International Organisation for Women in the Seafood Industry
International Organisation for Women in the Seafood Industry (WSI)

The 2021 worldwide edition includes over 200 stories from 60 countries. All events compiled below happened in 2021. Some of them may seem as déjà-vu as they were included in WSI Watch previous issue. Their repetition in 2021 and their importance justify mentioning them again this year.

WSI’s objectives are to highlight women’s contribution to the seafood industry and raise awareness of gender issues in the seafood industry.

This report is offered to you thanks to WSI’s donors and supporters. If this topic is of interest to you, you can join WSI as an individual, a company, an institutional supporter or a sponsor.

[Link to WSI website]

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Cover photo credit: CAOPA
A Word from Margaret Nagato coordinator at the Katosi Women Development Trust in Uganda

Recognition of women’s role in the fisheries artisanal and industrial sector, is at its highest ever around the world. It is a timely and befitting acknowledgement for the sector where 50% of the global fish workers are female.

This has been followed by an unprecedented organization of women in the sector at various levels. Around me, I have experienced a transcending degree of self-organization of women in the sector. In the past 3 years, we have seen the emergence of women in fisheries in Africa under the African women fish Processors and Traders network (AWFISHNET). This ignited the formation of women organizations at national level setting an unprecedented level of organization of women in fisheries in the continent.

Majority of women I encounter in fisheries belong to one or another organization. Every year, at Katosi Women Development Trust (KWDT) we experience a growth in the number of women seeking to join the network. We are members of Uganda National Women Fish Organizations (UNWFO) subsequently affiliated to AWFISHNET. At the global level, KWDT is a member of the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish workers (WFF), which is part of the global social movement in small scale fisheries.

Despite developments in organization, corresponding human and financial responses to meet needs of women is low coupled with lack of adequate data and information about the situation of women in this sector. Future intervention should be directed to focus on addressing all threats to women in fisheries. The inter-relatedness of these threats is high and require multisectoral approaches to encourage a holistic and coherent coordination since one sector alone cannot be in position to address them all. Such interventions should capitalize on the increasing organization of women in fisheries to establish systematic strategies to secure the role of women and to protect women from the expanding capitalization of the economies, particularly disempowering women in fisheries.

The interventions should be built on mutual cooperation and offer options to women to reframe their strategies for attaining development with inclusive and diversified development approaches. These interventions should also promote access to basic social services and advance the protection of human rights; all key tenets of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF Guidelines).

Women in Seafood Industry Watch is another platform that can amplify our voices to break through the structural and invisible barriers.

KATOSI WOMEN DEVELOPMENT TRUST is a non-profit organization based in Kampala, Uganda, financially supported by FAO, which assists 691 women from 29 women’s groups.
Foreword by the Project Manager Cécile Brugère

I thank WSI for entrusting me to compile the stories of women in the seafood industry for this year’s WATCH. In doing so I travelled – virtually – to all corners of the world and was blown away by the energy and strength of the women who have chosen to work in the sector, and by the diversity of roles and ventures they undertake.

Yet too many barriers to women’s progression, recognition and empowerment in all branches of the industry still remain. Regardless of whether these stem from outright sexism, or are part of more insidious systemic inequality, they seem to have resisted the transformational efforts that are emerging here and there to change the situation around. Sadly, global threats – the Covid-19 pandemic, climate change, the globalised (and mis-managed) nature of fisheries and conflicts with other economic interests, are another hurdle women have to fight against. Deep down, I can’t help wondering if the development of “blue economies” will be as big an opportunity for equity and women’s participation as it promises.

But a wind of change seems to have risen. Voices are starting to emerge, and are becoming louder, from women’s associations and other non-state actors representing them along entire value chains, to assert their rights and question the status quo. Enterprises and innovations led by women are increasing in number and starting to gain recognition. Virtual webinars, which are exposing inequalities and injustice, and making a case for the visibility and recognition of the huge contribution of women and other minorities to the fisheries, aquaculture and post-harvest sectors, have definitely increased their outreach compared to pre-pandemic days. Women’s pivotal role in the coastal economies and cultural heritage of entire nations is also attracting attention, and disseminated through a wide range of media and arts, are reaching beyond the seafood sector itself, hopefully inspiring deeper societal change.

WATCH 2021 contains over 200 stories, spanning more than 60 countries and all continents. This edition also contains a list of podcasts from around the world that you can listen to ‘on the go’ and share further.

In putting together these stories, I have felt in turn appalled by the evidence of discrimination, inspired by the portraits of women in the sector, and galvanised by their determination to continue a job they love and to champion change for other women. I am inviting you in this journey, and to follow suit.
About the Authors

Cécile Brugère
is a strong advocate for gender equality in aquaculture and fisheries and started writing about gender issues in the sector in the late 1990s. Her career so far has been spent documenting and promoting the greater consideration of human dimensions in the development of aquaculture and fisheries, mainly in Asia and Africa. Formerly an employee of FAO, she now directs Soulfish Research & Consultancy, a UK-based consultancy company addressing socioeconomic issues in aquaculture and fisheries. As a strong advocate of gender equality in the sector, Cecile co-founded Sea PoWer in 2016, an initiative that uses a seaweed farming innovation to empower women producers in the Western Indian Ocean. Cécile is considered as one of the world most knowledgeable expert on the subject.

Cecile has organized this document with the contribution of her fellow authors cited hereunder.

Sarah Appiah
is a PhD candidate in development economics at the University of Ghana with research interests in fisheries, gender and trade. She is dedicated to women in leadership.

Natalia Briceno-Lagos
is a Ph.D. candidate in Sociology (EHESS) in France. Her fieldwork interests rely on how the Chilean salmon industry’s ups and downs uniquely reflect the process of economic modernization and enable to study local families and women’s arrangements regarding employment and work changes.

Julie Kuchepatov
is the founder of Seafood and Gender Equality (SAGE). She is driving a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive seafood industry and sustainable seafood movement.

Gabriela Lizana Rivera
is an anthropologist post graduate student at the University of Los Lagos in Chile where natural resources, gender equality and socio-ecological transformation are her subjects of interest.

Marie Christine Monfort
is the co-founder and current managing director of WSI. She considers critical to wake the seafood industry up to gender (in)equality.

Pragya Thapaliya
has a strong interest in gender and economic development. She is Program Manager at Mercy Corps in Nepal.

Camille Cherques
is passionate about feminism and ocean sustainability, and created the podcast “iemanja” about women and the sea. She previously worked on sustainable fisheries awareness for almost four years and as Head of Programs at WSI since May 2021 before becoming its new director in 2022.
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Awareness comes from a shock.
Feminist author Nawal al Sahadayui

Stop thinking that women don’t want certain jobs. Just ask them!
Kathleen Offman Mathiesen, HR Director Grieg Seafood

For the fisheries to be an attractive workplace in the future, both women and men must run the industry
Odd Emil Ingebrigtsen, Minister of Fisheries and Seafood, Norway

Since there is COVID, we live in fear. Life has been difficult in the last months. Little by little, it’s getting better
Dieng, fish processor and mother of seven adult children, Senegal

The bill for gender equality is an important step in changing public policy
Sara Garrido, president of Chile’s National Corporation of Artisanal Fishing Women, Chile
We women started to dive because [during this time] there was nothing left to eat. It was very tough. I was among the first divers. We are teaching our daughters how to dive. Now thanks to us, they have a great life.

Wawata Topu ("fish woman") elder, Atauro Island, Timor Leste

Gender equality is a complex issue but no more than marine stock management. It should be treated as seriously if the industry wants to be qualified as sustainable.

Marie Christine Monfort, WSI founder

Since the beginning, women have worked alongside men, run their own enterprises and carried out fisheries work that has complemented men's. They also take care of their households and communities. It’s time to count and recognize all their work and help them achieve decent work and equal opportunities.

Meryl J Williams, Chair, Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries Section (GAFS), Asian Fisheries Society (AFS)

If we can include women and men equally in the decision-making, it will lead to a diversity of thought and ultimately make [fishing] communities more resilient.

Neyra Solano, Comunidad y Biodiversidad organization (COBI), Mexico
Sexism / Discrimination, stereotypes and unconscious bias
Sexism / Discrimination, stereotypes and unconscious bias

• USA •
With little oversight, ships continue to breed toxic behaviour

In 1989, the U.S. Congress passed a law requiring captains to report sexual assault allegations to the coast guard. Over the past 30 years no captain of a U.S. maritime academy training vessel has reported a case of sexual assault, which either means that these ships have been sexual assault–free, or, more likely, that the captains are in violation of the law.

+ hakaimagazine.com +

• CANADA •
“Trapped”: Women working as fishery observers allege sex harassment, assault at sea

Four women from Canada detail their gruelling accounts of sexual harassment and assault at sea working as at-sea observers. As the women work for a third-party company that provides data to the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), this absolves the DFO of any legal requirements to ensure workplace safety for the women.

+ vice.com +

• BRAZIL •
The Secretary for Women in Recife promotes the debate on the daily life of shellfisherwomen in the RMR

In this talk, the researcher Silvana Mapoara explains her work with the Itpissuma fisherwomen community, where she recounts the marine resources access in a context characterized by domestic violence and lack of access to social conditions and health services for women.

+ diariodepernambuco.com.br +

+ video on YouTube +
WEST AFRICA

Women in small-scale fisheries

Women are widely un(der)paid, undervalued and largely invisible. This affects them negatively in many ways and they are further worsened in periods of epidemics (ebola) and pandemic (Covid-19). Weak fisheries governance undermines the livelihoods of fisherfolk, particularly for women.

+ theconversation.com +

Women make smoked fishes - locally called Okporoko - at Egede informal settlement in Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Photo: Yasuyoshi Chiba/AFP via Getty Images

WORLD

In the fishing industry, women face hidden hardships

In a recent study by Finkbeiner, Fitzpatrick and Yadao-Evans, issues such as gender-based disparity, gender-based violence and sexual violence are highlighted.

+ genderaquafish.org +

PHILIPPINES

Study on ‘Effects of Forced Labor and Trafficking in Persons on Female Relatives of Male Fishers’

A research was conducted by Plan International on the effects of forced labor and trafficking in persons on the female relatives of male fishers in Sarangani and General Santos province in Philippines. A total of 210 women were interviewed of which most were wives of the fishermen.

+ plan-international.org +
**INDIA**

Female seaweed divers of Tamil Nadu: 'Our life is very tough'

For hundreds of women inhabiting around 100 coastal villages in Tamil Nadu, India, scuba diving has become a primary source of income. The Fisherwomen collect the coveted seaweed to sell in the markets. Women of age 20 to 70 are setting out to the sea without protective gears. Not being able to afford oxygen tanks and diving gear, the women wrap their hands with cloth to prevent injuries, and set out with saree and rubber slippers. The women are paid mere 0.3 USD for a kg of seaweed which only makes them 100 to 150 USD a month.

*thenationalnews.com*

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**ICELAND**

Why fisherwomen disappeared from History

In 18th century Iceland, many women went to sea for work. One of them was Thuridur Einarsson (1777–1863) one of the best-documented seawomen. Why women disappeared from the ships and then out of history had to do with the industrial revolution.

*spektrum.de*

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**SPAIN**

The struggle of rural and coastal Galician women to professionalize feminized jobs

This report emphasizes the need for the visibility of rural women in fishing, the recognition of their trades, and the social security needs that they require for the sector to remain attractive for the incorporation of other women who contribute to the generational change and the permanence of the population in the rural territories of Galicia.

