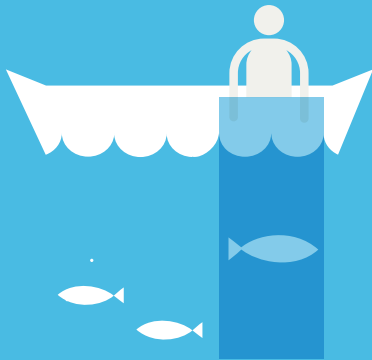


DESIGN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT WITH COMMUNITIES



Fisherfolk communities in the Mannar District of Sri Lanka with support from the Sri Lanka Nature Group and the International Accountability Project conducted community-led research between June and September 2018 to study the local impact of the proposed **Northern Province Sustainable Fisheries Development Project**.

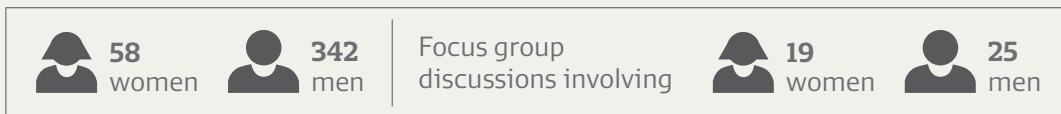
The project's objective is to develop two fishery harbors, rehabilitate related infrastructures, and improve aquaculture in the cities of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar and Multhive in the Northern Province. With a proposed USD 158-174 million loan from the Asian Development Bank, this will be the first major infrastructure and livelihood project in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka since the civil war.

This survey was conducted as part of the Early Warning System to ensure local communities and the civil society that support them, have verified information about projects likely to cause human and environmental rights abuses. Learn more: ews.rightsindevelopment.org

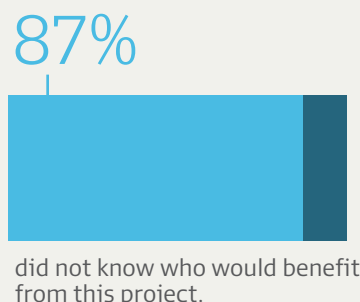
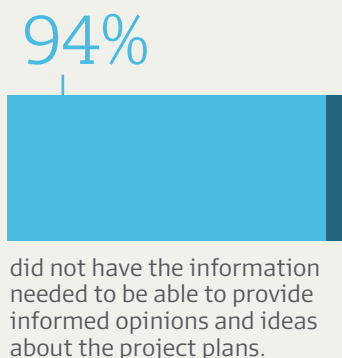
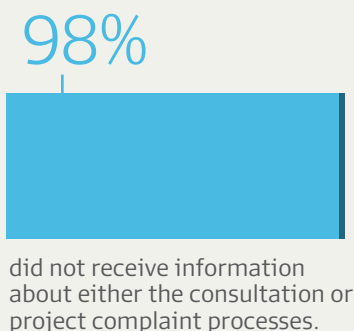
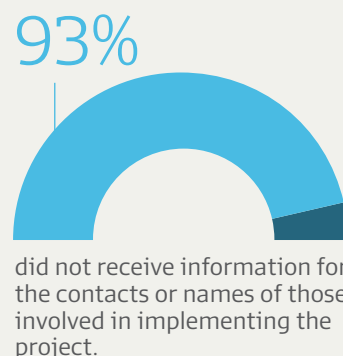
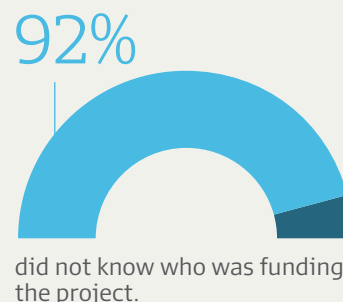
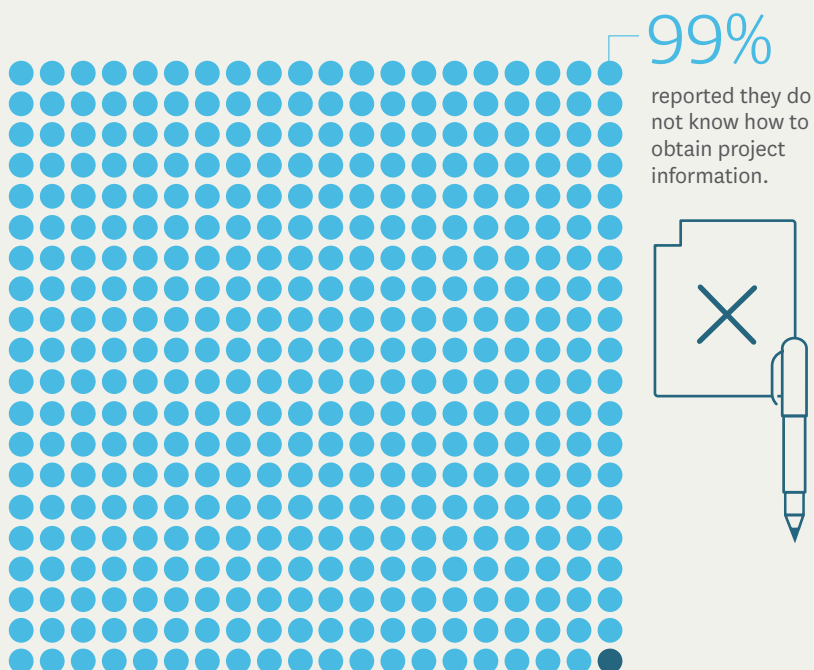


