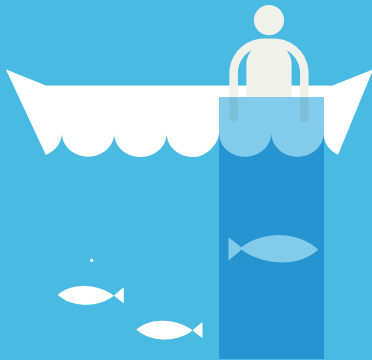


# DESIGN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT WITH COMMUNITIES

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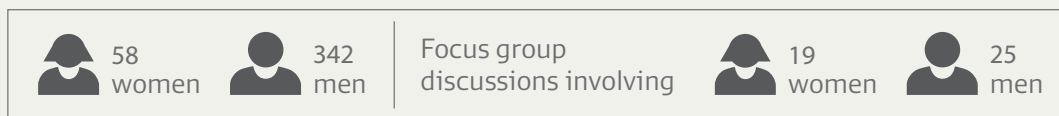
Fisherfolk communities in the Mannar District of Sri Lanka with support from the Sri Lanka Nature Group and the International Accountability Project conducted community-led research between June and September 2018 to study the local impact of the proposed **Northern Province Sustainable Fisheries Development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

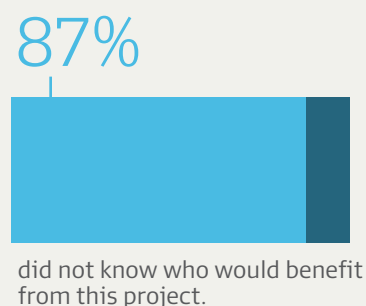
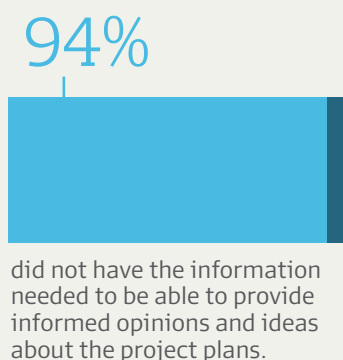
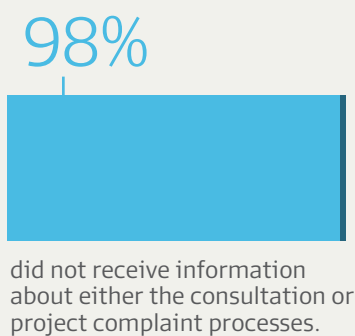
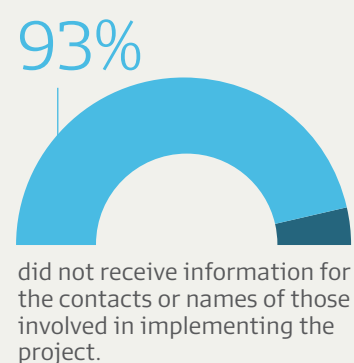
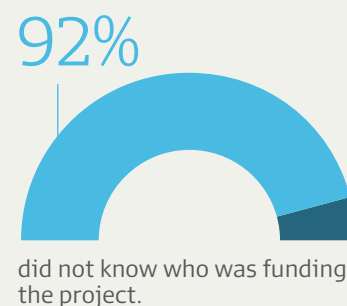
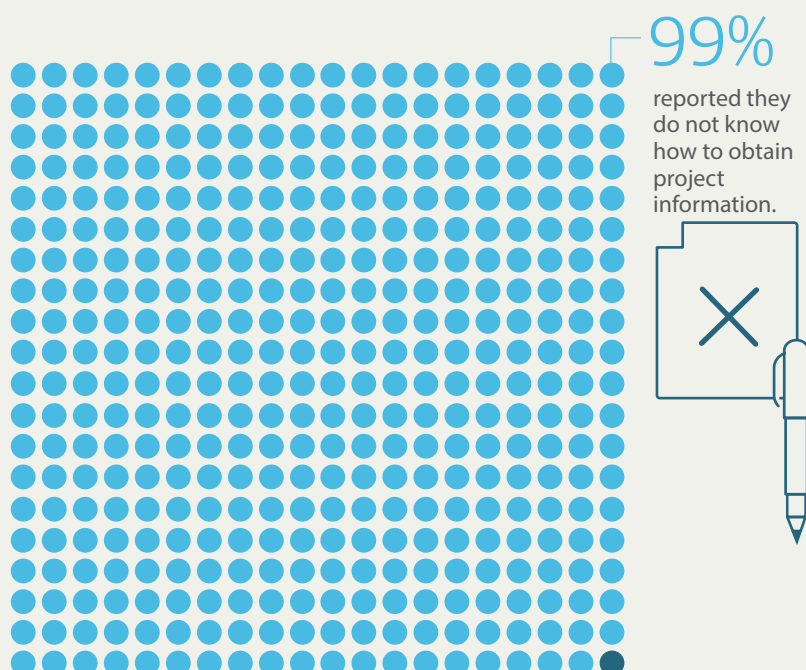
This survey was conducted as part of the Early Warning System to ensure local communities and the civil society that support them, have verified information about projects likely to cause human and environmental rights abuses. Learn more: [ews.rightsindevelopment.org](https://ews.rightsindevelopment.org)

## 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

99%

of respondents were not consulted during project planning.

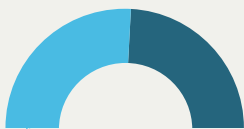
91%

reported that they have not participated in any activities conducted by the project financier or executing agencies to measure and document the value of their homes, land and resources that would be affected by the project.

97%

did not have any opportunity to propose ideas for specific development projects for their community.

Of those with the opportunity, only 1 respondent indicated their idea was incorporated into the project plans.



52%

disagreed with the whole project and wanted to propose changes to the project plans.



24%

agreed with the overall project, but wanted to propose changes to the project plans.

## 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.

95%

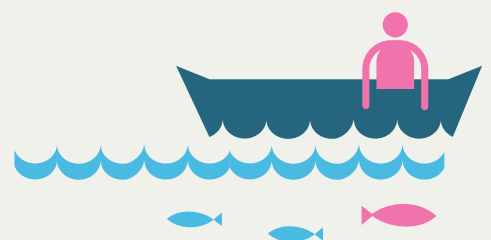
concerned that their source of livelihoods will be destroyed as a result of the project.

91%

reported concerns about loss of access to services as a result of being displaced.

95%

stated that their idea of development is different from their government's idea of development.



**"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."**