

Questionnaire for shrimp-mangrove farming survey

Informed consent statement

(-> Read the following text, point by point, and explain in detail if requested or unclear)

This research is undertaken in the context of a Master of Science dissertation for the University of London. Its aim is to understand shrimp-mangrove farmers' opinions on shrimp farming and restrictions on the use and exploitation of mangrove as stipulated by Vietnamese law or voluntary regulations.

1. Participation in the survey is **voluntary**.
2. **Refusal** to participate **does not have any negative consequences** (e.g. you can participate in any other survey or project without having to participate in this interview)!
3. If you agree to participate, you have the **right to ask questions or refuse further participation** at any time during or after the interview.
4. The information you share will be used and might be published. However, **your name will not appear in any form and nobody will know that you participated or what your answers were**.
5. Your information and answers are exclusively for this study and **will not be shared** with any other organization/person.

(-> Once you have read the information, make a pause. Then ask if interview participants have questions. If not, proceed.)

If you wish to participate, then please confirm this with a clear **"Yes, I do want to participate in this survey."**

(-> Wait for answer/confirmation)

Thank you very much. We would now like to ask you a few questions. Please interrupt and clarify when something is unclear. Try to answer as accurately as possible.

Farm ownership and characteristics

1. Farming system (integrated/separated)

☐ integrated ☐ separated ☐ other _____

2. Farm size

_____ ha

3. Since when have you managed/owned this farm?

Month, year _____ (e.g. March 2002)

4. Ownership

☐ green book ☐ red book ☐ certificate of ownership but not yet official
☐ managing for third-party ☐ other _____

5. **When does your actual contract expire?** (e.g. until when is the green/red book issued)

Month, year _____ (e.g. March 2017)

6. **When you started to manage this farm, what was (were) the main reason(s)?** (multiple answers possible)

☐ shrimp farming ☐ forest management ☐ family reunification/relatives ☐ source of income

☐ other _____

7. **What changes to the farming system have you made since you started to manage this farm (e.g., surface area, forest coverage)?** (multiple answers possible)

☐ no changes ☐ reforestation ☐ deforestation ☐ change between separated/integrated system

☐ increased pond area ☐ other _____

8. **What were the reasons for the changes undertaken?** (multiple answers possible)

☐ increased shrimp pond surface ☐ easier management ☐ optimized production

☐ regulations changed ☐ higher tree coverage is beneficial ☐ conservation of mangrove

☐ other _____

Mangrove management

9. **What is the approximate actual tree coverage on your farm?**

_____ % or _____ ha of total of _____ ha

10. **What is the legal norm in terms of minimal mangrove tree coverage on your farm?**

☐ I don't know ☐ I know, it is _____ % of total area

11. **Do you comply with this norm?**

☐ yes ☐ no

12. **How often do you get monitored (controlled) by authorities?**

one time or more every: ☐ month ☐ three months ☐ six months ☐ year

☐ less than one time/year

13. **What happens if authorities detect that mangrove coverage is too low?** (multiple answers ok)

☐ nothing ☐ need to pay a fine ☐ need to reforest ☐ authorities reforest

☐ other _____

(-> if they need to pay a fine, try to find out how high it is or how compensation works. Be sensitive and cautious. Amount: _____ VND)

14. What percentage of mangrove tree coverage would be best for you if you had free choice?

_____ % or _____ ha of total of _____ ha

15. Why do you think this is the best? (multiple answers possible)

- ☐ highest overall income ☐ shrimp production is highest ☐ provides the income I need for living
☐ optimized productivity ☐ easiest management ☐ good balance between shading to pond area
☐ best for environment ☐ good balance between different aspects (e.g. income and environment)

16. Would you change the mangrove coverage if the ownership changed (e.g. from green to red book)?

- ☐ no ☐ yes -> please explain: by ticking one or more of the options below
☐ long-term conservation of mangrove ☐ I can make more profit from wood production
☐ stronger negotiation power ☐ other _____

17. Do you think that mangrove trees are good for your farm?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

please explain why _____

18. What (other) benefits do mangrove trees provide?

- ☐ protection from waves ☐ biodiversity (shelter for animals and plants) ☐ nothing/useless
☐ climate regulation ☐ nursing ground for fish/shrimp ☐ timber and other goods
☐ beauty/identity/home ☐ other _____

19. By law you need to maintain at least 50% mangrove. What do you think about this limit of 50%?
(multiple answers possible)

- ☐ it is good ☐ only good for the environment ☐ it is arbitrary/random ☐ it is not good
☐ not important, just a law ☐ it helps officials to discriminate against farmers

