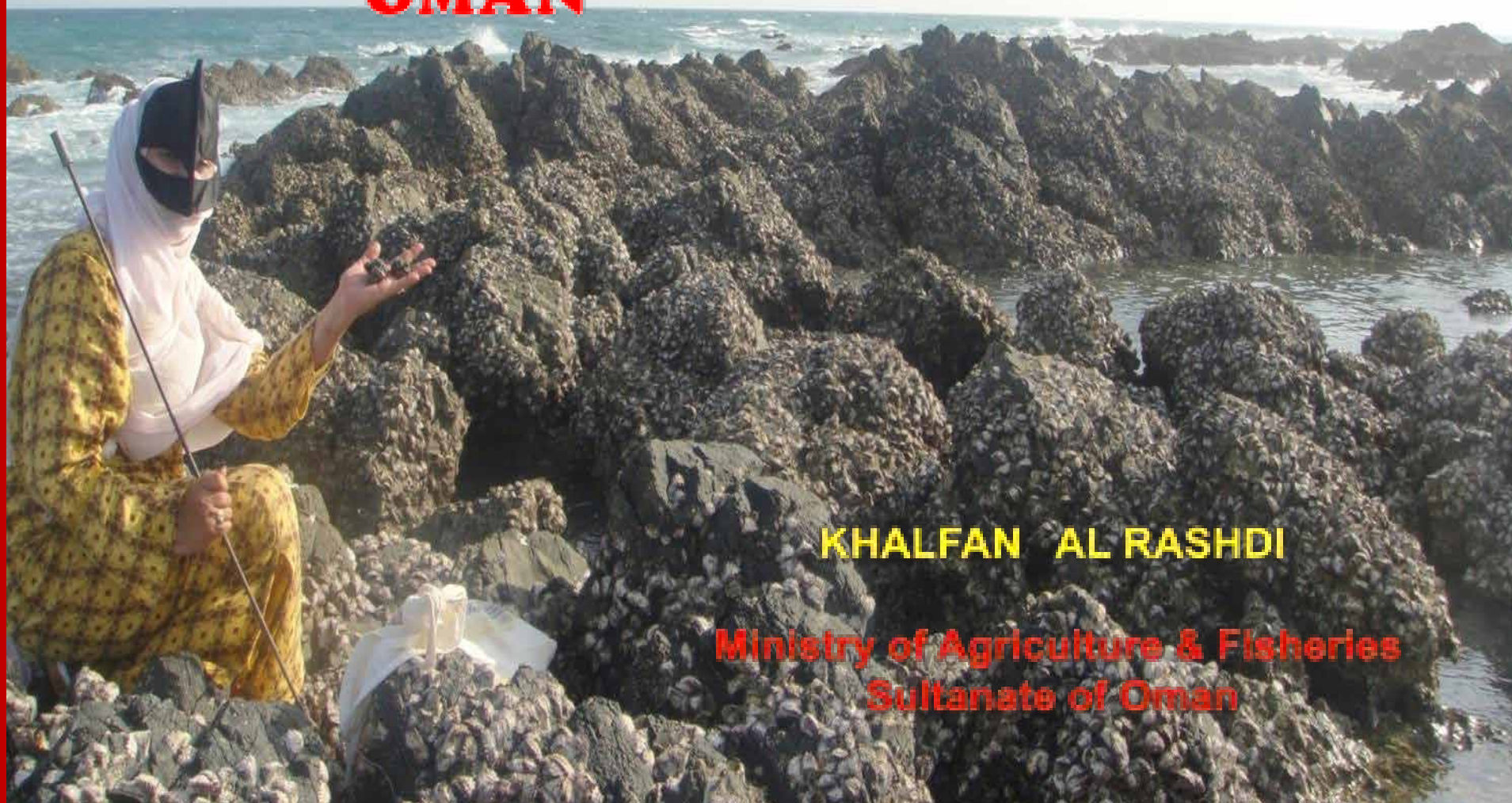


Gender-specific activities of Omani fishers in AlWusta Governorate, OMAN

10th APF / CAA4 2013

Theme : Blue Waters and Green Fisheries

GAF4



KHALFAN AL RASHDI

**Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries
Sultanate of Oman**

BACKGROUND

Activities of women in the fisheries:

1. Pre-harvesting

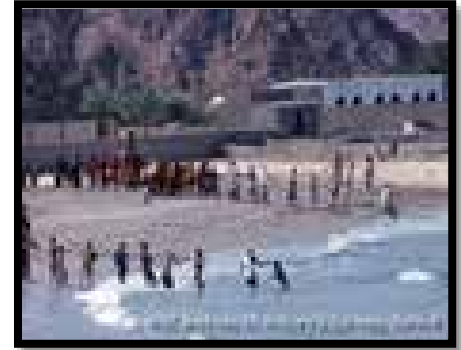
- Preparation fishing requirement
- **Net repairing**

2. Harvesting

- invertebrates gleaning,
- **cast netting and trapping**

3. Post-harvesting

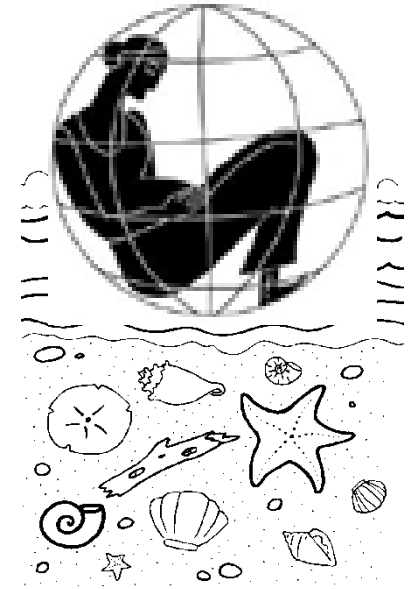
- Unloading and hauling
- **Seafood processing**
- Cutting fish in the market



“Behind every boat, a woman”

JUSTIFICATION

1. Role of coastal women in the fisheries is undervalued and undocumented.
2. Lack of interaction between fisherwomen and institutions (poor communication)
3. lack of development programs directed towards women in fisheries.



