



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE**
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES
AND FOOD SECURITY



Opportunities in Alternative Livelihood for Women in Coastal Villages of Kuching, Sarawak

Dr Aazani Mujahid (MYS)

Interim Vice Chair CTI-CFF Women Leaders Forum

Institute Biodiversity & Environmental Conservation, UNIMAS

UNIMAS Gamification Centre

**Creative
Culture**



Women Work in Fisheries, Too!

November 29, 2021



Shaping the Future | Gender Justice for Sustainable Aquaculture and Fisheries

TOPICS

Introduction
Status quo
Attitudes
Alternative livelihoods
Impacts of Covid 19
Policy Implications
Conclusion /
Recommendations



Women Work in
Fisheries, Too!
November 29, 2021

Introduction

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations

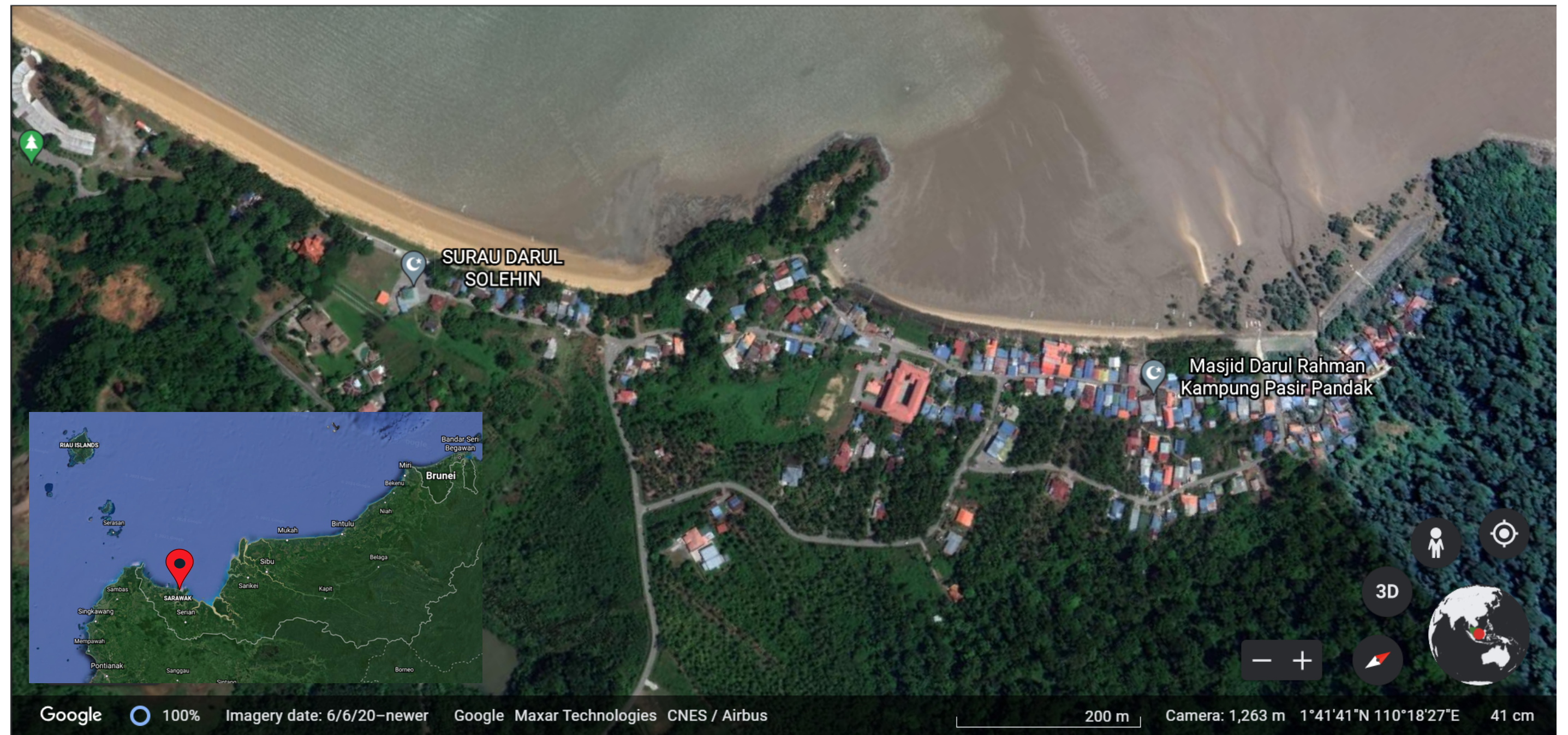
Kampung Pasir Panjang ~60 houses

Kampung Pasir Pandak >300 houses

2 pre-K & K ; 1 Primary school L1-6

Case study of the coastal villages within
half hour of the city centre (Kuching)

Hundred other similar villages
along 750km coastline of Sarawak state



Women Work in
Fisheries, Too!

November 29, 2021

Status quo

Reflection on local perspectives from interview surveys, focus group discussions

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

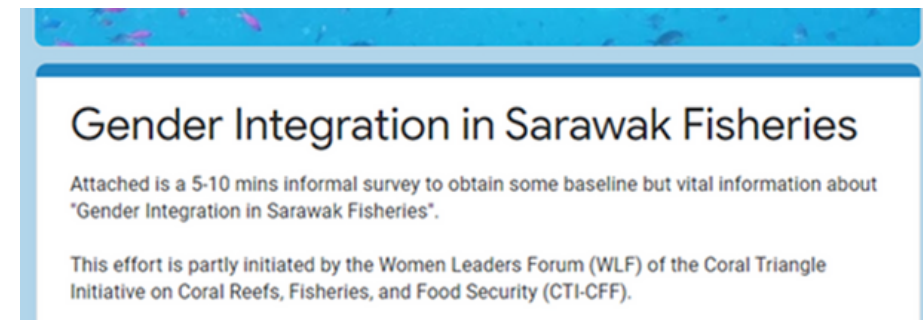
Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

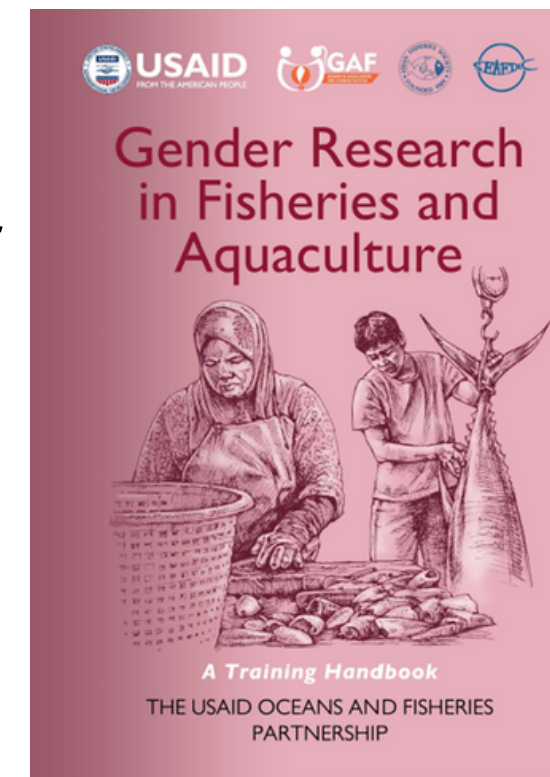
Conclusion /

Recommendations

Participatory survey of 20 institutions/ agencies involved in fisheries & marine conservation in 2019



Fatin Syafiqah Binti Azezi, 2021, Role of Women in Fisheries in Kampung Bako Hilir. Thesis Master of Environment Science (Land Use and Water Resource Management). Unpublished



ACES

Social Resilience through Play

ACES model has community-centred aspects to co-creates with youth, teachers, community groups; bridge formal and informal educational contexts and spaces towards an inclusive, safe, and resilient society.

