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**After The Tsunami Fishing Settlements Survey/
Somalia Indian Ocean Coastal Towns**

Barret-Net is one of the local organizations in the country recently conducted a survey over several coastal regions affected by the Tsunami storm. The survey lasted for 17 days and performed by teams from the local organization to submit fact finding to the main sectors of the fisher families whose main subsistence depended on the marine production. The villages surveyed had a total of 9,867 permanent fishermen and 7,325 seasonal fishermen the outbreak of Tsunami storm caused many fishermen to move to other parts of the country seeking for restoration of better living subsistence.

The fishermen had never formulated any associated or arranged institutions which respond to the crisis when such disaster takes place. Due to the occurrence of the civil wars which formerly destroyed their property of fishing fears and various boats they used for their survival. But later on some of them made some arrangement of reviving their sources of production and this has demonstrated some progress in the later years but Tsunami wave has completed the demolishment of the small fishing organization after then. On the other hand the collapse of the fishermen production was attributed to the bad management in the fishing groups.

Most of the fishermen complained different problems of which the main ones were: lack of preservation rooms for the fish production. Also the fisheries impressed by inappropriate marketing as exportation declined and can not get any brokers who offer their small production to the abroad market, some fisheries made some attempts to create their desire of united groups or cooperative that emerge for action of massive disaster but this did not achieved was assured one of the fishermen. Some of them informed that they have the intention to renounce their marine profession as they disparaged to get source of support that enables them to bring back their functional occupation of marine production. Once pondering on how can be promoted the fishing skills the fishermen put their emphasis on making rearrangement process to escape from the murky. During the survey the monitoring team of fact finding of Tsunami damages, they met with southern coastal inhabitants of fishing community. They asserted that identical crisis as their counterparts in fishing skill.

In the field of fishing tackles the fisheries addressed that they used poor fishing gears and that was what has impaired their production. For instance the fishing nets were not suitable for catching certain marketable fishes such as sharks. The dimension of the nets they used contained of 6.2 to 8.00 with wide mesh where the catches easily penetrated through the wide mesh hole. There is not control of catches the fisheries can make due to the decayed nets. The other fishing tackles they used included to hooks and brandishing fish net with buoyancy. Although this tactic is somewhat

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progressive for the poor fishers who fish around the coasts and shores have no any advantage according to the boats fisheries groups.

To make recovery measures and increase of marine food production fisheries are needed to form institutions and cooperatives to unite their force and increase their production. There have been various proposal suggested by the fishery communities that included the improvement of the current situation of crisis and made determination in seeking loans to reconstruct new fishing boats. The main production the fisheries met their most financial was sharks, lobster in which the fisheries used for hooks and nets while lobster is more dangerous than catching sharks and fishes because this was to dive in seas.

Lobster which was the main source of financial income in these areas now remained under disappointment. He loss caused by tsunami storm was estimated to be reaching more than 79% and decreased the production. But there have been few fisheries who later on built wooden boats that can not afford travel to higher seas where prosperous catches of fishes are available. Production has fallen down to 65% and recovery activities have excluded from the will of the fishermen. Previously the fishers received special support from the government and international agencies that were customer to the fishermen but that has got out from hand.

Most of the fishermen apply home made storage in their residences which hygienically is not appropriate and acceptable. The sole facility remained in their hands after the wars happened in those districts and villages interrupted their production until Tsunami storm has stricken in December 2004 and destroyed their fishing facilities. Preparing and processing technical were scarce and were available in very few villages and some towns such as Gendershe, Harardere, Hobyo and Jilib Marka. The production of the processing methods consequently demonstrated poor quality and loss in the field is estimated to: 70% of demersal, 58% of pelagic, 69% of sharks caught end up devastating for the poor methods used. Fishing the main purpose for fishing is carried out for reasons of gaining income marketing the catches to the local markets and abroad but the market was not known for the acceptance of the fish catches because of the many brokers who curb the deal and marketing processes. However the fisheries have no well organized cooperatives and financial deposit to unravel their deep problems that would enable for them to restart their production.

