



FACTSHEET

ACCELERATING COASTAL
COMMUNITY-LED CONSERVATION



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COMMUNITIES TAKE CHARGE OF OCEAN HEALTH

Coastal communities' food and livelihoods—their very survival—are inextricably linked to the health of the ocean; they stand to lose the most when its resources are degraded. Despite their importance to the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems, communities continue to be overlooked and undervalued in fisheries policy, shut out of critical decision making and even denied access to natural resources in some places.

Where local people actively participate in the management of coastal resources, this management has been shown to be significantly more effective. Whether monitoring fish stocks, helping draw up legislation or implementing management plans, the importance of local fishers cannot be overstated. If ocean health is to be restored, it will be coastal communities who translate policy into action.

<5%

Indigenous people comprise less than 5 per cent of the world's population, yet an estimated 80 per cent of the planet's biodiversity is under their stewardship

50% of global catch

is harvested by small-scale fisheries, who comprise more than 90 per cent of the world's commercial fishers (108 million people)

4 billion people

(a quarter of whom are in low-income families) get their fish from small-scale fishers

WWF and partners are working to amplify and accelerate the uptake of locally led solutions. The Accelerating Coastal Community-Led Conservation Initiative, an international network of fishers, community associations and local authorities, is working to improve coastal resource management at the scale and pace required to meet Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Inspired and informed by successful projects around the world, this initiative will facilitate a global movement in which coastal communities can share knowledge, build capacity and exert greater political influence.



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OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES

Goal

By 2030, coastal communities will be equipped with the skills, capacity and mandate needed to effectively manage the natural resources they depend upon. This in turn will help restore and protect critical marine and coastal habitats, develop livelihood opportunities and build climate change resilience.

Targets

- 01 Self/co-management enshrined in policy, with communities' rights to access secured across 34 countries
- 02 The biomass of indicator species is stable or increasing, based on community-led data collection
- 03 Four million km² of coastal habitats restored and effectively managed
- 04 A portfolio of least 50 investment-ready community enterprises (at least half by/for women and youth)
- 05 Capacity built at scale to enable successful ongoing implementation of effective coastal resource management through the establishment of six regional Inclusive Conservation Learning Hubs



RESTORE

species essential to food security in coastal communities (molluscs, crustaceans and reef fish)



IMPROVE

household nutrition in at least 300 communities (70,000 direct / 1.3 million indirect beneficiaries)



IMPLEMENT

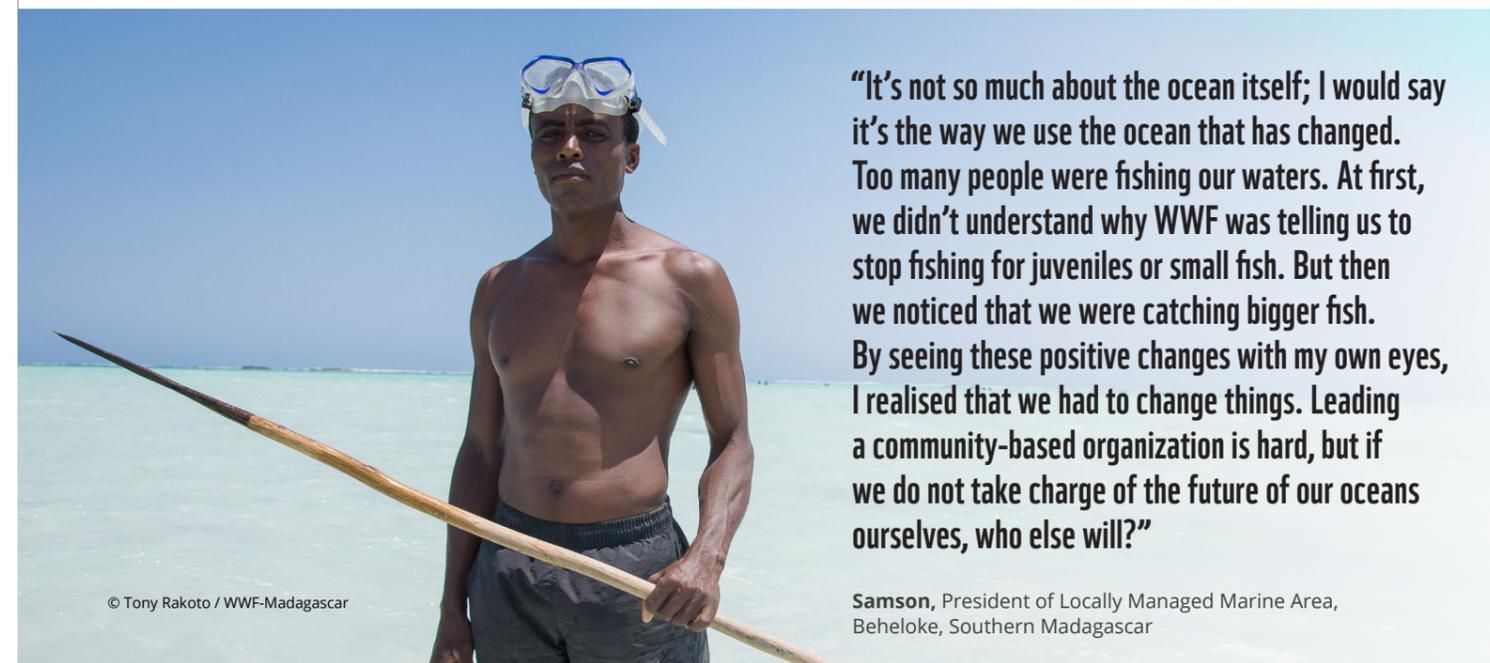
national policies that enshrine in law coastal communities' access to and management of coastal resources



EXPAND

examples of successful, sustainable development projects through an international scaling network

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"It's not so much about the ocean itself; I would say it's the way we use the ocean that has changed. Too many people were fishing our waters. At first, we didn't understand why WWF was telling us to stop fishing for juveniles or small fish. But then we noticed that we were catching bigger fish. By seeing these positive changes with my own eyes, I realised that we had to change things. Leading a community-based organization is hard, but if we do not take charge of the future of our oceans ourselves, who else will?"

Samson, President of Locally Managed Marine Area, Beheloke, Southern Madagascar



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