Women Work in Fisheries, Too!

November 29, 2021

Status quo

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

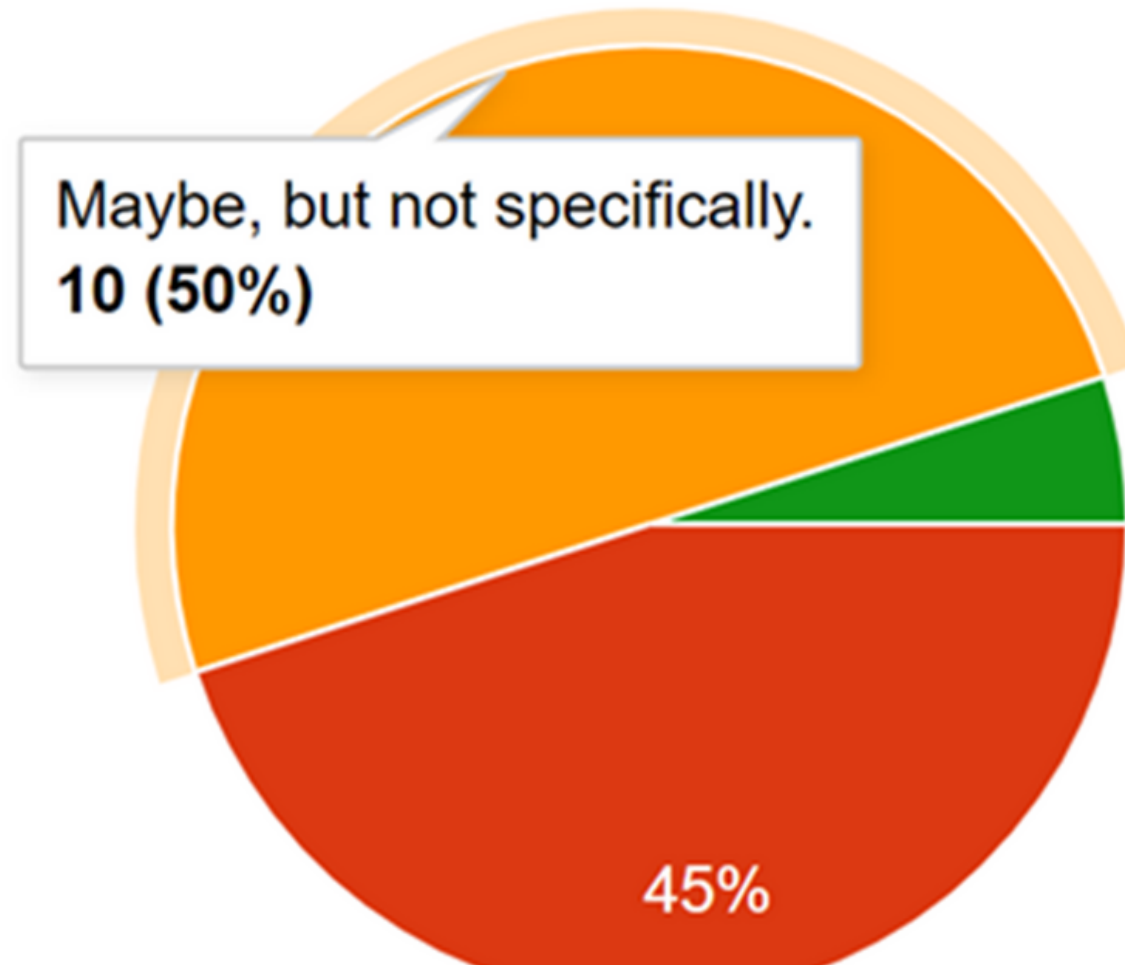
Alternative livelihoods

Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations



- Yes
- No
- Maybe, but not specifically.
- There are no fisheries projects specific on gender.

