

Integrating Gender in Fisheries and Aquaculture Economics and Trade Research

IIFET Pre-Conference Workshop, 15 July 2024
@ WorldFish Headquarters, Batu Maung, Penang, Malaysia

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GENDER Impact Platform



Canada

 **Dried Fish Matters**



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Workshop Agenda

Who is here?

Objectives and Plan for the Day

Session 1 - Gender in Fisheries/Aquaculture Economics & Trade
Research

Session 2 - The “Micro” View: The Gendering of Households

Session 3 - The “Macro” View: Markets and Trade,
Governance, Technology

Session 4 – Putting It All Together: Principles and Methods for
Gender Analysis

Concluding Remarks



Who is here today?

- a. Gender Absolute Beginner
- b. Gender Novice/Know a little bit
- c. Gender "Regular"
- d. Gender Expert

Objectives

- ❖ Develop an understanding of why gender analysis is important and how it advances economic science;
- ❖ Identify key concepts in economics in which gender analysis may be deployed;
- ❖ Gain tools for integrating gender analysis in fisheries and aquaculture economics and trade research.

**Think about a
research
project...**

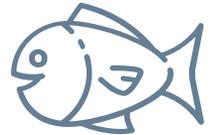
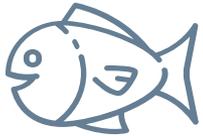
Session 1: Gender in Fisheries and Aquaculture Economics and Trade Research

Facilitators:

Tara Nair

Cynthia McDougall

Kyoko Kusakabe



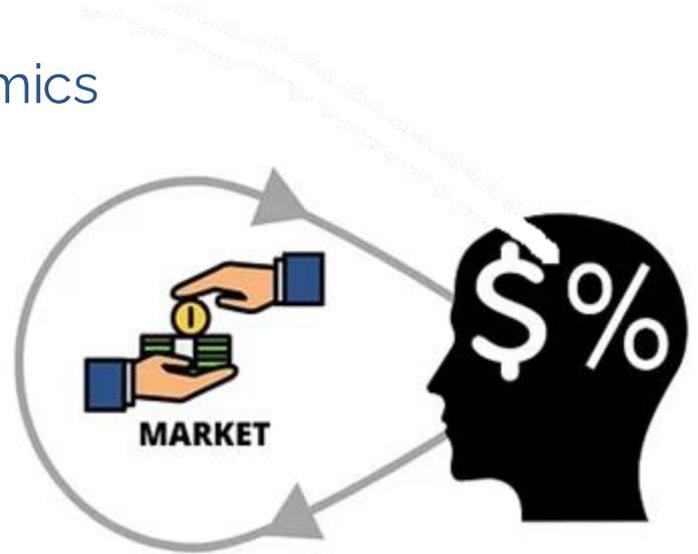


Agenda for Session

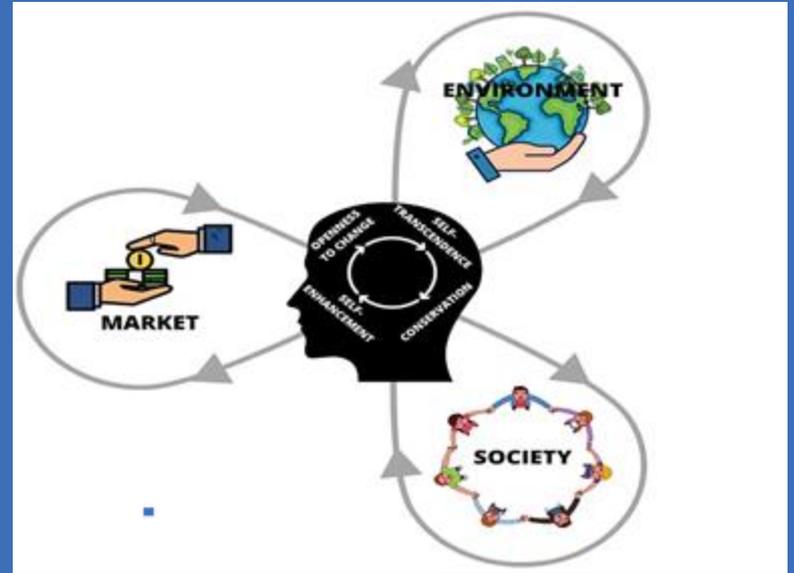
- Gender in Fisheries Economics and Why It Matters
 - Gender Knowledge and Data Gap
 - Key Gender Concepts
-
- 

Why does gender matter in economics?

- Foundations of the Philosophy of Economics
 - Rationality
 - Welfare
 - Choice
- Economics as a 'positive science'
- Androcentric knowledge – 'the rational man'



- * The social world is relational
- * Gender and social norms affect relationships



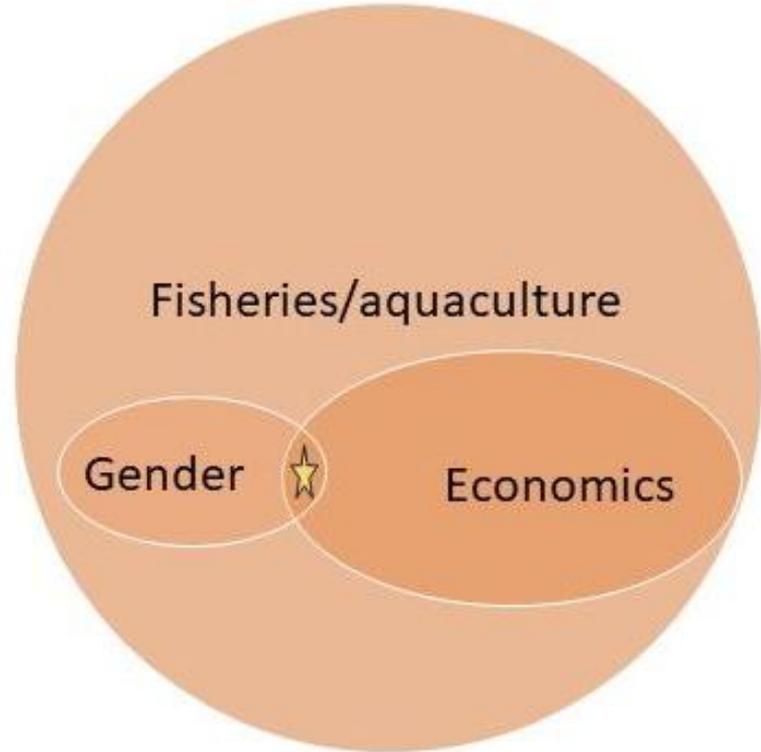
"Research is gendered as society is deeply gendered."

