



## Exploring the Role of Fisherwomen in Kota, Ajmer and Udaipur Divisions of Rajasthan, India

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# INTRODUCTION

- According to FAO, about 50% of all the people employed in fisheries in the world are women. While many are in post-harvest, they play key roles in fish processing (including smoking) and trade- in Asia, 60% of seafood is marketed by women (SOFIA, 2012).
- Krishnan *et al.*, (2016) Women in coastal areas play an indispensable role in fishery sector by taking part in various activities both in capture and culture fisheries.
- Bennett (2004) stated that very little attention is paid to the role gender in the development process, and more specifically, the work done by women in the overall management of fisheries, without understanding gender complexity of gender role, the goal of livelihoods is unlikely be achieved.
- ***Women work in all sections of the aquaculture value chain but their opportunities have not kept pace with its growth. (GAF)***

## Count...

- Tindall and Katrien (2008) analysed gender role through the fisheries chain, illustrates how inequalities at different levels in the chain 'not just between men and women but also between different socio economic and professional groups can have direct implications for livelihoods and the resource.
- But their work is often invisible, non-counted and under-valued. Lack of access to information, extension contacts and financial services, infrastructure and decent employment, were found have limited access to physical/capital resources.
- Bennett 2005 noted that focus on the catching sector (male dominated) rather than the processing and marketing sector (female dominated), In addition to these tasks, women have also had to look after the household unit taking care of the family's educational, health and dietary needs.
- Women were excluded from decision-making and leadership positions.
- Role of women in fisheries sector has not much acknowledged and valued on an equal par with that of men.

## About Rajasthan fisheries

- The states like Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Bihar are top in inland fish production.
- Rajasthan state has vast and significant water resources in reservoirs, ponds/tanks, rivers, canals, and waterlogged areas with huge but largely underutilized and untapped potential for fish production and livelihood development.
- A large number of freshwater, as well as saline water resources, are available in the state, in which 4.23 lakh ha freshwater area excluding 30,000 ha is rivers and canal system, 80,000 ha is waterlogged, and 1.80 lakh ha is salt-affected/land saline area at Full Tank Level (FTL). (DoF, Rajasthan 2020, Saini, 2017).
- Total fish production was 116 MT in 2019-20. Both fish and seed production in the state has been rising steadily in the recent past.



# **METHODOLOGY**

## Methodology

- This study was done to explore the role of fisherwomen and access to resources in fisheries activities in Rajasthan.
- For this, 320 fishing households were selected from 3 divisions Kota (80), Ajmer (80) and Udaipur (160).
- A semi-structured interview schedule was used to collect information.
- To explore the gender roles (who does what activities) in fisheries, using a customized tool of gender analytical framework.
- The data used in this study were collected from both primary and secondary sources.

# Gender Analytical Framework

## 1. Activity profile

Activities	Male(1)	Female(2)	Both(3)
Fishing			
Money management			
Net repairing			
Boat repairing			
Marketing activities			
Loading ,Unloading fish			
family decision			
Other			

## 2. Access and Control Profile

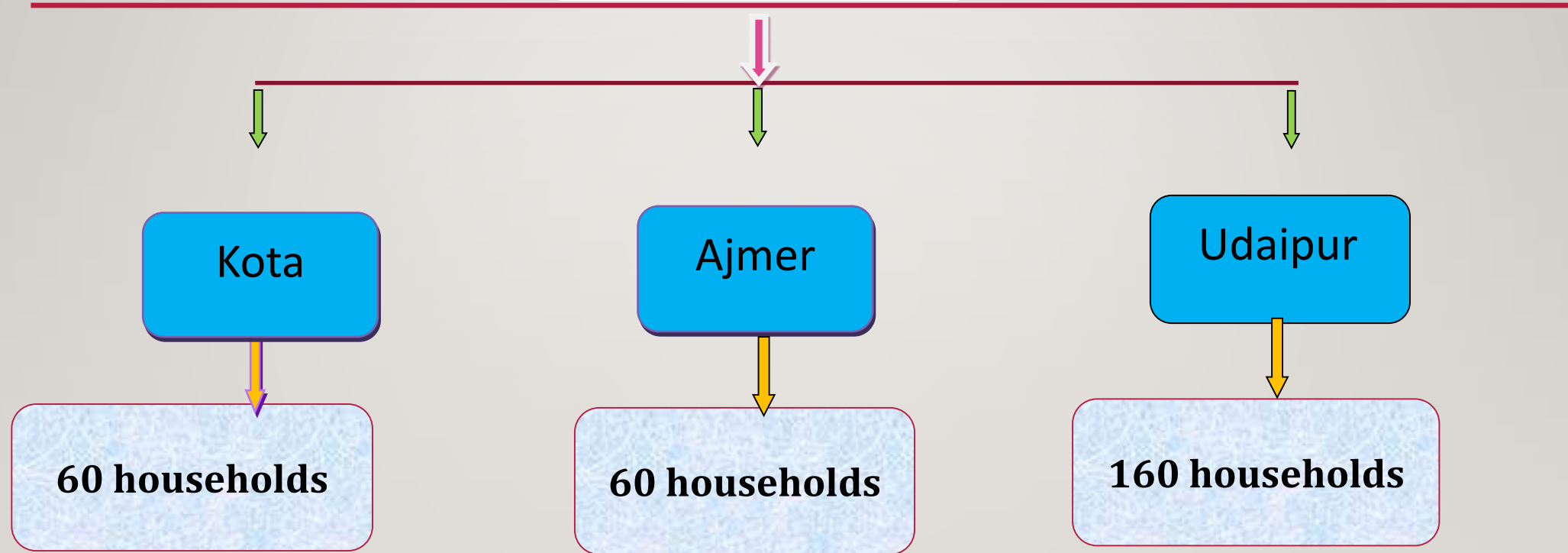
Resources	Access	Control
	Women(2) Men(1) Both (3)	Women(2) Men(1) Both (3)
Land Equipment Labour Cash Education/traini ng, etc. Other		



