

Presentation Outline

- 1. Meaning of key terms in the study and my Contribution toward Women's Empowerment (WE) in the Maritime Transport Sector**
- 2. Introduction to the Marine Transport (MT)**
 - ✓ **What and Why the MT (Global Context)**
 - ✓ **What and Why the MT (India's Context)**
- 3. Women Empowerment/Inclusion in MT: Persistent Issues/Gaps/Challenges**
- 4. Research Objectives and Methods Used**
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 - ✓ **Scientific analysis (Emerging opportunities, collaborative trends & themes)**
 - ✓ **Co-designing a sustainable WE pathway in the MT sector**
- 6. Conclusion**
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Key Terms and My Contribution in the Context of Women's Empowerment in Maritime Transport

Working Definition of the BE:

- ❑ Any ocean or coastal-based activities that improve the socioeconomic well-being of coastal women in the short-run to progressively achieve holistic empowerment in the long-run including sustainable management of ocean resources and inclusion in maritime transport.

Working Definition of Women's Empowerment (WE)

- ❑ Any avenue that aids the socioeconomic improvement of coastal women's livelihood in the short-run to increase their human capital (like skills, knowledge, training, household welfare contribution, financial security) and micro-level community recognition/contribution thereby translating into other empowerment domains (psychological and institutional) in the long-run.

My Contribution(s):

- ❑ **Micro-coastal community Women's Empowerment Framework:** This can be used to locate evidence on (dis)empowerment in the maritime transport sector, co-ideation, and refining WE into the 2021 Draft BE Framework for India.
- ❑ **Micro-level SDG Mapping and Prioritization** using narratives from vulnerable women in the marine sector landscape, role models of seafarers in India, and emerging narratives for policy development and research.

What and Why Marine Transport (MT) with the Increased Focus on the BE in the Global Context

- ❑ MT is part of the crucial ocean-based economy and a major service sector of the Blue Economy (BE) (Ocean Panel, 2020).
- ❑ Has the potential to promote WE and equity (Matovu et al., 2024a).
- ❑ Over 80 % of goods and services are seaborne and this provides livelihood to coastal communities (UNCTAD, 2022; 2021)
- ❑ Comparative benefits reaped by developing countries/regions including India (UNCTAD, 2023; 2021) (Figure 1).
- ❑ Sustaining these benefits aids progress towards the 5 Sustainable Ocean Development Pillars (UNCTAD, 2023)

