

# **CARIBBEAN FISHERIES: PERSPECTIVES ON GENDER**

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Region  
Countries  
Organisations  
Fisheries  
Gender

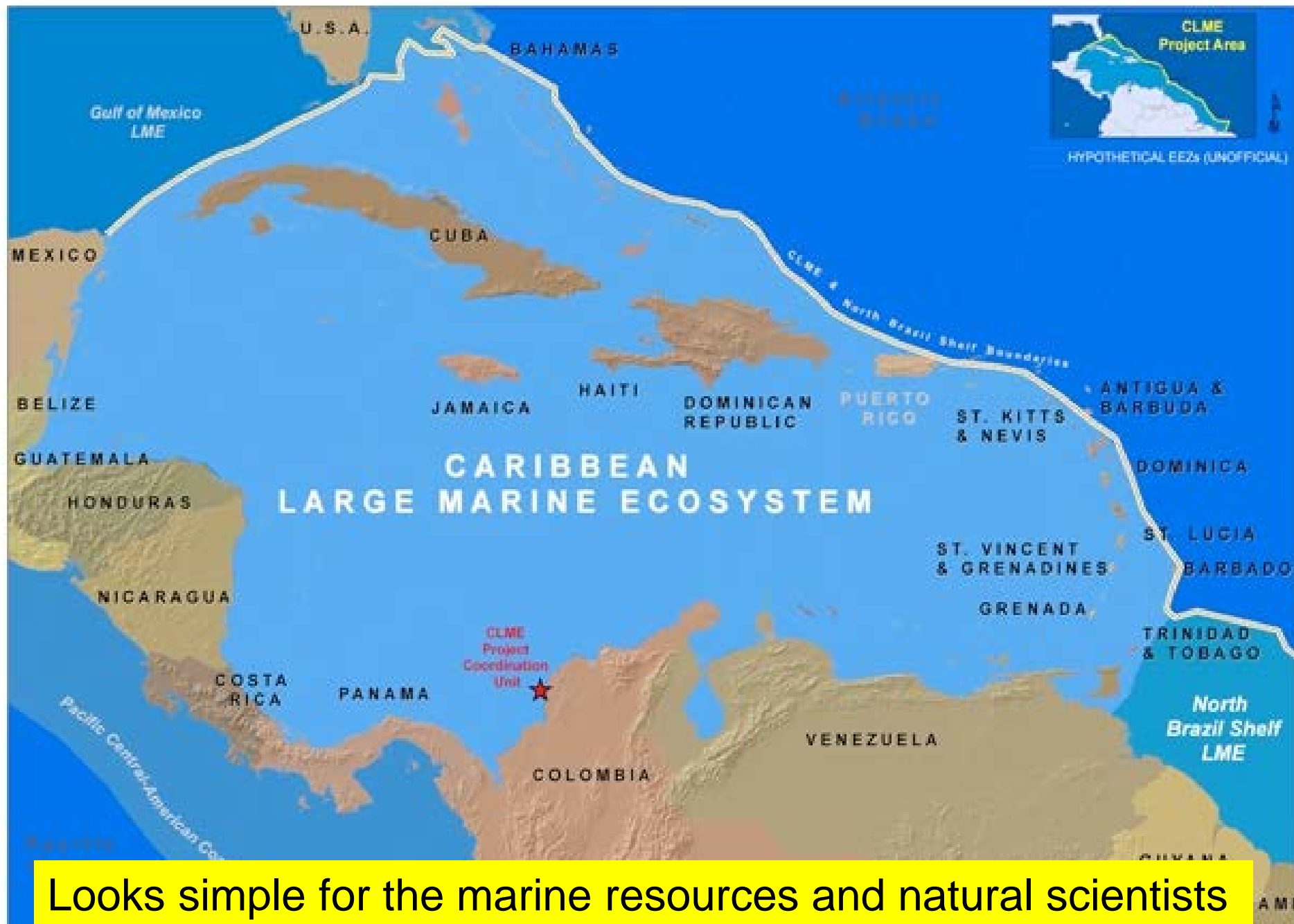
## **Gender In Fisheries Team (GIFT)**

Led by UWI-CERMES, with partners to conduct applied interdisciplinary research and outreach to better understand and assist with policy and practice concerning gender in Caribbean small-scale fisheries. Focus on gender in SSF Guidelines and in the countries of CRFM and CNFO.

