

Economics of mud crabs farming in Pangani: is there significant income contribution to the coastal community?

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Sustainable coastal environment management is the current global arguable issue for poverty alleviation. New opportunities for generating income have been introduced which increase income to people while conserve environment. Crabs have been introduced in Pangani after chain analysis proved that the project is viable. Yet the rate of adopting it as a source of alternative income is low. A better understanding of the possible driving forces for adoption would help design research policy and mechanisms to facilitate beneficial outcomes from the process. Furthermore, there are concerns on income contribution to people who have adopted crabs cage farming comparing to those who did not adopt. One of the elements which was hypothesized to influence crabs farming adoption is social capital which has been ignored in many projects where only financial, physical and human capital were concerns. The objective of the study is to find the underlying factors for crabs farming adoption and to find if there is significance income difference between those who adopted crabs farming and those who did not. The approach applied is the Logistic model which is more appropriate in studying crabs farming adoption decision since the dependent variable is a binary variable. Generally the results suggest social capital to be of concern in adopting crab farming. Government and other investors need to intervene in the market to improve competition and hence this will increase price and favor farmers.