



## Socio-Economic Study of Fisherfolks in Sitio Lamintao Barangay Talisay, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo

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### ABSTRACT

This study aimed to determine the Socio-Economic status of the fisherfolks in Sitio Lamintao, Barangay Talisay, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo. The type of research used was descriptive. This study used a total population of sixty-seven (67) fisherfolks of Sitio Lamintao, Talisay, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo, comprising forty-one (41) males and twenty-six (26) females. They were classified as to gender, marital status, age, educational attainment, number of children, types of the fishing boat, fisher gear method, number of crews, the average catch per trip, average expenses per trip, average income per trip, source of income other than fishing, the average income in another source than fishing, food and clothing expenses, and other expenses. The socio-economic status of fisherfolk in Barangay Lamintao Barotac Nuevo Iloilo is mixed. Many of the fisherfolk are small-scale fishermen who rely on their catches for their livelihood, while others are engaged in other types of work. The fisherfolk have a low to average level of education, with most having only completed primary or secondary school. Poverty is a major issue in the area, and the fisherfolk are particularly vulnerable to its effects. The local government has implemented various initiatives to improve the economic and social conditions of the fisherfolk, including providing access to credit and training opportunities and basic social services. Moreover, the LGU and the barangay officials should focus on developing and strengthening their organizational capacity. This can be done by providing training and technical assistance to the fisherfolks, to help them better understand their rights, resources, and responsibilities. Additionally, providing access to credit and microfinance opportunities is key to helping fisherfolks to improve their economic situation and build sustainable livelihoods. Finally, it is important to ensure that the local government and other stakeholders actively support fisherfolks' socio-economic development.

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### 1. Introduction.

Through the ages, fishing has been one of the earliest occupations known to man. It has grown from a crude and simple beginning into a complex industry with modern equipment and installations. The commodities that man derived from the oceans, seas, lakes, and rivers are more numerous. Fishing has been an important source of livelihood for many Filipinos for many years. It is one of the oldest occupations of mankind.

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In the Philippines, both genders have involved in this industry while performing different roles such as fish production by the male and fish processing and marketing by the female. The fisherfolks could not be sustained by the income they realized from fishing activities since the daily expenses increased.

The Philippines is endowed with substantial water resources comprising 421 principal rivers, 18 major river basins, and 72 lakes. This in addition to the abundance of the country on freshwater resources is an opportunity for fish farming. Rural fish farming is common as almost half of the country's population lives in farming or fishing areas. This is done by small-scale farming households using low-cost production technology appropriate for their resource capability. And generally, fishermen are low in terms of socio-economics aspects. This challenge is

the result of expanding fishing population, lack of alternative options, and poverty. Other problems include unsustainable fisheries, destructive fishing practices, bad condition of water resources, and decline of fish catch.

Fisheries are culturally, economically, socially, and ecologically important to Filipinos. They contribute significantly to income, employment, foreign exchange earnings, nutrition, and thus to the stability of the Philippines. The sea is a huge food basket that helps maintain the food supply of the whole country and provides livelihood to almost 2 million people.

According to Sitio Lamintao, the fisheries sectors have a loss of biodiversity depletion of fish stocks, and the adverse impact of environmental variations, and unless a well-planned strategy was put in place, the fishermen and the industry would face some serious problems. The shoreline degradation and loss of coral reefs are the major problems faced by fishermen and the prospect of a rise of even one degree in sea surface temperature having a devastating impact on fisheries looks real. Some of the environmental issues facing the fisheries sector are resource depletion, overfishing, destructive fishing, siltation, and pollution. Moreover, there are socio-economic issues of poverty in the coastal areas and policy issues including the need for strong fisheries regulation and enforcement.