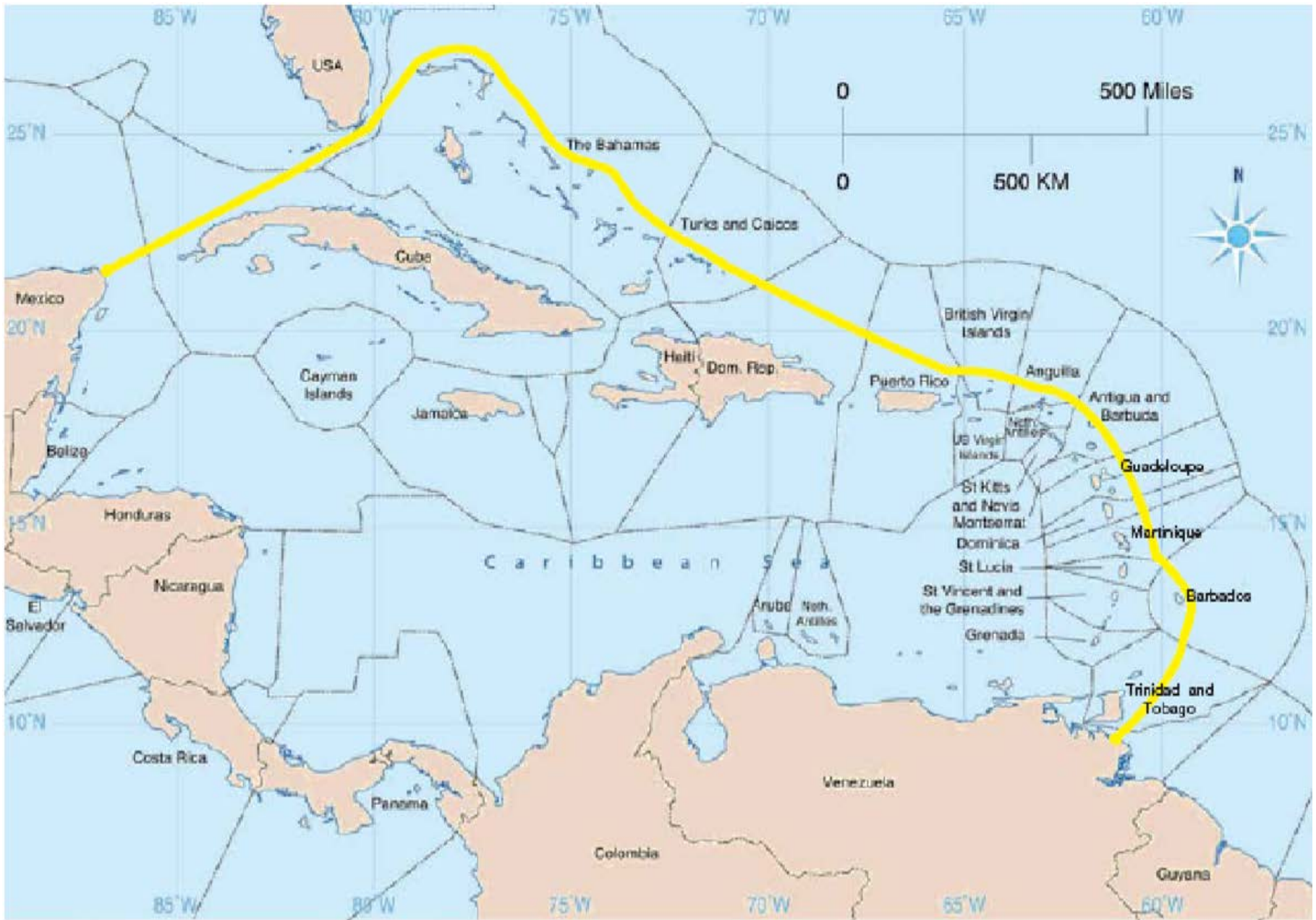
<http://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes/projects/gift/overview.aspx>



**REGION**



Looks simple for the marine resources and natural scientists



More complex for the resource users and social scientists

# CLME+ Project

Catalyzing implementation  
of the Strategic Action Programme for the  
Sustainable Management of the  
Shared Living Marine Resources of the  
Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf LMEs

5 year project  
Co-financed by  
Global Environment Facility  
(GEF)  
US12.5million

Focus  
Transboundary living  
marine resource  
governance  
2014-2019

***Generously sponsoring the participation of Ms Nembhard at GAF6***



# COUNTRIES

# Fisheries relevant policies

- National Gender Action Plan (2010)
  - Reduce poverty by establishing cooperatives for women in agriculture
  - Address sexual division of labour by training women in jobs previously for men and vice versa
- Draft National Fisheries Policy addresses gender

# Jamaica





# Fisheries relevant policies

- National Gender Policy and Action Plan 2006, updated 2014-2024

## Gaps

- Draft fisheries and aquaculture policy; no gender mainstreaming
- Few sex disaggregated data
- Limited capacity of Gender Bureau to monitor, report on and implement strategies
- No national gender sensitive agricultural census to create gender disaggregated data.

