

Women in Fisheries: A European Perspective



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The Issues developed by this study

- The state of gender-based statistics in EU fisheries and its impact on the overall recognition of women's contribution
- Wives, life partners who are assisting their husbands or partners
- Women's networking in the EU
- Role of women as addressed by the CFP, (EFF and FEAMP)



WOMEN EMPLOYMENT IN FISHERIES (in numbers)

Global level

- 45 millions **persons (men and women)** are involved in fisheries industry (FAO) in 2008
- Fisheries employ 5.4 million women which is **12 %** of the workforce in 2008

European Union level : According to EUROSTAT

Women: 12.6 % of total fisheries employment in 2012 (source Eurostat)

According to STECF Women Employment in 2009

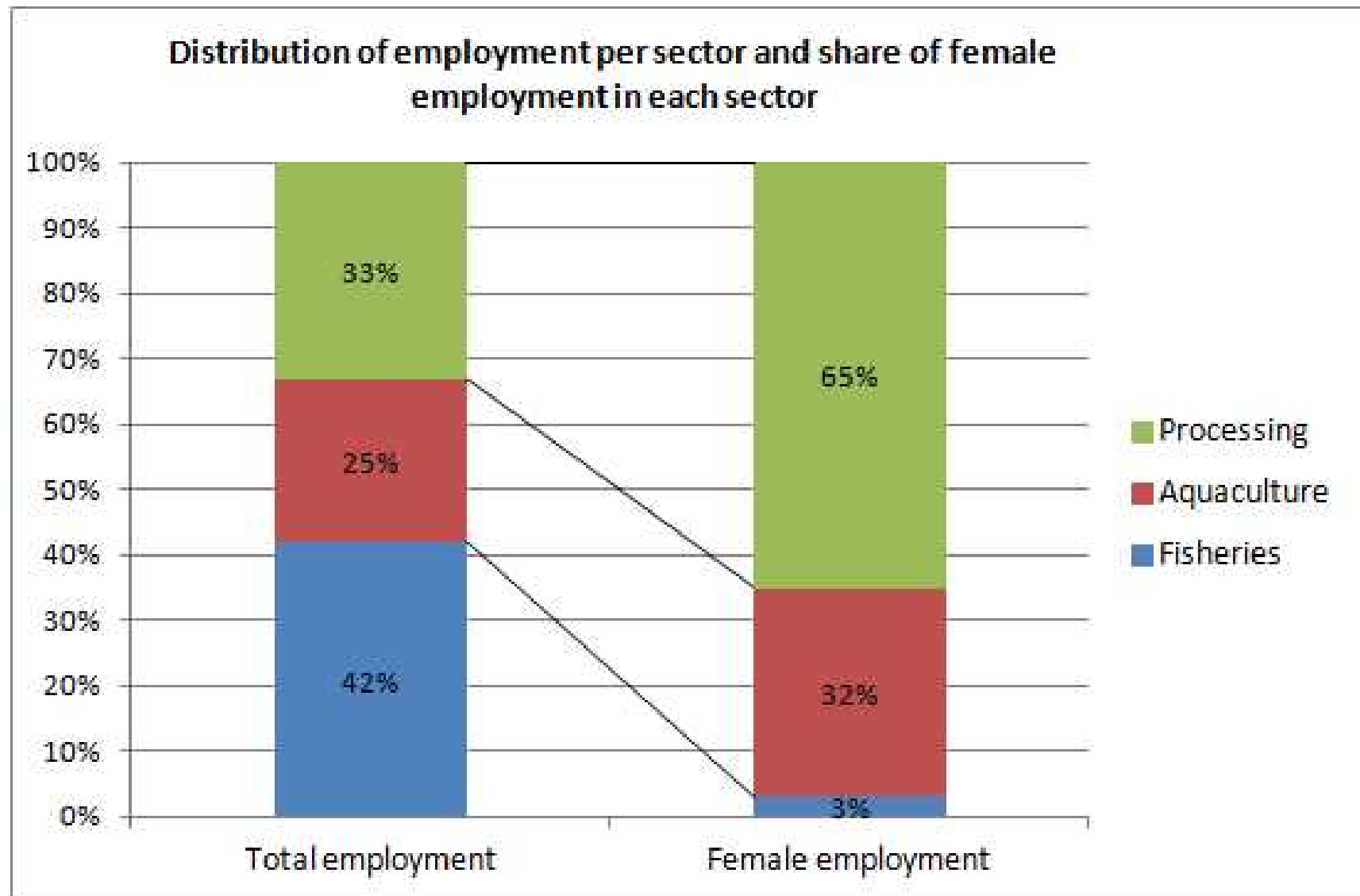
-**Aquaculture** 28 % of total employment and 23% of full time equivalent jobs. (16 MS)

-**Seafood Processing Industry** 56.6 % of total employment (17 MS) (source STECF)

Table 2: Gender-based distribution of the workforce in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Europe in 2012 by Member State

