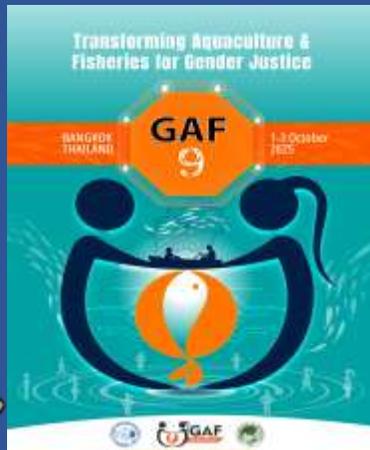


GAF9 - The 9th Global Conference on Gender in Aquaculture & Fisheries: *Transforming Aquaculture and Fisheries for Gender Justice*

From Margins to the Centre: Promoting Women's Blue Justice in Tanzania's Blue Economy

AIT, Thailand | 1- 3 October 2025



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Tanzania at Glance

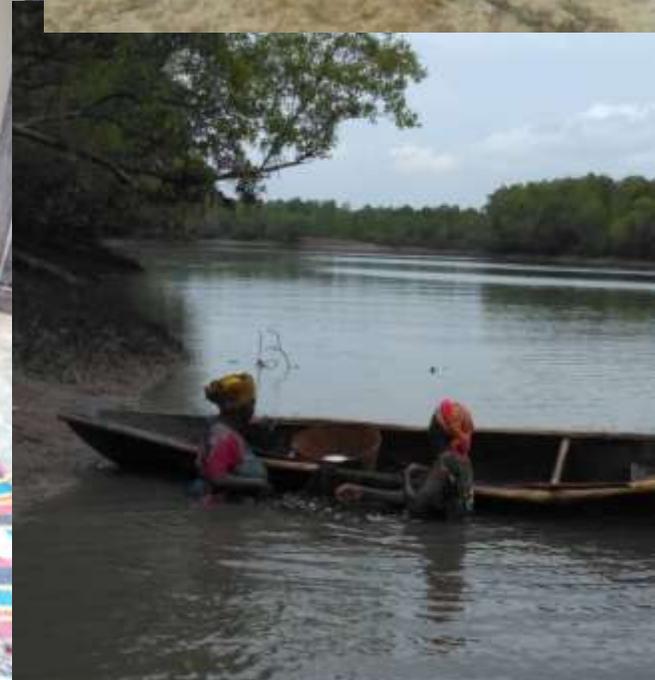
- EA country
- Rich in aquatic resources
- Top 10 - Inland capture fisheries production
- SSF account **98%** of fish production, supports > 4 mil. across the VC
- Aquatic resources form the backbone of the country's emerging blue economy,



