



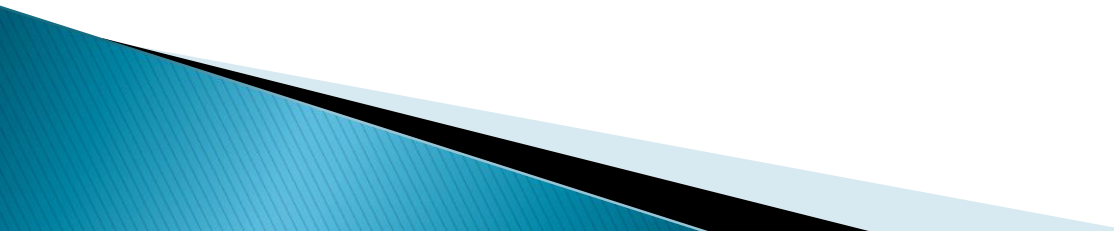
# **An inclusive approach for greater post-harvest benefits**

**Minding about the social and policy dimensions  
in fisheries post-harvest system management**

**Yvette Diei Ouadi**

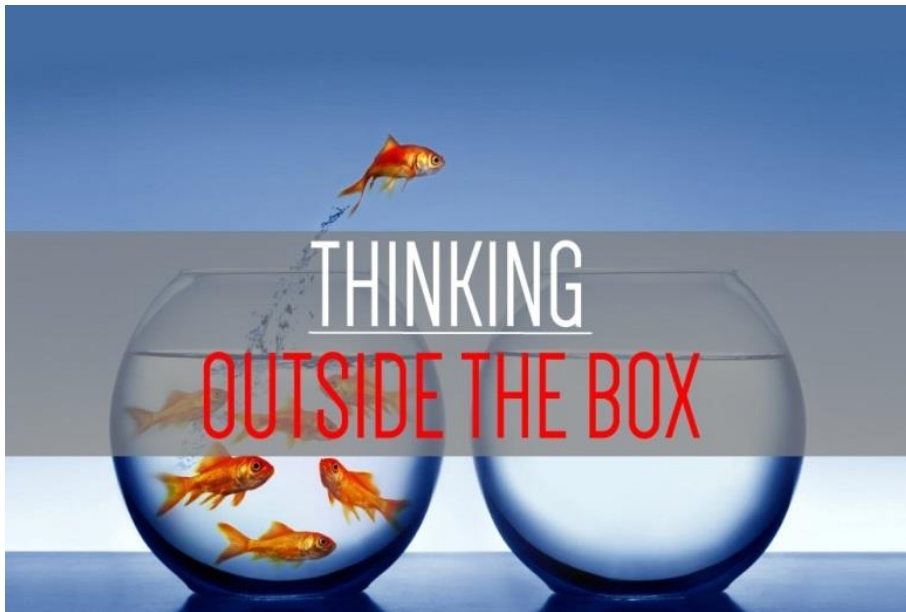
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# OUTLINE

- **Presentation rationale**
  - **About the Inclusive Approach**
  - **Practical outcomes**
  - **Conclusion**
- 

# PRESENTATION RATIONALE

Being a fish technologist but ...



... Promoting  
mainstreaming  
**SOCIAL** and **POLICY** dimensions

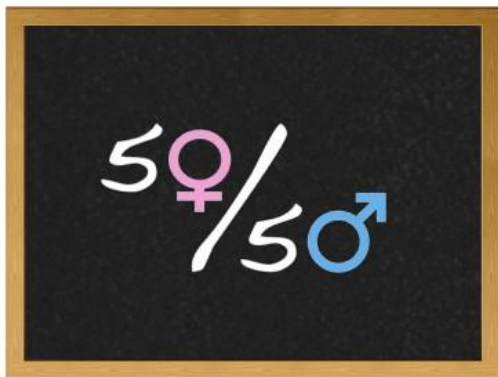
.....into the technology and infrastructure investment  
oriented work

# PRESENTATION RATIONALE



## THREE (3) MERITS

Benefits for the value chain actors while making the best use of scanty development resources: **Efficiency within compliance**



The interests and needs of all, if not the most vulnerable, especially in mainstreaming GENDER a **leading indicator of sustainable development and livelihoods**

## **Gender Equality**

Increased utilization/improved technology, but in bolstering utilization of inputs

Interventions not to be seen as a driver of overcapacity!!!