The fishery communities complained immense loss of boats, engines, nets, traps and other dishing tools. Anyhow total loss of fiber boats are estimated to 302, 263 wooden boats and 204 engines have been perfectly lost in the Tsunami as well as required 300 fiber boats, 275 wooden boats and 200 engines to recover the loss of fishing facilities. About 50000 fishing nets need for repair and 423 traps need to renew while 605 diving masks set have been demolished in Tsunami storm. The diving equipments are all remained under complete destruction. The fishermen need to be developed in fishing aspects such as fishing techniques, engine repair, boat construction and boat operations, marketing and management, emergency response and first aid and communication processing and preservation techniques and ocean pollution control as some of the areas they need also to be awaked.

The information and other issues concerning to the fishermen setback need for immediate support to deplete the current situation of the marine food production. And improvement of fishing tackles intact reduce the current problem and missing production operations in fish catches will be kept under proper control. Conservation and administration process of the fishermen is regarded as the prime economical set up after the livestock and from that point the conspicuous production could be developed in overall. The livelihood of the fisher community restoration will render the recovery of tsunami storm losses.

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Background

Fishermen before the collapse of the government the fisheries were living in diversified groups and their production was very small and their life never changed from standard of progress. The fishing gears used the fishermen were not modern tool and this made them depend only on their small catches of unmarketable. The government after having cautiously scrutinized the condition of the fishermen, started to consolidate their production and founded then in cooperatives with separate names. After completed the construction of the cooperatives under the decree of the government, the authority supplied them modern fiber launch boats with powerful engines accompanied with all the fishing gears, nets of different sorts. The main objective was to boom the marine production with the pledge of opening good markets on abroad countries.

From that period the fisheries cooperative production reached of exportable means and enabled them to build their boats as the government contributed them workshops for repairing the boats and improving the fishing gears. Their production was exported to countries outside Somalia and in the country the fish catches provided the fishermen more opportunity in the local markets. Immense reserve and financial deposit were posted in governmental banks that facilitated for them to get financial support if bankruptcy encountered them to manage their usual operations.

After the supportive government was deposed from powered of the country, the prospect of the fishermen seemed to meet more progressive assistance. But instead substituted by civil wars which ravaged all their property and fishing boats including the various gears contributed the former state. Boats are looted while others are deliberately destroyed and that made the fishermen to a vagabond community with no hope and have no production sources. Some of them started to fish from the nearby shores where catches are too scarce and not marketable. After a time some of them made some arrangements making some boats and relapsed to their former state of diversity. After the calamity of the civil wars the great disaster of Tsunami storm followed where this report was collected from them by our team of (Barret-net). The assessment conducted Barret-net team illustrates the hopes of creating huge project of integrating the fishermen in cooperative style to develop the production of marine foods. At this moment the fisheries can not prolong to the high seas because of foreign ships fishing illegally in the seas and any boat dared to approach will be opened fire and sink their boats by the aboard countries fishing ships.

Objectives

The objectives are:

- 1 To hold meetings with the fishery communities and local community styled authorities and interview to appraise their crisis in forming organizational cooperatives.
- 2 Collect information about the losses caused the Tsunami and assess the damages considering the methods to be solved the problems.
- 3 Monitoring the site whether local organization are developing programmes in supporting the fishery community to intervene the current problems by addressing in bits the ways can be faced the activities.
- 4 Inspect every village of the fishery communities in south and central coastal sited in the country.
- 5 Meet the community elders of fishery villages and towns and record the reports and information of their crisis
- 6 Register the names of the community elders with their tile in their community to represent the fishery community.
- 7 Provide particular code to every geographical site of the villages in the coastal map of Somalia.
- 8 Prepare after discussion methodologies of mitigating the current difficulties making for particular associations and institutions to bring into existence consolidated production aiming for setting from their loss.

