

Participatory monitoring of fisheries and Beach Management training in Kenyan South Coast



Field Work Report
Progress report
2015

Kwale County

A. INTRODUCTION

This project addresses the issue of fisheries resource use by artisanal fishers and their active participation in resource management. Traditionally, the government has been managing fisheries and associated resources, though limited resources have been a challenge. The project aims to empower the local resource users to become active managers of their resources, to improve their quality of life and future sustainability by encouraging them to become a central part of monitoring their resource use and impacts. In this way they will be involved in generating information critically needed for management while at the same time becoming more aware of the need for management.

The government has developed a model for fisheries co-management. This is the Beach Management Units (BMUs). Results and reactions of fishing communities suggest that it has a high potential for application at a larger scale and an important tool of the State Department of Fisheries. By focusing on fishermen's knowledge and the integration of resource and socioeconomic parameters, the model is directly accessible to fishermen and useful to management.

Thus the project objectives can be stated as follows –

1. To build capacity in the local communities and fishermen's associations to undertake co-monitoring and management of artisanal fisheries.
2. To develop a simplified model for sustainable fisheries catch and socio-economic monitoring providing consistent data and mechanisms for co-management.
3. To expand a successful local-level participatory monitoring programme to other fishing communities

For this specific field activity the BMUs were engaged in identifying the following:

- What they do as a BMU
- Distinguishing external and internal inputs, challenges and possible solutions
- Understand the thought process (theory of change)
- Simulate action plan/s for one or more identified challenge (internal and external)
- Adoption of an internal action plan to implement and monitor at a later state time.

These are the basic steps undertaken when developing a BMU Co Management Plan. It set the basis to understand the need to develop and consolidate action plans that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time bound.

B. METHODOLOGY

Three BMUs, all in Msambweni sub-county in Kwale, were selected for this fieldwork. This was based on –

- Maturity
- Issues
- Membership

Table 1 factors considered when selecting the BMUs

Factor	Mwaepe	Chale	Gazi
Maturity	Oldest	Old	Older
Issues	Complex	Moderate	Moderate
Membership	Higher	High	Highest

Communication was sent out through the Kwale County BMU Network (KCBN) regarding the meeting dates, agenda and venue. The tentative agenda was as follows:

- Introduction
- Agenda
- List the current issues facing the BMU
- Identify the if internal or external
- Pick one internal and external challenge and illustrate an action plan to solve/mitigate
- Divide the groups (internal and external challenges) and develop action plans to address the issues
- Prioritize action plans based on financing, time frame, stakeholder willingness/engagement, practicality
- Group presentation and discussions
- Action Plan Adoption
- Closing

During the meeting day after housekeeping and introductions, KCBN took lead in facilitating the sessions. This was to maintain the continuity of the process and feed into other on going and proposed process by other stakeholders.

The BMU participants were asked to:

1. List all activities and role they undertake by the BMU
2. Distinguish activities undertaken by the BMU (Internal) and those that others stakeholders e.g. Government, NGOs, private entities etc. do
3. The team was divided into 2 groups - Internal and External issues
4. Each group to list current activities undertaken by the BMU, current issues, possible solutions, possible actors and a tentative timeframe to work on the solution
5. Each team to present their deliberations
6. The sessions lead to illustrate, using one of the issues, a simple action plan based on the solution suggested
7. Test their understanding of theory of change by mocking different scenarios and evaluating the discussion.

C. RESULTS

I. MWAEPE BMU

BMU Activities

1. Fishing
2. Beach cleaning
3. Data collection
4. Land
5. Rescue (MCS)
6. Levy 'fish' collection and commission
7. Awareness and sensitization
8. Register members
9. Leadership
10. Marketing
11. Fish buying and selling
12. Conservation

Internal BMU Activities/Roles

Table 2 Issues and prescribed solutions by the Mwaepe BMU during the group sessions

