



A review of the lobster fishery management in Kenya: A case study in the development of Rights-based fisheries management (Co-management) system

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By:

Edward Kimakwa - WWF, Kenya

Email: ekimakwa@wwfkenya.org

Mwaka Barabara – Kenya Fisheries Service, Kenya

Email: barabaraside@gmail.com

Outline of the presentation

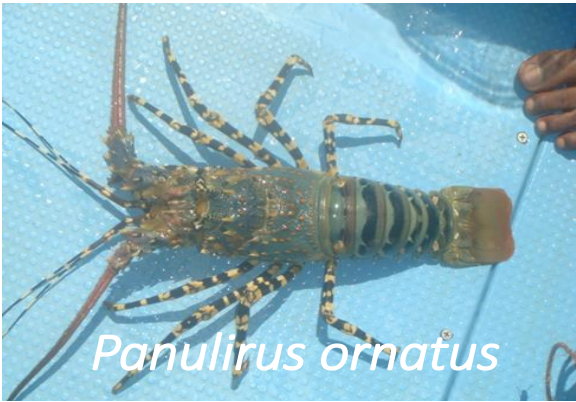
- Overview of the lobster fishery
- Production, Harvesting & Trade
- Management of the fishery
- Success & Impact
- Main challenges
- Moving forward



Overview of the lobster fishery in Kenya

- Five **Spiny Lobster** species;
 - *Panulirus ornatus* (ornate spiny lobster),
 - *P. longipes* (long-legged spiny lobster),
 - *P. penicillatus* (pronghorn spiny lobster),
 - *P. versicolor* (painted spiny lobster),
 - *P. homarus* (scalloped spiny lobster)

