

Empowering Women Through Technological Development in the Fisheries Sector to Achieve Gender Justice

Presentation by Dr. Chandra Kant and

Ms. Shalini



Introduction

The fisheries sector is deeply gendered, with men dominating capture fishing while women are confined to post-harvest and low-visibility tasks.

Despite their crucial roles in net-mending, processing, and marketing, women face structural barriers to access resources, training, and technology.

Addressing these gaps is key to achieving gender justice.





Gendered Division of Labour

Women's Roles

Vital roles in fisheries, but are rarely recognized as 'workers' or 'owners'

Exclusion Barriers

Face exclusion from vessel ownership, credit facilities, and decision-making

Systemic Impact

This systemic marginalization perpetuates economic inequality and invisibility in policies

Technological Interventions

Technological innovations, such as improved fish containers, cold storage, and modern preservation techniques, have shown to reduce women's drudgery, enhance hygiene, and improve earnings. **Digital tools like mobile-based market systems help expand their reach and bargaining power.**



Improved Fish Containers

Lightweight, hygienic containers that reduce physical strain and improve product quality



Cold Storage

Modern preservation techniques that extend shelf life and reduce spoilage



Digital Market Systems

Mobile-based platforms that expand market reach and increase bargaining power

Digital Empowerment



Mobile Apps

Connect fisherwomen to wider markets



E-commerce Platforms

Reduces dependence on intermediaries



Increased Bargaining Power

Direct market access improves negotiations

Mobile apps and e-commerce platforms connect fisherwomen to wider markets. This reduces dependence on intermediaries and increases their bargaining power. However, training and digital literacy must be ensured for inclusivity.

Barriers to Access

Most innovations in fisheries remain male-focused, excluding women from training and ownership. Cultural norms, lack of financial literacy, and absence of gender-sensitive policies restrict their full participation.

Male-Focused Innovations

Most innovations in fisheries remain male-focused, excluding women from training and ownership

Cultural Barriers

Cultural norms restrict women's participation in fisheries development

Financial Literacy Gap

Lack of financial literacy limits access to resources and opportunities

Policy Gaps

Absence of gender-sensitive policies restrict their full participation

Towards Gender Justice

Transforming Fisheries Governance

To ensure gender justice, fisheries governance must integrate women into policy, training, and ownership. **Technological development should not just enhance productivity but also empower women socially and economically.**

