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# Climate change adaptation in aquaculture

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**Abstract:** This study conducts the first systematic literature review of climate change adaptation in aquaculture. We address three specific questions: a) What is aquaculture adapting to? b) How is aquaculture adapting? and c) What research gaps need to be addressed? We identify, characterise, and examine case studies published between 1990 and 2018 that lie at the intersection of the domains of climate change, adaptation, and aquaculture. The main areas of documented climate change impacts relate to extreme events and the general impacts of climate change on the aquaculture sector. Three categories of adaptation to climate change are identified: coping mechanisms at the local level (e.g., water quality management techniques), multi-level adaptive strategies (e.g., changing culture practices), and management approaches (e.g., adaptation planning, community-based adaptation). We identify four potential areas for future research: research on in-land aquaculture adaptation; studies at the household level; whether different groups of aquaculture farmers (e.g., Indigenous people) face and adapt differently to climate change; and the use of GIS and remote sensing as cost-effective tools for developing adaptation strategies and responses. The study brings essential practical and theoretical insights to the aquaculture industry as well as to climate change adaptation research across the globe.

**Keywords:** Aquaculture, adaptation, climate change, research directions, systematic literature review

## 1. Introduction

Aquaculture is the fastest-growing food-producing sector, accounting for over 50% of global fish production (FAO, 2017, FAO, 2018), and is often promoted as a solution for meeting the growing food demands of this century (Béné et al., 2015, Béné et al., 2016). Currently, about 424 aquatic species are farmed globally, supporting millions of people through the provision of nutrition, food security, and livelihoods, as well as through the alleviation of poverty (Pauly and Zeller, 2017, Barange et al., 2018, FAO, 2018, FAO, 2019). In 2016, about 59.6 million people were engaged in the primary sector of capture fisheries and aquaculture; of this total, 32% were engaged in aquaculture (Bhari and Visvanathan, 2018, FAO, 2018). According to the Global Aquaculture Alliance, 62% of food fish will come from aquaculture by 2030 (GAA, 2019). Most of the world aquaculture production comes from small-scale producers in the global south, with the top five producers being China, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Bangladesh. Collectively, these five countries contributed 82.2% of the world production by quantity in 2016 (FAO, 2016, FAO, 2018). From this perspective, aquaculture gains significant scholarly attention, including the recent IPCC 1.5°C report (IPCC, 2018) and the IPCC land report (IPCC, 2019), which identifies aquaculture as one of the key sectors that requires attention on global food security and the upgrading of adaptation policy.

The impacts of climate change increase the complexity and uncertainty of aquaculture systems, which can result in various unfavourable conditions (e.g., disease) (FAO, 2015, Seggel and De Young, 2016, Galappaththi et al., 2019). In research involving adaptation to climate change, it is

49 well-documented that some aquaculture systems are better able to adapt to changing conditions  
50 (Adger et al., 2009, De Silva and Davy, 2010, Berrang-Ford et al., 2011, Rodima-Taylor et al.,  
51 2012). Yet, there has been limited advancement in the understanding of what adaptations are  
52 occurring/needed/viable in the social and social-ecological systems of aquaculture (Berkes et al.,  
53 1998, Berkes et al., 2003). Aquaculture systems (the social-ecological systems associated with  
54 aquaculture operation) that are undergoing rapid change should be able to respond innovatively to  
55 adapt more quickly and thoroughly to mitigate challenges and harness opportunities, similar to  
56 other widely studied resources systems in the climate adaptation research (Scheffran et al., 2012,  
57 Kabisch et al., 2016, Siders, 2019). While an increasing amount of research is producing  
58 knowledge in the area of climate change adaptation (Berrang-Ford et al., 2011, Berrang-Ford et  
59 al., 2015, Sherman et al., 2016, Biesbroek et al., 2018, Siders, 2019), limited research assesses and  
60 characterises adaptations specific to the aquaculture industry (with exceptions been FAO report  
61 chapters: (De Silva and Soto, 2009, Barange et al., 2018, Dabbadie et al., 2018, Soto et al., 2018)).  
62 To the best of our knowledge, no global systematic literature reviews are available that are aimed  
63 at the area of the human dimension of aquaculture and climate change adaptation. Against this  
64 backdrop, an examination of global aquaculture systems is needed to advance the understanding  
65 of ways in which they experience the shocks and stressors and how such systems adapt to climate  
66 change impacts. Furthermore, certain aquaculture systems can benefit from the scaling up of the  
67 community adaptive responses of the studied aquaculture systems that have already adapted. This  
68 will advance the future research needs of the overlapping areas of aquaculture and climate change  
69 adaptation.

70  
71 In this article, we identify and assess case studies across the globe, published between 1990 and  
72 2018, that lie at the intersection of climate change, adaptation, and aquaculture so as to understand  
73 the emergence and nature of research on the human dimensions of climate change adaptation in a  
74 global aquaculture context (IPCC, 2014). Climate change adaptation in the aquaculture context is  
75 a growing research field that has received limited attention. We sought to fill this gap by addressing  
76 three primary questions related to global aquaculture: i) What is aquaculture adapting to? ii) How  
77 is aquaculture adapting? and iii) What research gaps need to be addressed? Moreover, our primary  
78 research questions can bring novel insights to the field of aquaculture and climate change  
79 adaptation in general, such as: How is aquaculture affected by climate change impacts?; What  
80 conceptual approaches are used to study climate adaptation in aquaculture?; What specific types  
81 of aquaculture have, to date, been the most-studied with respect to climate adaptation?; What are  
82 the adaptive responses and strategies?; What are the commonly used management approaches in  
83 aquaculture for adapting to climate change?; and What are the policy contributions from  
84 aquaculture studies aimed at climate adaptation? The next section will explain the systematic  
85 literature review process (i.e., the methodology). This will be followed by the results section,  
86 which will include descriptive results and answers to specific questions identified in the global  
87 aquaculture assessment. There is a growing interest in systematically assessing adaptation as part  
88 of adaptation tracking research (Ford et al., 2015, Lesnikowski et al., 2016) and growing sectoral  
89 coverage of this work (e.g., cities, tourism, certain regions such as the Arctic and small-island  
90 developing states, health, the national level), though none of these works focuses more broadly on  
91 aquaculture or even fisheries.

## 92 93 **2. Methods**

94 To examine the existing literature of adaptation to climate change in the context of aquaculture,  
95 we used the systematic literature review approach. A systematic literature review is characterised  
96 by an explicit and rigorous methodology which differs from traditional reviews in its use of  
97 transparent, objective criteria (Berrang-Ford et al., 2011, Berrang-Ford et al., 2015, Siders, 2019).  
98 Increasingly, climate change adaptation literature has explicitly used this approach as a means of  
99 synthesising results and identifying gaps for future work (Ford and Pearce, 2010, Berrang-Ford et  
100 al., 2015, Sherman et al., 2016, Biesbroek et al., 2018). Following Berrang-Ford et al. (2015), we  
101 first outline the data source and document the selection process, including a description of the  
102 literature source, search process, and inclusion and exclusion criteria for literature. Second, we  
103 describe the methods used for analysis and critical appraisal of the information quality of this  
104 study.

105  
106 To meet the aim of the research, this paper reviews the literature at the intersection of climate  
107 change, adaptation, and aquaculture across disciplines. Thus, we did not limit the search for  
108 publications to any specific academic field and we included publications in peer-reviewed  
109 academic journals and book chapters. We searched only for publications in the English language.  
110 Using the search engine Web of Science (WOS), we used the search terms “climat\* chang\*”,  
111 “fish\* farm\*” or “aquaculture”, AND “adapt\*” in the TOPIC category in the time frame 1990-  
112 2018 (Appendix A: table S1). We conducted the search in January 2019 to capture all publications  
113 from 1990-2018. Two searches were conducted to return publications referencing “aquaculture”  
114 and those referencing “fish\* farm\*” separately. Each search string returned publications that  
115 included ALL of the word(s) fragments in the search string as part of the publications’ TOPIC.  
116 The Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number was used to identify and remove duplicates from the  
117 comprehensive search.