OBJECTIVES

1. Extent and nature of women participation to small scale fisheries
2. Description of the categories and socio-economic characteristics
3. Challenges facing small scale fisherwomen
4. Provide recommendations and solutions for their obstacles.

SURVEY AREA:

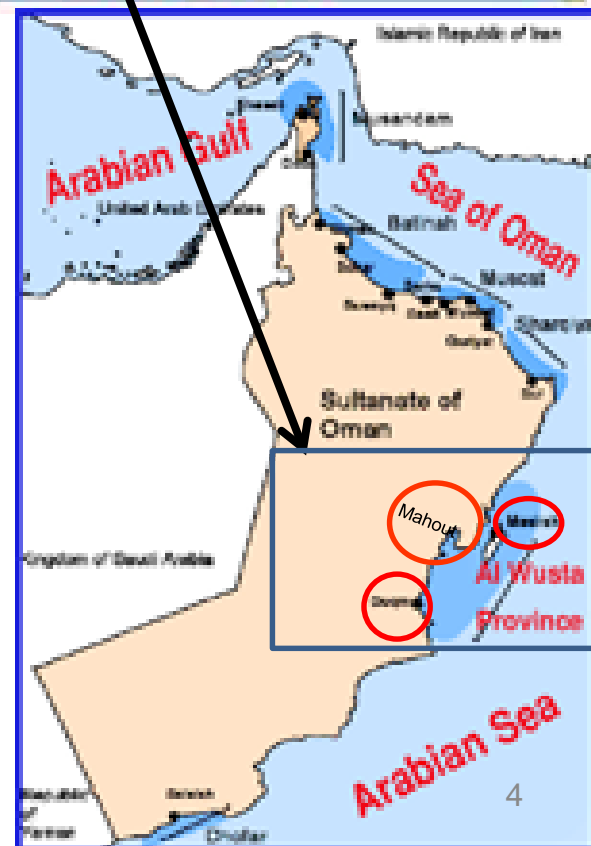
OMAN

Location	Arabian Peninsula
Area	309,000 km ²
Coastline	3127 km
Population	2.77 million
Coastal provinces	7



AL WUSTA

Case Study Area	Al Wusta Province
Area Location	East side: Arabian Sea West Side: Empty Quarter Desert
Study locations	Masira, Mahout, Duqum
Community	Bedouins
livelihoods	Livestock raising and fishing
Al Wusta Population	42,000
% of female	55%
No. of Fishermen	2773
No. of Fisherwomen	450



SURVEY METHOD

1. Questionnaire

Hiring female undergraduate local residents from each surveyed area to interview women

2. Group discussion

Selecting 6 respondents based on the questionnaire. The meeting is headed by project leader with presence of Regional Fisheries official

3. Field work

Researchers will join the women in the field, collecting the samples and reporting the status





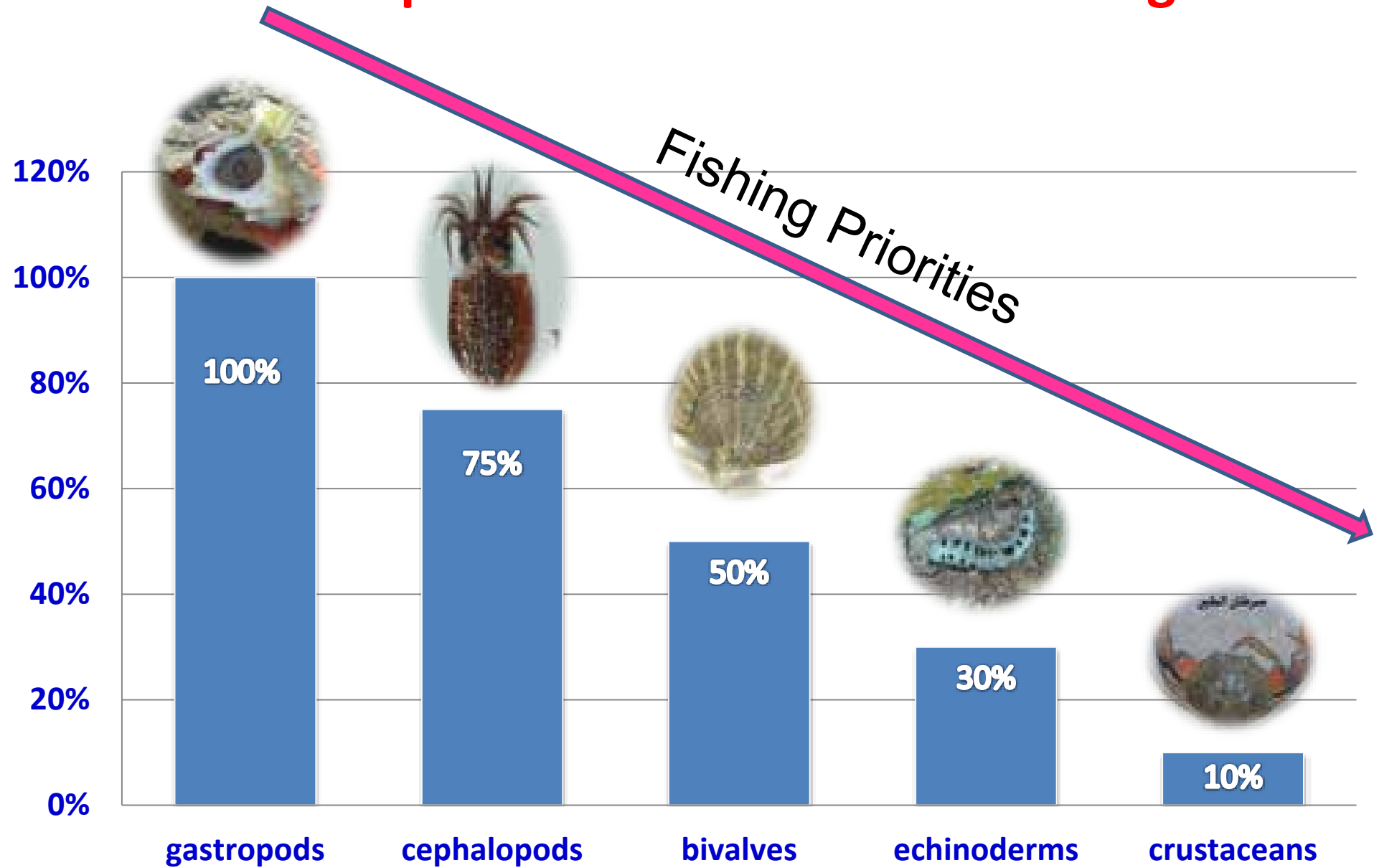
No. of respondents: 85 ~ (21%)

