, wave energy and organic farming for promoting low carbon emissions technology at the national levels. The paper also highlights the need for developing green fishing incentives like fishermen household assistance measures to support energy efficiency improvements in households to reduce energy costs with incentive for innovation in low emissions and renewable technologies which would deliver additional environmental benefits.

Keywords: Carbon trade-offs, carbon sequestration, fisher households, Alappuzha