

EFFECTIVE INVESTMENT IN COMMUNITY-BASED INFRASTRUCTURES AS A PREREQUISITE FOR COASTAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

by

Haji Mohamed Bin Ismail
Fisheries Development Authority Malaysia
Malaysia

1. Preamble

Infrastructures beyond any shadow of doubt are important inputs towards achieving development objectives in any setting. This include the management of the Coastal Fisheries and as such investments on infrastructure in the area are indeed and truly a prerequisite in order to develop the related target group. Unless enough infrastructures are being built coastal fisheries may be neglected and may not meet the desire as well as the required result.

2. The Roles of Fisheries Development Authority Malaysia (FDAM)

Realising the importance of infrastructures in helping especially the coastal fishermen, the Government of Malaysia established the FDAM in 1971 with two main objectives:-

- to uplift the socio-economic status of the fishermen, and
- to develop the fisheries sector.

In the Malaysian context, the fact clearly shows that the coastal or the artisanal fishermen constitute the majority of the fishermen community. It is therefore necessary that major portion of FDAM activities being allocated to this group.

3. Infrastructure for Coastal Fishery

In Malaysia, the Government, through its development agencies the FDAM and the Department of Fisheries - is spending a substantial amount of funds investing on infrastructures. This includes landing piers, sorting, grading, weighting, packaging, cold storage facilities, auction halls transport bays, marketing places and processing plants (see Appendix I on infrastructure investment for small scale fishermen).

The importance of the above mentioned infrastructures and the allocation of funds which in a way may improve fish handling, marketing techniques in order to avoid post harvest losses and provide capital will thus improve the living standard of the small scale fishermen. On top of that through the fishery complexes centralise landing can be implemented.

To render the effectiveness in their requirement is to build the said infrastructure in strategic location, that is within reach of the community concerned. This is to ensure that the infrastructure or the facilities given will be fully utilised and proper upkeep of the amenities provided.

Apart from that, the Government, through FDAM is also helping out in the marketing of fish from small scale fishermen by setting up direct sales outlets to consumers. Through this approach consumers can purchased fish direct from the fishermen or through the Area Fishermen Association (AFA) which numbered 70 in the country (see Appendix II on number of AFAs in the country).

Beside that wholesale and retail purchases can also be made through fisheries complexes. There are 23 in the country (see Appendix III for the quantity of landing complexes). 15 of this complexes to be handed to AFA very soon.

Another important infrastructure built for the fishermen are the artificial reefs. The construction of this artificial reefs will later lead to sea ranching and marinazation. To date it is proven that this reefs have risen up the income of small scale fishermen.

4. AFA Roles

It has been mentioned earlier on that the infrastructures are being built on the strategic sites or arca. This is to say that, these infrastructures are being built in an area where the fishermen community gathered. And normally, in such area, the AFA will play an active role for the betterment of the community. In other words, to be effective and fruitful enough the infrastructure must be community based in nature. This is simply because the community are the one who will be utilising the amenities given. Only through this community based approach, infrastructure investments will be effective and at the same time will help managed the coastal fisheries.

In Malaysia we have a good example of this community based infrastructure effectiveness i.e. as manifested in AFA Tg.Dawai,Kedah, North Malaysia.

Prior to 1990. This AFA seems to lying idle due to the absence of fisheries infrastructure within its vicinity However, from 1990 onwards i.e. after basic infrastructures such as fishery complex, diesel plants etc. are being built, this AFA experienced a turning point in its roles and activities. For the first time in

1990 and 1991 the AFA managed to pay dividends to its members i.e. RM2.63/share in 1990 and RM2.43/share in 1991.

This achievement due to firstly better management of the infrastructure since the AFA get full support from its members. Secondly, the infrastructures are built on a community based basis.

5. Conclusion

From the above discussion it is therefore proven that effective investment in community based infrastructures is indeed a prerequisite for coastal fishery management. Beside that full support from the community concerned is another ingredient of paramount important. It is therefore clear that infrastructures and human resource must be blend together for better result. This has been insisted by Dr. Manual Collantes as follows.

“view development in its proper perspective, that is, men at its core”.

