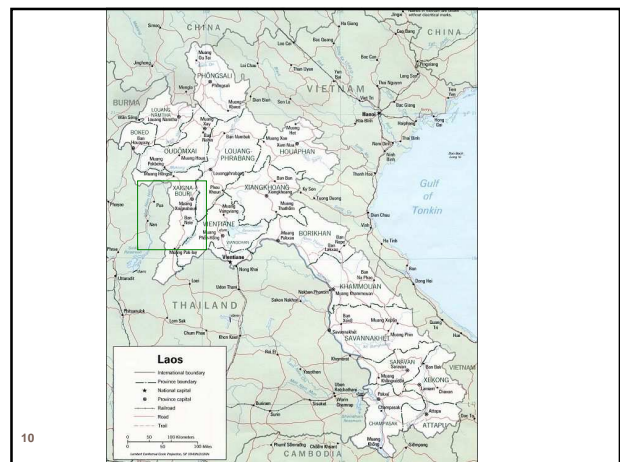


- What is the problem?
- What research would you suggest?
- What intervention would you suggest?


CASE 2 Border trade of hand-woven materials

How lack of state support can lead to collapse of trade




History of Leu weaving

- Demand increase
 - Thai Leus subcontract to Lao Leus
 - Lao Leus weave and sell by themselves
 - Lao Lum women who quitted weaving started weaving
 - spread to Lao Theung
- Price dropped from 900 baht to 300 baht.



Deskilling of weaving in the Lao side

- With drop in price,
 - Old weavers became merchants.
 - New weavers reduced the number of times they go to the border → lack of exposure to new design and market.
 - Weavers go for mass production of simple design → deskilling.
- Introduction of export tax



FDI, FREE TRADE AND LABOR PROTECTION

- Employment creation?
- Casualization of labor and footloose companies
- Labor shortage and sustainable production

CASE 3

Border industrialization between Thailand and Myanmar

- Footloose factories and accountability to workers

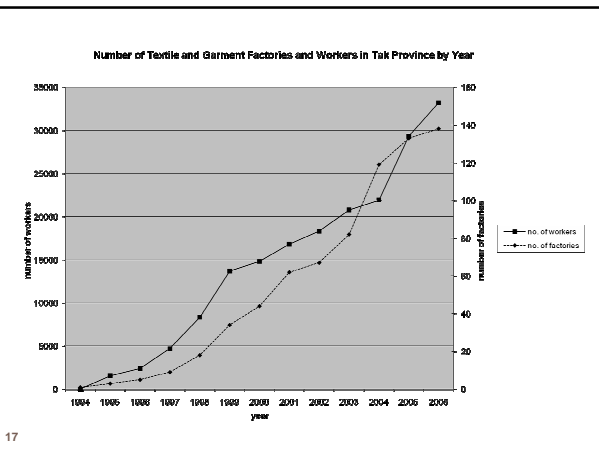


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Context

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- Decentralization of labor intensive industries, esp. garment industries
- Around 210 establishments in Mae Sot. Around 124,000 registered workers and equal or more number of unregistered workers.



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- Most of the garment factory workers are women migrant workers.
- Low wage (lower than minimum wage)
- Delayed payment and unpaid wages
- Limited mobility and threat of arrest and deportation
- Fear of loss of jobs
- Low access to health care services and education/ training opportunities.



TRADE STANDARDS

Women losing out because of lack of access to finance, information and technology?

CASE 4 Women in aquaculture in Thailand

Trade standards and small-scale producers

Women in aquaculture in Thailand

- Women are in charge of backyard ponds – both for home consumptions and commercial.
- Women also play a large role in cage culture.
- Women in charge of marketing and contacting Dept of Fisheries officers for fingerlings and technical assistance, while private companies target men for technical assistance and marketing.
- Productivity not low, but production process difficult to meet export standard.

Tariff

CASE 5

CORN PRODUCTION IN THE PHILIPPINES

Effect of free trade

Corn production in the Philippines

- Corn import tripled between 1995 to 2003.
- → drop in price
- Corn farmers abandoned farm and migrated
- Women bear brunt of finding other livelihood and feed the family
- Majority of 7.3 million migrants overseas are women

(source: Randriamaro 2006)

Improvement of trade through infrastructure development

Who are using roads for what purpose?

CASE 6 ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN LAOS

Who benefits from cross-border road development?



Attapeu: Study area

- Had Sang Village
 - ▣ Lawe
 - ▣ Old village
- Prahm Village
 - ▣ Lawe
 - ▣ Newly relocated village
- Fan Deng Village
 - ▣ Lao
 - ▣ Old village with market in the village



Livelihood change after road construction

- Fan Deng
 - ▣ Income increased.
 - ▣ Diversified income sources.
 - ▣ Women now more into rice production (before only men) as well as trade.
 - ▣ Buying cooked food.
 - ▣ Benefit of road perceived to be able to do trade better.
 - ▣ Not much change in mobility.

Livelihood change after road construction

- Had Sang Village
 - ▣ Better income from *Kisi* (rasin)
 - ▣ Before, rice production and kisi collection done by men. Now by both women and men.
 - ▣ Before, poultry done by women. Now by both women and men.
 - ▣ Buying cooked food.
 - ▣ Benefit of roads perceived to be able to travel easier, but mainly for visiting relatives.
 - ▣ Need to stay at home for security reason.



Livelihood change after road construction

- Prahm village
 - ▣ Decrease in income.
 - ▣ Women's involvement in collecting *kisi* more than Had Sang. (before and now)
 - ▣ Children drop out from school to collect *kisi*.
 - ▣ Road's benefit perceived to be for access to hospital.
 - ▣ Bought motorbikes but women do not ride motorbikes.

TRADE AND URBANIZATION

Trade and urbanization

- Employment creation and urbanization
- Migration and families left behind
- Are women able to capture the opportunity?
 - ▣ Reproductive responsibilities
 - ▣ Case of Lao-Thai border

WHAT NEXT?

What next?

- More research needed on the linkages between trade and development
 - Labor protection, food security, urbanization, migration
 - Gender, ethnicity, race, class, caste
- How to monitor change
 - Need to improve statistics
 - Need more case studies → interdisciplinary
- Is there a win-win situation?

Some strategies to promote gender equity in regional trade

- Support women's MSEs access and control over assets and services
- Support shift to produce exports where quality matters.
- Make FDI less mobile.