

Fish Is Back but Fishers Are Out: The Dilemma of the Education Methods Adapted for Co-management of the Fishery Resource

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Abstract : Pro-active educational approaches have lately been adapted Globally in the Conservation of Natural Resources. This led to the introduction of the co-management system, which worked for some European Countries on the conservation of sharks and other Natural resources. However, this approach has drastically failed in the Fishery sector on Lake Victoria; and the punitive education approach has been re-instated. Literature is readily available about the punitive educational approaches and scanty with the pro-active one. This article analyses the pro-active approach adopted by the Department of Fisheries for the orientation of BMU leaders in a co-management system. The study is interpreted using the social constructivist lens for co-management of the fishery resource to ensure that fishers are also back to fishing sustainably. It highlights some of the education methods used, methodological challenges that included the power and skills gap of the facilitators and program designers, and some implications to practice.

Keywords : beach management units, fishers, education methods, proactive approach, punitive approach

Conference Title : ICAAE 2022 : International Conference on Andragogy and Adult Education

Conference Location : Rome, Italy

Conference Dates : April 07-08, 2022