Women's Role in Blue Economy

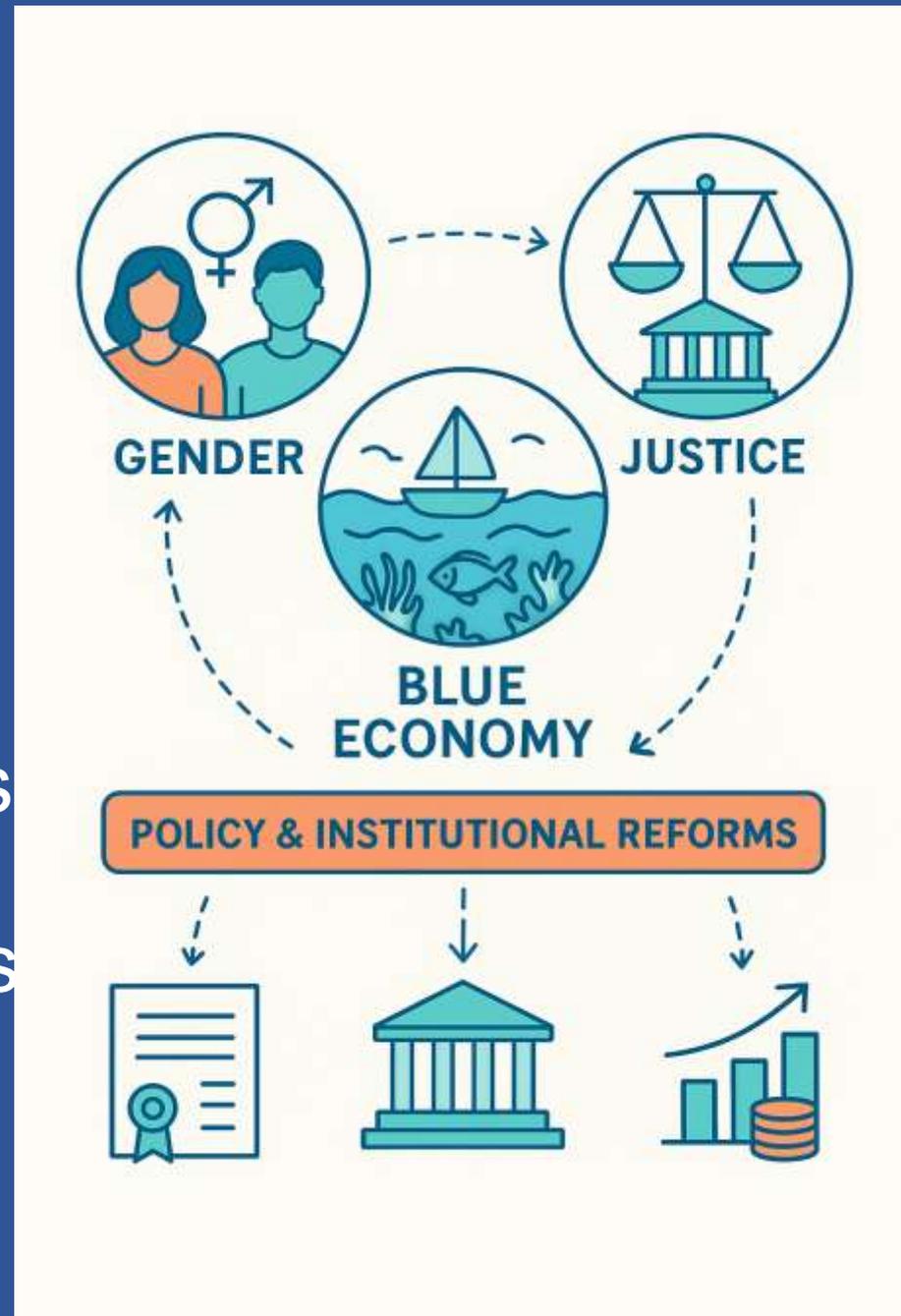
- Promises significant opportunities for employment, food security, trade, and climate resilience
 - SSF
 - Seaweed farming
 - Fish processing & trade
 - Coastal markets and eco-tourism
 - Value addition of aquatic products

Contributions remain invisible, undervalued, and constrained



Advancing Blue Justice and Equity

- Explores the intersection of gender, blue economy, and justice in Tanzania
- **Blue Justice** offers a transformative lens for reshaping policy, institutions, and governance processes to ensure fairness, equity, and inclusion for all, especially women and other marginalized groups.



Understanding Blue Justice: Conceptual Framework

Blue Justice dimensions

- **Procedural Justice**
- **Distributive Justice**
- **Recognition Justice**
- **Restorative Justice**