(Marilyn Waring)



- Unravelling the 'invisible' economic agents, sectors and relationships
- Realistic analytical frames

**Yet economics research
in fisheries, aquaculture
and trade is very rarely
gendered.**



Gender Knowledge and Data Gaps



Rahma Adam



Meryl Williams

Key Concepts



**Q1. What is
gender?**

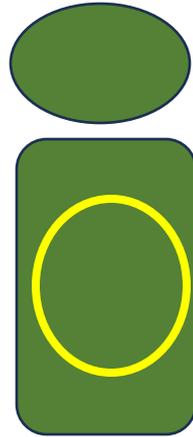
Q1. What is
gender?

As an **identity**:

**Is GENDER the same
as SEX?**



Q1. What is gender?



Gender identity: How you (in your mind) define your gender

- Woman, gender nonbinary/ genderqueer+, man...

Sex is the biological term: organs, hormones, chromosomes

- Female, intersex, male

Q1. What is gender?

The Genderbread Person v3.3

Gender is one of those things everyone thinks they understand, but most people don't. Like ice cream, gender isn't binary. It's not either/or. In many cases it's both/and. A bit of this, a dash of that. This tasty little guide is meant to be an appetizer for gender understanding. It's okay if you're hungry for more. In fact, that's the idea.

by its pronounced **METROsexual**.com

Identity (brain icon)

Attraction (heart icon)

Sex (genitalia icon)

Expression (dashed line pointing to the person's body)

Gender Identity
 Put a point on both continua in each category to represent your identity, combine all ingredients to form your Genderbread.
 How you, in your head, define your gender, based on how much you align or don't align with what you understand to be the options for gender.

Gender Expression
 The ways you present gender, through your actions, dress, and demeanor, and how those presentations are interpreted based on gender norms.

Biological Sex
 The physical sex characteristics you're born with and develop, including genitalia, body shape, voice pitch, body hair, hormones, chromosomes, etc.

Sexually Attracted to
 Nobody { (Women/Females/Femininity) (Men/Males/Masculinity)

Romantically Attracted to
 Nobody { (Women/Females/Femininity) (Men/Males/Masculinity)

In each grouping, decide if that applies to you and put a point, depicting the aspects of gender toward which you may have attraction.

© 2014 Sam Killerman. All rights reserved.

For a bigger bite, read more at <http://bit.ly/genderbread>

Q1. What is
gender?

As an **identity**:

Is **GENDER** the same
as **SEX**?

NO.



Q1. What is
gender?

As a **Core Concept** in Research:

Is **GENDER** the same as
(adding or counting)
WOMEN?

NO.



Q1. What is gender?

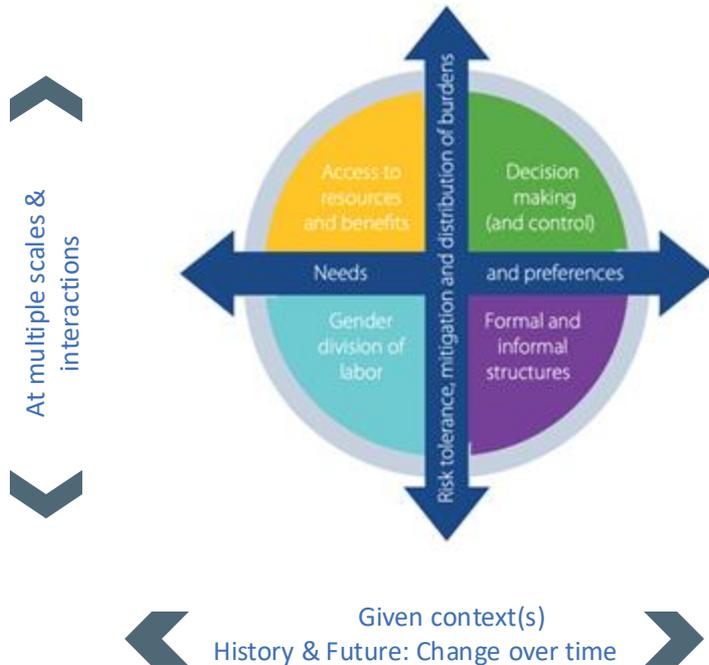
GENDER in research refers to:
The **socially constructed** ideas and practices of *masculinity and femininity*.
I.e., the roles, responsibilities, expectations, and behaviours associated with being a man or woman.

Gender in research elucidates:
how and in what ways power relations at all scales, and formal and informal **structures** (policies, norms), shape the expectations and opportunities for individuals and groups to engage in, influence, **benefit from or bear costs** of R4D and development processes
(McDougall et al. 2021)



Q1. What is gender?

Gender in research: an analytical lens



- ❖ **Identify** main axes of marginalization/power
- ❖ Ask *Who, Why* and *So What* regarding:
 - **4 key analytical dimensions**AND...
 - Distribution and mitigation of **risks and burdens**
 - Responsiveness: **differentiated needs and preferences**
- ❖ In relation to **scale(s)** and **time**
- ❖ In a given **context(s)**

**Q2. But do we consider
only gender?**

**I.e., Do we assume 'all women are
homogeneous', etc?**

Gender
“...continues globally to be a
primary axis of inequality”
(Criado-Perez 2019).

