



## Gendered Post-Harvest Losses among informal fish retailers in Egypt



RESEARCH  
PROGRAM ON  
Fish

# Research Question - Post Harvest Losses (PHL) in Egypt

---

## Hypothesis:

- Post harvest losses are greatest profitability constraint to informal fish retail in Egypt.

## Research Questions:

1. What kinds & costs of PHLs are experienced between women and men retailers?  
**(biophysical, nutritional, or economic - which incl. *market forces*)**
2. How do we evaluate the causes and outcomes of these PHLs more accurately?
3. What interventions effectively address these gendered PHLs?
4. Where do we go from here to improve gendered PHL research?

# 1. Study Design

---

- Longitudinal study of gender-responsive market interventions (SCD-funded IEIDEAS)
- Baseline survey (2013) of 748 women & men retailers across 5 sites.
- Endline survey (2015) of 151 women in 5 same sites (72 non-ben vs 79 beneficiaries)
  
- Data collection Sex-disag mixed methods qualitative & quantitative questionnaires;
  - a. Household characteristics and practices.
  - b. Enterprise trade & profitability.
  - c. Household gender attitudes and roles.
  
- Gender-responsive market intervention:
  - a. 5-Capitals approach; social, financial, human, physical and natural capital...
  - b. Gender-transformative approach; tackling power relations through action res...

## 2.2. Baseline; Summary

---

1. Educational status of household members of women retailers lower than men retailers. However, we also find women in men retailers' households have received more education than women retailers themselves.
2. Assets and livelihoods based assessments indicated lower socioeconomic status among women retailer households.
3. Women retailers are more likely to be divorced than men retailers. Men retailers are more likely to be single.



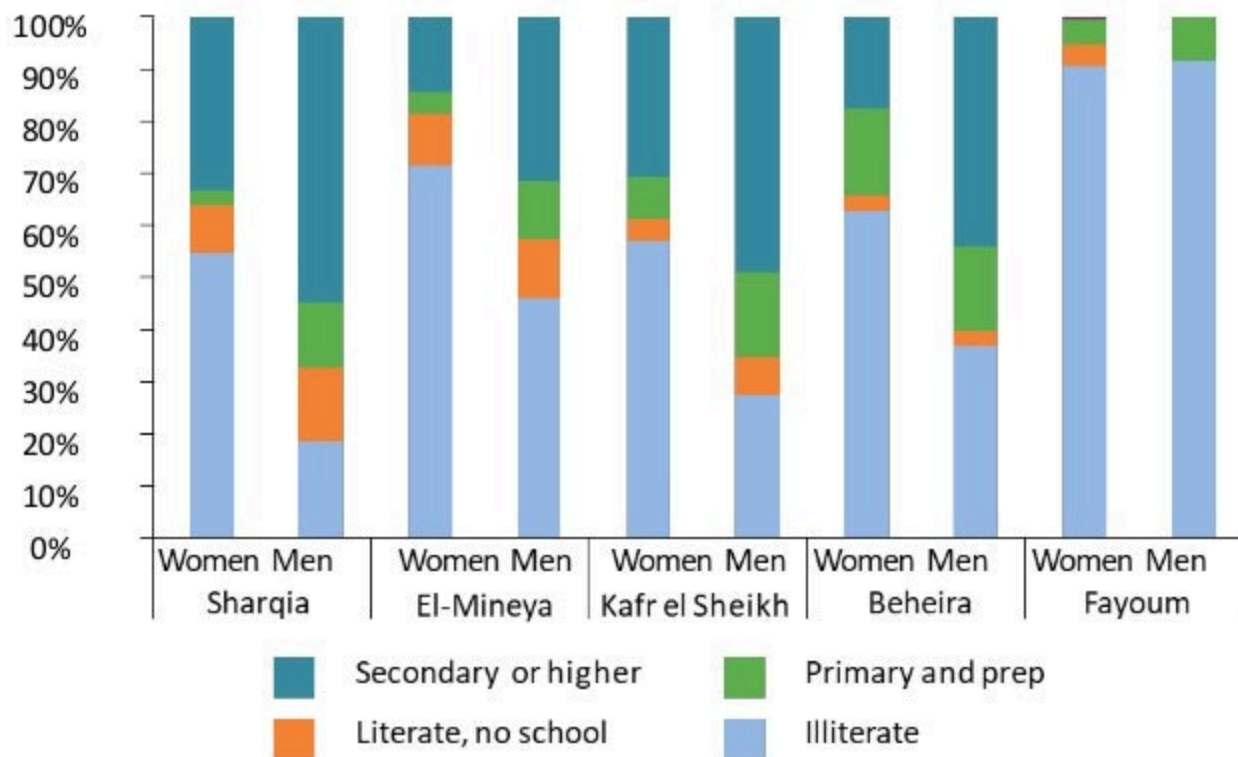
## 2.1. Baseline; Household Characteristics