# Dominica

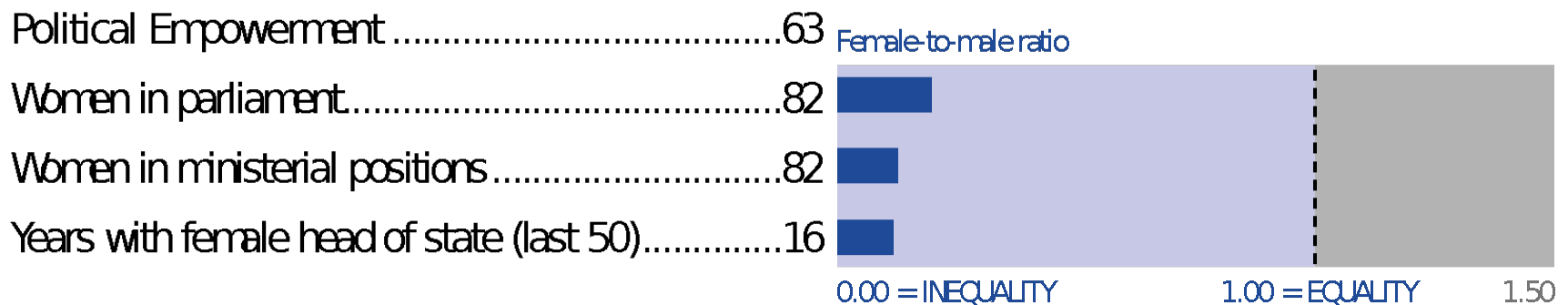
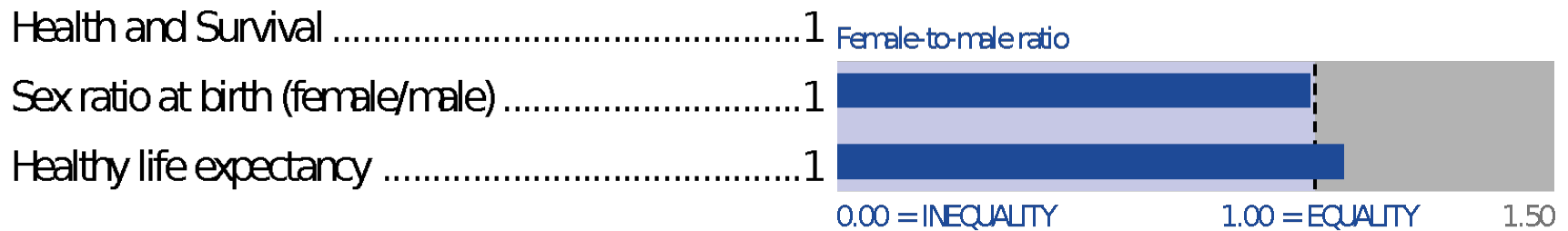
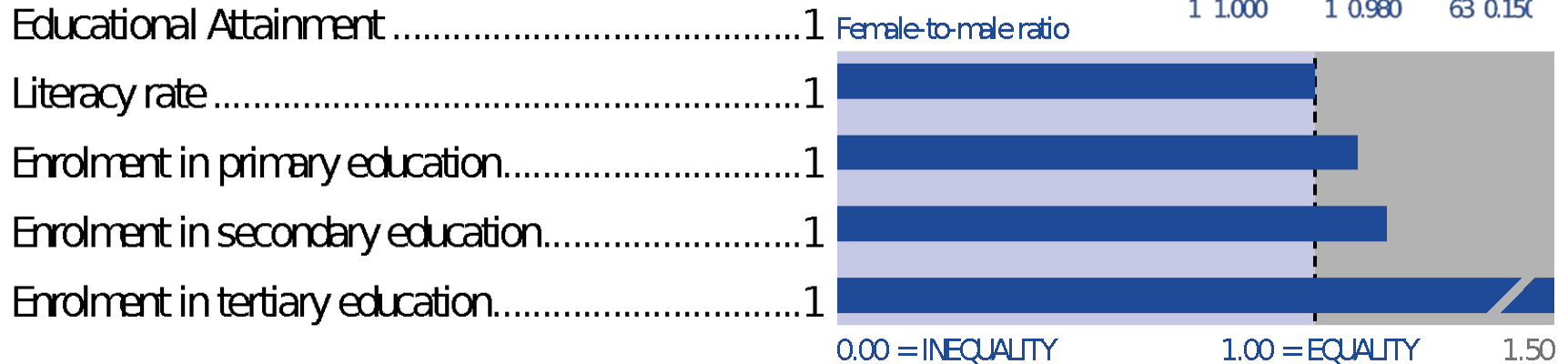


# The Global Gender Gap Report 2013

(out of 136 countries)