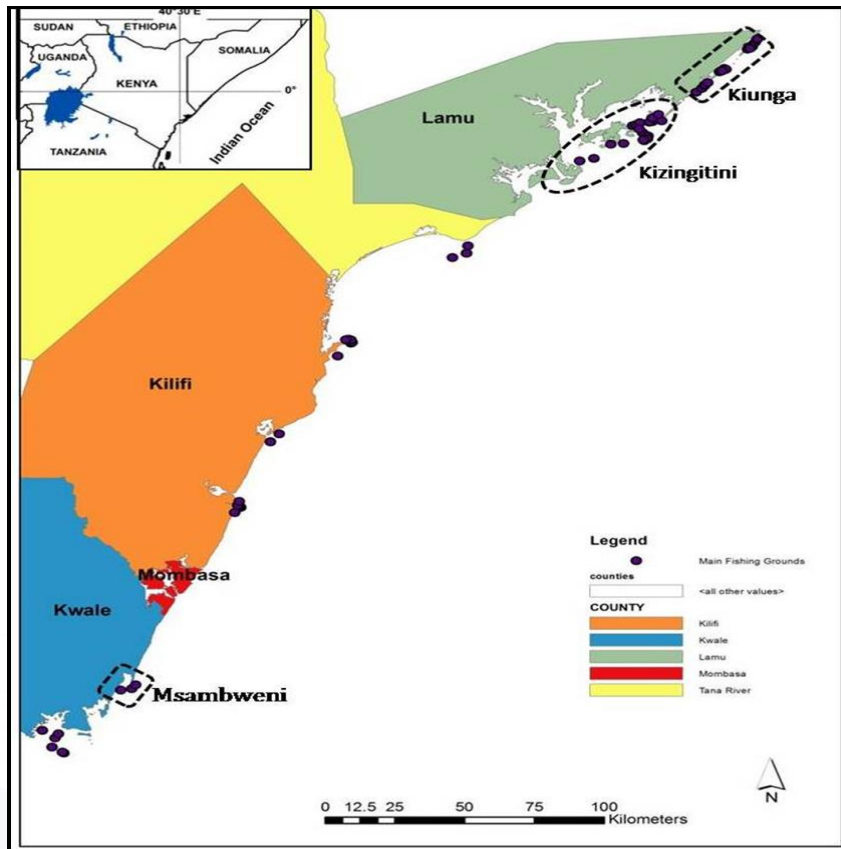
Spiny Lobster Species in Kenya



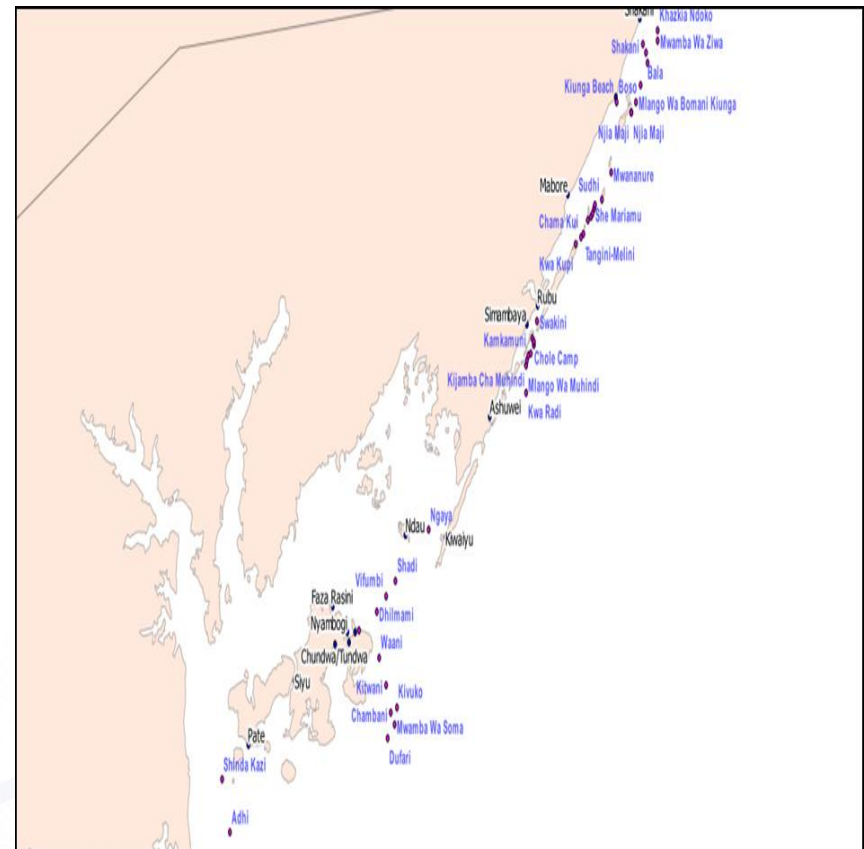
Production and harvesting methods

- **Harvest** by small-scale fishers operating in small boats or and diving
- Average annual **landing** estimated at 389 Mt (2016)
- Commonly used **gears** - Gill nets, traps, scoop nets
- **Fishing grounds** – Intertidal coral reefs and shallow waters below 20m deep along riparian Coastal Counties mainly Lamu, Kwale and Kilifi
- **Trade** – distribution in Domestic (Hotels) & Exports