Governorate	Sex	N	Age		Household size		Children <5		Children <15		% of non workers	
			mean	Std err	mean	Std err	mean	Std err	mean	Std err	mean	Std err
Sharqia	Women	33	33.7	1.70	4.4	0.33	0.67	0.15	1.97	0.26	0.46	0.04
	Men	71	32.8	1.20	4.2	0.19	0.65	0.10	1.65	0.16	0.66*	0.02
El-Mineya	Women	70	36.9	1.20	5.4	0.20	0.73	0.12	2.40	0.21	0.50	0.03
	Men	35	41.4	2.30	4.3*	0.34	0.60	0.14	1.50*	0.21	0.51	0.05
Kafr El Sheikh	Women	72	36.4	1.20	4.5	0.19	0.44	0.09	1.80	0.17	0.49	0.03
	Men	55	38.3	1.50	4.1	0.22	0.53	0.09	1.40	0.18	0.56	0.04
Beheira	Women	142	40.8	0.93	3.6	0.12	0.22	0.04	0.98	0.10	0.35	0.02
	Men	68	31.8**	1.00	4.2*	0.18	0.79**	0.11	1.5*	0.18	0.59**	0.03
Fayoum	Women	190	35.2	0.77	5.6	0.14	0.91	0.06	2.90	0.13	0.48	0.02
	Men	12	42.6*	2.30	5.4	0.47	NA		2.00	0.43	0.56	0.03
Total	Women	507	37.1		4.8		1.60		2.10		0.45	
	Men	241	35.5		4.3**		1.50		1.50**		0.59**	

Significance levels are \*\*, \* for 0.01 and 0.05 respectively.

## 2.3. Baseline: Retailer Characteristics

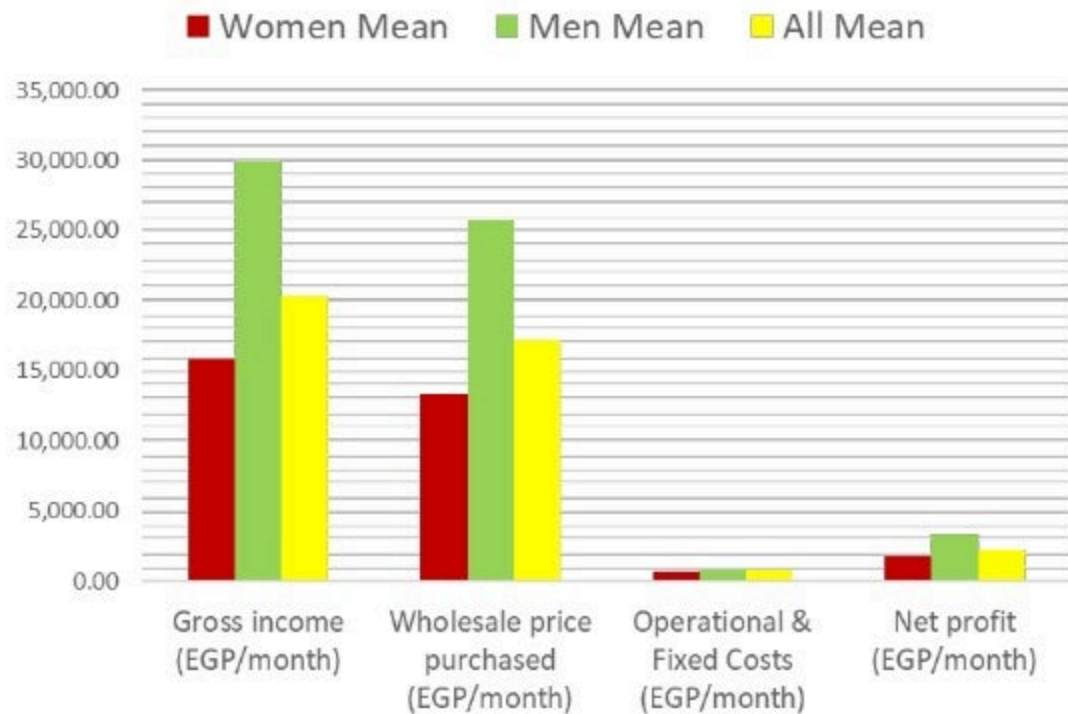
Educational status of Women & Men Retailers:



- More women retailers than men retailers illiterate.
- Rates of women's retailers' illiteracy higher than aggregated 5-governorate official statistics – 53.78%. (*Fayoum, Mineya, Beheira*).

## 2.4. Baseline; Enterprises Characteristics

- Differences in volumes & species sold between governorates and between women and men.
- Avg. purchase volume of tilapia was **56.75kg/day**. Avg. purchase volume of tilapia for women was **46.9kg/day** versus **79.65kg/day** for men retailers.
- On avg. men were involved in selling higher numbers of different mixed species at the same time (1.8 vs 1.4)





## 2.5. Baseline: Gendered Pre- & Post-Harvest Losses

Avg. portion of stock discarded/ consumed only 1.62% for women and 2.85% for men.

Avg. portion of stock sold at reduced price was 20% for women and 16% for men.

	Avg buying price (EGP/kg)	Avg price – morning (EGP/kg)	Gross profit – morning (%)	Avg price – afternoon (EGP/kg)	Gross profit – afternoon (%)
<i>Tilapia super</i>	12.5	14.4	15.0	13.3	6.3
<i>Tilapia 1</i>	11.5	12.9	11.8	12.1	4.8
<i>Tilapia 2</i>	10.2	12.0	17.8	10.5	3.6
<i>Tilapia 3</i>	7.4	9.6	29.7	8.6	17.1
<i>Tilapia 4</i>	4.4	6.5	49.0	5.5	24.5
<i>Mullet 1</i>	23.6	25.8	9.2	24.3	2.9
<i>Mullet 2</i>	21.5	24.2	12.1	21.9	1.8
<i>Live catfish</i>	10.2	11.8	15.7	10.9	6.9

**What do we know so far: What types of losses most affect women retailers biophysical, nutrient, or economic losses?**



## 3.1. Gendered PHL Findings; 5DE of Fish Retail

<b>Income:</b>	Questions on women's and men's involvement around use of retailers' own and total household income were posed to understand gender relations in practice.
<b>Decision making:</b>	Gender-based differences related to household responsibilities & decision-making have measurable effect on livelihood outcomes of fish retailers. Women & men report having voice in the final decision. W/ conditional questioning (disagreement); a majority of women across governorates report spouse's view prevails, higher % of men report their view prevails.
<b>Mobility:</b>	There is strong agreement that women need men's permission to leave the home, though agreement about women's right to work outside the home has a mean of 0.94/hh. Adding conditions, responses shift and there is relatively high agreement that it is not acceptable for married women to work outside of the home if her husband earns sufficient income.
<b>Leadership</b>	Low expectations around women's capacities limits their agency from women themselves and by others. Findings show women's leadership capacity has limited acceptance among many men and some women.
<b>Time</b> ( <i>Time-use data limited</i> )	Time-use patterns reflected conflicts in balancing retail work & domestic responsibilities. 6.78% of men report never facing conflicts. 78,3% of women report not having enough time for activities than they like, due to fish retail. Women travel on avg. 3hr/day to wholesale mkts in Sharqia