Fishermen may adopt a range of response strategies when faced with challenges that impact upon financial performance. The inherent uncertainty associated with harvesting a wild resource means that fisherman has historically diversified their fishing activity as conditions dictate. Typically, this involved targeting different species and fishing grounds in response to variables such as season, species distribution, and market price. However, the ability of fishermen to adopt this strategy has become increasingly constrained by management practices that influence the locations where fishermen may operate, the types of fish and shellfish they target, and the quantities they are permitted to land. When faced with such constraints, an alternative solution may be found by developing complementary sources of income that are not subject to restrictions on fishing effort and output. Also, there are socio-economic issues of poverty in the coastal areas and policy issues including the need for strong fisheries regulation and enforcement.

The impact and significance of studying challenges faced by fisherfolks in Lamintao are to address the dilemma of fisherfolks. The findings will serve as bases to develop strategies that will provide support for fisherfolk in balancing work and family life. From this study, fisherfolks will be benefited by addressing the challenges so that some necessary steps will be taken by the Provincial Government of Banate, and other agencies that concern aquatic resources. They may be further provided with knowledge about the problems and challenges faced by fisherfolks in Banate and they may provide needful steps regarding it. The Barangay official may enhance their skills along fisheries. Finally, the advanced skills may increase the income and productivity of fisherfolks in the community.

**2. Statement of the Problem.**

This study focused on the challenges faced by fisherfolks in Sitio Lamintao, Barangay Talisay, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo.

Specifically, the study sought to answer the following questions:

1. What is the profile of the respondents in terms of sex, age, civil status, monthly income, number of children, educational attainment, type of residence, affiliated organization, training attended, and other sources of income?
2. What is the extent of challenges faced by fisherfolks in terms of socio-economic and environmental variations?
3. Is there a significant relationship between the extent of challenges faced by fisher folks and their profile?

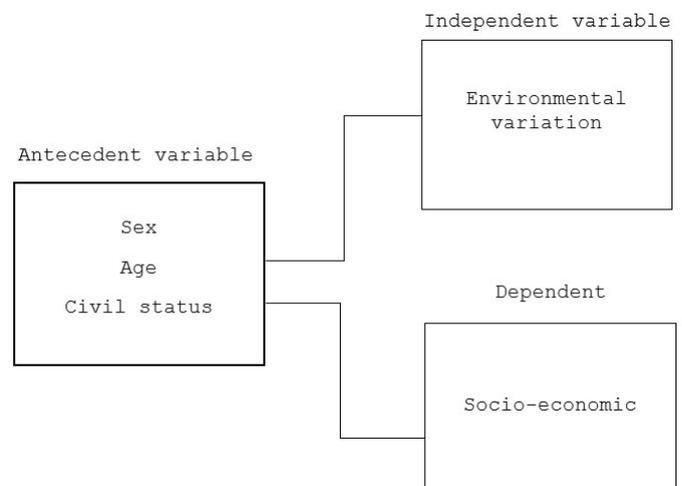
**3. Theoretical Framework.**

This theory was anchored on the study conducted by Nieves, Pelea, Bradecina, Pereyra, Morooka, Shinbo, Rivero (2009) evaluated the socio-economic conditions, the status of the fisheries and the adaptive capacities of households and communities in the Kuroshio sphere of influence. They found that the Philippines have been experiencing the long-term influence of the Kuroshio which has a multifaceted influence on its socio-economic development, including people’s adaptive capacities. Although both the high-income and low-income groups are at risk, the latter suffer more because of its economic inadequacy and lack of access to resources.

**4. Conceptual Framework.**

The study can be illustrated with the help of the paradigm shown in below:

Figure 1: Schematic diagram showing the relative of the antecedent, independent and dependent variables.



Source: Authors.

## 5. Methodology.

### 5.1. Research Design.

This study involved a quantitative design to enhance the research and make the study reliable and valid. The quantitative design emphasizes objective measurements and the statistical, mathematical, or numerical analysis of data collected through rough polls questionnaires, and surveys, or by manipulating pre-existing statistical data using computational techniques. The population of the present study was college students at Iloilo State University of Fisheries Science and Technology. This research study used two research designs or methods which are descriptive research and cross-sectional. A descriptive research study described categories of information such as gender or patterns of interaction by simply recording what is being observed or what is being asked with the specific group that is under the study of the researcher. Descriptive study report summary data such as measures of central tendency including the mean and quantitative description. The cross-sectional study includes research or design involving using different groups of people who differ in the variable of interest or depending on the study that was conducted which share other characteristics, such as socio-economic, educational background and ethnicity. Cross sectional study or design would base on observations that take place in different groups. A cross sectional study may also be used to compare groups from different backgrounds with the use of tools such as 20 questionnaires, etc. The researcher was able to gather the data that was needed for the study or research.

