

Policy cycle in maritime affairs and fisheries



In this phase, it's recommended that information is gathered on the situation of women and men in a particular area. This means looking for sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics, as well as checking for the existence of studies, programme or project reports, and/or evaluations from previous periods.

Example of gender and fishery statistics

The European Union labour force survey (EU-LFS)

The [European Union labour force survey \(EU-LFS\)](#) provides the main aggregated statistics on labour market outcomes in the European Union. The EU-LFS is the main data source for employment and unemployment. Tables on population, employment, working hours, permanency of job, professional status etc. are included. It provides disaggregated statistics by sex, age groups, economic activity, education attainment and field of education, from which it's possible to measure the presence of women working in the fishery sector.

Examples of studies, research and reports

Women in fisheries: a European perspective

[The report](#) gives an overview of the situation faced by women in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Europe and the prerequisites for improved gender mainstreaming. It presents and discusses the available data on female employment in the sector, the problems faced by women's fisheries organisations and their future prospects. It also proposes that the impact of the EFF on the promotion of gender equality should be evaluated, and outlines the expectations vested in the EMFF. As part of the research conducted for this study, FLAGs received a questionnaire on the importance of gender in their strategies and the extent to which women are benefiting from Axis 4.

The economic performance of the EU aquaculture sector - 2012 exercise (STECF-13-03)

[The report](#) on the European Union Member States' aquaculture sector contains some basic gender-disaggregated data on employment in the production segment of aquaculture. Although the statistics are incomplete, they nevertheless provide some useful information. Women's participation varied greatly by country and the EU averages tended to be dominated by patterns in France and Spain.

Economic performance of the EU fish processing industry sector (STECF-OWP-12-01)

Gender in aquaculture and fisheries, May 2013.

[EU 2011 employment statistics](#) show that numbers of women and men are almost evenly balanced, in terms of numbers of fish processing jobs. Looking at different countries, however, the figures differ. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland have more than 60% of women as fish processing employees, whereas Malta and the UK have more than 60% of male employees. In Europe, fish processing employs about 150,000 people. France, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom supported the largest workforces, with more than 10,000 each.

Quist C. (ed), Frangoudes K. and O'Riordan, B., 2010 - ICSF-AKTEA WIF 2010: strengthening the voice of women of fishing communities in Europe

[This report](#) contains a summary of the workshop of 13/02/2010 Recasting the net: defining a gender agenda for sustaining life and livelihoods in fisheries and aquaculture, and the synthesis reports by countries: Azores (Portugal), France, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Northern Ireland (UK), Portugal and Spain. There is a French version of the workshop's summary.

Frangoudes K., 2013 - Women in fisheries: a European perspective

[This note](#) gives an overview of the current situation faced by women in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Europe and the prerequisites for improved gender mainstreaming. It presents and discusses the available data on female employment in the sector, the problems faced by women's fisheries organisations and their future prospects. The note also proposes that the impact of the EFF on the promotion of gender equality should be evaluated, and outlines the expectations vested in the EMFF.

Harper S., Zeller D., Hauzer M., Pauly D. and Sumaila R. U., 2013 - Women and fisheries: contribution to food security and local economies

[This work](#) summarises existing knowledge on women's participation in marine fisheries globally, and estimates their contribution in the Pacific Region. While women's role varies between geographic regions, in the Pacific women account for 56% of annual small-scale catches, resulting in an economic impact of \$363 million (total revenue: \$110 million). Recognising and quantifying the role of women in fisheries has profound implications for management, poverty alleviation and development policy.

Frangoudes K. et al., 2008 - The role of the women in the sustainable development of European fisheries areas

Women play an important role in fisheries, including fishing, aquaculture and processing of aquatic products. They have been very active in self-organising and networking to promote gender equality in many different areas across Europe. They are also a major actor in the diversification of fisheries enterprises income, resulting in the creation of new opportunities in areas affected by the decline of fishing. [The report](#) reviews best practices observed in the fishing areas of 14 EU countries. It also recommends actions for use of the European fisheries fund as an instrument to support and promote initiatives for women in European fisheries areas, particularly under Axis 4 of the EFF.

Frangoudes K., Keromnes, 2008 - Women in Artisanal Fisheries in Brittany, France

French fishers' wives play an important role within fisheries enterprises by undertaking different tasks such as administration, repairing fishing gear and selling fish. This informal contribution became legally recognised with the creation of collaborative spouse status (CSS) in 1998. Katia Frangoudes and Enora Keromnes [discuss the diverse contributions of women](#) to Brittany fisheries and the reasons that push women to opt or not opt for legal status.

Britton, E., 2012 - Women as agents of wellbeing in Northern Ireland's fishing households

[This paper](#) focuses on the gender dimensions of wellbeing in fishing households in Northern Ireland. The impact of change in the fishing industry on women's wellbeing is outlined and linkages are made between changing access to fish and changing roles of women in fishing households. The paper explores what this change means for how women perceive and pursue their wellbeing needs and aspirations and how they negotiate their needs with the needs of the household. In particular, the paper highlights how such priorities link to the complex and dynamic role of women in fishing households.

