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Introduction

▪ Estuarian and lagoon areas of southern Benin, typical lake territory with **private water property rights** with stilt dwellings and that people living exclusively from fishing had taken ownership and exploited for generations (fig 1).

▪ This exploitation is at odds with the State's general rules of fishing sustainability, **tragedy of commons** arises.

▪ This study aims to assess the factors that influence the **willingness of small-scale fishers to adopt** Water Property Rights Co-management Options (WPRCO).

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Figure 1: Stilt dwellings

Methodology

Study area

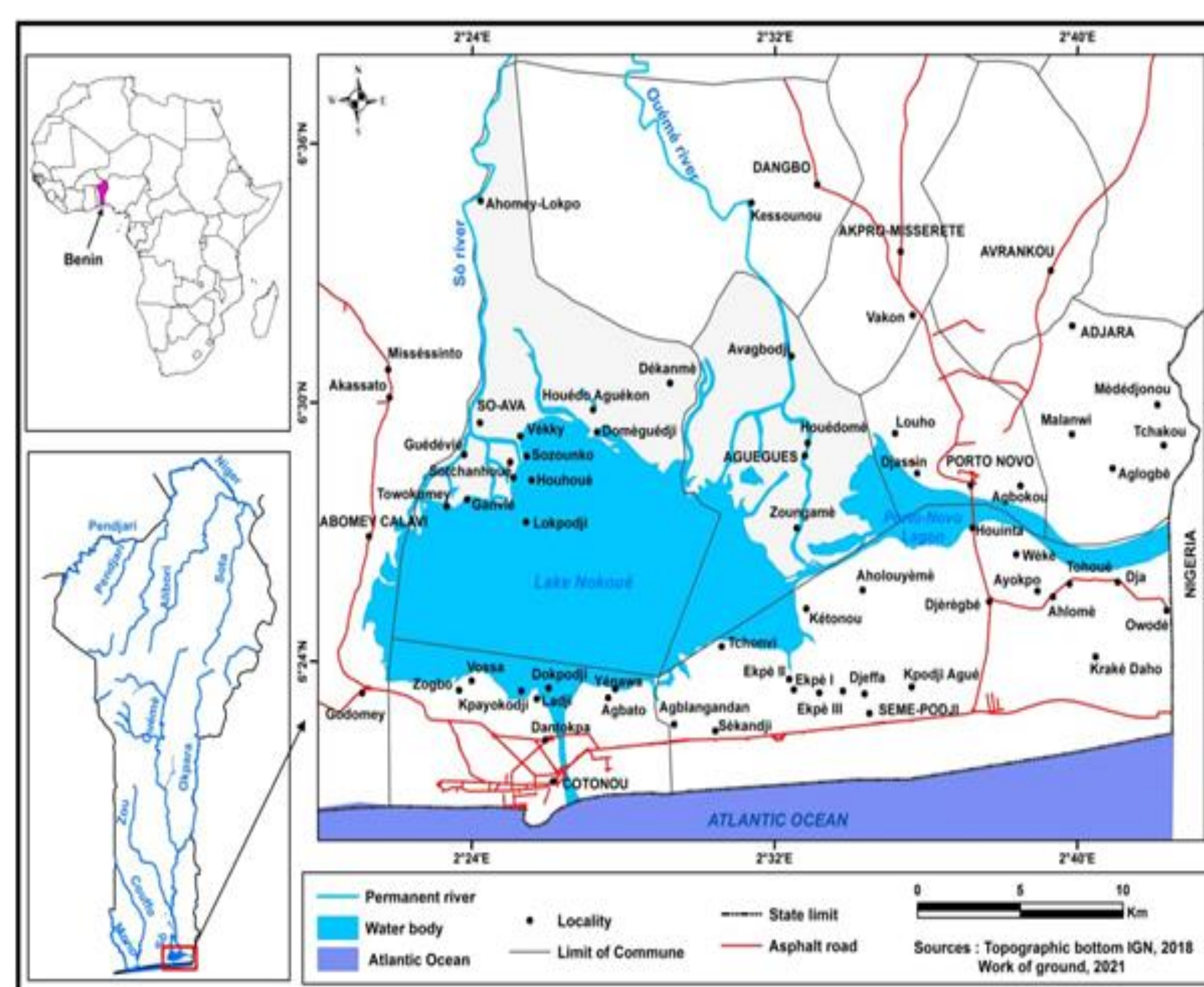
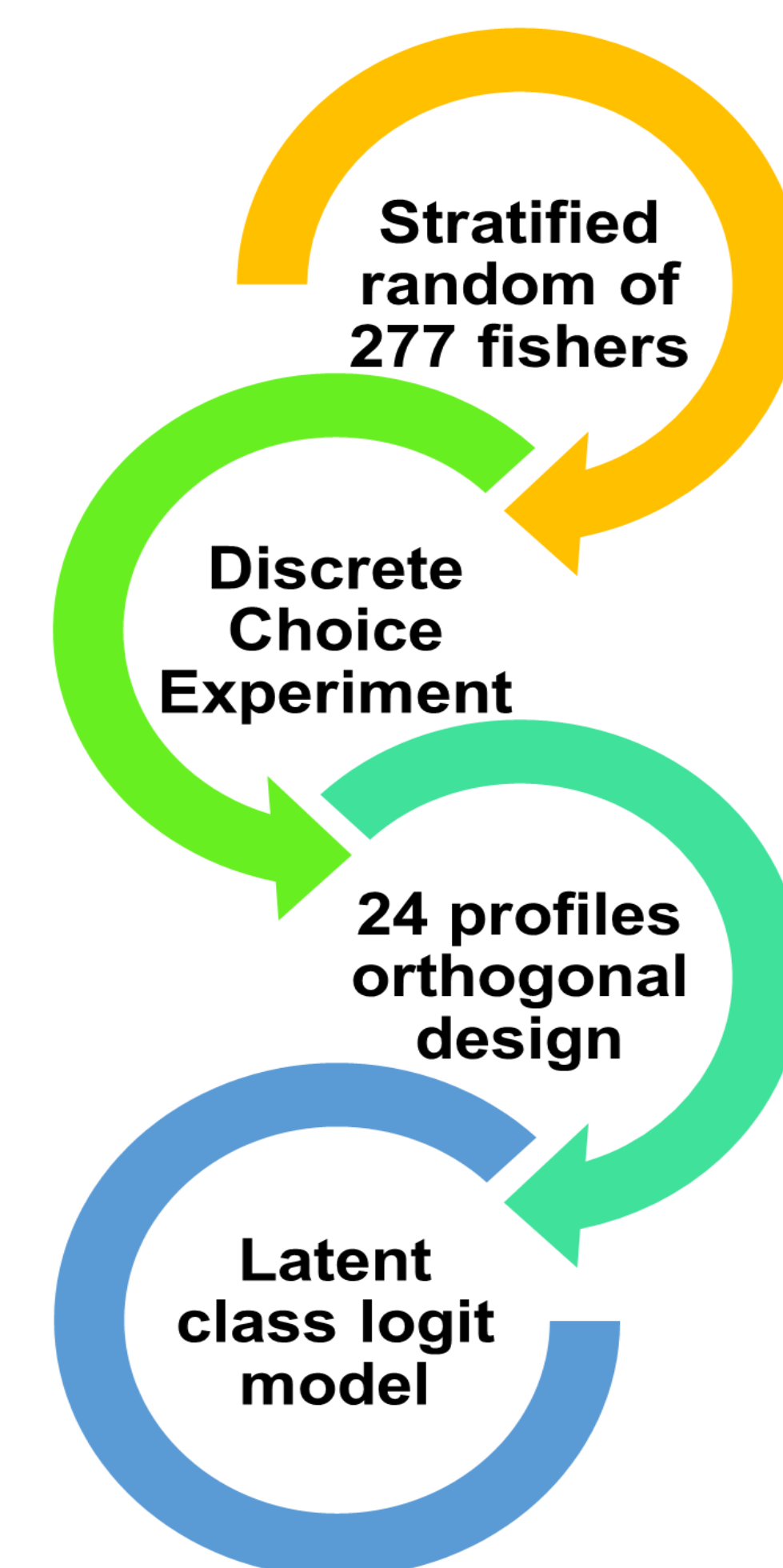


