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FACULTY OF ARTS

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Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives and Sustainable Rural Livelihoods. The case of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu (Good Life) Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in Kaani ward, Binga.

NAME	CHAKWANDA LOVEMORE M
REG NUMBER	R122352E
MODE OF ENTRY	PARALLEL
SUPERVISOR	Ms. NCIIZAH
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A dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the Bachelor of Arts Honours Degree in Development Studies at Midlands State University.

Approval Form

The undersigned certify that they have supervised the student, Chakwanda Lovemore M, dissertation entitled: **The contribution of Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives towards sustainable rural livelihoods. The case of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu (Good Life) Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in Kaani ward, Binga**, submitted in Partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies Honours Degree at Midlands State University.

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Supervisor: Mrs. Nciizah

Date

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...../...../.....

Chairperson: Dr Matunhu J

Date

Declaration

I, Chakwanda Lovemore M, do hereby declare that I am the owner and producer of this unique work. This work has never been previously submitted or produced before in any institution of tertiary learning or published work. All references acknowledged in this work have been given attribution to their owners. This work is being submitted in partial fulfilment of the Bachelor of Arts Honours Degree in Development Studies at Midlands State University.

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Dedication

I dedicate this paper to all rural community people and development practitioners/programmers at large around the globe.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

BRDC	Binga Rural District Council
CADEC	Catholic Development Commission
CAMPFIRE	Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources
CPT	Common Property Theory
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
HIV/AIDS	Human Immune Virus Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
RNF	Rural Non-Farm
RNFA	Rural Non-Farm Activities
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SMEs	Small Medium Enterprises
SRLF	Sustainable Rural Livelihoods Framework
ZIMASSET	Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation

ABSTRACT

In Zimbabwe although there was a boom in the fisheries industry in the 1980s and 1990s especially in rural areas, the importance of the fishing industry was not considered critical. However, with the collapse of the agricultural sector, following the fast track land reform programme and subsequently the political and economic crises, brought renewed interest in the sector as people sought alternative forms of livelihoods. The vivid thrust of this unique research was to investigate the contribution of Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives brought to community of Kaani ward in Binga district towards sustainable rural livelihoods. This was to aid on the outcome of using natural resources for human survival in Kaani ward to fight against all forms of poverty. The research also brought out opportunities and challenges both the Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives face in promoting sustainable rural livelihoods and internal operations and lately drew up possible solutions from respondents involved in this research. The researcher used qualitative research approach to gather qualitative information accompanied by data collection tools including semi-structured and unstructured questionnaires, desktop review and interviews from key informants' personnel such as Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development and Local Leadership. The outputs from this research through purposive sampling indicate that kapenta fishing cooperatives have brought better than harm to the community of Kaani ward, Binga district. There has been a notifiable positive impact in rural livelihoods through kapenta fishing cooperatives which includes improved community participation, improvement in basic social welfare, debatable issue on human index development, women empowerment and participation and employment creation and opportunities.

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INTRODUCTION

Due to economic meltdown being faced in Zimbabwe, mainly because of unseen drivers such as drought, climate change, inflation and also not forgetting economic sanctions, households in remote parts of the country have engaged in aquaculture as disaster response mechanism to poverty, mainly under rural sustainable livelihood. Brummet (1999) postulates that, “there are ways to achieve greater food security and relieve poverty to an extent through the development of aquaculture”. The prediction models based on common property theory are silent on the social and economic conditions of fishers, generation of employment and improvement of income distribution, Acheson (1981). This sidelining of fishers silently increases the burden of sustainable livelihoods mainly towards rural households.

Inasmuch as the Zimbabwean government has tried and is still trying to promote rural sustainable livelihoods especially through food security measures, the current economic blueprint, Zimbabwe Agenda For Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (ZIMASSET), reluctantly acknowledged aquaculture as an element to bolster food security and nutrition cluster in means to comprehensively promote rural sustainable livelihoods. This remains a cause for concern as agriculture which used to bolster both rural and urban livelihoods is now even failing to sustain rural livelihoods alone. The contribution of aquaculture will remain compromised as aquaculture (current alternative solution towards boosting rural livelihoods) has not advocated for at full volume.

In a bid to uplift rural livelihoods, the researcher would love to acknowledge Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 2 which states that, “**End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture**”. This is being built on the foundation laid by Millennium Development Goals (2010 – 2015). SDG number 2 cries out

loud to double the agricultural productivity and the incomes of small-scale food producers, particularly women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets, and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment by 2030. This increases participation of rural people in development oriented programmes and/or projects through access to local available resources. The sense of ownership will be instilled and without doubt there will be improved rural sustainable livelihoods as there will be no wastage and conflict over local resources.

“Most people in the world are poor and understanding the economics of the poor means understanding the economics that really matters”, (Schultz 1980). The Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises’ and Cooperative Development has since played a critical role in increasing accessibility towards resources. It has availed programmes such as Internal Savings and Lending Schemes to Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in Binga District after recognizing that Kapenta movement is economics that matters towards poverty alleviation in rural areas.

1.1 Background of the Study

The idea of cooperative movement was a mechanism with poverty alleviation goal oriented vision across the globe. This elusively means that in both developed and developing countries cooperative movement was or still regarded as panacea to poverty crisis. It was mainly meant to be a panacea to extreme and unpredictable conditions of poverty. Inasmuch as some may take cooperative movement as their extra curriculum activity, cooperative movement has also been the economic or survival backbone of many communities especially within Sub-Saharan region. These cooperatives, however venture into various economic activities including agriculture, mining, fishing, financing, housing and dairying to mention just a few. Dubey et

al (2009) points out that cooperative society in India have played an important role in the development of agriculture, banking, agro processing, storage, marketing, dairy, fishing and mining. Thus in India, cooperatives networks cover 85% of rural households and this serves as an indication that the role of these cooperatives, especially rural cooperatives in poverty alleviation, food security and employment generation is well established.

According to FAO (2002), an estimated 30 million people globally are engaged in fishing and around 22 million of them are in the small-scale fisheries sector. If other fishery-related activities are taken into account, including dependent family members, up to 150 million people could be deriving their livelihoods from small-scale fisheries, (Hersoug 2005). Sadly, data estimates show that 23 million fishery-dependent people are living on less than US\$1 per day (World Fish Center/FAO, 2005). Despite a rather grim picture, there is consensus that fisheries contribute to economic growth and can assist in meeting the United Nations MDG of eradicating extreme poverty (United Nations (2010); Jentoft and Eide, (2011)).

In Africa, Kenya has been the evidence of comprehensive cooperate development since the attainment of their independence. Cooperate movement in Kenya has been characterised by a significant massive growth such that it has boosted the overall growth of the economy. Wanyama (2009) notes that in 2009, the Ministry of Development and Marketing in Kenya postulates that 80% of Kenya's population was deriving its income either directly or indirectly from cooperative activities. Cooperative movement has not been limited to Kenya only but has also found its way to other developing countries including Zimbabwe.

Ownership and management of resources is very crucial towards operations of cooperative movement in attaining positive sustainable rural livelihoods. Resources have always acted as

panacea in any challenges of operations across all programme and/or project segments. Resources are both disaster preparedness and disaster response mechanisms in any given situation. Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources (CAMPFIRE) emergence programmes in African countries was a positive poverty alleviation goal oriented through maximum utilisation of available resources to local people. However, in the CAMPFIRE model, the fishers have not been given an adequate voice to be able to influence planning, instead, they are mere passive recipients of the law which they must abide by it, at all costs. Jentoft et al (2010). As observed by Njaya et al, (2011), co-management arrangements are usually characterized by unequal power distribution among the different actors and as a result they have not been very successful. The evidence from this study has also shown that the CAMPFIRE project has not worked in favour of fishing communities on Lake Kariba.

The Zimbabwean Government inherited a dual socio-economic system based on racial privilege soon after independence in 1981. At independence white commercial operators dominated the Kapenta fishery. Blacks formed the labour force within the Kapenta fishery. In 1980, the Zimbabwe Government, wishing to redress racial imbalances in resource access, embarked on policies and strategies aimed at promoting the equitable distribution of income, the sustainable use of resources and to increase user participation in the management of natural resources (Government of Zimbabwe, 1981). In a bid to address the highlighted opportunities to the majority of the rural populace, several Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) and Government departments intervened in assisting such people especially through access to loans, life skills trainings and even equipment provision.

The emergence of Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in Binga came after the relocation of the Tonga tribe people from the Zambezi catchment area. This was to gain access and control of

local available resources to earn a living in their territory. The utilisation of local available resources was the only alternative by that time of sustaining a livelihood. This was also fueled by the incapacity of the region to sustain land based activities such as agriculture as the region has got unfavorable soil and unreliable rainfall pattern. The region also does not fully accommodate livestock production as it will demand subsidies. Relating to employment opportunities, educational levels and income levels including infrastructure available of community people in Binga District, Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives has resulted as the backbone and alternative to socio-economic development.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Poverty still remains a cause for concern in Binga District despite the availability of natural resources or capital. Rural communities or households still need to be empowered through local resources available to them. Many rural communities do have natural resources such as dams, lakes, rivers, fish and Kapenta but are not empowered due to lack of accessibility and maximum utilisation of them. Therefore to those that have managed to access them, it is imperative to investigate the positive change or contribution that these resources have brought towards sustainable rural household livelihoods. It is also important to acknowledge the influx of services from both government and civil societies towards Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in bringing both sustainable rural livelihoods and socio-economic development overall.

1.3 Conceptual Framework

Cooperative

A cooperative ("coop") or co-operative ("co-op") is an autonomous association of people, who voluntarily cooperate for their mutual social, economic, and cultural benefit, Members share equally in the control of their cooperative. They have their progressive meetings regularly, discuss proceedings of the cooperative and elect directors from among themselves.

Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives

Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives for the purposes of this research refer to registered Kapenta Cooperatives under Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development at District level in Binga District. Specific registered Kapenta Cooperatives to be scrutinized their operations are **Chunga and Buumi Bubotu (Good Life) Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives** in Kaani ward, Binga.

Livelihood

A livelihood is a means of making a living. It encompasses people's capabilities, assets, income and activities required to secure the necessities of life, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (2013). This implies different activities community people engage in as survival means or survival strategy.