118  
119 After we removed duplications, we had an initial dataset of 129 publications. We extracted the  
120 initial dataset to Microsoft Excel. For the first round of screening, we read the title and abstracts  
121 of these publications (and the full text in cases in which the classification was doubtful) to  
122 determine whether we would keep or discard the publication in the final dataset. The first three  
123 authors then characterised the 129 publications for a second round of screening. The principal  
124 criterion for inclusion or exclusion was whether the publication contained a distinct link between  
125 climate change adaptation and aquaculture (see Table 1 for all the inclusion criteria). **For example,**  
126 **to create a clear boundary for our study, we exclude studies that use vulnerability as a primary**  
127 **approach to examining human response, as vulnerability and adaptation are distinct approaches in**  
128 **climate change adaptation research.** The authors met weekly throughout the screening and data  
129 collection process to ensure consistency in characterisation and to discuss any issues that arose.  
130 On an Excel sheet, we made notes about the reasons for our elimination of each excluded study.  
131 The final set of publications explicitly recognised the impacts of climate change and the different  
132 ways in which people adapt in the context of aquaculture. By contrast, excluded publications did  
133 not belong to the intersection of adaptation, climate change, and aquaculture or belonged to only  
134 one or two of those domains. Forty-four articles met the inclusion criteria and were retained for  
135 final review. We collected specific data, including publication year, first author affiliation, key  
136 funding sources, research location, target people, type of aquaculture, nature of climate change  
137 impacts, key theories used, adaptation responses studied, and policy implications (Table 2).  
138 Finally, before data analysis, one author reviewed the complete dataset for consistency in  
139 characterisation.

140  
141 Forty-four articles focused on both individual and multiple case studies, though we use the term  
142 ‘paper’ as a unit of analysis to capture the scale of the studies (community to global). The term  
143 ‘case studies’, used in the remainder of the text, refers to the number of papers reviewed and not  
144 to the specific case studies of focus within the paper. Data analysis was based on qualitative content  
145 analysis, which is often used to analyse selected text (Yow, 2014, Hancock and Algozzine, 2015,  
146 Berg, 2016, Clifford et al., 2016). The key techniques used were ‘manifest’ and ‘latent’ content  
147 analysis (Krippendorff, 2018) supplemented with ‘critical discourse’ analysis (Wodak and Meyer,  
148 2015) to develop themes and linkages related to the case studies of adaptations to climate change  
149 in the aquaculture context. To express the original point of view of respondents, direct quotations  
150 are also used. Most of the descriptive statistics were formulated using the advanced features of  
151 Microsoft Excel 2013, and percentages refer to the total sample size (n=44). Percentages in the  
152 text refer to the number of respondents from the immediately mentioned sub-sample who made  
153 that particular statement.

154

### 155 3. Results

#### 156 3.1 Descriptive results

157 Our study shows that a limited number of case studies is available through which to understand  
158 adaptations to climate change in the aquaculture context, despite an increasing trend in overall  
159 publications on the topic. Figure 1 shows the recent increase in publications at the intersection of  
160 climate change, adaptation, and aquaculture as well as the journals in which they were published.  
161 Interestingly, the first case study was published in 2010 in the journal *Climate Research*; the paper  
162 focused on the effects of global change on bivalve rearing activities and its adaptive management  
163 (Canu et al., 2010).

164

165 The majority (57%) of the case studies are published in journals such as *Marine Policy* (18%),  
166 *Regional Environmental Change* (11%), *Ocean and Coastal Management* (7%), and  
167 *Environmental Development & Sustainability* (7%) (Figure 1). In addition, the majority (50%) of  
168 studies use a mixed approach of qualitative and quantitative research designs, while the rest of the  
169 studies use only a qualitative approach (27%) or only a quantitative approach (23%). Furthermore,  
170 the majority (59%) of the studies are based on primary data such as those collected through  
171 participant observation, face-to-face interviews, and/or surveys. In terms of geographic scale, 57%  
172 of the studies are at the regional level and covered a few communities to large geographical regions  
173 within a country. The rest of the studies are at other geographic scales: community (23%), national  
174 (11%), and international (9%). None of the studies are done at the household level. We found that  
175 IDRC (International Development Research Centre), ADB (Asian Development Bank), and  
176 CCCEP (Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy) are the top three funding agencies in  
177 the area of climate change adaptation in an aquaculture setting.

178

179 Studies on climate change adaptation in the context of aquaculture are written by authors of both  
180 global south and global north countries, while the studies are conducted primarily in the global  
181 south except for Australia (Figures 2). Most of the studies (57%) are initiated by five countries:  
182 USA (8), Australia (5), Thailand (5), Vietnam (4), and UK (4) (Appendix A: table S2).  
183 Interestingly, 30% of the studies are produced by four institutions: Chiang Mai University  
184 (Thailand), University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (USA), CSIRO-The Commonwealth Scientific  
185 and Industrial Research Organisation (Australia), and University of Leeds (UK). As seen in Figure

186 2, the country where the highest number of case studies was carried is Vietnam (11). Interestingly,  
187 four of those case studies are done by authors from Vietnam. Following that is Bangladesh, with  
188 seven case studies, of which three are written by authors from the USA and Thailand, with five  
189 case studies written entirely by authors from Thailand. Small and vulnerable Pacific islands have  
190 also been the subject of studies. A total of six case studies have been done in Vanuatu, Fiji, and  
191 the Solomon Islands.

192

### 193 3.2 Climate change has mixed impacts on aquaculture

194 Most case studies (52%) in the dataset attempt to identify climate change as a key driver of changes  
195 in multiple aspects of aquaculture systems (e.g., economic impacts, risk and uncertainty, and  
196 management implications). The main documented areas of climate change impacts are extreme  
197 events such as floods/droughts and cyclones, which cause damage to aquaculture systems (25%)  
198 (Hossain et al., 2018, Lebel et al., 2018b, Limuwa et al., 2018); climate impacts in general (18%)  
199 (van Putten et al., 2014, Rodríguez-Rodríguez and Ramudo, 2017, Tran et al., 2017); and changes  
200 in aquaculture-related systems such as mangroves, livelihoods and landscape, and supply chains  
201 (16%) (Paprocki and Cons, 2014, Orchard et al., 2015, Orchard et al., 2016) (Figure 3). The  
202 majority of cases (64%) illustrate the intertwined nature of multiple impacts of climate change.  
203 For instance, multiple climate change impacts in southwest Bangladesh (floods, droughts, sea-  
204 level rise, and sea surface temperature change) contribute to changes in prawn-fish-rice ecosystems  
205 in a combined way, resulting in social, economic, and ecological changes associated with  
206 aquaculture production (Ahmed et al., 2014). Further, tropical storms in coastal Vietnam have  
207 varied impacts on shrimp aquaculture through sea-level rise, floods and the progression of the low  
208 water line, and coastal erosion (Nguyen et al., 2017).

209

### 210 3.3 Theoretical approach towards studying climate adaptations in aquaculture

211 Many studies (over 50%) have adapted integrated approaches that combine various conceptual  
212 approaches (e.g., combining an economic approach with marine protected areas) to study  
213 adaptation in an aquaculture setting (Dey et al., 2016a) (Appendix A: table S3). The most common  
214 (27%) conceptual approach used to study aquaculture is the ‘systems approach’ (Berkes et al.,  
215 2003), supplemented with the scholarship areas of social-ecological systems (Berkes et al., 1998),  
216 resilience (Folke, 2016), ecosystem-based management (Long et al., 2015), knowledge systems  
217 (Berkes, 2012), and integrated farming systems (Bosma et al., 2012). Only two studies use the  
218 vulnerability approach to study adaptations in an aquaculture setting (Arimi, 2014, Orchard et al.,  
219 2016). Developed countries (United Kingdom, Sweden, Canada, and Spain) lead the majority of  
220 such studies to assess aquaculture systems in Asian countries such as Vietnam and Bangladesh  
221 (Galaz et al., 2012, Orchard et al., 2015, Khan et al., 2018). Publications from the United States  
222 incorporate a number of national-level studies aimed at Pacific islands (Fiji, the Solomon Islands,  
223 Timor-Leste, and Vanuatu), looking at the economic impacts of climate change in aquaculture  
224 (Dey et al., 2016a, Dey et al., 2016b, Rosegrant et al., 2016). Sustainability and livelihood is  
225 another approach often employed to study aquaculture in the development context (e.g., Malawi,  
226 Bangladesh, and Vietnam) (Nguyen et al., 2017, Hossain et al., 2018, Limuwa et al., 2018). Most  
227 of the studies that assessed local aquaculture by using adaptive capacity, resource management  
228 approaches (e.g., co-management and adaptive management), risk and uncertainty, and human  
229 perceptions of climate change adaptation are led by the same country (Arimi, 2014, van Putten et  
230 al., 2014, Frisch et al., 2015, Lim-Camacho et al., 2015, Spillman et al., 2015, Ho et al., 2016,

231 Bunting et al., 2017, Nguyen et al., 2017, Hossain et al., 2018, Lebel and Lebel, 2018, Lebel et al.,  
232 2018a, Lebel et al., 2018b).

