

## Using the D-P-S-I-R framework to assess artisanal fisheries resource-use conflicts along the Kenya coast

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An assessment of coastal artisanal fisheries resource-use conflicts along the Vipingo-Mida Creek stretch of the Kenya coast was undertaken using the Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (D-P-S-I-R) approach between September 2012 and April 2013. The objective of this study was to determine the actual causes of the prevailing conflicts, and perceived socio-economic and ecological impacts, as well as mechanisms in resolving existing and future conflicts among fishers. Primary data were collected using surveys from a study sample of 197 active fishers from Kuruwitu, Mnarani and Uyombo fish landing sites. The study confirmed fisheries resource use conflict is a common phenomenon among the fishers in the area as 95% of the fishers were affirmative to the problem, irrespective of fishing gear type and fishing ground. Resource-use conflict was experienced in all the fish landing sites, and the level of conflicts experienced did not vary across the study sites ( $\chi^2=0.629$ ;  $df=2$ ;  $p=0.730$ ). The leading causes of conflict among artisanal fishers were identified as theft of fish from others' gear (34%); using other fishers' gear without consent (20%), non-payment for fish sold (14%), and competition for fishing grounds (10%). Further, results of Chi-square test indicated heterogeneity in causes of conflict among the study sites ( $\chi^2=38571$ ;  $df=12$ ;  $p<0.01$ ). To resolve this resource-use conflict, both traditional and modern mechanisms should be employed. To reduce the chances of resource-use conflict, this study therefore, recommends education and capacity building of the fishers, zonation of fishing grounds, respect to first-comer to a fishing ground, and regular vetting of fishers by the respective beach management units.