

Regional Training Course:
"Practical tools in Quantitative Fisheries Stock Assessment"
16th -26th July 2018, Pwani University, Kilifi, Kenya

Call for application

University of Florida in partnership with the African Billfish Foundation and Pwani University are organizing a Regional Training Course on Practical Tools in Quantitative Fisheries Assessment. The training sessions will be held at Pwani University, Kilifi Kenya, from 16th – 26th July 2018.

Target Audience

Applications are invited from qualified applicants in the region. The training targets natural resource scientists, fisheries researchers, fisheries managers, and post graduate students with interest in quantitative fisheries stock assessment using statistical and mathematical models. Preference will be given to applicants who have some basic experience working with fisheries datasets, field data collection, and fisheries ecology background. The applications are open from 1st March through 30th April 2018.

The registration fee is **USD 300**. Refreshments and lunch will be provided during 10-days training period. Training certificates will be issued upon successful completion of the course.

Application deadline is: 30th April 2018.

Course Pre-requisites

- i) Candidates should be from institutions that contribute, or hold and plan to work on fisheries stock assessments
- ii) Candidates should bring their own datasets for the hands-on exercises and group work
- iii) Selected participants should bring their own laptops
- iv) Working knowledge of English and basic fisheries ecology is required.

Background and objectives

Globally, fish and fisheries products present some of the most important aquatic resources both in terms of quantity traded and per capita consumption. The trade in fish and fishery products plays a major role in the economies of many coastal communities through creation of employment, food supply, and income generation. However, the demand for fish and related products is a catalyst for exploitation of fisheries resources often resulting in depletion of major fish stocks. The decline in fish stocks has major implications affecting livelihoods and the resilience of fisheries resources.

Notably, reports of diminishing fisheries have become common in many coastal and island states especially in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region. The situation is further

exacerbated by the challenge of limited data and information on the stock status of majority of these fisheries. Furthermore, there is inadequate capacity and technical knowledge to conduct comprehensive fisheries stock assessments in coastal and island states. This presents huge challenges in the sustainable management of fisheries and marine resources in these areas.

Consequently, there is a need to prioritize in training and improving expertise in quantitative fisheries assessment. Understanding the status of the fisheries and natural resources is pertinent for effective management both at the local and regional scale.

Training Goal and Objectives

The overall goal of the training is to train upcoming stock assessment scientists and managers on the practical approach to analysis of fish population data for management purposes.

Specifically, the training objectives are to impact the participants with practical tools/skills for: -

- i). Estimating fish population parameters (e.g., growth, recruitment, maturity, and mortality);
- ii). Predicting yield and catch composition for fisheries;
- iii). Use of fisheries equilibrium assessment and transient analysis to calculate reference points for simple approaches to fisheries management;
- iv). Analysis and management options in data limited fisheries.

The training will mainly use Microsoft® Excel and R-program and Yield® in the course.

Course Instructors

Dr. Robert Ahrens,
School of Fisheries & Resource
Conservation
IFAS/Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
University of Florida, USA,
Tel.: +1-352-273-3630
Email: rahrens@ufl.edu

Dr. Bernerd M. Fulanda,
Marine Sciences and Oceanography,
School of Pure and Applied Sciences,
Pwani University, Kilifi
Tel.: +254-718-894-874
Email: b.fulanda@pu.ac.ke

Dr. Mike S. Allen,
School of Fisheries and Resource
Conservation
IFAS/Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
University of Florida, USA,
Tel.: +1-352-273-3624
Email: msal@ufl.edu

Ms. Nelly Isigi Kadagi,
School of Natural of Natural Resources
and Environment,
IFAS/Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
University of Florida, USA.
Tel.: +254701662733
Email: nisigi@ufl.edu

Training Organizers / Secretariat

DVC -Research & Extension,
Pwani University,
PO BOX 195-80108,
Kilifi, Kenya.
Tel.: +254 725 91 61 45
Email: dvre@pu.ac.ke

Dr. Bernerd M. Fulanda,
Pwani University Kilifi,
PO BOX 195-80108,
Kilifi, Kenya.

Ms. Nelly Isigi Kadagi,
African Billfish Foundation,
PO BOX 342 -80202,
Watamu, Kenya.

Prof. Kitaka Nzula
Egerton University,
PO BOX 536,
Njoro, Kenya

Dr. Nina Wambiji,
Kenya Marine and Fisheries
Research Institute,
PO BOX 81651-80100,
Mombasa, Kenya.

Ms. Regina Wanjiru,
African Billfish Foundation,
PO BOX 342-80202
Watamu, Kenya.

Application Process

Interested applicants should complete the online application form:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/quantitative_fisheries_kenya or thr attached application form and e-mail it to nisigi@ufl.edu and copy to b.fulanda@pu.ac.ke. Please include a 2-page summary CV.

The application deadline is on **30th April 2018**. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications early due to limited slots. Late applications will not be considered.

Registration Payment Instructions: For Kenyan applicants, you can pay via **MPESA** on this number: **+254-701-662-733**.

For regional applicants, please email nisigi@ufl.edu and copy in b.fulanda@pu.ac.ke for payment details. All payments should be made at the time of submitting the application. No late payment will be accepted.

Emails should have, "Quantitative Fisheries Assessment Training" in the subject line. For more information please contact the secretariat; Ms. Nelly Isigi - nisigi@ufl.edu or Dr. Fulanda - b.fulanda@pu.ac.ke