01

Policy Integration

Include women in fisheries policy development and implementation

03

Ownership Rights

Promote women's ownership of fishing assets and resources

02

Training Access

Ensure equal access to technological training and skill development

04

Social Empowerment

Technology should empower women socially and economically

Research Methodology of the Empirical Study

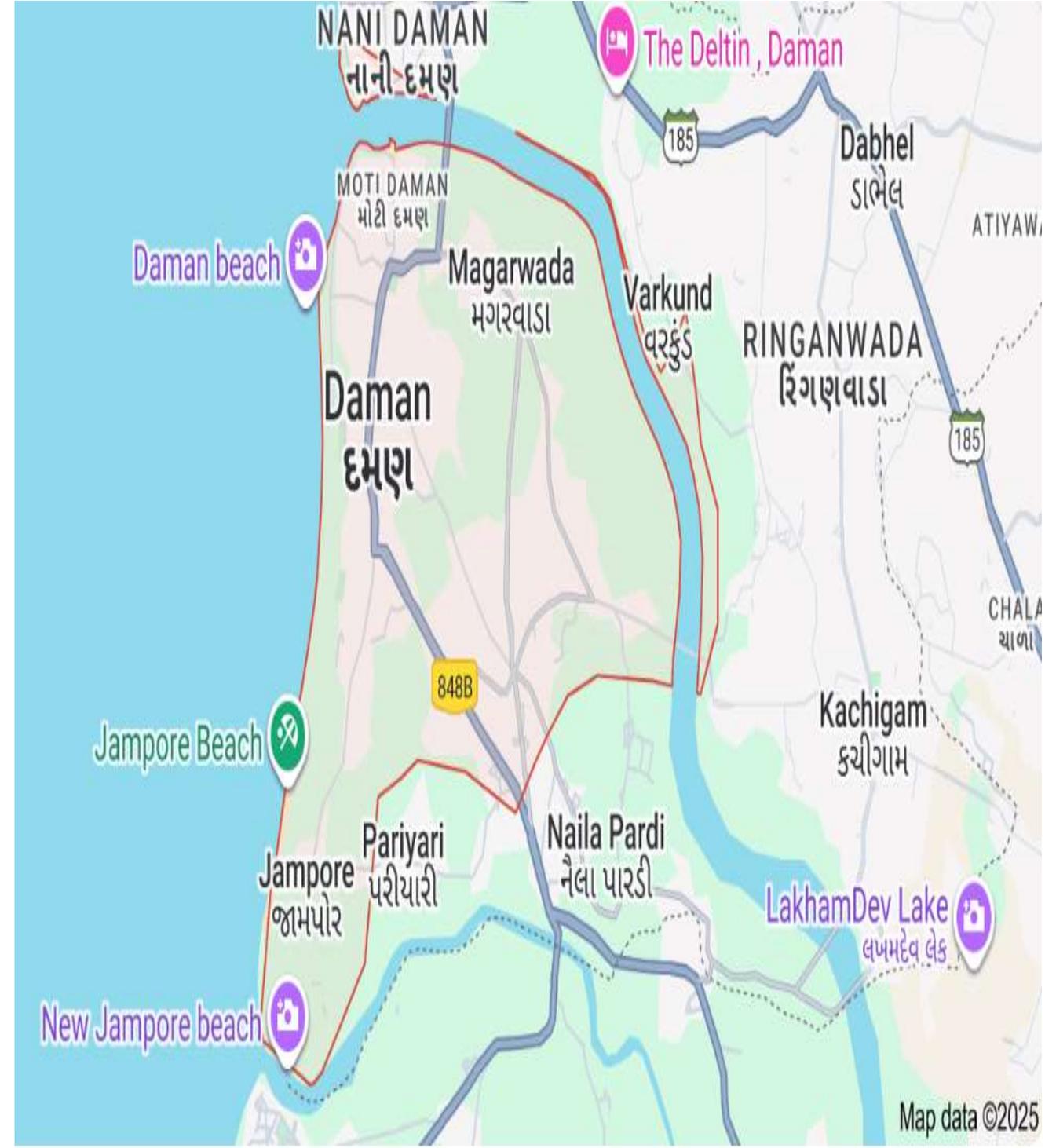
The **population of the study** comprises fishermen and fisherwomen engaged in fishing, processing, and allied activities in the **Union Territory of Daman**, who depend on fisheries as their primary source of livelihood.