THE COMMUNITY-LED RESEARCH INCLUDED:

The community-led research included community discussions, individual interviews and four focus groups with 400 affected community members:



ACCESS TO PROJECT INFORMATION



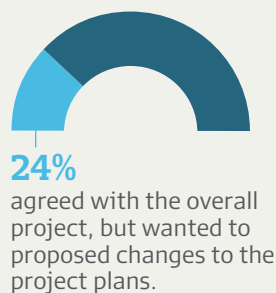
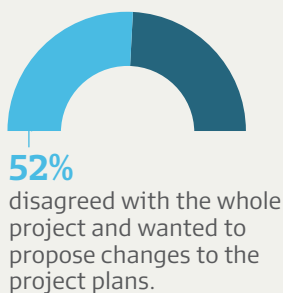
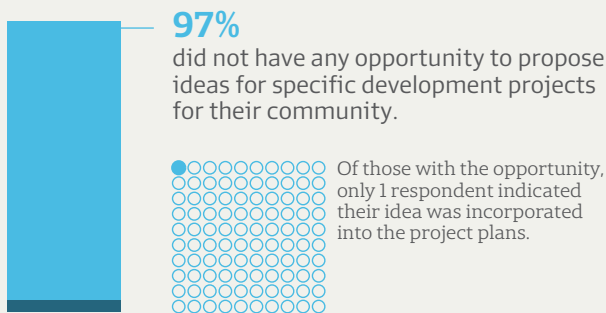
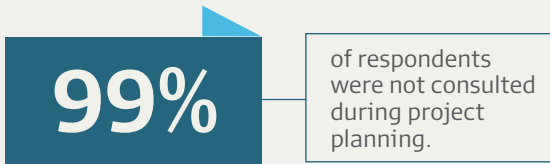
"They were not telling us anything about the purpose of the project."

"They will threaten us with force and violence to scare us to move."



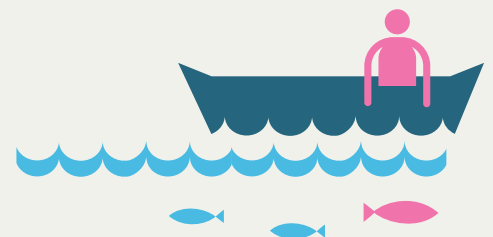
Communities believe that the Asian Development Bank and the Government of Sri Lanka should ensure a safe space for people to safely meaningfully participate throughout the decision-making process. These spaces should be free from any form of intimidation or coercion.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND CONSULTATION



ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS

Communities expressed concerns about the management of the services and activities related to the Project. Understanding the environmental and social risks, is aggravated by a lack of information in general and what information is accessible in their language. These concerns can destabilize a rebuilding community, potentially creating conflict between fisherfolks and their families, outside groups and the project.



"Any project implemented in our area should benefit our community without destroying the environment and our livelihoods."

"The project should not appoint a senior retired government officers as a [project] consultant."

"Respect the community by planning [the project] with the community."