# Barbados

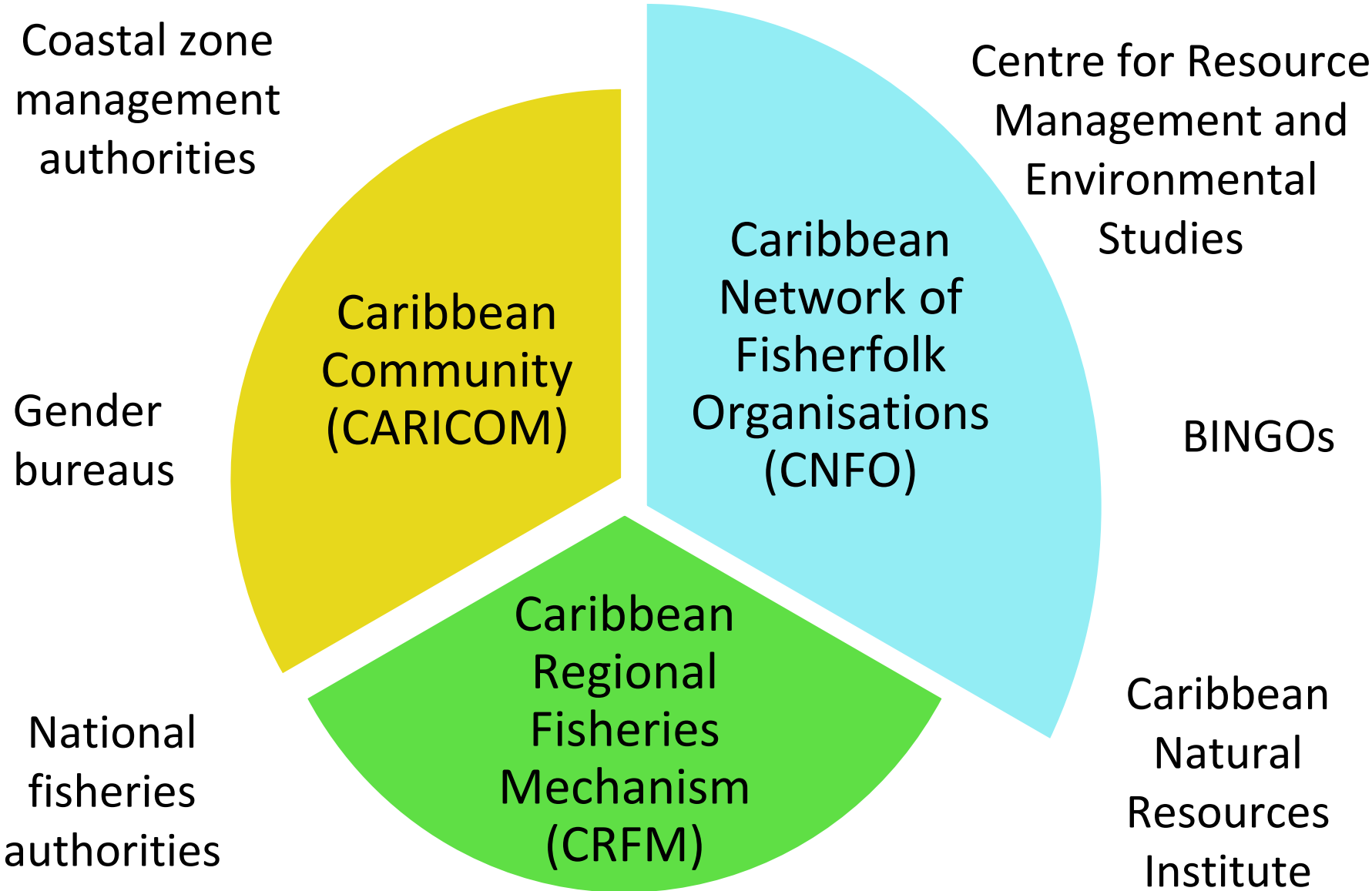
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		HEALTH AND SURVIVAL		POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT	
Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score
1	1.000	1	0.980	63	0.150





# ORGANISATIONS

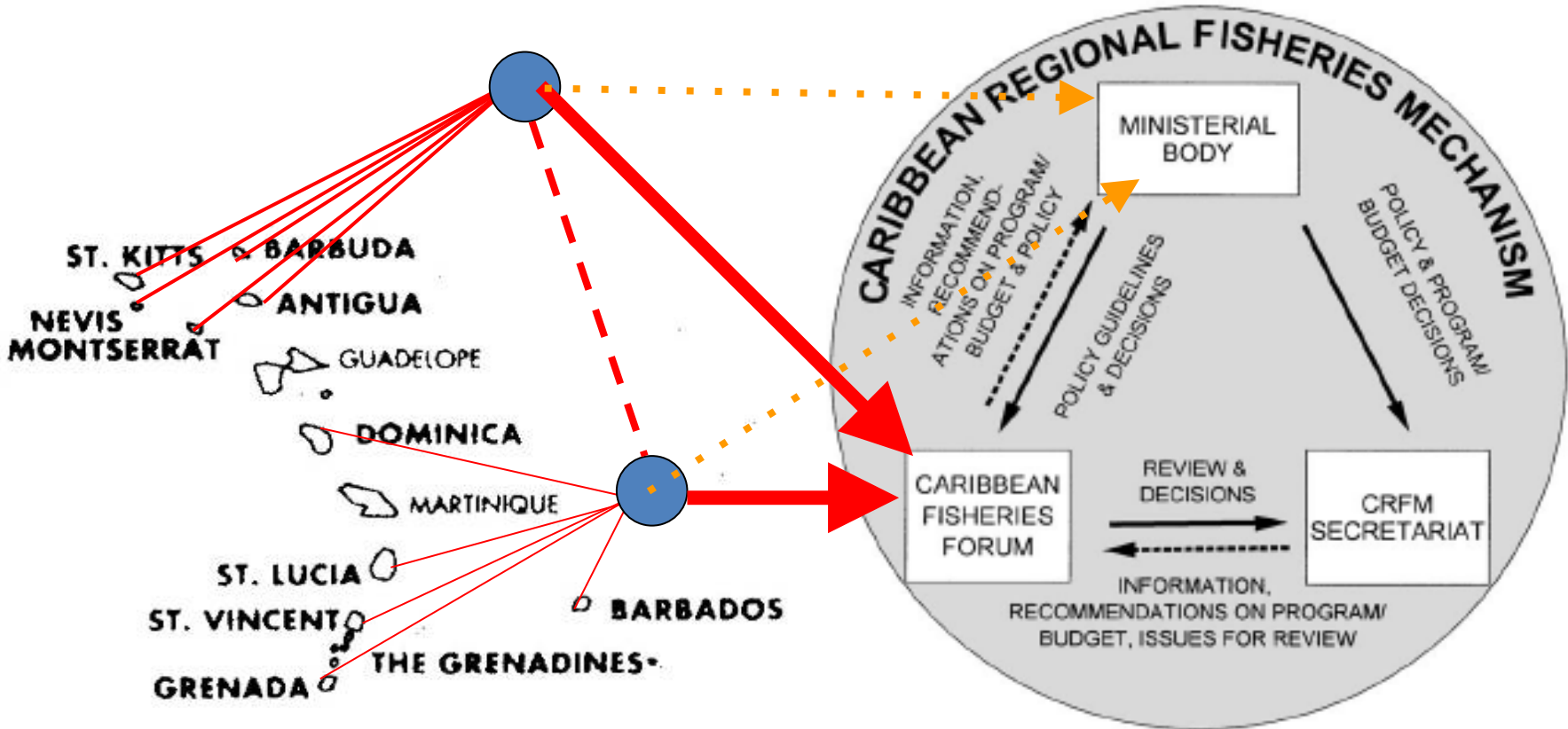
# Key organisations for promoting gender equality in fisheries