Sample Size and Sampling Technique

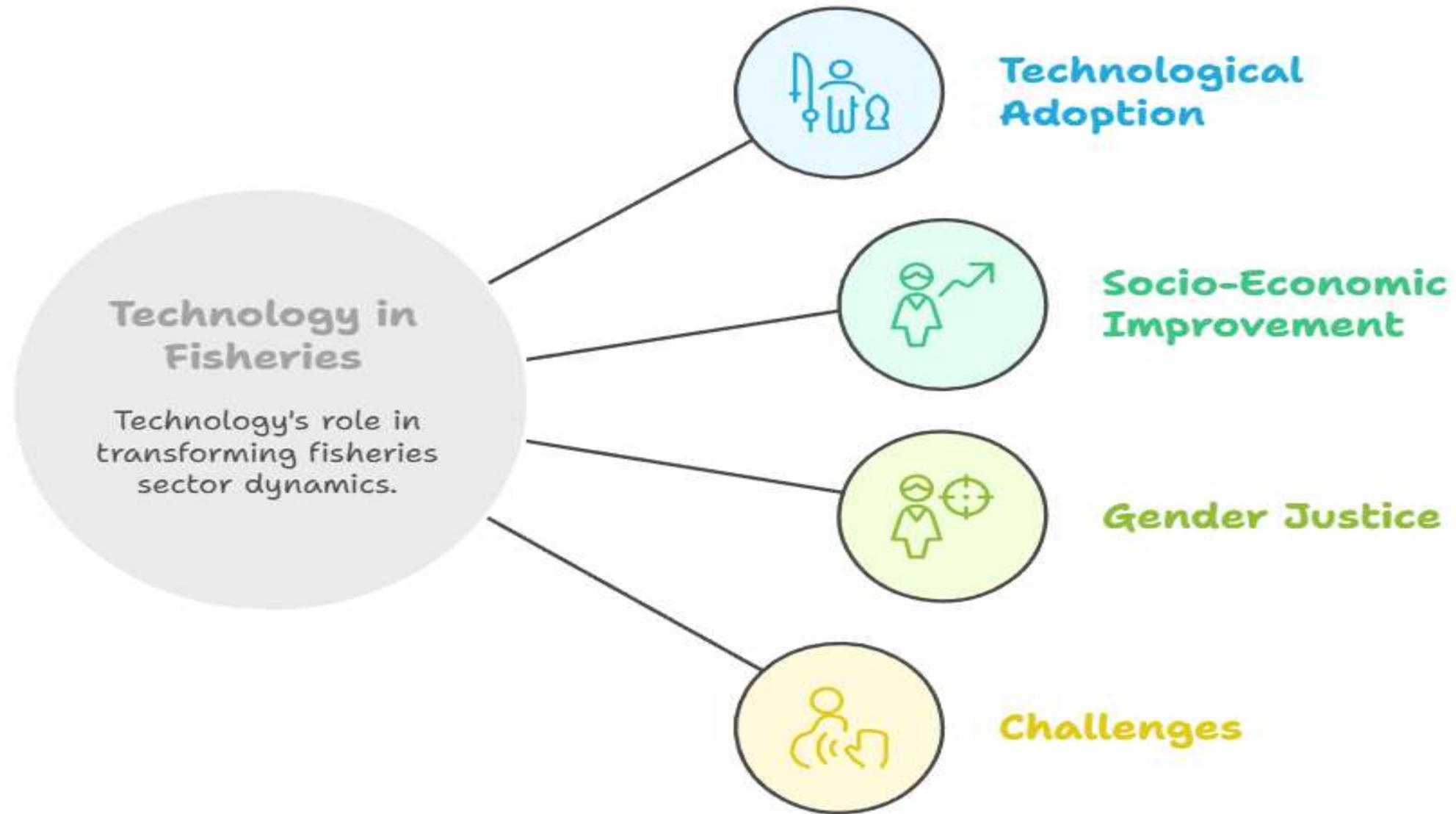
From the total population of fishermen and fisherwomen in Daman, an **initial sample of 60 respondents** (both men and women) has been selected for this ongoing study. Respondents were chosen using **purposive sampling technique** to ensure adequate representation of both genders and different roles within the fisheries sector (catching, processing, marketing, support activities).