*publico.es*
What it means for a young woman to be a fisherwoman

Sisilie Skagen Johnsen is one of the few fisherwomen in Norway. She is disappointed that the Nofima report did not come up with anything more new than that the fishing industry is male-dominated. Photo: SYNNOVE SUNDBY FALLMYR / NRK

“People rather ask me where the kids are instead of how much fish I have caught. Many people think it is irresponsible to become a fisherwoman after having children, that we should have a regular and stable job on land.” Interview of fisherwoman Sisilie Skagen Johnsen, from Norway.

The fishing sector fights to break the glass ceiling

In this news report, María José de Pazo, CEO of Marín’s shipping company, talks about the differences between gender incorporation in the industrial fishing industry. Women are unable to access responsibility and leadership positions, mainly due to the inability to balance family responsibilities and their work-life, which, added to a masculinized vision of the sector, has not allowed actions that contribute to shortening these gender gaps.

+ nrk.no +

+ diariodepontevedra.es +
**SPAIN**

71% of temporary contracts in the canning sector are women

Based on a study, the CCOO union reveals that, although the Spanish canning industry is a highly feminized sector, women have precarious employment: 71% of them have a temporary contract, 1 in 3 women have a higher qualification, and only 14% of women hold a managerial position, which exacerbates the wage gap with men, for which it is necessary to promote equality policies and plans.

![Women processing fish in a canning factory. Photo: Ruta Pesquera y Naval.](https://rutasancom.web/)

**PHILIPPINES**

Philippine ‘Angels of the Sea’ use their voices to repel Chinese ships

An all-female group of 81 women labelled as ‘Angels of the Sea’ have been appointed by the Philippines government as the coastal guards in the region. To counter China’s silent encroachment of the Sea, the women’s group is playing a vital role in repelling foreign vessel intrusions in the Philippines EEZ.
ARGENTINA

The story of the professionals of the sea: Sexual abuse, discrimination and violence

This report collects testimony from trained women who work in deep-sea fishing and who have suffered gender discrimination but have also had to face violence, harassment, and sexual abuse from their fellow crew members due to a prevailing macho logic in off-shore fishing.

Marina Saboularb and Lucia de Pascuale, two workers of the High Seas who are unemployed for being women.
Photo: Constanza Niscovolos

NORWAY

Sexual harassment in the fishing industry is unacceptable

Several young women have recently come forward and told about their experiences with sexual harassment while working on board Norwegian fishing vessels. They received the support of the Minister of Fisheries and Marine Affairs Bjornar Selnes Skjaeran and Minister of Culture and Gender Equality Anette Trettebergstuen. “Women need to experience the fishing industry as a safe place to work.”
Is change in the air for women in fisheries and aquaculture?
Is change in the air for women in fisheries and aquaculture?

**CANADA**

Kick out that glass ceiling

Less than 30% of people in Canada’s aquaculture sector are women, but that is rapidly changing. This article examines how young, educated women are the future of the industry.

+ magazine.aquaculturenorthamerica.com +

**USA**

Can aquaculture help women secure a new foothold in the seafood industry?

Emily Selinger and Amanda Moeser both raise oysters in the tidal flats of Casco Bay, Maine. While they each have their own companies, they often collaborate and support one another. The global aquaculture industry is growing rapidly and the author wonders if this sector represents an area for growth for women. Sexism is in the sector is a challenge; however, women are working together to challenge the norms that dictate that women don’t fish or farm.

+ civileats.com +

**BRAZIL**

The Small-Scale fishermen and fisherwomen Movement (MPP) marches for their rights in Brasilia

The demonstration of the “small-scale fishing scream” campaign took place from 21st to 25th of November 2021 in front of public institutions in the Brazilian capital. More than 600 fishermen and fisherwomen from 15 different states participated to denounce violations of human rights and the environment. A fisherwoman called Martilene said that this campaign helps fisherpeople to feel more empowered: “The women have more and more visibility in fisheries, when they were before invisible. They are still not 100% visible but women fishing is more recognized now, this is a victory we have.”

+ soscorpo.org +

International Organisation for Women in the Seafood Industry
Is change in the air for women in fisheries and aquaculture?

• URUGUAY •
Artisanal fishing in Uruguay

Uruguayan artisanal fishing is traditionally a men’s sector, and women have had to challenge patriarchal beliefs to have a space within fishing, also facing the pressures of overexploitation of marine resources because of industrial fishing and poaching. Women have managed to diversify their activity through economic empowerment and fighting for equality in fishing.

+ dw.com +

• CHILE •
Fishing women: "We are not the companion fauna of men"

Three interviews with women, in which they narrate their capacities as a fundamental contribution.

+ aqua.cl +

• MEXICO •
Let’s talk about fisheries subsidies and gender

Inés López from Comunidad y Biodiversidad (COBI) exposes the gaps that fishing women in Mexico have to access economic resources and decision-making spaces. Although the pandemic has increased the delivery of subsidies aimed at women, their delivery remains conditional on who participate in the direct extraction of resources from the sea, leaving aside the women who participate in the continuity of the production chain.

+ video on YouTube +
Is change in the air for women in fisheries and aquaculture?

**AFRICA / GAMBIA / SENEGAL**
The smoke and mirrors of Blue economy bonanza make African women fish processors choke

Coalition for Fair Fisheries Agreements (CFFA) and its partners among other stakeholders have constantly highlighted that industrial blue economy initiatives in Africa generally prioritize short-term economic gains at the expense of environmental degradation and local coastal communities’ livelihoods. In Gambia and Senegal, women in artisanal fisheries are struggling to gain access to fish for processing as they cannot compete with industrial fishmeal processing factories.

Women fish processors often buy small pelagics, the “fish of the poor”, which they transform to sell locally or in the region, but they are increasingly facing competition from foreign companies who turn them into fishmeal for export. Photo: Mamadou Aliou

**MOROCCO**
Women making transformative impact

Serving as the Director of the National Agency for the development of Aquaculture, a male dominated sector in Morocco, Majida Maâroufi, through her relentless efforts, has been dignified as a major player who actively contributes to the development of Morocco.

**NORWAY**
Take better care of the women in fishing says the Norwegian government

The Norwegian government has commissioned the research centre NOFIMA to explain the reasons of the very low engagement of women in fisheries and offer recommendations. With no surprise, NOFIMA concluded “If the proportion of women in the fisheries is to increase, “macho” culture and attitudes must change.”
**KENYA**

Kenya port project threatens the livelihoods of fishers and women seaweed farmers

The livelihoods of local communities in Wasini, Kenya, who depend on fishing, seaweed farming, and ecotourism are being threatened by the construction of an industrial fishing port and a ship-breaking yard. Underwater drilling carried out as part of surveys for the proposed port in November, 2020, damaged coral reefs, while drilling for the ship-breaking yard destroyed seaweed crops. Women members of the Kibuyuni Seaweed Farmers’ Cooperative Society have already lost income. These women seaweed farmers fear the worse is to come.

*[News mongabay.com]*

**UK**

“Fishing is for girls as well” says Isla Gale, first female apprentice skipper on the Isle of Man

“At only 16, Isla Gale is already the first female apprentice skipper on the Isle of Man. Photo: Isla Gale

“Fishing is not a career path that is well advertised and even less for female students. Schools often push for students to prolong their studies” explains 16-year old Isla Gale. Isla would love to see more females in the industry and stressed that it isn’t just for tomboys. She said: “If you’re looking to give it a try, I think you should definitely go for it”.

*[Gef.im]*
**INDIA**

Rekha’s husband falls ill and she loses her job as a fisherwoman

Rekha Karthikeyan, who first made headlines in 2016 when she became the first licensed fisherwoman in India is experiencing a drawback. Today she is confined to gleaning in shallow waters as her husband can no longer accompany her on deep sea fishing trips due to ill-health.

[+ mathrubhumi.com +]

**INDONESIA**

Women play noteworthy role in the maritime sector: PPPA minister

Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection Minister from Indonesia highlighted the role of women in the fishery and maritime sector. The minister acknowledged the role of fisherwomen, sailors, fish traders and sailors. The minister shared all this in the virtual discussion held to discuss the harassment faced by women seafarers.

[+ antaranews.com +]
Is change in the air for women in fisheries and aquaculture?

**SPAIN**
Maribel Cera, fisherwoman from San Carlos is re-elected president of the Associació Catalana de Dones de la Mar

Maribel Cera asserts that she will continue to fight to give greater visibility to women on the coast of Catalonia, so that they can access more leadership and representation positions in the maritime sectors, and the value of the trades they perform throughout the fish value chain is recognised.

*+ diarimes.com +*

**SPAIN**
The predominant role of women in the canning industry

Although the canning industry has been characterized by the high presence of women in the production lines, the Arroyabe canning company has estimated that currently women also occupy 50% of the management positions of said company, which has strengthened the craftsmanship work and the valuation of the knowledge of women canners.

*+ deia.eus +*

**SPAIN**
First woman to become vice-president of the Federación Nacional de Cofradías de Pescadores

For the first time, this entity’s vice-presidency will be held by a woman, in line with the federation's commitment to making visible the role of women in favour of equality in the sector. María del Carmen explains that this is a milestone for the sector’s women, and she reaffirms her commitment to work in favor of women’s equality so that there is parity in the positions of fisheries representation at all levels.

*+ larazon.es +*

**TANZANIA**
Women dominate Tanzanian aquaculture scene

Women are making strides in the aquaculture sector in Tanzania. According to a report from the FAO, the gender ratio of the sector is 70 females: 30 males, with the youth playing an important role in pond construction, management and distribution of fish.

*+ rastechmagazine.com +*
Is change in the air for women in fisheries and aquaculture?

**SPAIN**

Women who go to sea and break statistics and glass ceilings

In this interview, Manuela Leal, owner of the Cofradía de Pescadores de Conil, the only woman from Cádiz who is a boat skipper, and who chairs the board of directors of the Cofradía, tells that although there are more women, most are dedicated to administrative functions.

[+ efeminista.com +]

![Photo: EFE](https://example.com)

**ARGENTINA**

Meeting dedicated to fisherwomen at the ministry of environment

With this initiative's objective to start a dialogue, the Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible, linked environmental policy to a gender perspective through the experiences of women in fisheries, who have historically been invisible in Argentina, despite having key roles in the productive and community structure of small-scale fishing.

[+ argentina.gob.ar +]

[+ video on YouTube +]

**MEXICO**

Serving fisherwomen is the priority

Octavio Almada, director of the National Commission for Aquaculture and Fisheries (Comisión Nacional de Acuacultura y Pesca, CONAPESCA), refers to the situation of women in fishing in Mexico, emphasizing the need to work with indigenous women throughout the country.

[+ expreso.com +]
Somalia

Women in security: Securing the Somali coastline

Somali women are moving beyond stereotypes to join the Somali maritime enforcement agency to secure the country’s coastline against perpetrators.

Ms. Asha Mohamud Ali, who was among the trainees talks about the importance of the opportunity given to her.