Fishing grounds (*imbos*) distribution

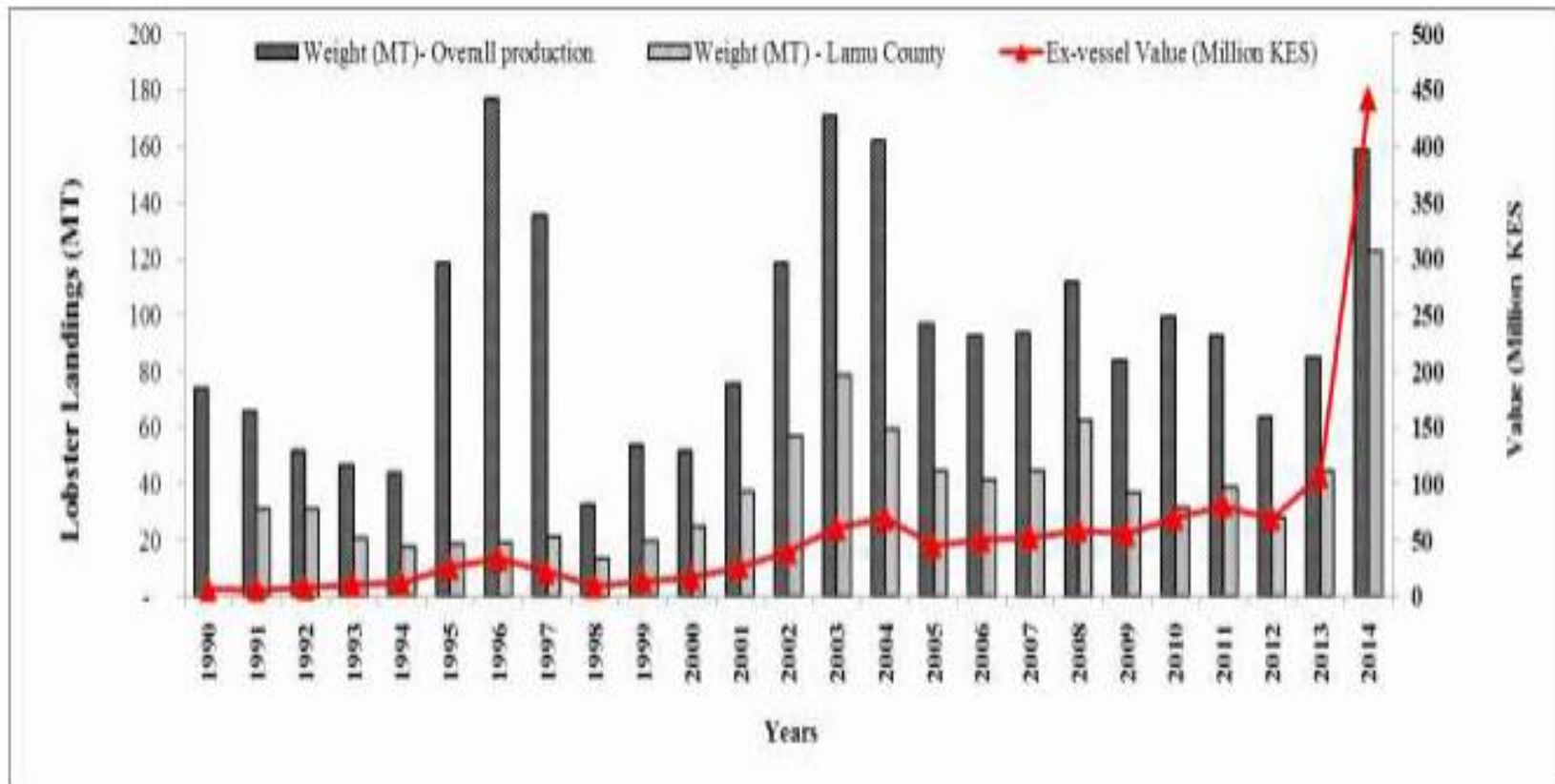


Riparian Counties



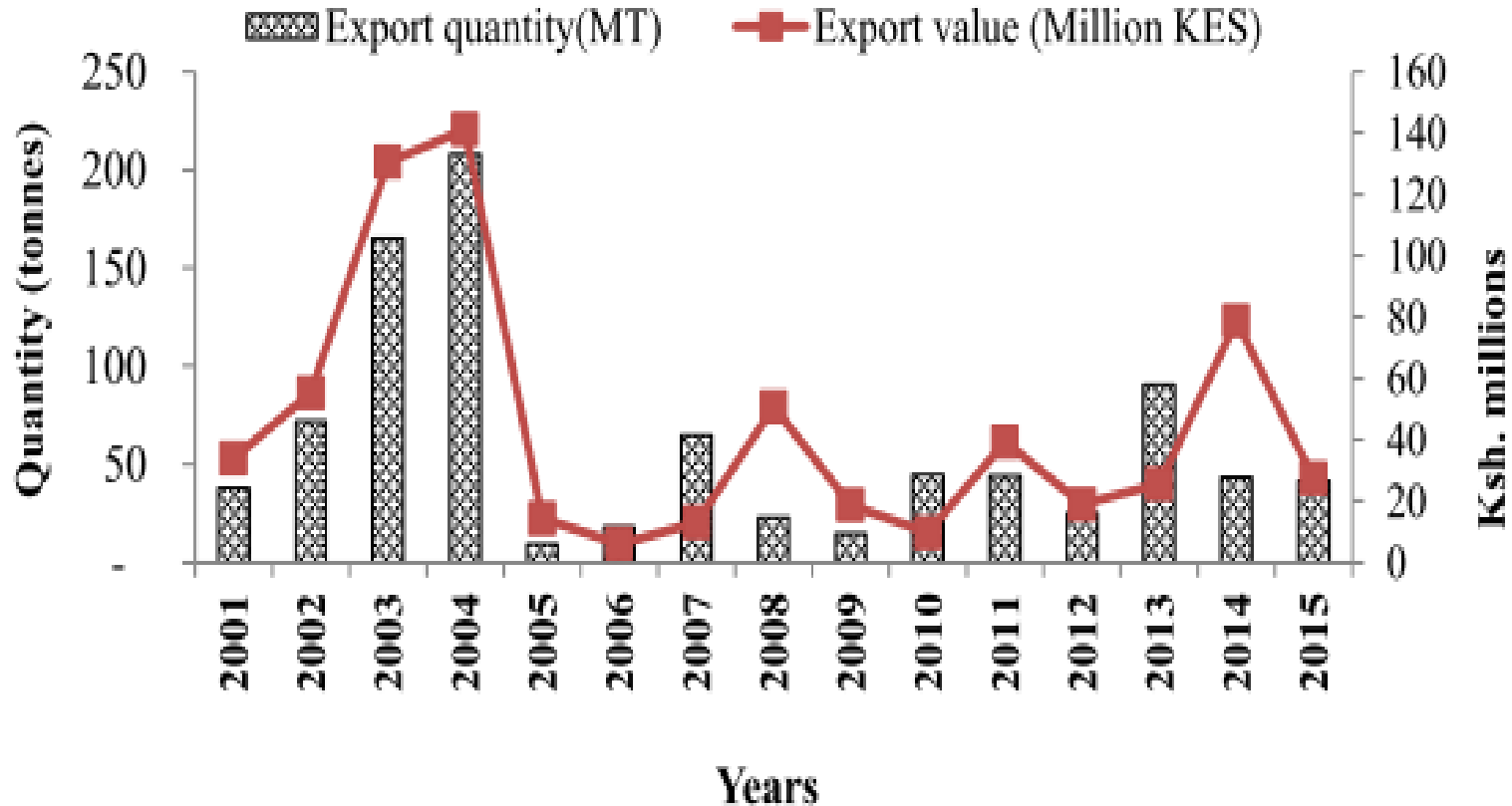
Lobster fishing grounds in Lamu

Lobster production trends



National and Lamu County Lobster fishery production trends and value between 1990 - 2014

Lobster Exports



Lobster fishery management

- Commercial exploitation of lobsters in Kenya dates back in the 1950s
- The fishery in Lamu was managed under a traditional system of community fishing areas called "*imbo*"
- "*Imbo*" is a fishing ground associated with a fishing village and defined by a characteristic seascape.
- A council of elders (*Wazee wa Bandari*) regulated fishing rights including access

- Currently Management of Lobster is through the implementation of the Fisheries Management and Development Act 2016 and the Beach Management Unit Regulations that provides for co-management. Draft **Lobster Management Plan** awaits gazette
- **Co-management** is the partnership arrangement of shared responsibilities between Government, communities (BMU) and other stakeholders.

- **Beach Management Unit (BMU)** is an organization of fisheries stakeholders (Fishers, Traders, Processors, Input suppliers etc.) at a beach