# Sampling

Rajasthan

(n=320)





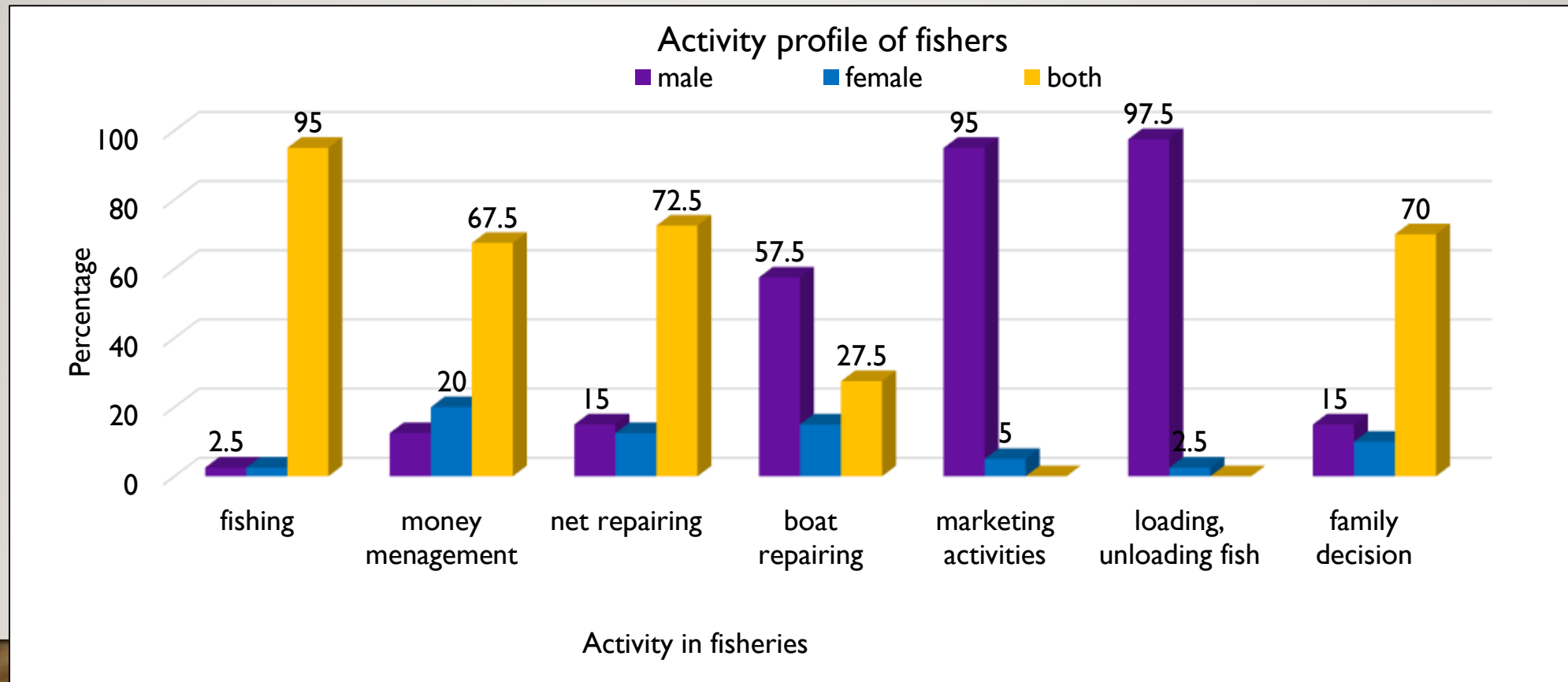
## Result & Discussions

# Organizations involved in Fisher Development

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- Department of Fisheries, Rajasthan
- Rajasthan Tribal Area Development Co-operative Federation Ltd. Udaipur
- College of Fisheries, MPUAT, Udaipur
- Ornamental Fisheries Training & Research Institute, Udaipur
- Seva Mandir (NGO), Udaipur

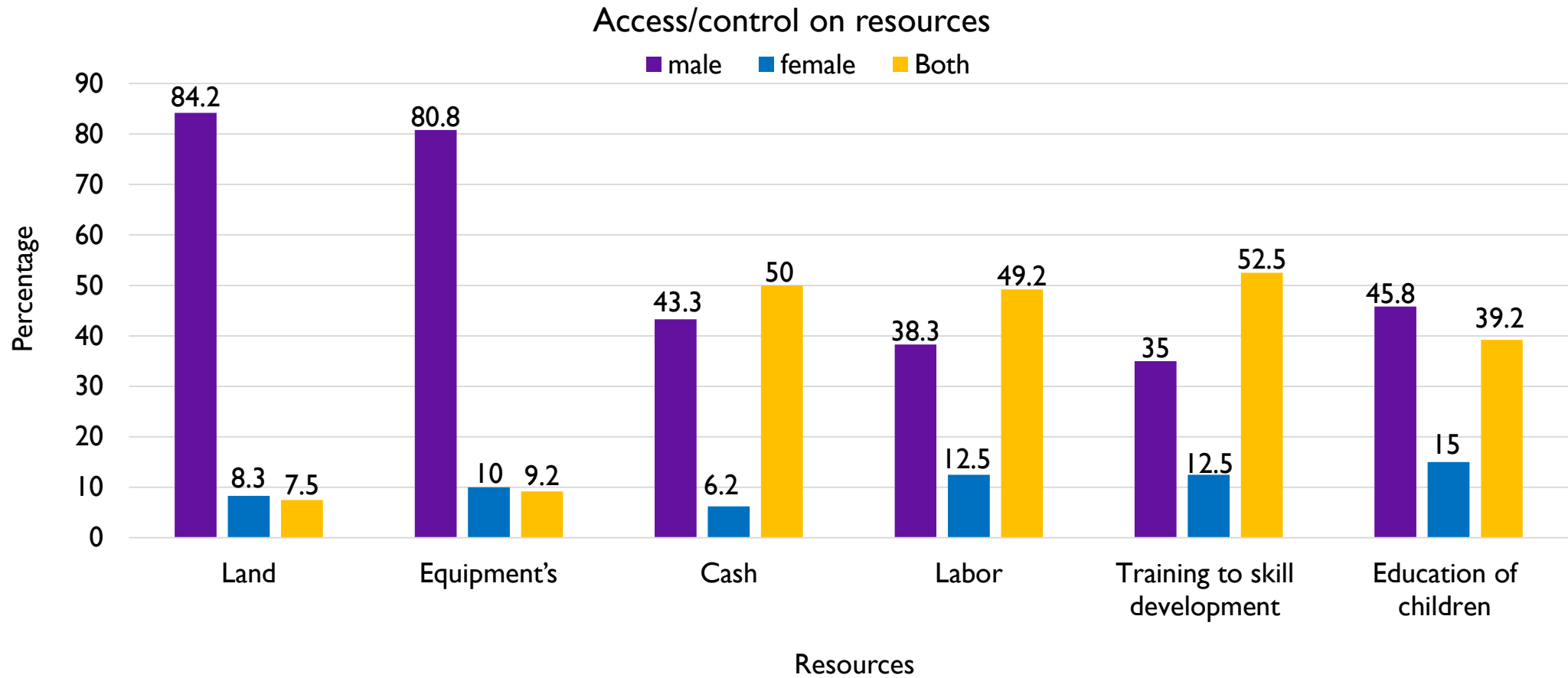
# ACTIVITY PROFILE OF FISHERS



## RESULT & DISCUSSIONS

- The assessment of activity profile (Fig. 1) depicts that majority of both males and females were found to be engaged in four activities namely fishing (95%), money management (67.5%), net mending (72.5%) and family decision making (70%).
- On the other hand, in activities such as boat repairing (57.5%), marketing (95%), loading & unloading of fish catch (97.5%), mostly males were found to be engaged except for a very small percent of females.
- Interestingly, in about 20% households, only females were found to be managing the money and are involved in decision making.

# ACCESS ON HOUSEHOLD RESOURCES



## RESULT & DISCUSSIONS

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- From fig. 2 , it could be observed that both men and women were having access on the most of household resources namely cash management (50%), labor (49.2%), fisheries training (52.5%) and education of children (39.2%).
- On the other hand, the resources such as family land/fisheries ponds (84.2%) and family equipment's/fisheries equipment's (80.8%) men were having access, except few percentage of women were having access on this resources
- Further, only in few household 15% of the alone female were having access on the education, followed by 12.5% of the alone female were found having access on the training, and 12.5 % female ware having access on labor resources in family.

# CONCLUSION

- It was observed that in the fishing, money management, and net mending, repairing activities both male and female playing equal role.
- Whereas, in the boat repairing, marketing activities, and loading, unloading of catch male were dominated.
- It was observed that male were having control on the family land and equipment's, whereas, in the fifty percent family both male and female were having control on family cash, labour, training to skill development, and child education.
- To involve more women in the community organization, self-help groups may be encouraged.
- It has been observed that the families in which both female and male are engaged in fisheries activities were earning more money.
- There are different pluralistic service providers to development of this tribes fishers.



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Thank  
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