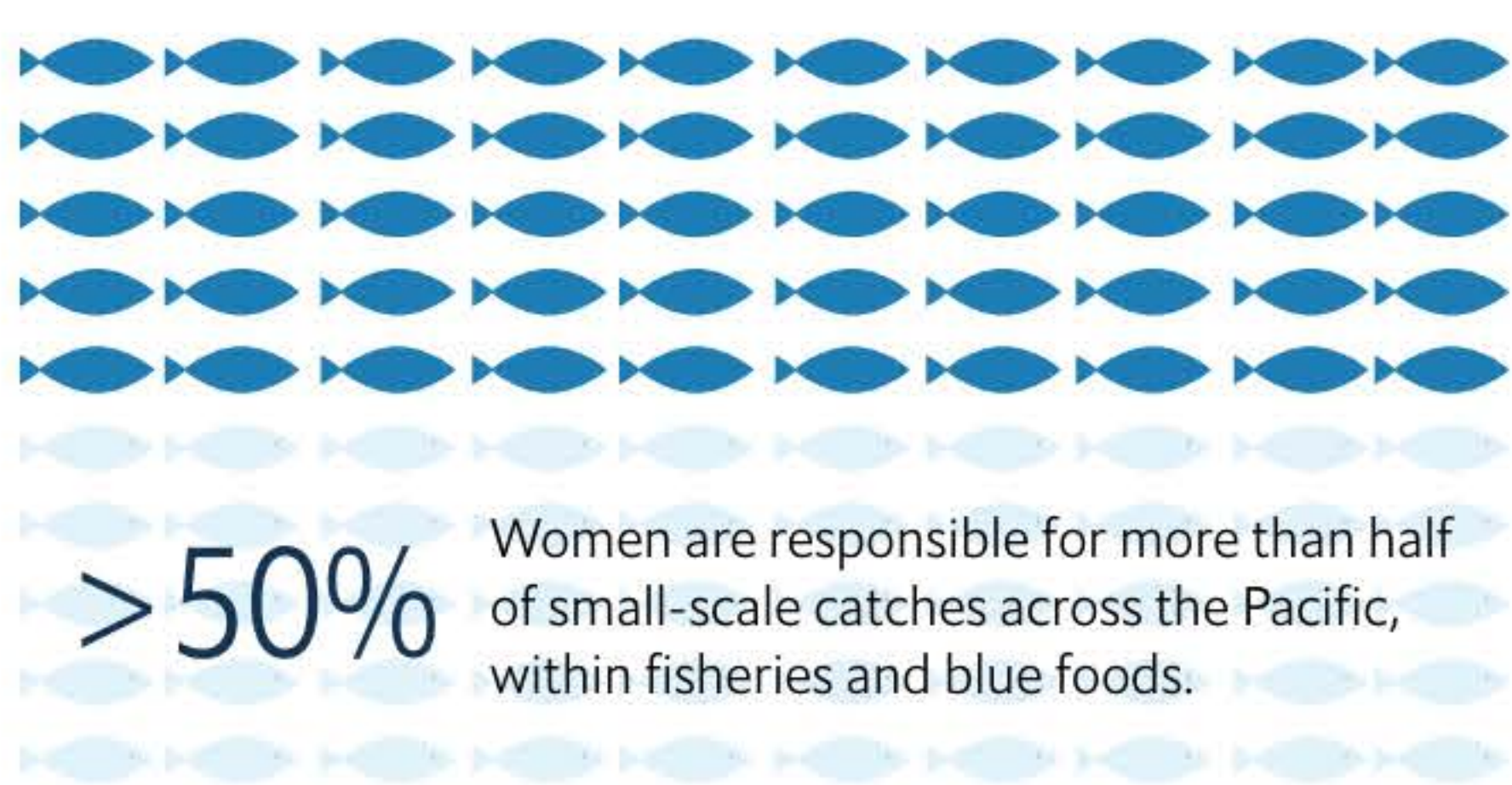


Valuing women in the blue economy

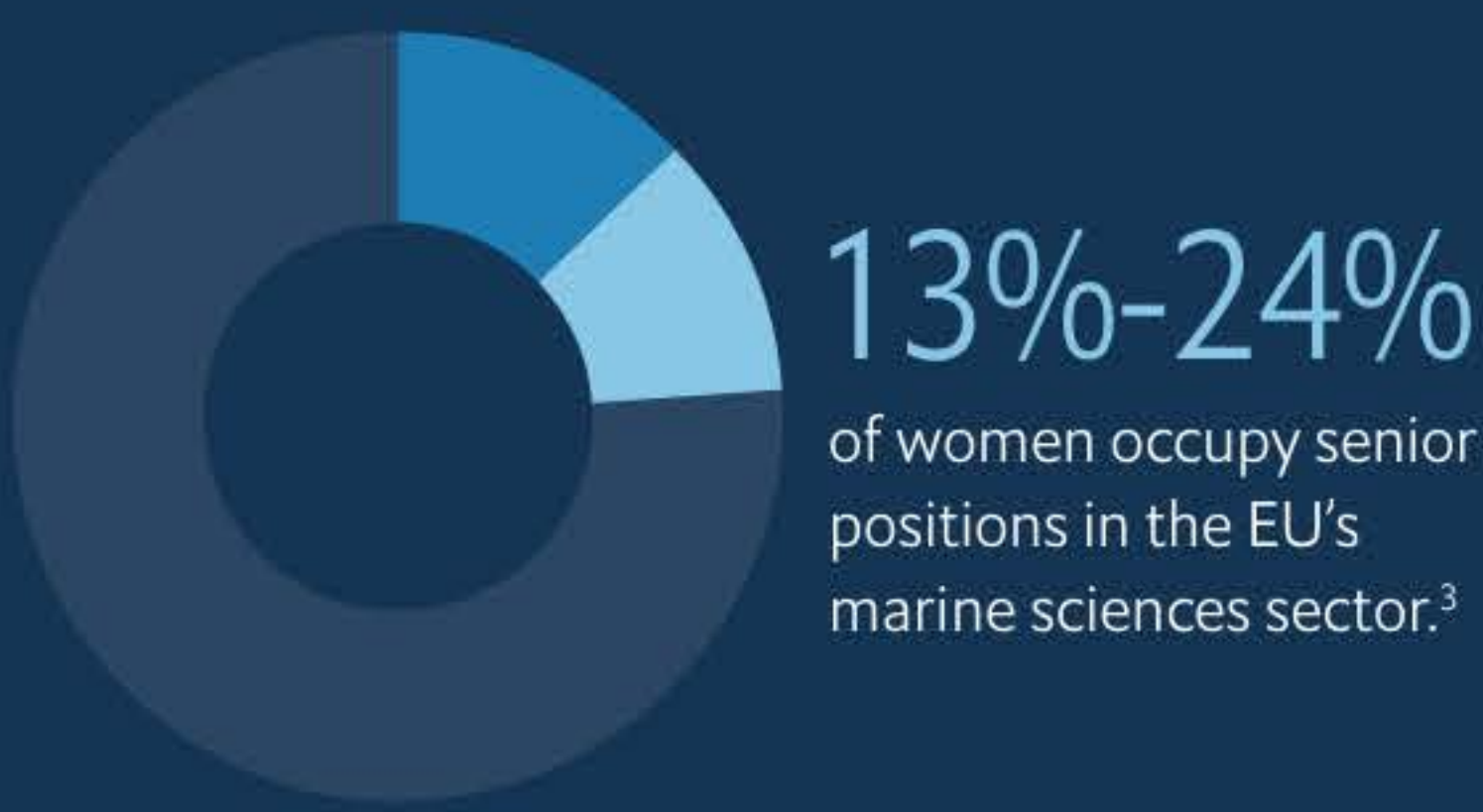
Women play a vital role in the blue economy, making up the majority of the workforce in key blue-economy sectors, such as coastal and maritime tourism and fisheries.¹



Their role in the provision of aquatic food has been found to better serve children and vulnerable communities.²

Despite this, gender equity in ocean-related matters is severely lacking. The importance of women is overlooked, and their contributions remain marginalised and undervalued.

