



No. 10, May 2002

Communities and Institutions for Common Property

by K.Kuperan Viswanathan and Mahfuzuddin Ahmed

The challenge of managing resources held in common or by the government for the benefit of poor communities is a complex one. One emerging characteristic is that institutional changes are required to deal with the numerous externalities arising from inappropriate resource rights.

Institutions that enable equitable and sustainable utilization of common property resources do not always emerge spontaneously. It often requires conscious efforts to organize and craft the institutions that will enable more equitable and sustainable management of resources for the benefit of diverse groups holding claims to the resources.

By 'community' we mean groups of people with shared or common values and recognized social contracts with regard to modes of behavior and expectations and responses to the challenges facing them.

Institutions are the social structures that enable individuals and groups in a society to access resources. Institutions enable the community to address key problems of allocation of resources among users and over time, between users.

Institutions are vital for dealing with common property resources such as fisheries. How do such institutions come about? What processes enable successful institutional development? What experiences do we have from Asia and Africa that can guide us on the path of viable institutional development for sustainable and equitable management of common property resources (resources for which private property rights are difficult to establish and enforce)? Seeking answers to these questions forms the focus of the research of the coastal resources co-management project.

Experience from Bangladesh, the Philippines, the Mekong area and parts of Africa, such as Zambia, Mozambique and Malawi, indicate that communities can craft institutions to deal with the externalities which arise out of ill defined or weakly defined property rights. The process by which the institutional developments take place in each of the locations, however, differ and have different implications for longer-term sustainability of the institutions. It is important to note that it is the poor who often depend

more on common property resources and thus, understanding the process by which workable institutions are developed to manage common property will help in addressing poverty issues.

Our simple framework is that institutional changes are needed to manage common property resources and these can be developed in a number of ways through the interaction between communities, government and non-governmental organizations and various social groupings. The institutions developed will then determine the outcomes of the management of common property resources. □

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Current Projects

The NARs partners in the co-management project are currently carrying out 11 projects in seven countries in Africa and Asia. The main focus of these individual projects is to look in depth at the functioning of co-management especially in terms of legitimacy, rule compliance and ability to handle scale aspects of the co-management process in those countries. The projects undertaken by NARs partners are as follows:

Country	Researcher/s	Research Title
Cambodia	Nao Thuok and Hap Navy	Community Participation and Attitudes towards Co-Management in Cambodia: A Case Study in Steung Hao and Tropang Lapoeuv Communes of Sihanoukville.
Indonesia	Indah Susilowati and Victor P.H. Nikijuluw	The Process and Impact Evaluation of the Policy Shift Towards Decentralization: A Case Study of Indonesia's Coastal Waters Management.
Indonesia	Indah Susilowati	Evaluation of the Compliance Behavior of Fishers in Communities with Different Levels of Participation in Co-Management Processes: A Case Study in Central Java Fisheries, Indonesia.
Malawi	Steve Donda	Hypothesis Testing of Fisheries Co-Management Arrangements which have been initiated on Lake Chilwa, Malombe and Chiuta.
Mozambique	Simao Lopes	Hypothesis Testing of Fisheries Co-Management Arrangements which have been initiated in the Moma/Angoche and Inhassoro districts.
Philippines	Ida M. Siason	The Effect of Co-Management Process on Enforcement and Compliance with Fisheries Regulations.
Philippines	Susanna V. Siar	Scale Question in Co-Management: Malalison Island and LIPASECU Bay Management Council.
Philippines	Sonny P. Fernandez	Levels of Resilience and Equity of Co-Management Systems in the Visayan Sea, Philippines before and after 1998.
Philippines	Carlos C. Baylon	Evaluation of the Integrated Municipal Council as an Institution for Co-Management in the Coastal Zone.
Vietnam	Ha Xuan Thong	Co-Management in Reservoir Systems in Vietnam: Thac Ba Reservoir Case Study.
Zambia	B. Chanda	Hypothesis Testing of Fisheries Co-Management Arrangements in the NE Swamps and Upper Zambezi River.