# Fisherfolk network aiming to get a protocol on SSF Guidelines, including gender, into fisheries policy

**CNFO**

**CRFM**





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CRFM Technical & Advisory Document Series  
Number 2012 / 3  
Volume I

## DIAGNOSTIC STUDY TO DETERMINE POVERTY LEVELS IN CARICOM FISHING COMMUNITIES

TECHNICAL DOCUMENT

May 2012



Recommendations for  
women's empowerment in  
fisheries poverty study

Caribbean Community Secretariat  
Statistics Programme

United Nations  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Statistics Division

# Women and Men in the Caribbean Community

Facts and Figures, 1980-2001



Caribbean Community Secretariat  
Georgetown, Guyana, 2003

Sex disaggregated statistics are  
often scarce and/or outdated,  
and very few cover fisheries



# FISHERIES

# Diversity in Caribbean fisheries





# Research in Barbados on Rights in the Flyingfish Fishery



- **Rural Barbados**
- Stall Owner/ Fish Vendor/Boner of flyingfish
- “My right to speak up”



- **Rural Barbados**
- Carpenter/Boat owner/fisherman
- “My right to fish”

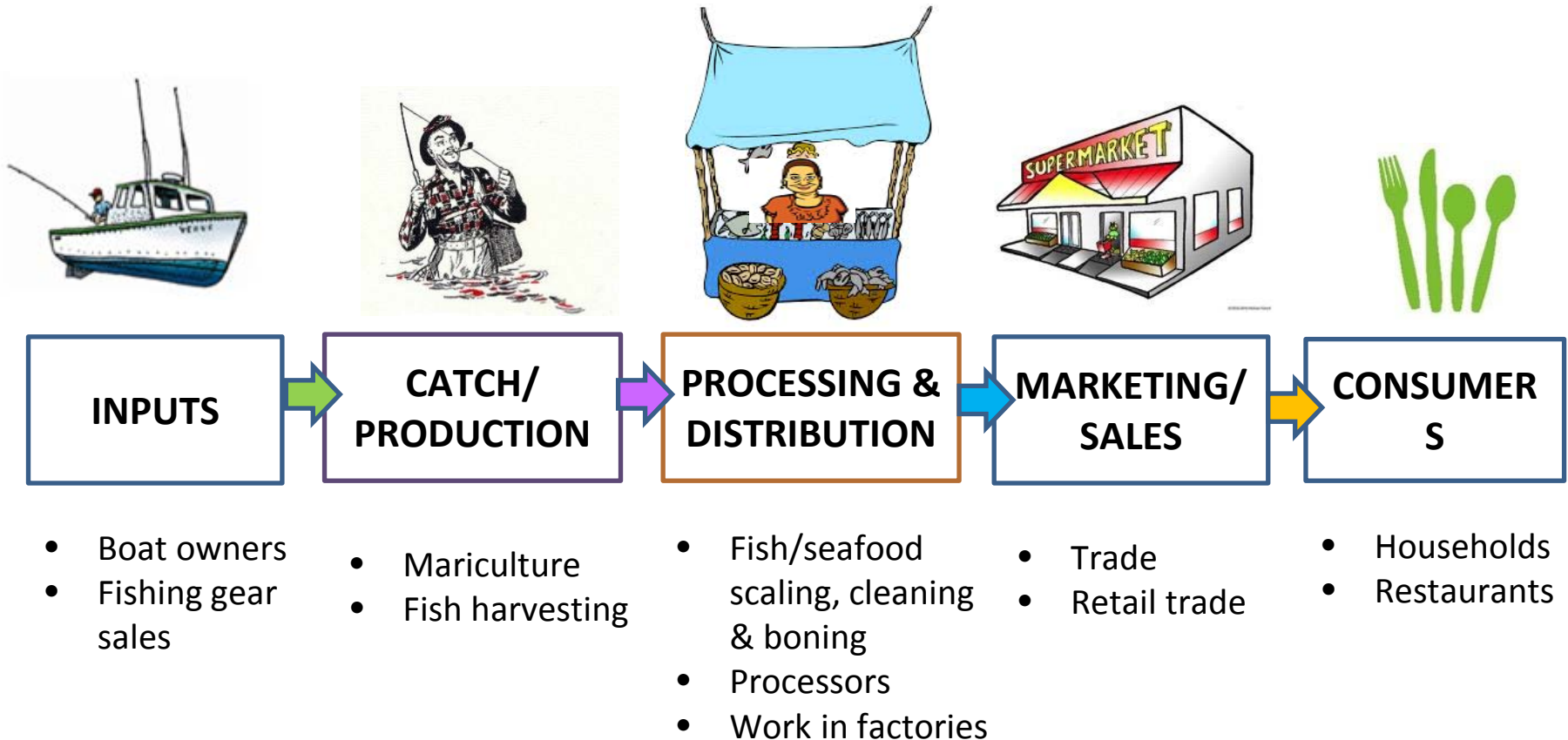


- **Urban Barbados**
- Leading Vendor/Hawker for flyingfish (also exporter)
- “My right to lead and provide for myself and family”



