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Marine Resources in Eritrea: Performance, Potential and Prospects

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Abstract

Marine resources are very important from the point of view of food and Economic security, especially in developing countries. Most of the countries that have an access to oceans and seas are using different methods and techniques to exploit their marine resources to achieve their food security and develop their economy. Eritrea as one of the countries that has sea gate, also aims at using its marine resources to achieve food security and healing its devastated economy. Eritrea has a coastline of more than 1,100 km long in The Red Sea. The Eritrean part of the Red Sea is one of the underexploited potential marine resources in the world. Although an extensive research and detailed scientific data is lacked, it is stated that Eritrea has the potential of maximum sustainable yield of 80,000 metric tons of fishery and numerous Marine resources. But so far, is exploiting only less than 13% of this potential. So it is safe to assume that, the Eritrean marine resources not yet optimally exploited. Therefore, it is an underutilized resource of the country as it does not yet contribute much towards food security and economic development of the country. This paper will examine the performance, potential and prospects of Eritrean marine resources and look at the main physical constraints in marine resource management and the current technology such as the crafts and gear used associated with it. The paper also looks into the relationship of these factors and the necessary steps that has to be taken to enhance marine resource potential and prospectus in Eritrea.

Biography

Michael Kahsu Tesfazgi has completed his studies in Aquaculture at the Eritrea College of Marine Science and Technology in 2009. He is the member of the research and technical staff at the Eritrea National Fisheries Corporation that operates under the Eritrea ministry of Marine resources.