

formed without improved remuneration, or deprives them of traditional forms of employment and income. If a fisheries activity is enlarged or mechanized, it often becomes the domain of men.

It is necessary to ensure that women are equal partners and productive and self-reliant participants in fisheries activities aimed at improving their own and their family's nutritional and living standards. Women must be given the opportunity to acquire appropriate technologies that enable them to make the greatest possible contribution to sustainable development and growth. As experience has shown, the benefits of programmes and projects aimed at men have rarely benefited women and, at times, have made their situation worse. For these reasons, it is essential to increase women's participation and decision-making in fisheries development interventions.



A New Vision of the Changing Roles of Rural Women

TRADITIONAL VERSION	NEW VERSION
<p>RURAL WOMAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoes and ploughs • Sows • Weeds • Harvests 	<p>AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans and executes vegetable and grain production programmes • Responsible for seed procurement, land preparation, crop multiplication, irrigation, fertilization and pest control • Responsible for breeding, disease control, care of livestock and processing of livestock products
<p>RURAL WOMAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plants trees • Gathers wood • Makes charcoal 	<p>TRANSPORT AND ENERGY MANAGER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitors household energy consumption • Develops strategies for optimizing domestic-use production systems • Designs and implements cost-effective strategies for use and maintenance of energy supply • Tries to avoid environmental destruction
<p>RURAL WOMAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cares for house and yard areas 	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL MANAGER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designs and maintains living and work areas to maximize utilization • Works to preserve the ecology while providing pleasant surroundings for the community
<p>RURAL WOMAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processes food • Cooks food • Maintains cooking and food-processing equipment 	<p>NUTRITION ENGINEER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeper and transmitter of knowledge of preparation techniques • Knows many nutritional values of crop and livestock resources • Conserves nutrients and recycles
<p>RURAL WOMAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finds and brings water home for cooking, cleaning and drinking 	<p>HYDROLOGIC SUPPLY TECHNICIAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locates water resources • Allocates supplies • Transports water

Source: adapted from the **International Women's Tribune Centre**, *Women, Environment & Development*. Newsletter No. 49, 1993.



**"WORKING WITH MEN ON EXTENSION
ACTIVITIES HAS OPENED OUR EYES."**

(words of women)