- **Urban Barbados**
- Conch fisherman
- “My right to not be excluded from the Barbados fishing industry and to make a living.”

# Women's role in the fisheries value chain





# GENDER

Women play critical roles  
in providing fishery inputs

e.g. gear and fuel supply





## Barbados sea urchin fishery

Women divers are quite rare

Women breakers and sellers often work in family groups





*Anna sells the produce her children catch at the Punta Gorda market.*



*Anna still knows how to land a big catch. She caught this oversized snapper off the shores of Toledo!*



*Anna Ramirez receives cash award from CRFM Executive Director, Milton Haughton*

## **Growing recognition**

Award-winning fisherwoman  
Anna Ramirez from Belize

Recognised by the Caribbean  
Regional Fisheries Mechanism

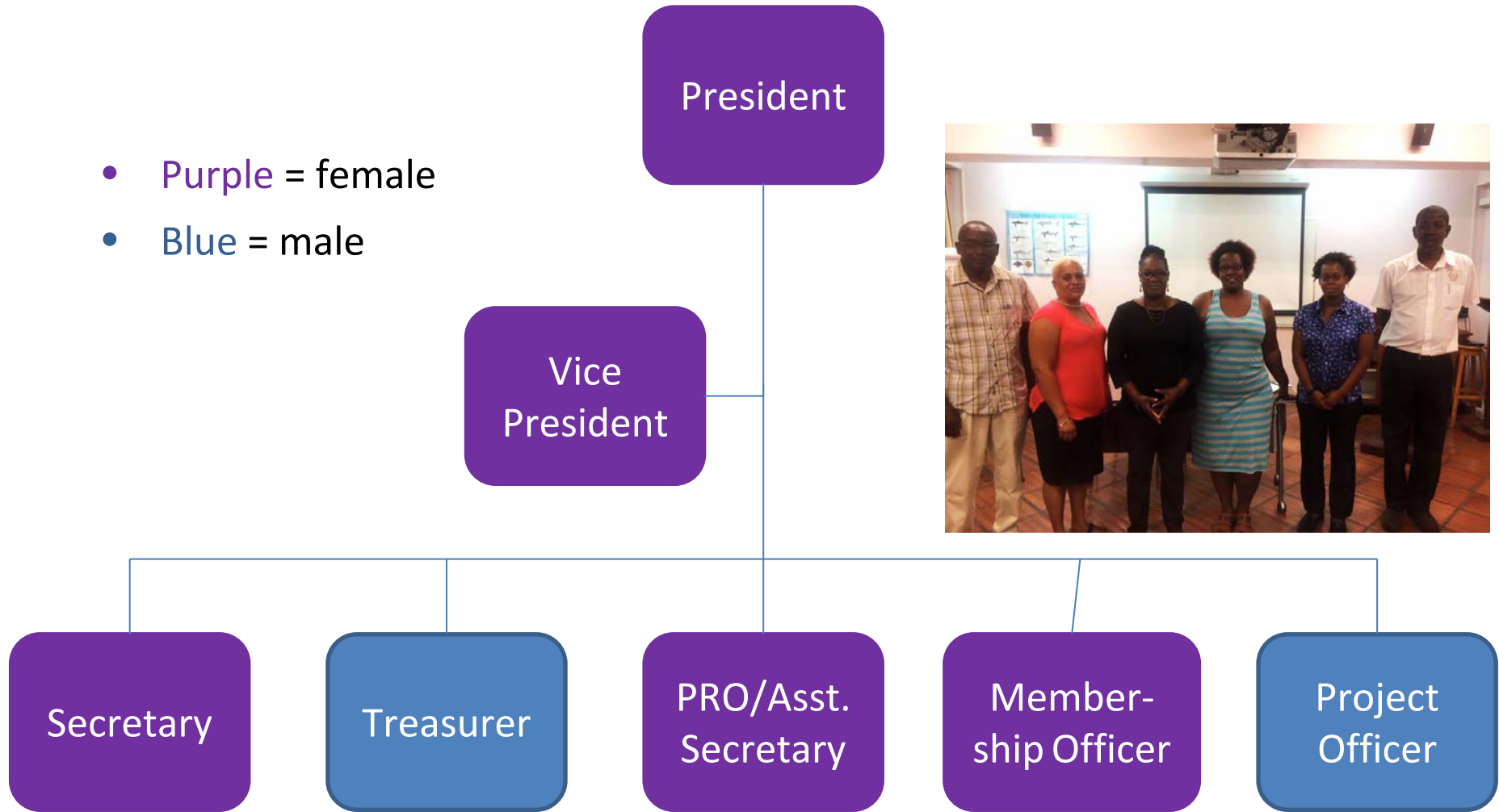


Women are common in fisheries research and management. In many places they can outnumber the men.