### 5.2. Locale of the study.

The study was conducted in the Barangay Talisay, Sitio Lamintao Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo. The respondents were interviewed in their houses or any comfortable place that they respondent will choose. These respondents were interviewed personally. The researchers chose the place of implementation because it will give the researchers the needed information for people with spina bifida. The study were conducted in the first semester of the academic year 2022-2023. <https://www.coursehero.com>

### 5.3. Respondents of the study.

The respondent of the study was composed of people in the community of Barangay Talisay, Sitio Lamintao, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo academic year 2022-2023. One of the vital processes to keep this study successful. All of these participants were selected through the data provided by the Municipal Agriculture Office of Barotac Nuevo. This sampling method was conducted where each member of a population has the capability to become part of the sample. The chosen respondents are containing sixty-seven (67) respondents from a Barangay in Sitio Lamintao, Talisay, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo. The Sitio Lamintao of Barangay Talisay, Barotac Nuevo was chosen by the researchers because they are suitable and applicable to the study.

### 5.4. Sampling Technique.

This study used the selected sampling technique it is a subset of a statistical population in which each member of the subset has an equal probability of being chosen.

### 5.5. Research Instrument.

The instrument that the researcher used was a questionnaire that helped the researcher to gather data in response to the specific information related to the study. The research instrument that was utilized in this study was Raj Kumar Mehta and Sujata Sharma's tool in 2015 and was modified with the given permission. The questionnaire was composed of four parts which was a modified version of the questionnaire that was adapted. Part I of the questionnaire identified the participant's demographic profile. Part II consisted of questions that determined the level of knowledge of self in this study.

### 5.6. Data Gathering Procedure.

Before the conduct of the pilot study, the necessary consent and permissions were obtained from the dean of the respective colleges and the office of the Dean of the College of Fisheries in Iloilo State University of Fisheries Science and Technology to consider ethical issues. After obtaining consent and permission, the questionnaires were floated out to the selected participants and they were given 10 minutes to answer the questions. The data gathering served as a basis for further enhancing the research tool and served to test its validity and reliability. The same procedure was followed in conducting the final study with the senior students.

### 5.7. Data Analysis.

The data were analyzed using Qualitative research involves collecting and analyzing non-numerical data (e.g., text, video, or audio) to understand concepts, opinions, or experiences. It can be used to gather in-depth insights into a problem or generate new ideas for research.

**Qualitative research** is the opposite of quantitative research, which involves collecting and analyzing numerical data for statistical analysis.

**Quantitative research** is referred to as the process of collecting as well as analyzing numerical data. It is generally used to find patterns, averages, predictions, as well as cause-effect relationships between the variables being studied.

## 6. Results.

### 6.1. Presentation, Analysis and Interpretation of Data.

See table 1.

Table 1: Shows the result of the survey questionnaire conducted by the researcher.

<b>NO. OF FISHERFOLK</b>		67	100%
<b>GENDER</b>	MALE	41	61.19%
	FEMALE	26	38.81%
<b>MARITAL STATUS</b>	SINGLE	14	20.90%
	MARRIED	52	77.61%
	WIDOWED	1	1.49%
<b>AGE</b>	20-30	14	20.90%
	31-40	13	19.40%
	41-50	21	31.34%
	51-60	15	22.39%
	61-UP	4	5.97%
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>	VOCATIONAL	2	2.98%
	ELEMENTARY LEVEL	10	14.93%
	ELEMENTARY GRADUATE	12	17.91%
	HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL	19	28.36%
	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE	12	17.91%
	COLLEGE LEVEL	10	14.93%
<b>NUMBER OF CHILDREN/TOTAL OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS</b>	1 TO 5	43	64.18%
	6 TO 10	24	35.82%
<b>TYPES OF FISHING BOAT</b>	MOTORIZED	66	90.51%
	NON-MOTORIZED	1	1.49%
<b>FISHING GEAR METHOD</b>	GILL NET	34	50.75%
	FISH CORRAL	18	26.87%
	CRAB PET	12	17.91%
	STATIONARY LIFT NET	1	1.49%
	BALING HIPON	1	1.49%
	GREEN SHELL RAFT	1	1.49%
<b>NUMBER OF CREWS/ CREW SIZE</b>	1-2 crew	20	29.85%
	2-3 crew	43	64.18%
	3-1 crew	4	5.97%
<b>AVERAGE CATCH (KG) / TRIP</b>	1-4 kg	50	74.63%
	6-10 kg	12	17.91%
	11-15 kg	3	4.48%
	16-20 kg	2	2.98%
<b>AVERAGE EXPENSES / TRIP</b>	1-2 ltr	40	59.70%
	3-5 ltr	25	37.32%
	6-10 ltr	2	2.98%
<b>AVERAGE INCOME / TRIP</b>	200-100	37	55.22%
	1001-2000	24	35.83%
	2001-3000	4	5.97%
	3001-4000	2	2.98%
<b>SOURCE OF INCOME OTHER THAN FISHING</b>	Convenience store	4	5.97%
	Construction	15	22.39%
	Cottage rental	4	5.97%
	None	44	65.67%
<b>AVERAGE INCOME IN OTHER SOURCE THAN FISHING</b>	100-500	15	22.39%
	501-1000	5	7.46%
	1001-5000	5	7.46%
	5001-10000	3	4.48%
	None	39	58.21%
<b>FOOD AND CLOTHING EXPENSES / MONTH</b>	1000-3000	26	38.81%
	3001-5000	21	31.34%
	5001-7000	6	8.96%
	7001-9000	11	16.41%
	9001-UP	3	4.48%
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>	water		
	Electricity		
	Medicine		
	Internet		
	Personal hygiene		

Source: Authors.

## 6.2. Organizational capability to implement livelihood projects.

To implement livelihood projects for socio economic study of fisherfolks in Sitio Lamintao, Barangay Talisay, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo, the organization should identify the needs and challenges of the community, create a detailed plan for the project, develop a budget, secure funding, and ensure that the project is implemented in an efficient and effective manner. Additionally, the organization should ensure that the project has measurable goals, provide adequate training and resources to the fisherfolks, and monitor the project to ensure that it is meeting its goals and objectives.

## 6.3. Identification of livelihood activity.

The most common livelihood activities of fisherfolks in Sitio Lamintao, Barangay Talisay, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo are fishing, boat building, trading, and aquaculture. Fishing is the primary source of livelihood for most of the fisherfolks in the area, while boat building, trading, and aquaculture are supplementary activities. Fishing involves catching various fish species, while boat building involves the craftsmanship of repairing, maintaining, and building boats. Trading involves trading fish, marine products, and other goods locally and in nearby towns. Aquaculture involves the cultivation of fish, crustaceans, mollusks, and other aquatic organisms in ponds or other controlled environments.

## 6.4. Preparation of feasibility studies.

To prepare a feasibility study and business plan for a socio-economic study of fisherfolks in Sitio Lamintao, Barangay Talisay, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo, we have taken the following steps.

1. Conducted research into the local culture, economy, and environment to gain a better understanding of the current situation of the fisherfolks in the area.
2. Interviewed local fisherfolks and other stakeholders to gain insights into their needs and challenges.
3. Analyzed the data collected from our research and interviews to identify potential opportunities for socio-economic development.
4. Develop a comprehensive plan for socio-economic development based on the analysis, including strategies for improving the livelihoods of the fisherfolks in the area.

## 6.5. Technical Skills.

Local government unit, Non government organizations and State Universities conducted several livelihood programs in Sitio Lamintao, Barangay Talisay Barotac Nuevo, but they focuses more in livelihood program for the community as a whole and not specifically for fisherfolks. Majority of the fisherfolks uses traditional type of fishing to sustain their needs.

## 6.6. Financial management/bookkeeping.

Result showed fisherfolks in the area were not practicing financial management/bookkeeping resulting to lack of financial literacy, the poverty level is high, fisherfolks lacks interest in securing their future in terms of healthcare contributions including social security system or SSS.

### 6.7. Marketing Products.

Fisherfolks in the area doesn't have specific products to market, they only rely on their catch in which they market directly to the community or to the nearby barangays.

### 6.8. Project monitoring.

Although LGU provided motorized boat for fisherfolks and non government organization conducted some livelihood programs, fisherfolks mentioned that after the programs, progress and development were not consistently monitored.

### 6.9. Survey techniques.

Survey techniques that was used for the socio-economic study of fisherfolks in Sitio Lamintao, Barangay Talisay, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo includes:

1. Interviews: Face-to-face interviews with local fisherfolks can provide valuable information about their socio - economic situation.
2. Holding focus groups with local fisherfolks can provide insights into their socio-economic situation, as well as possible solutions for any issues.
3. We provided questionnaires: Surveying local fisherfolks with questionnaires can help us gather a large amount of data quickly.
4. Making observations of local fisherfolks and their activities can provide an in-depth understanding of their socio-economic situation.
5. Analysing existing data, such as census or government statistics, can provide useful information and context for the study.

### 6.10. Characteristics of fishing units.

The characteristics of fishing units for socio-economic study of fisherfolks in sitio Lamintao, Barangay Talisay, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo includes the size of the fishing unit in which majority of fisherfolks uses small scale motorized boat, the type of fishing activities they normally do is subsistence fishing, the income generated from fishing activities roughly around 600php to 1200php , they spend 1- 2 liters of fuel per trip and they do not have access to credit and other financial services.

### 6.11. Following up to acquire supplementary data on the fishing unit.

Fisherfolks normally conducts 2 trips per day; they do not follow a specific fishing calendar. Fisherfolks do not own huge fishing boats; they rely on the motorized boats provided by the Local Government unit to all registered fisherfolks.

## Recommendations.

1. Skills Development and Education: Enhancing educational opportunities and skills development programs can help uplift the community's socio-economic status. Efforts should be made to improve access to education, including scholarships, vocational training, and adult education programs. Collaboration with local educational institutions, government agencies, and non-profit organizations can facilitate these initiatives.
2. Poverty Alleviation Programs: Given the poverty incidence in the area, targeted poverty alleviation programs should be implemented. These programs could include initiatives such as livelihood support, microfinance schemes, and social welfare programs to provide assistance to vulnerable households and individuals.
3. Infrastructure and Services: Investing in essential infrastructure, such as improved road networks, access to clean water, healthcare facilities, and electricity, can enhance the overall quality of life in the community. Collaboration with government agencies and NGO's can help secure funding and resources for these infrastructure projects.
4. Environmental Sustainability: Since fishing is a significant economic activity, promoting sustainable fishing practices and environmental conservation should be prioritized. Implementing regulations and promoting awareness about responsible fishing methods can help preserve marine resources and ensure the long-term viability of the fishing industry.
5. Data Collection and Monitoring: Regular data collection and monitoring should be undertaken to track the progress of interventions, assess their effectiveness, and make informed decisions for future development initiatives. This could involve conducting periodic surveys, engaging with community members, and involving local stakeholders in the decision-making process.
6. Community Empowerment and Participation: Involving the community in the planning and implementation of development initiatives is crucial for their success. Engaging community members in decision-making processes, establishing local cooperatives or associations, and fostering a sense of ownership and empowerment can contribute to sustainable development.

It is important to note that these recommendations should be tailored to the specific needs and priorities of Sitio Lamintao Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo. Local leaders, government agencies, and community organizations should collaborate to develop and implement a comprehensive and holistic approach to address the socio-economic challenges and improve the overall well-being of the community.

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