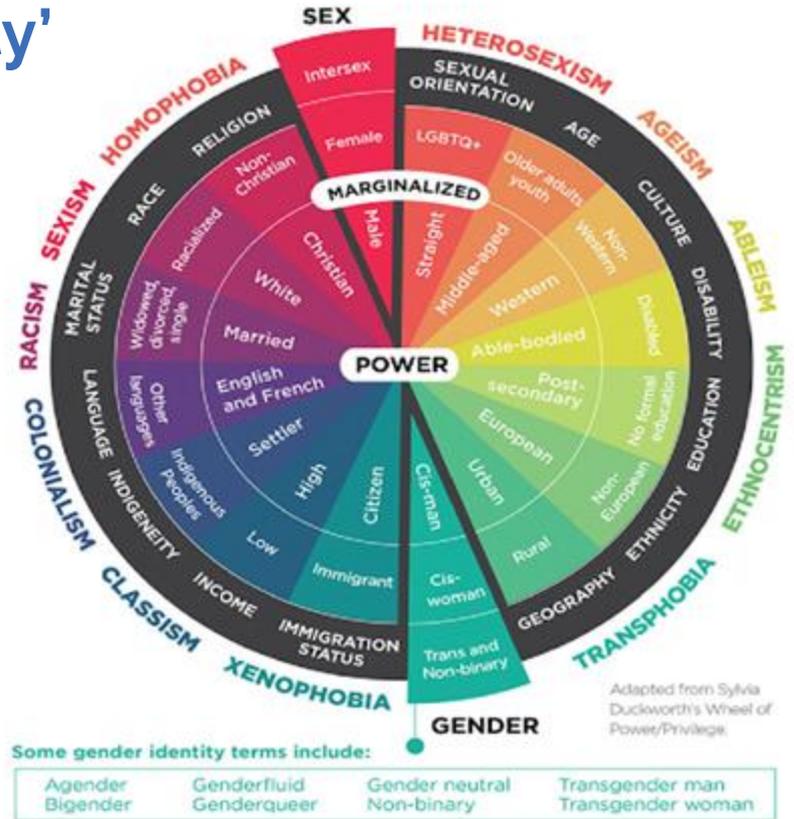
As such, it always needs to be
considered.

But we need to also recognise
other dimensions — and how
they interact with gender
marginalisations...

What are other
social dimensions of
power or
marginalization?

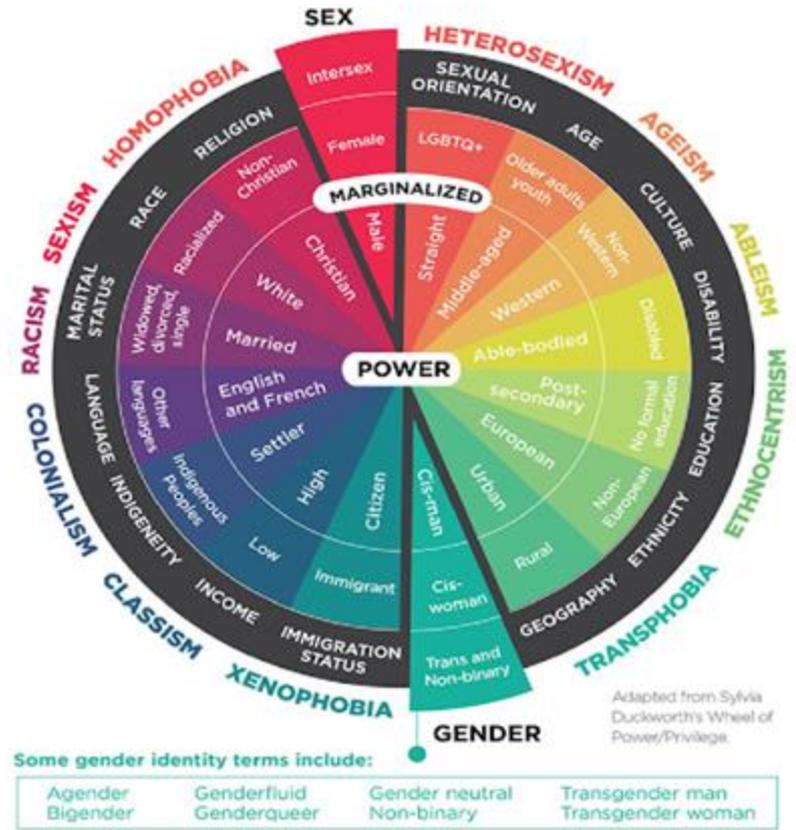
This is called 'Intersectionality'

The way that social marginalizations and discriminations—e.g., along the lines of class, ethnicity, (dis)ability and more—interact with each other and with gender to create *compounding* power & privilege or exclusions & inequities... (based on Crenshaw, 1990).



An intersectional gender **lens** considers:

- **multiplicity of aspects**—gender a main axis
- **power relations among** and **effects** on diverse (*gender-social*) groups
 - on well-being and on sustainable development
- **context-specific** realities, while focusing on **systematized barriers** and **structural drivers**



What is 'gender division of labor'?

- Different roles, responsibilities and activities appropriate for women and men
- Gender roles vary widely cross-culturally
- Gender roles are determined by culture, and give unequal power over resources.
- If appropriate behaviors are not observed, society withdraws its approval.
 - Gender norms guide behavior
- Different types of work
 - Productive
 - Reproductive
 - Community



**Why do we need to consider
gender division of labor?**

What is 'gender relations'?

- Hierarchical relations of power between women and men within a specified time and place;
- Emphasizes the inter-connectedness of women's and men's lives and the interaction of gender with other systems of social relations (e.g., age, class, caste, ethnicity, race, religion).



