

Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

CBRM Database

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Case Study Name:	Government supported, village-based management of marine resources in Vanuatu		
Author:	Johannes, R. E.		
Document Type:	Paper in scientific journal		
Year:	1998		
Language:	English		
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Region:	Oceania		
Country:	Vanuatu		
Ecosystem Type:	Coastal marine		
Social Characteristics:	Community bordering/inside protected areas		
Scale of Study:	Community; National		
Resource Type:	Fisheries; Species conservation		
Type of Initiative:	Community initiative, Development project, GOV initiative		
Community Based Work:	Resource management; Conservation		
Keywords:	None		

Summary:

The Fisheries Department of Vanuatu catalyzed a striking upsurge in tradition-based marine resource management in fishing villages in the early 1990s. Of 26 villages surveyed, only one had not introduced new village-based marine resource management measures between 1990 and late 1993. Although government assistance and advice in this connection covered only one species, trochus, the success of conservation measures for it prompted villagers to introduce controls over fishing for many other species of fish and invertebrates. Vanuatu's experience yields many lessons for initiating effective, inexpensive, government-assisted, village-based marine resource management. It also reveals how a local shoestring operation can have much greater success than a fisheries development project costing tens of millions of dollars.