

ASSESSMENT OF SEAWEED FARMING IN SUSTAINING HOUSEHOLD LIVELIHOOD IN EAST COAST DISTRICT, IN ZANZIBAR, TANZANIA

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ABSTRACT

The paper title is the assessment of seaweed farming in sustaining household livelihood in East coast district. The main objective of the study was to examine seaweed farming sustaining in supporting household livelihood, and the study was guided by three specific objectives which were to identify the nature of seaweed farming, to analyses the profit occurred from the seaweed farming, and to assess the contribution of seaweed faming on farmer livelihood. The researcher employed case study type of design and three methods of data collection were used which are observation, interview, and questionnaire. Whereby data were analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively where by qualitative method based on explanations and quantitative method involve the use of calculations percentage and tables. A sample of 70 respondents were selected by employing probability and non-probability sampling from the population which are seaweed famer, government officers, seaweed companies' staff. Findings revealed that the changes in water levels are directly linked to changes in production of seaweed. The study revealed that of respondents most farmer grow spinoseum type compare to cotton. This is because due to its tolerance of environmental changes compared with cotton type which is very sensitive to environmental changes and many sites do not have appropriate condition to support this type of seaweed and mostly died off during hot season. The seaweed farmers have secure shelter and clothes to their children due to the availability of seaweed majority of the farmer buying their children school uniform due to the contribution of seaweed farming, clean and affordable energy, and availability of productive tools of livelihood. The study recommended that, there should be national Development plans for the seaweed industry and shares this plan with other producing Countries as a means to communicate their future intentions and targets in terms of Production levels.

Keywords: Seaweed, Zanzibar; household livelihood; farmers.