

**PP-16**  
**Problems Faced by Small-Scale Fisher**

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Nepal's Aquaculture and Fisheries contribute 0.44 percent to the National Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The small-scale fishery is not possible without the involvement of local fishermen. There is inadequate production data from open water sources such as rivers. Mostly small-scale fishers depend on fish from such water resources for their livelihood.

Conversations with small-scale fishers show that their source of income mostly depends on fishing but has to take care of many family members. Mostly local fishes like *Puntius spp*, and *ompak* were caught and stored in the mud pot. They told me that while catching the fish, sometimes they get 4-5kg but sometimes they get very few, which equals nothing. They have no other skills & occupations other than fishing to support their family. There was an old man Mr. Mukhiya who was 68 years old fishing for his family for 35 years. They often have to face challenging weather and encounter insect bites. They lack sanitation, credit, and infrastructure.



Photo: *Ompak* caught by fisherman

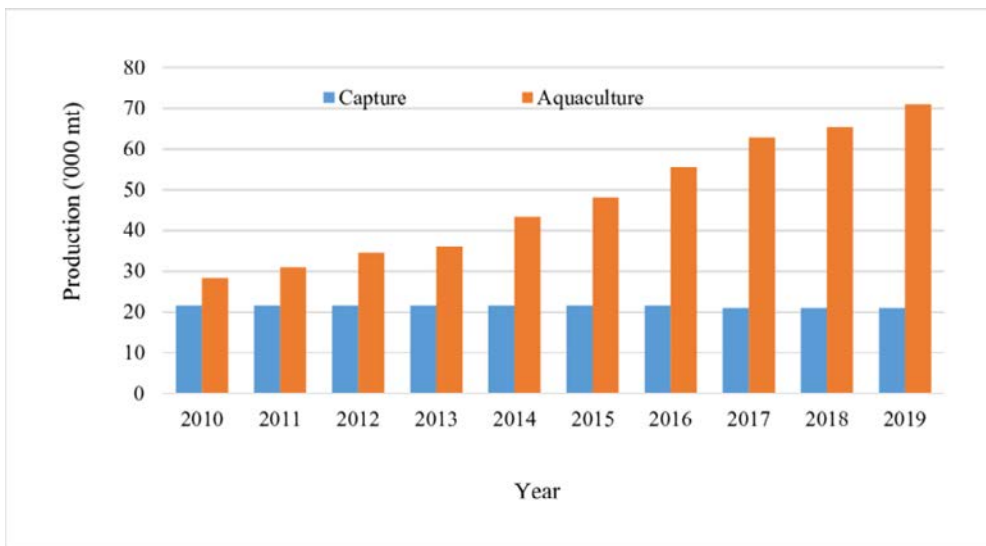


Figure: Capture and Aquaculture production data of Nepal