233

### 234 3.4 Types of targeted aquaculture

235 Aquaculture operations in marine and coastal areas are the most commonly studied in this analysis.  
236 The economic impacts of marine and coastal aquaculture are a major topic among studies aimed  
237 at national-level adaptation strategies (Dey et al., 2016a, Dey et al., 2016b, Rosegrant et al., 2016).  
238 Inland aquaculture is the second targeted area of aquaculture and all the study areas are limited to  
239 global south nations (Bosma et al., 2012, Jayanthi et al., 2018, Lebel and Lebel, 2018, Lebel et al.,  
240 2018a, Lebel et al., 2018b, Limuwa et al., 2018). Almost all studies focusing on inland aquaculture  
241 have a regional focus (two or more communities or regions within the country). Another significant  
242 portion of studies targets a specific species or group of species rather than having a geographic  
243 focus (Boonstra and Hanh, 2015, Spillman et al., 2015, Fleming et al., 2017). The most commonly  
244 studied species are shrimps in the flood-prone areas of Vietnam, Bangladesh, and Australia  
245 (Boonstra and Hanh, 2015, Spillman et al., 2015, Bunting et al., 2017).

246

### 247 3.5 Coping mechanisms in aquaculture

248 The adaptation responses used by most of the aquaculture farmers are coping mechanisms and are  
249 reliant on several factors, such as knowledge of adaptation strategies, farmers' access to early-  
250 warning information, access to credit facilities, and participation in workshops as well as  
251 conferences organised by extension consultants (Arimi, 2014) (table 3) (Appendix A: table S4). In  
252 the regions of Bangladesh, Vietnam, Thailand, Fiji, India, and the United States, common sets of  
253 adaptive responses in small-scale aquaculture are specifically applied (Schmitt et al., 2013, Frisch  
254 et al., 2015, Lebel et al., 2015, Bunting et al., 2017). The most commonly documented responses  
255 to flooding are building higher pond-dikes, netting and fencing around the low elevated ponds,  
256 community-based flood protection, and changing stocking dates (Boonstra and Hanh, 2015,  
257 Ahmed and Diana, 2016, Oviedo et al., 2016). Pumping out groundwater, changing fish culture  
258 accordingly, and rain water harvesting are some of the common responses documented for drought  
259 conditions (Oviedo et al., 2016, Lebel et al., 2018b, Limuwa et al., 2018). However, adaptive  
260 responses across studies vary based on geographical region and the scale of the operation.

261

### 262 3.6 Adaptive strategies in aquaculture

263 Thirty-seven percent of studies were clearly aimed at analysing and documenting adaptive  
264 strategies of aquaculture systems at various scales (community, regional, and national).  
265 Interestingly, all the studies aimed at adaptive strategies in the aquaculture context focus on  
266 countries in the global south (Dey et al., 2016a, Dey et al., 2016b, Ho et al., 2016, Li et al., 2016,  
267 Oviedo and Bursztyn, 2016, Tran et al., 2017, Nguyen et al., 2018) and half of these studies were  
268 initiated by countries in the global north. Such southern countries are adapting by using various  
269 strategies, implemented from the local level to the national level; those strategies can be  
270 categorised as future-benefit, easier early, and up-front (Lebel et al., 2018a) (table 3) (Appendix  
271 A: table S4). Many strategies developed in selected case studies are specific to the region or  
272 country, which also considers the complexity and uncertainty of multiple climate change impacts  
273 embedded in aquaculture systems (Oviedo and Bursztyn, 2016, Lebel et al., 2018a). At the national  
274 level, in the marine policy sector, aquaculture itself is considered a strategy for adapting to climate  
275 change impacts; for instance, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Timor-Leste, Fiji, and Vietnam  
276 included aquaculture as a national adaptation strategy within the natural resource sector plans (Dey

277 et al., 2016a, Dey et al., 2016b, Dey et al., 2016c, Rosegrant et al., 2016). The majority (81%) of  
278 adaptive strategy studies focus on the regional scale to the national scale, with only about 19%  
279 focusing on the community scale (Arimi, 2014, Lebel et al., 2015). Economic impacts, food  
280 security, and adaptive capacity are three highlighted conceptual areas used to study the adaptive  
281 strategies of aquaculture (Arimi, 2014, Dey et al., 2016a, Dey et al., 2016b, Rosegrant et al., 2016).  
282 Furthermore, 75% of such adaptive strategies studies are conducted using mixed research methods  
283 (qualitative and quantitative) using both primary and secondary data; only 25% of studies based  
284 on primary data are driven by a qualitative design.

285

### 286 3.7 Management approaches in aquaculture

287 Apart from adaptive strategies, studies identified four key management approaches for climate  
288 impacts adopted in aquaculture resource management and in other areas such as adaptation  
289 planning, community-based management, adaptive management, and government support  
290 (Appendix A: table S5). The first approach is regional-level ‘adaptation planning’ related to  
291 aspects of aquaculture resource management (mostly shrimp aquaculture) studied in Vietnam,  
292 Bangladesh, Australia, and Thailand (Bosma et al., 2012, Lim-Camacho et al., 2015, Lebel et al.,  
293 2016, Bunting et al., 2017). The second key management approach is regional ‘community-based  
294 adaptation’ (or community-based management), employed in particular against climate change  
295 impacts such as ocean acidification in coastal aquaculture (Frisch et al., 2015), more frequent  
296 intense precipitation in shrimp aquaculture (Bunting et al., 2017), and floods, droughts, sea-level  
297 rise, and sea surface temperature changes (Ahmed et al., 2014). Third, ‘adaptive management’ is  
298 documented as an approach for adapting to the implications of climate uncertainties in the context  
299 of inland and coastal aquaculture systems in Italy, Vietnam, and Malawi (Canu et al., 2010, Pham,  
300 2017, Limuwa et al., 2018). Fourth, we identified ‘government support’ and attention at the  
301 community and regional levels as an approach for dealing with the impacts of climate change  
302 (Paprocki and Cons, 2014, Spillman et al., 2015, Rodríguez-Rodríguez and Ramudo, 2017).

303

304 Moreover, aquaculture management uses various aspects of adaptation to climate change, such as  
305 adaptive options, responses, processes, measures, and pathways. For example, adaptation  
306 measures were studied in an inland aquaculture setting on the southeast coast of India so as to  
307 adapt to the impacts of coastal erosion and potential sea-level rise (Jayanthi et al., 2018). Other  
308 unique methods of managing climate change impact are to use GIS and remote sensing to select  
309 new aquaculture sites (Liu et al., 2014). Another innovative solution used in Australia is to monitor  
310 progress towards sustainable goals in salmon aquaculture (Miller, 2000, van Putten et al., 2014,  
311 Fleming et al., 2017).

312

### 313 3.8 Policy contributions

314 Over 70% of the studies address specific aspects of policy implications related to adaptation to  
315 climate change in aquaculture. **Forty-eight percent of these studies are initiated by the same  
316 country (i.e., the research location and first author affiliation are the same)** (Arimi, 2014, Lim-  
317 Camacho et al., 2015, Bunting et al., 2017). These 31 studies were published in 16 journals,  
318 including multiple publications in *Marine Policy* and *Regional Environmental Change*. Among  
319 the studies that do not directly address such policy implications (about 30%, n=13), 69% of them  
320 are initiated by the same country; these studies are published in 13 journals. Some of the most  
321 highlighted policy implications are recorded from Asian Pacific Island countries (Dey et al., 2016a,  
322 Dey et al., 2016b, Rosegrant et al., 2016). For example, adaptation policy implications in Fiji



323 include various natural resource management practices, including marine protected areas and  
324 locally managed marine areas, the ridge-to-reef concept, alternative livelihood developments,  
325 inshore low-cost fish aggregating devices, improve the coherence of government fisheries  
326 regulations, finance literacy, aquaculture, improvement of post-harvest quality, and waste  
327 reduction (Dey et al., 2016a). The Solomon Islands is implementing natural resource management  
328 approaches in its adaptation policy, including upstream watershed management, marine protected  
329 areas and locally managed marine areas, and the conservation and restoration of mangroves. The  
330 integration of aquaculture into policy, such as Taiwan's policy, can have implications for food  
331 security by mitigating uncertainty and enhancing resilience to climate change in the fisheries and  
332 aquaculture sectors (Ho et al., 2016).

