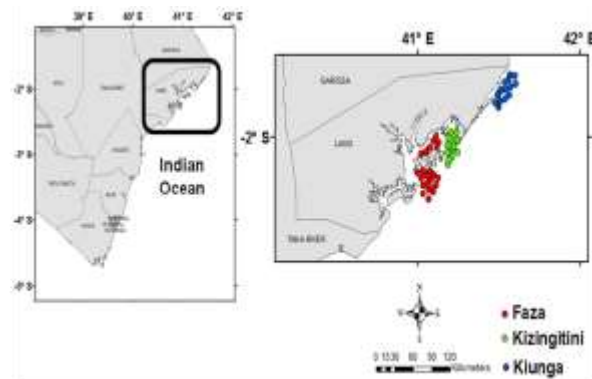


The Beach Seine Fishery of Lamu, Kenya: A Fact Sheet

Fishery description

Beach seine are small mesh nets in range from 100 m in length, set in shallow water parallel to the beach or back reef and are hauled onto the beach or reef. A seine is created by joining six or more small mesh, (approx. 0.5 - 1.5") each 25 m long and 3-4 m deep. Beach seines varies greatly in quality (holes and tears), materials used and length from 100 m long to well over 400m. Beach seining is prohibited by laws of Kenya because they have been found to capture a high proportions of juveniles and are destructive to habitats. The positive impact of beach seining is income generation and employment leading to food security from the catches. The catch sharing arrangements ensures most of the fishing community benefit from the beach seine fishery. Beach seines are rampantly used in Lamu County particularly in Faza, Kizingitini and Kiunga. The local people in these areas have a passion for beach seine fishery and have assimilated it into their fishing culture. The current information available is based on short term exploratory assessments and there is a lack of information of key target and commercial species hence this rapid assessment study to inform future management initiatives.



Beach seining is practiced throughout the coastline but is more rampant in Lamu. This study reports findings for Faza, Kiunga and Kizingitini where it is highly practiced.

Beach Seine Activity



Study objectives

- To estimate the total catches of the beach seine fishery in Lamu, Kenya
- To determine catch composition of the beach seine fishery in Lamu, Kenya

Fishing Effort in Lamu County

Area	# vessels		# fishers	
	All Gears	Beach Seine	All Gears	Beach Seine
Faza	96	38	658	380
Kizingitini	164	9	817	117
Kiunga	63	12	612	200
Amu	125	6	521	48
Total	448	65	2608	745

Data Source: (GoK, 2014)



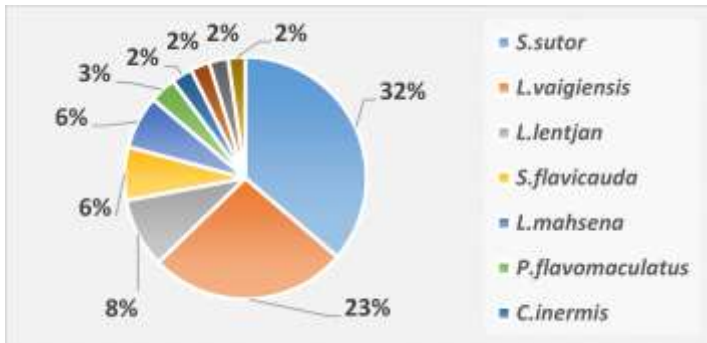
Economic Importance of Beach Seine

The Catch-Per-Unit-Effort (CPUE) estimates varied from 12.5 to 185.5 kg, with an overall mean of 117.9 kg per vessel. Overall estimated total catch of 2,250 t with a current market value of between KES. **225,000,000** and **270,000,000**.

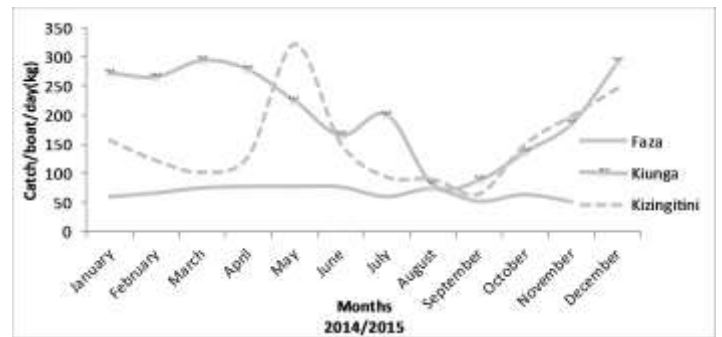
Beach Seine



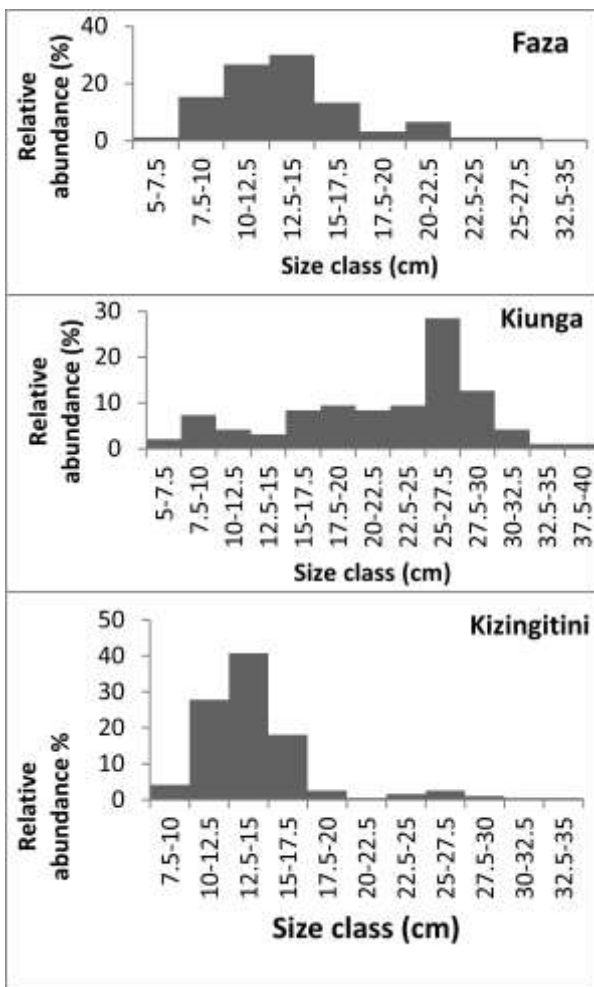
Typical Beach seine Catch: Families = 31; Species = 63.
 Most abundant species: *S. sutor* (32%); *L. vaigiensis* (23%); *L. lentjan* (8%); and *L. mahsena* (6%).



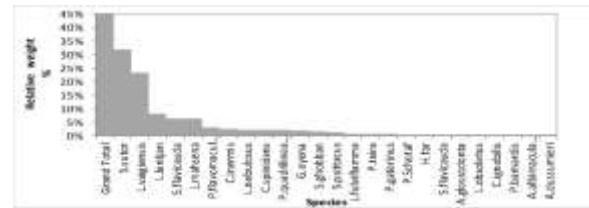
CPUE from the beach seine fishery for the different sites.
 (Source, CAS data)



Size of *S. sutor* caught by beach seine ($L_m = 14.2\text{cm}$)



Boat types



Hori



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