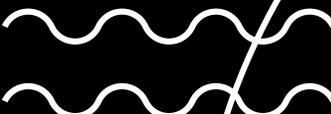
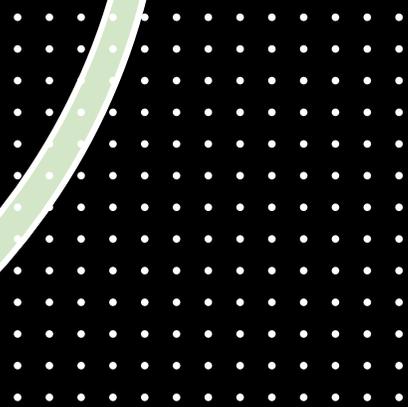




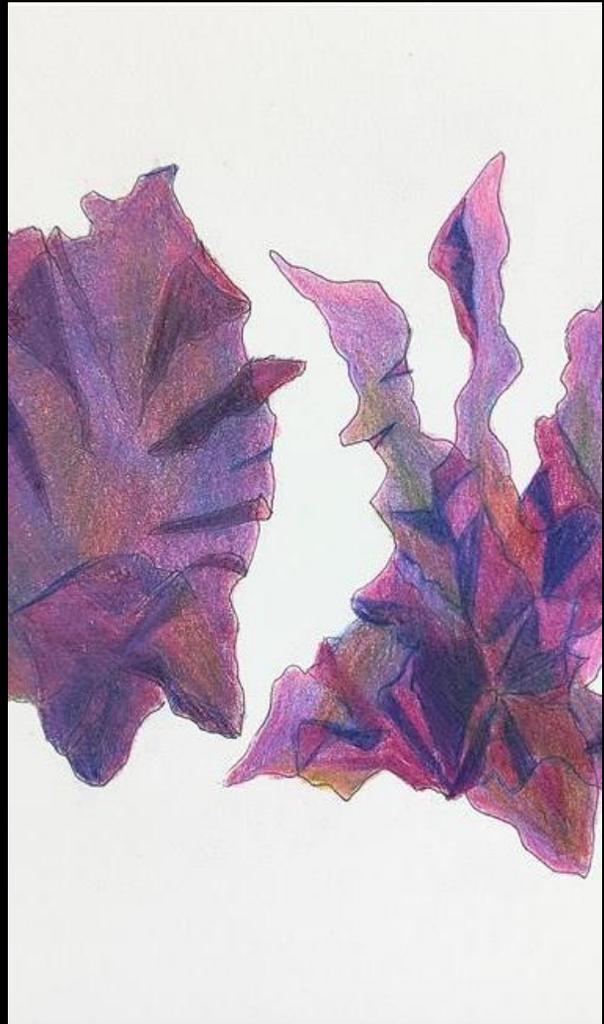
Learning to See:
Practical integration of Gender in
Fisheries



*Angela Lentisco,
Fishery and Aquaculture Officer,
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific*



*Transforming aquaculture and fisheries for
gender justice,
9th Global Conference on Gender in
Aquaculture & Fisheries,
1-3 October 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand*



My journey into gender and fisheries

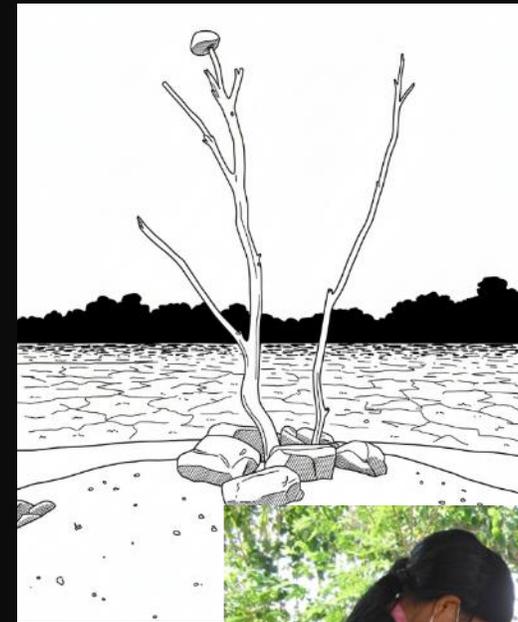


The Roles of Women in Fisheries

- **Production & Harvesting:**
 - Women actively glean shellfish, collect aquatic plants, tend ponds, and farm seaweed. Their contributions supply nutrient-rich foods for households, yet are rarely captured in statistics.
- **Post-Harvest:**
 - Women dominate processing (drying, smoking, salting, fermenting, selling). They decide which fish are sold or consumed, with smaller, more nutritious species often directed to family diets.
- **Household Food Security:**
 - Women manage food preparation and allocation. Income they earn from fisheries is reinvested in food, education, and healthcare, directly improving family nutrition and welfare.
- **Intergenerational Nutrition:**
 - Women's control of aquatic foods ensures children and mothers access essential nutrients. Empowering women links to healthier children, reduced malnutrition, and improved diets.