Objectives of the Study

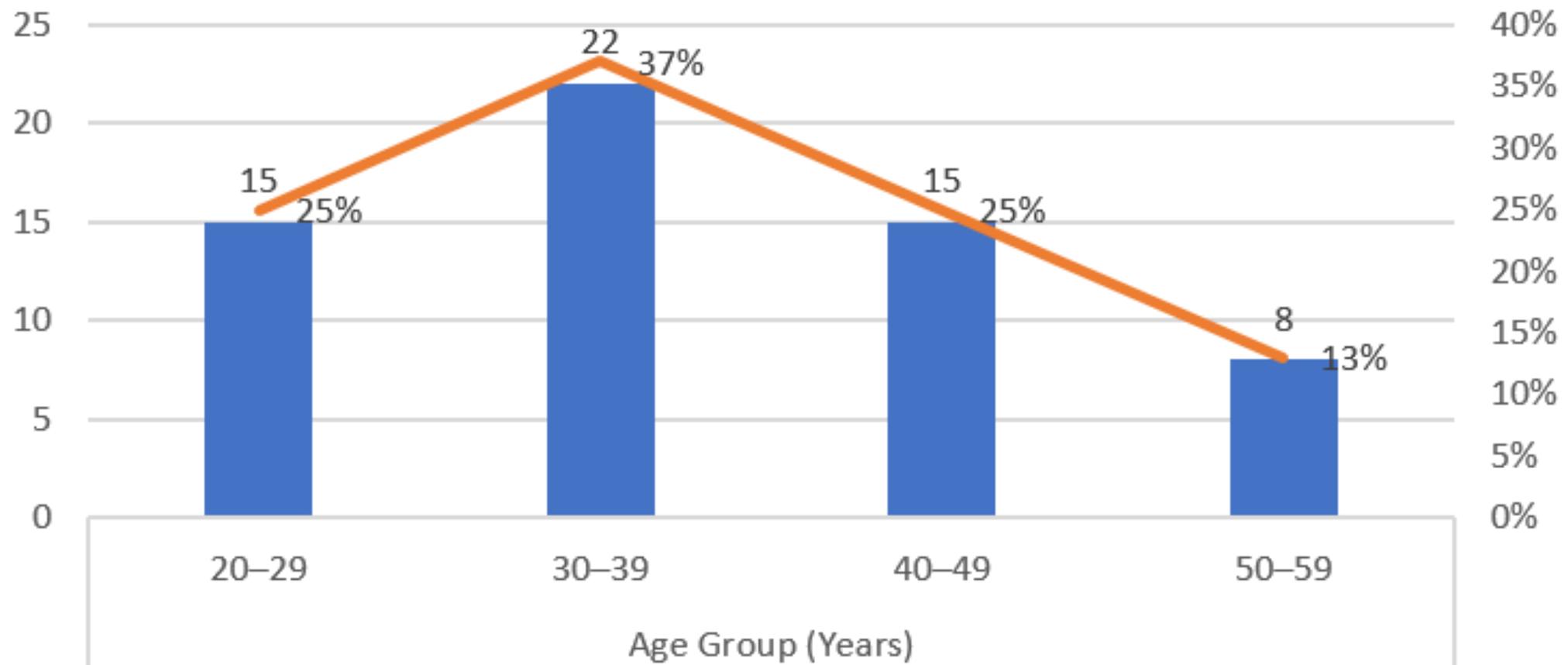
- To examine the extent of technological adoption among fishermen and fisherwomen in Daman.
- To assess how technological development contributes to improving the socio-economic status of women in fisheries.
- To analyze the role of technology in addressing gender inequalities and promoting gender justice in the fisheries sector.
- To identify challenges faced by women in accessing and utilizing fisheries-related technology.