Sustainable Rural Livelihood

"A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (stores, resources, claims and access) and activities required for a means of living: a livelihood is sustainable which can cope with and recover from stress and shocks, maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets, and provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for the next generation; and which contributes net benefits to other livelihoods at the local and global levels and in the short and long term" thus according to Chambers and Conway (1992). This exhibits the need for utilisation of local available resources for day to day living of local communities with a conservative element for

sustainability. This is why there are rules and regulation from the government which guides the operations of Kapenta fishing cooperatives.

1.4 Theoretical Framework

The study was glued upon several development approaches. To begin with, the study is well aligned to Sustainable Rural Livelihood Approach, Scoones (1998). The framework presents five prospects in which sustainable livelihoods are achieved. The five assets which pinpoint the framework of sustainable livelihood approach are human, social, economic, physical and financial capitals. The human capital focuses on the people's health, nutrition, education, knowledge, skills and the capacity to work and adapt to the environment. Natural capital looks at natural resources like land, water and aquatic resources, trees and forest, wild life, biodiversity and environmental services where as physical capital includes assets from economic production process such as infrastructure in the form of communication, transport such as roads and vehicles, secure shelter and buildings as well as land improvements such as water supply and sanitation.

The social and financial capital refers to the interactive network and associations in which people participate to derive support towards earning a living. These networks in most cases are relations of trust and mutual support and they can constitute formal or informal groups of patronage, neighborhood or kinship. Looking at Sustainable rural livelihood approach, the assets mentioned in some instances are used as indicators of outcome after assessment of kapenta fishing cooperatives towards sustainable rural livelihoods. It is because of the above sentiments that this study is centered on the sustainable livelihood framework in an attempt by the researcher to view how much Chunga and Bumi Bubotu (Good Life) Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in Kaani ward has contributed to sustainable rural livelihoods.

“The rich people are not sick because they can afford good houses, clean water, food and health care necessary to avoid diseases. But living in poverty, how can we avoid diseases?”

(Poor Sudan farmer - 1976)

The study is also very much aligned to “The Basic Needs Approach” by Johan Galtung (1978). The approach entails that, “development is development of human beings, because human beings are the measure of all things”. The approach continues to emphasize on the differentiation between a “want” and a “need”. It believes that a want depreciates unlike a need and with a want you cannot attain investment. Therefore a need become an imperative element in bringing sustainable livelihoods as it does not depreciate but rather gives capacity to invest thus adding value to sustainable livelihoods. The approach goes on to acknowledge all needs within the global context of a human being but make an exception of “basic needs” as a starting point to living. These basic needs are classified into security, welfare, identity and freedom need classes.

This research mainly abided to welfare class of needs as it mainly focuses on the contribution of kapenta fishing cooperatives towards rural sustainable livelihoods. The welfare needs class comprises of food, water, air, clothes, shelter, labor-saving devices and education. These needs under the roof of this research also play a pivotal role in assessing or measuring the performance of kapenta fishing cooperatives towards community people (not forgetting cooperative members’ households).

1.5 Scope of the Study

The Aim/Goal of the Study

To assess the contribution of Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives towards rural sustainable livelihoods

Objectives of the study

- To assess the contribution of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives towards development of rural poor people in Binga
- To assess the involvement and participation of rural poor within Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing cooperatives in Binga
- To examine the challenges faced by Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in promoting sustainable livelihoods for the rural poor in Binga

1.6 Research Questions

- What is the contribution of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives towards sustainable rural livelihoods?
- What led to the formation of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in Kaani ward?
- What socio-economic changes have been brought by Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in Kaani ward since their inception?
- How is the community involved and what is their level of participation within Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives?
- What challenges do Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives face in their operations to fully contribute towards sustainable rural livelihoods and coping strategies?
- What can be done to improve the operations of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives to fully contribute towards sustainable rural livelihoods?

1.7 Significance of the study

The research is imperative as it seeks to analyse the contribution Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives have brought towards sustainable rural livelihoods in Kaani ward, Binga district. Binga district is pregnant with natural resources with include fish, dams, river and kapenta. It was therefore in the quest of this research to investigate the viability of these resources within the communities of Binga district towards sustainable rural livelihoods. Being surrounded by resources does not guarantee well livelihood. The failure to conservatively utilise local available resources within communities still results in lagging of rural people in spheres of poverty. It was therefore in the best interest of this research to explore how Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives are using these local available natural resources in bringing sustainable rural livelihoods in Kaani ward.

Community households in Binga district mainly survive on informal activities. The ration of those formally employed to those engaged in informal sector is unequal. Some households even rely on remittances from household members that engaged in diaspora to secure greener pastures. All this explores economic hardships within the district hence exhibiting spheres of poverty within communities in Binga district. People then engaged in cooperatives to sustain livelihoods. This research assisted in assessing the involvement and participation of community households within Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives towards sustainable rural livelihoods. The assessment through this research figured out the extent to which how rural livelihoods are transformed through engaging in Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives.

Of importance are the recommendations that were deduced from the findings through this research to the operations of Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in contributing towards sustainable rural livelihood. This research investigated challenges on the operations of

Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives and gave comprehensive realistic solutions so as to nurture vital improvement to the Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives to sustain sustainable rural livelihoods to a greater extent.

The study was of essence as it explored how different groups in the community benefited from the Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives. This guided funders and/or donors and policy makers on how to assist the community in the drive towards sustainable rural development and community development at large.

1.8 Literature Review

Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives

Social scientists admitted that level of fishing effort that will address social problems might be difficult to operationalise (Bailey, 1989; Symes,1996). However, they argue that whatever level of fishing effort chosen, resource managers must also take into consideration resource allocation and distributional equity (ibid). This reveals that Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives for them to be effective channeling of resources towards specific field(s) is essential and resources distribution must be done carefully. Inasmuch as kapenta cooperatives are a panacea to social insecurity towards sustainable livelihood, resource management and institutionalization of cooperative movement is essential. Lack of managerial qualities within committees of kapenta cooperatives has resulted in poor performance towards their overall goal of operation. Management avoids both biological and economic collapse of kapenta fisheries.

The small-scale fishing sector in Africa and Asia is laden with symptoms of poverty enough to attract the attention of both academics and development experts,Béné (2003). Although rural people engage (d) in kapenta fishing cooperatives as a survival tool to fight against

poverty, poverty is widespread amongst small-scale fishing sector. “People engaged in small-scale fisheries including their families continue to live at the margin of subsistence and human dignity, Food and Agriculture Organisation (1974). This also incorporates lack of managerial qualities amongst small-scale fishing sector. Aspects such as lack of marketing links, poor resource allocation and inequitable distribution of resources still leave these small-scale fisheries at slag of poverty as these contributes to poor performance of cooperative movement at large.

Fisheries legislation does differ as per state. Legislation does play a pivotal role towards overall performance of kapenta fishing cooperatives or small-scale fisheries. From the onset, fishing policy regulations in Zimbabwe were always premised on the promotion of fishing as sport, Malasha (2004). This approach is parallel to that of Malawi and Zambia. Zambia’s policy on fisheries viewed fisheries as playing a very pivotal role in providing food to a growing labour population in urban areas, but Zimbabwe viewed fisheries from a recreational and tourism point of view, Malasha (2004). This eludes that fishing regulations in Zimbabwe are tightly controlled hence reduced access to local communities.

The emergency or rise of the kapenta fishing cooperatives or small-scale fisheries will eventually lead to decline of fishing industry in the near generation. This is according to the Common Property Theory (CPT) by Brox (1990) which developed an idea that, “evidence of a common resource will lead to over exploitation and may be a factor related to declines in aquaculture in the short run”. Particularly focusing on this research, **common** means the local available resource which many people within the community can rely on. This indicates that inasmuch as kapenta fishing cooperatives are being drivers towards alleviating poverty and

enhancing sustainable rural livelihoods in rural communities, they are at great risk of depreciating before the goal is achieved.

According to Brummet and Williams (2000) the fish farming sector is diversifying as 42 countries produce 65 different species. This is to say that kapenta fishing cooperatives must diversify in order to stand against external influential factors such as lack of local expertise, small budgets and lack of funding at all, unpredicted downfall or closure of cooperative and political uncertainties. Diversifying act as means of investment in a hidden shadow and coping strategies to kapenta fishing cooperatives as it results in challenging aforementioned factors. The question is can such a diverse product sell itself on a commercial basis without proper infrastructure to handle differing requirements, FAO (1995). In particular, constraints in this arena include storage difficulties, poor market access, and equipment maintenance issues.

Rural Livelihoods

Many households, approximately 95%, in rural areas in Sub-Saharan Africa depend on agriculture activities, FAO (2002). However, due to an arid, volatile climate and often uncertainty and untiming evacuation notices from the landlords to those who are on lease land tenure system, households engaged in diversification activities. Bryceson (1999) propounded a broad comparative review of a process described as 'de-agrarianisation' in sub-Saharan Africa concluded that perhaps 60-80 per cent of rural household income in the late 1990s was derived from non-farming sources, by comparison with an approximate 40 percent in the 1980s. This exhibits the concept of diversification. This was so, so as to try and bring panacea to spheres of poverty such as food insecurity and little income per household.

In order to cope from rural economic meltdown impacts perpetrated by structural adjustment programmes, sharply worsening terms of agricultural trade, the collapse of meso-level infrastructures of support for small farmers, devalued currencies, new opportunities and necessities of cross-border smuggling and trade, (ibid), rural households in Sub Saharan African opted for migration. “In sub-Saharan Africa, in general, there are marked gender and age differences in occupational mobility, so that women and children often continue to reside in the rural homestead, while men seek work in distant labour markets. In the past, this feature has been held to explain lack of success in achieving rises in farm productivity”, Low (1986). This also fueled the agenda for diversification amongst rural households.

Apart from migration and diversification activities under agrarian economy in rural areas, households also engage in informal sector. According to Oduro and Osei-Akoto (2008), residents in Ghana villages were discovered to be employed in a number of non-farm activities, such as hairdressing, carpentry, tailoring, trading, ‘pito’ brewing, food processing, charcoal trading, masonry, sewing, teaching and nursing. These are all means of survival which acts as alternative when agriculture production declines or struggle to meet social needs.

Asset and land ownership plays an important role in allocating different activities undertaken by households in rural areas for survival to meet subsistence needs. Lay and Schuler (2008) analyzed changes in income portfolios of rural households and found that asset-poor households, which account for an important share of the rural population, are likely to be pushed into activities off the farm to meet subsistence needs. Engaging in off-farm activities does not guarantee a better livelihood in rural areas hence it is all about opportunism. Some may be fortunate and some may be unfortunate thus how sustainable rural livelihoods concept tend to be crucial.