Species collected: High – low value



Group	English name	Scientific/ family name	Local name
Gastropods	Top shell	<i>Trochus erythraeus</i>	Hilwan
	Whelk	<i>Babylonia sp.</i>	Buwaini
	Top shell	<i>Trochus sp.</i>	Shafeil
	Chitons	<i>Chiton sp.</i>	Shanha
	Top shell	<i>Trochus sp.</i>	Sharkhali
	Turban shell	<i>Turbo coronatus</i>	Toga'a
	Turban Shell	<i>Turbo radiates</i>	Ya'afour
	Murex	<i>Murex scolopax</i>	
Echinoderms	Sea cucumber(Sandfish)	<i>Halothuria scabra</i>	Feik AlBahar
	Sea cucumber (Lollyfish)	<i>Halothuria atra</i>	Abu-Areif
	Black sea cucumber	<i>Halothuria Leucospilota</i>	Abu-areif naqli
Cephalopods	Cuttlefish	<i>Sepia pharaonis</i>	Ghutru
	Sand bird Octopus	<i>Octopus aegina</i>	Terbaha
Bivalves	Rocky Oyster	<i>Saccostrea cucullata</i>	Zakah
	Venus clam	<i>Circenita callipyga</i>	Doak
	Calista clam	<i>Calilista erycina</i>	Doak
Crustaceans	Blue swimming crab	<i>Portunus pelagicus</i>	Hargoom

Group of marine invertebrates caught



Marine Snails

1. Marine Snails
2. Live in or on rocks, sandy coast
3. 80% of the total mollusc in the world
4. Local name is Rahas
5. 2 products: meat and operculum



Snail (Rahas) species collected

English name	Scientific name	Local name
Top shell (B)	<i>Trochus erythraeus</i>	Hilwan
Conch (C)		Buwaini
Top shell (A)	<i>Trochus sp.</i>	Shafeil
Chitons (F)	Chitonidae (family name)	Shanha
Top shell (E)	<i>Trochus sp.</i>	Sharkhali
Turban shell (D)	<i>Turbo coronatus</i>	Toga'a
Turban Shell	<i>Turbo radiates</i>	Ya'afour
Murex	<i>Murex scolopax</i>	



Snails (Rahas) fishery operations

Fishing gear

1. Spear
2. Knife
3. Bag
4. Gloves
5. shoes



Snail Meat processing



Boiling



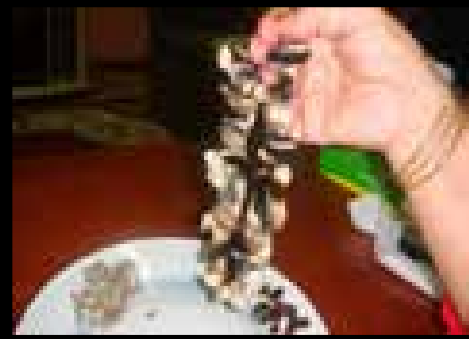
Cleaning



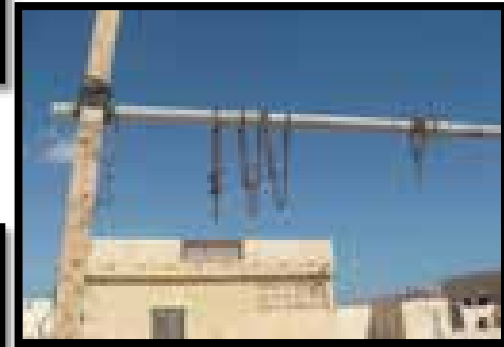
Extracting



Threading



Meat necklace



**Drying
(Rahas)**

“What a man can do, a woman will do it better”

Snail Operculum (Dhufran) Processing



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)



**Frankincense
(olibanum)**

Selling (income earning opportunities)

(Dried) Meat price (Necklace):
8\$ / (30-60 pieces)



(Dried) operculum:
2.5 \$ / Tea cup (20-30 pieces)



Buyers:

1. Tourist from GCC countries
2. Middlemen sell to local shops in Oman and GCC countries

Sea cucumber

- Sea cucumber belong to echinoderms
- 25 commercial species only
- Fishert is based in Mahout Area
- Fishers > 50% women
- main threats is rapid over-exploitation



