# PARTICIPATORY MONITORING IN COMMUNITY-BASED FISHERIES MANAGEMENT THROUGH A GENDER LENS

LITERATURE REVIEW







# Gender in small-scale fisheries



# What is participatory monitoring?

Ecological knowledge Local knowledge Indigenous knowledge Localised knowledge Fishers' knowledge Traditional ecological knowledge Observations from the fishery Participation by industry Participatory research Stakeholder involvement Collaborative research Citizen science Joint research Fishery-dependent data Cooperative research Participatory monitoring Community-based monitoring







Observations



Experiential knowledge

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Sampled by others

Provided by community members

Collaborative arrangements

Participatory governance regime

Stephenson et al (2016)

# Why participatory monitoring?

EFFECTIVE DATA
COLLECTION TOOL

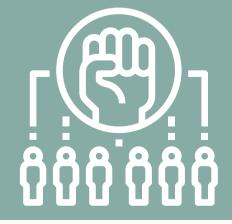




ENABLE INFORMED DECISION-MAKING



**EMPOWERMENT** 



# Research questions

- How and why do researchers engage with the themes of gender and participatory monitoring within Community-based Fisheries Management\* (CBFM)?
- How is participatory monitoring in CBFM portrayed and how is it seen to promote and/or compromise participation for women and men within a community?
- How are the impacts of participatory monitoring on CBFM decision-making processes and activities, and for the participants themselves, characterised in the literature?

\*the term CBFM is used in this presentation, but many of the papers used other terms such as co-management

# **METHODS**

Scoping literature review & Critical interpretive synthesis

#### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

Geography: Developing countries (UN M49) & Non-Self-

Governing Territories included Time: published since 2000

Language: English

#### SEARCH TERMS FOR CBFM POOL

"fisheries", "co-management", "community-based", "small-scale", "artisanal", "fisher folk", "fishing community", "subsistence", "gleaning", "shellfish", "inshore", "intertidal" & "gather"

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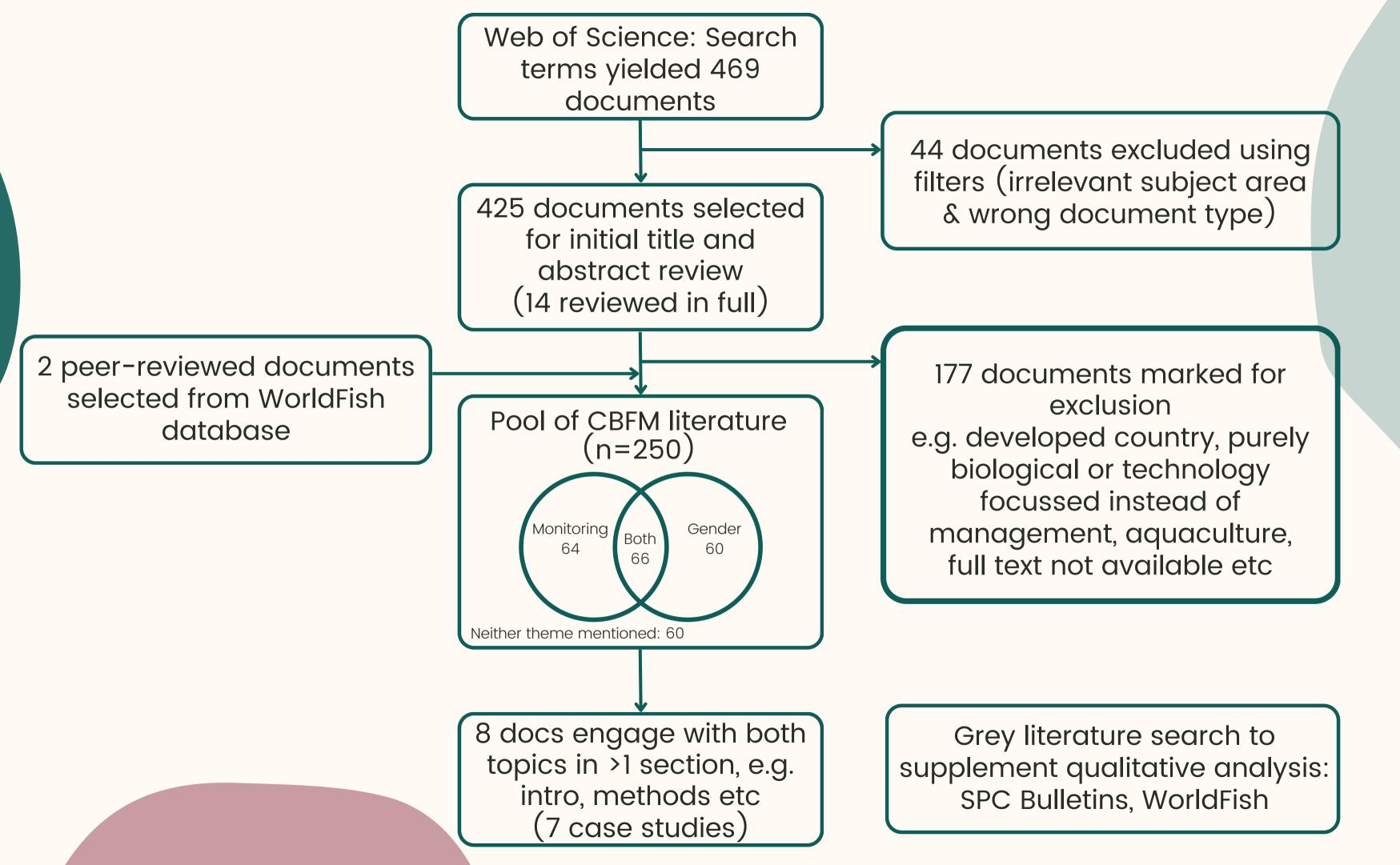
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#### **SEARCH TERMS: GENDER THEME**

