



# WOMEN FISHER FOLK BARBADOS- A GENDERED LENS

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## RESEARCH

- This research forms part of the Gender in Fisheries Team (GIFT) Research Framework, CERMES, The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados.
- It examines the livelihood assets the women possess, the livelihood strategies they use and livelihood outcomes they may need.

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# AIMS



- To discover what are the challenges, successes and gaps in the livelihoods of women fisherfolk
- To examine these gaps and provide recommendations for improved and enhanced quality of life and sustainable livelihoods.
- To influence social policy in the area of fisheries.

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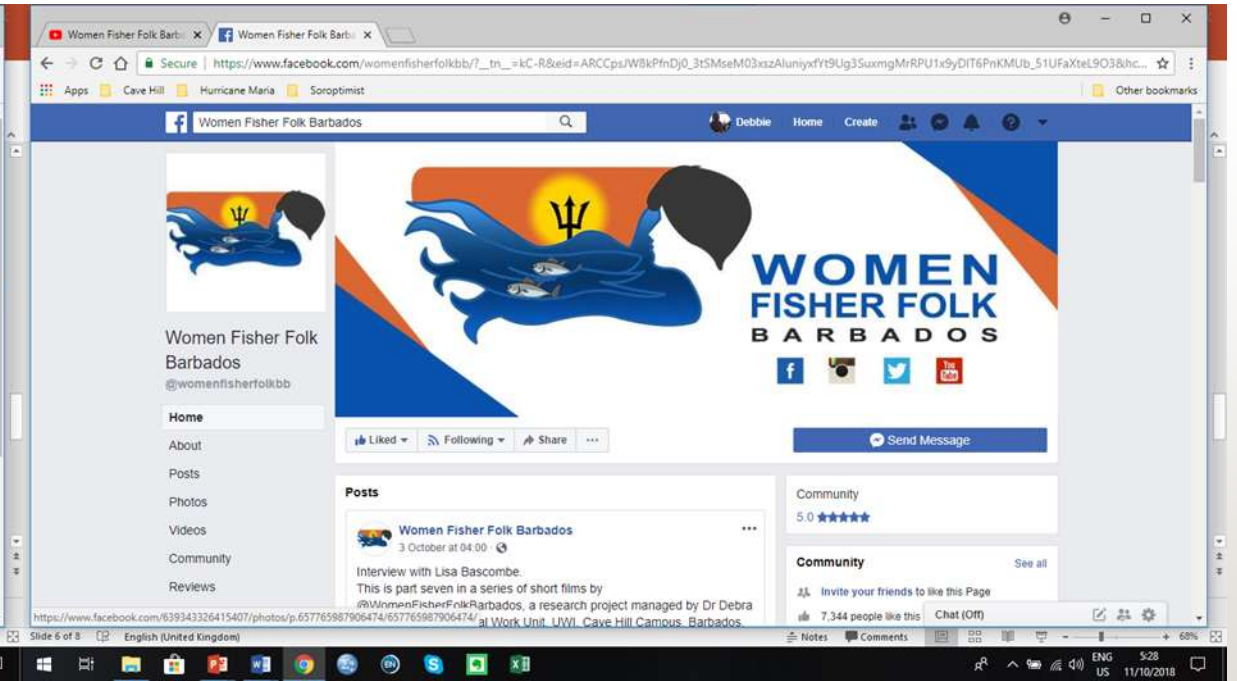
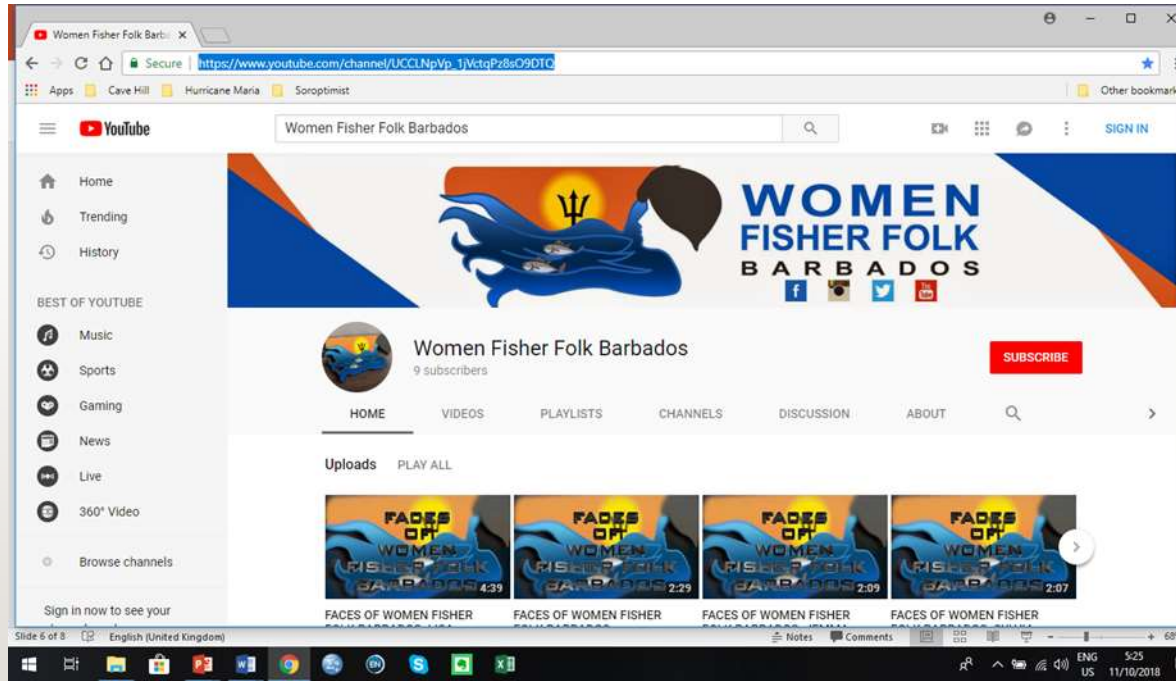
## METHODOLOGY