**Women perspectives
are often overlooked**

**Women Work in
Fisheries, Too!**

November 29, 2021

Status quo

Majority small scale artisanal fisheries
Small enterprises
Daily-wages, short-term contracts

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

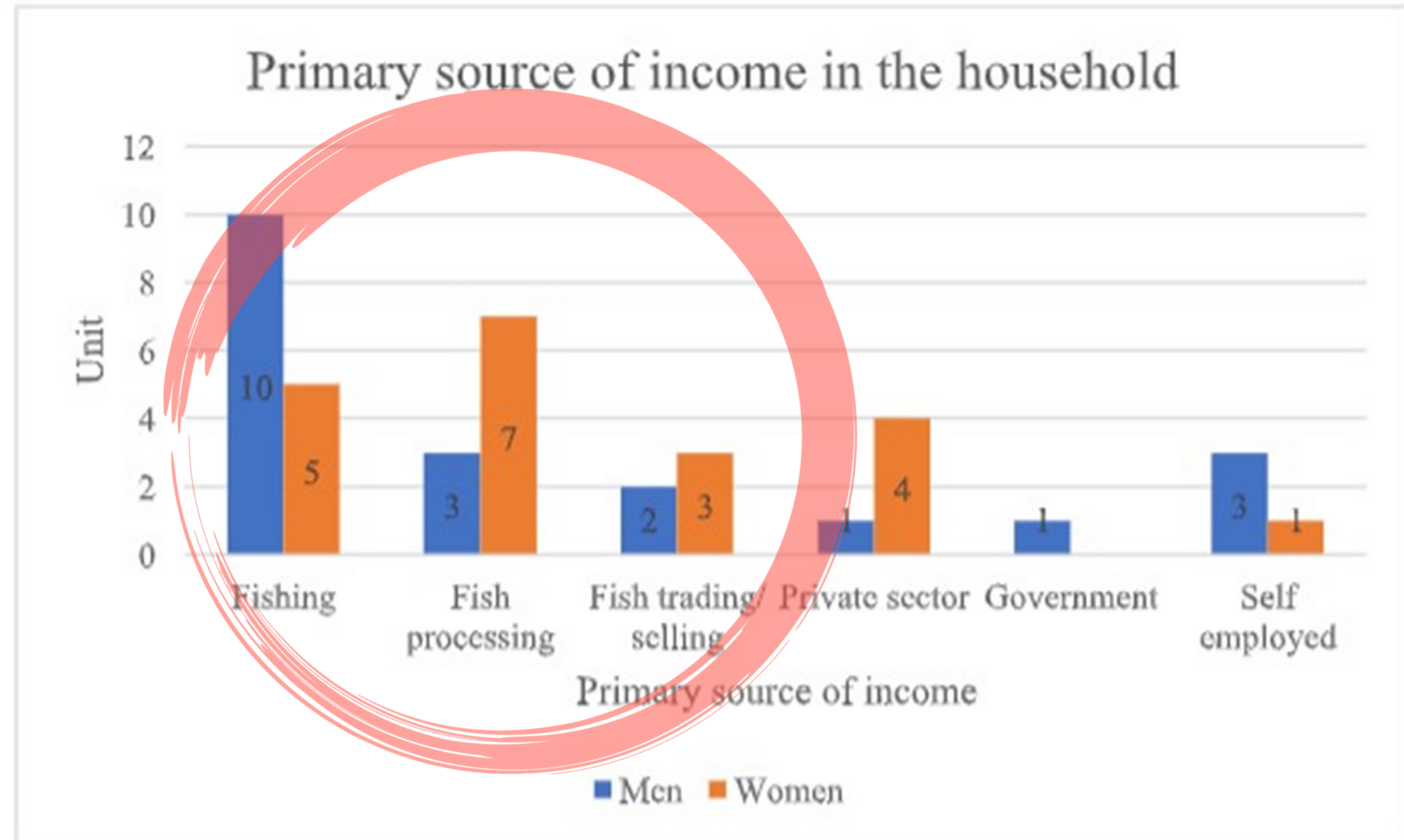
Alternative livelihoods

Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations



Women Work in
Fisheries, Too!