333

#### 334 4. Discussion

335 Asian countries such as China, Indonesia, India, Vietnam, and Bangladesh lead world aquaculture  
336 production (FAO, 2018). Climate change can bring unexpected impacts to these countries' labour-  
337 intensive aquaculture systems with their respective livelihoods and local economies (FAO, 2018).  
338 Most of the studies focus on aquaculture production systems in Asia, where most aquaculture  
339 production takes place (FAO, 2018, Cai et al., 2019). However, based on the first author affiliation,  
340 the top three publishers on climate change adaptation in the context of aquaculture are the US,  
341 Thailand, and Australia (Figure 2). Some global north countries almost exclusively initiate studies  
342 in the south. We did find that an increasing number of studies are initiated by the same country  
343 (e.g., Vietnamese authors studying Vietnam). This finding is important because of the place-  
344 specific nature of climate change impacts and the study of aquaculture systems from a local  
345 perspective. **This is one of the primary goals of successful climate adaptation research which can  
346 be more effective with respect to sustainable aquaculture** (Adger et al., 2005, Osbahr et al., 2010,  
347 Piggott-McKellar et al., 2019).

348

349 The implications of the impacts of climate change on aquaculture reflect the high level of  
350 complexity embedded in aquaculture social-ecological systems. **We identified diverse ways in  
351 which climate change impacts aquaculture (Figure 3)**. These identified climate vulnerabilities  
352 support previous global assessments of aquaculture (FAO, 2015, Seggel and De Young, 2016,  
353 FAO, 2017) and reflect the unidentified climate impacts within the scope of the study. We  
354 identified three categories of climate change impacts based on the documented ways in which  
355 people experience such changes: simultaneous multiple impacts (e.g., heat waves and extreme  
356 weather events); mixed and interrelated impacts (e.g., disease outbreaks and economic impacts to  
357 supply chains); and geographically-specific impacts (e.g., storms) (Canu et al., 2010, Ahmed et  
358 al., 2014, Bunting et al., 2017, Tran et al., 2017, Hoque et al., 2018, Galappaththi et al., 2019).  
359 **About 18% of the studies are aimed at climate change in general (no specific hazard identified)  
360 without capturing specific climate impacts, which may limit our ability to better track global  
361 impacts in aquaculture.**

362

363 We identified three categories of responding to the implications of climate change impacts on the  
364 global aquaculture setting: 1) coping mechanisms, 2) adaptive strategies, and 3) management  
365 approaches for adaptation. **First, coping responses are widely practiced by aquaculture farmers  
366 across the world to deal with the diverse range of climate impacts at the farm (or local) level (e.g.,  
367 minimising fish stress through biosecurity measures)**. These responses are applied in a broad range  
368 of regions (e.g., Bangladesh, Vietnam, Thailand, Fiji, India, and the United States) and are

369 characterised by a) a short-term nature, b) a technical nature, c) low/no-regret-type responses, and  
370 d) a response to specific climate impacts (Schmitt et al., 2013, Ahmed et al., 2014, Lebel et al.,  
371 2015, Lebel et al., 2016, Bunting et al., 2017, Lebel et al., 2018a). In FAO (2017) reports, coping  
372 mechanisms are identified as adaptation measures, while in general aquaculture literature, such  
373 responses are documented as pond water management techniques (Lucas et al., 2019). As  
374 suggested by the recent IPCC 1.5°C report, community-level coping mechanisms and collective  
375 responses can be enhanced by local governments influencing mitigation and adaptation (Araos et  
376 al., 2017, IPCC, 2018).

377  
378 Second, we identified diverse multi-level adaptive strategies in aquaculture to deal with climate  
379 change impacts (FAO, 2017). Changing cultural practices (e.g., species, production systems) can  
380 be an effective climate adaptation strategy, as suggested by several cross-sectoral researchers  
381 including the IPCC (Altieri and Nicholls, 2017, Handisyde et al., 2017, IPCC, 2018). In our review,  
382 all recorded studies were limited to the global south and the identified strategies are mostly specific  
383 to a country, region, or community. However, most of the recorded adaptive strategies focus on  
384 the regional and national levels. We identified three characteristics of adaptive strategies: i) applied  
385 in a multi-level context (mostly top to bottom), ii) of a long-term nature (bring future benefits),  
386 and iii) responds to a broad range of climate impacts and sectors (e.g., to adapt to mixed  
387 implications in the areas of aquaculture and agriculture). For example, protecting and restoring the  
388 ecosystems of Amazon flood plains in Brazil is a specific adaptive response to climate impacts  
389 affected by the local people in Amazon communities (Oviedo et al., 2016). Furthermore, we  
390 identified more geographically generalisable adaptive strategies such as community-based  
391 watershed management, the installation of rainwater harvesting tanks, the use of rainwater for fish  
392 culture and pond-dike cropping (Ahmed and Diana, 2016), and the development of new export  
393 markets and the strengthening of existing markets for farmed fish products to achieve higher farm  
394 prices (Dey et al., 2016a, Dey et al., 2016c), which can be used with appropriate changes. In the  
395 national-level climate change adaptation policy context, “aquaculture” is identified as an  
396 adaptation strategy for food security and economic development (e.g., Fiji, the Solomon Islands).  
397 Beyond the scope of our study, we identified useful adaptive strategies including the use of a zonal  
398 crop calendar system to manage shrimp aquaculture disease conditions aggravated by climate  
399 change impacts (Galappaththi et al., 2019).

400  
401 Third, we identified four management approaches: i) adaptation planning (Preston et al., 2011,  
402 Pearce et al., 2012), ii) community-based management/adaptation (Ford et al., 2018, Piggott-  
403 McKellar et al., 2019), iii) adaptive management (Beymer-Farris et al., 2012, Fidelman et al.,  
404 2017), and iv) government support (co-management-like arrangements) (Armitage et al., 2007,  
405 Plummer et al., 2012, d’Armengol et al., 2018). These management approaches could create or  
406 support local-level coping mechanisms and multi-level adaptive strategies that are widely  
407 documented in several other sectors and the climate change adaptation literature in general  
408 (d’Armengol et al., 2018, IPCC, 2018, Rahman and Hickey, 2019). Adaptation planning is about  
409 addressing broader climate adaptation concerns that are initiated at the government level (e.g.,  
410 National Adaptation Plans) (Rahman and Hickey, 2019) and mostly overlaps with the policy  
411 development that leads to adaptive strategies and actions (e.g., the Solomon Islands, Taiwan).  
412 Community-based management is implemented primarily at the local level and mostly supports  
413 (but is not limited to) short-term local adaptive responses (Hung et al., 2018, Piggott-McKellar et  
414 al., 2019). Adaptive management can happen at a broader multi-level from national to community

415 (d'Armengol et al., 2018). Government support of community-based adaptation could lead to  
416 adaptive co-management efforts to address climate change impacts. These approaches are not  
417 limited to aquaculture and are more commonly documented in small-scale fisheries aimed at highly  
418 natural-resource-dependent populations such as Indigenous populations (Berkes and Armitage,  
419 2010, Armitage et al., 2011, Galappaththi and Berkes, 2015, Galappaththi et al., 2019). As  
420 suggested by the recent IPCC 1.5°C report, enhancing multi-level governance, institutional  
421 capacities, lifestyle and behavioural changes, and technological innovations, as well as  
422 strengthening policy, are key means of supporting these global adaptation responses to climate  
423 change impacts (IPCC, 2018).

424  
425 Adaptation to climate change in aquaculture is a growing area of study but we found that limited  
426 research has been published in peer-reviewed journals. **Certainly, we recognized the documented  
427 knowledge about climate change in aquaculture, which could not be captured in our methodology  
428 (e.g., De Silva and Soto, 2009, Phillips and Pérez-Ramírez, 2017, Dabbadie et al., 2018, Johnson  
429 et al., 2019). Yet, the aquaculture sector can benefit from specific studies aimed at climate  
430 adaptation, which enable a deeper understanding of climate change impacts and adaptive responses  
431 related to aquaculture.** For instance, most commonly cultured species groups in world aquaculture  
432 (e.g., freshwater fin fish, macro algae) (Cai et al., 2019) are not adequately represented in the  
433 current adaptation literature. **In some regions, it is difficult to distinguish between various  
434 aquaculture systems because of the complexity of such human-environment systems. Subsistence  
435 aquaculture for personal use is quite different from, but related to, small-scale aquaculture and  
436 then to commercial aquaculture (e.g., the co-existence of subsistence and commercial aquaculture  
437 systems) (Galappaththi et al., 2019, Galappaththi et al., in review). Further, limited conceptual and  
438 methodological consistency with respect to examining adaptation has made our analysis across  
439 case studies more obscure as regards climate adaptation policy development.** However, this study  
440 helps us better understand possible ways forward with respect to climate adaptation research in  
441 aquaculture.