Research Updates

Cambodia

Hap Navy and Nao Thouk from the Department of Fisheries, Cambodia are examining the levels of community participation and attitudes towards co-management in Cambodia through a case study in Steung Hao and Tropang Lapoeuv Communes of Siem Reap. The study examines the existing legal framework for community participation in fisheries resources management. The study will identify and evaluate the management system and user rights for fisheries resources and assess the attitudes of the various stakeholders toward management. Their research findings will recommend some policies and models of co-management for improving fisheries resource management in Cambodia.

Philippines

Carlos C. Baylon from the University of the Philippines in the Visayas is carrying out research to evaluate the Integrated Municipal Council (IMC) as an institution for co-management in the coastal zone. The IMC, which acts as an institution for co-management on a larger scale, is evaluated on the criteria of sustainability, efficiency and equity. A comparison of Banate Bay IMC and Batan Bay IMC will be carried out based on levels of co-management undertaken. The research will help to determine best practices for the establishment of IMCs.

Vietnam

One of the project collaborators from Vietnam Institute for Fisheries Economics and Planning, Ha Xuan Thong is investigating the existing co-management arrangements at the Thac Ba reservoir. The problems with the existing arrangements and ways to strengthen the existing

system through greater community participation are being explored. Ha Xuan Thong will evaluate the impact of co-management implementation in the study area. The research will identify basic principles for regulating access to the water bodies and will recommend improved models of co-management for reservoir systems in Vietnam.

Indonesia

Indah Susilowati from Universiti Diponegoro is examining the compliance behavior of fishers in communities with different levels of participation in the co-management process (CMP) through a case study in Central Java Fisheries, Indonesia. The study examines non-compliance behavior of fishers in Pemalang and Demak regencies, Central Java province, Indonesia. In order to achieve the objectives of this study, a model of non-compliance behavior is applied to analyze fishers belonging to the communities with both high and low levels of the CMPs in the study. The results show that demographic factors, fishing effort, deterrence, moral development and participation level of CMPs influence compliance level. The intensity of non-compliance behavior of the individual fisher is negatively related to the level of participation of the fisher's community in CMPs. This study concludes with the finding that compliance can be improved with greater community participation in the design of institutions for managing fisheries.

Malawi

Steve Donda from the Department of Fisheries, Malawi, is carrying out a study on fisheries co-management arrangements on Lake Chilwa, Malombe and Chiuta. The main objective is to conduct a qualitative

study of the regulating management arrangements of the previously studied lakes to validate or nullify the developed hypothesis. Both ecological issues and the socio-economic data are being used to test key hypotheses on the legitimacy of co-management arrangements.

Zambia

Kapasa and Milindi of the Fisheries Department, Zambia, are carrying out a study on fisheries co-management arrangements in the North East Swamps and Upper Zambezi River. The role of traditional leadership and its influence on legitimacy of co-management arrangements are examined in this study.

Mozambique

Simeao Lopes from Institute for the Development of Small Scale Fisheries (IDPPE) is undertaking a study of fisheries co-management arrangements in the Moma/Angoche and Inhassoro districts in Mozambique. The focus is on traditional authorities and their role in determining legitimacy for co-management arrangements. □

The Sixth Asian Fisheries Forum in Taiwan

The Sixth Asian Fisheries Forum was held from 25 to 30 November 2001 at the National Sun Yat-Sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan. The Forum focused on the discussion of future directions for fisheries, including capture fisheries, aquaculture, post-harvest processing and other related areas of major concern.

The fisheries co-management project partners organized a successful panel session on Community and Institutional Issues on Fisheries and Coastal Resources Management at the Forum chaired by Mahfuzuddin Ahmed and K.Kuperan

Viswanathan. Seven papers were presented by NARs partners from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand and by researchers from ICLARM-The World Fish Center HQ and Bangladesh office. The role of institutions which are a set of formal and informal rules and norms that shape interaction of humans with others and nature, is vital for the management of common property. How communities develop new institutions for addressing issues of resource degradation and allocation of limited resources among members and over time in the context of common property, was the focus of analysis of the special session. □

Workshop in Asia

An Asian Coastal Resources Co-Management Project Training Workshop addressing co-management research was held from 2 to 7 October 2000 in Hat Yai, Thailand. The workshop objectives were:

- To review and understand the Phase II Research Framework;
- To develop country strategies and proposals;
- To identify training requirements; and
- To identify areas for collaboration between partners.