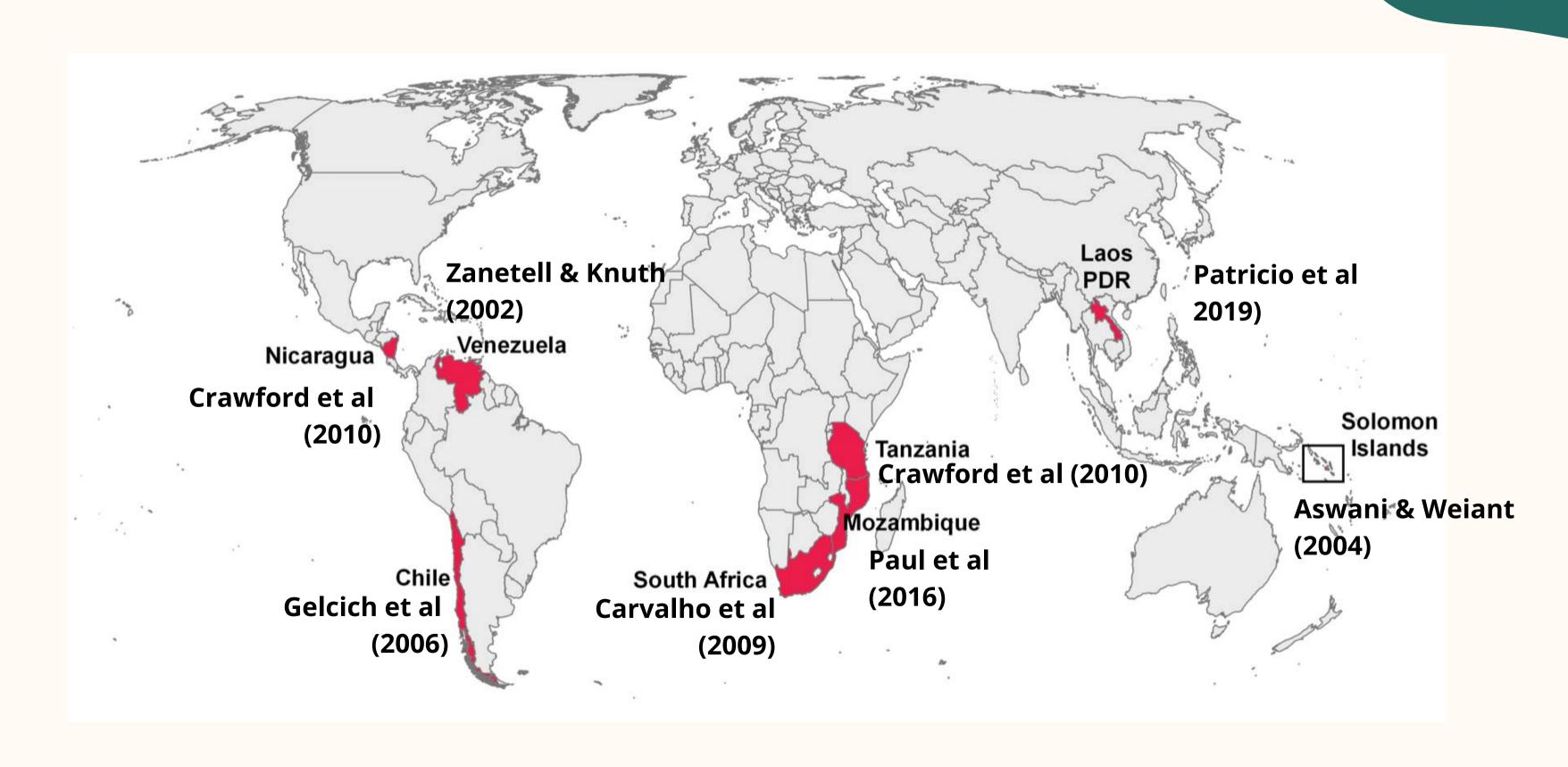
Gender OR Women

#### SEARCH TERMS: PARTICIPATORY MONITORING THEME

"participatory monitoring", "community-based monitoring", "fisher knowledge", "ecological knowledge" OR "local knowledge", "participatory research", "fishers' data", "collaborative research", "fishery dependent data", "cooperative research"



# RESULTS Qualitative analysis of 8 cases (7 papers)



# RESULTS

REASONS PRESENTED FOR ENGAGING WITH GENDER

REASONS PRESENTED FOR ENGAGING WITH PARTICIPATORY MONITORING

GENDERED ASPECTS OF PARTICIPATORY MONITORING

KNOWLEDGE VALUATION AND PRIORITISATION IN MANAGEMENT

REPLICABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY OF PROGRAMME OR RESEARCH METHODS

**MARGINALISATION NARRATIVES** 

## REASONS PRESENTED FOR ENGAGING WITH GENDER

### Instrumental

Gender equity as a way to achieve other goals e.g. increased productivity or income

