

Mainstreaming climate change into inland aquaculture policies in Thailand

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ABSTRACT

While there have been many pilot projects on adaptation undertaken in the fisheries and aquaculture sector, state policies are only just beginning to refer to and systematically address climate change. This study explores the climate-related content, climate sensitivities and potential to incorporate climate change concerns, of a set of inland aquaculture policies of the government of Thailand. The analysis is based on content analysis of policy documents and in-depth interviews with officials that had roles in the design or implementation of the policies. Existing aquaculture policies have not yet taken into account climate change. On the other hand several policies did have relevance to disasters, risk sharing or best practices, and as such, could contribute to strengthening climate risk management and thus resilience. Some existing aquaculture policies are sensitive to the impacts of climate change; whereas others appear to be more robust. Concerns with climate variability and change could be incorporated into existing aquaculture policies; alternatively, they could be collected under a new strategic policy for the aquaculture and fisheries sector.

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