

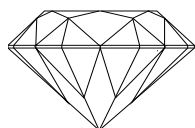
# TECAFILI REPORT 2012

## REPORT OF THE DEEP SEA LITERACY TRAINING: PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

DECEMBER 21 - 23, 2012

### Venue:

Ngomeni Fish landing site- Ngomeni



**TECAFILI**

Project funded by;



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Technology and Care for Improved Livelihood  
Deep sea fishing (Practical Experience)

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**Participants learning how to set the net in the deep waters**

## **1. SUMMARY**

The deep sea training (practical experience) was supposed to take three (3) days, however due to its importance to the South Coast fishers; it took four (4) days. The practical experience training was conducted at Ngomeni landing site located in North Coast. This training was made possible by the support of the Fisheries Department and The Kenya Marine Police who were instrumental to ensure safety at the sea. The training participants were from Likoni, Chale, Gazi, Munje, Shimoni, Kibuyuni and Majoreni Beach Management Units (BMUs). This was one of the TECAFILIs' capacity building initiatives among the BMUs in ensuring proper utilization of the marine resource along South Coast of Kenya.

The training covered the following areas: Introduction to sea safety, Sail control and How to set the net when fishing in deep water.

The training achieved its set objectives as the participants wanted to learn more on the use of the different gears, but were incapacitated due to the availability of resources. It was agreed that deep sea training is not a three (3) or four (4) days training, but requires more time to effectively empower the fisher folks in emerging technologies and skills. The participants were pleased with the quality of organization of the training and the course content.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **A) Background**

The South Coast fisher folks use rudimental fishing gears and are concentrated within the lagoon. This has led to a collapse of the marine ecosystem that can no longer support the fishery sector. It is evident that this is as a result of overexploitation of fish stocks due to excessive expansion in fishing effort caused by rapid population growth, poverty among the fisher folks, lack of alternative employment opportunities, breakdown of traditional fisheries management systems, ready market for juvenile fish, and destructive fishing practices.

The Kenyan Government under the Vision 2030 blueprint and through the Kenya Coastal Development Project funded by the World Bank plans to support the fisher folks with bigger vessels so that they can explore the deep waters that have not been fully exploited. It is worthy to note that even with bigger vessels, the fisher folks may not be in a position to explore it due to lack of skills to venture into the deep sea. It is anticipated that this training will empower and prepare them to effectively venture the deep sea fishing to create room for regeneration of the inshore fishery.

The training was organized by TECAFILI with financial support from Lighthouse Foundation-Germany to strengthen the capacity of the local fisher folks in their effort to effectively manage the marine environment.

The training was attended by fisher representatives from eight BMUs. They include; Chale, Gazi, Likoni, Munje, Shimoni, Kibuyuni and Majoreni all from South Coast of Kenya.

The training report covers the main highlights achieved during the 4-day workshop.

### **b) Objectives of the training**

The main objectives of the training were:-

- To introduce the participants to sea safety
- To provide the participants with basic information and knowledge on the use of sail
- Expose the participants to the deep sea
- To train the participants on how to set the deep sea fishing gears.

## **2. TRAINING CONTENTS**

### **i. The training outline**

1. Program organization (2 days)
2. Travel to Ngomeni.(1 day)
3. Introduction of participants to sea safety.(1 day)
4. Basic information of the use of sail and deep sea fishing experience( 2 days)

## **ii. Program organization**

A two (2) - day field mobilization visit was conducted on Thursday 13 December, 2012. It was aimed at setting the ground for participants before their arrival. Discussions pertaining the training were made with the Fisheries Office (Ngomeni), The Kenya Marine Police office (Ngomeni) and the Beach Management Unit at Ngomeni. The Marine Police gave the guidelines and an official letter to present to any security agency while in the sea. This is due to the war taking place in Somalia. In general the training got a positive nod from all these offices and offered the necessary support during its implementation.

## **iii. Day 1: travel to Ngomeni.**

The journey to Ngomeni started on Friday Dec 21<sup>st</sup> 2012. A public transport was used. It was a long trip for the first timer. The trip took roughly four and half hours. This was attributed to bad state of the road. Less could be done on the first day as the participants were exhausted by the long trip.

All participants were well equipped with proper clothing to protect themselves from the cold beach weather.

