



Sustainable Fisheries Management Practices and Policies in Tanzania: An Exploration of Community-Inclusive Approaches

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Abstract

Tanzania's coastal waters support diverse fish species vital for local livelihoods and food security, but unsustainable fishing threatens these resources. This study aimed to explore community-inclusive approaches to sustainable fisheries management in Tanzania by assessing the current state of involvement and integration with existing policies. A mixed-methods approach was used, including quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews with coastal communities, fishers, and policymakers. Data were collected from five major fishing regions over six months. While 60% of respondents acknowledged community involvement in fisheries management, only 35% reported active participation in decision-making processes. Community-led initiatives are essential but need better integration with policies for greater effectiveness. Enhanced collaboration between communities and policymakers is necessary to improve sustainable fisheries management practices. Training programmes should be prioritised for community leaders to enhance their capacity in sustainable fisheries management. Sustainable fisheries, community involvement, Tanzania This study highlights the importance of community participation in fisheries management and underscores the need for better integration with existing policies.

Keywords: *Tanzania, fisheries management, community engagement, sustainable practices, coastal zone management*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

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