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR BLUE JUSTICE

DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE



fair allocation
of marine
and aquatic
resources
and benefits

PROCEDURAL JUSTICE



inclusive
participation
in governance
and policy-
making

**BLUE
JUSTICE**



RECOGNITION JUSTICE

acknowledgment
of diverse knowledge
systems, cultural
practices, and
identities



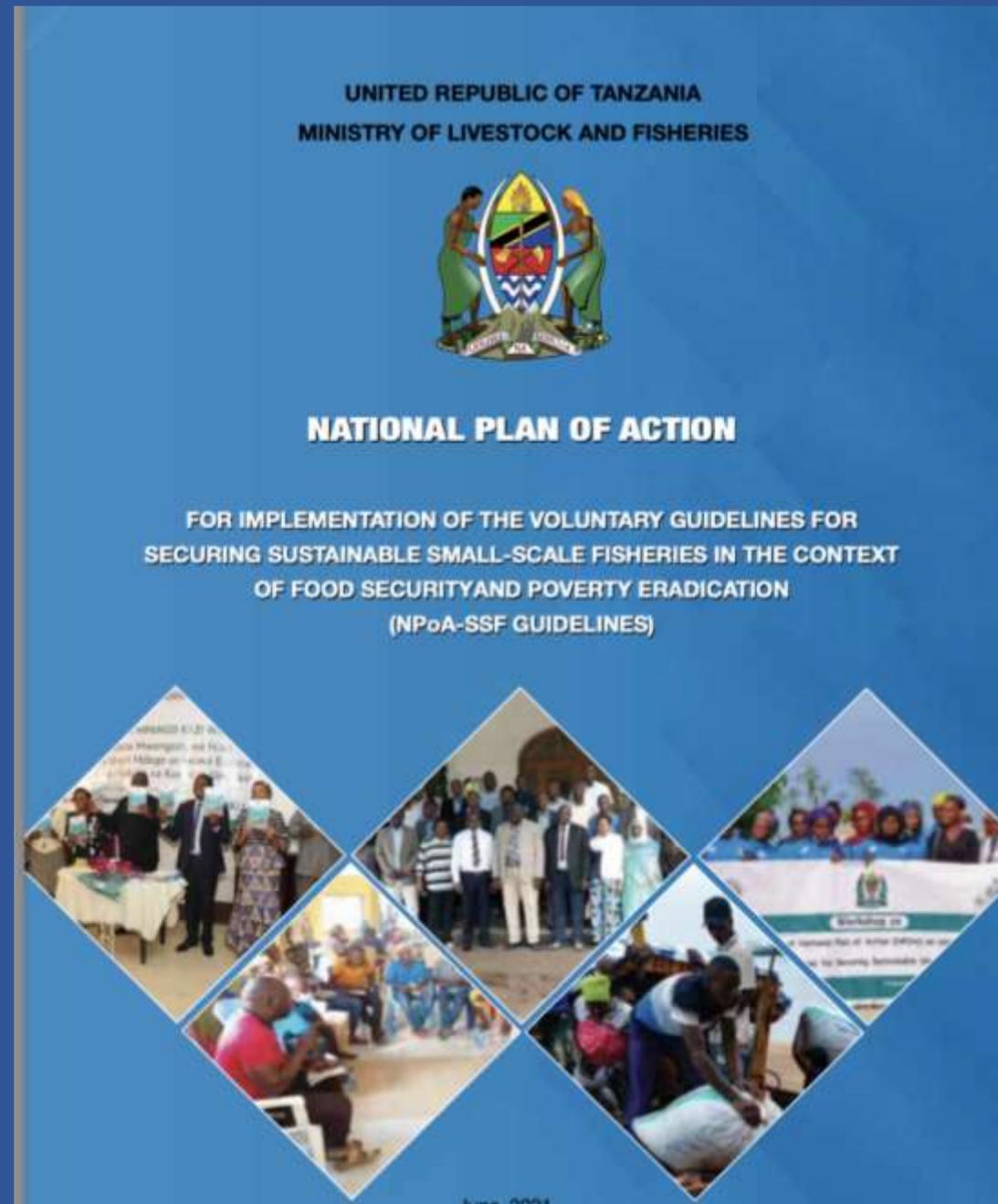
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

addressing past and
ongoing injustices
affecting women,
Indigenous communities
and small-scale fishers

Procedural Justice

National Plan of Action for Small-Scale Fisheries (NPoA-SSF) - prioritize gender equality, tenure security, social development, and climate resilience.

Tanzania Women Fishworkers Association (TAWFA)- grassroots-driven national platform that amplifies the voices of women in SSF.