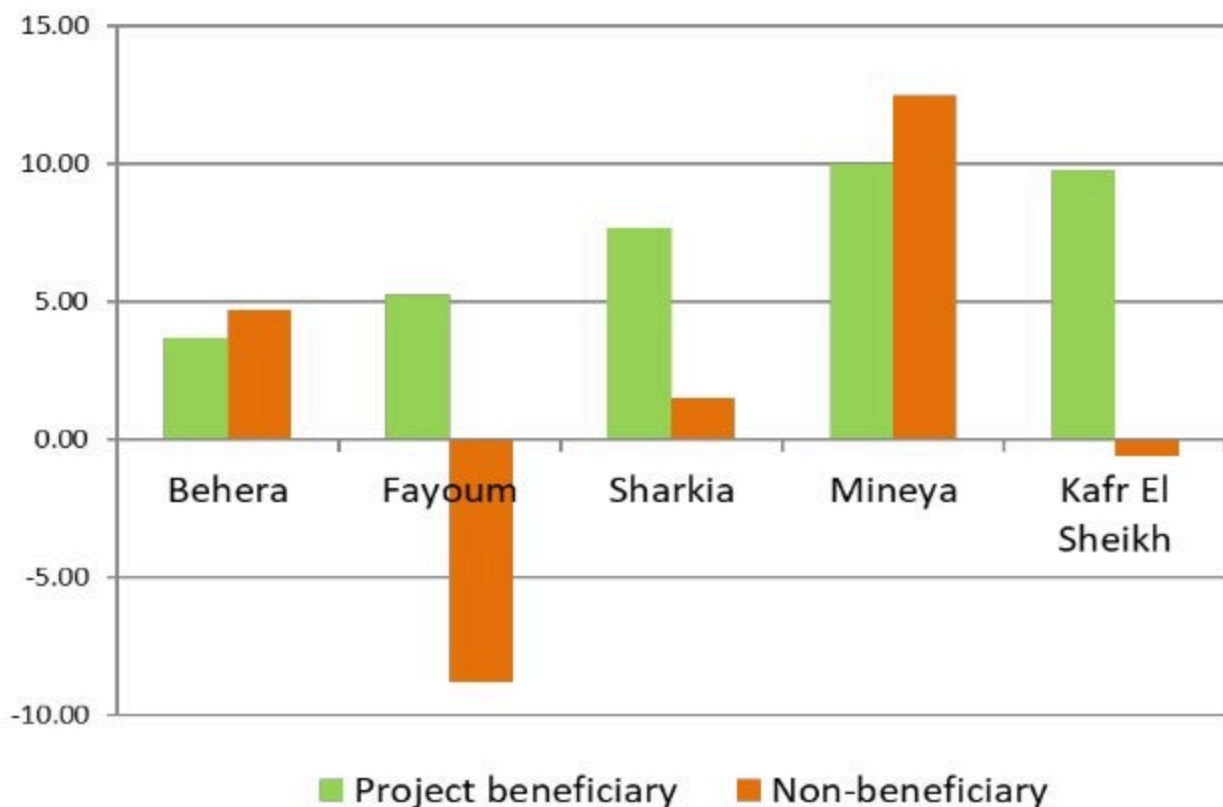
## 3.1. Interventions



- **5 Capitals Approach;**  
Market interventions that provide support to women retailers in form of social, financial, human, physical, and natural capital
- **Gender Transformative Approach**  
Theatre Action Groups established where both women and men retailers invited to act out and discuss daily encounters of conflict. Initiatives are retailer-led and continue without program support in three sites.



### 3.3. Interventions Economic Outcomes



Net Profit (\$/day):