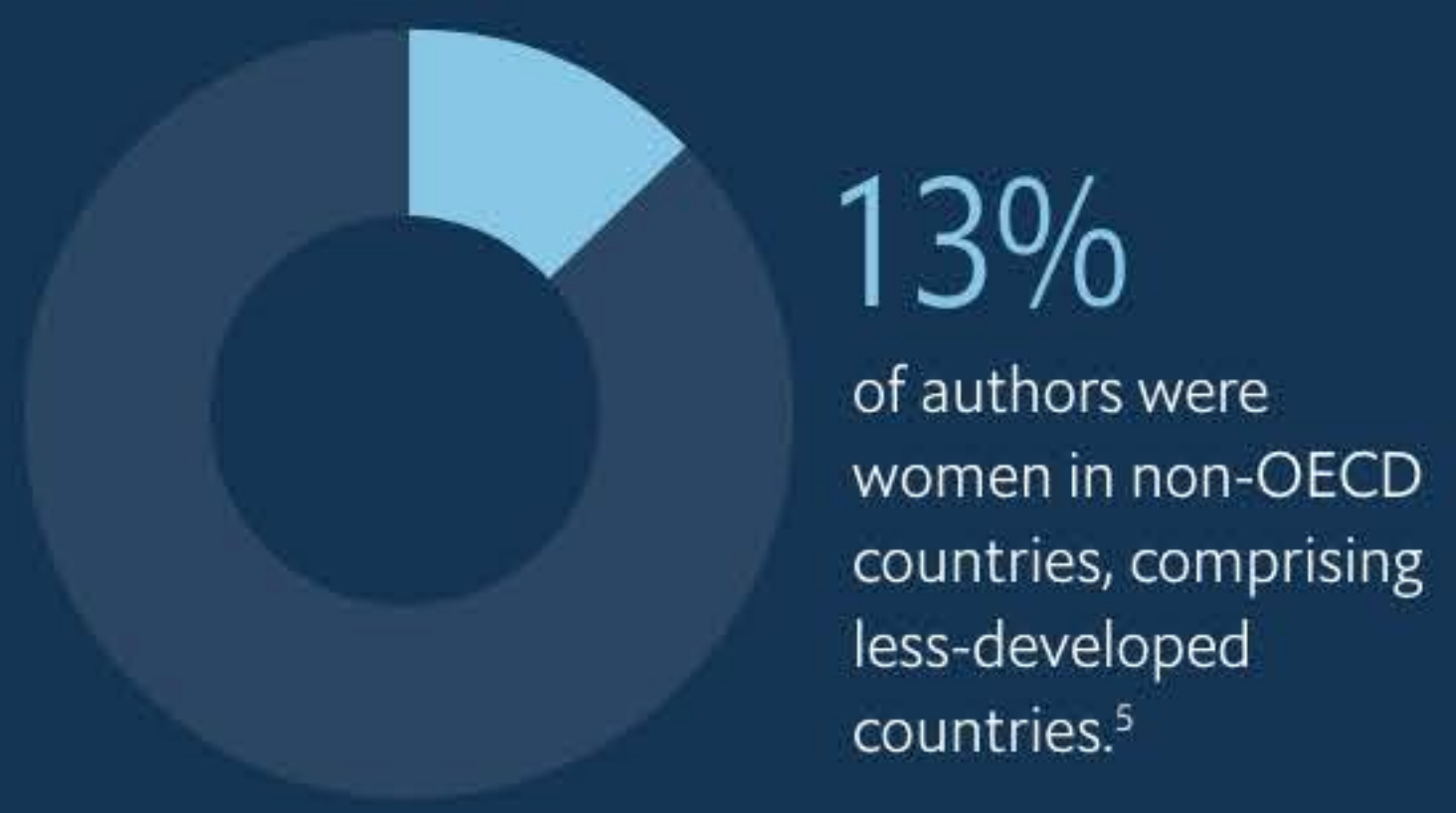
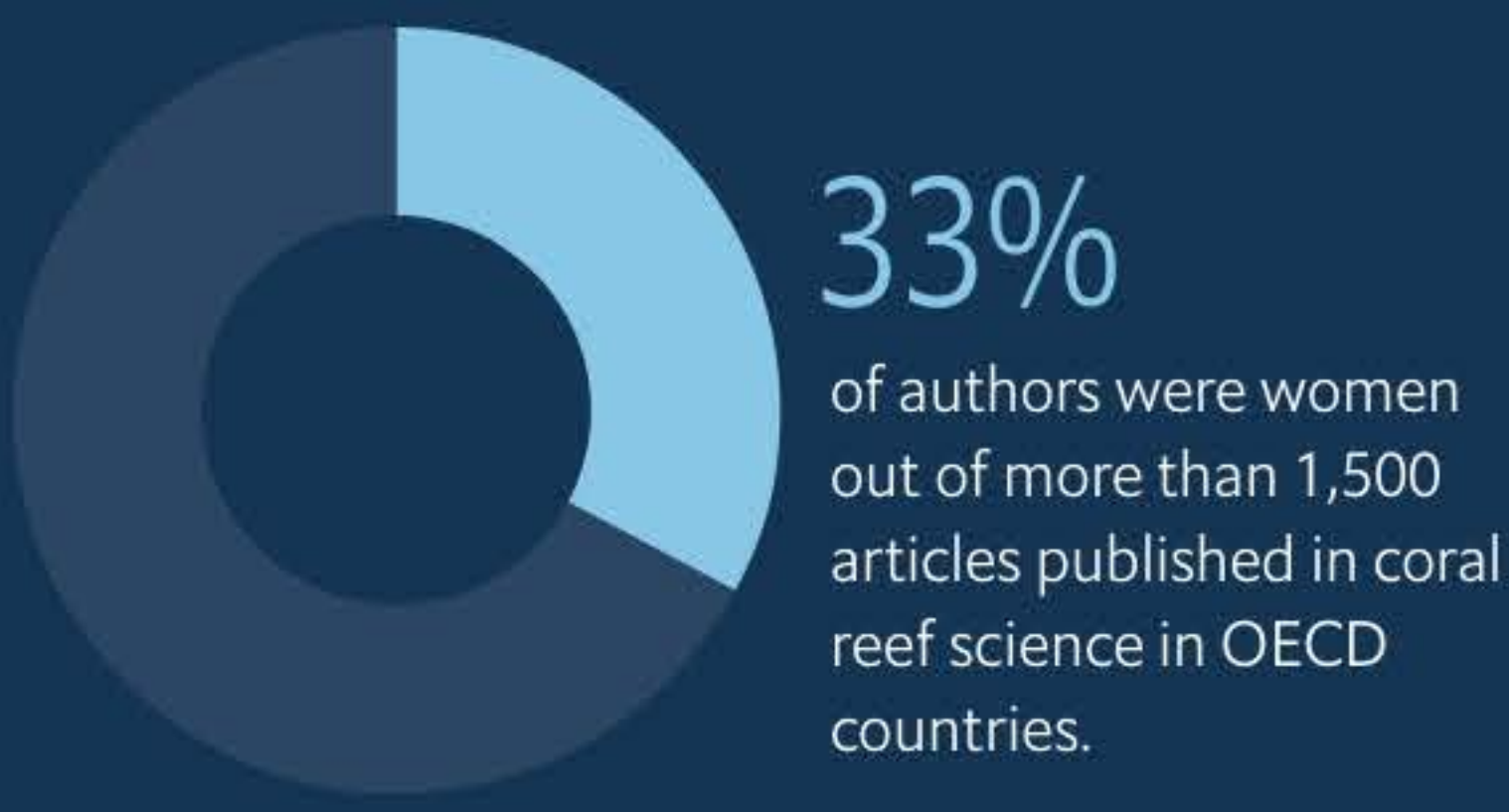
Women are denied a voice in management positions.