## **Sustainability of natural resources**





# PRESENTATION RATIONALE

Rampant, recurrent, high **post-harvest losses**  
in small-scale fisheries  
( $\gg 70\%$  in SSF vs  $35\%$  for the global FI & A sector)



Livelihoods  
Food security  
Environment



A key **indicator** of the post-harvest  
**system performance**



# ABOUT THE INCLUSIVE APPROACH

- Post-harvest system management put into Food security, poverty eradication and sustainable resources perspectives
- Acknowledgement of the multifaceted dimensions of PHL
  - Complex relationships between people, the power and inequalities, and the environment of operation
- Mainstreamed within the Global initiative Food Loss & Waste reduction
- Since 2006, FAO Fisheries Department at the forefront for interventions informed by the **holistic systematic assessment** of post-harvest losses
- Comforted by the **2008 Bangkok 4SF** conference outcomes



## International Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries

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**Zero Draft**

May 2014



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

- Technical efficiency,
- Social development
- Gender mainstreaming
- Sustainable management of natural resources
- ...

# ABOUT THE INCLUSIVE APPROACH



Performance assessment studies, in  
Lake Victoria and Volta Basin,  
2008/2013

- **elements** (environment/ecosystems, people, inputs, processes, infrastructure, institutions, etc.)
- **activities** that relate to the production, processing, distribution, preparation, consumption of food
- **outputs** of these activities, including socio-economic and environmental outcomes







This facility with improved fish handling and smoking equipment is not used by fishers who prefer using their inefficient and unhealthy systems. WHY?> Social interest was not taken into account



# ABOUT THE INCLUSIVE APPROACH

- ▶ Interviews based on sound approaches to rural communities following the secondary source review
  - Semi-structured interviews
  - Triangulation with key informants
- ▶ Actual measurement of the key performance criteria
  - Load tracking
  - Observation
- ▶ Priority to critical issues that can make the most positive impacts → social, economic, environmental benefits



# PRACTICAL OUTCOMES

- ▶ Wealth of information that help shaping interventions and elements for a common strategy
- ▶ Sex and age disaggregated data
- ▶ Commendable indigenous knowledge of the value chain actors
- ▶ Magnitude of losses: 15–60% of the harvests
  - 65% of the causes of losses incurred : technology, infrastructure
  - **Others: 35%**
  - Perceptions of value chain actors in many locations, the above are the trickiest ones
  - Policy engagement in dealing with non–technical bottlenecks and enforcement capacity in the Top 5 of the ten major causes
- ▶ Intricate dimensions and impacts



# PRACTICAL OUTCOMES



## VICIOUS CYCLE OF LOSS, PRESSURE ON RESOURCES & THE POVERTY TRAP

As a result of post-harvest losses they incur owing to several causes (knowledge and skill, technology, infrastructure, policy and regulation, market access-related, socio-cultural, etc.) the vulnerable artisanal fishers resorted to use methods (fishing, post-harvest) that they believe could help them catch more fish or sell more in order to cope and compensate.

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE VISIT:

- FAO SOFIA 2014
- [www.fao.org/3/a-13720e.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/a-13720e.pdf)
- Sakchai.mcdonough@fao.org