# Barbados National Union of Fisherfolk Organisations (BARNUFO) Board

- Purple = female
- Blue = male



Women occupy leadership positions in some fisherfolk organisations



# Women in fisheries face challenges

## Fisherwoman seeking better for her family

by Rosheika Grant



- The 33-year-old single mother of five toils almost 20 hours a day
- Tries to take care of family by juggling jobs as a shop-keeper and fisherwoman
- Takes to the sea at night
- Hoping to stop fishing soon because of fear for her life
- Livelihoods research needed

# Sexual division of labour in harvest and postharvest jobs in Barbados

	Job title	Typical workers
post harv est	fish vendor	mostly females
	fish boner	mostly females
	fish cleaner	either sex
	fish skinner	mostly males
	processing firm	mostly males
harv est	boat captain	mostly males
	boat crew	mostly males
	boat owner	mostly males
	boat mechanic	mostly males
	boat builder	mostly males



# Many women in fisheries pursue multiple livelihoods

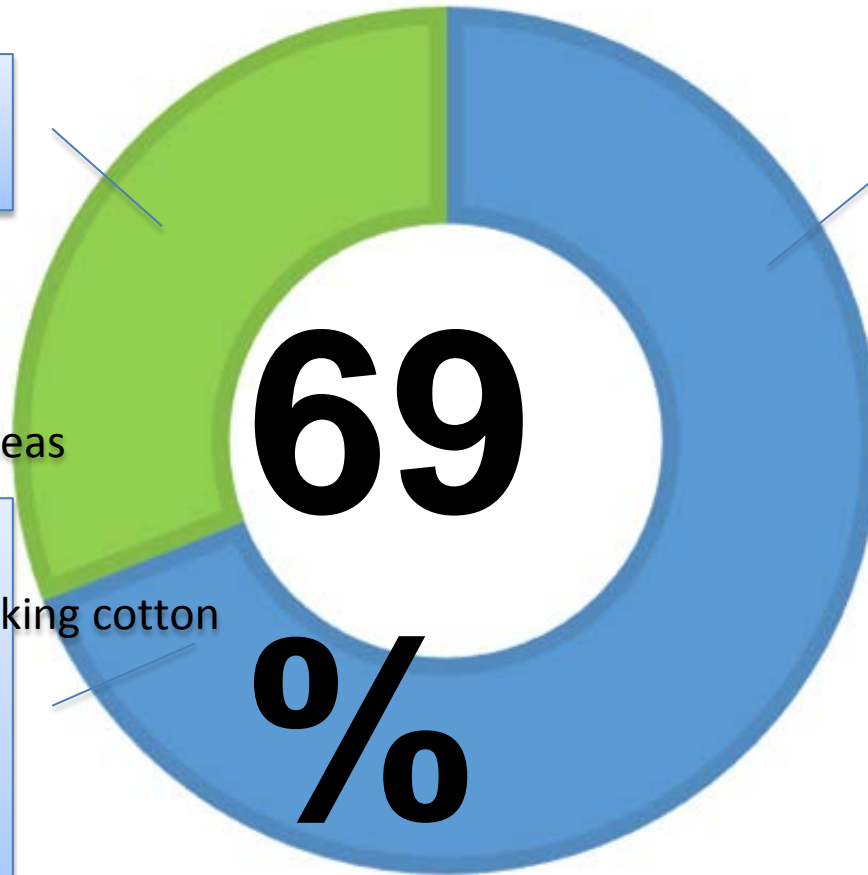
No other work  
but in fisheries

## Work in services

- Baby sitting overseas
- Cane loading
- Domestic work
- Hotel Industry Picking cotton