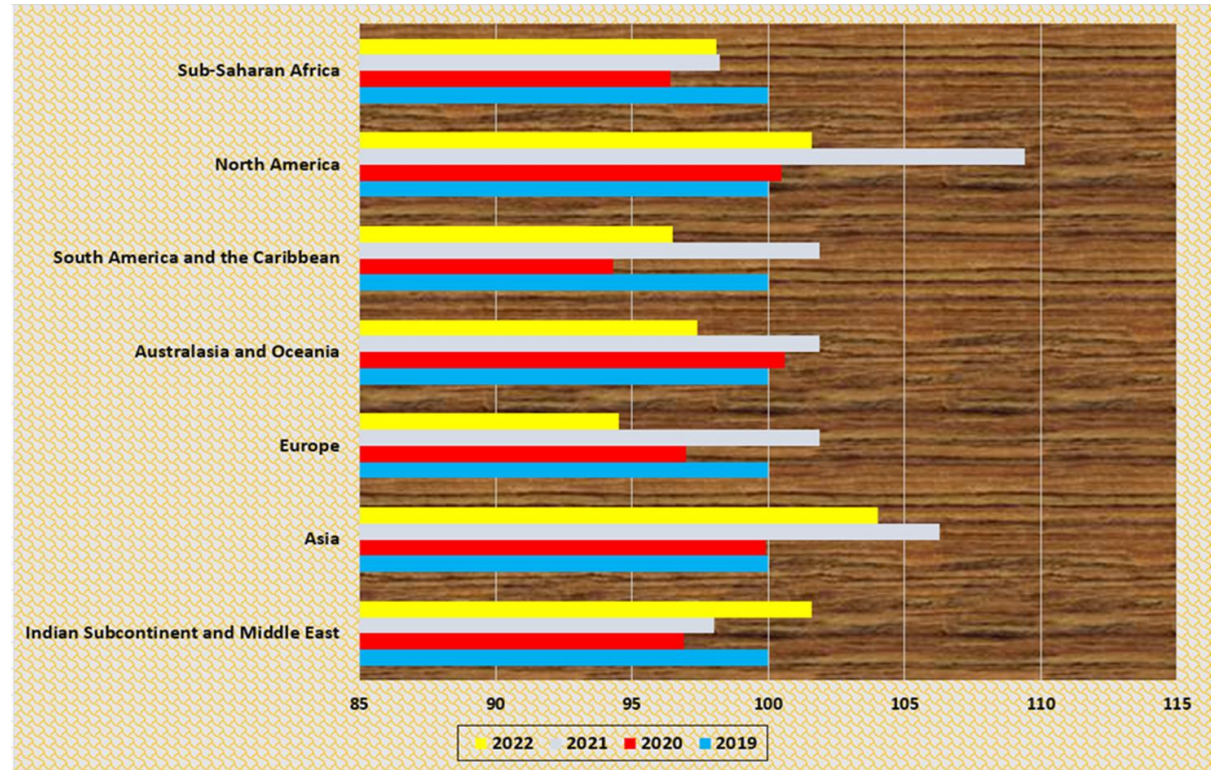


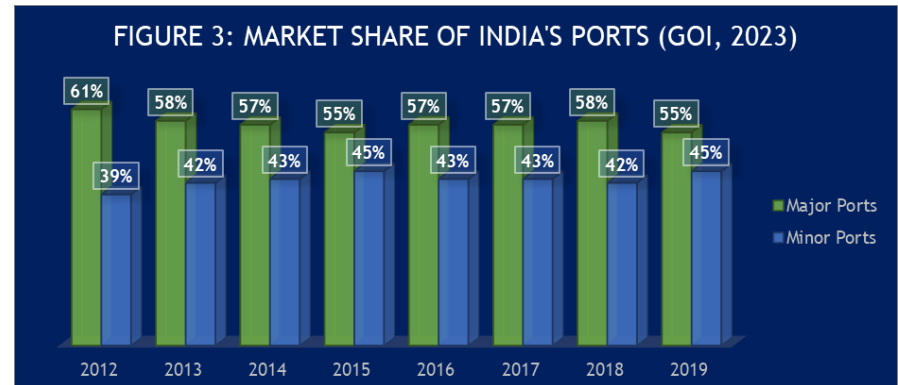
Figure 1: Comparative share of global seaborne container trade (2019-2022)

What and Why MT in India's Context

- ❑ Recognizing the potential of the MT, since 2015 (under the Sagarmala program), India has heavily invested in port/coastal infrastructure along the 12 major and 200 non-major ports (Matovu et al., 2024a)
- ❑ Economic indicators are promising e.g., 95 % of India's trade is seaborne (Gol, 2023; UNCTAD, 2021).
- ❑ MT accounts for 4% of India's GDP (Gol, 2023)
- ❑ India's ports handle over 1400 million tonnes of cargo annually (Matovu et al., 2024a)
- ❑ India currently has the 17th-best merchant fleet globally (UNCTAD, 2022)
- ❑ India's ratings and Indian flagged vessels have increased to approximately 399 (Gol, 2023)
- ❑ Sector targeted to contribute to India's BE Agenda and Maritime Vision (Matovu et al., 2024a; FICCI, 2019)



Figure 2: Major and non-major ports in India (Gol, 2023)



Women's Empowerment/Inclusion in MT: Persistent Issues, Gaps & Challenges

Conceptual/Theoretical Issues

- ❑ India's BE Working definition does not clearly define WE in the MT (FICCI, 2019)
- ❑ MT priority sub-sectors/frameworks emphasize masculine dominance (Matovu et al., 2024a; GoI, 2023; FICCI, 2019).
- ❑ Holistic inclusion of women across MT activities is a relatively new concept (most emphasis after 2015) (Matovu et al., 2024b)

Practical gaps

- ❑ Masculine favoritism in leadership and employment is prevalent (UNCTAD, 2022) (See **Figure 4**).
- ❑ Safety nets for women e.g., seafaring lacking (UNCTAD, 2023)
- ❑ Limited research has been done to understand the nature of barriers, their perpetuation, impacts, and how to break them (Matovu et al., 2024b)
- ❑ If urgent evidence-based research is not undertaken, the future for WE is bleak.

