

# **SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF LINE FISHING IN PEMBA AND METUGE, NORTH OF MOZAMBIQUE**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Artisanal fisheries play a very important socio-economic role in the life of communities living along the coastal zone. The study aimed to evaluate the socio-economic impact of line fishing in Pemba and Metuge, northern Mozambique. For that, semi-structured interviews were carried out with a total of 101 line fishermen from February to May 2018 with the purpose of describing the profile of line fishermen, to understand their motivations for using this gears and the incomes that comes from the exploitation of fishing resources using the fishing line. Data were processed and analyzed in SPSS 17.0. In Pemba and Metuge, line fishing is practiced exclusively by men between the ages of 18 and 65. Fishermen have a numerous families and their level of education is low, with 87% of those interviewed with the primary level (1st - 7th grade). The low level of education of fishermen is related to the fact that the practice of this fishery does not require any training for its execution and frequently, its skills are a social heritage. The lack of employment was cited as the main factor that determines the practice of fishing and the preference of fishermen for the hand line fishing focuses on the accessibility of acquiring this gear considered cheap. The income from this activity is low, and is related to the quality of fish caught and the price at which it is marketed. In general, line fishing has a positive socio-economic impact on the lives of fishermen in Pemba and Metuge as it provides employment opportunities for the fisherman to meets the basic daily needs, such as feeding and schooling of children, buying household appliances and maintaining fishing equipment.

**Keywords:** Artisanal fishing, Hand line, Fishermen, Pemba and Metuge