- Case study research, focusing on the livelihoods of 10-12 women fisher folk who are fisherwomen and/or fish processors.
  - Criteria for inclusion – any woman involved in the fishing industry in Barbados
  - KI semi-structured interviews
- Photo voice
- Short films of approximately 5mins were produced featuring participants
- YouTube Channel-[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCLNpVp\\_1jVctqPz8sO9DTQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCLNpVp_1jVctqPz8sO9DTQ)
- Production of an e-magazine and hard copy underway
- Social media outputs - Facebook, Twitter & Instagram
- Creation of logo (top right hand corner).



# 6 YOUTUBE CHANNEL AND FACEBOOK OUTPUT



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# FINDINGS

- Four cases were analysed thus far out of 11.
- Analysis: Nvivo 12 Pro Software.
- Questions used for this presentation:
  - Job satisfaction
  - Challenges
  - Differences for women and men in the fishing industry
  - Needs.



# JOB SATISFACTION



- This was resoundingly positive for all women interviewed! They LOVED their job:

*“I love everything about it”.*

*“I love my job, everything about it”.*

*“Everything about it. Getting up on mornings, preparing to come to work”.*

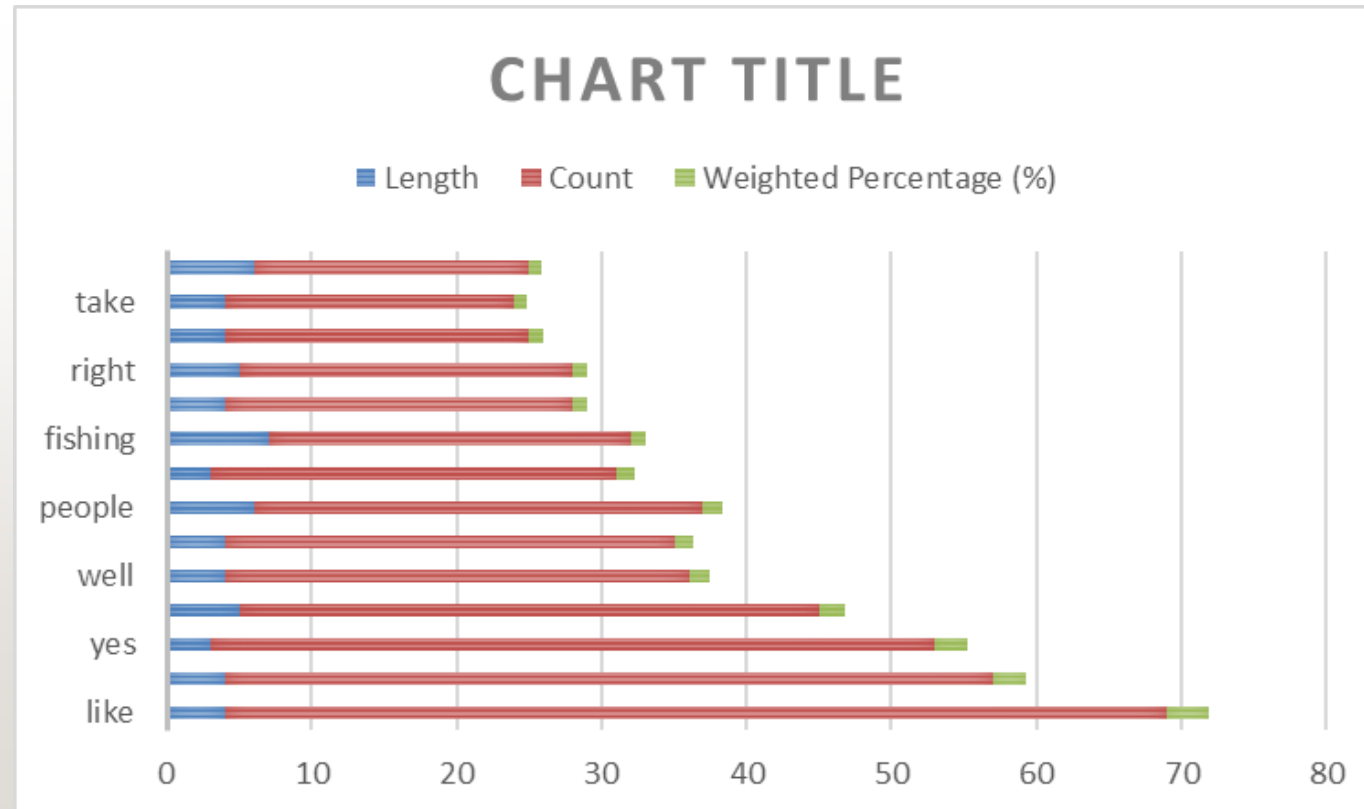
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## WORD CLOUD –NVIVO 12 PRO SHOWS THE WORD ‘LIKE’ AS THE CENTER