Chile

Zoila Bustamante: "Our organization is stronger than ever"

In this interview Zoila Bustamante refers to her recent appointment as president of the National Confederation of Artisanal Fishers of Chile (Confederación Nacional de Pescadores Artesanales de Chile, CONAPACH) in addition to her leadership position in the Latin-American Union for Artisanal Fisheries (Unión Latinoamericana de la Pesca Artesanal, ULAPA).

Chile

The fisherwomen of Coliumo feel more empowered now

In this interview, Sara Garrido recounts a journey through the history of the formation of the first Syndicate of Fisherwomen (Sindicato de Mujeres de la Pesca) of Coliumo, a cove located in the Bío Bío Region, which set a precedent in terms of leadership and empowerment of women in the sector.
In Argentina, 25 women are being trained for the first time to work as inspectors on board fishing vessels through the Subsecretaría de Pesca y Acuicultura. This training is contributing to advancing the inclusion of women in deep-sea fishing, an area that, for cultural reasons, is still banned in that country and represents an advance in gender for the sector.

Andrea Calivar, the representative of the Agrupación Marineras del Sur, met with Gabriel Aguilar, Secretary of Fisheries, to expose the difficulties that women have to work on deep-sea fishing boats since they argue that they are not equipped for women to work onboard, and there are very few who agree to work seasonally.
CHILE
Karen Sandoval, head of the Australis center: "Companies work every day to be much more inclusive"

Chilean salmon production centres are located in environments with difficult access, connectivity, and adverse climates. These factors raise barriers to the incorporation of women into work teams.

With a career in the aquaculture industry, Karen Sandoval has worked for the last 7 years for Australis.

SPAIN
The mariscadoras and retirement

In the context of "Foro Mar", organized by the Union of Professional Autonomous Workers (Unión de Profesionales y Trabajadores Autónomos, UPTA) in Cambados, the Instituto Social de la Marina revealed that they are negotiating for the reduction of the retirement age coefficients, to match female shellfish harvesters on foot and with male shellfish harvesters afloat.
Positive Initiatives / challenging the bias against women
Positive Initiatives / challenging the bias against women

● USA ●
Minorities in aquaculture

Young woman’s effort to help women of color find an easier path into the aquaculture industry.

+ aquaculturenorthamerica.com +

● USA ●
New initiative fights gender inequality in the seafood industry

This article shares the newest initiative to build gender equality in the seafood industry, SAGE (Seafood and Gender Equality) and how SAGE will achieve its mission to uplift and amplify women’s voices through education, advocacy, and communication.

+ forbes.com +

● CHILE ●
Fisherwomen move towards greater fair trade

Artisanal fishing women lead small-scale sea resource processing plant projects in the Los Ríos region with the support of CORFO and the Servicio Nacional de Pesca, this initiative seeks to diversify fishery resources for the national market under the standard of the Fair-Trade Certified capture fisheries (USA).

+ aqua.cl +

Dominga Huichalaf is a well-known entrepreneur in artisanal fisheries.
Photo: Cacinamar
● MEXICO ●

Women have priority access to Bienpesca

The Programa de Apoyo al bienestar de pescadores y acuícolores (Bienpesca) of the Comisión Nacional de Acuicultura y Pesca (CONAPESCA) will benefit more than 42 thousand women, which represents an increase of 300% of women from fisheries compared to previous years.

+ debate.com.mx +

● CHILE ●

Fisherwomen of Los Lagos region will have access to rooms to process their products

Different public organizations are collaborating in the materialization of the project of a process room for women in artisanal fishing in the Los Lagos region with an investment of 1,130,000 EUR, which will allow women to increase the value of their fishing resources, under quality standards more rigorous in order to access new markets.

+ aqua.cl +

● ECUADOR ●

Ecuador gender in the management of small pelagic fish

Ecuador approves the Small Pelagic Fishery Action and Management Plan within the new law for fisheries and aquaculture (‘Ley Orgánica de Pesca y Acuicultura’), a public policy instrument that will have a gender perspective that promotes the participation and visibility of fishing women in the processes that involve decision making.

+ undp.org +

● CHILE ●

Unprecedented: A bill that establishes gender quota in the General Law for Fisheries and Aquaculture

The Deputies’ Chamber (Cámara de Diputados) has approved the establishment of a gender quota in the artisanal fishing registry. It which stipulates that policies must implement equal rights and parity, eliminate all forms of gender discrimination, and recognize the traditional trades of women in the fishing sector.

+ aqua.cl +
**CHILE**

Skretting Chile is committed to inclusion and diversity for 2025

Skretting, a company that supplies the Chilean aquafarming sector, has defined as part of its strategic goals for the year 2025 to increase the participation of women in the entire value chain, including in leadership positions in the national aquaculture sector.

* + aqua.cl *

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**CHILE**

Fishing company committed to promoting gender equality

The PacificBlue company signs a commitment to implement a Chilean standard that promotes equality between men and women, allows the reconciliation of work, family, and personal life of workers, and generates a positive impact on organizations and individuals. In this company, 85% of women workers are head of the household, hence the importance of advancing towards gender equality.

* + aqua.cl *

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**CHILE**

Gender equity: Australis signed an important commitment

Australis becomes the first company in the salmon farming industry to sign the Chilean standard that promotes gender equality within the “Estrategia de Sostenibilidad y del Programa de Diversidad” program that promotes equality between men and women work culture. The signing had the Minister of Women and Gender Equality, Mónica Zalaquett.

* + aqua.cl *
• ARGENTINA •
The first ship commanded by two women sailed from Madryn

Nancy Jaramillo and Susana Benitez lead a deep-sea fishing boat for the first time from Puerto Madryn, which marks a milestone in terms of gender inclusion for the roles women play in the Argentinean industrial fishing sector. Sociocultural barriers to women in leadership and responsibility roles within this sector limit their participation in these tasks in the Argentine docks.

+ radio3cadenapatagonia.com +

• BRAZIL •
A group of women contributes to the preservation of the ecosystem in Icapuí

The Mulheres de Corpo e Algas organization leads an algae cultivation and sustainable extraction project for making added value products. This initiative arose in 2001 with the support of the Terra Mar Foundation, and was strengthened with the training from the Serviço Brasileiro de Apoio às Micro e Pequenas Empresas (Sebrae), where they learned to make algae-based cosmetics and, and develop some economic autonomy.

+ verdesmares.com.br +

• CHILE •
Salmon Council publishes the Guild's Good Practices Program

It consists of a series of publications aimed at compliance with free competition regulations and ethics and good practices code, which focuses on non-discrimination and promotion of equal treatment between men and women in the companies and trade associations of the industries that subscribe to the Salmon Council.

+ aqua.cl +
• **COSTA RICA**
Three aquaculture and tourism projects generate employment for 32 women in the gulf of Nicoya

An agreement between the National Institute for Women (Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres, INAMU) and the Parque Marino del Pacífico Foundation allows the execution of three sustainable aquaculture projects for snapper, oysters, shrimp and aquaculture food ventures that benefit 32 fishing women. In alliance with different universities and research centers, the agreement has allowed them to improve technical aspects related to these projects.

+ [presidencia.go.cr](http://presidencia.go.cr+)

• **MEXICO**
In Mexico, women play an integral role in sustainable fisheries

This news report highlights the work that the Comunidad y Biodiversidad organization (COBI) regarding the visibility of women in fisheries and the gaps that persist so that they can be recognized as fundamental within the fishing value chain, although they are sometimes marginalized from fishing cooperatives, and the statistics still do not consider them in this sector.

*A woman and young man sort through spiny lobster caught off the coast of Quintana Roo in the Yucatán Peninsula. Photo: Yulisa González*

+ [waltonfamilyfoundation.org](http://waltonfamilyfoundation.org+)

• **CHILE**
Women of artisanal fishing in Los Ríos seek to make their role visible

In the Los Ríos region, working group “Mesa de Mujeres de la Pesca Artesanal” was formed within the framework of the bill that modifies the Ley General de Pesca y Acuicultura, to establish a gender quota. The working group will have various authorities in the field and 15 representatives of different communes, promoting the inclusion of pre and post-capture tasks fundamental for fishing, which is often marginalized because projects are typically aimed at boat owners.

+ [rioenlinea.cl](http://rioenlinea.cl+)

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International Organisation for Women in the Seafood Industry

Watch 2021 | Page 33
● COSTA RICA ●
The resilience of artisanal fishing in Costa Rica


She highlighted that women had an important role in the post-capture value addition of marine resources that were commercialized at the local level by creating an associative network between fisheries organizations. This made possible to value the skills and knowledge of women in governance and collective action of fishing communities.

+ video on YouTube +

● PERU ●
UNICA: Economic empowerment of women through Credit and Savings Unions

In the context of the pandemic and the marine resources sales drop associated with, the Uniones de Ahorro y Crédito (UNICA) project arises that seeks to strengthen the capacities of the fishing families of Tumbes, through associative savings and access to loans for investment in enterprises led by women. 110 women have participated with a capital saved of 13,000 US$, and credit operations for 76,000 US$.

+ cfiamericalatina.exposure.co +

● CHILE ●
Subpesca announces the first session of the Mesa de la Mujer de la Pesca Artesanal in the Antofagasta Region

This entity, created by public authorities and women in fisheries from different localities in the Antofagasta region, will build a joint agenda to respond to the concerns and challenges of the women trades in fisheries that allow progress in gender equality in the sector.

+ industriaspesqueras.com +
• **CHILE** •
**Los Lagos Region: opening of a support program aimed at artisanal fisherwomen**

The regional governor of Los Lagos, Patricio Vallespin, called on women in fisheries to apply for the “Programa de Recuperación Económica a través de Microemprendimientos Familiares”. The program aims to reactivate women's fishing enterprises through micro-processing modules for marine resources value-adding, which can formalize their initiatives and respond to the health gaps they face. The total budget for this initiative amounts to 1 million US and will be executed by the Chinquihue Foundation.

+ aqua.cl +
+ aqua.cl +

• **BRAZIL** •
**In Ceará, an initiative strengthens the fishing economy and promotes gender equality**

The organization Cáritas Diocesana de Crateús Ceará leads a project with the fishing communities of Ceará that seeks to provide tools, training and advice to improve the living conditions of these communities. The project has stood out for contributing to the empowerment of women in fisheries, making their roles and value visible for the development of the sector, recognizing themselves as professionals in the exercise of their pre and post catch trades, as well as in the diversification of marine resources.

+ agenciapulsarbrasil.org +

• **GHANA** •
**Karpowership Ghana Ltd empowers fisherfolks on good business models**

As part of business survival strategies and the covid-19 recovery measures, Karpowership Ghana Company Limited has held a forum for fisherfolks in Sekondi-Takoradi, Ghana to empower them on good business models. The forum sought to acquaint fisherfolks with measures to offset the negative impacts of the covid-19 on their businesses and lives.

+ modernghana.com +
Positive Initiatives / challenging the bias against women

**CHILE**
Launch of the Latin American Fisherwomen network

Alicia Gallado, subsecretaria de Pesca y Acuicultura (Subpesca), announced during the international webinar "Empoderamiento de la mujer en la pesca y acuicultura artesanal", organized by Subpesca and the USubsecretaría de Relaciones Económicas Internacionales, the creation of the Red de Mujeres de Mar de la Alianza del Pacífico, which will bring together fishing women from Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, as a space for collaboration, training and future business development.