BMU Role	Issues	Solution	Actors	Time frame
Fish catch	Limited proper fishing gear Diminishing fish abundance Fluctuating market	Acquire new and proper fishing skills and techniques Access to better fishing gear Access to appropriately regulated market	SDF, County Gov't, NGOs, BMU, Hoteliers	April - December 2015
Beach cleanliness	Undesignated waste disposal area Lack of tools Limited manpower	Awareness Designated waste collection area Access to proper tools and gear (waste collection)	BMU, County Gov't, Hoteliers, Beach operators	Monthly
Data collection	Unwillingness to share /report / participate in data collection Poor data management	Acquire information / knowledge on importance of data collection	BMU, SDF	Daily
Search and rescue	Lack of working gear (S&R) Limited search and rescue skills Limited capacity (manpower and resources)	Access to right working gear Training and retraining Operational and administrative assistance	BMU, SDF, Red Cross, County Gov't, NGOs	Occasional/ Emergency
Catch levy collection	Not readily available Lack of transparency	Better understanding Commitment	BMU, SDF	Daily
Membership registration	Low registration turn out	Awareness on importance of registering with BMU	BMU, SDF, NGOs	April - May 2015

Leadership	Transparency Low participation of assembly Limited leadership skills	Leadership training Awareness and understanding of roles Commitment	BMU, County Gov't, NGOs	June - August 2015
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External Roles

1. Fishing boats and gear
2. Waste disposal site
3. Unable to employ a data collector
4. Lack of legal document to ownership of the landing site
5. Lack of search and rescue equipment and necessary trainings
6. Levy collection leakage (because the traders and BMUs don't have a common understanding)
7. Low membership participation during meeting and BMU activities
8. Membership is on the right track
9. Leadership is on the right track
10. Fish trade is ok

Broad areas of concern

- Fishing
- Land
- Awareness
- Conservation

Table 3 List of external issues listed by Mwaepe BMU during the group sessions

BMU Roles	Issues	Solution	Actors	Time frame
Fishing	Proper/ Modern gear	Access to proper gear	Government (County and National), NGOs, BMU	April 2015 -Mid 2016
Landing site ownership	Lack of a legal ownership documentation	Secure land Title Deed	SDF, County Gov't (Administrators, MCAs), BMU	April 2015 - November 2016
Knowledge and awareness	Knowledge gap and limited awareness on Fisheries and related activities	Access to targeted trainings	BMU, NGOs, SDF	All through
Conservation	Limited conservation initiatives and activities	Conservation specific knowledge transfer (trainings)	SDF, County Gov't (Administrators), BMU	April 2015 - April 2016

II. **GAZI BMU**

BMU Activities

1. Fishing
2. Seaweed Farming
3. Dying of small sized pelagic
4. Fish levy collection
5. Fish & landing site cleanliness
6. Conservation - Turtle, Mangroves
7. Securing fishing areas
8. Conflict resolution
9. Improving access to market
10. BMU membership registration
11. Data collection
12. Sea/Beach patrols
13. Sourcing for funding
14. Documenting fishing vessels
15. Vetting fishers before licensing
16. Vetting migrant fishers before hosting
17. Community development

Internal BMU Activities/Roles

Table 4 Internal issues listed by Gazi BMU during the group sessions

BMU Role	Issue	Solution
Fish catch	Low catch Low grade fishing gear	Access to better fishing gear Proper training
Drying of small sized pelagics	Lack of proper drying equipment Poor market Limited drying area	Access to more area for drying Access to better equipment
Collection of BMU levy	Transparency issues Defaulting Limited understanding Poor leadership	More transparency Information regarding the BMU payments Commitment
Cleanliness	Lack of water Market/landing area is small Poor working gear	Access to better working gear Access to clean water
Fish quality assurance	Limited fish storage equipment	Access to fish storage facility (freezers, cold store, ice maker etc.)
Securing fishing grounds	Lack of patrol Lack of proper patrol tools/equipment	Conduct patrols
Conflict resolutions	Limited understanding of BMU rules and regulations Low compliance Corruption Lack of commitment	Better understanding of BMU operations Commitment
BMU Membership	Low understanding/awareness Laxity Weak commitment/push from BMU leadership	Better understanding of BMU Regulations and By Laws
Data collection	Low commitment Fish catch leakages Laxity	Better understanding of BMU Regulations and By Laws Better strategy/ies for data capture