- Other Stakeholders include Government agencies, CSOs, Universities and Research Institutions. Kenya Marine & Fisheries Research Institute (**KMFRI**) is mandated by law undertake fisheries & ocean research

Management measures

- **Size** (weight) restriction - not less than **250g**
- **Gear** restrictions - use of SCUBA, speargun, dynamite, Gill net of less than 2" mesh size outlawed
- Landing of **berried females** is prohibited
- Implementation of catch limits and harvest control rules - Gazettement of the lobster fishery management plan

- **MCS** for lobster fisheries entails –water & beach patrols, vessel registration, licensing fishers, catch monitoring, fish trader & movement permit, export monitoring
- **Compliance** is achieved voluntarily through implementation of BMU internal rules (By-laws)

Successes and achievements of lobster fishery co-management

- Introduced in Kenya in 2006 through implementation of BMU Guidelines
- In 2007- The Fisheries (Beach Management Unit), Regulations, 2007 gazetted and implementation
- Currently Over 80 BMUs established in Coast Region
- 15 Co-management Areas (CMAs) established (different stages)

- **3 are Joint CMAs**

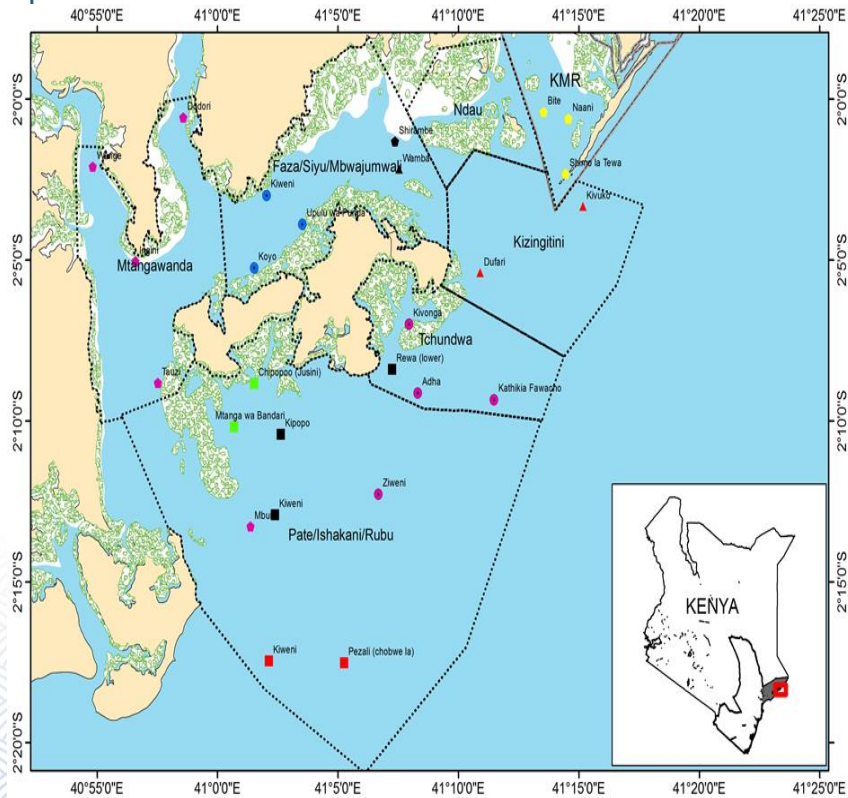
- Malindi-Ungwana Bay (14BMUs)