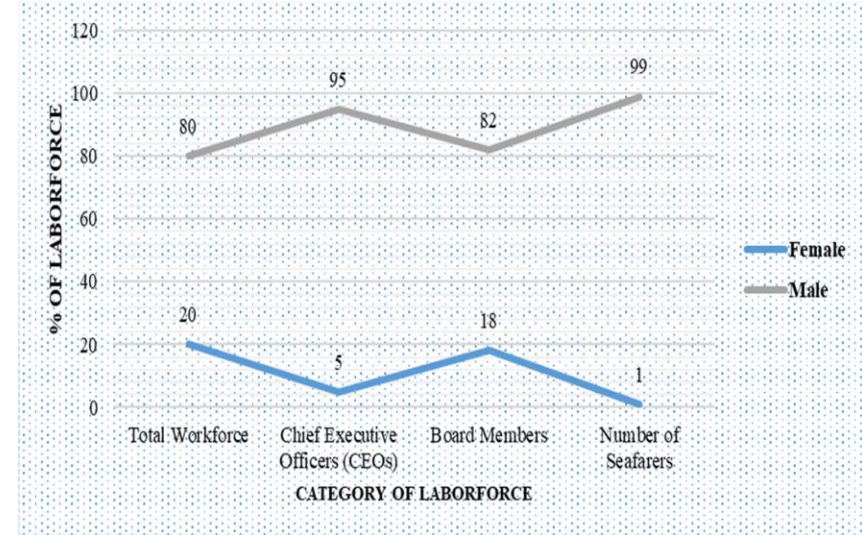


Figure 4: Comparative Laborforce participation indicators in India's MT (Author's creation)

Research Objectives and Methods

Research Objective(s)	Method(s) used
1. In-depth analysis of research trends on women's empowerment in the MT in India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systematic literature review/Performance analysis using bibliometrics
2. Identification/analysis of the persistent challenges to women's empowerment in the MT sector in India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systematic literature review/Performance analysis using word cloud in bibliometrics
3. Exploration of emerging opportunities for women's inclusion in the MT sector in India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific/network mapping using bibliometrics
4. Co-designing/development of a women's empowerment pathway in the MT sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participatory research using narratives from FGDs (n=43) and field interviews (n=16).

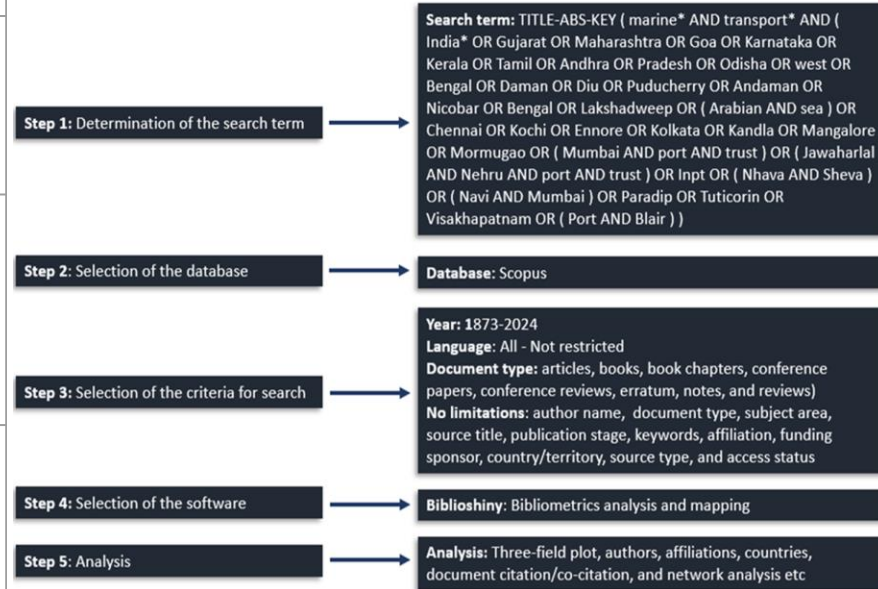


Figure 5: Research flow and method for conducting a Systematic Literature Review & Bibliometrics

Results/Findings

Result 2: Scientific/network analysis (Emerging opportunities that could be tapped for WE in the MT sector)

❑ Collaborations among institutions focusing on addressing WE issues are increasing (Figure. 7)