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Activities Methodology

The villages inspected contained to 12 villages. Most of these villages are monitored in different times. The reports are mustered also in different periods where the fishery communities updated identical problems and have shared the Tsunami disaster. Different methods are proposed to respond the misfortune and were adopted the following methods for data collection:

- 1) Direct interview based on structured questionnaires have been applied to direct the interviews with the fishery communities.
- 2) Close scrutiny in depth of the crisis
- 3) Observation
- 4) Measurements of defined information limitation
- 5) Photo intake

Other data information is explained and presented in this report in the following manners:

- Narrations
- Table illustrations
- Photos
- Meetings with the fishery communities in their residences.

Fact findings reached

The situation of the fishery communities was very stable during the entity of government in the country and the fisheries could be able to tackle all their needs as they were united under one sole association supported by the state. After the fall of the government they experienced different bitter trails of which one was the civil wars that impoverished them. After some organized attempts Tsunami disaster afflicted them the most disaster ever the fishery community endured. Since the event of this disaster the fishermen deeply stumbled and could not take recovery measures in improving their substantive lives within their families.

Fishermen population

The reports and information collected by the Barret-net team are reliable and fishery community failed to revive their economical source through different activities. Here below it the fishermen population in the areas inspected by the team. Table 1.

No.	Village/town name	Region	Moved after Tsunami	Seasonal fishermen	Permanent fishermen
1	Mogadishu	Banadir	274	730	508
2	Jazira	L/Shabelle	31	40	85
3	El Ma'an	M/Shabelle	8	3	186
4	Warshikh	M/Shabelle	20	3	40
5	Warshiikh	M/Shabelle	286	776	3004
6	Adale	M/Shabelle	170	340	537
7	Ega	Galgadud	18	200	670
8	Gal'ad	Galgadud	14	2	820
9	Mareeg	Galgadud	17	4	753
10	Eldher	Galgadud	15	1	450
11	Harar Dhere	Frequently conflicts/Piracy impede fishing production			
12	Hoby	Fishing is prevented by Piracy and conflicts			
13	Dhanane	L/Shebelle	4	2	32
14	Gendershe	L/Shebelle	7	18	213
15	Jilib Marka	L/Shebelle	3	25	540

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16	Marka	L/Shebelle	520	600	1200
17	Lixmooro	L/Shebelle	0	2	76
18	El Ahmed	L/Shebelle	0	0	17
19	Barawe	L/Shebelle	134	180	700
		Those are the areas fishery community moved to			

Institutional structure

The fishery communities in south and central zones mainly suffer from missing processed organizational structure and this caused the fishery communities discarded in to the towns and villages. Only very few villages and town have some not organized fishing groups.

Table 2. Organized cooperatives

Location	No of fishermen	Cooperatives/associations
Mogadishu	1620	
Jazira	324	Jazira fishing cooperative
Marka	2110	Madka cooperative
Gendershe	370	Gendershe cooperative
Barawe	420	Danwadaag cooperative
Mareeg	530	

The responses received that cooperatives existed in all the areas before the broke out of civil war. The groups dispersed after the assistance they prospected aborted from local authorities and international organization. The major problems and obstacles encountered the fishermen included to the missing administration and the factor that would concentrate them. This is what was attributed for their declination. Those who formed the rearrangements have no capacity in terms of facilities and personnel to effectively support the fishermen. As a result they did not gain the opportunities to get more assistance for their production of fishing sources.

Some of the fishermen in certain villages and towns showed their activeness for creating stronger associations of fishing community but the recommendations are not realized and remained only under proposal.

If the interviewed fishermen were to receive cooperation from donors for the reconstruction of the boats they mentioned would accept to return to fishermen cooperatives a local contribution of 35% of the cost of equipments to be lastly acquired for found a common fund for Tsunami reconstruction. When asked about the ways the fishermen thin to improve fishing activities they informed to be interested in the ultimate foundation of a rotating fund system in the fishery sector in the future.