Exploring Technology's Impact on Women in Fisheries

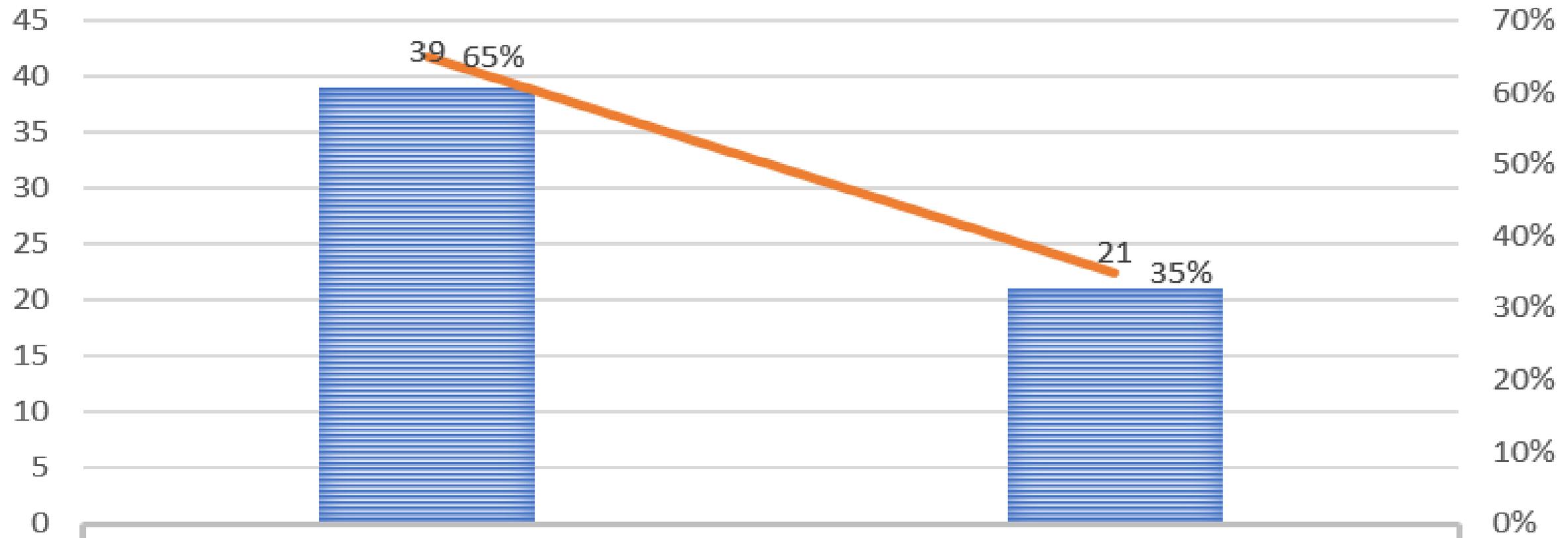


Age Group (Years)