1.9 Research Methodology

Area of Study

Kaani ward, an area under study is located in Matabeleland North province, commonly known as Binga Centre in Binga District. It is ward 24 out of 25 wards confined to Binga district as a whole. The area is a shelter to 6 villages. An estimate of total population of 6 000 heads (inclusive of both gender and all ages), Parliament Research Department (2011), Binga North Constituency.

Approach

In this study the researcher employed **qualitative** research methods in exploring how the kapenta fishing cooperatives in Kaani ward has contributed towards sustainable rural livelihoods. The qualitative approach also helps in getting the attitude of the Kaani community towards kapenta fishing cooperatives. Qualitative approach allows the researcher to get an inside perspective of the subject (Chikweshe and Fletcher, 2012). The research focused on finding the contribution that has been and that is being brought by kapenta fishing cooperatives in Kaani ward towards sustainable rural livelihoods and that can only be brought to light through qualitative means which allows for the views of the respondents.

The qualitative approach is also more flexible and participatory. The method made the research more interesting as it enabled the researcher to interact with the respondents in a less formal way to eliminate scary and inferior elements from respondents. The researcher was able to probe issues that would need further clarification and respondents were free to elaborate further in detail their experiences and attitude. The approach also took into consideration both the illiterate and the literate members of the society as it gave room for

clarification of questions. Development calls for the inclusion of all people despite their education and the qualitative approach does just that.

Target Population

A total of 9 key informant stakeholders were targeted which are Binga Rural District Council (BRDC), Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises' and Cooperate Development, ZUBO Trust, Christian Care, Environment Health Technician, Basilwizi, Ministry of Wildlife and National Parks and Local Leadership (Kaani ward Chief and Councilor). A total of twenty ordinary community members (inclusive of both gender) were targeted. Of importance are the members of both Buumi Bubotu and Chunga Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives. This was in order for the study to be effective and efficiency and to be used for sustainable survival and development of kapenta fishing co-operatives and enhance the sustainable outcomes in social and economic spheres of rural people.

Sampling

Purposive sampling was used in the research on how kapenta fishing cooperatives have and are contributing towards sustainable rural livelihoods in Kaani ward. Purposive sampling was used to pick key informative respondents from the Binga Rural District Council (BRDC), Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises' and Cooperate Development, ZUBO Trust, Christian Care, Environment Health Technician, Basilwizi, Ministry of Wildlife and National Parks and Local Leadership (Kaani ward Chief and Councilor). Convenience sampling was employed in picking respondents from the community. The district was chosen because little research focusing on kapenta has been conducted. Again Binga district is blessed with natural resources but communities still live in spheres of poverty and no comprehensive research has

been conducted on how best the communities within the district can exploit these resources for sustainable rural livelihoods.

Data Collection Tools

Interviews

The researcher made use of the semi-structured and in-depth interviews. The interviews allowed the researcher to take note of non-verbal communication and further probing was made possible. Interviews allowed the researcher to communicate and capture the views of all people including the illiterate. Key informants interviewed are the Binga Rural District Council (BRDC), Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises' and Cooperate Development, ZUBO Trust, Christian Care, Environment Health Technician, Basilwizi, Ministry of Wildlife and National Parks and Local Leadership (Kaani ward Chief and Councilor). The researcher also interviewed 4 committee members from both kapenta fishing cooperatives for sharing of their experience with the scheme.

Interviews allowed the researcher to get in depth understanding of the views of the community and the authorities on the impact of kapenta fishing cooperatives in general. This tool also allowed the researcher to interact with even the illiterate members of the community (inclusion). It is the result of these benefits that the researcher employed interviews as a data collection tool. Interview questions were divided into two sets that is one for the authorities and the other for the beneficiaries (communities in Kaani ward).

Questionnaires

Semi- structured and unstructured questionnaires were used to gather data on the impact of kapenta fishing cooperatives on the attainable of sustainable rural livelihoods towards households of Kaani community. These set of questionnaires were chosen as they allow

freedom of the respondents on answering and help in bringing out how the community feel about kapenta cooperative movement. They are also free from bias since the respondents are not given any answer to choose from. Questionnaires also assisted to obtain data from the members of the community that do not always participate in public gatherings due to culture and societal norms like women and children. The respondent had the freedom to answer alone without any hindrances and without fear of being judged for their responses.

The questionnaires were grouped into two sets for the key informants. The first set was for the service providers tasked with providing technical, information and financial assistance to the kapenta fishing cooperatives. The questionnaires were distributed as, 1 to BRDC, 1 to Environment Health Technician and 1 to Ministry of Wildlife and National Parks. The other set of 20 were for the beneficiaries of the scheme that is the local community. Convenience sampling was made use of in the distribution of the questionnaires.

Observation

Observation enabled the researcher to have a photographic knowledge of the situation on the ground. Kvale (1996) describe observation as a systematic description of events, artifacts and behaviors' in the social arena for the study. Taylor and Steele (1996) propounds that observation is way of gathering data by watching behavior, events, or noting physical characteristics in their natural setting. Observation is the major form of data collection during research. Observation allowed the researcher to have first-hand information on the area under study. The researcher made use of the participatory observation whereby the researcher viewed the events from the community's perspective. Observation greatly assisted the research since information found was of first hand and reliable.

Desktop Review

Desktop review mainly refers to information or data gathered earlier for other purposes but could be used to shed insight on the subject under study. The researcher used other secondary information from other sources such as reports, internet, scholarly articles, journals and census. The secondary sources assisted the researcher in having base information about the topic on kapenta fishing cooperatives. These sources assisted the researcher to have a clear picture of what is happening in the kapenta fishing cooperatives sector throughout Zimbabwe and the world. The research heavily relied on the secondary data to gain access to established scholars' views on impacts of kapenta fishing cooperatives towards sustainable rural livelihoods.

1.10. Delimitations

The research was confined to Kaani community which is in ward 24 in Binga District.

1.10.1 Limitations

- The use of cross sectional study required interviews with non-members of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu (Good Life) Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives too. There is a probability that the researcher got limited and biased information as well, since most of respondents required or expected a token of appreciation prior to the release of information. Thus most cases in rural areas.
- The period in which the research was conducted was not tantamount to procedures and processes involved in the research. Time was limited.

1.11 Ethical Considerations

Consent and Confidentiality: The research made use of the widely accepted ethics in the research fraternity. Confidentiality was of paramount importance in the research and names of respondents are protected. The obtained data will only be used for the sole purpose of the

study. To guard against plagiarism the researcher referenced all the works that was used in the research by making use of the Harvard Referencing System. This means that all texts used are acknowledged both in the text and at the end of the research. The researcher also abided by - safety procedures when conducting the research ensuring that no harm befalls on the respondents and the researcher.

1.12 Structure of the Dissertation

The research is presented in three chapters. The first chapter details the rural livelihoods before kapenta fishing cooperatives and the motive towards formation of kapenta fishing cooperatives in Kaani ward in Binga district. It will trace the history of the sector up until the contemporary setting. The second chapter will explore and bring out the findings from the research. The third chapter will focus on the challenges encountered and recommendations in delivering comprehensive sustainable rural livelihoods.

CHAPTER 1

ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF BOTH CHUNGA AND BUUMI BUBOTU KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES

Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperative was established in 2006, meaning this was the year it officially got registered under cooperatives Act and recognized by Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development. This was behind several socio-economic reasons which are fully discussed below.

In an interview with Mr. Philemon Muntali, Buumi Bubotu Chairperson, the cooperative was formed after several members gathered together and went open about their life hardships in relation to economic crisis by that time. Mr. Muntali highlighted that many members who came with the idea of forming a cooperative were hard hit by unfinished education crisis. Members did not manage to finish their education levels due to unemployment of their guardians and harsh climatic conditions towards agriculture as agriculture was a major source of livelihood in their living. Buumi Cooperative members in an interview highlighted that through agricultural products, they could engage in barter trade and get hard cash and supplement towards education and health bills.

Again, some female members indicated that in the years 2000s, after there was a national drought hazard, responsibility was an evil in day to day living considering living far much beneath poverty datum line. It was hard for mothers bearing young children to meet basic human needs especially children's demands such as porridge, supplementary milk products and even clothing and education to 6 year old children. It was therefore ideal to come up with an entrepreneur idea so as to try and counterpart spheres of poverty for better human poverty survival.

Another high pushing factor which fueled the establishment of Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives is that the government could release small loans easily to group of

people rather than individuals hence it was ideal for people to meet and put heads together and apply for loans as they were easily accessible that way. Thus then Buumi Bubotu members met and came up with the idea of a cooperative and applied for a loan and got started. Extended assistance came after they had acquired loan from the government from NGOs and individuals from the local community. Assistance came in different forms, either monetary means or institutional. This really helped the foundation of Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives.

SNV, an international NGO from Netherlands, assisted Buumi Bubotu cooperative with a loan amounting to US\$11 500.00, through assistance of Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development. This was to boost the cooperative with assets. The condition attached to the loan issued from Buumi Bubotu cooperative was that the cooperative should assist the community with service provision that amount or equal that amount for the next five years beginning the month in which the loan was issued. Thus Buumi Bubotu members gathered and decided to buy complete school uniforms and complete stationery for primary school children who are orphans and/or single parent raised.

Chunga Kapenta Fishing Cooperative was established in 1988, meaning this was the year it officially got registered under cooperatives Act and recognized by Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development. This was in the first decade where Zimbabwe just gained independence. It is in the same era where there was relocation of Tonga people along Zambezi River and its basins to Kaani ward. This then struck community members minds and brains that they cannot go and reside faraway from local available resources that can generate living in their future. As Tonga people were relocated by the government and some

Tonga people heading back to Zambia, some community members sat together and formed groups to engage in income generating projects. Main reasons for this vision were incapacity

to meet basic needs such as shelter, food, health and education at large. Many community people were left single parent raised and external relative parents as guardians. Forms of domestic abuse were in experience to children who did not live with biological parents hence the need for an alternative means for survival was essential.