Decision making

- Why is understanding decision making patterns/power important?
- Decision making on what?
- What influences decision making
 - Ownership of resources
 - Gender norms/ social expectation
 - Confidence/ self-image/ gender roles
 - Insecurity/ anticipation of repercussion
- Decision making process

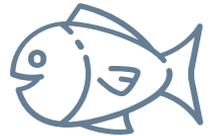


Power

- Power over
- Power to
- Power within
- Power with

Session 2: The Micro View - Households

Facilitators:
Kyoko Kusakabe
Holly Hapke



Agenda for Session

- Goal: Problematize two issues in Fisheries Economics
 - The Household Income Issue
 - The Family as Enterprise
- Opening ice breaker exercise
- Key Concepts:
 - Gendering the concept of the household
 - Household Headship & Membership- a feminist economic critique
 - The Care Economy
- Implications for Research - Key Questions for Gender Analysis
- Discussion/Q&A

Ice Breaker

- What is a household?
- Why we do use the household in economic analysis?



What is a Household?

Conventional Economic Theory:

- Unitary: cohesive unit in which members pool resources and *cooperate* for collective good;
 - Assumed to be headed by men; female-headed household a “special case”
 - Modeled as a single, rational actor (Becker 1981)
 - Treated as a “firm” in economic analysis
 - *Cooperative* bargaining models used to understand household decision-making (Manser and Brown 1980; McElroy and Horney 1981)
-



What is a Household?

Feminist Economic Theories:

- An institution that produces and consumes global commodities while ensuring the social reproduction of laborers
 - Sites of many economic choices - incl. market and **non**market activities, paid work, unpaid (care) work. For example:
 - Food: Grow or buy? Who will grow or earn income to buy? Who will shop, prepare, eat, clean up?
 - A unit in which members **inequitably** pool and redistribute labor, resources, and livelihood strategies
-



Feminist Economic Theories:

- Individual decisions are made in the context of *relationship to other household members*
 - Members may or may not be kin-related
 - Members may or may not co-reside
 - Members may or **may not** pool resources
 - Households repeatedly alter their composition in response to economic cycles:
 - Nuclear, Joint/Multi-generational, Polygamous, Intermittent members, Single-member
 - Household relations and dynamics characterized by cooperation AND conflict (Sen 1990)
-

How are choices decided? What power relations do they reflect? And what are the *economic implications* for individual members?

→ Need to consider both **Cooperation** and **Conflict** in economic research. (Folbre 1986; Agarwal 1997)

→ Need to problematize power relations within households in terms of how labor and resources are divided among different members and how these distributions connect households and individuals to broader economic institutions and processes.

Household Headship and Membership

- Who is the head? How do we know?
 - How do we determine who is a member?
 - ➔ What assumptions do we make about household composition? How do these assumptions impact economics research?
- 

Household Headship and Membership

- Headship is often contested within household (Doss 2021)
- Common presumption is that male is head; a woman is only head if there is no adult male present
 - ***But can there not be joint heads?!*** (Hapke 2001)
- Who counts as a member in household surveys? (Doss 2021)
 - Men remain present and head even if they migrate
 - If women migrate, they are not considered household members, let alone head
- How do we account for multiple types of households and dynamic membership?



Household Assets

- Ownership/Tenure:
 - Individual or Joint ownership?
 - Customary or Formal title?
- Marital Property Rights
 - Community or Separation-of-Property regimes?
- Role of Social Capital
 - Women's social networks are of paramount economic importance, especially for credit.
 - Short-term loans often are essential in SSF economies for both consumption and production.
 - It is through women's social contacts that such needed credit is obtained.



The Care Economy



Care Economy

What is counted in the calculation of GDP?

- System of national accounts (SNA)
- SNA activities include employment, production of goods for own final use
- Non-SNA activities include unpaid domestic services and care work



Care Economy

If we include unpaid care work, GDP will increase tremendously (household satellite account)

- Switzerland - households accounted for 41.4% of gross value added in the extended total economy in 2020 (60% carried out by women)

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/work-income/employment-working-hours/balancing-unpaid-work/household-production-satellite-account.html>

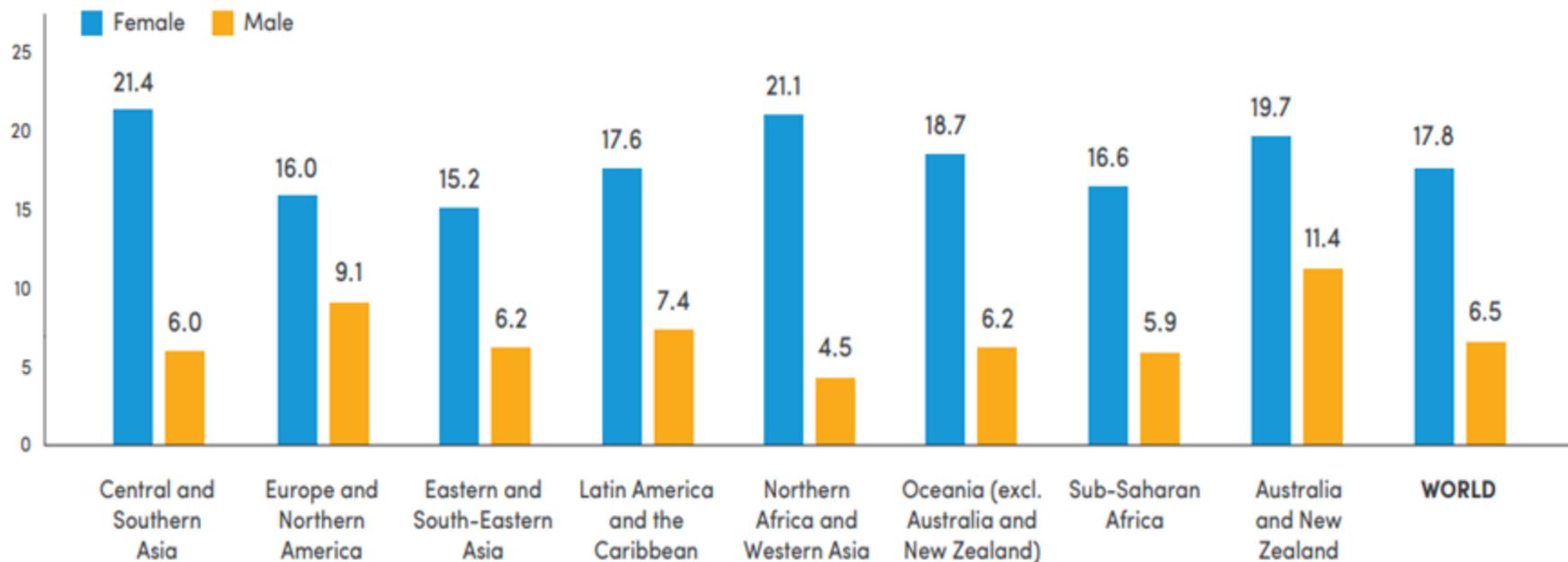
- UK - Total gross value added of home production (include care, housework) was GBP1,018.9 bn in 2014 (56.1% of GDP).