■ Count — Percentage

GENDER



Male

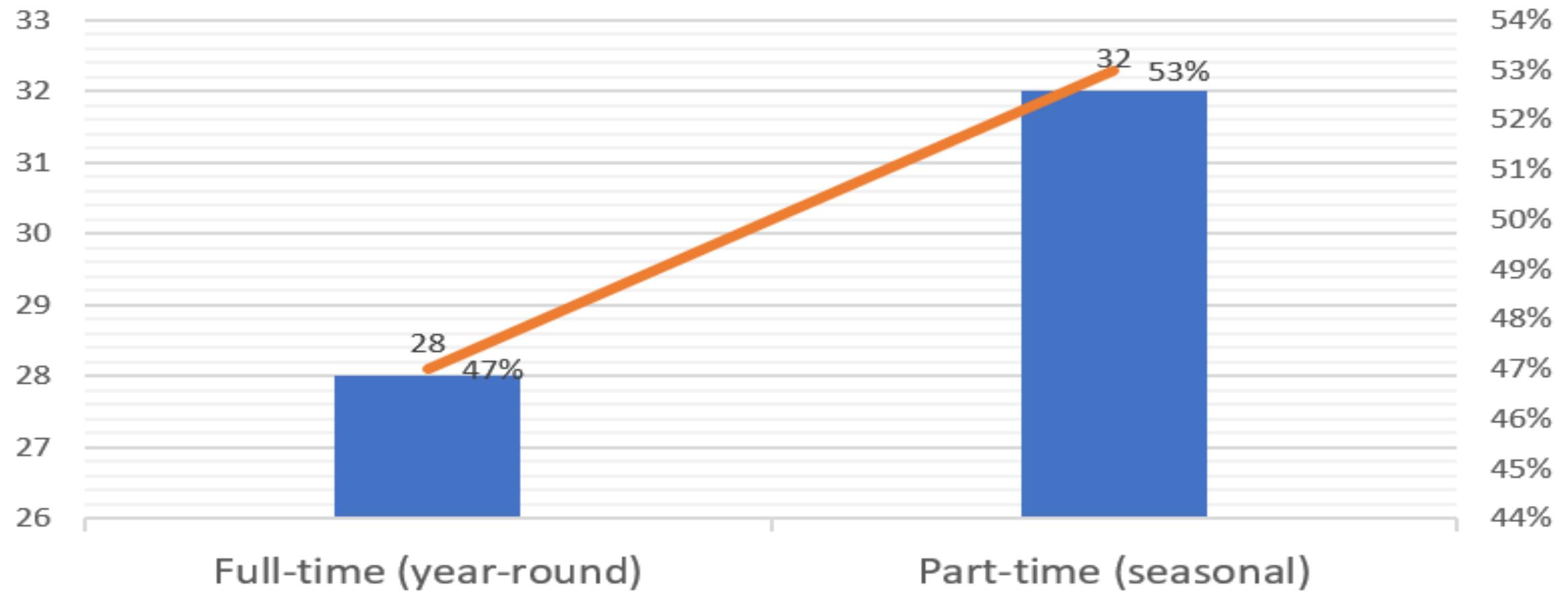
Female

Gender

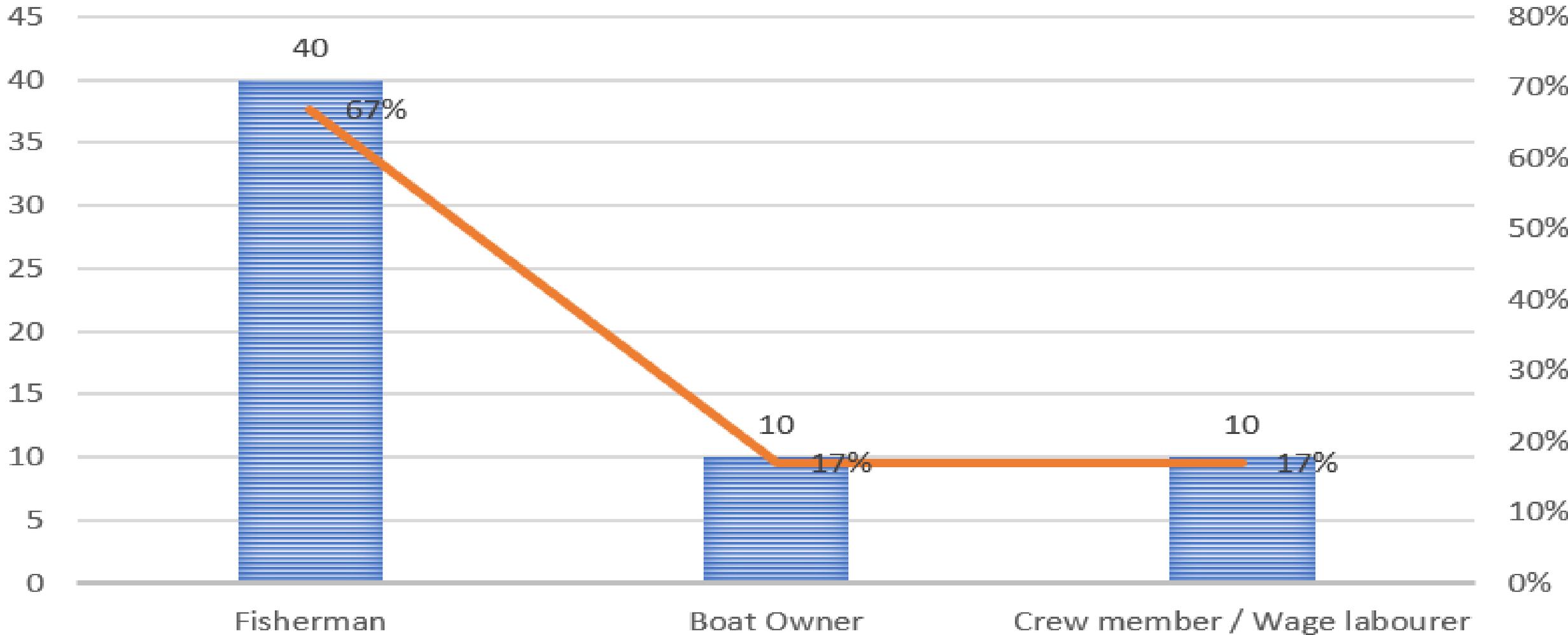
Count Percentage

Employment Type

■ Count — Percentage

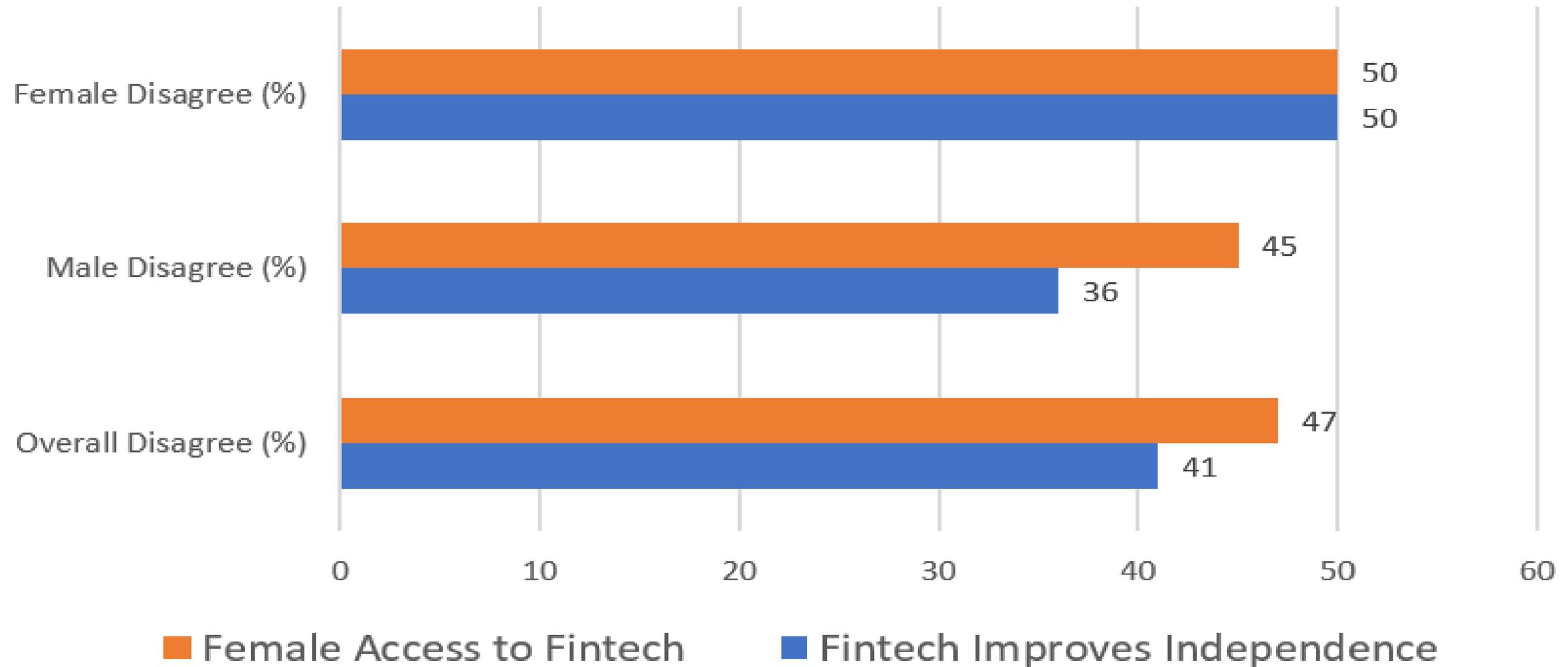


WORK STATUS



Count Percentage

Responses regarding the Technology (Fintech) Adoption



Role of Policy & Institutions