Productivity

20. What is the income from products harvested? (-> ask per year or cycle; calculate with farmer)

- ☐ Black Tiger shrimp _____ VND _____ / _____ VND per year
☐ Crab _____ VND _____ / _____ VND per year
☐ Fish _____ VND _____ / _____ VND per year
☐ Timber/wood _____ VND _____ / _____ VND per year
☐ other _____ VND _____ / _____ VND per year

21. How would you rate the productivity of your shrimp farming system?

- ☐ optimal (can't improve) ☐ very high ☐ high
☐ average ☐ low ☐ very low

22. Would you like to improve the shrimp productivity of your farm?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

23. How could you improve the shrimp productivity of your farm?

- ☐ bigger pond size ☐ cut more trees ☐ plant more trees ☐ better post-larvae (PL) quality
☐ other species (e.g. crab) ☐ improve management (e.g. different stocking cycles)
☐ other _____

Participation in Naturland organic or similar project and outlook into future

24. Did you participate in a Naturland organic project (e.g. Seanamico) before?

- ☐ yes ☐ no -> go to question 28

25. During what period did you participate in the project?

Started in _____ (month, year)

certified in _____ (month, year)

left project in _____ (month, year)

26. How satisfied with the project were you?

- ☐ very much ☐ more than average ☐ average ☐ not much ☐ not at all

27. a) What are the reasons for this rating? (-> in question 26; multiple answers possible)

- ☐ economic benefits were good ☐ costs were bigger than benefits ☐ no additional benefits
☐ adaption was easy ☐ management too difficult ☐ too much paper work for certification
☐ I could learn something new ☐ I like to participate in a project/group
☐ other _____

b) Controls (with project) were.....

.....frequent (-> tick one)

- ☐ more ☐ about the same ☐ less

28. Would you join another / a Naturland organic or similar project?

- ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ maybe/not sure ☐ I need to know more to decide

29. What would make the participation in such a project attractive for you? (multiple answers possible)

- ☐ higher shrimp prices, even if less pond area ☐ no change in mangrove coverage
- ☐ technical support in farming ☐ access to better PLs ☐ formation of a farmer group
- ☐ overall higher household income ☐ participation enables access to microcredit (pay-back)
- ☐ other _____

Outlook into the future

30. How important are the following factors to you?

- | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Income | ☐ very important | ☐ important | ☐ slightly important | ☐ not important |
| (Easy) management | ☐ very important | ☐ important | ☐ slightly important | ☐ not important |
| (Safe) market access | ☐ very important | ☐ important | ☐ slightly important | ☐ not important |
| Flexibility (e.g. mangrove coverage) | ☐ very important | ☐ important | ☐ slightly important | ☐ not important |

31. Where do you see yourself in 20 years' time? (multiple answers possible)

- ☐ still here ☐ I don't know ☐ not here anymore
- ☐ other/explain _____

32. Would you want (one of) your children to take over your farm in the future?

- ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ I prefer them to study and work elsewhere ☐ depends on their decision

33. Do you know what climate change refers to?

- ☐ yes, I know very well ☐ no ☐ maybe/not sure/have some slight idea

34. Have you ever been informed about climate change and its effects by authorities or the local government?

- ☐ yes (please specify _____) ☐ no

35. Do you believe that climate change will (or does already) affect your farming operations in the future?

- ☐ yes, it will have negative impact(s) ☐ yes, it will have positive impact(s)
- ☐ no, it will not affect my farm ☐ not sure / maybe / not important

36. Do you believe that the Vietnamese government and local authorities take appropriate measures to mitigate the negative effects of climate change to the best possible extent?

- ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ not sure / maybe / I don't know

Personal information (optional)

-> Please note and inform participants that this information is not necessary for the study. It might provide additional information and help to identify farmers in case of doubts/questions. However, if participants prefer not to tell, then stop here.

Do you have any questions? *(-> ask if they have any question or need clarification)*

Can we ask some personal information for statistical reasons and for clarifications if we have any questions later on? This is absolutely voluntary and you do not need to provide this information.

Thank you very much for your participation!

37. **Name:** _____

38. **Age:** _____ years

39. **Gender:** _____

40. **Total number of household members** *(head included)*: _____

41. **Phone Nr.:** _____

42. **Parcel Nr.:** _____

Internal

Name of interviewer _____ **Date:** _____

Forest coverage as per information **FMB:** _____ % or _____ ha of total _____ ha

Additional comments/remarks: