



Photo credit: Ean Brokovich, WorldFish

FACT SHEET

Follow The Fish



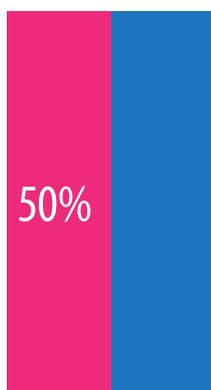
FOLLOW THE FISH



FOLLOW THE FEMALE



Women catch 50% of the fish people eat in their homes in Solomon Islands¹. This subsistence catch is vital to food security for families and rural communities. Health of populations also depends on fish, particularly maternal and child health. Fish is a major source of protein across the islands, and key to nutrition for women and in the first 1000 days of an infant's life.



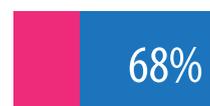
FOLLOW THE LEADER



FOLLOW THE MALE



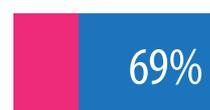
In community-based fisheries management, 68% of local fisheries committees are dominated by men².



Men were six times more likely than women to feel included in local fisheries decision making than women³.



69% of all provincial and national fisheries staff are men⁴.

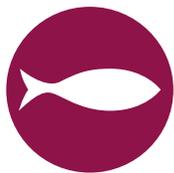


Women are predominant in selling goods and organizing local village markets, where they can be found selling fresh and cooked fish. However, seven out of ten women surveyed said they would never speak in community fisheries meetings (compared to 4 out of ten men)³.



3 out of 4 managers in the top three formal markets are male (Honiara, Auki, Gizo). UN Women have increased the number of women in market vendor association leadership in in these top markets. Men are more likely than women to sell fish caught on the open sea, such as skipjack or yellowfin tuna, which tend to fetch higher prices. Men earn on average 60% more per sold fish than women in Malaita⁵.

LET'S FOLLOW THE FISH



FOLLOW THE FEMALES



IN A NEW DIRECTION

WorldFish works with the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Provincial Fisheries Offices in Malaita, Western and Isabel provinces, and local communities to set fisheries in a new direction:

HEALTH



Women receive nutritional benefits from fish, especially mothers.



WEALTH

Women have economic benefits from fish value chains.



POWER

Women's fishing and voices are part of local, provincial, national decisions.

¹ Olha Krushelnytska, Towards Gender Equitable Fisheries Management, World Bank report synthesizes the study Gender, Fisher, Trader, Processor: Towards Gender-Equitable Fisheries Management and Development in Solomon Islands (Barclay, Payne and Mauli, 2015).

² "Male dominated committees" are defined as committees that have more male members than female. Data from WorldFish reviewing a cross section of 19 communities for which gender segregated CBFM data was available in 2020.

³ Data from Participatory Exclusions research by WorldFish.

⁴ Data from MFMR reviewing employment data for the ministry in 2020.

⁵ Data from monitoring of fresh fish sales at Auki market by WorldFish and Malaita Provincial Government for the entire year 2017.



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