



“We have identified several fish reserve protected areas, which is an area for breeding fish, because during the flood season the water rises and we noted that some species are lacking such as tiger fish, barbel fish, bream. These are fish which are supposed to be here, so we discussed with the Ministry of Fisheries about this area being a protected fishing reserve which can be rehabilitated. We could stop the community from fishing for a period of 5 months and then only allow them to fish for household consumption. The community understands this and supports our efforts.”

- **Alfons Kandjewere**, Chairperson of the Conservancy

*Joseph Mbambangandu Conservancy,
Kavango-East, Namibia*



Improving Conservation and Sustainable Use of Shared Fish Resources through Co-management Demonstration Project



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“I want to see fish increasing in size and more fish species in our river, so that when visitors come and see our river, we can be proud. The community depends on the river for fish, for people to eat, so it is important that we actually have fish here. Some people’s lives depend on this. Taking care of natural resources is good because the future generations will learn from what we are doing now.”

- Hendrina Shimangomango, Fish Guard

*Joseph Mbambangandu Conservancy,
Kavango-East, Namibia*



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“People no longer use traditional methods of fishing because they believe they will not catch many fish. When I was young, I fished with my mother we used a trap basket, we caught a lot of fish. No one used to drag net that time, so all these methods are new. Our duty is to explain why fishermen should avoid using those illegal methods. The work we are doing is a big challenge because this is our livelihood, our people have no other activity and there is no other option. They have to fish.”

- **Alexander Likua**, Fish Guard

*Joseph Mbambangandu Conservancy,
Kavango-East, Namibia*



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“We measure the length, weight and note the species of the fish. When we get to the river and ask people to hand over the fish so we can check them, sometimes people refuse. This happens when someone has caught a lot of fish and we have to measure it one by one, this takes quite some time to do. Fishermen feel that we are wasting their time, but we need the information about the fish they are catching.”

- Kashova Mukungu, Fish Monitor

*Joseph Mbambangandu Conservancy,
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“I work patrolling the river, looking out for people practising illegal activities, such as fishing using monofilament nets. This type of net catches fish which are too small. Sometimes people even use bow and arrow, they disturb the breeding of tilapia, which is harmful, people are not interested when we want to make them aware that this is wrong.”

- Edward Costa, Fish Guard

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