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/satelliteaccounts/compendium/householdsatelliteaccounts/2005to2014/chapter1executivesummaryforhouseholdsatelliteaccount>



FIGURE 1

Average Time spent in unpaid care and domestic work, percent of a 24-hour day by region and sex, 2023

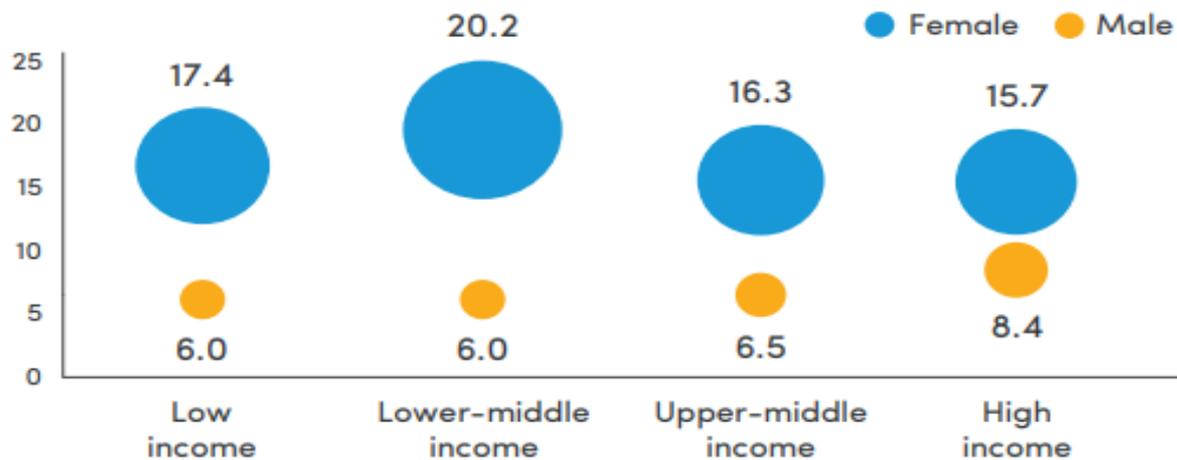


Source: UN Women and the Pardee Center for International Futures using IFs v. 7.97.

<https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2023-10/technical-brief-forecasting-time-spent-in-unpaid-care-and-domestic-work-en.pdf>

FIGURE 2

**Time spent in unpaid care and domestic work,
percent of a 24-hour day by World Bank Income
Classifications and sex, 2023**



Source: UN Women and the Pardee Center for International Futures using IFs v. 7.97.

What is the problem of not taking care work into consideration?

How does the care work of women subsidize projects/value chain?

Examples:

community development project
dried fish value chain

What are we missing here?

Fishing

Processing

Transportation

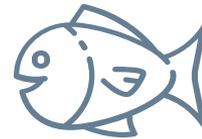
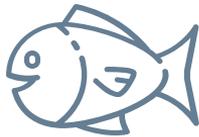
Wholesale

Retail



What are the implications of these ideas for fisheries economic research?

- Need for nuanced understanding of the household
- Need for more micro-level economic studies
- Need for Integrated, interdisciplinary perspectives

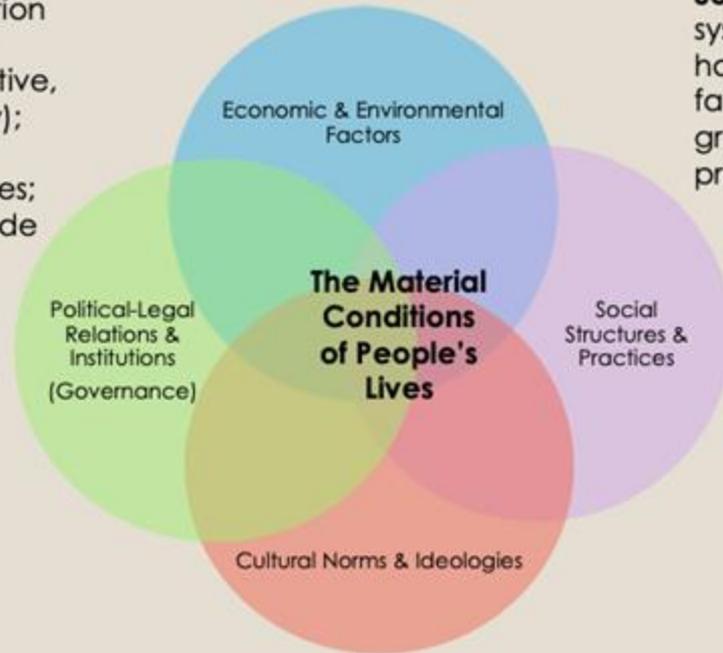


Handout: Key Questions for Research

Economic/Environmental:

Resource base; organization of economy; livelihoods; divisions of labor (productive, reproductive, community); access to resources & education; mobility; wages; employment markets; trade networks & value chains

Political-Legal: Rights of property, inheritance, voting, participation in governance, household decision-making; Power relations that structure access to rights and resources



Social: Kinship, descent, systems; marriage/ sexuality; household composition; family structure; social groups; social norms; social privilege

Cultural: identities; moral authority; ideologies & beliefs; constructions of power and authority; constructions of space (public/ private) and social status – other examples?