This is when founding members of Chunga Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives met and formed Chunga cooperative. It was formed in 1986 and became officially and legally established in 1988 under the chairmanship of Stephen Kademba. Just like Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperative, Chunga cooperative acquired loan from the government to buy equipment or machinery. Chunga cooperative also got assistance from NGOs such as Christian Care, Basilwizi Trust in trainings (maintenance and business leadership).

Administrative structures of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives:

BUUMI BUBOTU COOPERATIVE	CHUNGA COOPERATIVE
Chairperson	Chairperson
Vice Chairperson	Vice Chairperson
Secretary	Secretary
Vice Secretary	Treasurer
Treasurer	Two Committee Members
Two Committee Members	Ten General Members

Seven General Members	
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OPERATIONS OF BUUMI BUBOTU KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVE:	OPERATIONS OF CHUNGA KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They spend a total of twenty-two nights per month in Zambezi River • They off for only eight months (rest) • In a month, they catch a total of 910kgs wet kapenta per Fishing Rig (they constitute two rigs) • When kapenta have been dried, wet kapenta reduces to 303,3kgs dried kapenta per rig per month • Per month they produce a total of 606,6kgs dried kapenta which amounts to 40,5 bags of dried kapenta • This means that per month the total gross income is US\$3 033.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They spend a total of twenty-four nights per month in river • They off for only six nights a month • They catch a total of 910kgs wet kapenta per rig multipliable by three rigs making it 2 730kgs per month • This makes 909.9kgs dried kapenta • This sums up to 60.8 bags of dried kapenta per month • Gross income per month sums up to US\$4 549.50

SALES:

Both Buumi Bubotu and Chunga Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives have got same sale prices of kapenta products.

1kg - \$5.00

- They both supply Bulawayo retailers such as Jasbro, Quality Foods, Lions and Fortwell.

LIVELIHOODS BEFORE KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES IN KAANI WARD:

This section explores how people in Kaani ward (an area under study) survived before Kapenta Fishing Cooperative movement. All livelihoods discussed in this chapter are subject to Sustainable Livelihood Framework by Ian Scoones (1998).

Households in Kaani ward engaged in multiple livelihood activities before the transformation, rejuvenation and exponential growth of kapenta fishing cooperative movement. Largely, these livelihood activities were confined to subsistence activities. All livelihood activities they engaged in were relatively consistent with a few nuances determined by location, assets available, opportunities availed, climatic conditions, natural resources availability and infrastructure available to specific villages. Many livelihood activities though were derived from natural resource base reliant activities. Livelihood activities are outlined below.

Agricultural Subsistence

Binga is one of the districts with unfriendly climatic conditions to agriculture especially when one does not have supplement of irrigation. But despite this evil, households in Kaani ward engaged in subsistence farming in fight against poverty and food insecurity at large.

Households survived much through crops such as millet, sorghum and maize. Due to combined harsh climatic conditions and geology structure, the output was not enough for commercial supply but only confined to meet household demands. The other limiting factor for maximum output was agricultural equipment. Household used hand tools for subsistence farming practices. The harvest could be used for barter trade if it happens to be in little excessive as hard cash was a scarce commodity. From all other livelihood activities undertaken, agricultural subsistence dominated. It resulted as the backbone of survival to all communities in Kaani ward.

Crafts

The communities in Binga district, before kapenta fishing cooperative movement, mainly focused on the so-called BaTonga culture of craft. They used natural resources in crafting such as grass and tress (wood logs). Crafting was a better way of generating income compared to agricultural subsistence. Some of the crafts products were identified and marketed by local established Non-Governmental Organisations such as Basilwizi and Ntengwe for Community Development. Basilwizi and Ntengwe for Community Development sent three women who engaged in craft to United States of America in the year 2005. These NGOs used to bring foreigners from United States of America and Germany and they would go with foreigners to Kaani to exhibit the craft made by Kaani households. In this case, income would be left by foreigners hence Kaani households earning a piece to supplement basic needs such as education, health and food.

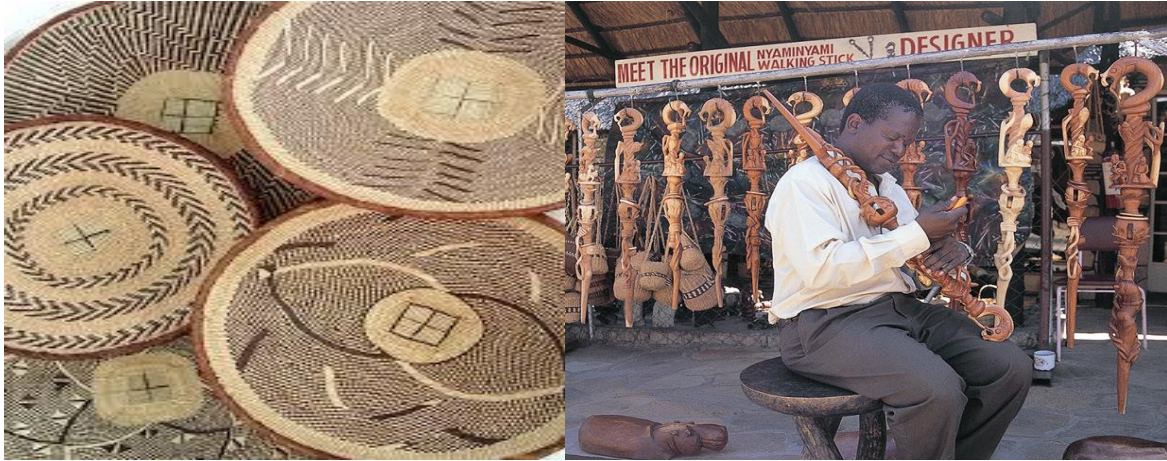


Figure 1 Showing craft work by people from BaTonga Culture residing in Kaani ward. (Images were taken from Ntengwe for Community Development programme for Community Based Tourism). (02 February 2016)

Gardens (Gardening)

Communities of Kaani ward engaged in gardens to supplement nutrients from output of agricultural subsistence, increase products for barter trade and at least have a source of income in form of hard cash. Hard cash was used for education purposes of children, to pay medical bills, buy clothes sometimes and for transport fares. These gardens were long established before NGOs supplemented and added value to the idea. NGOs such as Christian Care, Basilwizi, CADEC (Catholic Development Commission) and Save The Children International assisted the people of Kaani with seeds, fence, knowledge (capacity building training workshops) and even tools for value addition of gardens. This served the community a long way especially on their health, thus in accordance to Basic Needs Approach.

Livestock (Domestic animals)

Although households in Kaani ward engaged in rearing of domestic animals as a supplementary livelihood mechanism, climatic conditions do not favour commercial domestication. Households in Kaani ward possessed livestock and others still do possess currently. They had and others still have cattle, goats, sheep and pigs (bush). They kept these

domestic animals not mainly for commercial purpose but household survival. They rarely sold out these animals except if there is an untimed situation calling like funeral. In times of real struggle, they had to sell cattle for hospital bills, transport fares, school fees payment and clothing for occasions such as Christmas. Livestock especially cattle to be specific survived under harsh conditions as water sources were very few and very far from villages. They did not reach their maximum potential of quality except in rain season(s).

Music, Dance and Attire

This relates us back to the BaTonga Culture. This is not only confined to people in Kaani ward but almost every ward in Binga District. Household, in addition to craft, engaged in their local tradition music, dance and attire. They performed during national holiday events, community gathering and local functions. This began as only a tradition but later reached an extent of means of survival. This drew attention from local NGOs which are Basilwizi and Ntengwe for Community Development who took some of the members engaged in this act and exhibited them in foreign land which is United State of America in 2005. This drew attention from many tourists around the world as they started to flock in Binga district.

Income Generating Projects (Informal Sector):

Communities and households in Kaani ward engaged in income generating projects. These projects were organised mainly by house wives to earn a living. Projects ranged from various types of activities to try and push for a better living. This idea of income generating projects existed within the minds and lifestyles of communities in Kaani ward and Binga district as a whole before the NGOs added value through their programmes. I do acknowledge the value addition of NGOs such as Basilwizi, Christian Care, Save The Children International, CADEC, ZUBO Trust and Ntengwe for Community Development towards income

generating projects. Value addition was through capacity building training workshops on financial management and resource mobilisation, only to mention a few. Types of projects engaged in are outlined below.

a) Bakery

Household housewives used output from subsistence agricultural as inputs towards this project. They used millet and sorghum then alongside processed flour as ingredients to bake bread and buns. This bread and buns were sold to people with tuck-shops, travelers and school children from other villages along way to school. This brought income to households and earned them an improved living. Housewives could group themselves in groups of eight (8) per group and form a bakery group. They used man made baking ovens which are constructed with bricks and firewood to bake bread and buns. *(Anthony Ncube – District Officer, Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development)*

b) Brick moulding

This type of project was not attributed only to house wives as labourers' only as bakery did but to any member willing to participate. Community people used local natural resources to mould bricks. They had to dig sand and clay soils and then burn using firewood to mould bricks. These brick were then sold to people who are constructing houses, storerooms, tuck-shop etc. This brought income to household as well. *(Beauty Mungombe – community member)*

c) Chicken Rearing

This is in relation to poultry but not commercial poultry as many would anticipate. Different household members would contribute each chickens of about five (5) per household in groups of eight or ten depending the size of the group. They then rear these chickens (roadrunners) in

one nest. These chickens as time elapses they will multiply and members would sell them and even undertake barter trade using these chickens. Profits were shared bi-annually as they would have been increased. (*Tracy Mudimba – community member*).

d) Flea markets

Flea markets was one and is still one way communities of Kaani ward engage as way of survival and earning income. Unlike above mentioned income generating projects, flea markets were done individually or just two people per flea market stand. Flea markets had and have got very limited number in share ownership. Products found at flea markets include baby clothes, adult jackets, shoes, trousers, skirts, t-shirts, shirts and under wears for both sex. These products were acquired by those who managed to travel between town and cities or through sending. Products mainly came from Bulawayo, Hwange and/or Victoria Falls compared to now where products are crossing borders all the way from Messina in South Africa and David Livingstone in Zambia. Products were sold as well to local community members and travelers. (*Selina Mungombe – Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Ntengwe for Community Development*).

Remittances

Although at a lower scale, remittances from other family members abroad the country who engaged in diaspora or family children who got opportunities to study and work abroad, contributed to livelihoods of people in Kaani ward in Binga district. Very few respondents talked about remittances from abroad. Countries which were mentioned where those with family members are established at are mainly South Africa and Zambia. Remittances came in form of money (hard cash), clothes, school uniforms and blankets.

