

Acknowledgements

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
CBMS	Community Based Poverty Monitoring System
CCA	Coast Conservation Act
CCC	Community Coordinating Committee
CCD	Coast Conservation Department
CERM	Coastal Environment and Resource Management
CRM	Coastal Resources Management
CRMP	Coastal Resources Management Project
CZM	Coastal Zone Management
CZMP	Coastal Zone Management Project
DFID	Department of International Development
DS	Divisional Secretary
FCS	Fisheries Cooperative Society
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GEF-RUK	Global Environmental Facility Rekawa, Ussangoda and Kalametiya Management Project
GN	Grama Niladari
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IMCAP	Improving Capacities for Poverty and Social Policy Research
IMM	Integrated Marine Management
IRMP	Integrated Resources Management Programme
IPS	Institute of Policy Studies
IUCN	World Conservation Union
KCDF	Kalametiya Community Development Foundation
MFARD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development
MFOR	Ministry of Fisheries and Ocean Resources
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
PEP	Policy and Economic Policy
PAME	Participatory Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation
PLA	Participatory Learning and Action
PAR	Participatory Action Research
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PR	Participatory Research
PS	Pradeshiya Sabhas
RDF	Rekawa Development Foundation
RLFCS	Rekawa Lagoon Fisheries Cooperative Society
RLFMA	Rekawa Lagoon Fisheries Management Authority
RLFMC	Rekawa Lagoon Fisheries Management Committee
RSAMCC	Rekawa Special Area Management Coordinating Committee
Rs	Sri Lankan Rupees
SAM	Special Area Management
SEI	Stockholm Environmental Institute
TCP	Turtle Conservation Project

UNDP
WEAP

United Nations Development Programme
Water Evaluation and Planning

Abstract

My study aims to investigate the key socio-economic and policy factors influencing the sustainability of natural resource based livelihoods in rural coastal households. While I adopt a sustainable livelihoods approach as an overall conceptual framework, I focus specifically on two aspects of livelihood security - food security and personal wellbeing. I investigate the usefulness of using a combination of food security and personal well-being indices that I develop together with other standard qualitative tools, to highlight aspects of livelihoods sustainability that are not covered by conventional poverty approaches. I also apply these approaches to assess first, how certain coastal zone management policy processes such as Special Area Management (SAM) has affected rural coastal livelihoods, and later, to assess the impact of the Asian tsunami on coastal communities and their livelihoods. SAM is a co-management approach applied in specific coastal sites. I collected data from two SAM sites - Rekawa and Kalametiya, on the south coast of Sri Lanka. I collected data from a total of 210 households that covered 6 villages (3 villages in each site). A combination of participatory methods and conventional surveys methods were used. I first examined the major qualitative trends and influences, and thereafter investigated the differences between households within and between villages and between male and female respondents using univariate analyses. Finally, regression analyses were used to relate the food security and personal well-being indices to a number of explanatory variables such as location of village, wealth rank, livelihood activities and SAM participation. My findings suggest that in terms of coastal resource management initiatives, the use of indices and tools such as those developed under this study, could prove to be useful in respect to better targeting the poorer groups among coastal communities. This in turn would contribute towards the overall success and long-term sustainability of coastal zone management initiatives.