Session 3: The “Macro” View - Markets, Trade, Value Chains Governance, and Technology



Facilitators:
Holly Hapke
Carmen Pedroza





Agenda for Session

- ❖ Social Relations and Cultural Economy of Markets & Trade
 - ❖ How Value Chains are Gendered
 - ❖ Gender and Technological Change
 - ❖ Breakout Group Exercise
-
- 

Gender and the Social Construction of Fish Markets and Trade

A market is not only an abstract system of prices, preferences, supply, demand and automatically generated equilibriums. [It's] also about concrete transactions between concrete people who exchange concrete products according to concrete infrastructural patterns. (van der Ploeg, 2015)



- Fish markets are constituted by social relationships that “govern” economic relations and transactions. (Hapke, et al. 2023)
- Credit relations, or moral economies constituted by debt obligation and trust, commonly bind different groups of actors. (Pedroza, 2013; Crona *et al.*, 2010).



- Identities such as ethnicity, religion, caste, gender and native place are important aspects of market governance.
- They often determine rights of access, who the power brokers are, and how formal and informal institutions function.

Fish markets are not merely sites for the exchange of commodities; they are deeply embedded in social, cultural, and political institutions, norms, and practices operating at multiple scales. (Hapke, 2016)



Fish Trade and Gender

- The gendered geography of fish trade varies considerably by region and changes over time.
- Complex gendered norms influence the way men and women traders access markets and move through market spaces.
 - legitimacy, mobility, type of business that may be conducted
- Women' mobility often limited due to household responsibilities or cultural norms.
- Also often lack power in market associations.

➔ Fish Markets are GENDERED



Reflective Exercise

What are the roles of women and men in fish value chains in the country where you do research?

Is there a difference in different fisheries?



Engendering Value Chains

- How do women enter into the labor market?
 - Strategy to poverty alleviation/Informality (Households can't survive on male earnings)
 - Higher education-good employment
- Why women are concentrated at particular points of the chain and men at others?
 - Men main income earners, women domestic and child care activities
 - Women conventionally viewed as secondary earners - but "myth of male breadwinner"
 - 'Nimble fingers'
 - Flexible employment to drive down labour costs
 - Flexible employment/informal/poor working conditions

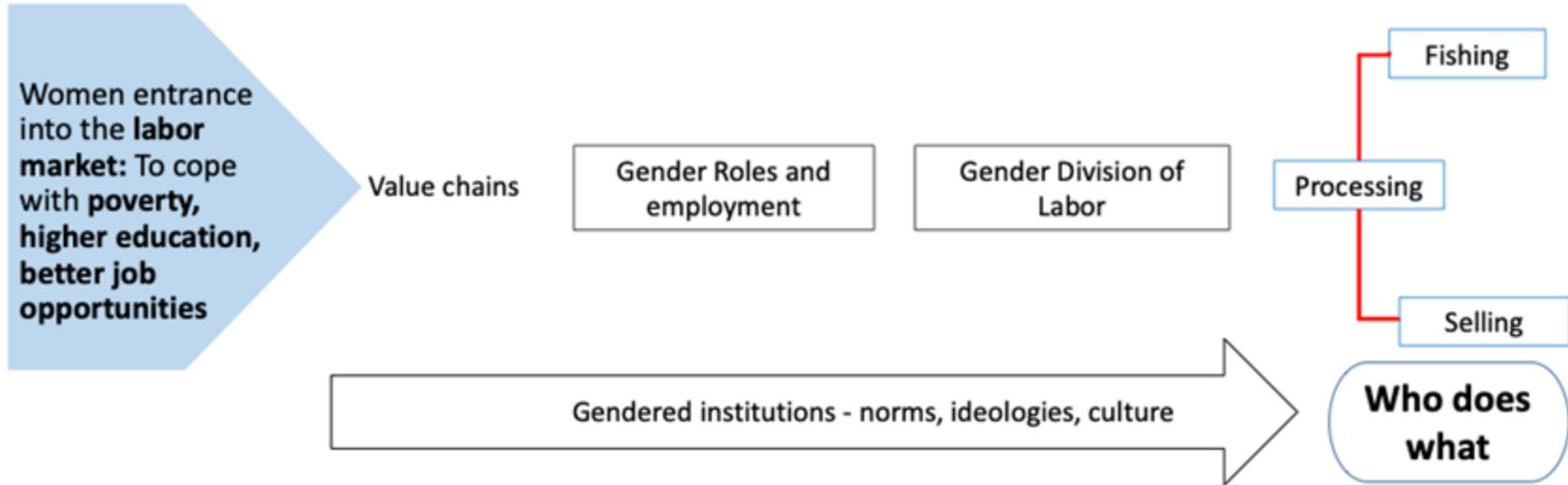


Engendering Value Chains

- Why do women receive particular wage rates/rewards?
 - Women are seen as a cheap and compliant labour force by employers
 - Lower/training education
 - Culturally de-valued - women paid less because they are women
- Opportunities/jobs available for women relative to men?
 - Feminization of the labor market



