



WHY COASTAL AND COMMUNITY MCS IS IMPORTANT?

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LETS THINK BACK?



FIJI'S COASTAL AND COMMUNITY MCS



- ▶ **MCS play a crucial role in coastal and community driven fisheries management for several important reasons;**
 - a. **Monitoring component:** collection of scientific data to support the understanding of existing fish stock to provide a guide towards decision making. (market survey, catch report, scientific research)
 - b. **Control:** Implementation of Legislation, policies, licensing arrangement, market and export control, etc (legislation of size limits, licence criteria, seasonal ban, export quote etc) to ensure the appropriate control measures are in place to ensure sustainability of resources.
 - c. **Surveillance:** The use of assets, tools and programs to ensure that there are appropriate checks and enforcement conducted with the coastal space. (surface and land patrols, fish warden program, market and commodity inspection etc. (enforcement, investigation and prosecution).

HOW HAVE WE EXECUTED?

- ▶ Vast space: Rely of broader partnership (internal and external)
- ▶ Partnership (NGO, Civil Society, Community Partnership)
- ▶ Establishment of workforce to undertake to MCS work
- ▶ Establishment of Community based associations to partnership and voluntary compliance.
- ▶ Engage with development partner (MPI NZ)
- ▶ Continuous surface patrol (eg Operation Wasawasa)
- ▶ Increased the profile of coastal importance



Challenges and way forward!

- ▶ Financial and operation challenges that needs broader partnership and collaboration
- ▶ Needs for improved scientific data collection within the coastal space
- ▶ Market demands and increased industrialisation have affected the sustainable viability of coastal fish and marine resources
- ▶ Political aspect involved with governing coastal resources
- ▶ Calls for multi-disciplinary and multi-agency approach is needed.
- ▶ Technological advancement with its pros and cons.

- ▶ **Aspire:** Increased collaboration, partnership and collective approach.
- ▶ Development of alternative sources of income for coastal communities (eg: seaweed production, FAD program, etc)
- ▶ Continuous work needed in legislative policy and funding within the coastal fisheries space.



CONCLUSION.

Our Ocean and the fish that we enjoy is more than just a source of sustenance, it is part of our culture, the basis of our survival and is our biggest asset!

Fish that we enjoy today is accredited to the firm decision that our forefathers made to not just enjoy the abundance of fish and marine resources for their sustenance, but to ensure that they made the firm decision to manage and protect this resources for our sustenance.

As an inherited resource, we owe it to our forefathers to make certain that we protect it at all cost so that our future generation may enjoy the same inheritance.