## vs Intrinsic

Gender equity as a valuable end goal e.g. human-rights oriented





# REASONS PRESENTED FOR ENGAGING WITH PARTICIPATORY MONITORING

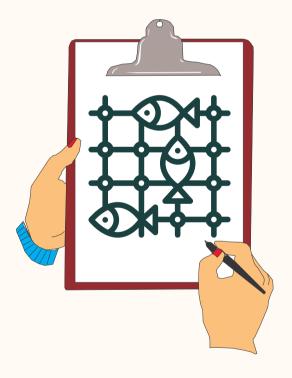


Instrumental vs Intrinsic

# REASONS PRESENTED FOR ENGAGING WITH PARTICIPATORY MONITORING



Instrumental vs Intrinsic



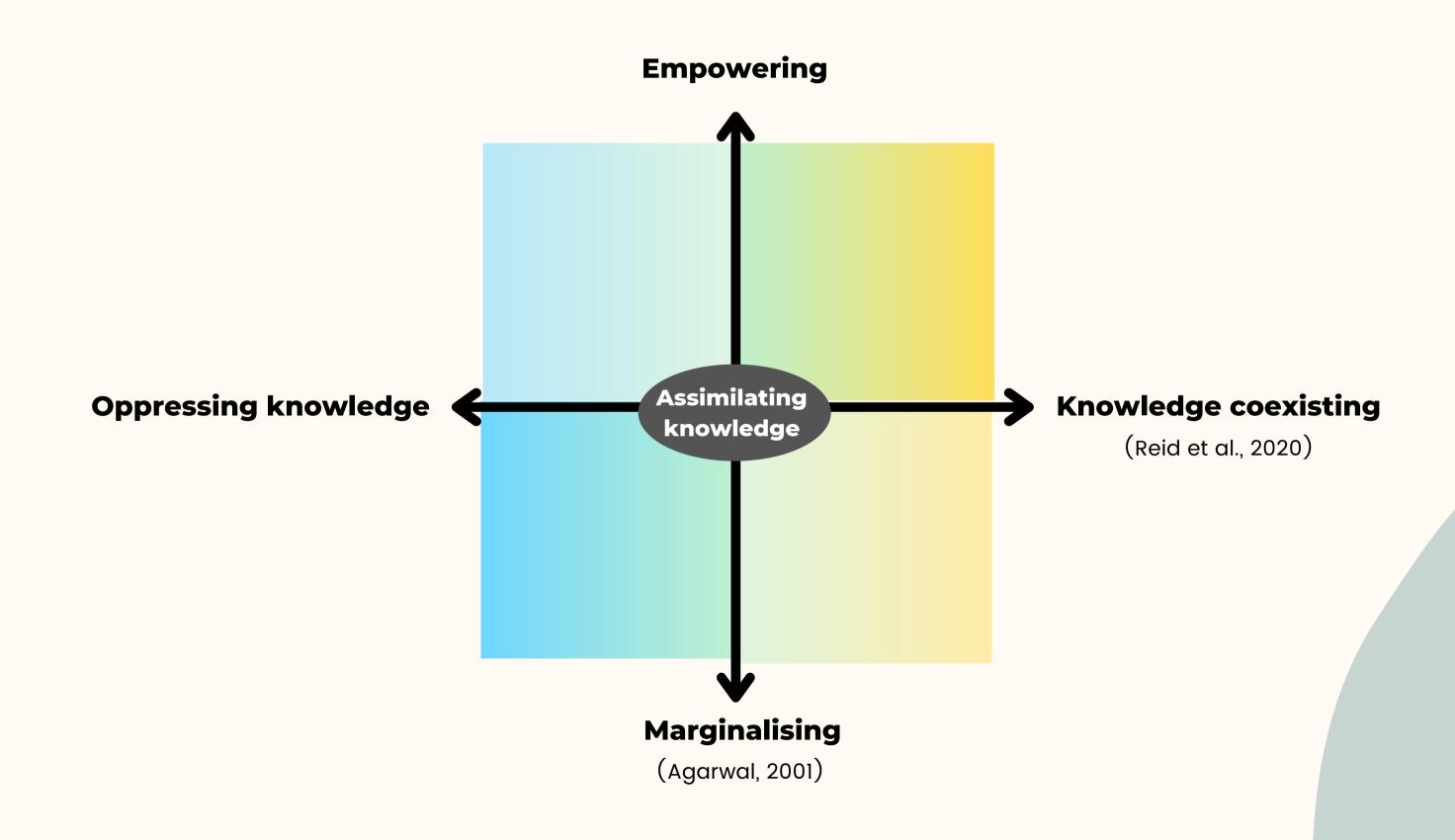
Data collectors: instruments or agents?

# GENDERED ASPECTS OF PARTICIPATORY MONITORING



- Women's participation in fisheries monitoring addresses gender differences in fishing
- Women-dominated fisheries: participatory monitoring by women as a way to improve women's resources
- Men-dominated fisheries: women's fisheries monitoring as an entry point to participation in decision-making
- Empowerment & potential benefit to participants
- Potential risk to participants
- Modification of methods & accessibility







#### **Empowering**

Participation in other aspects of fisheries management may be empowering but Indigenous and local knowledge is dismissed

Participation in other government may be empowered but Indigenous and local knowledge is dismissed

Participatory
governance is
grounded in
Indigenous and local
knowledge, and
Western science

### **Oppressing knowledge**

Assimilating knowledge

**Knowledge coexisting** 

(Reid et al., 2020)

Participatory
monitoring involves
people in collecting
data using Western
scientific methods,
but does not
translate to greater
decision-making
power

Management only accepts Western science and people are excluded from decision-making

knowledge is extracted but people cannot participate in decision-making;

Indigenous and local

Marginalising

(Agarwal, 2001)



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# REPLICABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY OF PROGRAMME OR RESEARCH METHODS





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## MARGINALISATION NARRATIVES

- Context-dependent power dynamics
- Women as marginalised and vulnerable
   Fishers as marginalised and vulnerable
- Diversity can be overlooked in order to emphasise a specific conflict or power differential
- Intersectionality provides a valuable lens for fisheries management
- Participatory monitoring to change power dynamics



# Conclusion

- Themes of participation and gender should be considered during project design, not as an afterthought.
- 2 A more transparent and reflexive approach is needed for designing, evaluating, and reporting of participatory monitoring and management.
- The social aspects of participatory approaches should be reported with as much clarity as technical methods.

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# THANK YOU

Questions?

