

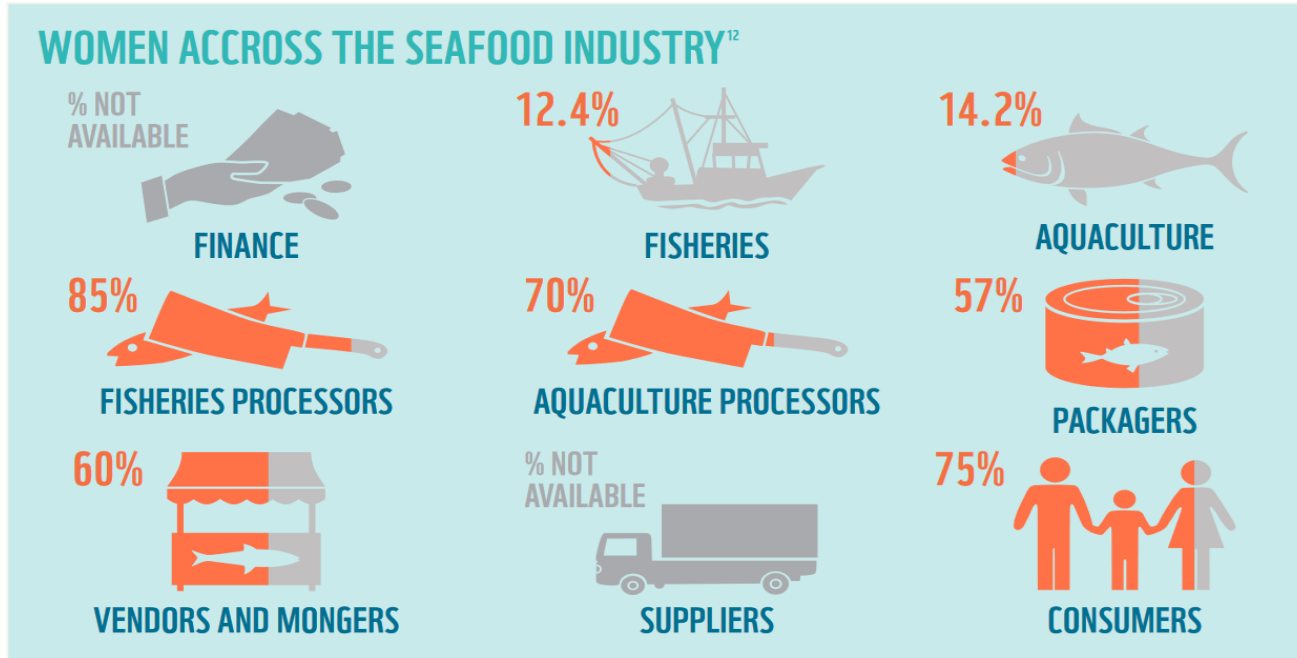
Out of the shadows



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Women in Small-Scale Fisheries

Globally



Women's fishing activities amount to an estimated 3 million tonnes of marine fish per year (\$5.6 billion/year). About 12% of the landed value of all small-scale fisheries catches ¹.

¹ Harper S, et al. 2020. "Valuing invisible catches: estimating the global contribution by women to small-scale marine capture fisheries production"

Mediterranean and Black Sea

The total number of women who work in fishing, aquaculture and processing to be more than 14,000².

Catching is heavily dominated by men; 'officially' employed women represent only between 1 and 6% of the workforce².

Gender disaggregated data results in women's invisibility in fisheries.

Lack of legal status or remuneration.

Gender stereotypes.



Ionna Autoustinou, Greece

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² European Commission. Study of the role of women in fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. 2018.

Stories



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“.. taking care of the house, food, children and then also in fishing: keeping the boat clean, maintaining and preparing the nets and other tools, preparing baits and much more. If they are not seen in the boat be sure that they do their part. And then some would join their husband in the boat and take that burden as well. I see that now there is much more talk about the role of women in fisheries, but it has been like this for centuries. Women in fisheries are and always were the most important link between the husband's work on the sea and the success of the family, wherever we talk or not talk about that.”

Helena Lesic, Lastovo, Croatia



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“Traditionally, women have been in charge of paperwork and frequently shipowers in Conil. My experience as fishing skipper tells me that every women can do it, being the major difficulty family conciliation during maternity”

Manuela Leal, Conil de la Frontera, Spain

WWF's work on women in fisheries

Policy work:

Empowering women in marine communities to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

<https://www.wwf.eu/?353457/Role-of-women-must-be-reinforced-in-EU-marine-policies-WWF-policy-brief>

Community engagement and capacity building:

WWF's Internal gender equality indicators: decision making, resources, participation, etc...

Exchange visits and capacity building - 50% fishers on exchange visit in Turkey were women and 50% men.

Awareness:

Are fisheries still a man's world? <https://www.wwf.medium.com/are-fisheries-still-a-mans-world-2eba516ea237>

Watch Lia's story here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5u78pqzo42s>

Read Helena's story here: <https://oceanwitness.org/stories/ocean-witnesses-helena-and-ivica/>

Read Manuelas's story here: <https://oceanwitness.org/es/stories/ocean-witness-manuela/>

Video about Helena and Ivica's alternative income:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=Syg8pRylpbE&feature=emb_logo



Workshop in Turkey on participative management and cooperative building during an exchange visit for fishermen and fisherwomen in July 2021 © Timucin Dincer/WWF Turkey

Way forward & recommendations for decision makers



Elevate the role of women in decision making across all ocean governance and seafood production.



Enhance capacity building among coastal communities to enable the knowledge of women fishers and seafood workers to be recognised and supported.



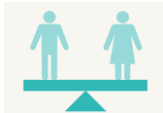
Promote the involvement of women in science and increase research on gender equality in the seafood sector.



Ensure women's access to higher education and that women's educational achievements translate into equal participation in all economic, social and political spheres.



Ensure gender screening of all policies and programmes related to the seafood sector.



Mandate gender-balanced participation in all fisheries-related management activities.



Make women visible at all levels by acknowledging the role that both genders play throughout the entire seafood production chain, together with their respective contributions to increased social and environmental resilience and sustainability.

Thank you!



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Transforming Small Scale Fisheries **Mediterranean Marine Initiative**



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