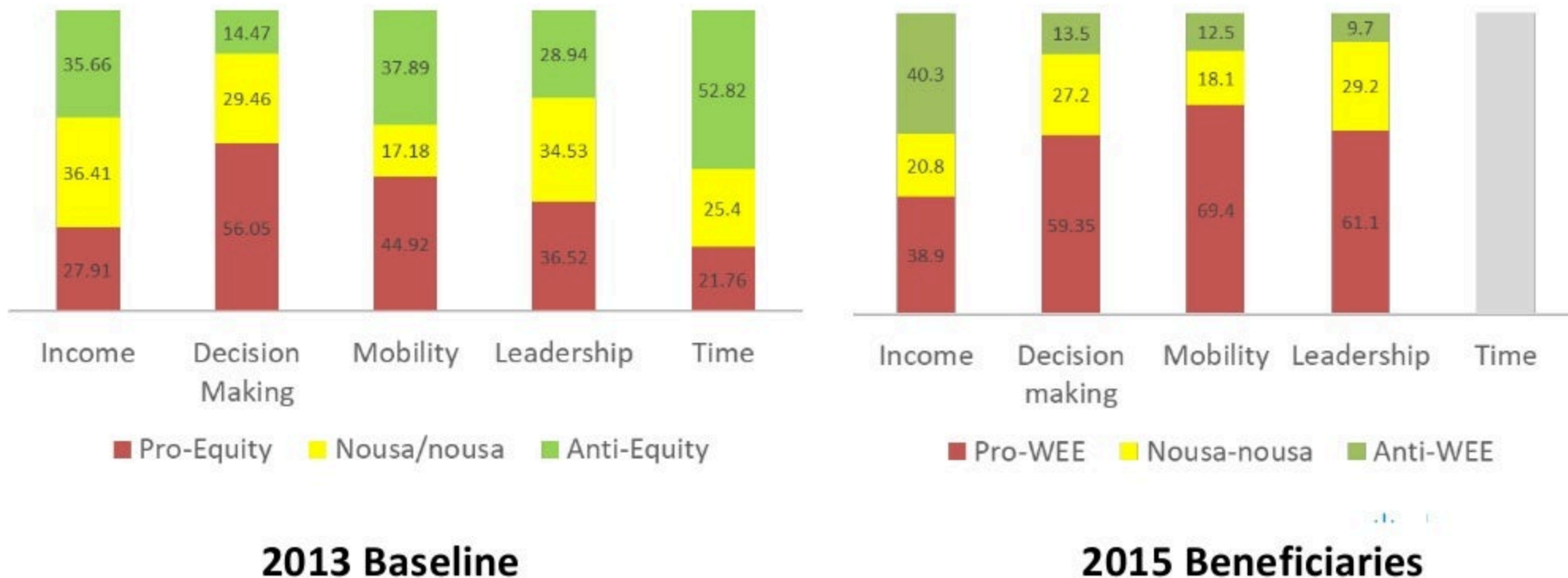
- Beneficiaries **\$10**
- Non-beneficiaries **\$1**

FGDs: 'Financial and social capital are key.

Wholesalers and farmers now competing over our trade giving different lending terms, prices and quality.



## 3.2. Interventions; Social Outcomes





# 4. Next Steps...

## 1. Time Poverty: (Time poverty highest among women retailers in Sharqia & Fayoum)

### What were you doing?

Record your main activity for each 10-minute period from 04.00 to 07.00!

Only one main activity on each line!  
Distinguish between travel and the activity that is the reason for travelling.

### What else were you doing? Record

the most important parallel activity. Indicate if you used, in the main or parallel activity, a computer or internet. You do not need to record the use of a computer or internet during working time.

### Where were you? Record the

location or the mode of transport  
e.g. at home, at friends' home, at school, at workplace, in restaurant, in shop, on foot, on bicycle, in car, on motorcycle, on bus...

### Were you alone or together with somebody you know?

Mark 'yes' by crossing

Alone	Partner	With other household members	Parent	Household member up to 9 years	Other household member	Other persons that you know
-------	---------	------------------------------	--------	--------------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------------

Time

07.00-07.10 Woke up children  
 07.10-07.20 Had breakfast  
 07.20-07.30 --:--  
 07.30-07.40 Cleared the table  
 07.40-07.50 Dressed children  
 07.50-08.00 Wholesale Mkt  
 08.00-08.10 Went to work  
 08.10-08.20 Went to work  
 08.20-08.30 Work

Code 1.1

Code 1.2 Talked with my family

Code 1.3 Listened to the radio

Code 1.4 Talked with children

Code 1.5

Code 1.6 Read the newspaper

Code 1.6

Code 1.7

Code 2.1

Code 2.2

Code 2.3

Code 2.4

Code 2.5

At home

On foot

Bus

Workplace

Code 3.1

Code 3.2

Code 3.3

Code 3.4

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Use an arrow, citation marks or the like to mark an activity that takes longer than 10 minutes.

# Thank You



RESEARCH  
PROGRAM ON  
Fish