+ aqua.cl +

**SENEGAL**
Senegalese women in oyster value chain receives assistance under the FISH4ACP Programme

FISH4ACP is supporting women producers in Southern Senegal to improve oyster production and preserve its precious ecosystems. FISH4ACP is an innovative programme to make fisheries and aquaculture value chains in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, more sustainable.

+ fao.org +

**KENYA**
Go-Blue Programme targets women and youth in Kenya’s coast region

The Go-Blue Programme in Kenya under the umbrella of Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani (JKP) has launched its first phase projects aimed at creating income generating activities and contribute towards efforts to fighting absolute poverty among the youth and women in the coastal regions. The four-year project (from January 2021 to December 2024) with funding support from the EU, is set to benefit over 3,000 youth and women in the six coastal regions.

+ icsf.net +

**MOROCCO**
New support for fisherwomen to access to fishery resources

A new project "Support to fisherwomen for sustainable access to fishery resources in the most vulnerable areas of Morocco" has been launched by the Department of Maritime Fisheries in Morocco and the UN Women to support fisherwomen. Through capacity building and access to modern technologies, this project will benefit nearly 650 fisherwomen.

+ infosamak.org +
Positive Initiatives / challenging the bias against women

• TANZANIA •
Seaweed farming innovation to empower women

Seaweed farmers in Zanzibar receive awards from the Blue Climate Initiative and from the Safe Seaweed Coalition. In Zanzibar, seaweed farming is an essential livelihood activity, but climate change is threatening production. For seaweed producers, 80% of whom are women, working conditions are tough and income uncertain. In partnership with women seaweed farmers, and thanks to a unique approach combining innovation with empowerment, Sea PoWer has developed a new seaweed farming technology – deep-water tubular.

+ blueclimateinitiative.org +
+ safeseaweedcoalition.org +

Planting seaweed in tubular nets, Zanzibar. Photo: Cécile Brugère

• AFRICA •
Enhancing sustainable fisheries management and aquaculture development in Africa: A programme for accelerated reform of the sector

The Fisheries Governance Project (FishGov 2), under funding from the European Union, AU-IBAR and AUDA-NEPAD, is supporting ten countries to establish and formalize their national women’s chapters of the African Women Fish Processors and Traders Network (AWFISHNET). The ten countries comprise of Gabon, Chad, Zambia, South Africa, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Egypt, Tunisia, Sierra Leone, and Liberia.

+ au-ibar.org +

• NIGERIA •
Lagos State empowers youths, women in fish cage culture

Lagos State Government in Nigeria has trained 190 youth and women in Afowo Community, Badagry in fish (tilapia and catfish) cage culture system, as part of its empowerment programme. The initiative seeks to drive youth and women empowerment in order to help them to make positive changes.

+ icsf.net +
**MALAWI**

**Women fish processors**

Low-tech solar “tents” have been developed and promoted by WorldFish and partners to improve the process of drying fish in Malawi. Apart from reducing loss and waste, this innovation is estimated to have improved the livelihoods of up to 250,000 women engaged in fish processing, particularly fish drying, in Malawi.

![Image: Bitinesi dries her fish in a solar tent dryer near Lake Malawi. Photo: Asafu Chijere](image)

**KENYA**

**Kenyan women in aquaculture and agriculture**

Farm Africa recognises that inclusive economic growth requires full participation of both women and men. Their programme activities aim at ensuring women are included, represented and fully able to participate. The project has been able to push for women to be embedded in counties’ budget process, ensuring any issues pertaining to them are voiced in the sector.

[+ worldfishcenter.org +]

[+ farmafrica.org +]
**Positive Initiatives / challenging the bias against women**

- **ASIA**
  Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation assisting sustainable aquaculture in developing markets

  Samuel Thevasagayam, Deputy Director for agriculture development at the Gates Foundation stresses the importance of this sector in providing employment and empowering women, improving household nutrition, and education.

  + seafoodsource.com +

- **BANGLADESH**
  Women-led dried fish trade booming in Cox's Bazar

  Under USAID-funded ECOFISH II program, WorldFish Bangladesh is training vulnerable fisherwomen in Cox's Bazar to produce safe and hygienic dry fish for consumption and trade purposes. The project which aims to train up to 2500 fisherwomen has so far trained 500, and by the end of December 2021, 500 more women are anticipated to have received the training on improved traditional method and market support.

  + dhakatribune.com +

- **INDIA**
  CMFRI helps TG person turn fish entrepreneur

  Support to a Transgender woman Adhidhi Achyut making her the first transgender person in fishery industry to start an entrepreneurial initiative. Around 5 lakh has been spent by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute has institute to install a fish stall with deep freezer, display table, cooler, billing machine and other equipment.

  + indiatimes.com +

- **TANZANIA**
  Empowering women in small-scale fisheries in Tanzania

  With support from FAO through both the EAF-Nansen Programme and the SSF Guidelines Project, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries established a ‘Gender Desk’ to complement other capacity building activities in the area of gender. A three-day workshop was held in Morogoro, United Republic of Tanzania on 21-23 April 2021 to train the members of the ‘Fisheries Gender Desk’ and develop an Institutional Gender Action Plan.

  + fao.org +
THAILAND

Thai Union Group signs MOU to help strengthen the coastal fishing economy

Thai Union Group PCL. has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with two community groups in Songkhla province, Thailand, to provide them with a solar-powered fish-house dryer. One of the community groups is a women’s group called Ban Na Thap Women’s Group Seafood Processing.

FIJI

Women in fisheries network conducts trailblazing workshop

Women in Fisheries Network Fiji conducted a workshop on - ”Development of Women in Fisheries Baseline Initiative, Data and Engagement Strategy” on April 8, 2021. This aims to further promote/advance the commitment of the Network in empowering, engaging and developing Fiji women involved in the fisheries sector.
**India**

Free bus service for women fish vendors in Kerala

In Kerala, India Kerala State Road Transportation Company and the department of fisheries has started free bus services for women fish vendors. The bus operates from 6 am to 10 pm and has features such as roll platform to load fish baskets and even collection tank to store saline water. So far, three buses have been deployed with plans to add more buses in the future.

+ indiatimes.com +

**Myanmar**

Improved fish smoker delivers safe, nutritious food in Myanmar

Efficient and less smoke producing FTT (FAO Thiyaroe Processing Technique) fish smoker was pilot tested in Myanmar and two fisherwomen were selected in Kale township for the pilot test. The women were selected for their adaptability and desire to embrace innovation.

+ worldfishcenter.org +

**Cambodia**

EU and UNIDO to support fisheries sector

European Union (EU), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture’s Fisheries Administration (FiA), Cambodia has launched a Value Chain Investment Support (VCIS) programme. The programme intends to support Cambodia’s small, medium, and large enterprises in post-harvest fisheries, especially those owned by women and youth.

+ khmertimeskh.com +
• **SCOTLAND** •

**Women organisation in Scotland**

Women in Scottish Aquaculture (WiSA) exists to introduce more women into aquaculture, and support those already working in the sector.

In September 2021, WiSA has revealed plans for a new online forum designed to connect more than 300 female members, to promote diversity, and to highlight the range of opportunities for women in the aquaculture sector.

[+ video on YouTube +]

[+ wisasustainableaquaculture.com +]

• **SPAIN** •

**Making visible women in the port environment in the Canary Islands**

This project, led by the Factoría de Cohesión, was carried out for the third consecutive year in Santa Cruz de Tenerife and sought to be a space to make visible and promote women’s participation in the port environment given their little presence in the maritime port community. These projects, promoted through social networks and the web, join responsibility in gender equality and improve the working conditions of women in the port.

[+ canaryports.es +]
Galician net menders receive 13,000 euros from the Xunta to promote their activity

The Xunta de Galicia supported the activity of the “O Peirao” Federación Galega de Redeiras again during 2021, through €13,000 that contributed to financing activities of representation of the federation and visibility of women in the fishing sector, promoting the organization of the redeiras (net menders) sector and publicizing their work through a publication.

Gender equality in the fisheries and aquaculture: Evaluation of the plan 2015-2020

The evaluation of the Plan for sectors 2015-2020 has concluded that progress in terms of horizontally integrating the equality principle in these sectors was made, especially around the visibility and appreciation of the labour carried out by women.
Positive Initiatives / challenging the bias against women

- **SPAIN**
  **More visibility to women in fisheries and aquaculture**

A historic agreement on equality was signed to make fishing women visible, which will allow their training in new technologies, through articulation with the Andalucian Agrarian and Fisheries Institute for Research and Training to improves their professional position and access to decision-making spaces.

  + ipacuicultura.com +

- **SPAIN**
  **Equal opportunities in the maritime sector is not an expense, it is an investment**

Iolanda Piedra, president of the Clúster Maritimo y Logístico de las Islas Baleares, argued the advantages of incorporating gender equality in blue economy companies in the II Cycle of Online Conferences of the cluster entitled “Igualdad de oportunidades en los Sectores Azules” (Equality of opportunities in blue sectors), since it provides competitive and innovative advantages in the sector. For this, a study has been launched that deepens and creates a specialized equality office for the sector to review measures and protocols.

  + naucher.com +

- **SPAIN**
  **Promotion of an equality observatory for the Galician fishing sector**

Sandra Amézaga, spokesperson of Mulleres Mar de Arousa details that they have proposed to create an equality observatory that would analyze women’s reality throughout the fishing sector value chain. To obtain reliable data that allow to draw up strategies to improve the conditions of women and encourage their participation in decision-making spaces.

  + lavozdegalicia.es +

_Fisherwomen (« Mariscadoras ») of the Isla de Arousa’s Cofradía collect clams on the beach of the Natural Park of Carreirón, in Isla de Arousa. Photo: EFE/Lavandeira jr_
• **SOUTH AFRICA**

South African Network for Women in the fisheries and aquaculture sector

The African Women Fish Processors and Traders Network (AWFISHNET) under the Phase 2 of the Fisheries Governance project (FishGov2) with support from AU-IBAR and AUDA-NEPAD has inaugurated the South African Network for women in Fisheries and Aquaculture sector. This network aims to improve women economic gains, ensure their participation in fisheries governance as well as achieve nutritional and food security goals.

+ nepad.org +

• **ETHIOPIA**

Ethiopia establishes the national chapter of the African women’s fish traders and processors network

As part of the FishGov2 initiative, the Ethiopian network of women fish processors and traders has been established in Addis Ababa as a chapter of the African Women Fish Processors and Traders Network (AWFISHNET). The Network aims to facilitate trade links at national and regional level and also serve as a platform for sharing the best practices among women engaged in the fisheries.

+ remonews.com +

• **LIBERIA**

Towards the establishment of a Liberian chapter of the African Women Fish Processors and Traders Network (AWFISHNET)

The African Women Fish Processors and Trade Network (AWFISHNET) in connection the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) in Liberia have organized a two-day international consultative fisheries meeting towards the establishment of the Liberian chapter of the AWFISHNET.

+ allafrica.com +

• **CHILE**

Digital connectivity to women in artisanal fishing

An agreement between the Subsecretaría de Pesca y Acuicultura (Subpesca) and the Fundación para la Promoción y Desarrollo de la Mujer (PRODEMU) provided internet connection to women from artisanal fishing in the Caleta Hornitos, Antofagasta region, who will be able to access digital connectivity to improve their start-ups and support distance classes for their children, in an area with poor internet connection.