Policy interventions should ensure women's access to mechanization, credit, and cooperative models. **Institutions like GMU can assist in research, training, and capacity-building to integrate gender justice into maritime and fisheries governance.**

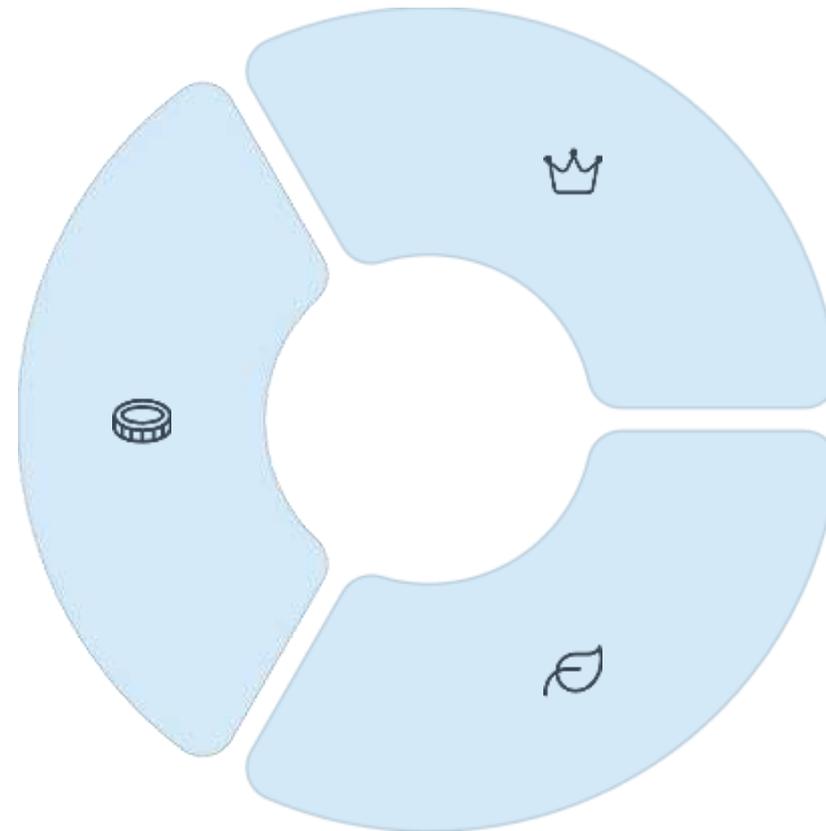
- Access to mechanization
- Credit facilities
- Cooperative models
- Research and training
- Capacity-building programs