Investment on Infrastructure and Aquaculture Projects
from The Year 1991-1996 by the Fisheries
Development Authority of Malaysia (in Malaysian Ringgit)

No.	Name of Projects	Amount (Malaysia Ringgit)
1.	Jetties	20,751,370
2.	Mooring/Slipway	12,488,889
3.	Complexes	31,938,529
4.	Coldrooms	2,254,855
5.	Processing Plants	2,503,940
6.	Ice Plants	63,800
7.	Offices (AFA)	568,643
8.	Living Quarters	2,771,819
9.	Aquaculture Projects	35,526,169
Total		108,868,014

Rate of Exchange 1 US Dollar equivalent to 2.50 (Malaysian Ringgit)

List of Area Fishermen Association (AFA)/State Fishermen Association (SFA)/National Fishermen Association (NFA)/Fishermen Multipurpose Co-operative (SKN)

No.	Name of AFA
1.	K.Perlis
2.	South Perlis
3.	Pulau Langkawi
4.	Kuala Kedah
5.	Yan
6.	Tanjong Dawai
7.	Seberang Perai
8.	Ujong Batu
9.	S.Penang
10.	Teluk Bahang
11.	Kerian
12.	Matang
13.	Sungai Tinggi
14.	North Manjung
15.	South Manjung
16.	Pangkor Island
17.	Hilir Perak
18.	Sungai Besar
19.	Kuala Selangor
20.	Port Klang
21.	Kuala Langat
22.	Sepang
23.	Port Dickson
24.	W.Malacca
25.	S.Malacca
26.	Muar
27.	Batu Pahat
28.	Pontian
29.	South Johore
30.	Pengerang
31.	Sedili
32.	Mersing
33.	Endau
34.	Rompin
35.	Nenasi
36.	Pekan
37.	Kuantan
38.	Kemaman

39. Kujal
40. Kemasik
41. Paka
42. Dungun
43. Marang
44. South K.Trg.
45. North K.Trg.
46. Setiu
47. Besut
48. Semerak
49. Bachok
50. Kota Bharu
51. Tumpat
52. Miri
53. Bintulu
54. Mukah/Oya
55. Bruit
56. Belawai
57. Kabong
58. Beladin
59. Sebuyau
60. Buntal
61. Sematan/Lundu
62. Layar Rimbas
63. Satang Biru
64. Asajaya/Semera
65. Sri Muara
66. Penawan
67. Kuala Penyu
68. Kota Belud
69. Sandakan
70. Semporna

List of State Fishermen Association

1. Perlis
2. Kedah
3. Pulau Pinang
4. Perak
5. Selangor
6. Melaka
7. Johor
8. Pahang
9. Terengganu
10. Kelantan
11. Sarawak

List of Fishermen Multipurpose Cooperatives

1. Kuala Jerlun
2. Kuala Kedah (30 Tan)
3. Kuala Kedah (50 Tan)
4. Kuala Kangkong
5. Kuala Triang
6. Tanjung Dawai
7. Kuala Sala
8. Bahagian Tanjung
9. Pamtao Timor (PP)
10. Batu Maung
11. Kuala Muda
12. Sungai Udang
13. Teluk Bahang
14. Persatuan Koperasi P.Pinang
15. Kuala Sepetang
16. Kuala Sangga
17. Bagan Baru
18. Bagan Lama
19. Pulau Pangkor
20. Hilir Perak
21. Herr Ming
22. Heng Hua
23. Pengkalan Tiram
24. Batu Pahat
25. Pontian
26. Sedili Besar
27. Mersing U/Endau
28. Gabungan SKN Johor
29. Tanjung Lumpur
30. Kuala Kemaman
31. Seberang Takir
32. Batu Rakit
33. Mengabang Telipot
34. Per. SKN P. Timor

Quantity of Fish Landing at the Fisheries
Development Authority Board Complexes From 1992-1994

No.	Complex	Capacity of Annual Landing	Quantity Landing		
			1992	1993	1994
		(mt)	(mt)	(mt)	(mt)
1.	Geting	10,000	1,084	1,168	590.78
2.	Kuala Besut	15,000	14,352	17,449	10,219.83
3.	Pulau Kambing	8,000	3,723	4,941	4,707.64
4.	Chendering	52,000	8,650	9,182	7,744.18
5.	Mersing	8,000	2,171	1,690	2,251.09
6.	Kuala Sedili	15,000	3,234	3,579	3,723.08
7.	Batu Maung	15,000	2,534	3,450	3,782.76
8.	Kuala Kedah	10,000	3,587	3,483	4,270.39
9.	K. Kemaman	10,000	444	717	272.55
10.	Bintawa	10,000	1,692	1,607	4,236.52
11.	Belawai	7,000	189	489	69.61
12.	Endau	5,000	919	1,136	767.16
13.	Nenasi	4,000	291	348	437.47
14.	Mukah	7,000	530	551	591.56
15.	Kuala Pahang	5,000	131	699	744.28
16.	Kuantan	13,000	13,790	20,991	21,605.17
17.	Marang	5,000	469	747	1,116.89
18.	Bintulu	5,000	47	186	158.90
19.	Miri	5,000	67	205	476.13
20.	Lumut	7,000	16,798	21,447	17,834.72
21.	Kuala Besar	7,000	-	50	953.49
22.	Kuala Rompin	5,000	-	-	477.26
23.	Dungun	5,000	-	-	-
Net Total		233,000	74,702	94,115	87,031.46