Representatives from seven countries presented their research proposals in order to share their experiences and ideas, and to improve the proposals. The workshop was attended by partners from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam and trainers from ICLARM-The World Fish Center, Institute for Fisheries Management and Coastal Community Development and World Resources Institute. □



Present and Past Project Leaders discussing the phase II research framework, HatYai, Thailand.

Workshop in Africa

The Fisheries Co-Management Project Training Workshop was held in Cape Town, South Africa, 15 to 19 May 2000 for southern African partners. The workshop focused on phase II of the fisheries co-management project and qualitative and quantitative research methodology. The main objectives of the workshop were:

- To introduce and explain the research framework for phase II of the fisheries co-management project.

- To produce an initial research plan for each country represented.
- To provide training in both the qualitative and quantitative methods to be used in their research.

The workshop was attended by 4 partners from Zambia, one partner from Zimbabwe, 3 partners from Malawi, 3 partners from Mozambique and 8 partners from South Africa. □

Interdisciplinary Multivariate Analysis for Adaptive Co-Management

Collaborative research with the Marine Resources Assessment Group, United Kingdom (MRAG)

The co-management project collaborated with MRAG on a project that utilized data collected from Phase 1 of the co-management project. The project, funded by Department for International Development (DFID) worked on the development of a simple framework and multivariate technique to enable fisheries managers to accelerate the adaptive learning process in locally managed artisanal fisheries. The overall aim of the project is to develop improved strategies for the management of capture fisheries important to poor people. The data and reports from a number of co-management projects in Asia and Africa were used for this study.



Partners from Africa busy profiling the African case studies at the Interdisciplinary Multivariate Analysis Workshop, Cape Town, South Africa.

Interdisciplinary Multivariate Analysis Project Workshop

A workshop was held from 2-8 March 2001 at the University of Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa for Interdisciplinary Multivariate Analysis (IMA) for adaptive co-management. The workshop was organized by Mafaniso Hara, the University of Western Cape, South Africa, Kuperan Viswanathan of ICLARM-The World Fish Center and Ashley Halls of MRAG Ltd. UK. The workshop brought together the project collaborators of the co-management project from Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Laos, IFM, ICLARM-The World Fish Center, MRAG and the University of Reading to:

- Identify and agree upon an appropriate standard set of co-management attributes and management performance criteria and corresponding quantitative measures/indicators to describe them;
- Formulate hypotheses on which sub-sets of attributes are most likely to affect management performance; and
- Attempt to profile the fisheries co-management research project case studies in Africa and Asia. □

The Fourteenth Fisheries Co-Management Steering Committee Meeting

The Fourteenth Meeting of the Fisheries Co-Management Steering Committee was held on 7 to 9 November 2001 at the Institute for Fisheries Management and Coastal Community Development (IFM), Hirtshals, Denmark. The steering committee members from ICLARM-The World Fish Center, Mahfuzuddin Ahmed, K.Kuperan Viswanathan, from IFM, Poul Degnbol, Jesper Raakjaer Nielson and from NARs, Nik Mustapha Raja Abdullah and Mafaniso Hara attended the meeting. Among the agenda items discussed during the committee meeting were:

- Minutes of the Thirteenth Steering Committee Meeting which was held on 12 July 2000 in Shanico Inn, Corvallis, Oregon, USA.
- Reports from project leaders in Asia and Africa on project achievements from August 2000-October 2001.
- Work plans for the year 2002.
- Project publications updates:
 1. Policy brief
 2. Phase one report
 3. Workshop proceedings
 4. Other publications
- Project funding and budget allocation.
- New proposals.
- Ideas and plans for future.

New Steering Committee Member

Steve Donda from the Department of Fisheries, Malawi, completed his term as the African NARs representative on the steering committee in October 2001. The committee extends its thanks to Steve for his contribution and active participation in the steering committee meetings and for coordinating with the African NARs for the four year period he was on the committee. His position is now filled by Mafaniso Hara of the University of Western Cape, South Africa. The steering committee welcomes Mafaniso and looks forward to his active participation in the activities of the project.