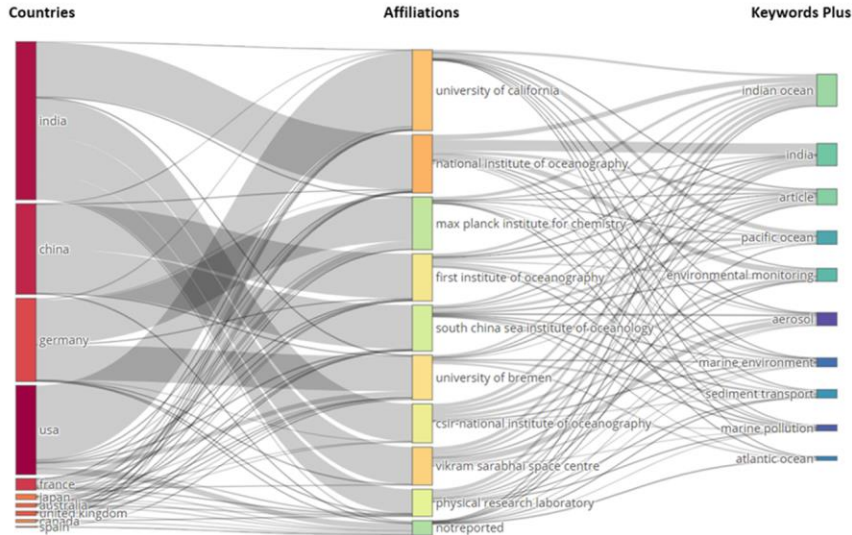


Figure 7: Research collaboration networks (Biblioshiny)

❑ Increased emphasis on addressing main maritime concerns evident (Figure. 8)

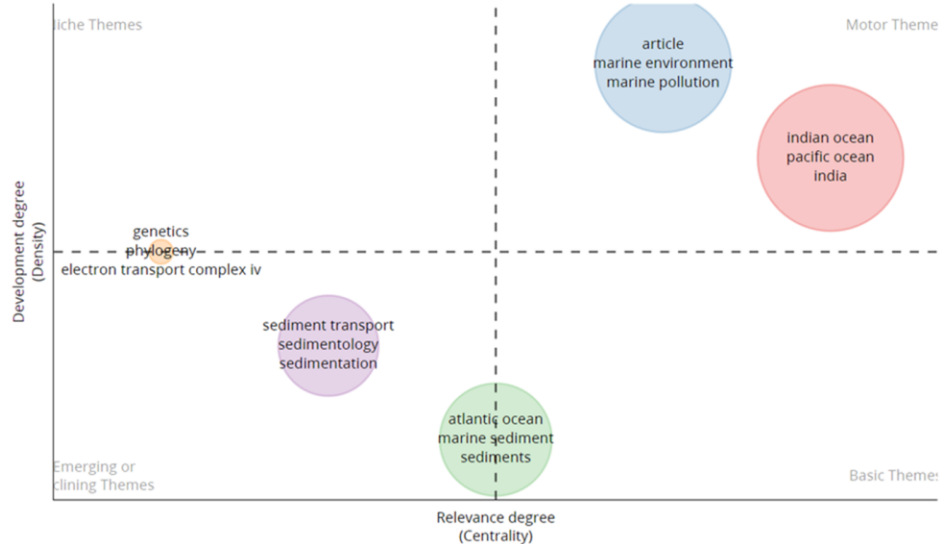
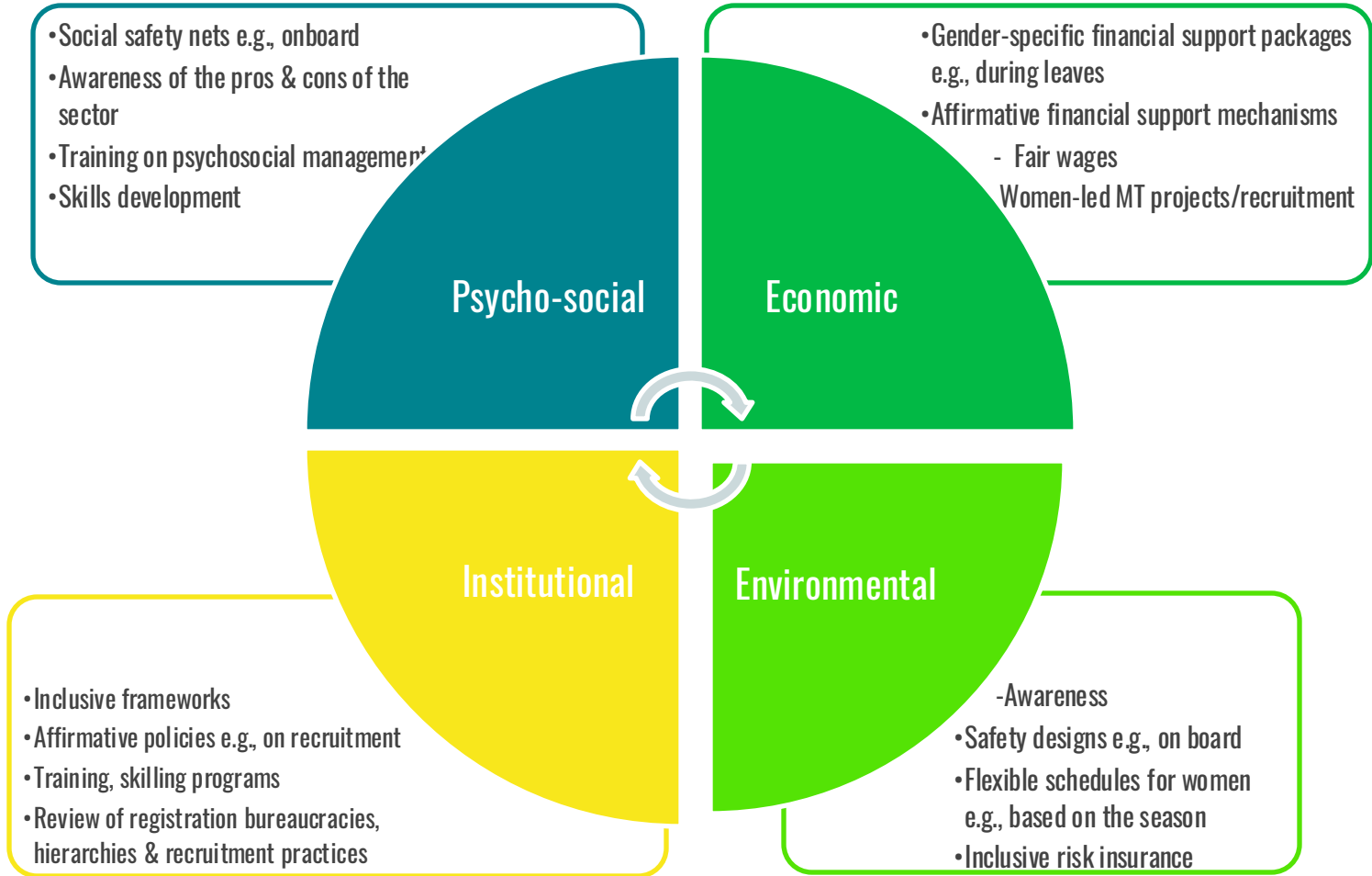


