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Community-based Surveillance Group Regular Activities in Sulawesi

Introduction

Communities within the UoCs across Sulawesi have agreed to establish several management measures, for example, temporary closure area, limitation on fishing gears, and limitation on octopus size catch. The compliance of the agreed fisheries regulations are highly needed to ensure effective fisheries management. Therefore, one of the most important activities in fisheries management is surveillance.

Surveillance activity is one of the topics of fisheries meetings. When communities discuss temporary closure, they also discuss the surveillance activities that complement it. The discussion involves multiple stakeholders, not only village government and the surveillance group, but also fisher groups, community leaders, customary leaders, community-level buyers, and other relevant authorities such as the Marine Police.

Current Updates on Regular Surveillance Activities in Sulawesi

The first step of surveillance is to involve community members and coordinate with local authorities. Even though some communities already have a POKMASWAS, the surveillance activity is open for all community members to participate. Including broader community members can increase awareness and participation about fisheries management in the community. Partners' role is very important in this process because some surveillance team reported a lack of enthusiasm in the community regarding surveillance activities. Some community members also think that surveillance is the responsibilities of POKMASWAS only. Partners support communities by raising awareness and socialising the benefit of participating in regular surveillance. Other challenges include finding the proper time to make everyone able to participate in the surveillance. Most community members do not only work as fishers but also as farmers, and they also have household chores. One of the solutions is to expand the surveillance team so more people can join and take turns in the surveillance.

The second step is to prepare resources and logistics. However, lack of boat fuel and other safety equipment are one of the common challenges that are faced by the surveillance team. Some communities also reported that they are having a difficult time to do surveillance because there is no surveillance boat. Not all community members are willing to lend their boat for surveillance. One positive story comes from Torosiaje, Pohuwato where its village head is planning to include budgets for surveillance activities in the next term village budget planning.

Community-based surveillance teams across Sulawesi reported various results during their observation. In several communities, there are strong assumptions that nighttime fishers frequently catch octopus in the temporary closure area. Surveillance team reported seeing evidence of a spear around fish corrals (sero) that belong to several

fishers. Surveillance team reported seeing outside fishers that were still fishing within the community's fisheries management area. When encountering outside fishers, the surveillance team approaches the fishers and do socialisation regarding current fisheries regulations. Ideally, the surveillance team will share information regarding fisheries management measures to all fishers that were encountered during the surveillance, even though the fishers originated from the community itself. However, some surveillance teams are still hesitant to address violators if they are from the community. During the surveillance, it is also reported that there were several temporary closure boundary markers that went missing. Some markers are missing because of strong current during bad weather and some are missing because they are cut. The surveillance team does not know who the perpetrators are and are not able to confirm it yet to do any follow up socialisation. Several surveillance teams are already prepared regarding the missing markers, they bring all the necessary equipment to fix it directly.

The next step of the surveillance is to do community outreach using posters and billboards within the communities and to neighbouring villages as well. The community fisheries management group lead the outreach and socialisation to fishers and community members alike. Another positive story from the community is where KOMANANGI facilitated the results of the surveillance to be discussed during the data feedback session. During the meeting, fishers, village government, and customary leaders are present to discuss the next step of fisheries management and how to overcome challenges encountered during the surveillance and management.

Appendix



Appendix 1 Meeting with surveillance group members to discuss surveillance schedule in Uwedikan, Banggai



Appendix 2 Community meeting in Kadoda, Tojo Una-Una discussing the surveillance schedule and route



Appendix 3 Surveillance team in Torosiaje, Pohuwato



Appendix 4 One of the surveillance member in Torosiaje, Pohuwato is interviewing fishers during surveillance activity



Appendix 5 Surveillance team in Kadie Kapota, Wakatobi checking the temporary closure boundaries marker



Appendix 6 KOMANANGI is facilitating a data feedback session regarding surveillance activities in Kadie Kapota, Wakatobi