

### Women's role in small scale fisheries in the European Union

Presented by Marja Bekendam Chairperson of Aktea – the European Network of women in fisheries and aquaculture

Monaco Oceans Week, 10 – 15 April 2018



AKTEA is partner of LIFE







# Women's work in fisheries varies: harvesting





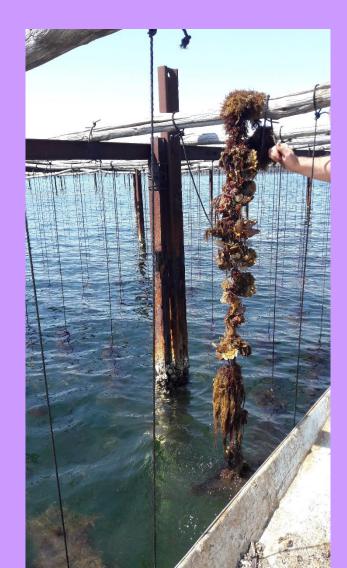




## Women's work in fisheries varies:

### **Aquaculture**







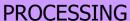
**NETMENDING** 

# Women's work in fisheries varies:



**SELLING FISH** 







BAITING LONG LINES



PRODUCT PROMOTION



MAKING NEW PRODUCTS

# Women developed new activities and added value



MAKING FISH LEATHER



**EDUCATION** 







# Women developed new activities and added value



MAKE USE OF TOURISM



# Women's work is often invisible and unrecognized

#### As a collaborative spouse:

- contact with auction, bank, fisheries organisations;
- administration work;
- crew affairs, safety, etc.

#### **But:**

- no access to salary
- no social benefits;
- not recorded in statistics;



# Women contribute positively to and sustain fishing communities

Maintain fisheries activities
Increase employment and family income
Improve community living conditions
Promote the fisheries identity
of the communities



#### Especially in SSF women's work is crucial







Behind every boat there is a woman, a family and a fishing community



### Women organisations - through AKTEA - are acting and lobbying for:

Recognition of women's work at European level (legal status, access to retirement pension, health system, maternity leave)

Participation of women in fisheries decision-making on resource management

Integration of women and women's organizations in the institutional and policy framework for fisheries and aquaculture in Europe

Sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture and the survival of coastal fishing communities



### **EU fisherwomen are moving from invisibility to visibility**



#### **EU Legal Frame**

EU Directive 86/613 establishing the collaborative spouse status modified by the EU directive 2010/41/ EU

Transposed into Member State Legislation

But in many Member States women are not aware of their status, and only in France is it applied.



### **EU fisherwomen are moving from invisibility to visibility**



#### FAO published in 2018:

WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP IN FISHERFOLK ORGANIZATIONS AND COLLECTIVE ACTION IN FISHERIES (FIAO/C1159 (En)

#### With recommendations for

- All stakeholders
- Fisherwomen
- Researchers, academia and research institutions
- States
- Social movements and CSO's
- NGO's and UN agencies



Denying women equal access to decision-making positions and full participation in fisherfolk organizations is equivalent to denying half of the fisheries-dependent population their basic economic, social, labour and environmental rights.

If you are working in fisheries, as scientists, fisheries manager or public civil servant in fisheries administration what can you do for women in fisheries?

- Understand the reasons/barriers of women's exclusion
- Act for gender equality (equal opportunities) and equity
- Make society and fisherwomen themselves! aware of their important contribution to the sector
- Support women to build autonomous organizations with the objective to promote a human rights based approach to the SSF sector

### Supporting fisherwomen = supporting SSF



#### www.akteaplatform.eu

f

: AKTEA women in fisheries



: @AKTEAwif

#### Thank You! Merci!



www.lifeplatform.eu



www.monacooceanweek.org/en/