Employment

Binga is a district which is mainly characterised and surrounded by Non-Governmental Organisations. There are fifteen (15) currently operating Non-Governmental Organisations in Binga District. But before some NGOs emerged, large volumes of people in Kaani ward were employed. Information from respondents indicates that the herd men and the Chief were the people said to be formally employed. Government ministries in Binga District have got few personnel working in them. Hence employment at a larger scale contributed only members of the local leadership family. *(Simbarashe Mangisi – District Officer, Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development).*

Fishing

People in Kaani ward engaged in fishing before, even before the rapid exponential growth of kapenta cooperative movement. This was not a formal activity like now when they have got registered kapenta fishing cooperatives. Very much limited skills were applied in their fishing before unlike now when they are operating as registered and licensed kapenta fishing cooperatives. By then, there engaged in fishing only for subsistence supply not for commercial use like now as kapenta fishing cooperatives. They used the same basins and water body sources they established their kapenta fishing cooperatives for fishing before. This brought little income to their households compared to now as registered and licensed kapenta fishing cooperatives. *(Simbarashe Mangisi – District Officer, Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development).*

Beer making

Very few households did beer making for survival means but that does not mean we have to rule out their poverty alleviation mechanism. They did beer making and sell out the beer to

local community members and especially on local and national events they supplied beer. From then up to now, there is still one homestead which is still making beer but based in Manjolo ward. NGOs such as Basilwizi and Ntengwe for Community Development, under their International Citizenship (ICS) programme of intertwining international and national volunteers, they used this homestead for cultural exchange programme during the implementation of the programme in year 2013. Thus how some households earned a living through beer making by then.

Conclusion

In summation, households in Kaani ward engaged in different livelihood activities to try and cope from shocks and stresses mainly resulted from unfavorable climatic conditions. Due to untimely and unpredicted climate change effects, the growth of kapenta fishing cooperative movement brought change in their day to day living.

CHAPTER 2

KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS IN KAANI WARD, BINGA

Introduction

Transformation has been seen in Kaani ward since the establishment and growth of kapenta fishing cooperative movement. Success has been entailed and opportunities have been exhibited through kapenta fishing cooperatives. This chapter will focus on what exactly have been improved and brought within the lives of people of both, Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives and community people of Kaani ward. The researcher made use of, mainly, information collected from interviews and primarily secondary sources. This is because the study was a qualitative study. These findings are explored so as to suggest ways of keeping improving standards of livelihoods of community people in Kaani ward and promote sustainability for the benefit of both the present and the future generation. Above all, the chapter acknowledges the tenants of sustainable livelihood which are natural, human, physical, social and financial capital.

TOWARDS BASIC NEEDS:

As this chapter is focusing on sustainability measures and mechanisms brought by Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives, it is again imperative to acknowledge the human basic needs as elements fueling up sustainability in every aspect of livelihood. Sustainability is also determined by both physical and well-being of a human as ill people cannot work in field work hence the project demands manpower. Below are the **needs** which contributes to the attainment of sustainability and at the same time they are indicators of

sustainability livelihoods as they are also constituted amongst five different capitals by Scoones (1998) in Sustainable Livelihood Approach.

a) Improved Health

The researcher would love to bear facts in utmost good faith as this is a sensitive and useful research paper. Much of information on this sector was obtained from the community and *Environment Health Technician* not directly from health specialists who are from clinic and hospital. The exploitation and availability of both kapenta and fish in Kaani ward does not necessarily mean this have become one day routine diet. Of course households do consume these in their meals but these have opened doors for other kind of foods meaning different nutrients obtained. Health technicians could give reference stories about limited issues they are dealing with currently than before existence of kapenta fishing cooperatives. The logic that community people of Kaani can trade kapenta with vegetables, domestic livestock meat and grocery at large it shows diversity amongst food routines hence improved health. Improved health contributes endlessly to maximum work labour for maximum production output. This is confined under human capital in Sustainable Livelihood Approach.

b) Shelter

Through interviews and secondary sources, the researcher discovered that there was an improvement in shelter facilities amongst community of Kaani ward. Although on a comparative note, both Chunga and Bumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives employees have managed to secure better shelter facilities than ordinary community people. This however does not exhibit the failure of kapenta fishing cooperatives but an improvement brought towards the households of people. From storytelling, three ladies (*non-cooperative members*) interviewed indicated that they have managed to extend their houses from only two huts to at least four including a brick built house not poles and clay from kapenta trading

from these two kapenta fishing cooperatives. Chunga and Buumi Bubotu cooperative kapenta fishing cooperatives employees, majority of them now possesses houses which are industry brick built, reducing a risk of untimely death from not well secured houses.

c) Education

Considering that Binga District as a whole despite having a single boarding school, Binga High School, level and quality of education is still compromised. But this does not give rest to people in Kaani ward and Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives employees to send their children to schools. Education in sustainable livelihood is very vital as it falls under human capital according to Sustainable Livelihood Approach by Scoones (1998). Many philosophers entails that education is power and Nelson Mandela in 1998 announced that, “Education is the key to success”. This is all under the belief which has been tried and tested in many different communities that this current generation if is educated, it will improve the performance of these kapenta fishing cooperatives in the next future. This is a pathway to sustainability.

Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives have opened doors for income generation and improved monthly income earnings to community of Kaani so that they can go an extra mile and afford to send their children to school and healthy. Again Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperative assists a total of fifty five primary school children with complete school uniforms and complete stationery package as part of social cooperate responsibility. Schools covered are not confined in Kaani ward only but Binga district as a whole. The schools include Chinonge primary school, Pashu primary school, Gwangwaliwa primary school, Kabuba primary school and Lubimbi 1 primary school. Moreover, the sense of sustainability is instilled in these children who are being catered for their school uniforms and stationery as they will eventually support kapenta fishing cooperatives when they are

done with school in their future. Thus how kapenta fishing cooperatives fuels the ideology of sustainable livelihoods.

To sum up on basic needs, kapenta fishing cooperatives have thrived hard to meet basic needs constituted in Basic Needs Approach. They have improved households in attaining improved and quality basic needs which were lately compromised before the existence of kapenta fishing cooperatives. Indeed kapenta fishing cooperatives have brought better life and they are constantly providing human capital.

Income Generation – Monthly Improved Income

Income generation is very imperative in one's day to day living. It is not like before that even without income but through barter trade, one could make a recognised living. This falls under financial capital according to Sustainable Livelihoods Approach by Scoones (1998). This goes to both employed Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives and community of Kaani ward at large. To employees of Chunga kapenta fishing cooperatives, some highlighted that before the establishment of this cooperative, they had no means of source of income. They spent most of the times doing house chores and engaging in subsistence agriculture which would not accommodate commercial supply to earn income. One member from Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperative, (*name withheld for privacy as per request from the interviewed*), explored that he grew up and had always shepherded people's domestic livestock to earn at least a cloth to put on body. On average, members of both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives earn an average of US\$300.00 – US\$350.00 a month. With this average monthly wage, members four members of from both cooperatives managed to open tuck-shops in their rural homesteads so as to supplement monthly income from cooperatives. This is how Kapenta fishing cooperatives brought sustainable livelihood to employees of kapenta fishing cooperatives.

To the rest of the community of Kaani ward, income generation has been noted and experienced as per the establishment of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing cooperatives. The establishment of these kapenta fishing cooperatives brought about the emerging of 'middlemen' in marketing of both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives products. Many people from the community buys kapenta direct from the cooperatives and go sell to other places. As they are selling this kapenta to other places such as Manjolo ward, Pashu ward and Tjunga ward, they will be marketing products (marketing linkages) of the cooperatives as the buyers often ask where the source of this kapenta being sold is. Through this, community is managing to earn income at a constant rate unlike before the existence of kapenta fishing cooperatives where there would mostly rely on chicken rearing to earn income.

Diversification

The existence and establishment of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives has brought diversification in communities of Kaani ward in their livelihoods. Unlike before, where majority of the population relied on subsistence agriculture as highlighted earlier in this research, now increased choices have been unmasked to the community of Kaani ward. Apart from these Kapenta fishing cooperatives and subsistence agriculture, many households are engaging in fish trading, tuck-shops, vendor system and flea markets some households using money generated from Kapenta related activities. The issue of diversity assists the community in fighting against seasonality of projects or activities. This acts as disaster preparedness plan and response mechanism as well. This contributes to rising of social security and increases resistance to food insecurity. If agricultural season ceases, the community may now turn to focus on kapenta trading. This is not only confined to social status security but also encompasses health. This brought improved diet amongst households

at large. It is important to note that seasonality has been evil to all non-farm activities hence diversification stands a solution.

Community Participation – Community Based Management

The researcher figured out that kapenta fishing cooperatives have brought a better level of community participation. This is through the fact that these kapenta fishing cooperatives are community driven in establishment. This is aligned to principles of grassroots development approach which is against top-down approach mainly used by several Non-Governmental Organisations. Little intervention by external actors such as the government has brought constant stability in means of production as the community feels sense of ownership amongst them. This is a great ideology as sustainability is ensured as the community fight together for the survival of the backbone of their disaster preparedness and response mechanism (project). Hoang et al (2010) explains out that successful schemes in central and northern Africa had a very active community behind them. Levels of community participation have been increased in Kaani ward as the community is benefiting from their own local resources. This is a great initiative that Binga as a district has at large. Community participation is of paramount importance in survival of project(s) or schemes. Thus how we would love to give credit to Chunga and Buumi Bubotu fishing kapenta cooperatives.

Leadership Opportunity

Both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives are democratic in nature in relation to leadership opportunities. They mainly base on what is called “guided democracy” on leadership positions. This is in pipeline of voting and /or elections of new member on a post or replacement. This instills sense of ownership and responsibility overall concluding in community participation. Every person within the cooperative has got a chance and access to any positions during elections depending on area of specialisation. This increased leadership

opportunity provides sustainability to the cooperative and the project itself since every member has been instilled sense of ownership and responsibility. A leadership position in cooperative is closely linked with social status of a member within the society. Not only limited to leadership post within the cooperative, as a leader opportunities are increased as the leader will be attending meetings at district level and sometimes at national level. Recognition will be ushered to the leader. The social status increases as people will much offer respect. This is a sign of improved and sustainable livelihood contributed by kapenta fishing cooperatives.

