

Vulnerability, resilience, and adaptation of *Sama-Bajo* women fisher livelihood disruptions in Indonesia

The *Sama Bajo* women of eastern Indonesia depend on marine natural resources for their livelihoods. However, the *Sama Bajo* communities are especially vulnerable to severe situation from climate change, destructive fishing practices, land-dweller's negative perceptions, and impacts from the recent COVID pandemic. I present my proposed Ph.D. to show urgency to lens how various livelihood issues intersect with gender and other different identity makers in the small-scale *Sama Bajo* communities. This includes a preliminary review of the literature and proposed research methodology to be applied to two case studies from different fishery and resource management contexts in Southeast Sulawesi.

Abstract

The *Sama Bajo* women of eastern Indonesia depend on marine natural resources for their livelihoods. However, even though the *Sama Bajo* are recognized both as populous and as major actors in fisheries and aquaculture, their semi-sedentary lifestyle and historical references to them as a nomadic people(s) give them the distinct character of a minority within Indonesia's plural canvas of diverse ethnoreligious and linguistic groups. *Sama Bajo* fisher communities are also especially vulnerable to disturbances from climate change, natural resource shocks, destructive fishing practices, land-dwellers' negative perceptions, and impacts from the recent COVID pandemic. Although there is also a growing body of work considering gender relations, intersecting dimensions of advantage and disadvantage among *Sama Bajo* communities are absent from the mainstream literature. In the context of global environmental change and marine livelihoods, this lacuna must be addressed with consideration of how access to fisheries resources, livelihood disruptions, gender equality, and fishery policies interact. In this presentation, I present my study into the gendered impacts of wide-ranging livelihood disturbances on small-scale *Sama Bajo* fishing communities, in eastern Indonesia. This includes a preliminary review of the literature and proposed research methodology to be applied to two case studies from different fishery and resource management contexts in Southeast Sulawesi. The study will provide a framework for scrutinizing the constellation of livelihood shocks and adaptation efforts in both open access and marine reserve contexts. This research seeks to contribute knowledge for recommendations to address gendered livelihood shock adaptation and support women's resilience in small-island Indonesia.

Keywords: Gender Lens, Livelihood Resilience, SSF, *Sama Bajo*, Indonesia.