Supporting Women through Fisheries projects



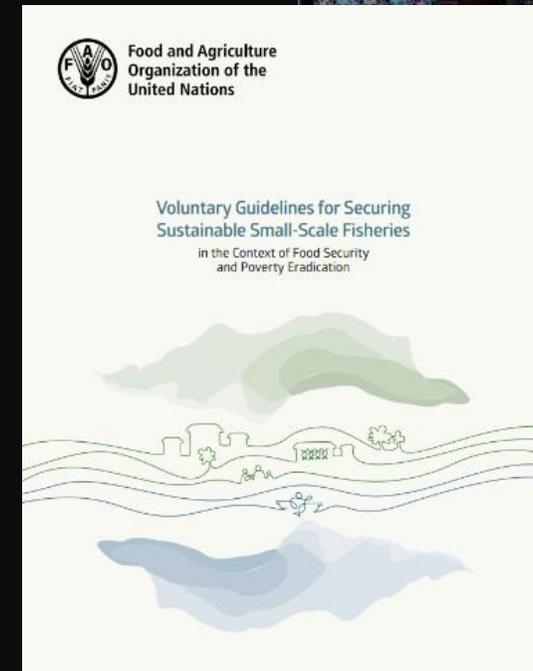


Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

we address gender in

FAO?

- Both a technical issue (data, policy, resources) and a justice issue (rights, equity).
- Role in setting standards, providing guidance, and supporting countries.
- Key instruments to highlight:
 - Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF Guidelines).
 - FAO's Policy on Gender Equality.
 - SDG 5 (Gender Equality) linked with SDG 14 (Life Below Water).



The power of a Gender Strategy

• **Visibility**

- Makes women's roles, contributions, and needs visible, especially in sectors where their work is undervalued or invisible.

• **Equity & Inclusion**

- Ensures women and men benefit fairly from interventions, resources, and opportunities.

• **Empowerment**

- Strengthens women's voice in decision-making, leadership, and access to resources.

• **Efficiency**

- Improves project outcomes by tapping into the full potential of the whole community, not just men.

Sustainability

Leads to more resilient households, communities, and ecosystems by recognizing and integrating women's knowledge and practices.