External BMU Roles

Table 5 List of external issues listed by Gazi BMU

BMU Roles	Issue	Solution	Current interventions
Fish Market Improvement	Poor market (gate prices) Limited storage options Zero value addition	Sourcing for better market More information on fish quality assurance Better fish storage facilities	Contributing income towards fish transport and storage
Patrol	Limited understanding Non-committal Poor working tools	Access to technical knowledge on patrols Access to proper working tools	Hiring working tools
Conservation of turtles and mangrove forest	Limited understanding of importance of conservation Lack of MPA	Access to conservation (turtles and mangrove forest) knowledge Access to proper and better working tools	Mangrove replanting despite limited rehabilitation knowledge Community awareness drives
Linking donors/NGOs with BMU	Limited knowledge on donors/NGOs engagement	Access to proposal drafting trainings, Donor/NGO engagement	Wait and see approach
Fish catch	Poor fishing gear General lack of information on current fishing methods and gear Fewer fishing grounds	Access to new and better fishing methods and gear Venture into new fishing territories	Integrating traditional ways with some current aspects

Action Plan Illustration

Internal issues/Challenge - BMU Membership Registration

1. Identifying and adopting (Incorporating) respective items in the BMU By Law
2. Create awareness in the membership/community
3. Procure stationery ready to document registration
4. Declaration on registration details (date, amount venue etc.)
5. Actual registration
6. Commitment

7. Monitoring and evaluation

External issue/Challenge - Improving fish market

1. Acquire legal documentation (e.g. Demarcated landing site)
2. Get necessary knowhow
3. Draft and submit a proposal
4. If accepted, secure funding

III. CHALE BMU

BMU Activities

1. Data collection
2. Beach cleaning
3. Mangrove rehabilitation
4. Fishing
5. Awareness drives
6. Rent collection
7. Fish catch levy collection
8. Tourism activities
9. BMU membership registration

Internal activities/Roles

Table 6 List of challenges and solutions listed by Chale BMU

Activities	Challenge	Solution
Data collection	Fish landing leakages Ability to support the data collector	Improved awareness
Beach cleaning	Lack of designated collection point Low participation	Improved awareness Properly designated location Access to proper working tools
BMU Membership	Low registration	Improved awareness
Fish landing site 'Banda'	Lack of funds for construction	Ask for donations Improve BMU collections
Rent collection	Laxity	Commitment Improved awareness
Fish farming	Lack of funds	Ask for donations/grants
Fishing	Poor catch Poor gear IUU	Access to proper fishing gear
BMU levy collection	Payment difficulties	Improved awareness on BMU Commitment

Tourism activities	Lack of proper seaworthy vessels Lack of a proper tourism levy by the BMU	Get seaworthy vessels Amend BMU By law to incorporate tourism levy
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External BMU Roles

Table 7 List of external issues that affect Chale BMU

Activities	Challenge	Solution
Afforestation (Mangrove rehabilitation)	Land tenure (title deed) Lack of funds	Acquire a title deed for the landing site Secure funds
Exchange visit	Lack of funds Lack of proper persons documentation	Secure proper person documentation Secure funds
Fishing	Poor fishing gear Limited knowledge on current fishing techniques	Access to proper fishing gear Improved awareness/knowledge

Action Plan Illustration

Internal issue/challenges - BMU registration

1. Amend BMU By Laws with the help of SDF
2. Create awareness within the community /members
3. Buy stationery
4. Undertake the actual registration
5. Implement the BMU My Law to the latter
6. Monitoring and evaluation

External issue - Land demarcation

1. BMU registration
2. Know the area
3. Awareness (members and stakeholders)
4. Contact County Government
5. Contact the Land Office
6. Collect the Title Deed

CONCLUSION

Most BMUs in Kwale County, including the three, are over 10 years old. Most have been in existence as resource user groups even before the establishment of the new outfit, the BMU, under the Kenya Fisheries (Beach Management Units) Regulations, 2007 in the Fisheries Act, 1989. Much has been done and more is being implemented to improve the capacity of these units to better manage their resources.

Different approaches have also been used from both ends of the spectrum, pure conservation goals to opposite extreme that strongly targets the socioeconomic wellbeing of the end user. This has also brought in many stakeholders with different objectives, working time frames, budgets and orientation. While all these are for the betterment of the BMU's overarching goal of safeguarding natural resources while improving social wellbeing, if the communities are not involved in defining, designing, implementing and evaluating the purpose can be easily missed.