- Pate Island (10 BMUs)

- Shimoni-Vanga Area (7 BMUs)

- CMAs managed by implementation of **CMA Plans** through **BMU By-laws**

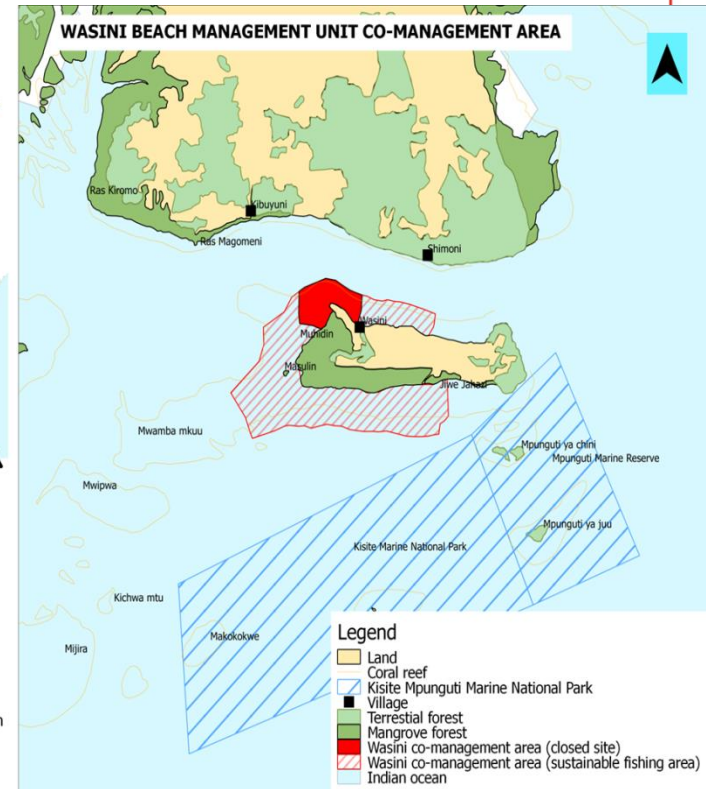
CMA cont.



Pate Island CMAs



Composer: MURAGE LIONEL
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 Date: 20th September, 2014
 Map Scale: 1:80000
 Units: Decimal degrees



Wasini BMU CMA

Some positive results/impacts


- Sense of ownership and security of the fishing grounds, enhanced management and stewardship of the resource
- Participatory decision making
- Reduced resource use conflicts
- Enhanced local enforcement, Improved compliance with fisheries management measures,
- Enhanced food and nutrition security
- Enhanced local economy through Youth and Women engagement and employment

Main challenges

- Inadequate capacity for effective implementation of co-management plans
- Inefficient Monitoring and Data collection system
- Overlapping institutional mandates (The devolved system of government (County government versus National Government))
- Increased fishing effort
- Infrastructural development and extractives (oil and gas, LAPSET)



Moving forward

- Lobster fishery management plan gazetement and implementation
 - BMU & Stakeholder Capacity building
 - Improve Resource monitoring and data collection system
 - Undertake Lobster Fisheries Improvement project (FIP) to move the fishery towards sustainability
 - Establishment of co-management areas to all BMUs
 - Enforcement of BMU By-laws
 - Enhance processing and value addition
 - Enhance Stakeholder cooperation & collaboration
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THANK YOU SO MUCH

ASANTE SANA

ARIGATO GOZAIMAS

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