+ subpesca.cl +
• **CHILE**
  **Subsecretaria led the initial session of the Mesa de Mujeres de la Pesca Artesanal in Valdivia**

The subsecretaria de Pesca y Acuicultura, Alicia Gallardo, led the first session of the Mesa Regional de la Mujer de la Pesca Artesanal in Valdivia, a space that seeks to promote dialogue with women in the sector to raise awareness on gender equality. Also, they showed the efforts developed to promote women’s empowerment in fishing and meet the requirements of local women.

+ aqua.cl +

• **CHILE**
  **Fisherwomen receive training to grow red conger eel**

The Asociación Gremial Nacional de mujeres pescadoras artesanales de Chile “Tejiendo Redes” in conjunction with the National Confederation of Artisanal Fishers of Chile (Confederación Nacional de Pescadores Artesanales de Chile, CONAPACH) and the Industry Colorado Chile, have developed a pilot project for the cultivation of red conger eel with artisanal fishing women.

+ aqua.cl +

• **CHILE**
  **Universidad de Chile’s course for fisherwomen stands out among gender equality initiatives in Latin America**

The course "Mujeres Líderes de la Pesca Artesanal" (Women leaders in artisanal fisheries) was highlighted by the Comunidad y Biodiversidad (COBI) organization from Mexico, as one of the projects that promotes gender equality in Latin America. This initiative trained 70 women from fisheries in tools and knowledge to be agents of change in their localities by promoting their economic autonomy.

+ uchile.cl +

• **CHILE**
  **100 women from Maule fisheries are trained in digital empowerment**

Fishing women from the Maule Region receive a digital kit that includes a smartphone, unlimited minutes, and internet connection for 18 months, an initiative led by PRODEMU and SUBPESCA. The Trade Asociación Gremial de Mujeres Pescadoras de la Región del Maule emphasizes the importance of this benefit since it will allow women to maintain the association, strengthen it and continue working on coordinated actions in the field of artisanal fishing.

+ caquenesnet.cl +
**CHILE**

Salmones Austral trained women entrepreneurs from the Huichas Islands

Salmon is the main product processed during the training course. Photo: Salmones Austral

The Salmones Austral company imparted a preparation course of marine canned and dehydrated products to 30 women from the Huichas Islands fishery in the Aysén region, according to safety and health protocols.

**CHILE**

Talcahuano: Artisanal fisherwomen develop an unprecedented training program

A hundred artisanal fisherwomen from Maule and Ñuble Regions were trained in hake processing under industrial fishing safety standards.

**BRAZIL**

Women will have special conditions to participate in the International Fish Congress

The International Fish Congress & Fish Expo event will be held from November 24 to 26 in Foz do Iguaçu. Its executive director Eliana Panty extends the invitation to women from the fishing and aquaculture sector to participate in the activities, recognizing the growing role that women in the sector are playing in the expansion of the Brazilian fishing chain in the last decade internally and externally.
**SPAIN**

**Need for women to reach leadership positions in the marine sector**

The president of the Diputación de Pontevedra, Carmela Silva emphasizes the need for women in the fishing sector to reach leadership and decision-making positions, in the context of the 6th Days of Information on the Role of Women in the Fisheries and Conservation Sectors – References from the Present and the Past (‘VII Jornadas Divulgativas sobre el papel de la mujer en el sector pesquero y conservero. Referentes del presente y del pasado’).

+ galiciapress.es +

**WORLD**

**Women aquaculture entrepreneurs and access to capital**

Hatch the investment fund in aquaculture, has opened its doors to 10 innovation companies led by female entrepreneurs. “Women have immense potential to contribute to the aquaculture industry. With this initiative we hope to close some of the gender gaps we see in entrepreneurial businesses and the sector”, explained Wayne Murphy, co-founder and partner of Hatch.

+ hatch.blue +

Hatch has previously worked with - and invested in - a number of female founders in the aquaculture space.

+ thefishsite.com +

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International Organisation for Women in the Seafood Industry

Watch 2021 | Page 48
Recognition of women’s multiple roles
Fishing culture and heritage

● **CHILE** ●
**Shore gathering as intangible cultural heritage**

The initiative presented to UNESCO was led by fishermen organizations of Galicia (Spain) and the Red de Mujeres de la Pesca Artesanal (Chile), seeking to recognize, value, and strengthen the craft of marine harvesting, making visible the knowledge of the women who exercise it, and their contribution to gender equality in the fishing sector.

![Shellfish gleaner in Chile. Photo: Néstor Lloyd](image)

● **USA** ●
**A lifetime of subsistence fishing tells a story of community and culture**

Debbie Coolidge, a Yupik in Alaska’s Bristol Bay, shares a day in her life, the importance of salmon and food from the land, and various methods of preparing salmon for the long, Alaska winters.

● **CANADA** ●
**More and more women in fisheries**

Radio Canada meets Odile Gauvin-Mallet, captain of a crab fishing boat. She explains her job, and the evolution over the years. “40 years ago, when I started women were very few. I am happy to see that the new generation is ready to take it over, as I am retiring soon.”
The incredible Virginia Oliver, 101, fishes for lobster with her son three times a week. She attributes her long life to the independence she gains by being on the water and the years of lobster fishing. She says she’ll stop lobstering only when she dies.
Recognition of women’s multiple roles

**FIJI**
Women use traditional fishing practices

In Fiji, Nausori market, there is a rise in the number of elderly women who are still using their traditional fishing skills and practices. These women, who collect freshwater mussels even before dawn and catch prawns, crabs and lobsters at dusk, share that their efforts and struggles still go unnoticed.

An increasing number of elderly women at the Nausori market are using their traditional fishing practices and skills to earn a living.

+ fbcnews.com.fj +

**SPAIN**
Tarifa dedicates one of its streets to the women canners of the city

In Tarifa, a street was named after “Las Estibadoras de conserveras”, to pay tribute to the women who have historically worked in the fish canning factories of that town more than a century ago, where generations of women have provided the main livelihood of families linked to the sea and fishing.

+ conserveradetarifa.es +

**USA**
‘No fish means no food’: how Yurok women are fighting for their tribe’s nutritional health

The Yurok reservation sits along the Klamath River in California, where salmon populations are dwindling due to low water quality, pollution, climate change, and physical impediments to the river, such as dams. Salmon have fed generations of Yurok and are critical to their foodways. Supermarkets are nowhere in the vicinity. Yurok mothers are working to restore the river, fighting for dam removal, and reclaiming Indigenous food sovereignty.

+ theguardian.com +
Recognition of women’s multiple roles

**SPAIN**

*Heroines of the seashore*

In this news report, two women netmakers Cambrils Anna Maria Piñas y Quima Fuente talk about the difficulties of the trade, the technical and specific knowledge required to repair fishing nets, and how they came to carry out such work, based on the relationship of their families with fishing.

[+ revistacambrils.cat +]

Quima Font, mending nets at the harbour. Photo: Laura Tarsà

**Value chains**

**USA**

*Women are an integral part of the fishing community*

This video showcases four women working in the small, tight knit fishing community in Monterey Bay, California. They share their stories, why short seafood supply chains are important, and describe how the ocean the seafood business has given them an amazing life and career.

[+ montereybayfisheriestrust.org +]
Marine conservation and science

● USA ●
**Celebrating women leaders in ocean conservation**

This blog post on Our Shared Seas showcases a number of women working in ocean conservation and leading the way towards conserving the most important resource on our planet – the ocean.

+ oursharedseas.com +

● USA ●
**Four Wonder Women in fisheries**

This article showcases four women working in fisheries biology and conservation in the U.S.A., what it means to be a woman in science, who inspires them, and advice for women looking to start similar careers.

+ medium.com +

● USA ●
**Celebrating women in seafood**

This blog post on the National and Oceanic Administration (NOAA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce showcases five women working in fish and seafood. They share their connection to NOAA, their role in fish and seafood, and their favorite seafood dishes.

+ fisheries.noaa.gov +
COSTA RICA
12 young artisanal fishing workers will contribute knowledge to an interactive web platform

Young women from small-scale fisheries in Costa Rica participate in the small-scale fisheries (SSF) HUB digital platform to share knowledge about artisanal fishing, in order to contribute to the governance and development of their communities.

MEXICO
Mexico: women protecting the endangered scallop

Women from the Organization of Fishermen Rescuing the Ensenada (OPRE) protect and restore the Estero Conchalito in Baja California, a scallop extraction site, of great economic value, but threatened by overexploitation and illegal extraction.

COSTA RICA
Proud and passionate: despite the challenges

In this interview, Lilia Briones emphasizes her leadership of the Women’s Association of Shrimp Handlers and Processors of Responsible Fisheries Marine Area of Barra del Colorado, Costa Rica, which, along fishermen, defended the right to small-scale shrimp fishing in their community, against the restrictions imposed by the government.
**EL SALVADOR**

"I know that my work is good for my entire community, the more we plant, the more seafood we will have"

[Sandra Marlene Reinosa, one of the 43 women who work for the restauration of mangroves in the Ramsar site of Barra de Santiago. Photo: IUCN](#)

Fisherwomen from the Asociación de Desarrollo Comunal de Mujeres de la Barra de Santiago restored three hectares of mangroves on the Pacific coast of El Salvador.

[+ iucn.org +](#)

**SPAIN**

*Mulleres do Mar de Arousa take to the networks to fight against poachers*

The organization calls for an end to illegal fishing and harvesting of marine resources, which harms all women who depend on the sea. They appeal in their campaign that eradicating such practices is a matter of social responsibility.

[+ lavozdegalicia.es +](#)
In the village of Adara, Timor-Leste, village women engage in “gleaning” or engage in foraging for marine animals such as crabs, eels, and tiny fishes from the shore, especially during November to March, which they label as rough season.
Global threats
Covid-19 impact and coping

**USA**
In Alaska fisheries, COVID-19 may intensify gender inequality

This article examines gender equality in the Alaska fisheries context and how Covid-19 might affect the future of the fishery and the women who fish there. Women in Seafood, Elma Burnham from the community organization Strength of the Tides, and Marysia Szymkowiak, a social scientist at the NOAA Alaska Fisheries Science Center who studies fisheries, are featured.

[+ pulitzercenter.org +]

**CHILE**
Angry fishermen and women because the Covid

Artisanal fishing organizations claim that the 1100 EU bonus for economic relief of small companies as a result of the pandemic, delivered by the Government of Chile, only covers 10% of the fishermen affected, leaving out the majority of the workers in the sector. They demand that their local authorities intercede with the Ministro de Economía for the extension of said bonus to 100% of the fishermen.

[+ radiodelmar.cl +]

**SENEGAL**
Senegalese female fish-processors struggles for survival amidst the Covid-19 pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic has undoubtedly affected many lives with resource dependent livelihoods being among the hard-hit sectors.

[+ watch video +]
● INDIA ●
Fisherwomen to run seafood restaurants

In the city of Thiruvananthapuram in India, the Fishery Department has launched a new initiative with 46 seafood restaurants in nine coastal districts which will be operated by women. This initiative has been introduced to curb the impact of Covid-19 on the livelihood of women. It has been estimated that 230 women will be directly benefitted from this new idea.

+ newindianexpress.com +

● AFRICA ●
Mitigating the impacts of Covid-19 on Africa’s women fish processors and traders


+ worldfishcenter.org +

● PHILIPPINES ●
Rendering Visibility in the Philippines during the COVID-19 pandemic

Krishi Shaffina Twyla Rubin relates the lived experiences of women fisherfolk during the COVID-19 pandemic. The article highlights the burden faced by these women.