November 29, 2021

Status quo

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

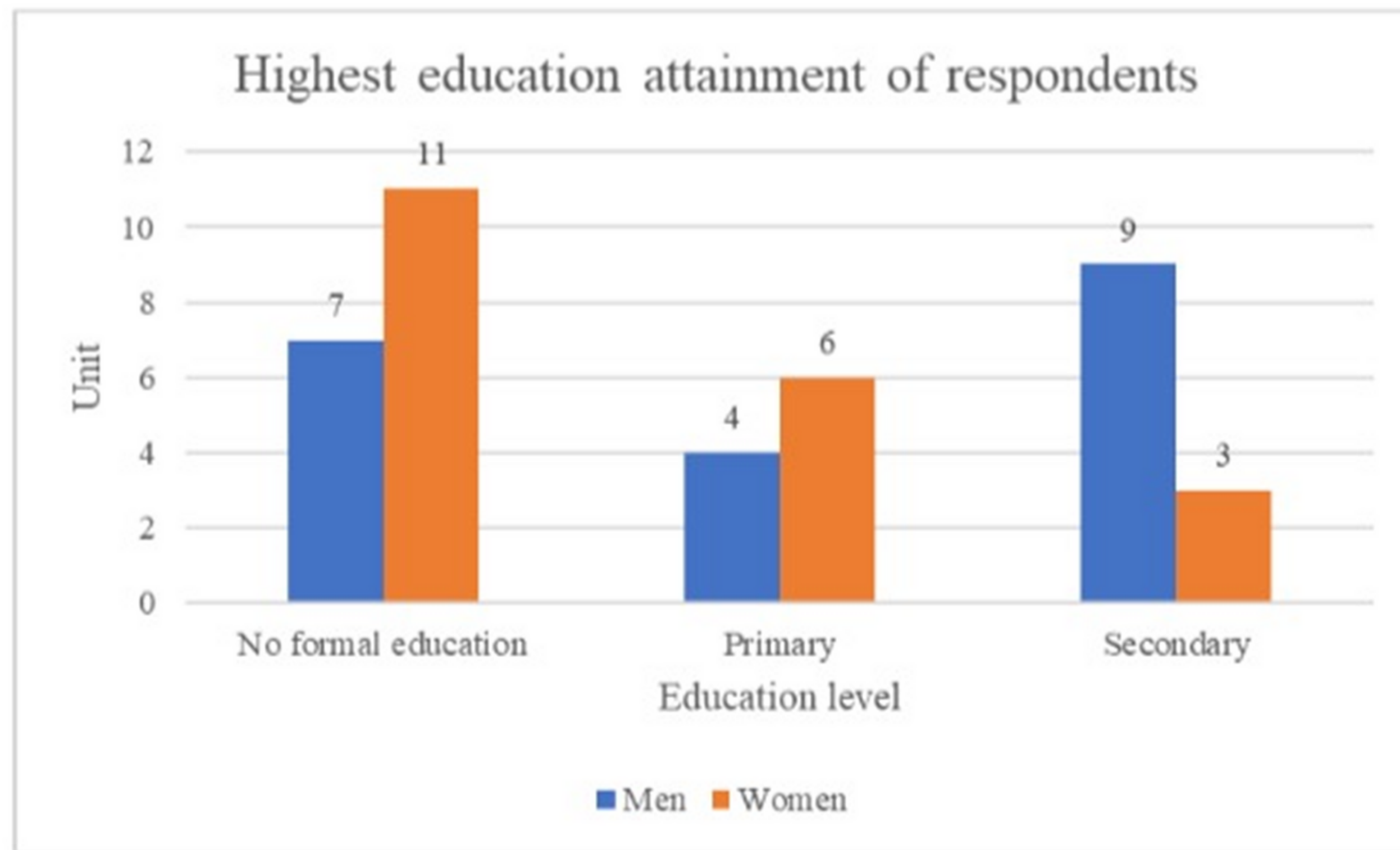
Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations

Women fishers are less educated



Women Work in
Fisheries, Too!