Towards HIV/AIDS Pandemic

The issue of HIV/AIDS is very sensitive in dealing with especially in remote areas such as Binga district. Disclosure of status is not as easy as throwing food in our mouth as many people would anticipate out there. This came as a cross-cutting issue when the researcher was gathering information in the field. Many respondents added on to cover the issue of people living with HIV/AIDS around the community of Kaani ward. Generalised information released by interviewees was mainly centered on health and leadership opportunity. Respondents (*names withheld for privacy as per request from the respondents*), from Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperative, articulated that kapenta fishing cooperatives has given a platform of equality within the community as members living with HIV can also work within these cooperatives. They added on there has been no discrimination when working with people living with HIV within these cooperatives as “we” are currently working with two people living with HIV and they are happy. Only two community respondents interviewed highlighted the issue of people living with HIV. They highlighted that they acknowledge the improved diet within households brought forward through establishment of kapenta fishing cooperatives.

Of interest is Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperative donates 30kgs of kapenta (dry) to Binga District hospital usually when production is high (from January to September) especially to section of maternity. This is to supplement diet of pregnant mothers. The cooperative also go further and donate 20kgs of dry kapenta to prison every month as well. This information was obtained through informed consent from the interviewees through qualitative approach of this research.

Employment creation

As highlighted before earlier in this chapter, many people had no formal and informal employment at all before the establishment of kapenta fishing cooperatives. Now many people now within the community of Kaani ward find themselves occupied and at the end of the day, they have got something tangible for their direct benefit and indirect as whole family. Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives might not have reduced unemployment rate gradually within the community or employed as much population but they have created both leadership and employment opportunities. The enrollment or employment of other members after the death of a community member, termination of contract it's significant enough to note the employment opportunities created by kapenta fishing cooperatives unlike before kapenta fishing cooperatives where people engaged in forced migration. Thus how Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives have significantly transformed livelihoods into sustainable rural livelihoods.

Women Empowerment

Binga district by culture is a patriarchal society. Women have always been at the bottom rail of men. This has existed for a long time up until NGOs started to grow like leaves on new branch. NGOs such as ZUBO Trust, Basilwizi Trust, CADEC and Ntengwe for Community Development introduced advocacy programmes and equality as well. However, as much as

the researcher acknowledges the endless efforts NGOs did and are still doing to end patriarchal system within communities of Binga, kapenta fishing cooperatives have taken a broader step through grassroots level. Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives have got female workers in them and not only general workers but administrative workers. This really shows women empowerment as women can now attain equal opportunities as well. Women empowerment as a process, women engaged in kapenta fishing cooperatives have also took an advanced step of educating their girl children. This is a turnaround of livelihoods as long back girl children were sacrificed out of school remaining home doing house chores. Thus how kapenta fishing cooperatives have brought sustainable rural livelihoods through meeting physical, human, natural, financial and social capital of Sustainable Livelihoods Approach.

Migration

Before the rejuvenation and exponentially growth of kapenta fishing movement, a lot of both intra and inter migration characterised livelihoods of Kaani ward. A lot of people always engaged in movements looking for greener pastures, an interviewee explained. People were always on the move trying to meet basic household needs as subsistence agriculture, a dominant livelihood by then, was seasonally. People tend to move to other wards like Manjolo ward for flea market projects, Pashu ward for chicken rearing and brick moulding and Binga centre. Then, after the establishment of kapenta fishing cooperatives in Kaani ward, things have changed. A Shona proverb say, “*chaiseva chavekudemura, chaimbotemura chavekuseva*” simply meaning all those wards which people of Kaani ward used to go and hunt for greener pastures before, are now visiting Kaani ward for greener pastures now. There have been reduced records of long spell and permanent migration. This contributes endlessly in Community Based Management of resources and Community Participation at large

towards developmental projects. In summary, it brings development stability within the community.

Impact on the Elderly, Sick and Child Headed Families

It will be huge injustice if this whole research does not talk about the elderly, sick and child headed families within the community of Kaani as these groups of people are regarded vulnerable, according to Anderson (2007). This research does not however promote discrimination at all. Kaani ward have got people who are sick, due to unfavorable climatic conditions and mosquitoes, of malaria. Malaria is one of the most common diseases found in Kaani ward. Kapenta fishing cooperatives through provision of employment creation, income and improved income generation has seen community members managing to pay hospital bills and acquiring medication although some of the medication is issued for free by the government. Towards the elderly, improved household diet meals have improved their quality of lives as they cannot manage to go and work due to ageing and tired body muscles. Children can easily take care of the elderly without much constraint. On child headed families, child parents can at least have an employment opportunity in any one of the kapenta fishing cooperatives or become middlemen where they order from the cooperatives and they sell for their own benefit, more like vendor system. Chunga kapenta cooperative have got one child parent of child headed family.

CASE STUDY:

NGOs and Government on Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives towards Sustainable Rural Livelihoods

THE VOICE OF A WOMAN: *Gracia Mudimba a member of a Village Savings and Lending- Fresh Fish Retail Project in Siachilaba Ward (Mobile Number: 0778167795)*

The research was based in Kaani ward but this case study came as a **cross-cutting** issue during research. The researcher could not ignore this vital piece of information on kapenta fishing cooperatives towards sustainable rural livelihoods although the lady was from Siachilaba ward. The woman was met in Kaani ward although she comes from Siachilaba and operates in Siachilaba ward. This is on the attribute that kapenta fishing cooperatives do not add value to rural livelihoods in Kaani ward only but in Binga District as a whole. Doing research in Kaani ward acts as a foundation of how kapenta fishing cooperatives engage in value-addition of sustainable rural livelihoods.

Figure 2. *Gracia Mudimba, a lady from Siachilaba ward, Binga District*



*My name is Gracia Mudimba living in Siachilaba ward of Binga district. I am a single woman who was divorced by my husband in 2005 and stay with my 5 children from my marriage. Since my life **had always been dependent** on my husband for survival my divorce*

*created a feeling and an environment that I had lost everything in life hence I used to struggle daily to fend for my family. However, in 2009, we came together with other women in the community and started a savings and lending project. In the same year we were able to get assistance of US\$1,800 from Basilwizi Trust which we used to start buying and selling of both dried and fresh fish including kapenta as a group. In 2010, Christian Care came in and bought a cold room which is used by women to store their fresh fish. However, we have all along been doing these projects **without the proper skills and exposure**. Ntengwe for Community Development started training us in 2013 up to this year. Before Ntengwe for Community Development trained us in project management and life skills, we used to mix up things, lacked choice for products and we used to live a hand to mouth kind of life. After the trainings we are now able to have basic books of accounts like daily cash book and record book. Currently there is a great difference in the way we are now running our projects.*

With the trainings I am getting from Ntengwe for Community Development, I have managed to improve my business, support myself and my family. I have a lot of clothes, plates and pots and other home materials that I have purchased as a result of the proceeds from our income activities. These trainings have really been resilience building to me. I am now encouraging other women with the same problem that I had to wake up and start economic empowerment projects.

NGOs have acted as a pathway and passport and visa in linkages to other ministries like Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprise (SME), Ministry of Women's Affairs and Matabeleland Aids Council just to mention a few. I was one of the women who were taken by Ntengwe for Community Development to the Small Medium Enterprises' Market Expo from 28 May-1 June 2014 at the Bulawayo Arts Gallery. For us as women in income generating projects in Binga, that was our first exposure to such an experience. We were able to see how other women and men organize their businesses and even market them through brands. We

were also able to link with other customers in Bulawayo, sell our products and learn that there are also locally available resources that we have in Binga which we can use to make a lot of products like animal skins and hand bags that are on high demand in Bulawayo. As a woman involved in income generating activities, I would like to encourage NGOs and Government ministries at large to support more women with such opportunities as these help in giving women skills on how to design, cost and effectively market their products through creating connections with customers. We are now able to arrange the sale of fish and other products with customers in Bulawayo due to the links that we created at the Expo in Bulawayo.

Conclusion:

Kapenta fishing cooperatives drove rural livelihoods a further step away from stresses. They have played a paramount importance role is sustainability of rural livelihoods combining with increased accessibility of basic human needs. Extended business opportunities have been opened through engaging in kapenta fishing cooperatives operations.

CHAPTER 3

Challenges faced by Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in promoting sustainable rural livelihoods.

Inasmuch as we acknowledge the contribution of kapenta fishing cooperatives towards sustainable rural livelihoods, there are challenges that are met in trying to uphold total positive sustainable livelihood. In every firm or industry, during the day to day running of activities of the industry there are certain challenges that are met which affects the overall performance of the industry to attain or achieve its overall goal. Factors can be internal, meaning factors that hinder the performance of the kapenta fishing cooperatives within their operations, and external, meaning environmental factors that are outside the operations of the kapenta fishing cooperatives. All factors are outlined below.

1.1 Factors that hinder performance of both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives:

This lies in the notion that if the total performances of the kapenta fishing cooperatives are compromised, then there shall **not** be value added to rural livelihoods of people residing in Kaani ward in Binga District from kapenta fishing cooperatives.

1) Technical Challenge – Labour Specialisation

There is lack of qualified and experienced personnel in some sectors of the administrative areas within the operations of the kapenta fishing cooperatives. To be specific, there are no qualified and experienced personnel such as bookkeepers, mechanics, welders, experienced skippers and administrators who hold prior experience in kapenta fishing operations. Collins (2000) notes that, “attracting talent is critical survival of the business”. Those in managerial posts are abusing talents by employing their friends and relatives under the scapegoat of

talent. Nepotism has become a tradition in administration of cooperatives hence negative effecting performance of the cooperatives. However, it will be injustice to replace founders of the Kapenta Fishing cooperatives with experienced personnel but rather they should train current personnel more often on labour specialisation.

2) *Remoteness, Underdeveloped Infrastructure*

The infrastructure which is currently available within Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Cooperatives premises cannot meet the demands of the operations. Four kapenta fishing cooperatives including both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu cooperatives rely on one cold storage fridge provided by Kutjatna Kwesu Association (Kapenta Fishing Cooperative). This now forces the cooperatives to mainly specialize on dry kapenta compared to fresh kapenta. They have one medium fashioned facility to keep fresh kapenta which goes a long mile to affect potential customer attraction. On fresh kapenta they now sell to local community people of Kaani ward and as per order placed not for commercial sale.