2012 (IN THOUSANDS)	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL	SHARE OF FEMALE EMPLOYMENT
Czech Republic	0.1	1.3	1.4	7.1 %
Ireland	0.2	1.8	2.0	10.0 %
Greece	2.0	11.9	13.9	14.4 %
Spain	5.5	34.9	40.4	13.6 %
France	2.8	13.0	15.8	17.7 %
Italy	3.3	30.1	33.4	9.9 %
Latvia	0.3	2.2	2.5	12.0 %
Poland	1.2	6.9	8.1	14.8 %
Portugal	1.3	14.8	16.1	8.1 %
Sweden	0.2	1.9	2.1	9.5 %
United Kingdom	1.4	8.2	9.6	14.6 %
Total	18.3	127	145.3	12.6 %

Source: Eurostat



Observations: there are gaps, difficulties and weaknesses in the ability to obtain employment data based on gender

Eurostat:

- full data for all MS is not Available (only 14 MS)
- Only total and male employment are given and
- total employment is higher than male employment: do we understand that the difference is women employment?

STECF:

- Only for two sectors: Aquaculture and Processing
 - 16 MS provided data (some MS were not explicit about the equivalent in Full time Jobs)
 - 4 MS did not provide national data (D, I, Po, Slovenia)
 - 2 MS provided only male data (UK, NL)
- (based on Data Collection Framework, decision 210/93/EU)

Contribution of Assisting Spouses and Life partners to Fisheries Enterprises

Traditional tasks

- Administrative work (accounting, relations with banks, administration, etc)
- Transport fish or shellfish to auction or shops
- Sell fish or shellfish on market or transport fisheries produce between boat and auctions or clients,
- Mending nets or preparing other fishing gears
- Clean oysters
- Package oysters, etc...

Diversification (new activities)

- Small scale processing units (smoke, food processing,...)
- Restaurants or others forms of prepared food
- Educational visits on their shellfish farm, shore
- Pesca-turismo (boats,...)



Assisting and supporting contributions in general

- No remuneration and no access to social benefits
- No recognition

Main EU legal frame recognising this contribution

- The directive 2010/41/EU on the application of the principle of equal treatment between men and women engaged in an activity in a self-employment capacity and repealing Council Directive 86/613/ECC.
- *Main progress*: recognition of life partners' contributions
- Member States had to inform the commission about the deadline of the implementation of directive (by 05/08/2013)

Strengthening the impact of the directive

French Example

1998: Assisting spouses' status in fisheries is available on a voluntary basis

2008: Obligation for all assisting spouses and life partners to opt for one of the following status: associate, worker or assisting spouse status

From **550 women in 2007**, there are now **1,143** who have opted for the assisting spouse status.
(February 2013, source ENIM)

Recommendation concerning women's contribution in fisheries (formal and informal)

Make mandatory through DCF the collection of :

- employment data based on gender, age and educational attainment, for the following sectors: harvesting, aquaculture and processing
- data on number of women having the assisting spouses or life partners status



Women's Networking in the EU

2 main types from local to EU levels:

1. Regrouping women working in harvesting (shellfish gathers or fishers) or to related activities (mending nets) mainly in Spain.
2. Wives or life partners of boat owners and crew members

Both groups claim access to decision making bodies and social insurances which are synonymous to Recognition of their participation in the sector.



WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS

BENEFITS

- Advocate for women's rights and equality within the fisheries sector dominated by men
- Promote women's visibility within the fisheries industry and in the public space at all levels
- Women's empowerment/ gain confidence and strengthen women's participation in the public space
- Increase their knowledge by exchanging experiences between women of different EU countries

CONSTRAINTS

- Lack of experiences in running organisations
- Lack of leaders and the skills to renew and refresh the organisation
- Lack of financial resources.

The role of women as addressed by the CFP

Despite AKTEA network's action at EU level for the integration of women's equality in the different policies related to EU fisheries:

No Mention of the word “Women”

Green Paper for the reform of common fisheries

Regulation on Common Fisheries Policy

Mention “Women” :

EFF (mainly axis 4) and currently the FEAMP

Lessons from the EFF experience:

- Mid-term evaluation mentions that EFF has made “neutral” or marginal positive contribution to the promotion of equal opportunities
- Axis 4 and FLAG’s are under evaluation.

To be noticed: the role of **FARNET** to promote gender mainstreaming during events and in its newsletter; creation of a discussion group on women in fisheries on the net, etc...

Share of projects led by or targeted at women, out of a sample of 55 FLAGs

	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	SHARE OF TOTAL	AVERAGE BUDGET PER PROJECT (€)
FLAG Projects	1.698	100%	90.000
Individual Projects conducted by women	185	11%	48.000
Collective project led by women	76	4,50%	22.000
Other projects targeted at women	61	3,50%	55.000

Ideas to improve the efficiency of FEAMP towards equal opportunity

- Generalise gender mainstreaming for EU and national officers in charge of the implementation of the fund.
- Establish indicators to evaluate the impact of the fund on equal opportunities
(e.g. number of projects conducted by women, targeting women and collective projects led by women, share of these projects in the budget...)

Thank you!