Conclusion

Transformative Potential

Technological development in fisheries holds transformative potential for achieving gender justice. **When women are given equal access to innovation, training, and resources, it leads to greater economic independence, community leadership, and sustainable development of the fisheries sector.**

Economic Independence
Equal access leads to greater financial autonomy



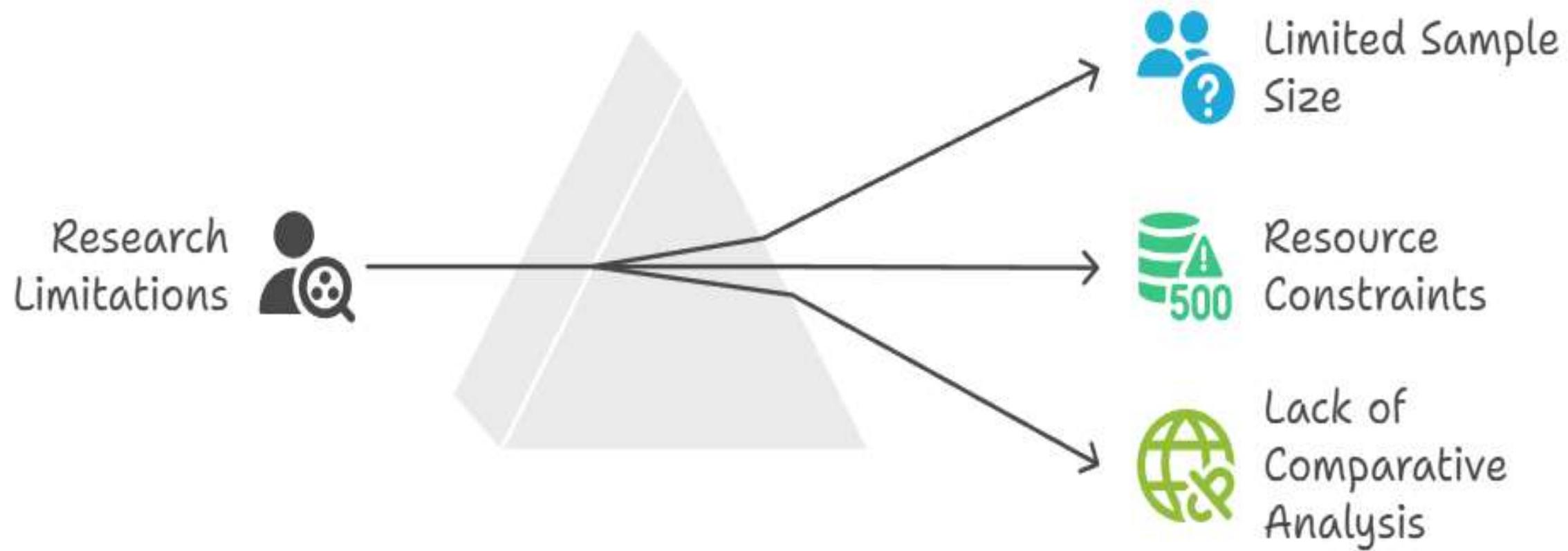
Community Leadership

Empowered women become community leaders

Sustainable Development

Gender justice drives sector sustainability

Exploring the Dimensions of Research Limitations



Thank
you.