During the exercise the BMU members were alive to what their roles were and what everyone else was doing. Real and perceived challenges were also easily teased out. And the most important possible solutions to those challenges were easily identified. What comes out clearly is the good understanding of the broad objectives of the BMU outfit but somewhat there is still a low appreciation of segregation of responsibilities.

The theory of change based on what stakeholders undertake is also not shared/understood well. Since the broad objectives are results at an impact level, they tend to take a longer timeframe. The danger of not sharing these anticipated milestones and/or objectives evaluation of progress will be challenging.

There is a general appreciation of co management values. This was evident when participants listed key BMU activities and linked them to key actors, thus showing the appreciation from other players in achieving local goals/needs. This is a good indicator where the BMU can be strengthened to monitor what others do and this can be fed into a monitoring and evaluation framework.

The session on identifying possible solution to internal and external challenges also shows that local process to identify challenges and possible solutions can be tapped, improved and used. There is value in adopting, integrating and improving this component to ensure ownership by the community/ BMU.

The part on development of simple action plans demonstrates that the BMU can work out the steps to address the issues concerning them. More often than not external actors tend to develop the actions and prescribe solutions to the BMUs with little involvement of the target group effectively limiting the opportunities illustrated.

Most if not all inputs are collective than individual stakeholder input. Different stakeholders often undertake to implement a component but working with the same group of people/BMU. The BMU often have a hard time connecting the dots and distinguishing contributions from each stakeholder towards the overall picture if their approach is not shared. Since the BMU can articulate their issues well while proposing possible solutions and develop simple action plans, their contribution in developing solution to their challenges is vital.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The three BMUs have been operating with some success without a management plan. The fact that most fisher folks are members and there is a significant engagement with other stakeholders, this indicates that there is somewhat a good progress. It also shows some degree of acceptance of the outfit by the community.

To leverage input from all quarters, a well-structured management plan needs to be in place to guide all stakeholders; their roles, responsibilities and expected output. This will also make monitoring and evaluation easier and lesson learnt to adjust or replicate the approach. This will also help in synergizing and getting common points of convergence.

All groups mentioned of data collection especially fish catch data. This is one of the roles transferred to the BMU from the State Department of Fisheries. The BMU have adopted it well and are thinking of ways to fund the activity. This is a good indication. With structured support and a better understanding of the user need, it can be harnessed to improve fisheries management.

The following would be the logical steps moving forward –

1. Amend the BMU By Laws to reflect the aspiration of the members especially with the new developments. *(BMU, SDF, NGOs, KCBN)*
2. Undertake a situation analysis and short-term action plans for the BMUs in conjunction with the Kwale County BMU Network. This will assist to better engage with stakeholders (esp. government and NGOs) in articulating their needs. *(BMU, KCBN)*
3. Each BMU to take up simple measure to mitigate some internal challenges. These should be actions that need minimal financing. The KCBN should provide a supervisory role and assist in monitoring success. *(BMU, KCBN)*
4. Follow up on development of Co Management Plans for the BMUs. *(BMU, SDF, NGOs, KCBN)*

BMU Orientation:
RUFFORD FOUNDATION PROJECT

Date: 6th 04, 2015

LANDING SITE: Chale Jaza BMU

Registration Sheet:

Name	Telephone /ID No	Position	Institution
Hassani Kimete	4619440	Fisheries officer	Fisheries
MTEGA Charles MARIAM	11139713	ECBQ Chairman	ECR NETWORK
Benjamin H. Tunga	2175275	ECBQ Chairman	ECR NETWORK
Suleiman Rensa	21576080	Secretary	Chale Jaza BMU
ZAKERI S. MUMBARUMBI	8435763	member	Chale Jaza BMU
HANIS S. MUHAMMADI	6730151	Chairman	Chale Jaza BMU
OMD ALI KUDHWA	3620572	Member	Chale Jaza BMU
Mohamed S. KAROYA	24915237	member	Chale Jaza BMU
Rana Z. MUMBARUMBI	20419256	Committee	Chale Jaza BMU
HANIS B. KAROYA	20410055	Committee	Chale Jaza BMU
AHMAD H. MUMBARUMBI	3620574	Member	Chale Jaza BMU
MUMBARUMBI M. MUMBARUMBI	2209077	member	Chale Jaza BMU
MAKU BEMBA	20898119	Member	Chale Jaza BMU
MUMBARUMBI J. MUMBARUMBI	32065990	Member	Chale Jaza BMU

