What is a LIVELIHOOD?
A livelihood comprises the capabilities, asset (i.e. material and resources) and activities required for a means of living.

**GOAL: Poverty alleviation**

**Wide Range of Development Objectives:**

- addresses factors that has poverty-producing potential (short-term, long-term),

  e.g.

  a. improved access to high-quality education, information, technologies and training, better nutrition and health
  b. supportive and cohesive social environment
  c. more secure access to and better management of natural resources
  d. better access to financial resources
  e. a policy and institutional environment that supports multiple livelihood strategies and promotes equitable access to competitive market
Different Aspects of Sustainable Systems:

**Environmental sustainability**
- achieved when productivity of life-supporting natural resources is conserved or enhanced for use by future generations

**Economic sustainability**
- achieved when a given level of expenditure can be maintained over time, or when a baseline of economic welfare can be achieved or sustained (e.g. breaching the poverty threshold)

**Social sustainability**
- achieved when social exclusion is minimized and social equity is maximized

**Institutional sustainability**
- achieved when prevailing structures and processes have the capacity to continue to perform their functions over the long term

(DFID, 1999. Sustainable Livelihoods Guidance Sheets)

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Sustainable Livelihood has many dimensions…

**Livelihood are sustainable when they:**

- are resilient in the face of external shocks and stresses
- are not dependent upon external support (or if they are, this support should be economically and institutionally sustainable
- maintain the long-term productivity of natural resources;
- do not undermine livelihoods of, or compromise the livelihood options open to others

(DFID, 1999. Sustainable Livelihoods Guidance Sheets)
**People-centered**

Sustainable poverty reduction will be achieved only if external support (i.e. from outside the household) works with people in a way that is congruent with their current livelihood strategies, social environments and ability to adapt.

People rather than the resources they use or the governments that serve them are the priority concern.

- the underlying motivation should be supporting people’s livelihoods (maybe through good governance or resource management)

(DFID, 1999. Sustainable Livelihoods Guidance Sheets)

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**Sustainable Livelihoods - Coastal and Marine Resources Management Context**
As a strategy for Coastal Resources Management…

Problem Analysis: Root causes and effects

- high incidence of poverty among direct resource users
- high rate of population increase
- open access of marine resources
- depletion of resources exacerbated poverty of these users
- increase effort (i.e. time, number of fishers)
- overexploitation, increase in destructive fishing
- decrease in catch, decrease in income

Fishing = Livelihood
Basic Assumptions/Premise

- Development of “alternative” livelihoods or diversification of income sources will reduce fishing pressure on the natural resource and allow the resource base to “recover” to continue to provide a decent source of livelihood to poor coastal communities

Common types of livelihood assistance:

1. Land-based micro-enterprise
2. Aquaculture/Processing
3. Tourism
Insights from experiences in Livelihood Development

- is there an “alternative” to fishing?
  a. Shifts in labor: fishery to other types of livelihood?
  - skills and cultural constraints
  b. With increase in income : fishers give up fishing?

(Ecology-Economy linkage study)

Requisites for an Alternative to Fishing:

1. Big scale (economic magnets)
2. Provide permanent employment
HOW can fishing pressure be reduced?

1. Reduce new entrants into fishery through other sources of employment or income sources
   a. Immediate-term:
      non fishers (without regular sources of income)
   b. longer-term:
      children of fisher families

2. Reduce fishing effort of current fishers
   a. pay off to stop fishing?
   b. command and control mechanisms
      – authorities simply mandate “behavior” in the law, and use whatever enforcement machinery – courts, police, fines, etc., to obey the law
   c. market based mechanisms
      – use the market or price mechanism to encourage behavior leading to sustainable management
      increase value of catch = decrease amount of catch needed to meet daily requirements
      - value adding (e.g. processing)
      - niche marketing (e.g. premium for products from sustainable systems)
      - linking to better markets
d. Incentive systems

**Incentives** - inducements to stakeholders to improve management of coastal resources and municipal fisheries

**Must consider**
- **Economic constraints** - cost of monitoring, policing and regulation
- **Formal constraints** - laws, government policies, property rights
- **Social constraints** - cultural norms, customs, etiquette, etc.
- **Compliance** - level of observance of formal and social rules

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Resource management linked livelihoods
-addressing both socio-economic needs and ecological concerns

Examples:
1. Ecotourism
2. Community-based grow-out culture
3. Sea ranching
Optimizing Economic Returns and Equitable Benefits from Resource Use

A. Production
- use/access rights – stewardship
- preferential rights to resident small fisher groups

B. Post harvest
- processing, value adding

C. Trade and marketing
- linking to alternative direct markets