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### DRIVERS



POLICY & REGULATION



POOR KNOWLEDGE & HANDLING PRACTICES



INEFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES



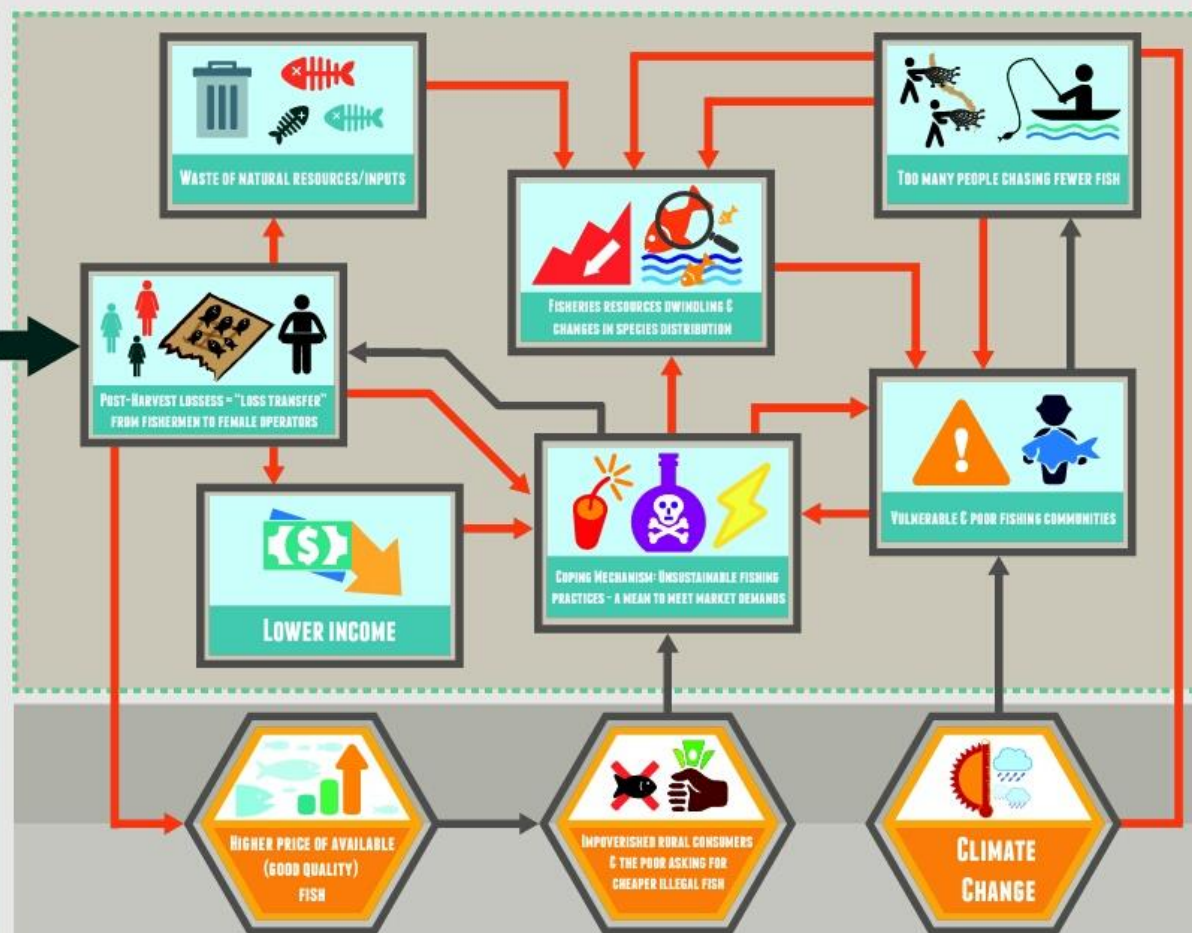
WEAK INFRASTRUCTURE & SERVICES



POOR AVAILABILITY OR MANAGEMENT OF MARKETING INFORMATION



GENDER & OTHER SOCIAL INTERESTS RELATED

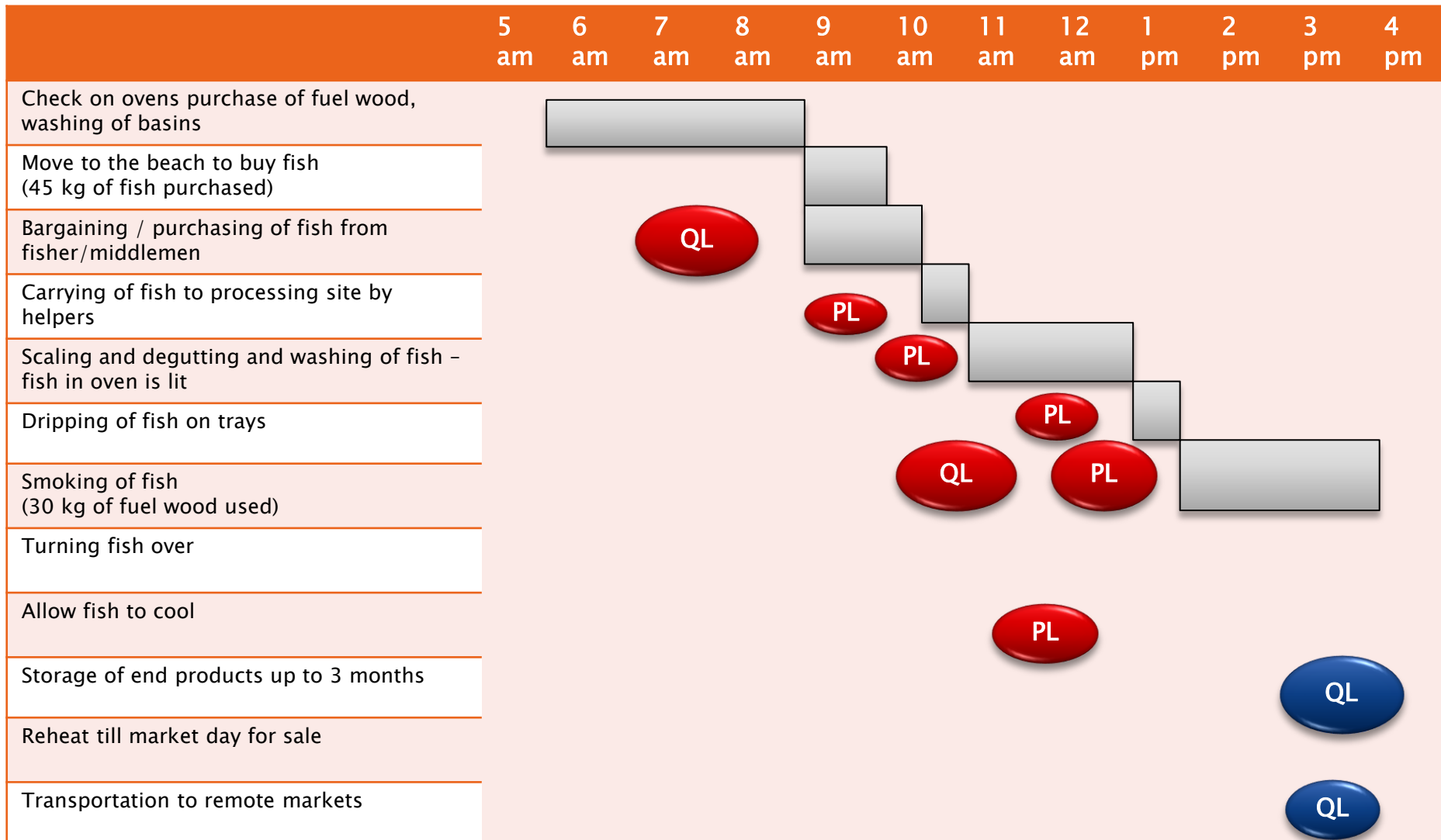


# PRACTICAL OUTCOMES

Wearing gender lenses in fish processing operations



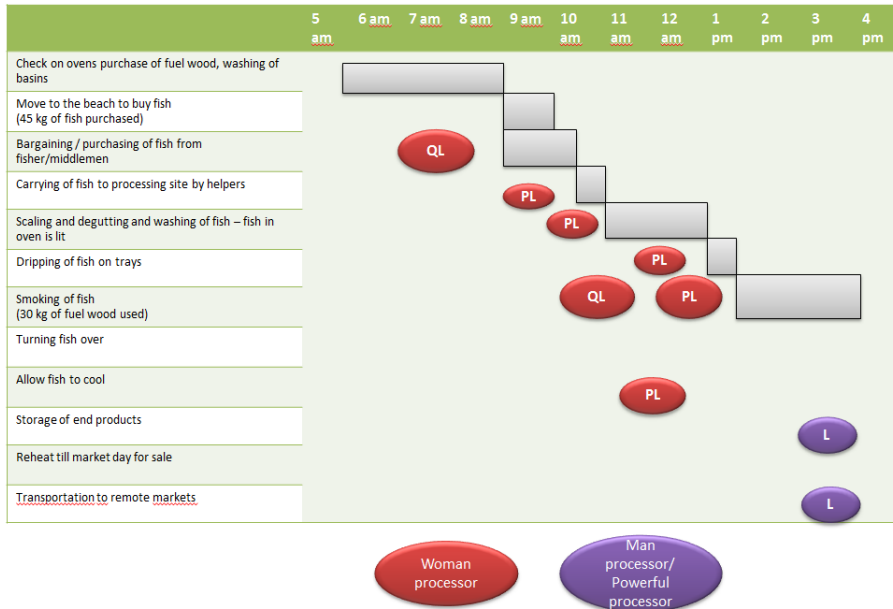




Woman processor

Man processor/  
Powerful processor

# MAIN GENDER ISSUES IN PROCESSING AND SALE



## DURING THE PURCHASE OF FISH

- Women do not usually get the best quality fish from their suppliers due to delays:
  - Burden of household chores
  - Long distance from the lakeside
- Loss embedded in the raw material, accrued when they do not use ice
- Vulnerability to the suppliers
  - Have low purchasing power and/or if they do not stand as one voice within organized groups
- Fish theft when unaccompanied to the processing site

## DURING THE SMOKING PROCESS

- Operational costs and drudgery due to the inefficiency of their smoking systems
- Burden from additional costs if need for a shift in technology for smoking as a result of climate-led species change
- Household chores and childcare concomitant to the smoking process: burden and difficult to control predation of the products by animals

## MARKETING AND SALE

- Women are often victims of arm robberies phenomenon, rampant on main road and highways
- Inability for them to access longer distance markets that may be more remunerative, due to household chores and/or socio-cultural barriers