Frangoudes, K., Marugán-Pintos, B., Pascual-Fernández, 2008 - From open access to co-governance and conservation: the case of women shellfish collectors in Galicia

[This paper](#) analyses the process of transformation of on-foot shellfish gathering in Galicia, an activity that has traditionally been developed mainly by women without formalisation. However, in recent decades this situation has changed. Nowadays, many areas where this activity flourishes are in a situation of active co-governance with fishery organisations, with a type of formal licence system. Shellfishery organisations plan and control the shellfish gathering with the support of the government, even using seeding techniques to regenerate areas that were previously degraded. Over the last decade, they have avoided shellfish overexploitation and have managed the marketing of the shellfish much better than before. The article emphasises that the role of the government in this has been decisive, investing in training and capacity building. The empowerment of women has been an essential element, which has also enhanced the social valuation of the activity. This case may exemplify the possibilities open for progress in potential co-governing situations.

Zhao M., Tyzack M., Anderson R. and Onoakpovike, 2013 - Women as visible and invisible workers in fisheries: a case study of Northern England

[This paper](#) is based on an externally-funded research project on women's roles and contributions in fisheries conducted in Northern England in 2010. The paper analyses some of the major roles played by women and their contribution in four selected sectors: capture fishing, families and communities, trading, processing and management/administration.

IRIS & Greenwich Maritime Institute, 2010 - Women in fisheries – final report

Women play a wide range of roles in the fisheries industry making significant contributions across sectors. However, there is a significant gap in knowledge about women in English fisheries today, as identified in the literature review conducted at the early stage of the study. [This study](#) aims to help close this knowledge gap and to inform policymaking with evidence-based information. This was collected and analysed by the Women in Fisheries (WIF) Team from Greenwich Maritime Institute, the University of Greenwich and IRIS Consulting between January and April, 2010.

Did you know that EIGE has a [Resource and Documentation Centre](#)? Check whether there is relevant information to feed into your analysis.

One of the first steps to take when defining your policy/project/programme is to gather information and analyse the situation of women and men in the respective policy area. The information and data you collect will allow an understanding of the reality and assist you in designing your policy, programme or project. Specific methods that can be used in this phase are gender analysis and gender impact assessment.

Examples of gender analysis

FAO - Mainstreaming gender into project cycle management in the fisheries sector

[This manual](#) has been prepared to facilitate gender analysis and project planning in fisheries development projects. It's intended to be a toolkit to help project managers and implementing counterparts (such as government and non-government field workers, and private- and public-sector development consultants, community organisers and leaders of local groups), to facilitate the integration of gender issues into the project cycle.

FAO - Mainstreaming gender in fisheries and aquaculture. A stocktaking and planning exercise

[This document](#) is the final report on the mainstreaming of gender in fisheries and aquaculture. A stock taking exercise contains two outputs arising from the following activities: (i) consultancy work on a stocktaking and planning exercise on gender mainstreaming in fisheries and aquaculture, and (ii) a stock taking and planning exercise on gender mainstreaming in fisheries and aquaculture.

Example of a gender impact assessment

FAO - Regional fisheries livelihoods programme for South and Southeast ASIA (RFLP)

[Indonesia gender impact assessment of the RFLP](#) interventions in Indonesia for regional fisheries livelihoods programme for South and Southeast Asia.

Gender issues have been mainstreamed by the regional fisheries livelihoods programme (RFLP) and considered as crosscutting issues. The present assessment looked at how the interventions have changed the roles of beneficiaries in domestic, productive and community management roles. In addition, the assessment covered the degree of participation of women in the conducted activities. Focus group discussions with selected beneficiaries, who represent the five national level outputs of RFLP, were conducted in the areas of interventions in Kupang District, Kupang Municipality, Rote Ndao and Alor districts.

Consider consulting stakeholders (e.g. gender experts, civil society organisations) on the topic at hand, to share and validate your findings and to improve your policy or programme proposal. This will enhance the learning process on the subject for all those involved and will improve the quality of the work done at EU level. The stakeholders consultation process will start in this phase, but could also be considered as an important method to be applied along all the policy cycle's phases.

Examples of stakeholders that can be consulted

European network AKTEA

The establishment of the [European network AKTEA](#) in 2005, grouping together fisherwomen's organisations, illustrates the collaboration between fisherwomen and social scientists working in the field of fisheries. AKTEA is the result of a three-year programme with women in fisheries within the framework of a European research programme called FEMMES. One of the main objectives of AKTEA is to facilitate the exchange of experiences between European fisherwomen's organisations and to lobby at the EU level for the rights of fisherwomen. The main action of the network was the modification of Directive 86/613/EEC, the inclusion of partners and also the obligation to apply the directive at national level. Fortunately both amendments were included in Directive 2010/41/EU, replacing the previous one. AKTEA, like all women's organisations, is based on voluntary work, which makes their functioning and survival difficult. Requests submitted for EU financial support were unsuccessful.