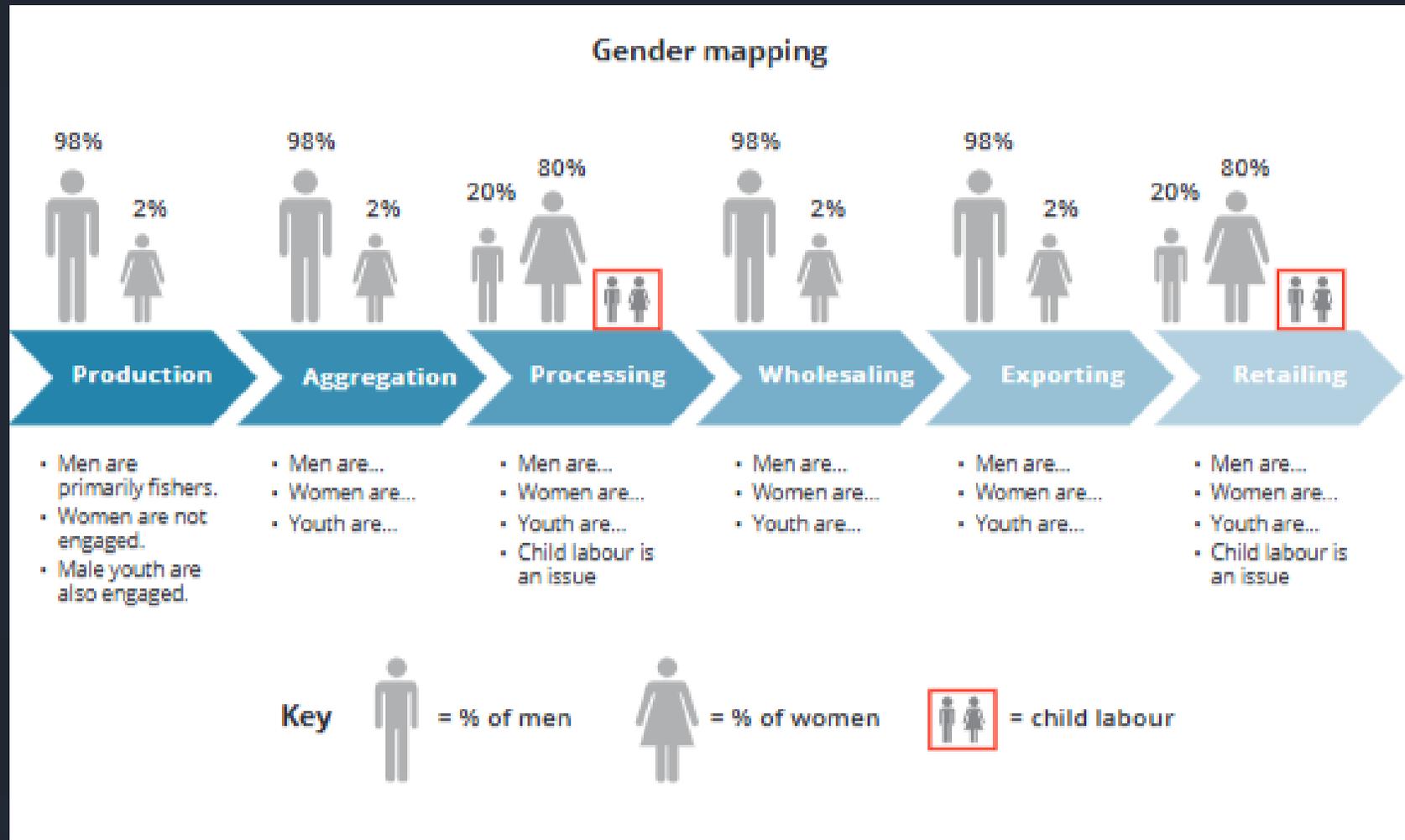
Accountability

Provides tools (data, indicators, targets) to monitor progress and hold institutions accountable.

Catalyst for Change

Shifts norms and reduces discrimination, unlocking long-term social and economic benefits.

Example of a value chain gender mapping



Three Scenarios for the future

Scenario 1

We stay the same



Scenario 2

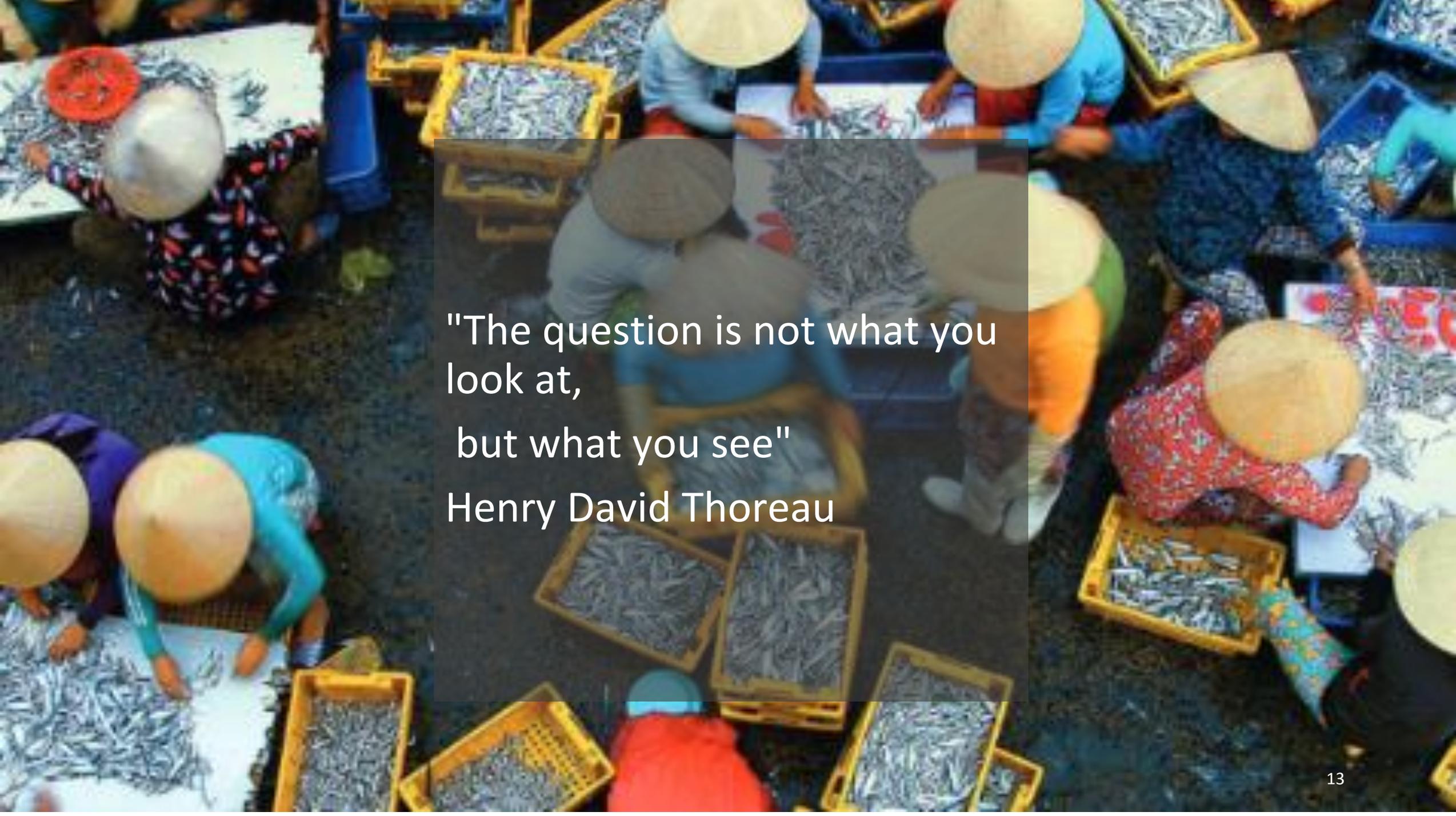
We go backwards



Scenario 3

We transform





"The question is not what you
look at,
but what you see"
Henry David Thoreau



Thank you!

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