+ Samudra Journal: Report Number 86, 2021 +
Climate change

● MOZAMBIQUE ●
Women as ocean ambassadors in coastal districts

In Mozambique women are disproportionately affected by climate change and are more exposed to risks such as natural disasters, droughts, floods, and cyclones because they are more dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods and are often marginalized from decision-making processes.

+ iucncongress2020.org +

● CHILE ●
FAO: gender approach and climate change in artisanal fisheries and small aquaculture

FAO publishes in its Revista de Acuicultura n° 63 two articles of the project led by the Subsecretaria de Pesca y Acuicultura on strengthening Chilean fishing and aquaculture sectors in the face of climate change.

+ aqua.cl +
**MEKONG REGION**

Trouble on the Mekong: climate change, over-development hit fisheries

Two reports, including a social impact survey, on the consequences of climate change and impacts of over-development on fisheries, have been published by the Mekong River.

**SOUTH KOREA**

For South Korea’s youngest ‘sea women’, warming seas mean smaller catches

Jin So-hee, 28 year old free-dive fisher referred to as “youngest sea-woman” in South Korea and other sea women face difficulties in catching fishes. Due to global warming, the sea water is 2.5 times warmer. This causes the shift in sea habitat. When modern fishing is slowly replacing haenyeo, their future is more insecure.

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*Woo Jung-min, 35, a haenyeo, also known as a ‘sea woman’, poses for a photograph with sea cucumbers that she harvested in the sea off Geoje, South Korea, March 31, 2021. Photo: Reuters.*

*Jin So-hee, 28 year old free-dive fisher referred to as “youngest sea-woman” in South Korea and other sea women face difficulties in catching fishes. Due to global warming, the sea water is 2.5 times warmer. This causes the shift in sea habitat. When modern fishing is slowly replacing haenyeo, their future is more insecure.*
Fisheries globalization and other threats

**GAMBIA**
Fishmeal factories competes with Gambian women fish processors

In Gambia, three Chinese owned fishmeal factories – in Gunjur and Sanyang – are competing with women for the same small pelagic fish that women need for processing. These fishmeal factories contract Senegalese fishers to fish in the Gambian waters to ensure exclusive supplies to their operations, an illegal activity threatening local livelihoods.

+ Yemaya no 64, page 4 +

**WEST AFRICA**
EU Green deal in West Africa threatens women livelihoods in small-scale fisheries.

Women fish processors and traders play a major role in small-scale fisheries in West Africa, buying landed catches and processing them for sale into local and regional markets. However, in recent times their activities are being hampered by the increasing fishmeal factories (particularly in Senegal and Gambia) who compete with them for the small pelagic fish, threatening their means of livelihoods.

+ euobserver.com +

Women fish-processors are a key figure in the Senegalese small-scale fishing economy. Photo: Francesco De Augustinis
• PERU •

Áncash: more than 45,000 fish filleting women are out of work due to the closure of 37 canning factories

Ancash region’s fish filleting women held a demonstration to expose the paralysis of their sector due to trawling of anchovy destined for the production of fishmeal and not for human consumption. This has affected 45,000 women who depend on these captures.

Fishers and fileters from the Áncash region protest against the trawling industry impacting their activities. Photo: Difusión
Knowledge and Understanding
**WORLD**

WSI Research: Women in top seafood management

What position women occupy in the seafood industry leadership? For the third time, WSI analyses the gender composition of boards of the 100 top seafood companies. In 2020, women at top management (exec and non-exec) grew to 14%, the highest ever recorded.

Are the seafood industry paying attention to gender equality and adopting a “gender lens” throughout their policies? Not at all to 43% for seafood companies, and intensively for 84% of retailers and hospitality companies. To know more about the how and the why contact WSI.

+ womeninseafood.org +
• USA •
The importance of investing in women in aquaculture

This blog post serves a dual purpose: to illustrate the challenges that women in aquaculture face globally and to announce the Kvaroy Arctic Women in Aquaculture Scholarship.

+ kvaroyarctic.com +

• USA •
Building gender equality for women in seafood

The blog post on the FishWise site illuminates the importance of uplifting women in seafood and the necessity for gender equality to attain positive environmental outcomes in global seafood production.

+ fishwise.org +

• EGYPT •
“Bringing a change” in women’s equitable involvement in aquaculture

A new study highlights the gender barriers hindering women fish retailers in Egypt, where the aquaculture sector is a major source of employment. However, gender barriers limit returns of women fish retailers. The study used sex-disaggregated data in three governorates of Lower Egypt, in Sharkhia, Kafr el-Sheikh and Beheira, to assess the economic and social constraints of fish retailers.

+ worldfishcenter.org +

• AFRICA •
Gender mainstreaming in fisheries and aquaculture sectors

The Fish Innovation Lab stipulates that purposive and informed gender mainstreaming in aquaculture and fisheries sectors is necessary to promote technology adoption and positive behavior towards food security and poverty alleviation. This will ensure effective planning, implementation, and evaluation of research-for-development projects and programs in five Feed the Future countries: Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia, Bangladesh and Cambodia.

+ agrilinks.org +
Northern Lights: The women behind our seafood

This article examines the need to support women in global seafood production and why. The author calls for increased sex-disaggregated data collection in order to understand better where and how women participate in the sector.

Salmon farming: The valuable role of women in production centers

Aqua Magazine seeks to make women visible within the Salmon Industry in Chile, in which they represent 30% of participation, mostly in process plants and administrative areas, and to a lesser degree in fish farms and piscicultures.
• PHILIPPINES •
Bringing to light women’s participation in the seaweed industry

In a gender-segregated work, where women mostly look after seedling preparation, cleaning and segregation, and drying, while men take charge of farm construction, monitoring and harvest, there are still gaps in terms of data. The research discusses the social network analysis carried out to map gender differences in access and control of resources, and to understand power relationships between men and women.

+ genderaquafish.org +

• INDIAN OCEAN •
Women’s economic empowerment in fisheries in the Indian Ocean rim

Published by UN Women, a report provides a baseline analysis of women’s economic empowerment in the fisheries sector in the blue economy of the Indian Ocean rim region. The report focuses on the 22 Member States of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and includes both marine and inland fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

+ unwomen.org +
**SPAIN**

**PTEPA Report on female entrepreneurs, women in fisheries and aquaculture**

This report highlights the role of women entrepreneurs and innovation promoters in the fishing and aquaculture sectors.

[ptepe.es](ptepe.es)

**SPAIN**

**Women in Valencian fishing**

This research note emphasizes the need to recognize the role that women have in fishing in Valencia, to understand fishing not only as an extractive sector but as a more complex way of life that includes families and communities.

[catedratieraciuadadana.blogs.upv.es](catedratieraciuadadana.blogs.upv.es)

**SPAIN**

**Women of the sea**

This research emphasizes how global fisheries and aquatic system change are affecting women of these sectors. Women’s work in the value chain is invisible in the Mediterranean, and there is still a gap in terms of research that accounts for the reality of women in fishing, and their contributions to the future of a sector that is in crisis.

[eucrante.org](eucrante.org)

Photo: Blanca Feliu
**PERU**

Gender and fisheries in the Amazon

This study by the Wildlife Conservation Society seeks to analyze the role of women and the LGBTQ population in Amazonian fishing in Peru through a case study in the Loreto region, where gender relations are explored along the fish value chain.

[peru.wcs.org]

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**SPAIN**

Gender diagnosis in the seafood industry at UVigo

The University of Vigo organizes the seminar "Mulleres do Mar, Mulleres no Mar", on the occasion of its centenary, to raise awareness on women in the fishing and maritime sector. WSI presented a “Gender diagnosis in the seafood industry”

[watch video]

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**SPAIN**

Comprehensive study with a gender approach in occupational risk prevention in fishing vessels in Galicia

This study aims to identify, analyze and propose preventive measures and practical recommendations in matters of (ORP) as a continuation of the research carried out in 2020, and strengthen the inclusion of the gender perspective and eliminate inequality in fishing vessels from Galicia.

[prevencionar.com]
Towards a ‘thick description’ of gender relations in dried fish value chains

Integrated framework studies gender relations within the dried fish value chains from the perspective of social well-being and intersectionality.

+ genderaquafish.org +
Women-led initiatives in fisheries and aquaculture
• PERU •

Enterprises led by Piura women will receive technical support to improve their productivity and marketing

This initiative aims for the economic reactivation of women-led enterprises linked to artisanal fishing that were affected by the pandemic in Bahía de Sechura, Piura. This project will benefit 30 women through advice and technical support that promotes short commercialization chains through associativity and technology.

+ cfi-la.org +

• CHILE •

Creation of A.G. of fisherwomen

With women from different regions of Chile, the Asociación Gremial Nacional de Mujeres en la Pesca Artesanal “Tejiendo Redes” was officially formed, adding to the demand of the national fisheries to have a Ministry of the Sea for Chile.

+ conapach.cl +

Photo: Conapach
Women-led initiatives in fisheries and aquaculture

● NIGERIA ●
The story of Olubunmj Agbato fish processor

Olubunmj Agbato is the Chief Executive Officer of B-Spice Fish (a subsidiary of Bspice products and services limited) in Oyo State, Nigeria. Ms. Agbato holds a degree in Aquaculture and Fishery Management and is a fish farmer, a career which she started whilst in school. She processes fish into ten (10) products. She has attracted international grants to her business.

+ batatv.com +

● TANZANIA ●
Tanzanian women fish processors’ network

The Tanzanian Women Fish Workers Association (TAWFA), which was established in 2019 and is a member of the African Women Fish Processors and Traders Network (AWFISHNET), is expanding to Lake Victoria. The 200-member group strong association is reaching 6000 women fish processors.

+ Twitter @EditrudithLuka1 +

● HONG KONG ●
Eleven Asian women founders and CEOs building the future of food

Kai Yi Chan, CEO of Avant Meats has introduced alternative to seafood using fish cells in lab. The fish cells have been used to make cultivated seafood products, including fish maw and sea cucumber. The company has already raised $3.1 million USD Seed round in December 2020.

+ veganwomensummit.com +

Photo: Editrudith Lukanga
MALAYSIA
Preserved fish popular Kelantanese food during Ramadan

Nor Azreena Mohd Nor, a dried and preserved fish trader, shares rise in sales of preserved fishes during Ramadan. Nor Azreena who entered the business around a year ago reports that her sales have increased from 50 kg to around 150 kg during Ramadan.

+ thesundaily.my +

INDONESIA
Fisherwoman starts fish farming with the help of the community

Hasmia is a rural shrimp farmer from Pinrang, Indonesia. She manages a polyculture farm of shrimp and milkfish in her six-hectare pond. Hasmia attributes her success to the support from her community. This success story is an indication of the importance of social capital and knowledge transfer, especially for new fisherwomen who are stepping into business.

+ facebook.com/asicollaborate +

EGYPT
CARE Egypt fostering gender-equitable aquaculture market systems in Egypt

CARE Egypt’s STREAMS project worked to increase production of inexpensive, nutritious and safe fish from sustainable aquaculture systems to help improve health and nutrition while creating employment and increasing incomes along the aquaculture value chain.