Red Española de Mujeres en el Sector Pesquero (The Spanish Network of Women in the Fishing Sector)

The [Spanish Network of Women in the Fishing Sector](#) is a national organisation sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment. This network was established under the initiative of the Secretariat General for Fisheries (Ministry of Agriculture, Food and the Environment) and financed by the EFF (Axis 5). The network aims for the integration of women into all activities within the fisheries sector, to increase the visibility of women and to promote equal opportunities within the sector. It's the only existing network supported by national and European public funding. It's also unique because it is the only fisherwomen's organisation established from the top down, whereas all others were based on bottom-up initiatives.

The UHAINA Association

The [Uhaina Association](#) is a local group composed of women and families employed in the fishery sector in the region in the Ports of Hendaye, Ciboure, Saint-Jean-de-Luz , Bayonne and Capbreton .

North Sea Women's Network

This is [an organisation that unites women from fishing communities around the North Sea](#) to find solutions to common problems and issues within fishing communities. The network deals with training, education, advice etc. It has a seat on the executive committee of the North Sea and Pelagic Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) where it acts as a socio-economic watchdog. The network heads up the socio-economic focus group of the NSRAC.

For a more detailed description of how gender can be mainstreamed in this phase of the policy cycle, visit the [EIGE's Gender Mainstreaming Platform](#).

In this phase, it's appropriate to analyse budgets from a gender perspective. Gender budgeting is used to identify how budget allocations contribute to promoting gender equality. Gender budgeting brings visibility to how much public money is spent for women and men respectively. Thus, gender budgeting ensures that public funds are fairly distributed between women and men. It also contributes to accountability and transparency about how public funds are being spent.

When planning, don't forget to establish monitoring and evaluation systems, and indicators that will allow measurement and compare the impact of the policy or programme on women and men over the timeframe of its implementation. Remember to define the appropriate moments to monitor and evaluate your policy.

Example of an indicator for monitoring gender and fisheries

Lack of sex-disaggregated data in maritime affairs and fishery is a major problem in adopting gender-oriented policy in this field. While the European Commission made efforts to collect data disaggregated by sex, many of the indicators used in the field are not disaggregated this way. However, the following are useful indicators for measuring gender inequalities in the fisheries sector.

Percentage of women employed in the maritime and fisheries sector by sex

Participation of women in the fishery sector is quite low. The figure may be derived from the percentage of women employed in fishery and aquaculture, based on Eurostat data.

According to recent data (2014), the number of women involved in fishery and aquaculture is 19,800 (12.9% of the total workforce), while for men it's 134,100 (87.1%). Data are available on [the Eurostat labour force database](#) (Eurostat, LFS, table 'Employment by sex, age groups and economic activity (from 2008, NACE Rev. 2 two digit level)').

When preparing calls for proposals in the framework of funding programmes, or terms of reference in the context of public procurement procedures (notably for contractors to be hired for policy support services), do not forget to formalise gender-related requirements. This will ensure the projects and services which the European Commission will fund are not gender-blind or gender-biased.

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In the implementation phase of a policy or programme, ensure that all who are involved are sufficiently aware about the relevant gender objectives and plans. If not, set up briefings and capacity-building initiatives according to staff needs. Think about researchers, proposal evaluators, monitoring and evaluation experts, scientific officers, programme committee members, etc.

Example of capacity-building initiatives about gender and fisheries

French Fisherwomen - Certificate of collaborative spouse for maritime fisheries enterprises

Training proved the best tool to assist in organising or professionalising women (creating a profession or skills to manage family enterprise). French fisherwomen, after the experience of different types of training related to enterprise management, decided to seek training that provided them with [a specific nationally recognised diploma](#). The national federation of fisherwomen asked the French authorities to add a maritime course to the existing certificate of collaborative spouse (Brevet de Conjoint Collaborateur d'Entreprise Artisanale – BCCEA). The introduction of modules focusing on fisheries and aquaculture in the curriculum serves to provide fisherwomen with access to an official state diploma that enables them to seek employment in other economic sectors. The case made by the women was successful in 2007 with the issue of a ministerial decree and the creation of the diploma called the certificate of collaborative spouse for maritime fisheries enterprises, which is equivalent to the high-school diploma. Women who opt for collaborative spouse status (CSS) can follow the course under certain conditions.

FARNET - Guide 1, Area-based development in EU fisheries areas.

[This publication](#) also promotes equal opportunities.

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A policy cycle or programme should be checked both during – monitoring, and at the end – evaluation, of its implementation.

Monitoring the ongoing work allows for the follow-up of progress and remedying unforeseen difficulties. This exercise should take into account the indicators delineated in the planning phase and realign data collection based on those indicators.

At the end of a policy cycle or programme, a gender-sensitive evaluation should take place. Make your evaluation publicly accessible and strategically disseminate its results to promote its learning potential.

Example of a monitoring and evaluation on gender and fishery

World Bank - Gender in fisheries and aquaculture.

[This paper](#) provides indicators that might be used when monitoring gender issues in fisheries and aquaculture.

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