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Co-management of reef fisheries: general features

Samoa

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WHERE, WHO? / OU, QUI?



1. Map of the country and fisheries co-management sites

Will provide map on the presentation day

2. List who is the lead partner and collaborators for the co-management of coastal fisheries

• *Fisheries Division – facilitation process to collect village information for the development of the village fisheries management program*

• *Village – leading in management and support their fisheries resources, enforcement of their village bylaws*





ISSUES AND THREATS / *ENJEUX ET MENACES*



List the issues and threats addressed by your co-management of coastal fisheries;

- *Decreased in numbers of fish and invertebrates,*
- *Damaged to the fisheries habitats; (coral reefs)*
- *Outbreak of crown-of-thorns,*
- *Sand-mining,*
- *Soil erosion,*
- *Fishing activities from nearby villages,*





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TIMELINE / HISTORIQUE

Timeline and milestones of co-management of reef fisheries in your country

- *27 years since the inception of the Community-based fisheries management program in Samoa;*
- *More than 100 coastal villages with Village Fisheries Management Plans,*
- *More than 80 villages/churches with Fish Reserves (No-take-zones),*
- *More than 70 villages with approved/gazetted village bylaws,*
- *More than 50 villages/churches with giant clams nurseries,*
- *More than 60 tilapia farms (communities, churches, individuals),*
- *3 mud-crab farms,*
- *8 sites for seagrape farming trials,*
- *2 prawn farms,*

- *Fisheries Development: New Marine Multispecies Hatchery (Giant clams, seagrape, mullet)*





OUTCOMES AND RESULTS



- *More village communities interested to join the CBFMP as the awareness is increased;*
- *The CBFMP is more effective in managing fisheries resources as a results from;*
 - *Sixth monthly review of the village fisheries management plans;*
 - *Periodic fish reserves monitoring of habitats, fish and invertebrate counts/biomass and substrate coverage,*
 - *Enforcement and surveillance of catch landings at the market outlets,*
 - *New developments of alternative fishing methods (FADs, cage culturing for tilapia, seagrape new methods, etc);*
 - *Restocking of commodities for reef enhancements, coral replanting for reef rehabilitations*
 - *Integration of climate change and disaster risk management concepts into village fisheries management plans;*
 - *Training and awareness programs on fisheries topics (media – television, radio programs; information sheets, brochures, on-site trainings on specific topics)*

Data and pictures will be shown on the final presentations





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HOW IT COULD BE DONE BETTER?

- *Two years review of the CBFMP not after 10years;*
 - *thus review will assist the Fisheries Division in service delivery;*
 - *Also raise awareness of the communities to some extent that are not cover during the workshops;*
 - *Modify the facilitation process to suit communities;*
 - *Review data collection methods in place;*
 - *Review structure to suit roles and responsibilities;*



Roles of the management committee

- *This committee is known as the Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (FMAC); most villages are led by the Village Mayor (PULENUU) as a President;*
- *The FMAC is consisting of about 10+ village chiefs (however, FD encourages the involvement of women; therefore women are included when discussions on management plan and other training workshops are holding within the communities)*
- *Their roles includes;*
 - *Carrying out undertaking listed in the village fisheries management plan such as;*
 - *Enforcing village bylaws/rules including the fish reserve*
 - *no rubbish dumping on the shore,*
 - *no crossing/swimming/fishing activities within the fish reserve area,*
 - *cleaning of giant clams, (if they have clams grow-outs)*
 - *carry out monthly activities to clearly demarcate the fish reserve area;*
 - *Make sure the village has signboards/billboards,*
 - *Lead the clean up campaign for the COTs outbreak,*
 - *Responsible for the village-funds of fines collects from anyone who convicted guilty of breaking any rules;*
 - *Represents the village to workshops/trainings; and later presented to the village council meetings;*
 - *Report monitoring (giant clams/fish reserves monitoring results) to the village council monthly meetings;*
 - *Liaise with Fisheries Division on matters related to the CBFMP and developments in their fish reserve area;*

Lessons learnt on what is working and not

- *Communities/resource users have more knowledge than us; collect as much as we can from these traditional knowledge and just add science there so that people understands why we are doing this and that;*
 - *Through the problem-solution tree;*
- *Separate groups (chiefs, untitled men, youth, women) during facilitation process to collect as much information as possible;*
 - *These groups tends to open up during discussions when they are separated from chiefs;*
 - *Each group have their own fishing methods, ways of thinking for possible solutions;*
- *Setting criterias on commodities distributions to avoid communities requests on all commodities although the habitats are not suitable;*
 - *Provision of site assessment reports to determine the feasibility of the habitats;*
- *Some of the communities have political issues or affairs within the communities that affect the implementation of activities related to the program;*
 - *Fisheries will not interfere, but leave it to the community/village council to deal with their internal problems and later contact Fisheries for continuation of the program;*

Surveillance and enforces of management regulations

- ***Village communities under the CBFMP;***
 - *Enforce their village bylaws and rules related to the fish reserve area;*
 - *Report to Fisheries Division any issues related to breaking of these rules;*
- ***Fisheries Division;***
 - *Assist the village in carrying out investigation relating to the reported case;*
 - *Report to the MAF-legal advisor of the case and file all relevant information;*
 - *Stand before court for prosecution process;*
- ***Other duties;***
- ***Fisheries – Compliance and Enforcement Unit***
 - *Enforce “Local Fisheries Regulation 1996” (size limits)*
 - *Enforce other Fisheries regulations (coastal, offshore fisheries)*
 - *Enforce the Fisheries Management Act 2016*