New Project Proposals

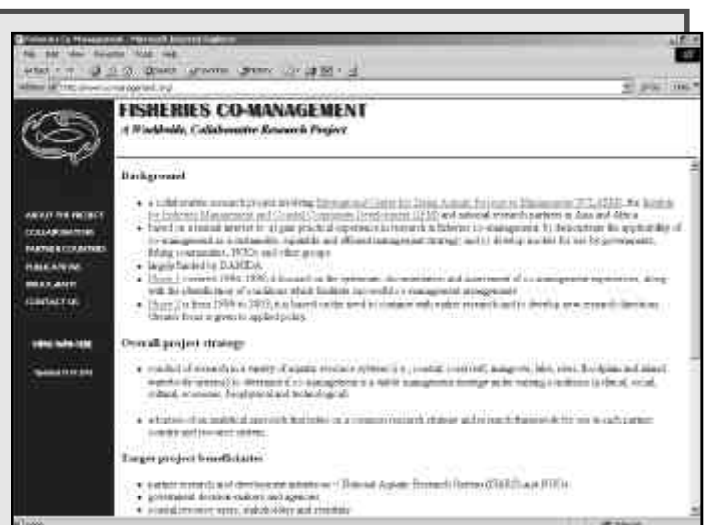
Some new proposals from partners were received for consideration for funding by the Steering Committee:

- A proposal to revise the handbook for rapid appraisal of fisheries management systems (RAFMS) from Michael Pido in the Philippines.
- A proposal from Cambodia “Community participation assessment of inland fisheries co-management, case study of Prey Veng, Kampung Cham and Banteay Meancha province” researchers- Ly Vuthy, Kaing Khim and Nao Thuok.
- A proposal from South Africa and Zimbabwe on co-management “Capital intensive fisheries undergoing restructuring and redistribution: the case of pelagic fisheries in South Africa and Zimbabwe” researchers- Mafa Hara, Moenieba Isaacs and Kefasi Nyikahadzoi.
- Proposal from South Africa “Fisheries compliance in the South Africa abalone fishery: An evaluation and analysis of the illegal and legal fisheries” researcher- Maria Hauck.□

Redesign of the Co-management Website

The co-management website is being redesigned and updated to bring the latest news about ongoing projects and activities to “users” and our project partners. The updated website will be more informative and complete in presenting information on the research activities being undertaken in the project.

The co-management website will be appearing with a new image. The website layout and the links within the site will be reorganized in order to provide easier navigation and access to our viewers. A new section called “recent activities” to disseminate new insights on co-management research and the latest information on project activities will be added to the website.



URL: <http://www.co-management.org>
<http://www.iclarm.org/co-management/>

Up Coming Events

IASCP meeting at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 17-21 June 2002

The ninth biennial Conference of the International Association for the Study of Common Property (IASCP) will be held at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 17-21 June 2002. The co-management research group will organize a panel session entitled "Empirical Research on Fisheries Co-management Arrangements". This panel of eight presentations will offer a series of reports, mainly from African freshwater fisheries and Asian marine and freshwater fisheries, on the success, failures and prospects for fisheries co-management efforts. Most of the research reports will be those carried out under the auspices of the ICLARM/IFM Fisheries Co-management Research Project. The panel session is organized by Doug Wilson and Jesper R. Nielsen of IFM.

IIFET 2002 at Wellington, New Zealand, 19-22 August 2002

The eleventh Biennial Conference of the International Institute of Fisheries Economics and Trade (IIFET) will be held at Wellington, New Zealand, 19-22 August 2002. The 15th Fisheries Co-management Project Steering Committee meeting will be held in conjunction with IIFET. The fisheries co-management project will also present the new policy brief entitled "Fisheries Co-Management - An Institutional Innovation- Perspectives and Challenges Ahead" at the meeting for discussion and comments.