In fisheries and aquaculture:



Equal representation in academia is also lacking.



Women are disproportionately affected by the risks presented by working in ocean-related sectors.



Illegal fishing and criminal activity are associated with higher rates of violence against women.



Maritime disasters, such as cyclones and tidal surges, present greater challenges to women regarding survival and recovery.⁶



Women's inclusion benefits all.



US\$13trn
of global GDP to gain from achieving gender equality.⁷



1
Inclusive and transformative policy is crucial, alongside local and decentralised approaches.



2
Investing in women and girls at every level of the blue economy is a vital step in preserving the health of the ocean.

The entrepreneurial potential in ocean-related matters is vast, and women play a crucial part.

The winning contributions to the World Ocean's Initiative's *Women and the ocean: Changemakers challenge*⁸ included:



Innovative methods to restore coral reefs



The creation of cell-based fish for consumption



Cutting-edge methods to verify fish-catch locations

Find out more about the role of women in the blue economy from the World Ocean Initiative at ocean.economist.com



¹ <https://unctad.org/news/blue-economy-ocean-opportunity-advance-gender-equality>
² <https://ocean.economist.com/governance/articles/women-in-blue-foods-overlooked-and-underappreciated>
³ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320721001865>
⁴ <https://www.weforum.org/friends-of-ocean-action/if-you-want-to-save-the-ocean-make-women-part-of-the-solution>
⁵ <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2021.731037/full>
⁶ <https://www.weforum.org/friends-of-ocean-action/if-you-want-to-save-the-ocean-make-women-part-of-the-solution>
⁷ <https://unctad.org/news/blue-economy-ocean-opportunity-advance-gender-equality>
⁸ <https://ocean.economist.com/innovation/articles/winners-announced-for-women-and-the-ocean-changemakers-challenge>