# II GRAPH- NVIVO 12 PRO- SHOWS THE COUNT: 'LIKE' AGAIN SHOWS AS THE MOST USED WORD



## CHALLENGES



*“And I would say too that health-wise, the standing, after these years, does tell on us. Our feet does swell. We get veins, and we get a lot of cuts on our hands, stuff like that.”*

*“Another thing is that fish prices should be a standard price for the fishermen and for us. Because being out there, as I would say, fishing now, and working scaling and boning fish, I think that the fishermen are less paid than anybody else in this industry, and they work the hardest.”*

*“Then we may have problems with the ice machine; it might not be in operation”.*



**“But I find that the people in Barbados are really insensitive when it comes to we workers in fish”.**

**“Sometimes down here when they put fish in the freezer the fish does go missing”.**

**”Problem with the general workers coming in and cleaning the place. If there are five to work in the evening, one turn up”.**



## 14 IS IT DIFFERENT FOR MEN IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY?

*“I have a licence for scaling and boning flying fish. I don't have no licence to sell out there. If I go out there and sell, the first thing they go do is, if they feel you getting more sales than them, they going to compare with me. A man going to come and tell me I don't have no licence to sell”.*

*“No. Both of us, both parties. Men have to be there; women have to be there. All two play a special part”.*

*“I usually interact with all the fishermen. We have a really good relationship. I have a really good relationship with the fishermen and they don't treat you no different”.*

*“Yeah, we have fishermen that are respectful. We have some that are a bit disrespectful but you put that behind and think positive”.*





# 15 IS IT DIFFERENT FOR MEN IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY?

*“Sometimes, as I say, I am going fishing as a woman, some men think that women shouldn't be going fishing. So that is then a form of disrespect because they think that women should not be out there trying to fish. So that is a challenge and that is a disrespect”.*

*“It's all a gender issue. I ain't getting up on no boat with two men, you understand, out to sea for two weeks or a whole week. I am not getting up on no boat with no man. We will have to get an all woman crew”.*

*“we got to stand up in there whole day and scale and bone at least 400 fish to get a hundred dollars. The men out here does skin dolphin. By the time they skin 20 dolphin, them got a hundred dollars. Twenty dolphins ain't going to take them the whole day to skin”.*



*“I think that the fishermen need to get addressed their problem as to selling fish on a level, an agreement for going into different countries and fish selling”.*

*“Come as a body, let the fishermen come as a group and they sit down and they work on a reasonable price that if you come in with flying fish, well this is what flying fish will be selling at. And everybody agree”.*

*“Seeing that we work in the processing hall, when our customers come, sometimes they don't see us because we have a pick-up window but it's not opened. We've always asked -- they were supposed to open it for us and they never opened it”.*

## NEEDS



*“the market is all filled up, but people still keep coming in every year, more and more people. So it's still like we ask for space outside but, oh, they say it's filled up, so that's one of the reasons why. We are stuck in the processing hall”.*

*“the trolleys to move our boxes and stuff. And if we can have a little area that we can have our own stuff in. Wharf box and whatever grant”.*





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# WORK STATION & FLYING FISH PROCESSING- PHOTO VOICE





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# SOME OF THE WOMEN FISHER FOLK AT THEIR WORKPLACE



**Velma**



**Vernel**



**Margaret**