## 442 443 **5.0 Directions for future research**

444 An important component of systematic reviews like that completed here is to identify directions  
445 for future research based on an understanding of the current state of knowledge. **In our study,  
446 research on climate change adaptation in aquaculture systems is recent, beginning in 2010 (Figure  
447 1), and flagged only 44 publications. However, using broader search criteria (searching terms of  
448 aquaculture and climate change), Dabbadie et al. (2018) show a higher number of publications  
449 related to climate change in aquaculture (Appendix A: figure S1). Thus, the research area of  
450 climate adaptation in aquaculture has significant potential for further development (FAO, 2017).**  
451 For example, our study found that, currently, the peer-reviewed literature contains no documented  
452 evidence regarding how climate change affects inland aquaculture in global north countries. While  
453 it is important to focus on aquaculture communities in the developing world (including Asia), to  
454 advance the field of research it is also important to study aquaculture systems in non-Asian  
455 countries that are equally vulnerable to climate change (e.g., Haiti, Nigeria) and/or that are reliant  
456 on aquaculture for livelihoods.

457  
458 Scale is an important focal area in adaptation research (Adger et al., 2005, Handisyde et al., 2017).  
459 In this study, no studies were conducted at the household level and very few studies were  
460 conducted on a global scale, for any type of aquaculture. Studies at the household level are needed

461 so as to create an understanding of the adaptation realities of bottom-level aquaculture-dependent  
462 vulnerable families. Studies at the international level are needed to uncover broader pictures of  
463 adaptation and to help answer key questions such as: Are we adapting?; How are we adapting?;  
464 and What are the research gaps that need to be addressed? (Berrang-Ford et al., 2011). For  
465 example, a broad understanding of effective ways to govern adaptation and specific barriers to  
466 adaptation across scale, as well as assessing community adaptation to scale-up in the aquaculture  
467 context, are potential research areas that warrant scholarly attention.

468  
469 Similarly, some types of aquaculture—such as inland aquaculture at the community level and at  
470 the national level—remain seldom studied; most studies on climate change adaptation in inland  
471 aquaculture are at the regional scale. Inland aquaculture has many potential benefits to locals in  
472 terms of nutrition, livelihoods, and food security, as only 40% of the world’s population lives in  
473 coastal areas (Katiha et al., 2005, Seggel and De Young, 2016). Specifically, inland aquaculture  
474 provides direct food security to some of the world’s poorest populations in developing African and  
475 Asian countries—including those that are at a high risk of climate impacts related to water quality  
476 and availability (Johnson et al., 2019). However, the focus on coastal aquaculture can be explained  
477 by the fact that coastal aquaculture is more climate-dependent—coastal farmers can face greater  
478 risks and more tangible impacts, such as sea-level rise, ocean acidification, and unexpected  
479 extreme weather events. For example, ocean acidification and an increasing sea surface  
480 temperature could further complicate the lucrative black pearl industry in Polynesia; such  
481 increasing temperatures could affect pearl quality by disturbing the nacre deposition rate and  
482 increasing the susceptibility of pearl oysters (*Pinctada margaritifera*) to disease (Marie et al.,  
483 2012).

484  
485 While most studies investigate small-scale aquaculture farmers (Galaz et al., 2012, Fleming et al.,  
486 2017), they do not explore differences among farmers. It would be of interest for further research  
487 to study whether certain groups of aquaculture farmers are more affected by climate change, more  
488 willing to adapt than other groups, or less able to adapt than other groups. For example, from the  
489 selected papers, it remains unknown whether Indigenous farmers are unequally impacted or  
490 unequally able to adapt to climate change. Based on first-hand experience, we know that  
491 Indigenous people in aquaculture face uniquely different vulnerabilities as compared to other  
492 aquaculture communities and that these systems have seldom been studied (e.g., reservoir  
493 aquaculture of the Coastal-Vedda people in eastern Sri Lanka). A comparison of case studies will  
494 help create a broader understanding of climate adaptations in aquaculture.

495  
496 The conceptual approaches used vary among selected publications; particularly, we can see that  
497 the type of approach used varies by continent. Most publications combine several theoretical  
498 approaches to produce a novel conceptual approach. This is explained by the fact that research in  
499 social aspects of climate change adaptation in aquaculture is interdisciplinary by nature and that,  
500 to understand the complexity of adaptation responses in the social dimension, multiple approaches  
501 must be employed (e.g., social-ecological systems resilience, ecosystem management) (Kelly et  
502 al., 2019). The lack of studies using the vulnerability and political ecology approaches may  
503 indicate a limited focus on power and dispossession in studies (Veuthey and Gerber, 2012).  
504 Currently, authors from developed countries employ the systems approach the most, mainly to  
505 study Asian and Pacific aquaculture, whereas authors from developing countries mostly study  
506 themselves and use the sustainability and livelihoods approach to uncover how livelihood (mostly

507 of the poor) and the environment are interlinked. Consistency and/or comparisons between  
508 methods could be taken into consideration in future research.

509  
510 GIS and remotely sensed data are used extensively in modelled/predictive studies in aquaculture  
511 (Saitoh et al., 2011, Meaden and Aguilar-Manjarrez, 2013). Although only two case studies use  
512 GIS and remote sensing, they could bring more value, as they could be a cost-effective  
513 management tool revealing broader insights (Smith et al., 2013, Liu et al., 2014). Both case studies  
514 conduct spatial analysis over a large temporal and spatial scale. In both cases, the authors used  
515 GIS and remote sensing to understand the impacts of complex physical processes, e.g., ocean  
516 circulation. These kinds of data could be related to, and combined with, traditional and local  
517 knowledge of local farmers to better understand and project the effects of climate impacts and the  
518 use of adaptation from their perspective (Folke et al., 2003, Galappaththi et al., 2019). This brings  
519 forth the question: Could the use of GIS and remote sensing improve climate change adaptation  
520 research and aquaculture management in the future? Such tools are cost-effective and help  
521 visualise changes and impacts on a broader temporal scale, at all spatial levels. They could provide  
522 needed information for adaptation planning and informed decision-making towards sustainable  
523 aquaculture.

524  
525 Much attention and many resources are likely needed to help the aquaculture sector develop  
526 strategies and tools to adapt to current and future climate change. Our study highlights the ways in  
527 which climate change impacts can affect aquaculture systems and adaptation responses that can  
528 affect global aquaculture production. A decrease in aquaculture production has impacts for farmers  
529 as well as for a growing world population, as it is interlinked with food security (Béné et al., 2015,  
530 Béné et al., 2016, FAO, 2016). It is pivotal for climate change adaptation research to continue  
531 studying and improving adaptation in aquaculture settings. If climate change adaptation research  
532 in aquaculture redirects itself towards more national and regional adaptation strategy and policy  
533 development, while scaling-up community adaptations, it could not only increase production but  
534 also help alleviate poverty and improve food security for a vast number of populations.

535  
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543  
544  
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885 **Appendix A. Supplementary material**

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887 Table S1: Definitions of terms used for search engine Web of Knowledge.

<p>Climat* Chang*: This term refers to climate or climatic change related to aquaculture production systems and the associated geographical region.</p> <p>Fish* Farm*: This term refers to the fish farm or farming production system that carried out aquatic species production.</p> <p>Aquaculture: This term refers to the culturing or production of aquatic species under controlled aquatic environments.</p> <p>Adapt*: This term refers to human adaptation or adaptive management to climate-associated changes related to aquaculture systems.</p> <p>Search terms in the TOPIC field</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "climat* chang*"; "fish* farm*" AND "adapt*"</li> <li>2. "climat* chang*"; "aquaculture"; AND "adapt*"</li> </ol> <p>Search in the TOPIC field searches for terms in the following portions of publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title</li> <li>• Abstract</li> <li>• Author Keywords</li> </ul> <p>"climate change"- terms searched within quotations marks "" will return only results with both words exactly as they appear between the quotes.</p> <p>"Climate Change" AND "adapt" finds records containing the words "climate change" and "adapt". The two strings may appear in the same Topic field or they may appear in different fields.</p> <p>farm* finds records containing the words farm, farming, farmer, and so on as long as the string of letters before the * is present.</p>
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890 **Table S2: List of countries with authors who produced the most publications, and the research location of those authors.**

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Author's country	Location studied	Number of cases	Total cases
USA	Bangladesh	3	10
	Vanuatu	2	
	Timor-Leste	2	
	Solomon Ilds	1	
	Fiji	8	
	USA	1	
Australia	Australia	4	5
	Vietnam	1	
Thailand	Thailand	5	5
Vietnam	Vietnam	4	4
UK	Vietnam	2	4
	Bangladesh	2	
Canada	India	1	2
	Vietnam	1	
Netherlands	Vietnam	2	2
Sweden	Global	1	2
	Vietnam	1	
Bangladesh	Bangladesh	2	2

Brazil	Brazil	1	1
China	China	1	1
India	India	1	1
Italy	Italy	1	1
Japan	Japan	1	1
Malaysia	Indonesia	1	1
Nigeria	Nigeria	1	1
Norway	Malawi	1	1
Taiwan	Taiwan	1	1

892 Note: The total number of case studies does not equal the total number of publications because a publication can  
893 include more than one case study.