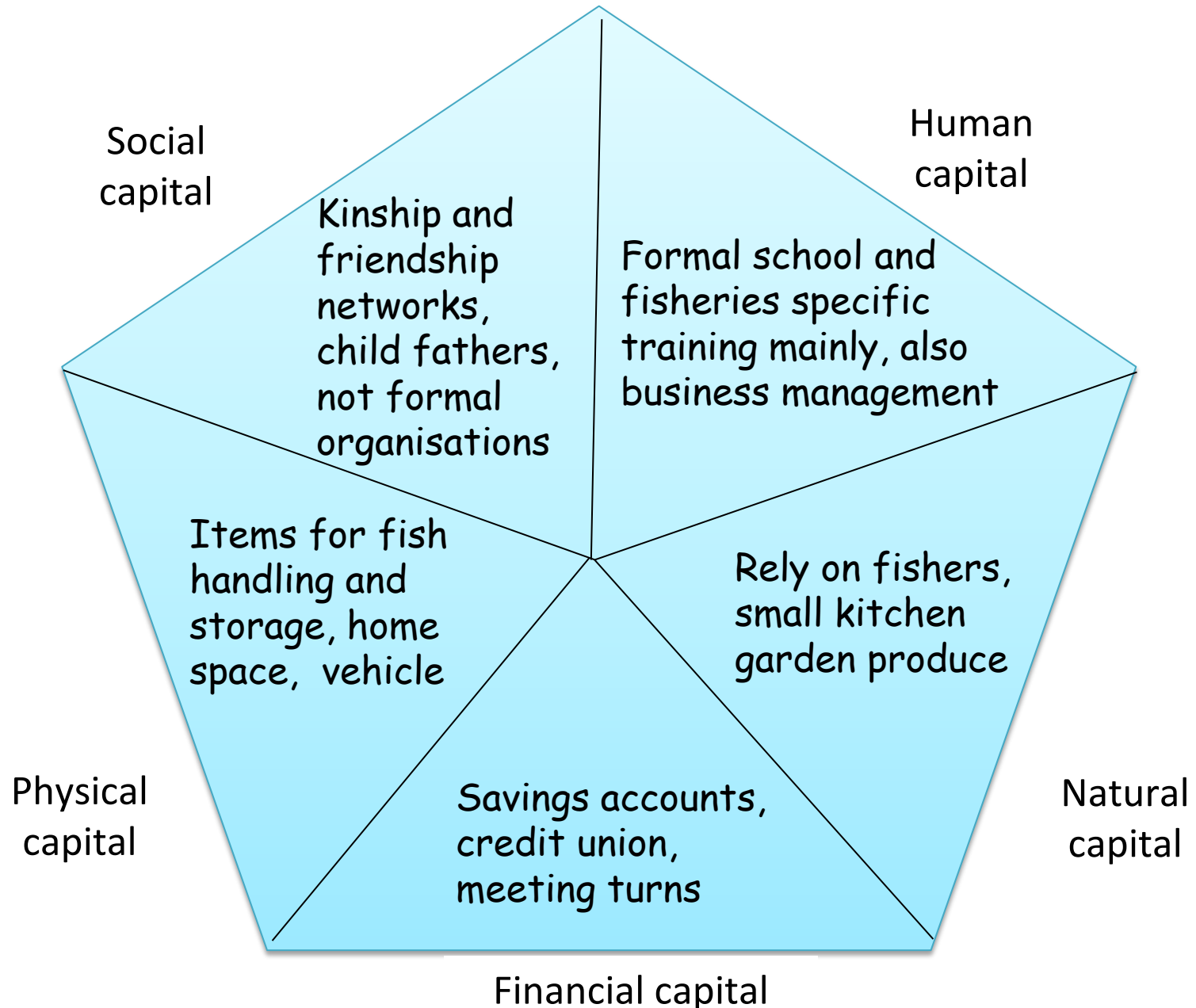
## Work in marketing

- Sell food/catering
- Sell household products
- Sell vegetables

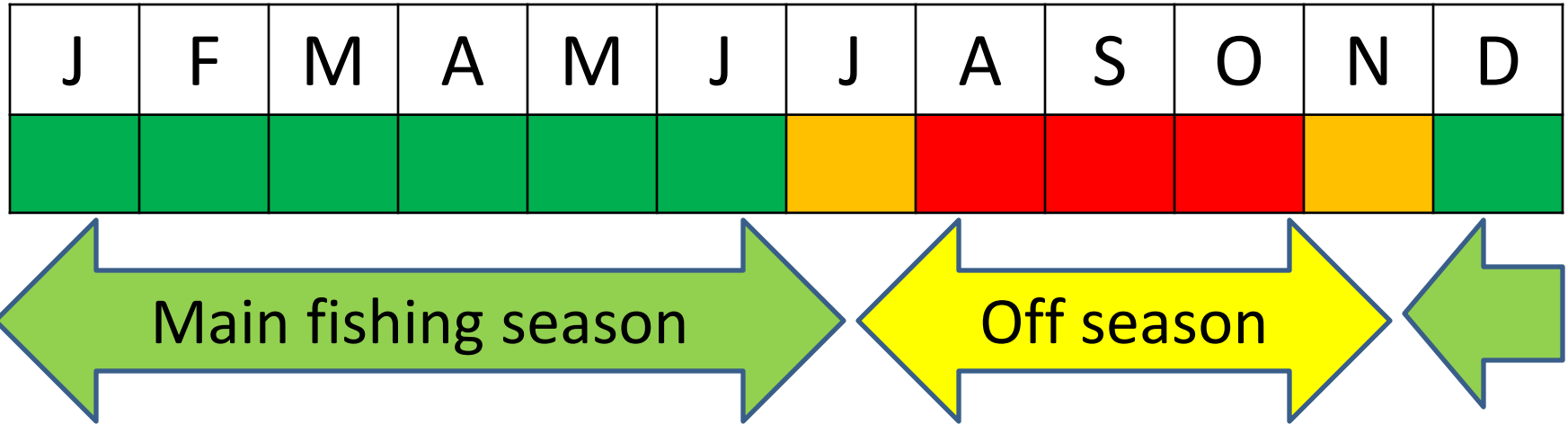


Based on interviews with fish vendors at Oistins, Barbados

# Livelihood assets of female fish vendors in Barbados



# Seasonality impacts some fishermen more than women (e.g. fish vendors)



Community research on seasonal calendar

# Strategies for success

## Research on livelihood strategies



Limited access to investment and operational funds is main constraint identified to date

# Thank you

For more information on gender in Caribbean fisheries,  
and related activities, visit the GIFT web pages at

<http://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes/projects/gift/overview.aspx>