3) *Quality of Kapenta*

Mainly, in regard to Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives, quality of Kapenta is determined by storage facilities (infrastructure that was discussed before in this chapter). Detoriation of quality of Kapenta as storage facilities are poor and time elapses automatically means the decrease in price and demand of product. The decline in gross profits means no external beneficiaries except those that work within Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives are benefitting hence there will be no sustainable rural livelihoods obtained, achieved and attained.

4) Monitoring, Control and Surveillance – poor enforcement and significant illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

There is delayed, poor compliance and no transparency with regards to monthly submission from monthly catch returns. This begins from lack of qualified personnel in accountability of operations. Bookkeeping system from both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives is compromised as personnel holding that position do not have relevant qualifications. Personnel were trained by Ministry of SMEs and Basilwizi Trust but did not receive intensive training but rather basic or general training. Again there is illegal trading on the catchment areas at night by cooperative(s) employees. The so called night shift workers when they log in at work at night, there is no tight security which looks upon them during their working hours. They then tend to come along with non-cooperative personnel and hand over to them some of the catching for their own personal consumption. The private operators encountered from both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives indicated that boat crews sell part of their catch during the night. This really declines the gross output of cooperatives at the end of each month and automatically annually.

5) Inefficient transport services

Both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives do not own cooperative vehicles, vehicles belonging to cooperatives. This now limits sales at large as kapenta fishing cooperatives only wait for customers to come and acquire products. This goes an extra mile in decreasing the price of sale as customer will quote transport delivery expenses.

1.2 External factors that affect the ability of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives to deliver sustainable rural livelihoods.

These are factors that are not within the operations of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives. Environmental factors influence the operations and performances of these cooperatives through external forces which are beyond control of Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives. These factors include limited opportunities, culture and misguided development policies and practice. More details are outlined below.

1) Limited opportunities due to corruption

Opportunities are very limited to rural people compared to counterparts in urban areas. Rural people have limited access to small internal credits and even education. The quality of education in Binga district as a whole is poor compared to any other district although it is improving day by day. This leaves no room for cooperatives expansion and/or further investment. Putting this into illustration, the Women Development Savings and Credit Union was established in Harare in the year 2000 and in Binga district it was the 13th branch, to offer small credits or loans to women and cooperatives where women are engaged in. Misuse of funds by superiors affected the programme going concern and defaults in loan repayments by clients leading to the organisation scrapping about US\$10 000.00 as bad debts, thus according to *Linda Mwembe – former Women’s Bank administrative (+263773477327)*. She further entails that many cooperatives who had applied for loans could not acquire as the organisation shut before their loans were processed.

2) Licensing

On situational analysis, each cooperative is issued one permit per fishing rig meaning that kapenta fishing cooperatives are hindered from expanding their cooperatives. Fishing permits

are limited per cooperative by National Parks. Again on fishing permits, kapenta fishing cooperatives feel that are brutally charged high as they are charged at US\$2 000.00 per year. This sum is very harsh considering that production falls every rainfall season towards kapenta fishing cooperatives. Adding on fishing permits, as a means of sustaining kapenta fishing cooperatives operations, securing loans from the government as an alternative is ironically. Interest rate charges for loans are charged at 60% - 70% interest rates which pull down net profits of kapenta fishing cooperatives.

3) Misguided Development Policies and Practice

According to Anriquez and Stamoulis (2007), “Public policies at national level and resource mobilisation at both national and international levels have not always recognised the multiple potential of the rural economy. For example, as highlighted above that funds reaching remote districts such as Binga under Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development are limited compared to counterparts, urban districts, this shows discrimination from the national policies hence compromising the expansion of cooperatives in remote areas. Even the Binga Rural District Council as a governmental institution, it has done little (except giving legitimacy to Non - Governmental Organisations to operate within the district) compared to Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) such as ZUBO Trust, Basilwizi and CADEC in assisting kapenta fishing cooperatives hence these registered kapenta fishing cooperatives also contributes towards Gross Domestic Profit (GDP).

4) Unbalanced power structures

Most rural people have either the purchasing power or political power (as Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives are apolitical) to articulate their needs, to gain access to both the private and public service system or to thrive in hustle for limited resources and opportunities. According to IFAD (2005), “in many cases, the people who are poor (especially rural people) are so because policies, laws and regulations (or absence of them)

define their opportunities”. This exhibits a strong need to adjust or even change policies and restart again. Inclusion matters at all levels. With this, Rauch, Bartels and Engel (2001) articulate that, “They often find it very difficult to bear the organisation costs associated with empowerment”. Thus how unbalanced structures challenge Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives to fully fuel sustainable rural livelihoods in Kaani ward.

5) Water Levels in Zambezi River

There is great fear for Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives in the next coming years when it comes to production. Water level in Zambezi river is declining which is an exhibit of climate change. This is again accompanied by seasonality of production of Kapenta as it is not constant throughout the year. From October to December every year production falls which results in hiccups on really promoting sustainability of rural livelihoods constantly.

Government and Non Governmental Organisations towards Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives:

This sector focuses on what has both, the government and non-governmental organisations, done or contributed towards kapenta fishing cooperatives in Binga district mainly on assisting to curb the challenges named earlier in this chapter. This is to reckon that kapenta fishing cooperatives do not live or operate in isolation. Again, as the demands of development studies, this is to put in illustration how the government and NGOs complement each other on ground. This helped the researcher to close theory – practical gap through qualitative method approach used during this research.

a) Training Workshops - Information

Both government and NGOs have assisted kapenta fishing cooperatives with several different training workshops for improved performance of cooperatives. From respondents, this has had a better impact on the performances of approximately all income generating projects at large including cooperatives in Binga district. These training workshops mainly, as highlighted by key informants, are there to supplement both individual attributes and field experience so as to improve performance. As highlighted earlier on in this research that many occupy administrative position without relevant or adequate qualifications, these training workshops tend to bridge the gap hence alluding to the 21st century quote which says, "Experience is the best Teacher". Below are specific training workshops that both NGOs and government have engaged in with the community of Kaani.

i. Cooperative Law Training

This training was offered by Ministry of Small, Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development to all types of cooperatives within Binga district at large. This training had to direct all cooperatives on the pipeline of operations as per requirements of the government. The training also incorporated principles of cooperatives and the best suitable administrative structures different types of cooperatives can use.

ii. Advocacy and Business Management Skills Training

The advocacy training was offered by Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development while advocacy training was administered by Basilwizi Trust as many respondents alluded during the proceedings of the research. The trainings mainly focused on how best one can use his administrative post within the cooperative, knowing one's rights, best approach in serving the community and business management to ensure

sustainability and promote peace within the cooperative. Tenants such as transparency and accountability are the major tools alluded within the training package on good managerial qualities. Respondents from both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives clearly highlighted that in support of accountability and transparency, they now engage in review meetings every Friday of the week.

iii. Resource Mobilisation Training – Micro Enterprise Development

As the roots of this research were to figure out how kapenta fishing cooperatives through the use of local available resources in Kaani ward contributes to sustainable rural livelihoods, this training was of paramount importance. The training was brought to communities of Binga district as a whole by several NGOs such as Ntengwe for Community Development, Christian Care and Zubo Trust in conjunction with Ministry of Small, Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development. *(It is very much important to note that some of the NGOs such as Zubo Trust and Ntengwe for Community Development were targeting women only as their programmes targeted women but these women were also involved in kapenta and fresh fish cooperatives).* The main content of the training included the relationship between local available resources such as dams to already established projects and how best can they add value including ways of achieving effective resource mobilisation. Of importance is the relationship between resource mobilisation and overall development of the community and the future benefits of effective resource mobilisation.

iv. Basic Financial Management Training

This training was basically on the handling of all finances within the operations of all cooperatives in general within the district of Binga district although information was gathered in Kaani ward. Members of both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives

and ordinary community members as well indicated that they received training on basic books of accounts such as daily cash book and record book. This was further accompanied by general administrative books such as minute book and registers. Again this was brought forward by NGOs such as Ntengwe for Community Development, Christian Care and Zubo Trust in conjunction with Ministry of Small, Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development. *(It is very much important to note that some of the NGOs such as Zubo Trust and Ntengwe for Community Development were targeting women only as their programmes targeted women but these women were also involved in kapenta and fresh fish cooperatives).*

b) Marketing Linkages EXPOs

This has been and is still being implemented by both NGOs and government specifically under the Ministry of Small, Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development. To put this in illustration, two rural women from Siachilaba, two rural women from Manjolo and one from Kaani ward attended a Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development Market Expore in Bulawayo at Bulawayo Large City Hall from 27th – 30th May 2014 and exhibited their products which included kapenta and dried fish – **Source:** *Selina Mungombe (+263783364339) Ntengwe for Community Development Monitoring and Evaluation Officer.*

c) Extended Business Opportunities

Ministry of Small, Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development linked kapenta fishing cooperatives members (women to be specific) to source funds through proposal writing to Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development in 2014 – **Source:** *Simbarashe Mangisi (+263777043143) Ministry of Small, Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development District Officer.*

SNV Netherlands Development Organisation offered Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing Cooperative a loan amounting to US\$11 500.00. terms and conditions for paying back the loan was that Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperative must engage in cooperate social responsibility actives for five years that will amount to US\$11 500.00. Thus Buumi Bubotu decided to buy complete school uniform sets and stationery for orphans or single parent/guardian raised for a total of fifty five primary pupils at five different primary schools across Binga District as a whole.

d) Monitoring and Evaluation

Both NGOs and the government engage in regular monitoring and evaluation of operations of both kapenta fishing cooperatives and fresh fish cooperatives/traders. They monitor the effectiveness of trainings they offered to kapenta fishing cooperatives and the utilisation and maintenance of the assets they bought for these cooperatives. NGOs and the government compliment each other especially on transport to conduct these monitoring and evaluation and support visits to these cooperatives.

Recommendations to further stimulate Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives towards sustainable livelihoods

In as much as we acknowledge the uncountable contribution towards sustainable rural livelihoods brought by kapenta fishing cooperatives in Kaani ward, due to unstable and unpredicted economic situations, there is still sustainable mechanisms that can be implemented to counter rural livelihood stresses in near future. This is to say that there is need to add value to what is currently available so that rural livelihoods can adjust to both climatic and economic situations in near future. This will be sustainability at its best. This

section entails recommended recommendations by ordinary community members of Kaani ward, key informants interviewed, members of both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu kapenta fishing cooperatives and information from analysis of this whole research.