894 **Table S3: Conceptual approaches to studying climate change adaptation in aquaculture.**  
895

Conceptual approach	Description	References
Social-ecological systems	SES explicitly links the social and ecological sub-systems for the evaluations of the integrated system. This approach emphasizes neither purely ecosystems nor societies; rather, the SES is the unit of study.	Berkes et al., 1998
Resilience	The resilience concept provides a means of measuring thresholds, uncertainty, and surprise inherent in the coupled human and natural systems.	Folke, 2016
Ecosystem-based management	A holistic approach that manages human impact on ecosystems and takes these effects into account in decision making.	Long et al., 2015
Knowledge systems	The co-evolving cumulative body of knowledge (including observations, experience, lessons, and skills) belonging to a specific human-environment system (or place) and handed down through generations by cultural transmission; reflects local and/or Indigenous people's cultural identity.	Berkes, 2012
Integrated farming systems	The co-culture of organisms to produce additional valuable crops and remove nutrients and materials wasted from intensive feeding.	Bosma et al. 2012
Vulnerability Approach	An evaluation of the exposure of groups, individuals, or ecological systems to a climate change, their sensitivity to the disturbance, and capacity to absorb change.	Arimi, 2014, Orchard et al., 2016
Economic Impacts	An assessment of the economic impacts of climate change on aquaculture.	Dey et al., 2016a, Dey et al., 2016b, Rosegrant et al., 2016
Sustainability/Livelihoods	Comprehensive approach to assessing the environmental and economic resources needed for individual or community well-being.	Nguyen et al., 2017, Hossain et al., 2018, Limuwa et al., 2018
Adaptive Capacity	Capacity of systems to adjust to potential change.	Arimi, 2014, Lim-Camacho et al., 2015.
Resource Management	Managing the ways in which people and natural landscape interact, particularly in the context of climate change (e.g., co-management and adaptive management).	Bunting et al., 2017, Nguyen et al., 2017, Hossain et al., 2018, van Putten et al., 2014,
Risk and Uncertainty	Risk assessment, risk management through the identification of the nature and estimate the magnitude of risk associated with climate change.	Spillman et al., 2015, Ho et al., 2016, Lebel and Lebel, 2018, Lebel et al.,

		2018a, Lebel et al., 2018b
Human Perceptions	An assessment of public understanding and awareness of adaptation and mitigation.	Frisch et al., 2015

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897 **Table S4: Definitions of types of coping mechanisms and adaptive strategies (building on Lebel et al., 2018).**

Type of coping mechanism		
No-regret	Short-term (or immediate) actions could be taken to cope with climate variability that brings no harm (and no risk) to the aquaculture system.	
Low-regret	Short-term (or immediate) actions could be taken to cope with climate variability that could bring minimal harm to the aquaculture system.	
Type of adaptive strategy		
Future-benefit	Implementation of a series of actions/plans over the long-term that allows the aquaculture system to adapt to climate impacts with benefits in the future.	
Easier-early	Implementation of a series of actions/plans over a relatively short period with relatively less effort/fewer resources that allow the aquaculture system to adapt to climate impacts with relatively immediate benefits.	
Up-front	Implementation of a series of actions/plans over the short-term that allows the aquaculture system to adapt to climate impacts with immediate benefits after application.	

898 **Note: This table provides essential definitions for table 3. The terms ‘short-term’ and ‘long-term’ are difficult to**  
 899 **specify, as they rely on the context of the aquaculture system and the adaptive response. Cost-benefit analysis is an**  
 900 **integral part of all types of coping mechanisms and adaptive strategies.**

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902 **Table S5. Management approaches taken in aquaculture.**

Management approach	Description	References
Adaptation planning	A process to analyse, select, and prioritize possible responses to address a range of climate change impacts and scenarios.	Bosma et al., 2012, Lim-Camacho et al., 2015, Lebel et al., 2016, Bunting et al., 2017
Community-based adaptation	A bottom-up process that involves active participation and engagement of community members to adapt to a range of climate change impacts and scenarios.	Frisch et al., 2015, Bunting et al., 2017, Ahmed et al., 2014
Adaptive management	An iterative process in which best practices are adjusted given changing conditions and knowledge gained from previous efforts.	Canu et al., 2010, Pham, 2017, Limuwa et al., 2018
Government support	A top-down process that involves active governmental provisioning of resources, such as technical trainings or financial subsidies for individuals or communities.	Paprocki and Cons, 2014, Spillman et al. 2015, Rodriguez-Rodriguez and Ramudo, 2017

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905 **Table S6: List of 44 publications including details about the author(s), journal, and year of publication.**

Title	Authors	Source Title	Year
Adaptation to climate change as social-ecological trap: a case study of fishing and aquaculture in the Tam Giang Lagoon, Vietnam	Boonstra, Wiebren J.; Tong Thi Hai Hanh	Environment Development And Sustainability	2015



Analysis of the economic impact of climate change and climate change adaptation strategies for fisheries sector in Pacific coral triangle countries: Model, estimation strategy, and baseline results	Dey, Madan Mohan; Rosegrant, Mark W.; Gosh, Kamal; Chen, Oai Li; Valmonte-Santos, Rowena	Marine Policy	2016
Combining participatory approaches and an agent-based model for better planning shrimp aquaculture	Joffre, Olivier M.; Bosma, Roe H.; Ligtenberg, Arend; Van Pham Dang Tri; Tran Thi Phung Ha; Bregt, Arnold K.	Agricultural Systems	2015
Community- based climate change adaptation strategies for integrated prawn- fish- rice farming in Bangladesh to promote social- ecological resilience	Ahmed, Nesar; Bunting, Stuart W.; Rahman, Sanzidur; Garforth, Christopher J.	Reviews In Aquaculture	2014
Cumulative Pressures on Sustainable Livelihoods: Coastal Adaptation in the Mekong Delta	Smith, Timothy F.; Thomsen, Dana C.; Gould, Steve; Schmitt, Klaus; Schlegel, Bianca	Sustainability	2013
Determinants of climate change adaptation strategies used by fish farmers in Epe Local Government Area of Lagos State, Nigeria	Arimi, Kayode S.	Journal Of The Science Of Food And Agriculture	2014
Does climate change matter for freshwater aquaculture in Bangladesh?	Ahmed, Nesar; Diana, James Stephen	Regional Environmental Change	2016
Economic impact of climate change and climate change adaptation strategies for fisheries sector in Fiji	Dey, Madan Mohan; Gosh, Kamal; Valmonte-Santos, Rowena; Rosegrant, Mark W.; Chen, Oai Li	Marine Policy	2016
Economic impact of climate change and climate change adaptation strategies for fisheries sector in Solomon Islands: Implication for food security	Dey, Madan Mohan; Gosh, Kamal; Valmonte-Santos, Rowena; Rosegrant, Mark W.; Chen, Oai Li	Marine Policy	2016
Economic impacts of climate change and climate change adaptation strategies in Vanuatu and Timor-Leste	Rosegrant, Mark W.; Dey, Madan Mohan; Valmonte-Santos, Rowena; Chen, Oai Li	Marine Policy	2016
Economic impacts of climate change: profitability of freshwater aquaculture in China	Li, Sheng; Yang, Zhengyong; Nadolnyak, Denis; Zhang, Yaoqi; Luo, Yuxi	Aquaculture Research	2016
Effect of global change on bivalve rearing activity and the need for adaptive management	Canu, Donata Melaku; Solidoro, Cosimo; Cossarini, Gianpiero; Giorgi, Filippo	Climate Research	2010
Evaluating the contribution of diversified shrimp-rice agroecosystems in Bangladesh and West Bengal, India to social-ecological resilience	Bunting, Stuart W.; Kundu, Nitai; Ahmed, Nesar	Ocean & Coastal Management	2017