Figure 2: Study area

Complex Lake Nokoué- Porto-Novo lagoon, Benin (West Africa), 180 km² Ramsar site 1018.

Experimental design



Results

Fishers' socio-demographics

Table 1: Fishers demographics

Variables	Statistics
Average age (yrs)	50(17)
Average fishing experience(yrs)	35(17)
Average household size	9(5)
Average No education (%)	66
Average primary school (%)	24
Fishing association membership	14
Average fishers practising fishing in free space	83
Average fishers who practice fishing in Acadja (%)	62
Fishers with 1 Acadja (%)	62
Fishers with 2 Acadja (%)	23

Latent class model estimation

▪ Fishers of class 4 (44% of the sample) are willing to adopt. Fig 3 shows all classes characteristics

— Class 1 — Class 2 — Class 3 — Class 4

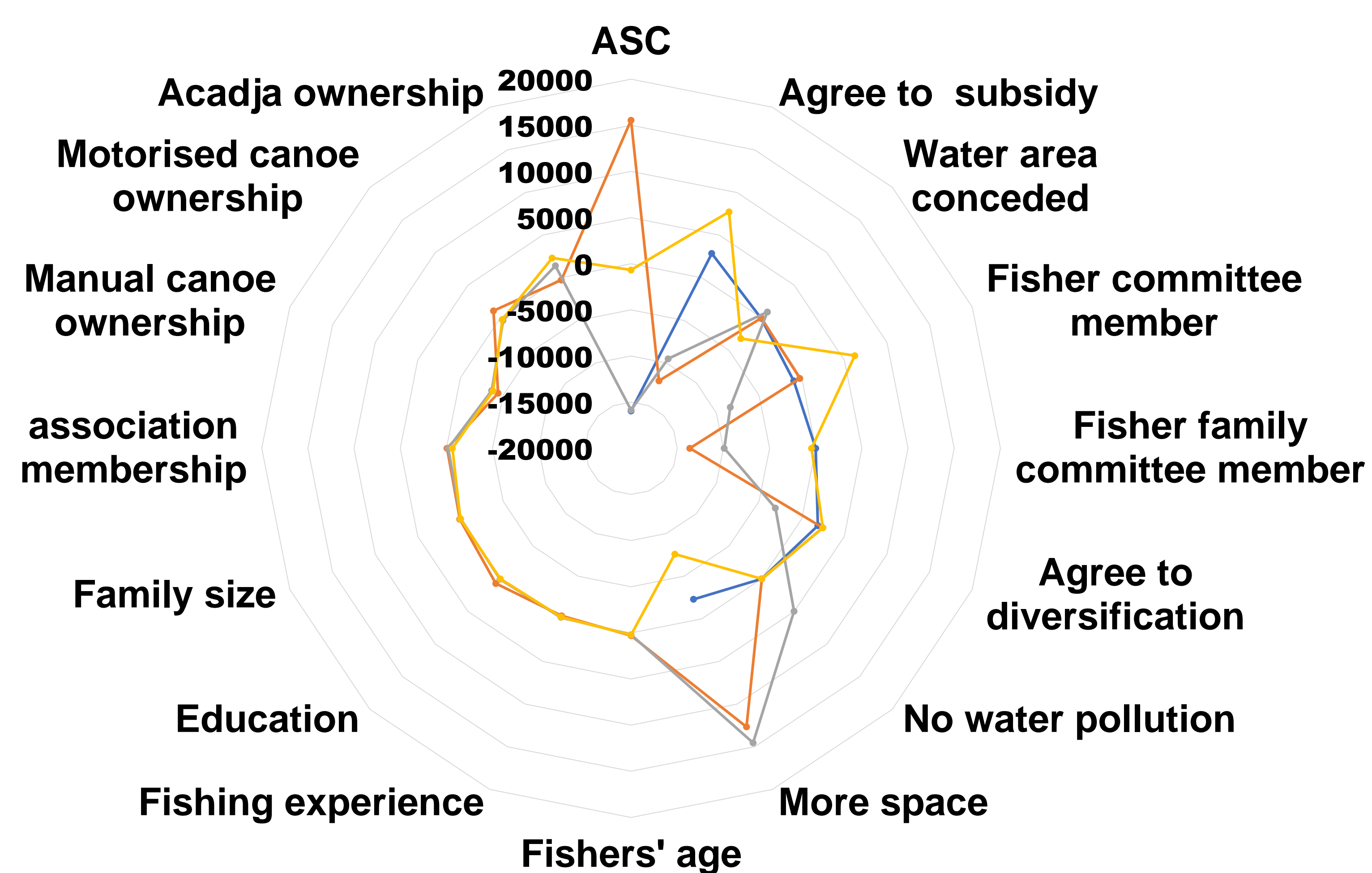


Figure 3: LCL estimation results

Conclusion

Fishers are willing to diversify their livelihoods to reduce their fishing time. Government must set up measures such as a subsidy to support income diversification and capacity building of small-scale fishers to reduce their fishing time and ensure the sustainability of resources.