Sea cucumber species



Holothuria atra



Holothuria scabra

Sea cucumber fishery operations



Sea cucumber processing



Handling



First cooking



Preserving



Cleaning



Second cooking



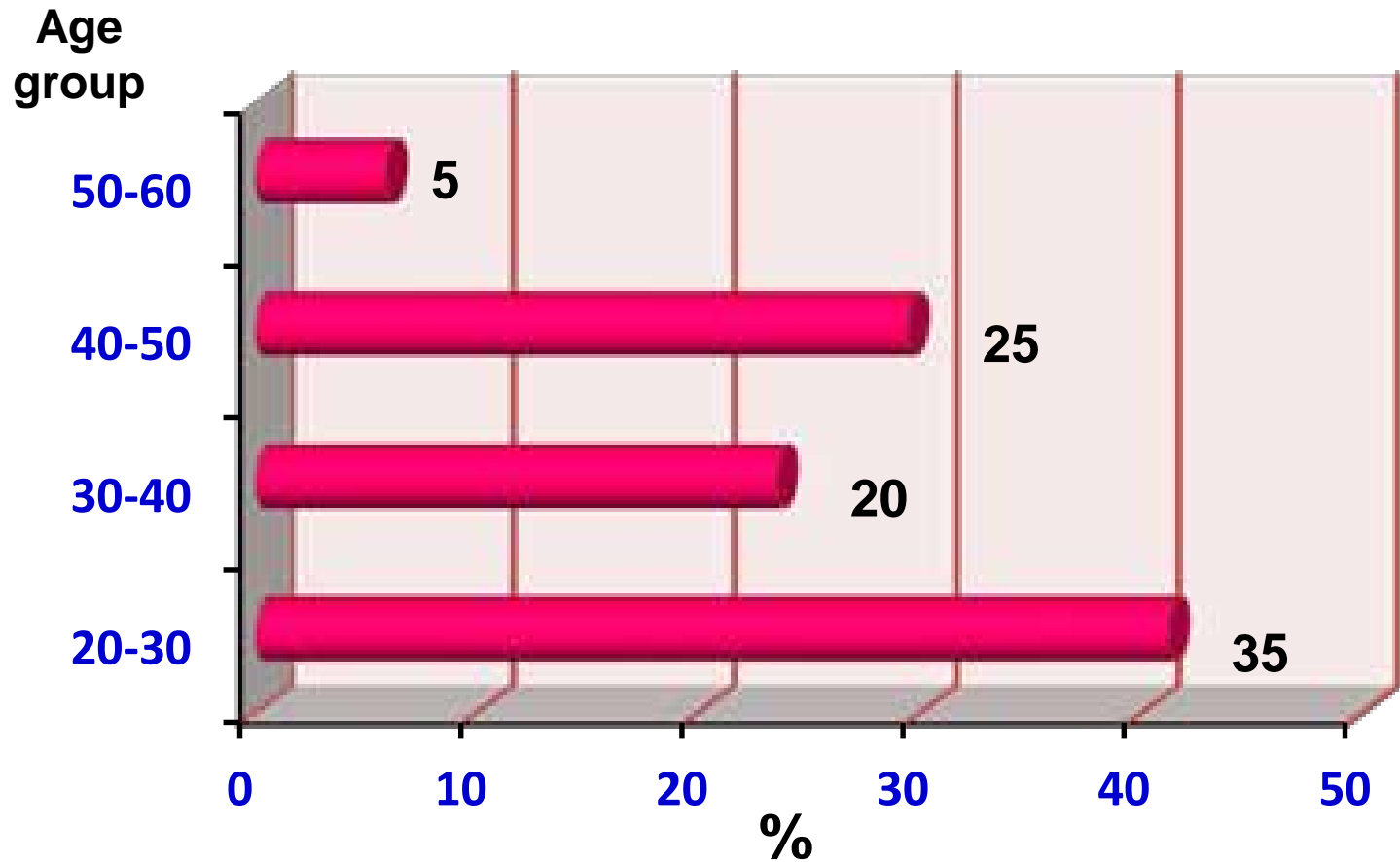
Indoor drying



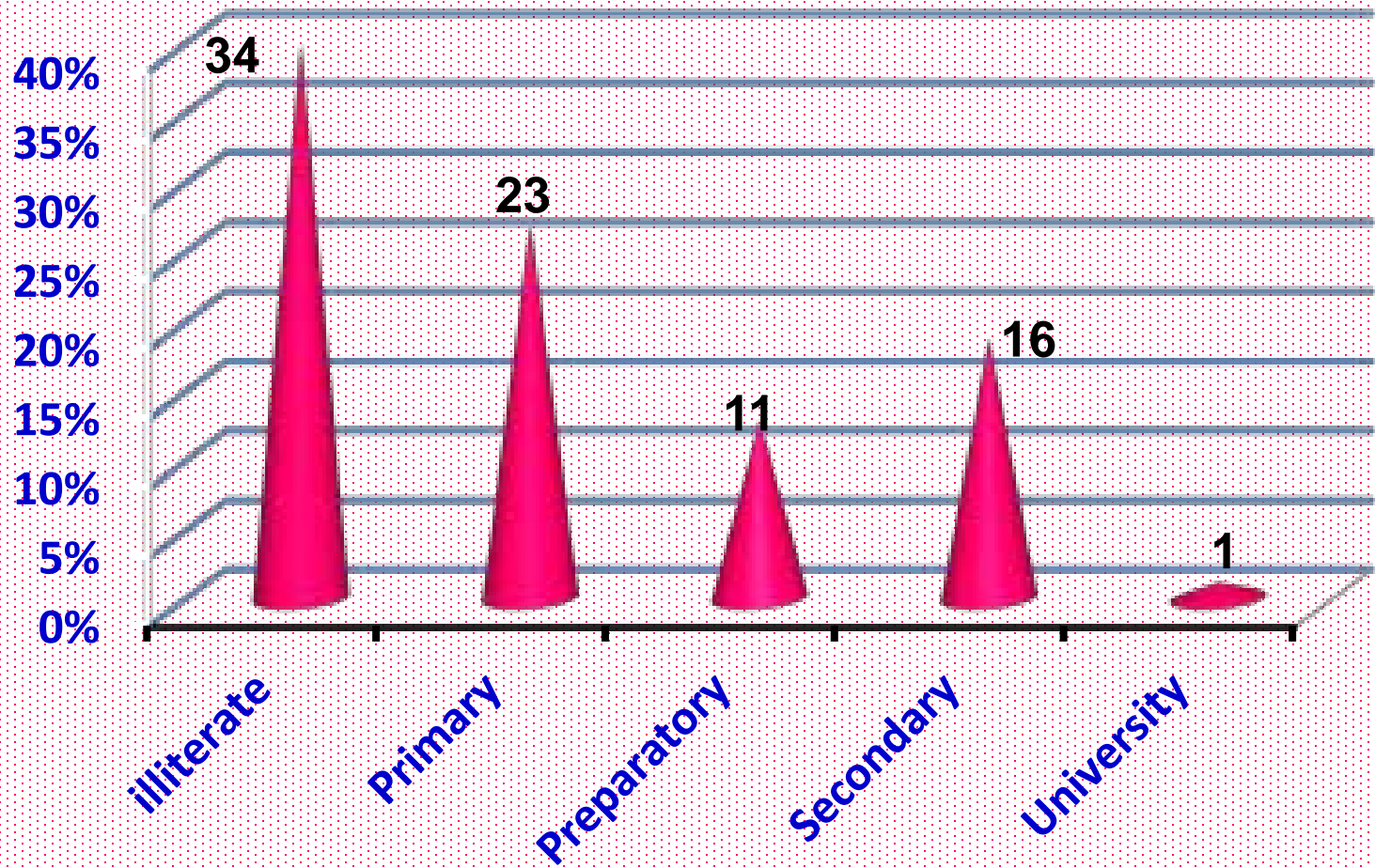
Income:

1. Live sea cucumber: 3-10 \$
2. Dried sea cucumber: 100-200 \$/kg

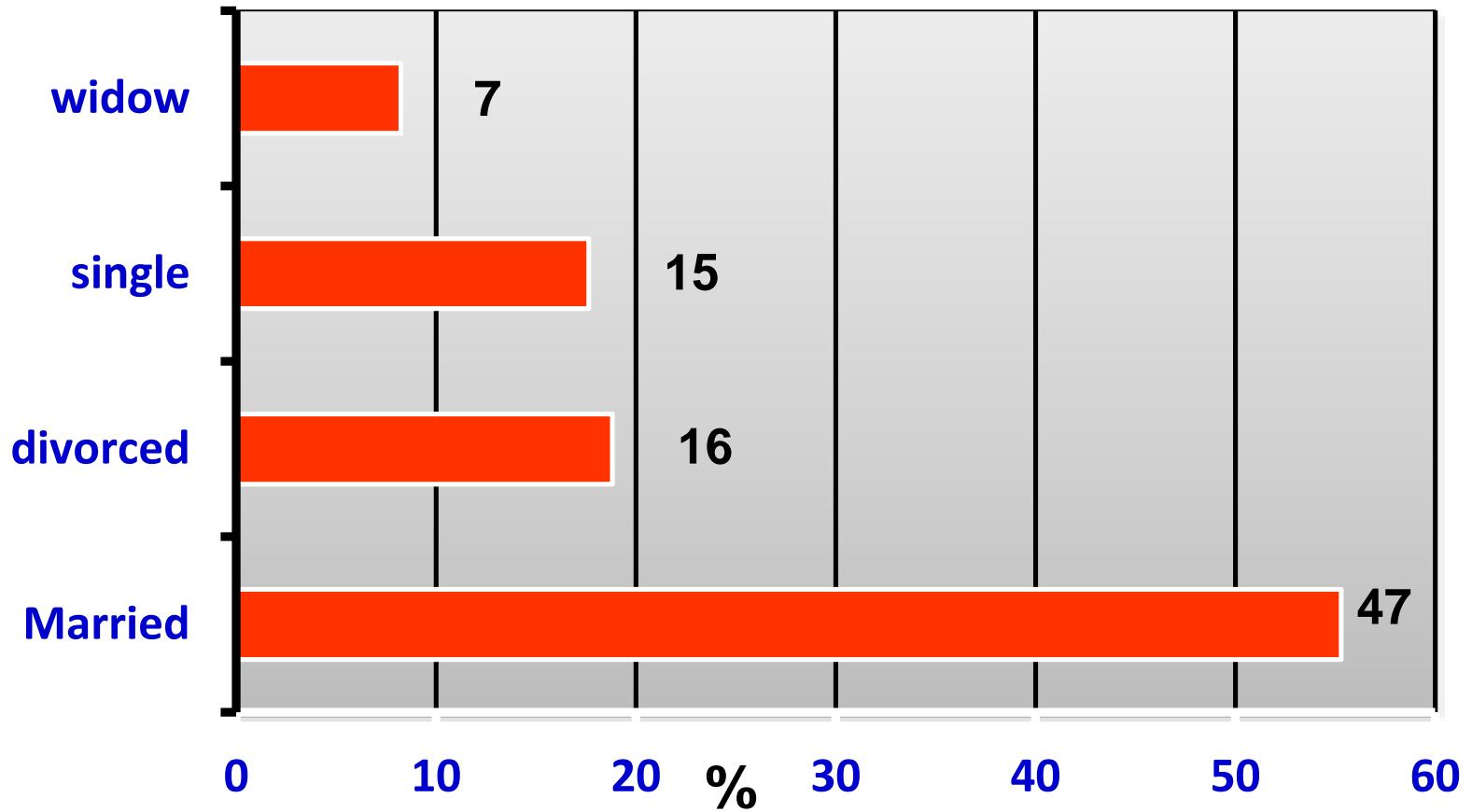
Socio-economic Characteristics

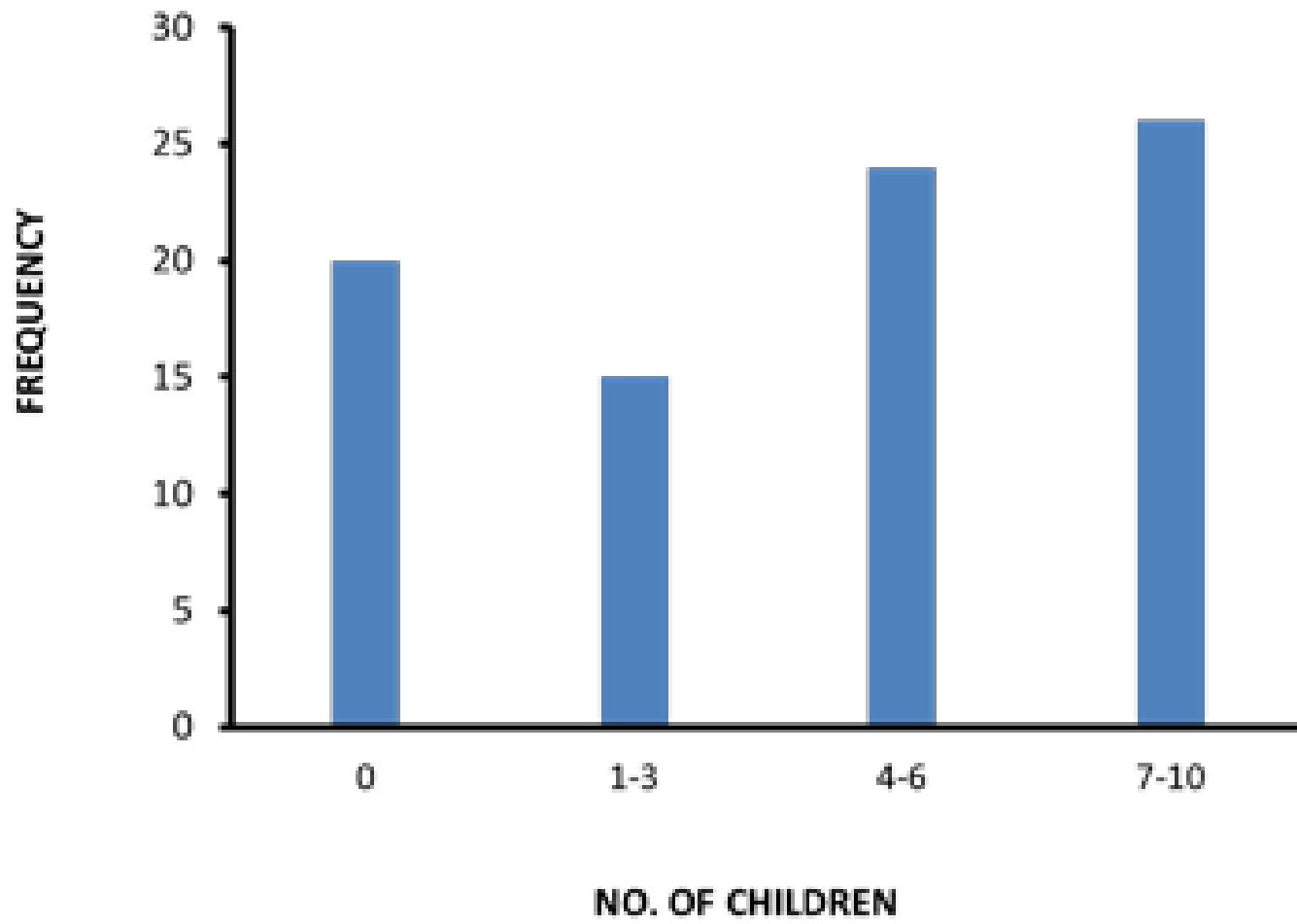


Educational Level

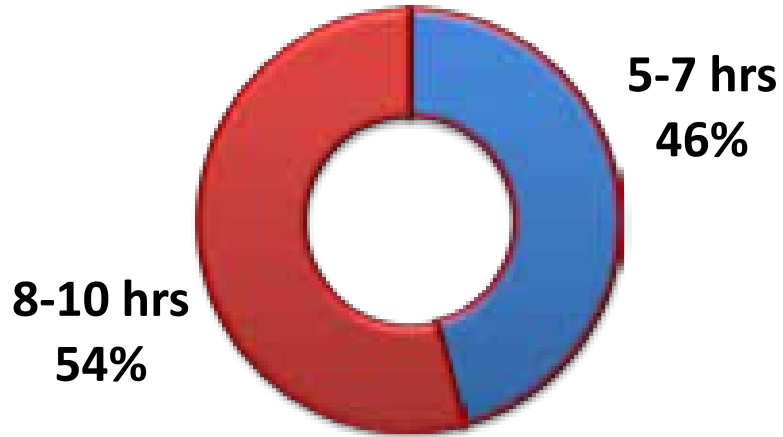


Marital Status

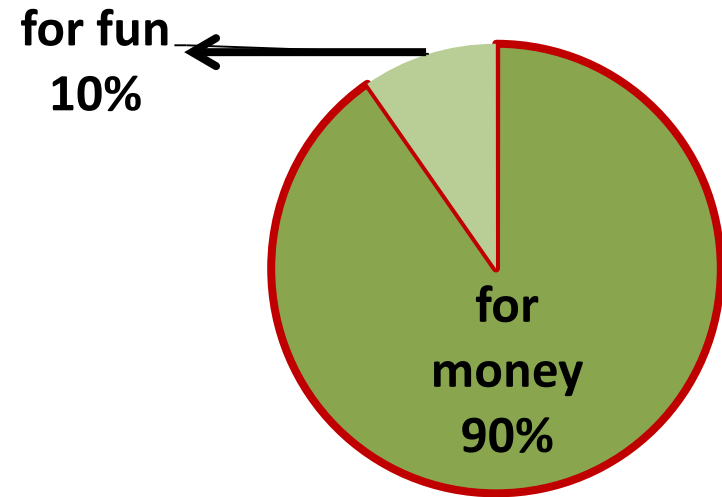




