



Revive, Renew and Relaunch Aktea

**European Network of Women in Fisheries
and Aquaculture**



AKTEA is partner of LIFE

Marja Bekendam-de Boer

Untill 2016 fisherman's wife in the Netherlands

Chairperson of AKTEA since 2008

- AKTEA was founded in 2006
- 11 European Countries

In 2016 AKTEA became partner of LIFE
(Low impact fishers of Europe)



AKTEA women in fisheries



akteaplatform.eu

Thanks to:

- cooperation with LIFE
- funding by MAVA foundation from Switzerland

Today 30 fisherwomen together from:

- Cyprus
- Croatia
- Italy
- France
- Spain
- Ireland





Women's work in fisheries varies: from harvesting....





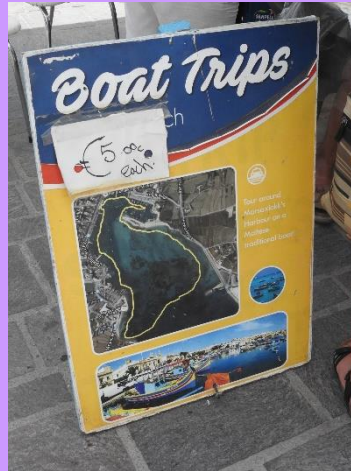
.... to
netmending
selling fish
processing
baiting long lines,
etc.





PRODUCT PROMOTION

FISHING TOURISM



MAKING NEW PRODUCTS

Women developed new activities and added value



MAKING FISH LEATHER

EDUCATION



Fisherwomen's work – especially of collaborative spouse - is often invisible and unrecognized

- 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



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





It is important for women in the fisheries sector:

- to have their own organizations and networks
- to enable them to have their own identity and their own voice
- give them the possibility to support each other in the struggles at local, national and EU level

AKTEA's main achievements:

- Public hearings at European Union Parliament (2005, 2010, 2012, 2013)
- Different Communications support women networks by EU Parliament and the Commission (2005, 2008)
- Two reports on the role of women in Fisheries financed by the EU parliament (2008, 2013)
- Revision of the directive 86/613 in 2010 and replaced by the directive 2010/41/EU)
- EMFF opens its support to spouses and live partners of fishers
- FARNET: Ad hoc Expert Report: Survey of FLAG's Support to women in fisheries and Aquaculture (2018)
- European Commission launched a study on the role of women in Fisheries in Mediterranean and Black Sea (2017 undergoing)

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 it is 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.

But there is still a lot of work to do!

Been chairperson AKTEA from 2008 till today:

- Met very many enthousiastic, powerful and inspiring women in fisheries and aquaculture;
- Seen how important their contribution to the sector is;
- Seen how they inspire each other, share knowledge and experience;
- Seen how they make a difference!

I really hope that a new and revived AKTEA - with the help of LIFE and others - will be able to continue supporting women in fisheries all over Europe, because

BECAUSE BEHIND EVERY BOAT,
THERE IS A WOMAN, A FAMILY AND A
COMMUNITY

Thank You! Merci !



www.akteaplatform.eu



www.lifeplatform.eu