# PRACTICAL OUTCOMES

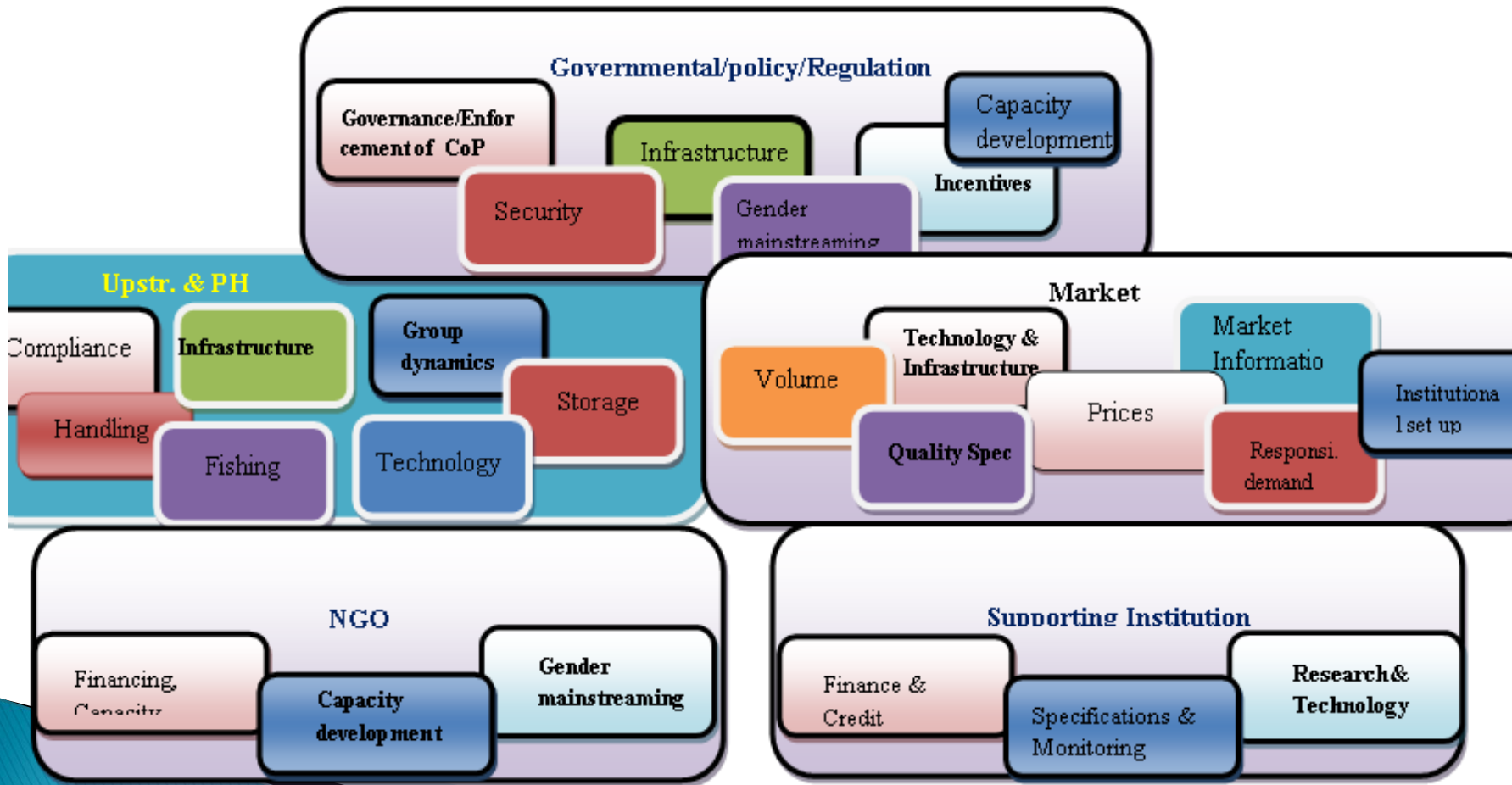
- ▶ Policy impact on trade benefits
  - Poorly managed/controlled imports of fish
  - Security within domestic marketing: Curb the “artificial glut”



- Free movement of goods and persons in regional trade
  - Harassments, lengthy checks, illegal detentions of products

# PRACTICAL OUTCOMES

Strategy developed on transformative simultaneous and pragmatic interventions from all stakeholders, along the whole fish supply chain



# PRACTICAL OUTCOMES- The Ghana case

Addressing the main critical losses in smoked Tilapia value chain: The planned introduction of the FTT-Thiaroye kiln

- **Technical:** PAHs and other quality attributes
- **Social :** Easy control of smoking operation, enabling the combination with household chores, reduced drudgery and operation costs (less exposure to heat & smoke, curbed fuelwood use/also environmental positive effect)
- **Policy:** To address security situation, Expand the e-commerce to fisheries as in agriculture, the mobile coverage to promote the IT-based transactions
  - Provide childcare facility for the loss upstream smoking!



**The FAO-Thiaroye  
Processing Technique  
(FTT-Thiaroye)**



# CONCLUSION

- ▶ In-depth analysis and scope of the information generated by the inclusive approach
- ▶ **Values** interventions within the contextual occurrence of losses, minding for the social and policy dimensions
  - ▶ Soundness of interventions and regional strategy in Volta Basin
- ▶ **Acknowledges** the dynamics of the post-harvest and upstream operations and supply-demand linkages
  - ▶ Benefits for all while post-harvest system stands as a resource management tool
- ▶ **Reflects** the key principles of the ISSF
- ▶ How does it apply elsewhere than in Africa?
  - Case studies in other regions within the Global Food Loss and waste reduction initiative
  - With the ISSF implementation, adoption, adaptation, dissemination in the context of the Section 7 and all related others therein



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