Situation Model for Coastal-Marine Governance and Sustainable Use in Mozambique
March 2022

Drivers

Management, conservation of marine resources receives low political attention
- GoM's focus, investments on marine resources not commensurate with value
- + Pro Azul, within Ministry of Seas, developing a Blue Economy strategy
- Lack of cross-agency coordination
- +/- High-level champions, but with political risk

Licensing & enforcement are consistently influenced by personal gain
- + Incentives (financial rewards for enforcement) can counter the draw of corruption
- Low govt salaries
- Lack of transparency and commitment to transparency

Research community is capable, but not resourced

CSOs stronger at awareness raising than influencing governance
- + Many CSOs effective at awareness raising
- Power dynamics and typical isolation limit influence with government
- Typically unsustainable financing model (project by project)

Decentralized fisheries & coastal management is more theory than practice
- Catch data absent or under-reported
- Local fishing councils are not engaged in decision-making, enforcement, are mainly for communication
- Legal cases about resource ownership often favor State control, reflecting historical experiences
- Huge coastline makes full national control & enforcement impractical
- +Legal frameworks are fairly robust; implementation, enforcment are the challenges
- +New system for biodiversity offsets
- CCPs don't have clear tenure authority for management
- District level often lacks support from national, technical fisheries officers, reducing their influence
- +New fisheries law
- +/- 2024 ban on coastal beach seine nets

Use of MPAs to clarify tenure, empower community management, protect/restore habitats, and promote tourism is underdeveloped
- +Declaring protected areas creates a clear mechanism/legal authority for local management
- +Decentralization on the land-side and community MPAs have had successes
- + Government Commitments for MPA expansion

+ Donor interest in strengthening conservation of Moz's marine biodiversity

+Opportunity to generate income through emerging blue carbon initiatives

Limited private sector engagement in marine protected areas
- Infrastructure limitations
- Challenging business environment
- + Oppty to provide livelihoods, finance, political support

Strong demand on fisheries for livelihoods, food security
- Fish are key to protein, livelihoods, safety net, identity
- High demand for small, cheap fish
- High poverty levels, food insecurity, lack of potable water, educational options
- Often there are few livelihood alternatives
- Lack of infrastructure limits market for higher value products
- Growing population

Negative gender norms that exclude women from decision-making power in fisheries and coastal management and financial gain from fisheries
- Women are largely disenfranchised from fisheries management
- No support, management for intertidal resources harvested by women
- +Oppty to strengthen management through women's engagement, given their role/stake in the issue
- Exploitative practices, e.g."Sex for Fish"
- Value increases tend to displace women harvesters with men

Different gender roles originate in the household. Men tend to harvest for cash, women for consumption. Men tend to lead on financial decisions on a continum at the household and community level

The challenge of improving management without increasing food insecurity in the short term is a political hot potato

Overharvesting & habitat destruction have reduced ecological productivity

Current governance is not effective in sustaining stocks or incomes

Opportunity for big payout, low risk of negative consequences
- Social, cultural beliefs, tastes
- Established markets, trade routes to Asia
- **Low understanding of laws and resource value**
- Low enforcement because of weak decentralization, so CCPs (those most affected) don't have enforcement power

Threats (direct human actions)

Poorly implemented mining, extraction
- Oil & gas (H)
- Heavy sands (H/M)
- Salt (M/L)
- Sand (L)

Poorly managed coastal development (mega-projects, ongoing expansion, ports, upland dams) (VH)

Poorly implemented ag & aquaculture expansions (M/L)

Mangrove cutting for fuel, building materials (H)

Unsustainable fishing (VH)
- IUU fishing
- Destructive fishing, including avoidable by-catch
- Overfishing

Marine wildlife crime (for trumpet shells, turtles, sea horses, Coelacanths, sharks/rays, dugongs) (H)

Climate change (VH)

Stressors
- Noise pollution
- Habitat loss
- Nutrient, chemical pollution
- Sedimentation
- Reduced ecological productivity
- Reduced resilience to climate impacts
- Increased ocean acidification, coral bleaching
- Increased storm intensity, variability in weather patters, flooding

Focal Interests

High biodiversity coastal marine areas along the Mozambican coastline

Habitats
- Coral reefs, seagrasses, mangroves
- Wetlands & lagoons
- Other essential fish habitats (i.e. for prawns, bivalves)
- Sand dunes, sand beaches, rocky shores

Ecological processes & characteristics
- "Blue Highways" for fish and larval connectivity
- Biodiversity and functional redundancy
- Food web integrity

Species
- Wild-caught species
- Protected and charasmatic species (marine mammals, turtles, sharks/rays, sea horses, etc.)

Human well-being focal interests
- Increased livelihood opportunities & income
- Improved food security
- Improved social capital and agency in resource management, including for women and youth
- Enhanced resilience to natural & economic shocks
- Enhanced wellbeing from connection and historical relationships with the ocean
- Increased women's empowerment, including countering GBV

Ecosystem Services
- Carbon capture
- "Green Infrastructure" that increases coastal protection from storms, sea-level rise, etc
- Support for ecosystem resilience to climate change (eg, adaptation to acidification,
- Seafood Production
- Tourism attractions
- Aesthetic, social, and spiritual values