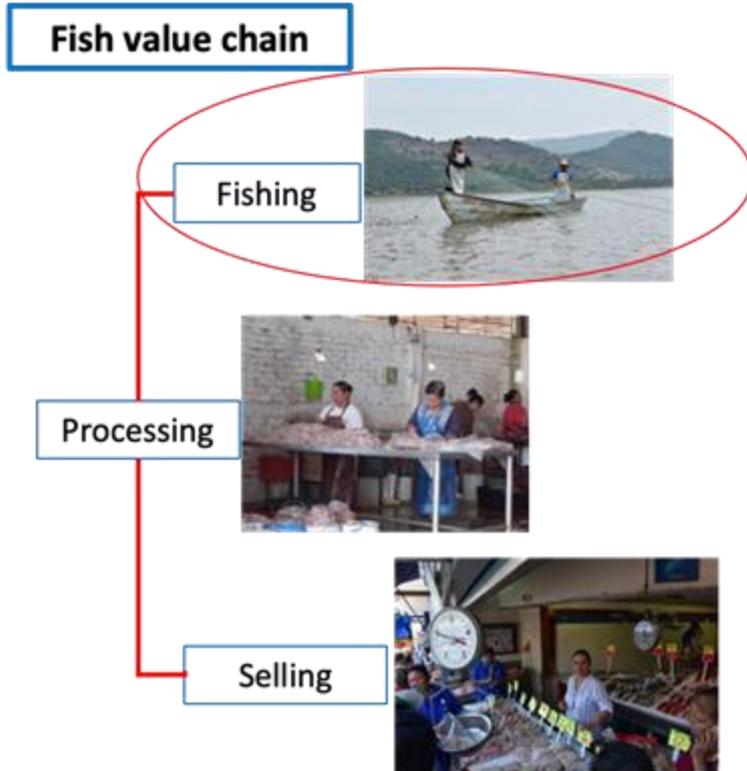
Engendering of value chains



Feminist Commodity (Value) Chain Analysis

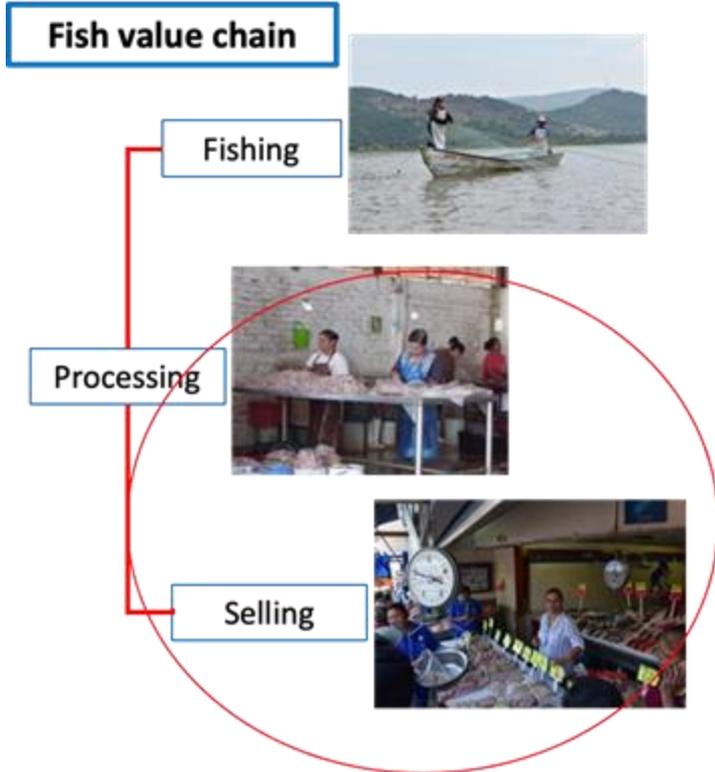
- Identifies where women and men are the **key agents** in VC;
- Maps the consequences of international and national state policies for men and women's labor (Ramamurthy 2000).
- Asks questions about **material and non-material processes** that underlie the relations of production and exchange (see Dunaway 2001).

Fishing



- Top/highest income earning activity of the FVC
- Lowest women's participation
- Women see selves as helpers, not fishers
- Access to and control over assets is crucial for equal decision-making
- E.g., Research questions to ask:
 - How do local gender norms allow or limit women's ability to fish?
 - Do women fishers participate in high income earning fisheries, or are those limited to men? Why?
 - What are the implications for women's limited participation for the household and local economy?

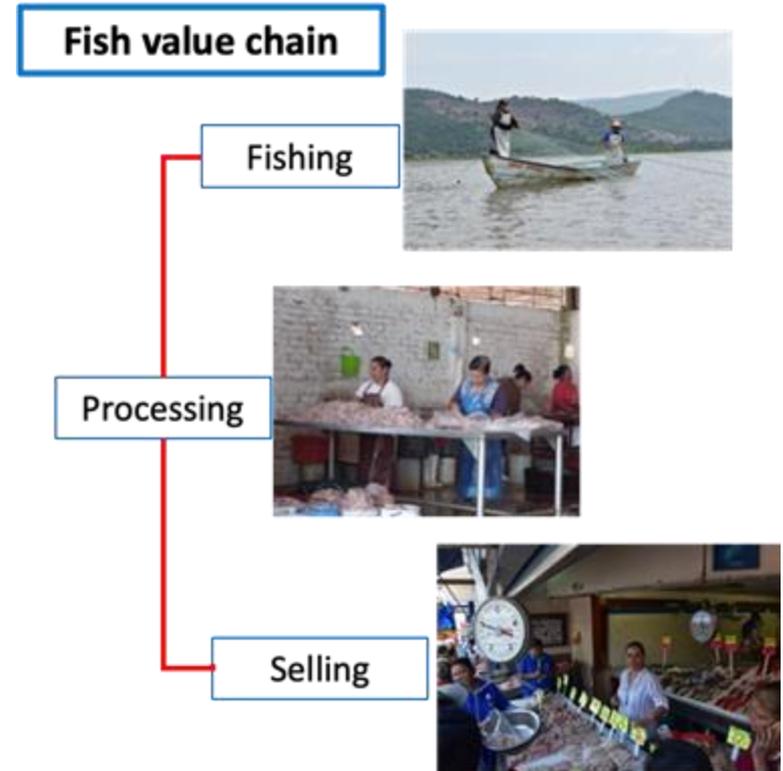
Post-harvest:



- Women relegated to roles related to their domestic responsibilities: processing (food preparation) and selling fish (provisioning)
- Women considered suitable for processing roles: meticulousness, patience, keen eye for detail
- Capital and mobility/less
- Ex. of research gender question to ask:
 - What are the economic benefits of women's work in processing and trade for the local economy?