Most of the interviewed assented that if they were to get cooperation from the agencies the returning fund to be given by the beneficiaries to the fisher cooperative at the end of the fishing season 35% should be applied for generally agreed purpose. The table below shows the identified uses of that fund would be managed by such cooperative if it is commenced a frequented fund.

Table 3. Allocation for uses of money obtained.

Allocated use	No of responses	Percentage
1 Advanced processing storage	68	16%

2	Clinic center	12	10%
3	Schools	14	12%
4	Marine communication	25	13%
5	Clean water	16	11%
6	Market	8	6%
7	Road and transport	13	10%
8	Training	7	5%
9	Fishing tools	6	7%
10	Emergency kits	4	3%
11	Power	4	7%
	Total	177	100%

Fish catches, species and methods applied

Fish catches are closely low due to lack of reliable market, unsuitable storage and conservation techniques. Potential buyers are only interested in few particular species and products such as lobster, shark fins, king fish and mackerels.

Some boats use more than one method at once. For instance, they spread nets and then tie the lines and hooks in selecting the particular species according to the areas abundance that they see as marketable species demands. Sharks and lobster take the bigger share in the market. The areas stretching from Barawe to Hobyo catch most sea cucumber and shell snails and shrimps.

Table 4. Species caught and methods used

Species	Used methods	Size of the nets
Lobster	Nets, diving and traps	2.4", 3.6"
Mackerels	Nets and hooks	2.4", 3.6"
King fish	Nets and hooks	2.4", 3.6"
Demersal	Nets and hooks	2.4", 3.6"
Sharks	Nets and hooks	65.7", 7.5"
Sea cucumber/shrimps	Diving and collecting	Manual catch

The life span of the nets is 2 years. Mesh size of the nets range form 2.4" to 7.2" are used to catch sharks. This results in usual catch of small, medium and large sharks. There is an urgent need to curb the type of nets used. Mesh size of 10" is recommended in order to save smaller fetus of sharks.

Similar steps need to be taken on other types of nets. Mesh sizes of up to 3.6 which are used to catch lobster mostly trap the undersized ones, thus representing a threat to this resource. For more sustainable fishing, stron regulations should encourage use of bigger mesh sizes.

A reduction in yields has been registered across al the catch types. The community deems this to

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over fishing activities, pollution and lack of control of central government where foreign ships poach the most precious catches in seas. Productions re estimated to have declined deeply. The community suggests strong government control to manage over the fishing and pollution. Strom action required to be taken to prohibit access of illegal fishing ships into artisnal fishing grounds that locals claim they have been offended by foreign ships and have no ability to control the seas since the imposed illegal system advent in the country in the 18 years. The foreign crew who lacks the emotion ownership and disregards are to rebuke for the pollution and poisonous wastes which caused the decimation of many marine resources. the seas was made as dumping sites for heavy industries wastes.

Storge and processing facilites

Most of the fishermen are using home made storages in their residences which hygienically are not appropriate for dried and salted fish. At homes the common practice is to wrap the product of (fillet fish and lobster) in plastic bags and then put in cartons and on the domestic freeze and sell to any available export companies. Mareeg are in Eldher district was the only point that had retained a storage facility. But other areas have traditional method such as drying and salting fish for marketing. This is locally used by the customers. This was however stricken and damaged by the Tsunami waves in December 2004.

Processing facilities are available in a small number in the main towns such as Adale, Marka, Barawer and Mogadishu. Mogadishu community has managed to keep deep freezer container, 4 power generators and a processing center that were built by some businessmen in the 1995 after the collapse of the previous authority the 4 power generators are functioning quite well that they can store fishes for some long time for exportation. The other storages made in the towns out of Mogadishu have been demolished by Tsunami storm and need now for repairs..

Missing maintenance and destruction of the cold storages and processing facilities has greatly impeded their functions. As a result people mostly use ice which is available in main towns such as Mogadishu. The fishermen always buy the ice from those factories for conservation of their catches.