BMU Orientation:
RUFFORD FOUNDATION PROJECT

Date: 6th 04, 2015

LANDING SITE: Chale Jaza

Registration Sheet:

Name	Telephone /ID No	Position	Institution
SALIM NABORO KURZA	5420849	member	Chale Jaza
OMAR SOFI KUDHWA	1369888	member	Chale Jaza
Juma M. GUALAN	20915232	Committee	Chale Jaza
SALIM Juma KUDHWA	20964179	Member	Chale Jaza
MUMBARUMBI MUMBARUMBI	29964288	Member	Chale Jaza
BARAK M. MUMBARUMBI	20909959	Member	Chale Jaza
MUMBARUMBI MUMBARUMBI + SHARIF	23988766	Spouse, Member	Chale Jaza
SULI M. MAJEUO	9471970	Member	Chale Jaza
MUMBARUMBI M. MUMBARUMBI	27360097	Member	Chale Jaza
Juma Hassan	5418521	Member	Chale Jaza
JUMBA B. SUMBA	25102698	Member	Chale Jaza
MUMBARUMBI M. MUMBARUMBI	8421325	Member	Chale Jaza
SULEIMAN M. MUMBARUMBI	5420194	Member	Chale Jaza
KARIM Z. MUMBARUMBI	20905734	member	Chale Jaza

BMU Orientation:
RUFFORD FOUNDATION PROJECT

Date: 6th 04, 2015

LANDING SITE: Chale Jaza

Registration Sheet:

Name	Telephone /ID No	Position	Institution
HASSAN M. MUMBARUMBI	13419205	Member	Chale Jaza 1
MUMBARUMBI J. KUDHWA	32129332	member	Chale Jaza
MUMBARUMBI H. KUDHWA	23611906	Member	Chale Jaza

BMU Orientation:
RUFFORD FOUNDATION PROJECT

Date: 4th 04/2015

LANDING SITE: MWAPE

Registration Sheet:

Name	Telephone /ID No	Position	Institution
1. RAHMAN TUNGU	2195275	CHAIRMAN	MWAPE BMU
2. MOHAMMED SAID	1129437	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
3. OMARI JUMA	2198713	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
4. HARISSI TENGGA	4615910	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
5. SALIMU NIASUDI	2189059	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
6. KASSIM SULEIMAN	3167652	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
7. AHMAD KHALID	12896495	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
8. HEMED NIWAFU	2202170	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
9. BETY HANI GANJANA	16099548	TREASURER	MWAPE BMU
10. MOHAMMED NIWASHIMBA	12896322	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
11. ARI KASSIM ARI	3120668	Asst. Gen	MWAPE BMU
12. ADANI O. NIWASHIMBA	30254253	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
13. AHMADU - NIWASHIMBA	2104989	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
14. SULEIMAN H. KUNYASUA	2204972	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU

BMU Orientation:
RUFFORD FOUNDATION PROJECT

Date: 4th 04/2015

LANDING SITE: MWAPE

Registration Sheet:

Name	Telephone /ID No	Position	Institution
KASSIM A. NIWASHIMBA	9221006	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
JUMA MOHAMMED	4617675	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
JUMA BORI	3306390 1362546	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
MUHAMMADU BAKI	2390386	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
SULEIMAN KASSIM NIWASHIMBA	1368465	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
RAHMAN YUSUFU	5415046	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
SALIMU B. TUNGU	9894104	MEMBER	MWAPE BMU
MR. SALIM KITEMA	1368367	FISHERIES OFFICER	FISHERIES OFFICE
MR. MWASHIMBA BAKI	13628114	BOB. NIPRO. ORIC	KLAMM
MR. MWAPE OMBI	11139713	CHAIRMAN	KESMUN

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Dikau
MWAPE