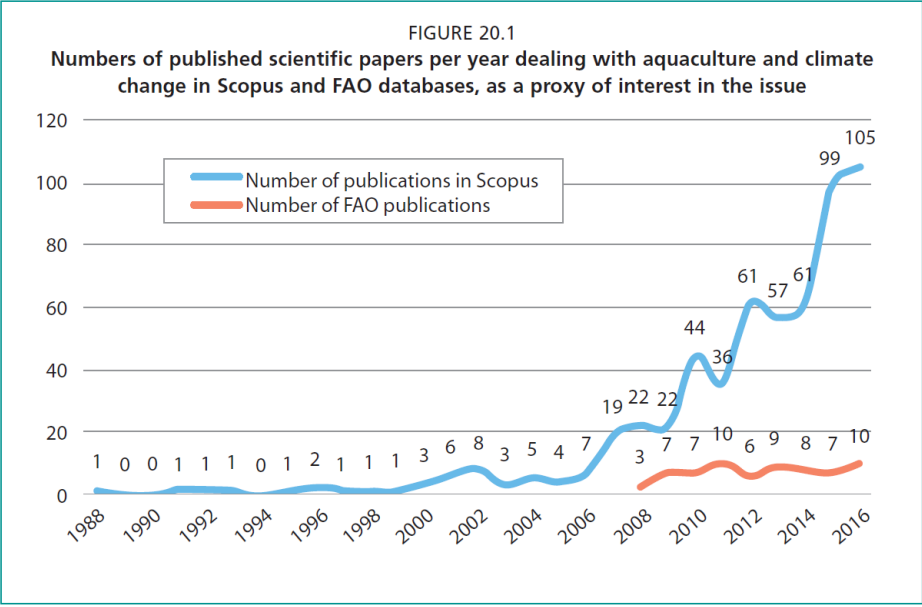
Facing the wave of change: stakeholder perspectives on climate adaptation for Australian seafood supply chains	Lim-Camacho, Lilly; Hobday, Alistair J.; Bustamante, Rodrigo H.; Farmery, Anna; Fleming, Aysha; Frusher, Stewart; Green, Bridget S.; Norman-Lopez, Ana; Pecl, Gretta T.; Plaganyi, Eva E.; Schrobback, Peggy; Thebaud, Olivier; Thomas, Linda; van Putten, Ingrid	Regional Environmental Change	2015
Factors affecting farmers' adoption of integrated rice-fish farming systems in the Mekong delta, Vietnam	Bosma, Roel H.; Nhan, Dang K.; Udo, Henk M. J.; Kaymak, Uzay	Reviews In Aquaculture	2012
Fishing for the impacts of climate change in the marine sector: a case study	van Putten, Ingrid; Metcalf, Sarah; Frusher, Stewart; Marshall, Nadine; Tull, Malcolm	International Journal Of Climate Change Strategies And Management	2014
Gauging perceptions of ocean acidification in Alaska	Frisch, L. C.; Mathis, J. T.; Kettle, N. P.; Trainor, S. F.	Marine Policy	2015
Human ecological effects of tropical storms in the coastal area of Ky Anh (Ha Tinh, Vietnam)	Thinh An Nguyen; Dung Anh Vu; Phai Van Vu; Thanh Ngoc Nguyen; Tam Minh Pham; Hang Thi Thuy Nguyen; Hai Trinh Le; Thanh Viet Nguyen; Lich Khac Hoang; Thanh Duc Vu; Tung Song Nguyen; Tuyen Thi Luong; Ngoc Phuong Trinh; Hens, Luc	Environment Development And Sustainability	2017
Impacts of aquaculture on social networks in the mangrove systems of northern Vietnam	Orchard, Steven E.; Stringer, Lindsay C.; Quinn, Claire H.	Ocean & Coastal Management	2015
Impacts of climate change on agro-ecological landscapes in the coastal area of the Thai Binh province (Vietnam) using the Delphi technique	Le Trinh Hai; Nguyen An Thinh; Tran Anh Tuan; Dao Dinh Cham; Luu The Anh; Hoang Luu Thu Thuy; Nguyen Manh Ha; Tran Quoc Bao; Le Van Huong; Uong Dinh Khanh; Bui Thi Mai; Tong Phuc Tuan; Hoang Hai; Quang Hai Truong	International Journal Of Climate Change Strategies And Management	2015
Impacts, Perceptions and Management of Climate-Related Risks to Cage Aquaculture in the Reservoirs of Northern Thailand	Lebel, Louis; Lebel, Phimpakan; Lebel, Boripat	Environmental Management	2016

Implementing climate variability adaptation at the community level in the Amazon floodplain	Oviedo, Antonio F. P.; Mitraud, Sylvia; McGrath, David G.; Bursztyn, Marcel	Environmental Science & Policy	2016
Indonesian aquaculture futures: An analysis of fish supply and demand in Indonesia to 2030 and role of aquaculture using the AsiaFish model	Nhuong Tran; Rodriguez, U. - Primo; Chan, Chin Yee; Phillips, Michael John; Mohan, Chadag Vishnumurthy; Henriksson, Patrik John Gustav; Koeshendrajana, Sonny; Suri, Sharon; Hall, Stephen	Marine Policy	2017
Life in a shrimp zone: aqua- and other cultures of Bangladesh's coastal landscape	Paprocki, Kasia; Cons, Jason	Journal Of Peasant Studies	2014
Mangrove system dynamics in Southeast Asia: linking livelihoods and ecosystem services in Vietnam	Orchard, Steven Emmerson; Stringer, Lindsay Carman; Quinn, Claire Helen	Regional Environmental Change	2016
Market driven management of climate change impacts in the Spanish mussel sector	Rodriguez-Rodriguez, Gonzalo; Bande Ramudo, Robetto	Marine Policy	2017
Mitigating uncertainty and enhancing resilience to climate change in the fisheries sector in Taiwan: Policy implications for food security	Ho, Ching-Hsien; Chen, Jyun-Long; Nobuyuki, Yagi; Lur, Hsu-Sheng; Lu, Hsueh-Jung	Ocean & Coastal Management	2016
Perceptions of climate-related risks and awareness of climate change of fish cage farmers in northern Thailand	Lebel, Phimphakan; Whangchai, Niwooti; Chitmanat, Chanagun; Promya, Jongkon; Lebel, Louis	Risk Management-Journal Of Risk Crisis And Disaster	2015
Polycentric systems and interacting planetary boundaries - Emerging governance of climate change-ocean acidification-marine biodiversity	Galaz, Victor; Crona, Beatrice; Osterblom, Henrik; Olsson, Per; Folke, Carl	Ecological Economics	2012
Predicting environmental drivers for prawn aquaculture production to aid improved farm management	Spillman, C. M.; Hartog, J. R.; Hobday, A. J.; Hudson, D.	Aquaculture	2015
Site-specific and integrated adaptation to climate change in the coastal mangrove zone of Soc Trang Province, Viet Nam	Schmitt, K.; Albers, T.; Pham, T. T.; Dinh, S. C.	Journal Of Coastal Conservation	2013
The regional impacts of climate change on coastal environments and the aquaculture of Japanese scallops in northeast Asia: case studies from Dalian, China, and Funak Bay, Japan	Liu, Yang; Saitoh, Sei-Ichi; Igarashi, Hiromichi; Hirawake, Toru	International Journal Of Remote Sensing	2014

The sustainable development goals: A case study	Fleming, Aysha; Wise, Russell M.; Hansen, Heidi; Sams, Linda	Marine Policy	2017
Understanding social-ecological change and transformation through community perceptions of system identity	Andrachuk, Mark; Armitage, Derek	Ecology And Society	2015
Emotions, attitudes, and appraisal in the management of climate-related risks by fish farmers in Northern Thailand	Lebel, Louis; Lebel, Phimpakan	Journal Of Risk Research	2018
Managing the risks from the water-related impacts of extreme weather and uncertain climate change on inland aquaculture in Northern Thailand	Lebel, Louis; Lebel, Phimpakan; Chitmanat, Chanagun; Uppanunчай, Anuwat; Apirumanekul, Chusit	Water International	2018
The effects of tactical message inserts on risk communication with fish farmers in Northern Thailand	Lebel, Louis; Lebel, Phimpakan; Lebel, Boripat; Uppanunчай, Anuwat; Duangsuwan, Chatta	Regional Environmental Change	2018
Is Fish Farming an Illusion for Lake Malawi Riparian Communities under Environmental Changes?	Limuwa, Moses Majid; Singin, Wales; Storebakken, Trond	Sustainability	2018
How do local communities adapt to climate changes along heavily damaged coasts? A Stakeholder Delphi study in Ky Anh (Central Vietnam)	An Thinh Nguyen; Anh Dung Vu; Dang, Giang T. H.; Anh Huy Hoang; Hens, Luc	Environment Development And Sustainability	2018
Impacts and responses to environmental change in coastal livelihoods of south-west Bangladesh	Hossain, Mostafa A. R.; Ahmed, Munir; Ojea, Elena; Fernandes, Jose A.	Science Of The Total Environment	2018
Coastal climate change, soil salinity and human migration in Bangladesh	Chen, J.; Mueller, V.	Nature Climate Change	2018
Women's perspectives of small-scale fisheries and environmental change in Chilika lagoon, India	Khan, Fatima Noor; Collins, Andrea M.; Nayak, Prateep Kumar; Armitage, Derek	Maritime Studies	2018
Differential livelihood adaptation to social-ecological change in coastal Bangladesh	Hoque, Sonia Ferdous; Quinn, Claire; Sallu, Susannah	Regional Environmental Change	2018
Shoreline change and potential sea level rise impacts in a climate hazardous location in southeast coast of India	Jayanthi, Marappan; Thirumurthy, Selvasekar; Samynathan, Muthusamy; Duraisamy, Muthusamy; Muralidhar, Moturi; Ashokkumar, Jangam; Vijayan, Koyadan Kizhakkedath	Environmental Monitoring And Assessment	2018

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908 **Figure S1: Figure 20.1 from the FAO assessment report (Dabbadie et al., 2018).**



The terms aquaculture and climate change were searched for in the title and/or abstract. The Scopus database includes peer-reviewed papers published in scientific journals, books and conference proceedings. The FAO database includes all publications released by the organization.