Smoking and salt-drying in another processing methods locally used in the country like elsewhere despite of the non-existing processing facilities, thus resulted a bad quality in product. The mission formed that salt is produced and available in all the regions on the coast line and it has never been a problem because they produce at any time although some of the area like Ega and Mareeg are not salt producers and but from Mogadishu and El'Ma'an

This traditional salt drying and smoking processing methods and the storage methods provide as a result fishing products of product of poor quality. On average the fishing community reported huge wastage of resources due the abovementioned and also due bad post harvest handling procedures. More than 50% of fish catches terminates being wasted as indicated in the following table:-

Table 5: percentage of post harvest losses

Product	Percentage losses
Mackerels	76%
Pelagic	58%
Demersal	60%
Shark	80%
Lobster	36%
Sea cucumber	15%

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Fish trade

Local people consume very small amount of fish due to the traditional custom of preferring red meat from local animals although this has been improving over the years. People were starting to learn the usefulness of fish consumption. Fishermen therefore primarily produce for the external markets.

Fish market is unreliable as the buyers control the product according to the very selective demand from external market for only few products / species. The locals are in this case helpless; they do not have access to the international market. The international market for all the different products is known to exist and is actually within reach to (east Africa, china, Japan, east and central Africa, etc.). The fishermen who would want to export the neighboring countries markets such as Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania, and central Africa -DRC of Congo, and Central Africa it is still very difficult to access the Fish markets. Factors attributed to this include to:

- 1) Absence of well structured and managed institution
- 2) Lack of financial support
- 3) Lack of market information and marketing services.[in which Barrednet have begun to supply sufficient information to the fishing Companies.]

Once these are addressed the other factors that would have to come in to facilitate such trade include:

- a) modern advanced storage and processing methods accessibility to all the fishermen
- b) direct flights or shipment
- c) road network

All these were used to be provided by the government in connection with the fishermen's institutions which have since the collapse of government. Presently, buyers receive the products from the fishermen and transport it to the United Arab Emirates by air and to Kenya by boats. In these destination countries the products are packaged for re-export.

Table 6: kinds of fishes and other marine resources transported to abroad countries

Species	Average price /kg in US\$	Main destination and access
King fish	1.4	UAE by air
Lobster	9	UAE by air
Demersal	0.80	Kenya by boat
Shark fins	130	UAE by air
Shark meat	0.52	Kenya by boat
Sea cucumber	60	UAE by air
Snails	14	UAE by air

97% of all products are exported to the above mentioned countries. The market is commonly unreliable and this leads further wastage of product while the local consumption is very low and there are no cold storages available at any time.

Boats

Wooden boats are the most widely used due to their availability while the fiber and rubber boats are looted by bandits for pirate purposes. They are built in major coastal towns along sea shores and maintained by the local repairers. Woods nails and sailing materials which are used wooden

boat building is always imported from Kenya and Dubai.

There are also fiberglass boats built mainly in the following factories.

- 1 OJazira Marine Manufacturer and boats in Mogadishu
- 2 Al-Furqaan Fiberglass Tanks and boats industry, Kaaraan, Mogadishu
- 3 Saabir Company Ltd in Marka.

Al-Furqaan factory products are widely used in Central south Somalia.

Minor repairing is done by the same fishermen or by some boat repairers in the villages. Major repairs are done at the mentioned factories.

However the local repairer's work is greatly impaired by lack of tools, spare parts and proper training. Well-stocked workshops with well-trained personnel are a necessary feature to support fishing operations. A number of boats were observed on the seashore having been abandoned with no signs of repair efforts. The mission was however able to get the name of a number of people trained or able to maintain boats on engines in each area visited.

Losses and damages caused by the Tsunami

The Tsunami storm brought loss of boats, engines, nets, traps, and other fishing equipments. The damage magnitude of the central regions is much higher than that of the south coast regions. From the mission's observation and judgment, some boats recovered and needed for major repairs while others are completely beyond repair.

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