

WRITING AN ABSTRACT

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Draft a structured abstract early on

Why?

- Helps define what a paper is about
- Useful for conference applications and special issue or book proposals
- Useful in dividing content among a set of related papers to reduce overlap
- A structured abstract covers all the key parts of your paper

Structure (sentences)

- **Context** (1)
- **Rationale or need** (1-2)
- **Objective** (1)
- **Study Design** (2)
- **Findings** (3-4)
- **Conclusion & significance** (1-2)

- 200-250 words (120-500)
- Use structured abstract even when journal does not allow (remove headings at submission time)

A journal that uses structured abstracts explicitly

A

Abstract

Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to analyse how fish farmers manage climate-related risks and explore possible ways to strengthen risk management under current and future climate.

Design/methodology/approach – In total, 662 fish farmers in sites across Northern Thailand were interviewed about risks to the profitability of their fish farms and ways such risks were managed. Nonlinear canonical correlation analysis was used to relate risk factors to management practices at farm and river levels. In total, 68 in-depth interviews with farmers and other stakeholders provided additional information on climate risk management practices.

Findings – Farmers use a combination of adjustments to rearing practices, cropping calendars and financial and social measures to manage those risks, which they perceive as being manageable. Many risks are season, river and place specific; implying that the risk profiles of individual farms can vary substantially. Individual risks are often addressed through multiple practices and strategies; conversely, a particular management practice can have a bearing on several different risks. Farmers recognize that risks must be managed at farm and higher spatial and administrative scales. Social relations and information play critical roles in managing these complex combinations of risks.

Originality/value – This is one of the first papers to report in detail on how inland fish farmers manage climate-related risks. It underlines the need to consider multiple spatial and temporal scales and that farmers do not manage individual climate-related risks in isolation from other risks.

Keywords Water management, Risk management, Adaptation, Aquaculture, Rivers, Climate-related risks

Analyze this short abstract

B

- Is there a rationale?
- What was purpose or objective?
- What was the study design?
- Are key findings identified?
- Is the significance clear?

This paper assessed water management by households from three ethnic groups in two contrasting ecological settings (upland and lowland) in the Upper Ping River Basin in Northern Thailand. Important gender differences in the use and management of water were identified. Women are major users of water for agriculture in the uplands, but less so in the lowlands. In the lowland irrigation is viewed as a masculine activity

Analyze this abstract

E

- Is there a rationale?
- What is paper based on?
- Are the findings clear and convincing?

Thailand has been managing water in order to solve the water problem in the country for a long time. In 2011, however, Thailand suffered a severe flood, and that means the country's water management was not successful. Maetaeng watershed is another area that has been receiving a lot of funding to develop and solve the problem of water resources in the area continuously. Still, it was also found that the projects and budgets spent still cannot fix the problems of water resources in the area....

And this more technical one

D

- What was the study design?
- Are key findings identified?
- Is the significance clear?

Episodes of low concentrations of dissolved oxygen and high concentrations of ammonia are major causes of fish stress, which in turn, reduces growth and increases mortality rates in aquaculture ponds. This study measured the effects of water de-stratification on dissolved oxygen and ammonia concentrations in tilapia ponds in Northern Thailand. Fifteen ponds in five provinces in Northern Thailand were sampled on multiple dates in the hot, wet, and dry seasons. Thermal water stratification peaked around 14:00–16:00 h each day; wherein the differences between surface and lower water temperatures in the 0.8–2.0 m deep ponds reached 1.3–4.0 °C.

Draft your abstract now !

- Don't look at your proposal or draft paper
- Put down a dot point for every sentence



- **Context** (1)
 - **Rationale or need** (1-2)
 - **Objective** (1)
 - **Study Design** (2)
 - **Findings** (3)
 - **Conclusion & significance** (1-2)
-
- You have 5 minutes