Distributive Justice

Empowering Communities and women through Village Community Bank (VICOBA)

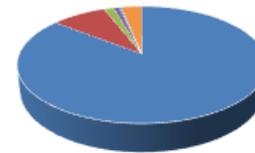
■ Tanzania Women Fishworkers Association (TAWFA)

Instrumental in advocating for women's rights, accessing markets, financial access and promoting cleanfish processing technologies such as LPG stoves

Savings		Loans	
(Tshs)	(USD)	(Tshs)	(USD)
38,442,550	14,785.60	153,893,000	59,189.62



Loan Utilization Purposes in %

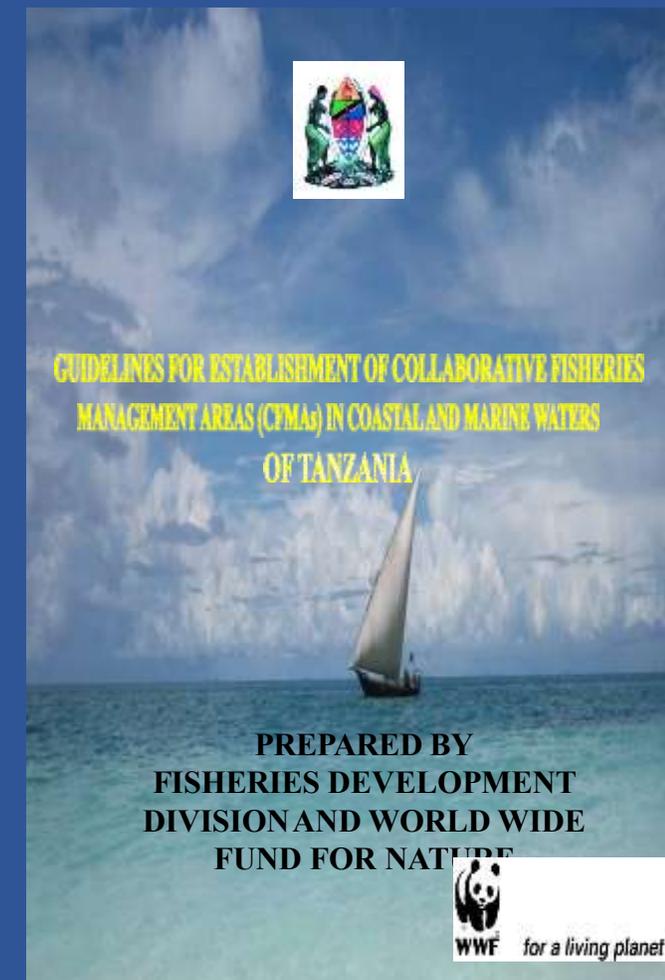
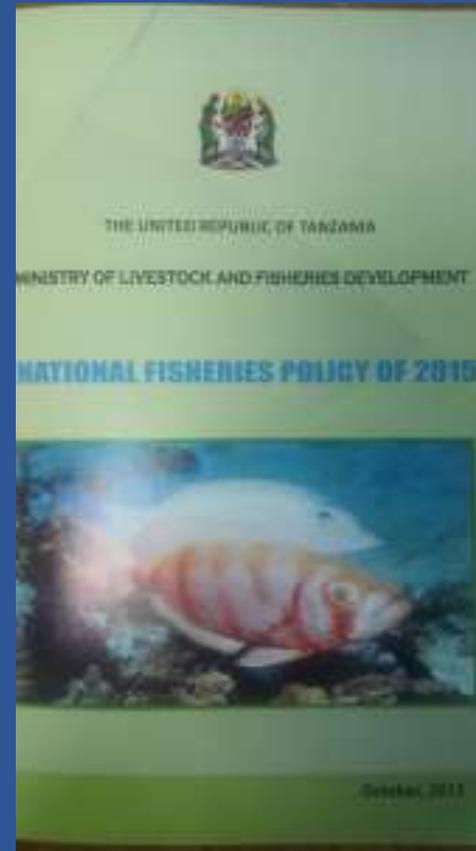


