

# Community Based Fisheries Management: A Global Perspective

Community Based Fisheries Management (CBFM) is an approach to fisheries management that involves local communities in the decision-making process. This approach is based on the principle that local communities have a vested interest in the sustainability of their fisheries and should have a say in how they are managed.



## Community-Based Fisheries Management: A Global Perspective by Nikki Landis

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CBFM has been implemented in a variety of countries around the world, with varying degrees of success. However, there is a growing consensus that CBFM can be an effective way to improve the sustainability of fisheries and to empower local communities.

## History of CBFM

The origins of CBFM can be traced back to the early 1980s, when a number of fisheries scientists began to question the effectiveness of

traditional top-down fisheries management approaches. These scientists argued that local communities had a wealth of knowledge and experience that could be used to improve fisheries management.

The first CBFM projects were implemented in the Philippines and Indonesia in the mid-1980s. These projects were successful in improving the sustainability of local fisheries and in empowering local communities. Since then, CBFM has been implemented in a number of other countries around the world, including Canada, the United States, Australia, and New Zealand.

## **Benefits of CBFM**

CBFM can provide a number of benefits, including:

- \* Improved sustainability of fisheries: CBFM can help to improve the sustainability of fisheries by involving local communities in the decision-making process. Local communities have a vested interest in the long-term sustainability of their fisheries and are more likely to make decisions that will protect the resource.
- \* Increased participation of local communities: CBFM can help to increase the participation of local communities in fisheries management. This can lead to a greater sense of ownership and responsibility for the fishery.
- \* Improved livelihoods for local communities: CBFM can help to improve livelihoods for local communities by providing them with a greater share of the benefits from the fishery. This can lead to increased economic stability and food security.
- \* Reduced conflict: CBFM can help to reduce conflict between different user groups in the fishery. By involving all stakeholders in the decision-making process, CBFM can help to create a more cooperative and sustainable environment.

## **Challenges of CBFM**

CBFM is not without its challenges. Some of the challenges that can be encountered include:

\* Lack of capacity: Local communities may not have the capacity to effectively participate in fisheries management. This can be due to a lack of education, training, or resources. \* Conflict of interest: There may be conflicts of interest between different stakeholders in the fishery. This can make it difficult to reach consensus on management decisions. \* Lack of political will: There may be a lack of political will to support CBFM. This can be due to a variety of factors, such as resistance from traditional fisheries management agencies or a lack of understanding of the benefits of CBFM.

## **Future of CBFM**

Despite the challenges, CBFM is a promising approach to fisheries management. There is a growing recognition of the importance of involving local communities in the decision-making process. As the world's fisheries continue to face challenges, CBFM is likely to become an increasingly important part of the solution.

Community Based Fisheries Management is an approach to fisheries management that involves local communities in the decision-making process. This approach can provide a number of benefits, including improved sustainability of fisheries, increased participation of local communities, improved livelihoods for local communities, and reduced conflict. While there are some challenges to implementing CBFM, it is a promising approach to fisheries management that is likely to become increasingly important in the future.

## References

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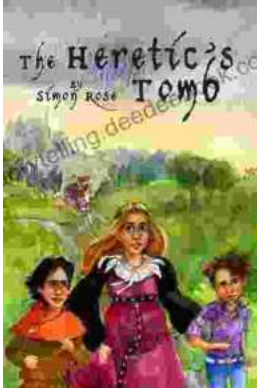
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