+ careevaluations.org +
+ care.org +
Yuki Chidui inspiring entrepreneur in the sushi world

Yuki Chidui really wants to change things in the very traditional and misogynist environment in sushi restaurants in Japan. She is the founder of an all-female sushi restaurant Nadeshico Sushi in Tokyo and the highly motivated creator of The Next Generation Sushi Association. “My association is dedicated to the development of skills, working conditions and female chefs in sushi chefs and restaurants around the world. This is a very attractive and promising profession and I feel how important it is to promote women as female sushi chefs and only-women staffs in sushi restaurants. We need to change things and I will let it known in Japan and all around the world”.

Yuki Chidui is the winner of the third prize of WSI Video Competition 2020

Increased revenues for fisherwomen in Southeastern Arabian Sea fishery

Fisherwomen along the coast of Mangalore fish port are enjoying an increase in revenue due to the rise of pufferfish catches. The pufferfish, which is a novel and unusual fish in that area, has increased possibly due to the decrease in predatory fishes due to the effects of climate change. 50 women have been employed for the processing of the fish, and are enjoying the benefits.
• EAST TIMOR •
Women divers of Atauro Island

DÉCOPAGES & ARTE France have produced a 15-minute documentary on women divers of Atauro Island located in Timor Leste. The documentary talks about the switch in profession adopted by the women when the land they relied upon started getting dry and became non-arable, and how they enabled their community to survive by learning how to dive.

The women divers of Atauro have a mindset anchored in the desire to gather enough nourishment for their families without destroying the reef.

• CANADA •
“My dream is to have an all women crew” says the first female Inuit captain

Originally from Uashat Mak Mani-Utenam, a region in Québec, Canada, Anouk St-Onge, 43 years old recently became a certified ship’s captain, making her the first female Innu fishing boat captain. A model of perseverance says her maritime school professors and her mates about this sole woman in a very male environment.

• SPAIN •
Patronas are not satisfied with selling seaweed: they also want to collect and grow them

Cristina García leads the “La Patrona” start-up for the commercialization of algae for human consumption, a project that was financed by the Cambados GALP with 35,000 euros, and which today seeks to cultivate algae thanks to an aquaculture concession. Rosa Quintana, the conselleira do Mar, visited the plant to learn about the process and the needs of this type of enterprise that employs more women on the Cambados coast.
**UK**

“On a boat: this is where I want to be” says young Amy Rose

Vibrant, inspiring testimonies of young women fishing along the coast of the UK. [theguardian.com](https://theguardian.com)

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**SOMALIA**

Somali women receives a taste of hope in the fisheries

Two Somali women are impacting the lives of local Somali women to gain livelihoods in the fisheries sector. While the fisheries sector and fish as whole had little relevance to the locals, the relentless efforts of these two women have brought to light the untapped riches in the sector to the benefit locals, particularly women. Women are being taught how to air-dry fish in an attempt to widen fish consumption across the country. More importantly these two women have formed cooperatives to champion and advocate for the rights and prosperity of all women in the fisheries.

[newint.org](https://newint.org)
**SCOTLAND (UK)**

**Female Trawler crew member**

Elaine Black, from Pittenweem in Fife, is a crew member on a langoustine trawler with her skipper husband, Ed. She also a director of UK Women in Fisheries and hopes to see change in the male-dominated industry after claiming there are no women skippers in Scotland, and very few crew, of which she is one.

[+ scotsman.com +](#)

![Photo: Elaine Black](#)

**GHANA**

**Women ventures into oyster production to boost their livelihoods**

A new study in Ghana showcases how women are venturing into West African Mangrove Oyster harvesting to improve their incomes and nutritional security.

[+ juniperpublishers.com +](#)

**FRANCE**

**The French take on a trendy ‘superfood’**

Fisherwoman Scarlette Le Corre has spent a lifetime quietly revolutionising fishing in France and the greater story of seaweed cultivation, culture and cuisine in Brittany.

In her seaweed cooking workshops, Scarlette Le Corre demonstrates ancient conservation methods and family recipes.

[+ bbc.com +](#)

![Photo: Nicola Williams](#)
• **SPAIN** •

**Mulleres do Mar de Arousa:** "being united has always made us stronger"

In this interview with Dolores Gómez, president of Mulleres do Mar de Arousa, recounts the conditions of women in fishing, their difficulties in reconciling work and family, the organization's actions in the fight for equality, and the need for more women to be in managerial positions.

+ [elespanol.com](https://elespanol.com) +

• **COLOMBIA** •

**Shellfish and mangroves: Colombian women ensure their livelihood**

This news report recounts the experiences of fishing Afro-descendant women in southwestern Colombia, who collect molluscs from the mangroves in the face of the violence of the armed groups that occupy the territory. These women have organized to protect against the threat of mangrove deforestation and mining, which puts the food security of their families and their economic independence at risk.

The shrimp harvest from the Minchiá River has decreased in recent years. Before, women collected an average of 200 in 10 days. Now, they collect about 60.

+ [dw.com](https://dw.com) +
Women-led initiatives in fisheries and aquaculture

• USA •
'Stay out of my way': Kittery woman, owner of Southern Maine Crabs, creates seafood niche

23-year old Jillian Robillard of Maine saw a business opportunity to sell crabs that did not have a market and were often captured in lobster pots, but thrown back. Jillian has found a market for these crabs up and down the East Coast of the U.S. and has shown that a woman can thrive in the male-dominated fishing industry - you just need to “stay out of her way!”

Jillian Robillard lifts a crate full of Jonah crabs that weighs over 100 pounds out of the water to process at her facility in Kittery. Photo: Olivia Falcigno

+ seacoastonline.com +
Visibility
Celebrating women

• MEDITERRANEAN •
Heroes of sustainability

As part of International Women’s Day 2021 celebration, UNEP puts together a series of inspiring stories of women in fisheries in the Mediterranean. From fishers, to park rangers and seafood entrepreneurs, the sea is their inspiration and they are passionate about what they do.

Gulsiye Olmez, a fisherwoman from Akbuk in Gokova Bay, a Marine Protected Area (MPA) in Turkey, is the captain of her own boat. Photo: SPA/RAC, Bubi Film

+ unep.org +

• USA •
Celebrating women’s history as pioneers and innovators in the seafood industry

This blog post by Seafood Nutrition Partnership celebrates 23 women working in seafood either at non-profit conservation organizations or in the seafood industry. These women all work tirelessly to improve the industry through environmental conservation, advocacy and policy development, or communications about the issues in global seafood production.

+ seafoodnutrition.org +

• CHILE •
Four women who are leading Chilean fisheries and aquaculture

To commemorate International Women’s Day, Aqua Magazine reflects on the role of women in the national fishing and aquaculture industry, for which they highlight 4 women in leadership positions.

+ aqua.cl +
First Asian woman awarded World Food Prize

Dr. Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted has become the first woman of Asian heritage to be awarded the World Food Prize. The award has often been referred to as the “Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture”. Dr. Thilsted was awarded with this honor for her ground-breaking research, critical insights and landmark innovations in developing nutrition-sensitive approaches to aquatic food systems, including fisheries and aquaculture.

+ altararwah.com +

Anmupesca obtains the Premio de Excelencia a la Innovación para Mujeres Rurales granted by the Government

The National Association of Women in Fisheries (Asociación Nacional de Mujeres de la Pesca, Anmupesca) receives an award for excellence in innovation in fishing and aquaculture activities. This award recognizes and raises awareness of the work carried out and defend the rights of women in the fishing and aquaculture sector.

+ industriaspesqueras.com +

Betty House honoured by Atlantic Canada Salmon Farmers

Betty House, a veteran science & research coordinator for the Atlantic salmon farming sector, is this year’s recipient of the Atlantic Canada Aquaculture Award, which recognised her three-decade career as a pioneer of the industry.

+ seawestnews.com +
• AFRICA •
FAO’s 2021 Margarita Lizárraga Medal awarded to Ms Margaret Nakato of the Katosi Women Development Trust in Uganda

Ms Margaret Nakato was selected in recognition of her success in organizing women in fishing communities to work together, empowering them with knowledge and skills, access to training, markets and technology.

+ ngoforum.or.ug +

Global meetings and webinars

• WORLD •
Webinar: Women’s Leadership in Fisheries and Aquaculture

Organised by WSI and the FAO.
Speakers: M-C Monfort, Christelle Vigot - Guest star: Yuki Chidui creator of Nadeshico Sushi
Moderator: Jennifer Gee, Fishery Officer - Fleet, Gender Focal Point and Gender Team Leader, FAO Fisheries Division, welcome address by Audun Lem (Deputy-Director of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Fisheries and Aquaculture Department).

+ watch the recording of the webinar +
• AFRICA •
Women’s voices in the spotlight

Knowing the importance of the artisanal fisheries and the content of FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Small-Scale Fisheries, the African Confederation of Professional Organizations of Artisanal Fisheries (CAOPA) and the FAO has organized a two-day workshop to strengthen the capacity of women (of CAOPA) in advocacy for IYFA.

• EUROPE •
Webinar: Women in Seafood: Gender Equality, bridging the gap

Tackling the Imbalance and Lead the Blue Economy: Interactions with corporates’ top executives
Visibility

• **MEXICO**
  **Women participation in three coastal fisheries in Mexico**

The Community and Comunidad y Biodiversidad (COBI) releases a video of its study "Revelando el papel de la mujer y su inclusión en la Pesca en Pequeña Escala (PPE) mexicana", in which they study three small-scale fisheries.

+ video on YouTube +

• **WORLD**
  **Fish Night 7: Gender equality in the seafood value chain**

Speakers: Editruth Lukanga, Kyoko Kusakabe, Madeleine Gustavsson. Moderator Cristina Pita, principal research at IIED.

+ video on YouTube +

+ iied.org +

• **ASIA/WORLD**
  **Webinar - Women work in fisheries too!**

“Women Work in Fisheries, Too!” webinar was organized on 29 November 2021 by the Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries Section of AFS (GAFS), the USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Local Capacity Development (SUFIA LCD) Activity, the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (ICAR-CIFT) and the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF). It discussed the current situation on gender and labour in the fisheries sector in areas relevant to Asia.

+ program and full recording of the event available here +
Networking

• CHILE •
Communication channel with artisanal fishing women

Alicia Gallardo created a communication channel so that artisanal fisherwomen can send their queries, resolve their doubts and make comments directly to the authority to maintain a fluid dialogue and expand the space for equity in the Chilean artisanal fishing sector. The sector includes 23,000 women.

Women shellfish collector from Chile. Photo: Subpesca

Portraits of women

• NORTHERN IRELAND •
Portraits of women working in the seafood industry

Technical manager, floor worker, supervisor, manager, fishmonger, fisheries’ officer, these pages offer brilliant portrait of engaged, hardworking, involved women working in the different fields of the seafood industry.

+ seafish.org +
Women of the Sea

The Magazine “Mar” seeks in this issue to vindicate the role of women in fishing and aquaculture, emphasizing the need to have an inclusive and egalitarian sector for women, as a challenge of the 21st century.
WORLD
Portraits of women in aquaculture from all around the world

THE FISH SITE magazine started a special section on Women in Aquaculture in 2018, thanks to Senior Editor Rob Fletcher. It allows, once a month, a woman in aquaculture to share her experience. It contains portraits of women professionals, their life, the challenges they face and their successes in the industry. The series continues to this day.