- Loans for Fisheries Value Chain purposes
- Loans for other Business purposes
- Loans for Agricultural purposes
- Loans for Educational purposes
- Loans for Health purposes
- Loans for Livestock Husbandry/Poultry purposes



Recognition Justice

- Inclusive participation in BMUs and decision-making; e.g., mandating 30% women representatives in co-management bodies.
- Fair allocation of fishing grounds and licenses; e.g., ensuring women get seaweed farming plots and post-harvest facilities



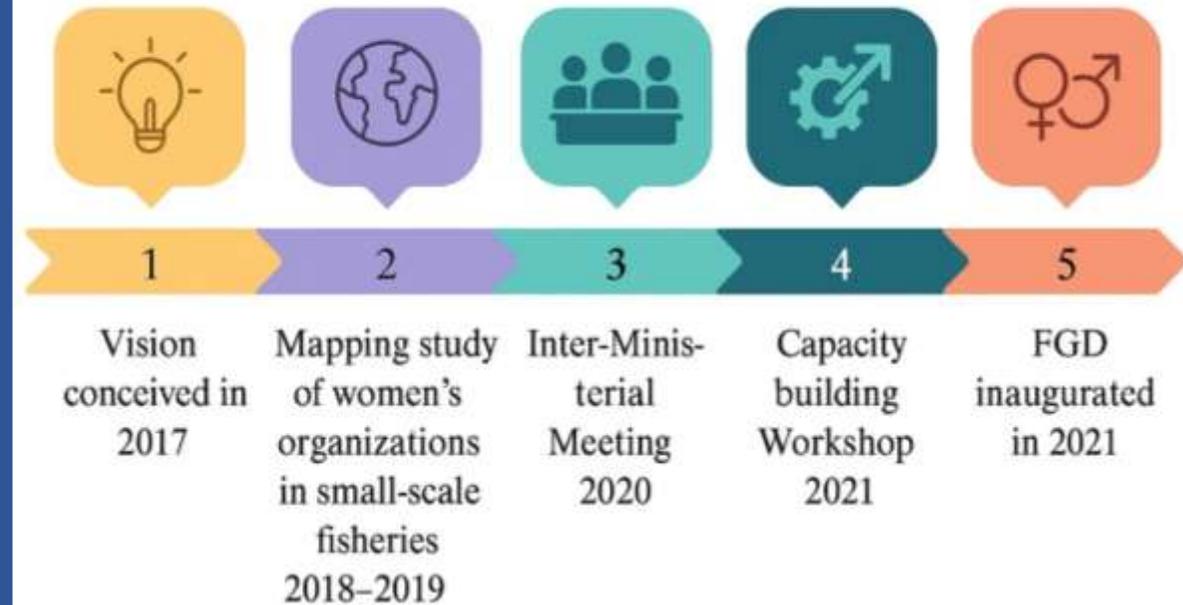
3.16.2 Policy Objective –Ensure mainstream gender in fisheries

Restorative Justice

▪ Gender Desk in the Fisheries Sector

- The establishment of a dedicated Gender Desk within the Fisheries Division is a significant institutional innovation.
- It leads gender mainstreaming efforts, coordinates with development partners, and monitors the implementation of gender-sensitive indicators in fisheries programs.
- Implementing GAP

Steps of establishing the Fisheries Gender Desk in Tanzania



Remaining Gaps

- **Limited sex-disaggregated data**
- **Limited Gender-responsive budgeting**

Opportunities

- **Legal reforms to secure women's rights**
- **Collaboration and Partnerships with civil society, NGO's, academia, private sector**
- **Stronger inter-ministerial coordination**

Conclusion

- By placing women at the center of blue economy governance, we can accelerate progress toward the SSF Guidelines, SDGs, particularly SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 8 (Decent Work), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 14 (Life Below Water)
- Achieving blue justice is not only a matter of fairness it is a strategic tool for inclusive, and sustainable development

Thank you for your attention

My appreciation to FAO