1. Loan Securement

Currently, looking at economic crisis within the country, capital is one of the hardships many entrepreneurs face in day to day operations of businesses and cooperatives. It is therefore ideal for the government which is the source of small loans to be a bit lenient on interest charges considering the size of kapenta fishing cooperatives. Again considering that production of kapenta fishing cooperatives is not constant and is affected by seasons and climate change overall, reduction from 60% - 75% interest charge will sustain operations of kapenta fishing cooperatives.

2. Management Training

All personnel within kapenta fishing cooperatives must receive regular training on area of specialisation so as to improve internal performance of kapenta fishing cooperatives and promote sustainability in deliverance of services to the community of Kaani ward and Binga District as a whole.

3. Transport Challenges

This is a trickle-down effect. The issue begins from securing loans from the government so that kapenta fishing cooperatives may manage to own cooperatives vehicles for marketing and delivering of products to customers.

Conclusion:

In as much as challenges hinder both maximum performance and service delivery towards sustainable rural livelihoods, kapenta fishing cooperatives have tried all best to promote sustainable rural livelihoods including increasing access to meet human basic needs such as education, shelter and health.

General Conclusion

Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing cooperatives have uncountable positively impacted rural livelihoods to the community of Kaani ward. The outcome of these kapenta fishing cooperatives are aligned to Human Basic Needs Approach, Human Development Index and confined to Sustainable Livelihood Framework of Ian Scoones (1998). The contribution includes employment creation and opportunities, women empowerment, improved and increased community participation; community based resource management in fighting all forms and spheres of poverty and improved income generation. In this regards, socio-economic challenges are addressed and dealt with through kapenta fishing cooperative movement in Kaani ward, Binga district.

However, within the operations of both Chunga and Buumi Bubotu Kapenta Fishing cooperatives there are both internal and external motivated challenges involved in upholding sustainable rural livelihoods. The challenges include lack of transport within cooperatives, high charges of fishing rigs licenses, climate change resulting in unstable production units and misguided development policies and practices. These challenges if they are dealt with, undoubtedly exponential development in rural livelihoods will transform socio-economic development of rural communities.

The government through Ministry of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development' and Non-Governmental Organisations has contributed a lot towards Kapenta Fishing cooperatives in Binga district. These two have assisted in capacity building through training workshops and infrastructure development. Kapenta fishing cooperatives have so far been a panacea to socio-economic challenges faced by community in Kaani ward.

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ANNEX 1

QUESTIONNAIRE TO COMMUNITY

INTRODUCTION

Good day Sir/Madam

My name is Lovemore Munashe Chakwanda. I am studying an Honours Degree in Development Studies at Midlands State University in Zimbabwe. I am conducting a research on “*An Undervalued Sustainable Livelihood Mechanism: The contribution of Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives towards sustainable rural livelihoods – A case of Kaani Ward in Binga District*”. **Confidentiality and Consent:** Your answers to this interview will **not** be released to anyone and will **not** contact anyone you know about this interview. You do not have to answer any questions that you do not want to answer and you may end in **any** time you want to. *Are you willing to participate.....?*

N.B: *If you are not clear with any of the questions, I am willing to assist.*

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Q1. What is your gender? Please tick () appropriate answer.

Male	<input type="checkbox"/>
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q2. What is your current employment status? Please tick () appropriate answer.

School learner	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unemployed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self employed	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3. What age range do you fall under? Please tick (☐) appropriate answer.

18-20	
21-25	
26-30	
31-35	
35 and above	

Q4. What is the highest education qualification you have attained? Please tick (☐) appropriate answer.

Grade 7	
O Level	
A level	
Diploma	
Degree (bachelors and honours)	
Higher degree(masters and above)	

SECTION B: IMPACT OF KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES TO COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS

Q5. (a) Are you aware of the KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES in Kaani ward? Please tick (☐) appropriate answer.

Yes	
No	

Q5. (b) If yes to question 5(a), why did you not join any of the Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives?

.....

Q6. (a) What do you consider to be some of the main socio-economic challenges faced by rural households in your community?

.....

Q6. (b) How have KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES dealt or tried to deal with challenges mentioned above?

.....

SECTION C: RELEVENCE OF KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES IN MEETING BASIC NEEDS OF COMMUNITY.

Q7. How appropriate are KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES in addressing challenges of unemployment amongst community members. Please tick appropriate answer.

Statement

It is a useful approach for youths	Agree		Disagree	
It is a noble idea but poor management	Agree		Disagree	
It is nothing but a political campaign tool	Agree		Disagree	

Q8. What’s new that has been brought in your community of Kaani ward as a result of these Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives?

.....

Q9. What can you really say you have benefited as a “community” of Kaani ward as a result of these Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives?

.....
.....

Q10. Any additional comments you would like to make on KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES?

.....
.....

(End of questionnaire)

Thank you for your co-operation

ANNEX 2

QUESTIONNAIRE TO POLICY IMPLEMENTERS (KEY INFORMANTS)

Good day Sir/Madam

My name is Lovemore Munashe Chakwanda. I am studying an Honours Degree in Development Studies at Midlands State University in Zimbabwe and I am currently collecting data for my thesis. The title of the dissertation is “*An Undervalued Sustainable Livelihood Mechanism: The contribution of Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives towards sustainable rural livelihoods – A case of Kaani Ward in Binga District*”. I do respect and appreciate your time, but could you please help in answering the following questions. I can assure you that this information will be strictly **confidential** and all information given to me will be used on research purpose only.

N.B: *All information that you will provide for this study will remain confidential and your names will not be disclosed. If you are not clear with any of the questions, I am willing to assist.*

Position of respondent.....

Date.....

1. May you briefly explain history (origin) and development of KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES in Kaani ward?

.....
.....

2. What do you consider to have led to the establishment of KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES in Kaani ward?

.....
.....

3. What groups (widows, elderly, women, youths, children and child headed families) engage in KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES?

.....
.....

4. What are your comments on community’s participation and involvement on KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES?

.....
.....

5. What challenges do KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES in Kaani ward face in:

(a) Their day to day operations

.....
.....

(b) In delivering services to community

.....
.....

6. What has your organisation done in addressing the above mentioned challenges?

.....
.....

7. Apart from your organisation addressing the challenges KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES face, what have you assisted or contributed to KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES?

.....
.....

8. In your opinion, are KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES a sustainable approach in improving community livelihoods in Kaani ward?

Yes No

(a) If yes, what are the indicators showing that KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES are a sustainable livelihood approach?

.....
.....
.....

If No, what can be done to ensure that KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES becomes a sustainable livelihood approach?

.....
.....

9. What opportunities have been brought to the community livelihoods through KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES?

.....

10. What do you think needs to be done in order to bring maximum performance of KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVES?

.....
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Comments/contribution

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.....
.....
.....

(End of questionnaire)

Thank you for your co-operation

ANNEX 3

QUESTIONNAIRE TO CHUNGA AND BUUMI BUBOTU KAPENTA FISHING COOPERATIVE MEMBERS

Good day Sir/Madam

My name is Lovemore Munashe Chakwanda. I am studying an Honours Degree in Development Studies at Midlands State University in Zimbabwe and I am currently collecting data for my thesis. The title of the dissertation is “*An Undervalued Sustainable Livelihood Mechanism: The contribution of Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives towards sustainable rural livelihoods – A case of Kaani Ward in Binga District*”. I do respect and appreciate your time, but could you please help in answering the following questions. I can assure you that this information will be strictly **confidential** and all information given to me will be used on research purpose only.

N.B: *All information that you will provide for this study will remain confidential and your names will not be disclosed. If you are not clear with any of the questions, I am willing to assist.*

Name of Cooperative.....

Position of respondent.....

Sex.....

Date.....

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Q1. What age range do you fall under? Please tick () appropriate answer.

18-20	
21-25	
26-30	
31-35	
35 and above	

Q2. What is the highest education qualification you have attained? Please tick (☐) appropriate answer.

Grade 7	
O Level	
A level	
Diploma	
Degree (bachelors and honors)	
Higher degree(masters and above)	

SECTION B: COOPERATIVES TOWARDS LIVELIHOODS

Q3. When was your cooperative established?

.....

Q4. What do you consider to be main socio-economic challenges faced by rural households in Kaani ward?

.....
.....

Q5. How is your Co-operative trying to address some of the socio-economic challenges you have identified in Kaani ward?

.....
.....

Q6. What are some of the reasons that led you to join or to establish your cooperative?

.....
.....

Q7. List the benefits you as a member and the community at large derive from your cooperative.

.....
.....

Q8. What are some of the challenges your cooperative encounter in its operations?

.....
.....
Q9. What do you think needs to be done in order to deal with the identified challenges?

.....
.....
.....

Q10. What has the Government or Non Governmental Organisations contributed to your cooperative?

.....
.....
.....

Comments/contribution

.....
.....
.....

(End of questionnaire)

Thank you for your co-operation

APPENDIX 1

MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR KEY INFORMANTS

1. What factors would you consider as reasons behind formation of Kapenta Fishing Cooperative movement?
2. In brief, may you kindly explain the growth of Kapenta Fishing Cooperative movement in Binga District
3. What are major requirements or conditions attached to registration and recognition of Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives??
4. What are socio-economic challenges people of Kaani ward have been facing and are still facing?
5. In what ways may you say the emergency and growth of Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives have been a panacea to these challenges?
6. To what extent have Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives have brought forward or promoted the concept of sustainability in rural livelihoods?
7. What are some of the challenges the government or civil society facing in promoting Kapenta Fishing Cooperatives?
8. What can be the possible solutions or recommendations towards aforementioned challenges?

APPENDIX 2

MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR CHUNGA AND BUUMI BUBOTU KAPENTA FISHING

COOPERATIVES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. What drove you to join or form this cooperative?
2. How did you commence your cooperative operations?
3. What are the socio-economic challenges faced by people in Kaani ward?
4. How have your cooperative tried or addressed these socio-economic hardships?
5. What have the government and/or civil societies contributed to your cooperative?
6. What are the challenges or limitations that you're facing as cooperative in your operations?
7. What can be the panacea to the aforementioned limitations or challenges?