

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE OF MARINE FISHING: EVIDENCE OF SUSTAINABLE ADAPTATION OF FISHERMEN TO MARINE ECOLOGY (THE CASE OF PHƯỚC HẢI FISHING VILLAGE IN BÀ RỊA - VŨNG TÀU)

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Abstract: *Founded in the early 18th century, Phước Hải fishing village (presently, Phước Hải town) in Đất Đỏ district is considered one of the famous fishing villages with the most long-standing history in the province of Bà Rịa – Vũng Tàu. Being a fishing village means that both the lifestyle and livelihood of Phước Hải residents are shaped by marine resources. During the interaction between humans and the sea, traditional knowledge of marine fishing has been accumulated and transmitted throughout generations of fishermen, thereby reflecting their history of flexible livelihood adaptation based on the protection of the ecosystem and environment. However, the village is currently modernizing their fishing practice, for which investment in technologies is considered decisive to helping fishermen and their activities reach further offshore. In this context, the role of folk knowledge about the sea and traditional fishery in the livelihood activities of Phước Hải villagers has been downgraded. Drawn on official and unofficial interviews with Phước Hải fishermen, this article examines the folk knowledge of Phước Hải fishermen as evidence of their sustainable adaptation to the marine ecology and environment.*

Keywords: *Traditional knowledge, marine fishing, livelihood adaptation, Phước Hải, Bà Rịa - Vũng Tàu.*

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