

Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

CBRM Database

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Case Study Name:	Fishery resource management in Chilika lagoon: a study on coastal conservation in the Eastern Coast of India		
Author:	Iwasaki, S & Shaw, R.		
Document Type:	Paper in scientific journal		
Year:	2008		
Language:	English		
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Region:	South Asia		
Country:	India		
Ecosystem Type:	Coastal marine		
Social Characteristics:	Coastal community		
Scale of Study:	Community		
Resource Type:	Fisheries		
Type of Initiative:	Research driven project		

Community Based Work:	Resource management
Keywords:	Fish marketing - Exploitation - Chilika lagoon - Indebtedness - Resource-led conflict - Coastal conservation
Summary:	<p>A significant proportion of the fishing population comprises small-scale fishermen and many studies illustrate that these people are exploited by middlemen in the process of fish marketing combined with money lending. The negative dependency gives rise to poverty and triggers indiscriminate fish catch that threatens fishery resources depletion. This article explores the root causes of failures in resource-led development from the viewpoint of coastal resource conservation. The study presents a case study of Chilika lagoon, India and focuses on the interaction between small-scale fishermen and middlemen. The findings reveal that most of the small-scale fishermen have been exploited by specific middlemen and the underlying causes of the present fish marketing structure stem from (i) indebtedness and (ii) the unstable situation because of perpetual conflicts over fishery resources among the fishers across Chilika lagoon. Based on these observations, this article presents some recommendations on fishery resource conservation from the perspective of a fish marketing structure.</p>