+ thefishsite.com +

NIGERIA
Women in aquaculture: The story of Sandra Ndulue

Sandra Ndulue is the founder of Ndulue Farms and Fisheries in Nibo, Anambra State, in Nigeria. Ms. Ndulue poised to pursue her passion, started her catfish farming after her first degree in marketing from the University of Nigeria. She shares her ordeals and achievements in her career in aquaculture. “The passion was planted in my heart when I was an underage domestic worker for a family who owned a fish farm. Tending to the fish was my way of relaxing”. She explains.

+ thefishsite.com +

Photo: The Fishsite
Women in Aquaculture: Anais Legendre

Anais Legendre, originally from Normandy, France, has been working at Cycle Farms in Ghana for nearly three years. She has been phenomenal in her role, engaging with an increasingly vibrant aquaculture sector and stocking up on some colourful tales. Anais shares her story on her successful career and contributions in aquaculture sector in Ghana, West Africa and beyond.

Women in Aquaculture: Portrait of Kate Dempsey

Kate Dempsey began her career as a law graduate but quickly found her calling in Ireland’s aquaculture sector as founder of the Irish Mussel Seed Company, the Wicklow Seaweed Company and the CEO of Aqualicense.
**TONGA**

Women in aquaculture: Naua Lakai

Naua Lakai, a Tongan inhabitant who dropped out of teacher’s college when she became a mother changed her career. Naua has become the most successful pearl farmer in a country whose pearl farming is different from other Pacific islands as it produces half pearl that grows in on a winged pearl oyster.

[thefishsite.com](https://thefishsite.com)

Naua Lakai with a winged pearl oyster. Photo: The Fishsite

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**WORLD**

Monthly compendium of information and stories on gender in aquaculture and fisheries

Every month, the Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries Section (GAFS) of the Asian Fisheries Society sends out to its members a compendium of reading materials on gender and fisheries/aquaculture, typically compiled into five sections: Genderaquafish.org stories, new papers & publications, videos, general news posts and Covid-19 pandemic. Membership is free and contributions to this news service are welcomed.

[genderaquafish.org](https://genderaquafish.org)
SPAIN

Two new programs related to the sea come to TVG

The program "El Clan de las Mariñeiras" makes visible sea work women, valuing their experiences, knowledge, and trades that they have developed contributing, to the professionalization and culture of women in the fishing and aquaculture sectors in Spain. The "Caderno de Bitácora" program tells the story of the oldest generations linked to the trades of the sea and their development, includes stories of pioneer women dedicated to fishing activities.

+ mundoplus.tv +

TV programs on
+ crtvg.es/o-clan-das-marineiras +
and
+ crtvg.es/caderno-de-bitacora +
Documentaries

● SPAIN ●
Ellas Innovan, a documentary film

This documentary was made by the Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación of Spain, to publicize the experiences of the Premios de Excelencia a la Innovación para Mujeres Rurales winners of different call for competition. Among them, three initiatives led by women in fisheries stand out: they are the Agrupación de mariscadoras de Río Anllóns, Asociación Cultural Mulleres do Mar de Cambados and the Federación Galega de Redeiras Artesás O Peirao.

+ video on YouTube +

● CHILE ●
Coastal women and their contribution to artisanal fisheries

The Bordemar Foundation seeks to raise awareness with a video of the role of women in fishing in the Los Lagos region, emphasizing their importance of their knowledge and their work in the development of fishing activities in this part of Chile. A beautiful documentary made with the support of Green Grants Fund.

+ video on YouTube +
Fishing women from Ondarroa, Lekeitio, and Bermeo share their experiences in the recent documentary 'Itsasoan gaittun. Bizkaia, la mar en femenino', which portrays the difficulties that women have to overcome in a highly masculine environment such as fishing. This documentary raises awareness on women, their knowledge, and their trades, as well as the importance they have in the value chain of fishing in the Basque country.

+ video on YouTube +
Podcasts

**Aquademia**
Women’s History Month - Discussing Women in Seafood (in English)

**The Conch (association SAGE aux USA)**
The Conch Podcast - Seafood and Gender Equality (in English)

**Terra Madre ecosystems: water lands & women in fishing**
SFYN Podcast on spotify.com (in English)

**Plymouth Beneath the Surface**
Episode #10: Eating fish sustainably ... with Caroline Bennett (Sole of Discretion) on Spotify (in English)

**Iemanja • a podcast that explores the place of women committed to the Ocean**
Fisherwoman in Ouessant (episode 1) and ASC France Manager on the place of women in the aquaculture sector (episode 4) - all episodes (in French)

**Des Elles en Cuisine**
Interview with oyster farmer and cook, Ingrid Mercier, Aquacultrice La Ferme Marine d’Artouan (in French)

**La Vie Ici • podcast RFI**
Women fishers in Benin: Pêcher à Gogotinkpon (in French)

**LSD La Série Documentaire • France Culture**
Women of the sea / Femmes de mer - Ép. 2/4 - Marins (in French)

**À l’abordage • RTS**
Women captains in Brittany / Point de fuite : Bretagne, les femmes ont la pêche (in French)

**Courts Circuits • podcast Ouest France**
Do not confuse “to live with oysters”, with “to live from oysters” / Tifenn Yvon, ostréicultrice : « Vivre avec les huîtres ou vivre de l’huître, c’est différent » (in French)
Rendez-vous place du marché • France Inter
The story of a woman in fisheries / Cancale, une femme armateur, des solidaires des réfugiés et un chant de marin (in French)

Dentro da pesca Formosa • Tapioca
Fishing is beautiful - Women of the sea in Brazil / Episódio 02: Mulher de maré (in Portuguese)

Ondas da Resistência
Brazil: interviews with fisherwomen and their representatives - all episodes (in Portuguese)

Diálogos na Linha D’Água • Instituto Linha D’Água
Interviews with artisanal fisherwomen of Brazil, as part of the celebration of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (#IYAFA) / Episódio #2 - 2022: Ano Internacional da Pesca e Aquicultura Artesanal / on SoundCloud (in Portuguese)

Vozes da Pesca Artesanal
Young women and men fishers in Brazil / Jovens Pescadores(as) Artesanais / on SoundCloud (in Portuguese)

Social FISHtancing • Coastal Routes Radio
Women in the seafood industry tell the stories of the enterprises, including Sarah Bates, a commercial fisherwoman from California (in English)

Power Women with Victoria Schneps • Dan’s Papers
Vicki speaks with Donna Lanzetta, founder and CEO of Manna Fish Farms, Inc. (in English)

PMMI Podcast • PMMI’s Packaging & Processing Women’s Leadership Network
Episode #53 - Empathy & Authenticity Steer Bumble Bee Seafood Through CHAOS (in English)

The Fisheries Podcast
Dr. Christine Knott uses feminism as a lens to look through inequities in our society that are reflected in the way we relate to each other, to nature and also to fisheries resources - all episodes on PodBean (in English)

Fishy Feminist
A Canadian research project about feminism and fisheries in 5 episodes (in English)
Arts (photography, cinema, sculpture, etc.)

• INDIA •

What if, why not and a tuk-tuk

Suresh Eriyat, an Indian animator, film-maker makes an animated movie about a fisherwoman and her aspirations that received 18 awards including a national award. The movie was uploaded on YouTube in January 2021 and has already been viewed over 23 million times.

Image from 'Fisherwoman and tuk tuk', short film by Suresh Eriyat, produced by Studio Eeksaurus

+ video on YouTube +

+ newindianexpress.com +
**• AUSTRALIA •**

**Migrating whale sculpture**

A migrating whale sculpture called Jidirah, made using ghost nets by the first nations women from Ceduna and Yalata, Australia, is being displayed in museums in Monaco and now in France. Along with showcasing indigenous art, the display is also raising awareness on net pollution in the seas and oceans.

![Migrating whale sculpture](image)

*Miring artist Jo Lennon with her granddaughter working on Jidirah.*
*Photo: Pam Diment*

*Jidirah on display in the Oceanographic Museum in Monaco.*
*Photo: Pam Diment*

**• INDIA •**

**The Shudra queen Rashmoni and a sacred river**

The Hindu narrates the intriguing tale of Rani Rashmoni, the widow of an entrepreneur from Calcutta, India, who outwitted the East India Company to ensure the rights of small-scale fishers in Bengal playing litigation game lifting the taxes. The icon of the 19th century is getting recognized now after a biographical series was produced in 2017 with chart topping 1300 episodes.

[+ thehindu.com +](#)

**• CANADA •**

**Tribute to a hard-working women in the fishery**

The artist Ginok Hong painted a public mural in Petty Harbor in Newfoundland & Labrador to commemorate the contributions of women, particularly in the processing sector, in the community’s fishery. The artist used archival images to depict the hard-working women and ensure an accurate and public representation.

[+ cbc.ca +](#)
A new exhibition entitled ‘That’s Women’s Work’, looks at the changing roles of women in the fishing industry over the past 150 years. The journey of the Scottish ‘herring lassies’ who every year, from early summer to late autumn, followed the fishing fleet down the east coast, the stories of local fishwives who packed creels with fish, how women whose husbands were at sea coped with tragedy and hardship, and the support provided by the Fishermen’s Mission.

The exhibition includes a shoal of knitted herring hanging in a net at the entrance to the gallery.
This book, edited by the photographers Laura Prego and Raimon Moreno, tells the stories of 14 women linked to fishing and aquaculture. Incredible photographs tell their experiences and the value of women of the sea in Spain.
Haenyeo, the women divers of Jeju Island, with a big smile on her face is a rare scene but documentary photographer Yang Jong-hoon has captured these women with innocent smiles in a beautiful series of black & white photographs.

Photos courtesy of Yang Jong-hoon

+koreatimes.co.kr+
• SPAIN •
A tribute to artisan women travels along the Galician coast

This traveling exhibition seeks to make visible Galician women fishing trades and emphasize their value as a key element in the development of the fishing and seafaring culture, in addition to accounting for the occupational diseases to which these women are exposed.

Some images from the exhibition “A market in each port”. Photos: Elena Santín

+ elespanol.com +

• FRANCE •
In Brittany, a special evening about women and fishing in the cinema theatre

Simone De-Beauvoir audiovisual center presents two documentaries on women in fisheries. The first one is called “Les travailleuses de la mer” (“sea working women”) about working conditions for female employees in Lorient. The second one “La mer à l’envers” (“the sea upside down”) is about fishermen’s wives.

+ ouest-france.fr +
“Coda”: One of the 15 films to look out for in the Oscars race

Ruby is the only hearing person in her family, a Coda (child of deaf adult/s). She wants to study music but also feels she has to help her parents with their struggling business. Emilia Jones, Marlee Matlin and Troy Kotsur star. The film, which was released in cinemas over the summer 2021, and is streaming on Apple TV+, has been nominated for the 2022 Oscars.
FRANCE

A calendar to Fight Women Invisibility

Pleine Mer, the French organisation promoting small-scale fisheries launched a 2022 calendar with portraits of fisherwomen: “those who are not spoken about and yet are indispensable.” This calendar is an opportunity to raise awareness and funds for the association to tackle gender-based issues such as non-declared jobs of spouses, poor social rights, poor pay, sexist remarks, etc.

Some photos of women in fisheries from the calendar of Association Pleine Mer

+ associationpleinemer.com +
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