Time spent in fishing

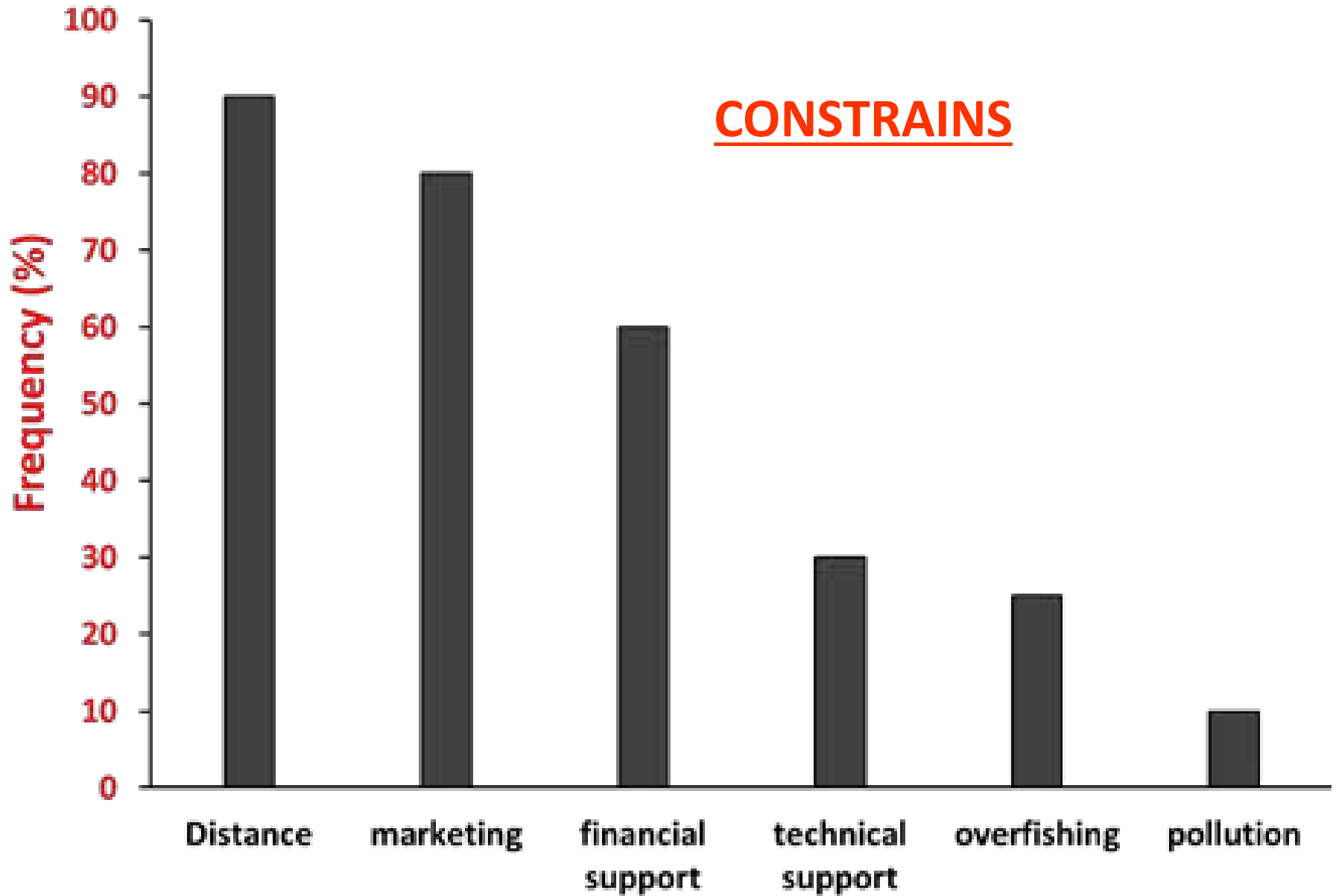


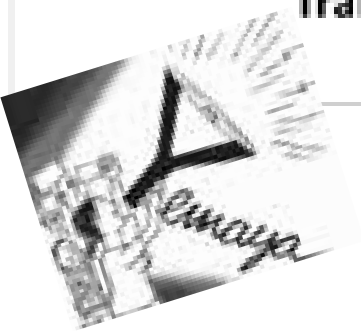
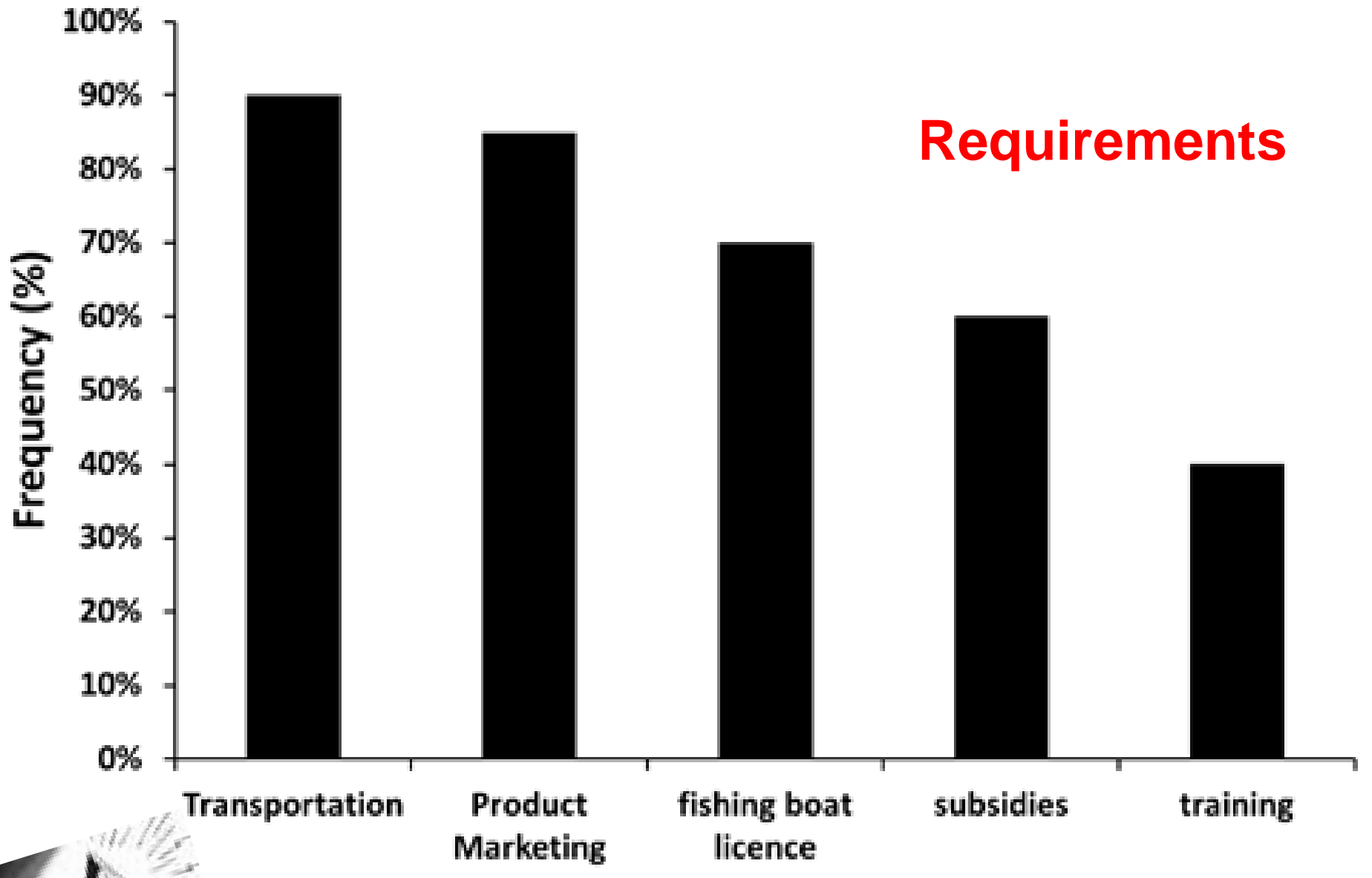
Why do women fish?



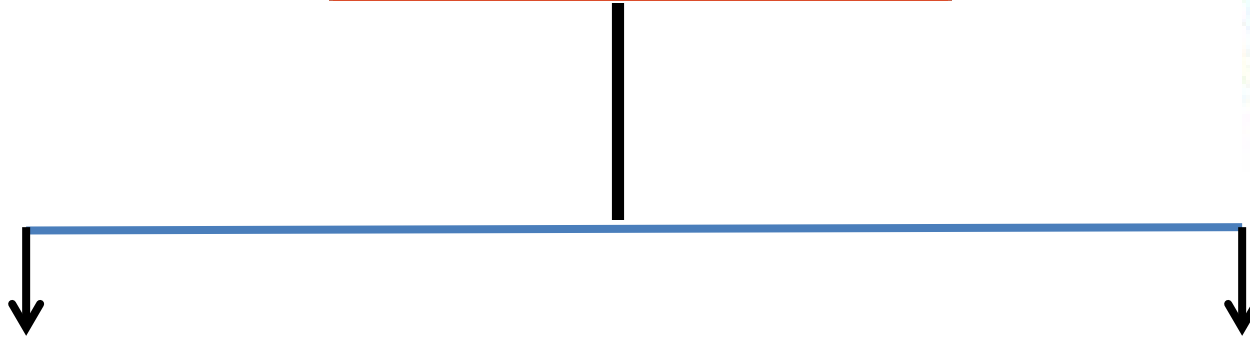
Fishing period: September-May
(Jun-Aug) upwelling







Recommendations



Institutional capacity building

- **Development Programs**
 - Legislation, policy, road map
 - Subsidies, forming co-operative
 - Enhancing the roles of women's agencies in serving fisherwomen
- **Research programs**
 - Taxonomy, reproductive biology, stock enhancement, socio-economics studies

Personnel capacity building

- **Training Programs**
 - Technology transfer, shell processing product improvement, adding value
- **Extension programs**
 - Marketing, seminars. Website, tour visiting

"BEST PRODUCTION PRACTICES"

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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