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912 **Tables**

913 Table 1: Inclusion and exclusion criteria for document selection.

Particulars	Inclusion	Exclusion	No. of studies excluded
Language	English	Non-English	2
Publication type	Research articles, case studies	Synthesis, abstracts, editorials, reviews, meetings/workshops, insights, frameworks	23
Who adapts?	People/social adaptation	Natural systems, fish, plants (for example, studies on how fish adapt to temperature variations)	30
Responses, activities, and actions	Adaptation responses	Mitigation, vulnerability (for example, studies using vulnerability frameworks as the principal theoretical approach)	16
Focus	Practical	Conceptual, theoretical, models (for example, conceptual frameworks and adaptation modelling)	4
Time	Present	Prehistoric, future (for example, studies aimed at the pre-historic adaptation of fisheries)	2
Industry	Aquaculture and/or integrated systems (rice-fish culture)	Others including fisheries (for example, offshore fisheries, agriculture, forestry)	7
Change	Climate-change-related	Not related to climate change (for example, globalisation, impacts of economic recession)	1

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940 **Table 2: Definitions of selected variables/terms.**

Variable/Term	Definition/Description	Data Type
Year	Published year as mentioned in the WOS data extraction sheet.	Ordinal
Journal	Name of the journal as mentioned in the WOS data extraction sheet.	Nominal
Affiliation country	Name of the country based on the first author's affiliation.	Nominal
Affiliation institution	Name and address of the institution based on the first author's affiliation.	Nominal
Funding	Name of the key sources of research funding as mentioned in the acknowledgement section. We chose the first mentioned funding source when multiple sources existed.	Nominal
Location	Name of the target research location, e.g., specific region and country (for example, Mekong Delta, Vietnam).	Nominal
People	Specific vulnerable group of people studied, if mentioned (for example, scallop fish farmers).	Nominal
Theory	Key theoretical approach(es) adapted (for example, resilience thinking, economic assessments, and supply chain management).	Nominal
Methods	We captured the research design of the study (qualitative, quantitative, or mixed) and the type of data collected (primary and/or secondary). Further, we mentioned whether the paper used any specific methodologies such as remote sensing/GIS and satellite data.	Nominal
Climate change	Study aims regarding aspects of climate change impacts (for example, sea-level increase, temperature variations, climate extremes, or general climate change impacts).	Nominal
Fishery	What type of aquaculture was the study aimed at (for example, shrimp aquaculture, fish culture, and inland aquaculture)?	Nominal
Species	The species that the study was aimed at, if mentioned. We mentioned the name of the species or term 'multiple' when the study focused on multiple species in general.	Nominal
Adaptation	<b>The specific areas (or associated areas) of adaptation applied or studied to examine human responses to climate change. For example, adaptation strategies, adaptive management, adaptation planning, adaptation options, community-based adaptation, adaptive governance.</b>	Nominal
Policy	Whether the main text of the article mentioned the term 'policy' and what it refers to. If the study addressed any policy-related aspects such as recommendations, evaluated the existing policy, or proposed policy options, we considered the answer to be "yes" for our analysis. If the paper contributed to policies and did not mention the term 'policy', we looked for a minimum of three key policy-related references to characterise as 'yes'.	Binary (yes/no)

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949 **Table 3: Common adaptive responses and strategies in aquaculture (building on Smith et al., 2013, Arimi, 2014,**  
 950 **Ahmed and Diana, 2016, Dey et al., 2016a, Dey et al., 2016b, Li et al., 2016, and Lebel et al., 2018a).**

Response type	Response/strategy	Scale/level	Form
<b>Common adaptive responses (for specific climate impacts)</b>			
No-regret	Provide supplementary aeration as appropriate (weather-related stress/variations)	Farm	Technical
	Harvest fish early to reduce losses (extreme weather event)	Farm	Technical
	Frequently monitor water conditions and fish behaviour during high-stress periods (temperature variations, unexpected weather changes)	Farm	Information
	Keeping the pond's water outlet valve open during the raining season (raining seasons)	Farm	Technical
	Share rearing knowledge in fish farming groups and networks (in general)	Community	Institutional
	Adopt good disease management practices to reduce risks (raining seasons)	Farm/ Community	Technical
	Adopt good feed management practices to reduce risks from climate-related stresses (unexpected weather changes)	Farm	Technical
Low-regret	Shift stocking dates and adjust stocking density (floods and droughts)	Farm	Technical
	Buy fingerlings at a nearby site to prevent heat stress due to transportation (heat waves)	Farm	Technical
	Use groundwater to pump (refill) ponds (droughts)	Farm	Technical
	Adjust water infrastructure (stocking tanks) to regulate supply for aquaculture (droughts)	Farm	Technical
	Seek compensation assistance following disaster-related losses (extreme climate events)	Community	Institutional
	Prepare shade roof over hatchery tanks or cages (or grow aquatic weeds in ponds for shelter) (heat waves)	Farm	Technical
	Strengthen cages so that they are less likely to be damaged (floods, extreme climate events)	Farm	Technical
	Enter into contract farming arrangements (for example, leases) (in general)	Farm	Financial
	Stock and harvest multiple fish to reduce risk or switch species reared (floods, droughts, climate-change-influenced disease outbreaks)	Farm	Technical
	Dip ice bags in pond/hatchery to reduce water temperature (heat waves)	Farm	Technical
	Engage in frequent pond water exchange (temperature variations)	Farm	Technical
	Plant fruit trees on pond-dikes and vegetation on pond-slopes (temperature variations)	Farm	Technical
	<b>Common adaptive strategies</b>		
Future benefit strategies	Protect and restore ecosystems for flood protection, water storage, and water quality services	Regional	Management
	Provide broad range of higher thermal tolerance breeding	National	Technical
	Introduce new technology at the farm level to improve water productivity through research and development	National	Technical
	Diversify into other business/income sources to subsidise risk reduction investments	Community /Regional	Institutional



	Increase savings to buffer household from losses and still make risk reduction investments	Community	Financial
	Engage in community-based watershed management	Community /Regional	Management
	Engage in research and development to improve climate risk information systems and accessibility	National	Institutional
	Install rainwater harvesting tanks and use rainwater for fish culture and pond-dike cropping	Community	Technical
Easier-early strategies	Engage in zone production so that aquaculture has sufficient water (volume/quality)	Regional	Management
	Support integrated water resources management in which aquaculture stake is recognised	Community/ National	Management
	Engage in on-farm value-added processing	Community	Technical
	Reuse waste and integrate resources into the farm to reduce input costs and dependencies on input suppliers	Community	Management
	Establish early-warning systems to seek information about floods, droughts, and heat waves	National/ Regional	Institutional
	Establish mutual or weather-indexed insurance for aquaculture	National	Financial
	Develop new export markets and strengthen existing markets for farmed fish products, to create higher farm prices	National	Marketing
	Develop standards to improve climate- and water-related risk management	National	Management
Up-front strategies	Construct large-scale water storage and infrastructure development to take into account aquaculture uses of water	National	Infrastructural
	Install water treatment equipment in storage ponds with recirculating technology	Community	Technical
	Provide a protective flood dike around aquaculture ponds	Community	Technical
	Avoid prone areas and shift production site to a lower-risk location	Community	Technical
	Seek opportunities for floodplain aquaculture	Community	Technical

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953 **Figure legends**

954 Figure 1: Publications at the intersection of climate change, adaptation, and aquaculture per journal per  
955 year from 2008 to 2018.

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957 Figure 2. Map showing research destinations for case studies and the country of the first-affiliated author  
958 of the case study.

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960 Figure 3. Climate change impacts studied in selected papers, by percentage, with top study locations.

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