This was a truly fisher experience expedition as all activities were conducted at the landing site, right from cooking, eating , bathing , etc. The participants spent the night too at the landing site

## **Day 2**

### **iv. Session 1: To introduce the participants to sea safety**

The participants were introduced to the sea safety materials that included the signal light, life jackets, whistle and a first aid kit. This is not common with the fishers in South Coast. Each item has its uses. Participants were urged not to swim in case of an accident in the deep sea, but use the safety gears and wait for help.

A Kenyan flag has to be hoisted on the vessel for identification purposes by the security agencies that frequently patrol the North coast waters.

## **Day 3**

### **v. Session 2: basic information on the use of the sail**

The captain took the participants through the numerous ropes that control the sails. These robes include the *Enza* (center rope that control the centre pole), *Shariti* (side ropes), *Demani* and *Joshi*. These ropes have specific functions that ensure the sail move to the desired direction based on the wind flow.

After the lecture, the participants were at work to ensure the sail is up and subsequent cruising to the deep sea. This was like a military drill for many of the participants especially when changing the direction of the vessel. This activity calls for team work and division of roles.

#### **vi. Day 3- 4 Deep sea experience**

The vessel sailed for over five (5) hours to the fishing ground called Shekiko about 30km. The vessel carried six (6) crew members and nine (9) participants. At Shekiko fishing ground, the participants were taught how to set the *jarife* fishing net. It took 3 hrs to release the net to the waters. It was a long net.

The night was a long one since we were waiting the outcome of the net. We later released that the moon was too bright and thus less could be done rather than retrieving the net. There is a direct link between the moon and fishing using this kind of a net. However, we managed to catch one ray fish for that night.

#### **Achievements and key lessons**

- Participants were able to learn how to control the sail in deep sea fishing
- Participants had an opportunity to compare the availability of fish catch as they could see schools of fish jumping around within the deep sea.
- The participants acknowledged the use of proper fishing gears such as Jarife and long line are environmental friendly as they can cause little damage to coral reefs while being used in deep water.
- The participant acknowledged that deep sea fishing can change the socio- economic aspect of the fisher folk, based on the potential of the improved fish catch and diversified opportunity for value addition accompanied with it.

#### **Challenges faced**

- Insecurity due to the war in Somalia and piracy
- Inadequate foods on board since fifteen people were on board and we anticipated taking only one day, but this went beyond the stipulated time. Preparing food on board proved difficult too especially using fuel wood.
- Some of the members suffered from the sea sickness and become weak, thus we had to return.
- Fishing baits were not available during our arrival, thus unable to use the long line

#### **Way forward**

As much it is appreciated by the fisher folks, the training period was not enough as they could not explore all the fishing gears at their disposal such as the long line.

#### **Recommendation**

- There is need to organize for a long term training for the fisher folks from South Coast to be equally prepared for such a deep sea fishing experience.

- Moon timing should be observed especially when fishing using the nets.

## Annex 1: Program

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3-4
Arrival at Ngomeni Discussion with marine police Introduction to sea safety	Basic information and knowledge on the use of sailing techniques	Deep sea fishing experience. How to set the deep sea fishing gears



Annex 2: List of participants

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>BMU( Landing site)</b>	<b>Contact</b>
1	Bakari Hamisi Ngare	Likoni (ferry ya zamani)	0716210815
2	Waziri Nassoro M'kombo	Majoreni	0713524563
3	Mwinyikai	Likoni	0720583806
4	Salim Sadik	Gazi	0724271368
5	Mohamed Juma Tsavwa	Chale	0704819158
6	Ali Bakari Mohamed	Kibuyuni	0704819158
7	Hassan S. Rengwa	Munje	0723435972
8	Omar Ngala	Shimoni	0711776482

Annex 3: Photos



Participants taking breakfast at the landing site



Participants night at the beach



Preparation for the deep sea fishing work



Participant asking question on how the ropes work



Pulling the sail



Team work in pulling the sail



Ensuring the sail is in order



The sail ready for take off



Tired participants on board



Cooking on board



Setting the fishing line



Artificial fish bait being attached to the fishing line



A night at the sea



Sleeping on board



Releasing the net



Removing the catch from the net



Participate trained on how to control the boat



Net setting in the deep sea