Figure 8: Thematic mapping of main themes


Result 3: Co-designing a WE pathway (links WE domains to ocean sustainability targets incl. in MT)

- ❑ To co-design a WE pathway, we used the narratives of women engaged in MT
- ❑ The qualitative narratives (transformative actions/strategies/sub-outcomes) were categorized/characterized based on the sustainability dimensions.
- ❑ To localize the sub-outcomes, I aligned them to the SDG indicators and targets in India, identified the current baseline data (BLD) indicators, strategy to be used to increase WE and the preferred endline data (ELD) indicators/targets.

Step 1: Characterizing narratives per ocean sustainability domain



Step 2: Strategizing/Prioritizing of narratives based on SDG targets and indicators



SDG	SDG 10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES					
Main Outcome	Women's empowerment through increased opportunities and benefits in MT activities					
Sub Outcomes	Enhanced financial literacy.	Sustainable employment in MT jobs/sectors	Enhanced women's entrepreneurship	Increased engagement in SHGs	Enhanced coastal resilience & environmental awareness.	
SDG 10 Target(s)	10.4.	10.1.	10.2	10.3	10.4	
BLD	15%	60% household income spent	75% earn less than 150 rupees/day	10%	1,054 women are marginal workers	
Strategy/ies	-Training on alternative jobs -Skills development -Stakeholder engagement/resource mapping	-Training of women in financial literacy. -Formation of a Self-Help Group -Job skilling	-Co-ideation on sustainable solution -Training and skills development -Formation of women enterprises	-Development of a women empowerment framework -Development of a training manual on social safeguards -Collaborative engagement with Panchayat on social welfare programs	-Skills development via SHGs -Training on sustainable jobs -Registration into Amritashree	
ELD	30%	40%	1000 rupees/day	5%	10%	

Main Conclusions and Insights obtained in this Study so far

- ❑ Increasing/promoting WE in the MT sector of India is complex
- ❑ The complexity is worsened by masculine dominance in dominant BE activities and MT activities
- ❑ The increase in negative environmental shocks complicates this further.
- ❑ Women engaged in MT e.g., as seafarers have crucial ideas/knowledge on what the shocks/barriers are, how they affect them, and what could be done to promote equity and empowerment transitions.
- ❑ BUT, limitations in existing institutional frameworks and MT community landscapes negatively limit the incorporation of their ideas into transformative narratives.
- ❑ For WE to occur in the MT sector,
 - (i) Evidence-based studies on co-designing how women's inclusion could be done is key.
 - (ii) Understanding gender empowerment spaces, and the creation of safety nets (e.g., institutional empowerment pathways) is needed.
- ❑ Such mechanisms could help break stereotypes, and unlock masculinities, and negative attitudes/perceptions towards WE in the MT sector/activities.

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Thank You

Hope you enjoyed it.