Training course in fisheries co-management

To disseminate scientific research and strengthen the capacity of developing country scientists, ICLARM - The World Fish Center will offer a training course on fisheries co-management. The course will be held from 18-22 November 2002 at the center's HQ, Penang, Malaysia. The training course will use the findings and tools developed from the Danida funded fisheries co-management project and will cover the following areas of co-management:

- Concepts of co-management and co-management arrangements in fisheries
- Co-management and small-scale fisheries
- Role of government in fisheries co-management
- Methods for implementing and assessing fisheries co-management
 - Rapid appraisal approach for evaluation of community-level fisheries
 - Management systems
 - Process documentation research methodology
 - Measuring project success in co-management projects
 - Process for fisheries co-management project
 - Evaluation of fisheries co-management performance
- Case studies of fisheries co-management
- Conditions and principles of success for co-management
- Discussion on prospects for co-management.

Further details can be obtained from the center's website: <http://www.iclarm.org> or from the project leader at k.viswanathan@cgiar.org

New Staff at ICLARM - The World Fish Center



Tay Puay Kiang joined ICLARM-The World Fish Center as a research assistant under the co-management project on 1 October 2001 as the replacement for Mr. Thirunavukarusu who left the project after working as a research assistant on the project from August 2000 to August 2001. She holds a Master's degree in Economics Management from University Science Malaysia, Penang. She will be assisting K. Kuperan Viswanathan (project leader of the co-management project) with the co-management phase II project activities. □

Sasi Laut Published

The study undertaken in Maluku Province Indonesia is an in depth study of a traditional community based coastal resource management system. It provides a better understanding of the extent and functioning of community based coastal resource management system in Indonesia. The study has shown that the Sasi Laut has benefits that can be used as a basis for building local level management institutions.

Available from:

The Communications Unit

ICLARM - The World Fish Center

P.O. Box 500, GPO, 10670 Penang, Malaysia

Tel : (604) 626 1606

Fax : (604) 626 5530

Email : ICLARM@cgjar.org

Available on the web: <http://www.iclarm.org/newpub.htm>



An Institutional Analysis of Sasi Laut in Maluku, Indonesia.
Irene Novaczek, Ingvild H.T. Harkes, Juliaty Sopacua and Marcus D.D. Tatuhey, 2001. ICLARMTech. Rep. 59, 327p.

Project Publications

The following are the recent publications from the project:

1. Viswanathan, K.K. *Community perspectives - exclusivity of rights*. In Shotton, R. (ed.) Use of property rights in fisheries management. Proceedings of the FishRights99 Conference. Fremantle, Western Australia, 11-19 November 1999. FAO Fisheries Technical Paper. No. 404/1. Rome, FAO. 2000.
2. Pomeroy, R.S., B.M. Katon and I.Harkes. *Conditions affecting the success of fisheries co-management: lessons from Asia*. Marine Policy 25 (3): 197-208. 2001.
3. Novaczek, I, J. Sopacua and I. Harkes. *Fisheries management in Central Maluku, Indonesia, 1997-98*. Marine Policy 25 (3): 239-249. 2001.
4. Jahan, K.M.E., R.A.N. Mustapha and K.K. Viswanathan. *Transaction costs and resource rent of fisheries co-management at the Oxbow Lakes (Baors) in Bangladesh*. 2000.
5. Jahan, K.M.E., R.A.N. Mustapha and K.K. Viswanathan. *Welfare impacts of fisheries co-management systems at the Oxbow Lakes (Baors) in Bangladesh*. 2000.
6. Indah Susilowati. *Evaluation of compliance behavior of fishers in the communities with different levels of participation in co-management processes (CMPs): A case study in Central Java fisheries, Indonesia*. 2001



Editors: K. Kuperan Viswanathan
and Tay Puay Kiang

For more information, please contact the Project Leader,

Dr. K.Kuperan Viswanathan,
Fisheries Co-Management,
ICLARM - The World Fish Center,
P.O. Box 500 GPO,
10670 Penang, Malaysia.
Tel: (+60-4) 626 1606 ext. 421
Fax: (+60-4) 626 5530
email: k.viswanathan@cgjar.org
ICLARM@cgjar.org
Website: <http://www.co-management.org/>