WOMEN IN THE SEAFOOD INDUSTRY: DIFFERENT COUNTRIES, LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS

GAF6 Bangkok, August 2016
• GLOBEFISH is the unit within the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department responsible for information and analysis on international fish trade and markets.
An educational message

• Study carried out in 2014/2015
• Compilation of existing research studies
• Two objectives
  – to disseminate available knowledge to the industry
  – To raise awareness of policy makers and business leaders
To know or not to know

ICELAND
FRANCE
CROATIA
EGYPT
SENEGAL
INDIA
Step One

- What is the state of knowledge on the position of women and gender characteristics in the seafood industry?
  - sex disaggregated data
  - qualitative data through dedicated social studies
Step Two

• Knowledge of the status of men and women in the society
  – Awareness of gender inequality (access to education, capital, network, visibility, power, etc.).
  – Has this issue been publicized, risen to people’s awareness (by public authorities, by media, by women’s group, trade unions, etc.).
• What is done in the seafood industry in practical terms to correct the imbalance?
• What initiatives have been taken?
  – by the public sector
  – and/ or by private companies
CROATIA

- Former communist country
- Sparse sex segregated data
- 2008 Promotion of Gender Equality Law
- Not an issue in the seafood industry
EGYPT

- Largest producer of aquaculture fish in Africa
- No sex segregated data
- Gender discrimination and inequality very high
- No favorable public policy
- Not addressed in the seafood industry
Women in seafood industry

FRANCE

- Sex disaggregated data sparcely collected
- Gender discrimination and inequality high
- Some social science research
- Recent favorable public policy
- Not addressed in the seafood industry, yet prompted by the EU Commission to improve
ICELAND

- Quality gender segregated data
- Social science research on the subject
- Public policy very gender equality oriented
- Yet still progress needed in the seafood industry in terms of woman participation at decision making position
• Numerous studies on the participation of women in the seafood industry
• Rather good quality gender segregated data
• Country of contrast: visible top women and high inequality / violence
• Several initiatives in the seafood sector
- Quality gender-dissegregated data
- Social science research on the subject
- Gender discrimination and inequality very high
- Public policy: gender equality oriented
- Yet still progress needed in the seafood industry in terms of woman participation at decision making position
Findings

• The **quality of data varies** greatly between countries
• The level of **awareness** of inequalities varies by country
• **Not linked** to the level of economic development. By opposite the presence of international development programme / NGO facilitate the gender issue
• In none of the six countries: project/ actions / corrective measures initiated by private businesses could be find
Conclusions

- Twenty years after the Beijing World Conference on Gender Equity, further efforts be made in most developing and developed countries
  - by public and private agents.
- This work demonstrates that the seafood industry is, by far, no exception.
- Still a lot to be made in production of data, in dissemination of knowledges and ACTIONS.
THANK YOU