November 29, 2021

Status quo

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations

Women do involved in fisheries field for example in aquaculture they involved in net sewing and feed making for the fish.

The job in fisheries may be challenging to some women in term of energy.

Maybe more on individual preferences, women are likely to work in other fields than fisheries

Women Work in Fisheries, Too!

November 29, 2021

Attitudes of Women

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations

Financial literacy

Importance of education

Young marriages

Trans-generational homes

Women fishers are strongly impacted by cultural norms.

The position of the man is in general overpowering the female. And the acceptance in general again of that situation.

Lack of information on women benefits in the workplace (such as law, regulations etc.) is lesser in male dominated industry

The fishing communities seem very male-dominated. There is a general lack of gender balance though so this is not specific to fisheries only.

Women Work in Fisheries, Too!

November 29, 2021

Alternative livelihoods

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations

'Food' culture

- fisheries products
- Durian products
- everyday snacks

**Home economics is important
for Women fishers**

Entrepreneurial >>> Domestic



Aazani Mujahid

7 h · 🌐

PSA: Fresh tempoyak from Pasir Pandak. Helping villager to advertise. PM siapa maok I help deliver if 2x above.



Tok rm15 ..25 egek

09:40

**Women Work in
Fisheries, Too!**

November 29, 2021

Alternative livelihoods

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations



**Women Work in
Fisheries, Too!**

November 29, 2021

Alternative livelihoods

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

Impacts of Covid 19

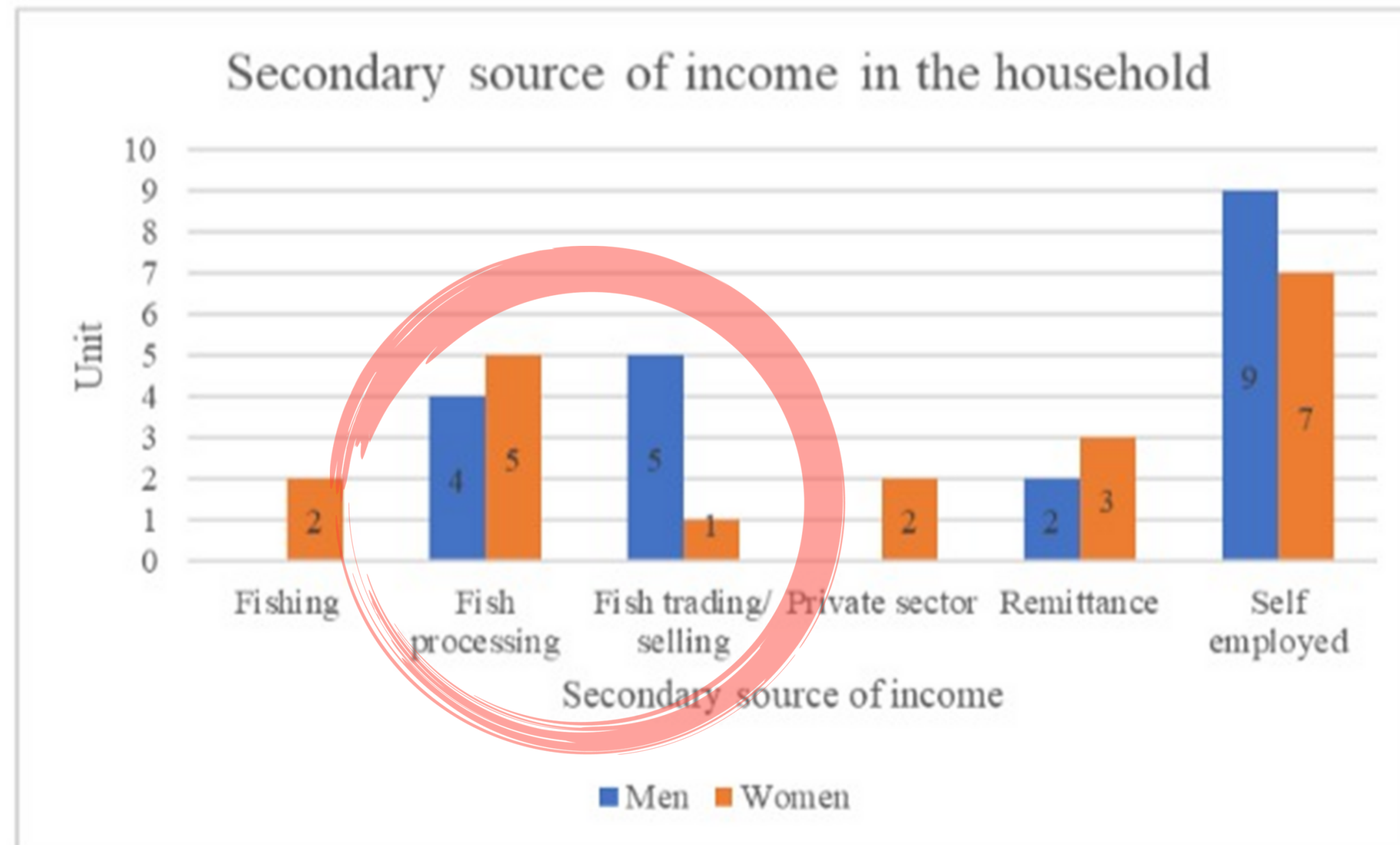
Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations

The role of the middle man culture

intermediate between the producer of goods and consumer.



Fatin Syafiqah Binti Azezi, 2021, unpublished

Women Work in
Fisheries, Too!

November 29, 2021

Impacts of C-19

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

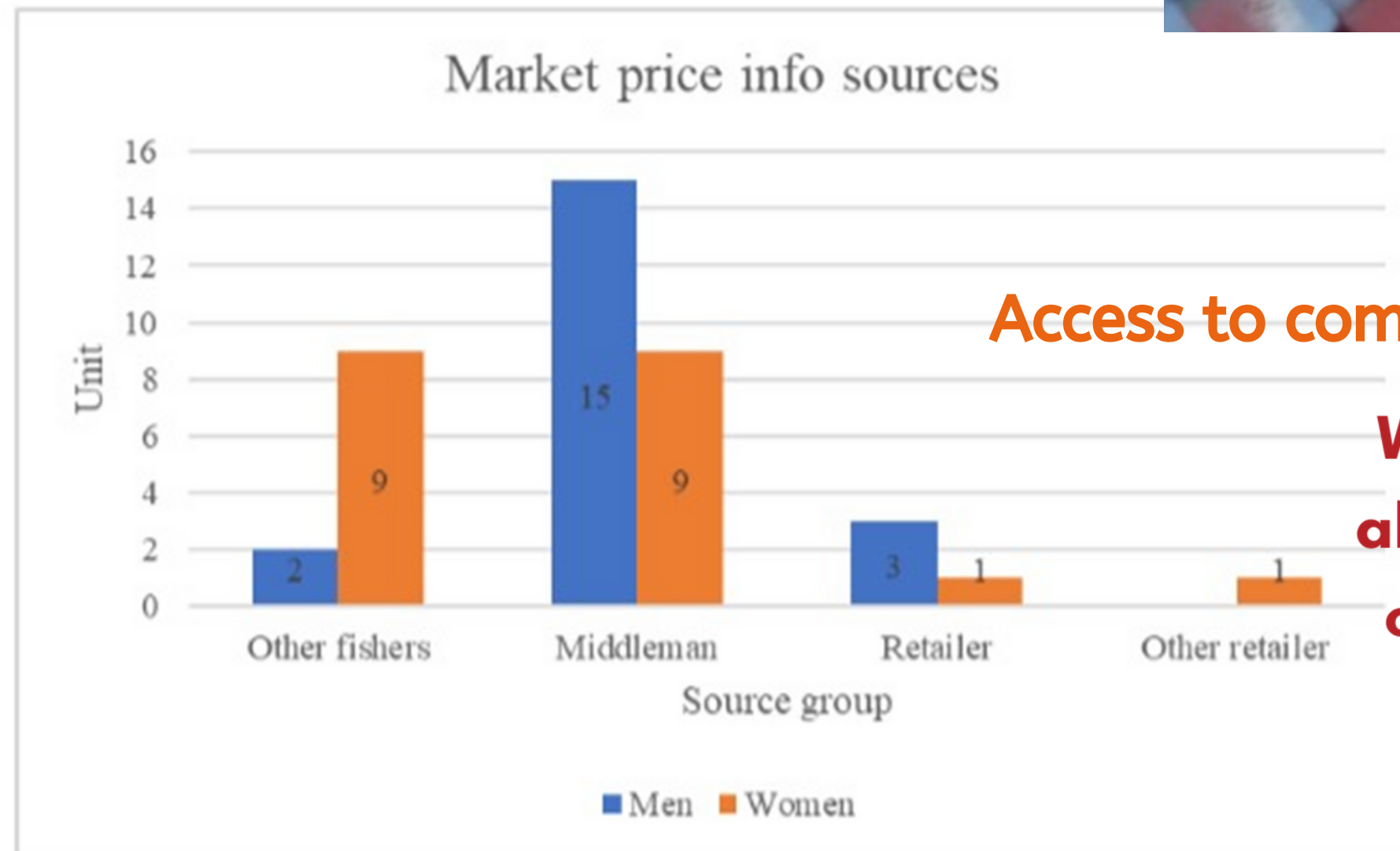
Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations

Trans-generational homes



Access to communication technology

Women find information about market prices from other fishers & retailers

Women Work in Fisheries, Too!

November 29, 2021

Policy Implications

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations

ISSUES & CHALLENGES TO EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN FISHERS

URGENT TO ADDRESS

- Little formal education (past formative years)
- Little access to new skills or technologies
- Lack of partnership in nurturing family/ maintenance of household
 - Lack of socio-political power/ representation
 - Little access to economic resources
- Lack of laws, regulations and other appropriate measures to be inclusive of women in the workforce

MID-URGENCY

- Little access to reliable stable jobs
- Discriminatory practices by employer
- Lack of control to healthcare including reproductive health
 - Lack of affirmative action in grassroot levels

**Women Work in
Fisheries, Too!**

November 29, 2021

Conclusions/ Recommendations

Introduction

Status quo

Attitudes

Alternative livelihoods

Impacts of Covid 19

Policy Implications

Conclusion /

Recommendations

Partnership and collaboratively co-creating innovative solutions can bring meaningful progress in addressing socio-economic and environmental issues.

Access and support to education - providing inclusive & equitable knowledge and skills can promote sustainable development in the marine and fisheries sectors:

Women and community at the HEART- an approach required to embed interventions into local cultures, customs, and needs.



Revival of neighbourhood initiatives



Microfinancing initiatives

Women Work in Fisheries, Too!

November 29, 2021



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE**
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES
AND FOOD SECURITY



Dr Aazani Mujahid (MYS)
maazani@unimas.my

https://bit.ly/aazani_unimas
or <http://bit.do/Aazani>



thank you



Shaping the Future | Gender Justice for Sustainable Aquaculture and Fisheries