Governance and Gendered Institutions

- Value chain governance refers to who has decision-making power and how benefits are distributed along the chain.
- Gendered institutions influence in the distributions of benefits along the chain.
- Limited access to the institutions where decisions are taking place



Technology and Gender



Technological Innovation and Interventions

- 2 Tendencies:
 - Overemphasis on efficiency and quality
 - Failure to consider socio-economic and gendered contexts in which they are embedded.
- But: social circumstances shape technology:
 - What kinds of technologies are developed,
 - How they are deployed,
 - Who has access

The Gendered Social Context of Technology

- Men and women are situated in fish economies in different ways:
 - Different tasks w/in value chains (GDL)
 - Different fish value chains (low value/high value)
- ➔ Different technological needs and priorities
- But, within the fisheries sector, more attention has been paid to the tasks that *men* perform and to high value items than to women and their technological needs



Technology and Gender

- In addition:
 - Social and cultural norms restrict women's access to technical knowledge, entrepreneurial and technical skills, and training.
 - Women ignored in state efforts to disseminate new technologies
 - Women often lack access to specialized knowledge, skills, and extension services necessary for fish farming, hatchery or nursery management, or marketing.
- Thus, technologies are *gendered* – i.e., shaped by and linked to gendered divisions of labour and gender power relations



Gender and Technology

Technological change prompts changes in gender relations and identities
(Lagesen 2012).

Technological change reworks systems of economic production and exchange → the social relations of production evolve

→ → New Forms of Gender Identities and Gender Relations Emerge:

- Marginalization – pushed out of market or pushed into lower levels
- New Economic Roles – wage laborer, housewife
- Sometimes greater empowerment – but then can face backlash

(Gopal, Hapke, Erwin 2023)



Implications for Economic Research

- Men and women experience economic life differently
- Gender inequality has a social and economic cost
- Women have important but invisible roles in fish economies, which have to be understood to achieve the best science and policy interventions and avoid social and economic costs of inequality.

Case Study Exercise: The Shrimp Industry of Alpha

1. Elect a rapporteur
- 2a. Imagine and map the shrimp value chain for Country Alpha from a gender-informed perspective. Include the full range of activities, including ancillary activities, types of production (capture/aquaculture), and all actors (paid/unpaid) in the chain. Consider also how the shrimp value chain might connect to value chains for other fish species. What questions do you need to ask to understand gender divisions of labor within the value chain?

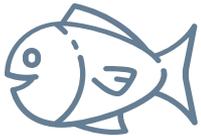
And/OR:

- 2b. Utilizing the *Key Questions for Gender-Informed Research* handout, identify a research problem deriving from the above scenario that incorporates gender analysis. What questions would you ask and what kinds of information and data would you need to understand the problem from a gender-informed perspective? What makes gender a significant focus of analysis in the shrimp industry of Country Alpha?
3. Report work to group



Session 4: Putting it Together – Principles and Methods for Gender Analysis

Facilitators:
Cynthia McDougall
Meryl Williams
Holly Hapke





Agenda for Session

- ❖ Recap
 - ❖ Data and Gender Analysis
 - ❖ Exercise: Conceptualizing a Gender-Informed Research Project
 - ❖ Concluding Remarks
-
- 

Re-Cap

Implications for Fisheries & Aquaculture Economics Research...



Challenge *assumptions*



Deepen research *questions*



Strengthen *methods, analysis and interpretation*

- Enhanced **quality of science**
- Closed **data and knowledge** gaps
- More **informed, responsive, effective and equitable policies** and programmes



Recap Questions

Practice question:

To balance the fact that *society and markets are* gendered, economics research should ***avoid*** gender. *True or false?*

Session 1

The only reason that labour (paid and unpaid work) is divided in a certain way between men and women (ie into the current gender division of labour) in societies is because it is **efficient**. *True or false?*

Session 2

We should use and encourage others to use the concept of “**household head**” (and “male-headed” and “female-headed households”) in our research as it is easy and not problematic. *True or false?*

Session 3

Fish markets and value chains are characterized as much by **social relations** as they are by economic transactions. *True or false?*

Applying JEL Codes in your gender publications

Navigating the “fisheries fear of the F-word” (feminism)

Gender and data - focusing on counting women in value chains

- Available data drive the questions. Instead: Questions need to drive research (data collection and analysis)
 - Ref: GAF 101: A Training Workshop: Theorizing Gender in Aquaculture & Fisheries Research - <https://www.genderaquafish.org/docsevents/gaf101-2016-final-w-sources.pdf>
- Session 2: Complexities of micro-level economics data and methodology
 - E.g., households, what labor counts in SNAs and Satellite Accounts.
- Macro-level gender data, e.g., sex and intersectional variables in labour, governance, etc
 - National or sub-national levels along value chains
- Most countries have gender data gaps or gender data biased by structural assumptions
 - E.g., counting only (some) fishing and fish farming but not other value chain segments

Filling Gender Data Gaps

- Start with the research (and statistical) questions - what data are needed why, by whom and for what purposes?
 - Follow-up study to *Illuminating Hidden Harvests* (in prep) addresses these questions for SSF - 1) economy and environment, 2) governance and support services, and 3) health and nutrition
- Sourcing the data
 - Multiple data streams needed - don't rely only on the fisheries agency
 - Many current and potential data sources are outside fisheries agencies, e.g., government statistical and census offices
 - Some studies have applied academic labour to recover gendered information



Final Exercise: What will you take into your own research?

1. Reflect on a research project related to your interests and identify 1-2 ideas for using gender concepts in your research.
2. Write your idea(s) on a white oval card.
3. Share your idea(s) with your neighbor.
4. Discuss/give feedback to each other on the ideas presented.

Thanks!

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References and Resources

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