

Registration of fishers in the South West Indian Ocean region

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Part 1: Assessment of registration

- It needs to be noted that generally registration in the laws is used for vessel registration.
- Fishers are generally licensed, rather than registered.
- In some laws the word registration and licensing are used as synonyms.
- In no law registration of fishers is identified as intended in the original TOR of this consultancy, that is to register all actors who are active in the fisheries sector (not even the Mauritius Law)

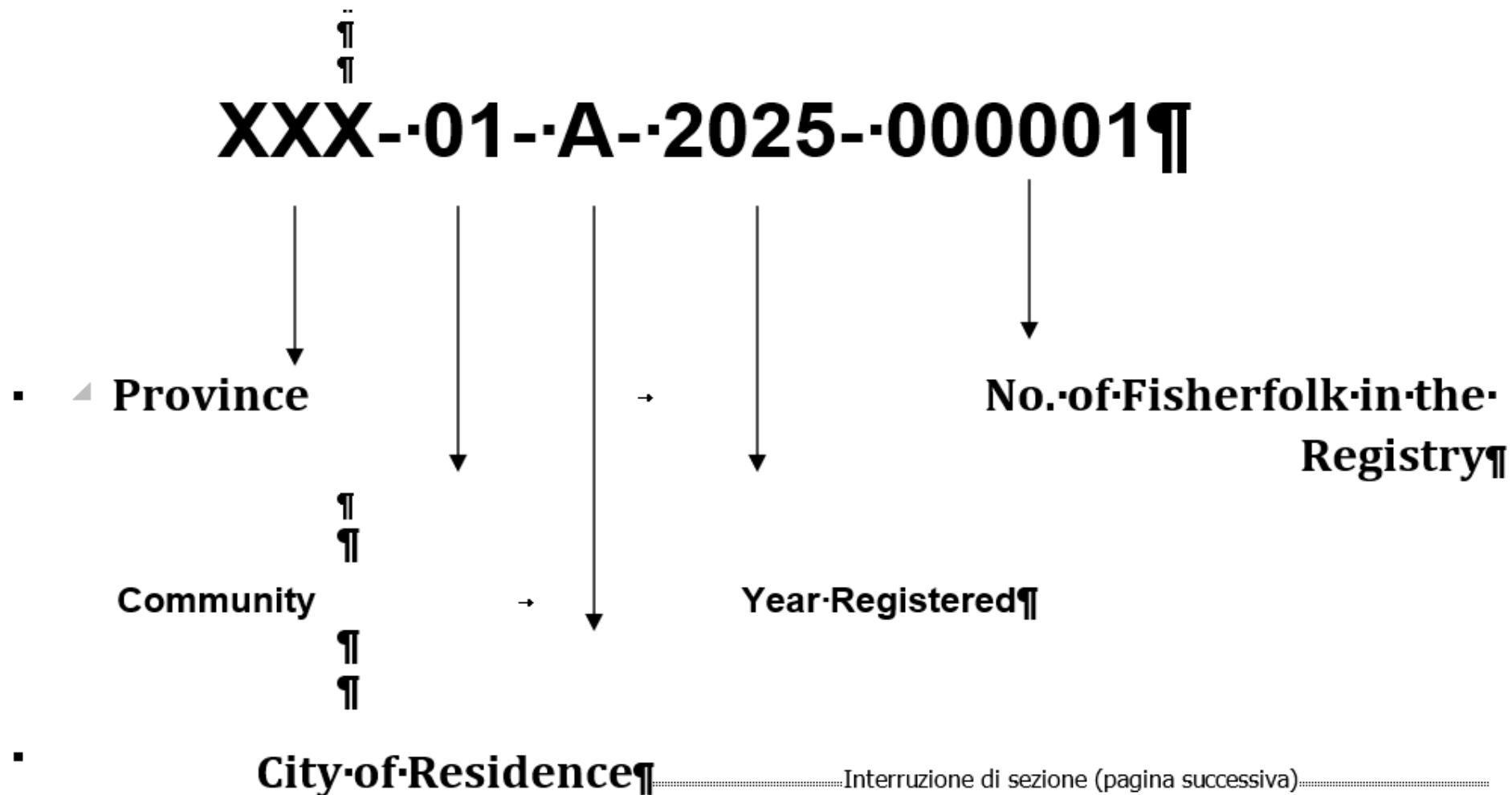
Registration (in Laws)

	Registration used for fishers	Registration used for fishing vessels	Comments
Comoros	yes	Yes	The word registration is used only for fishing vessels, and not for fishers. Interesting it is used for aquaculturists. Professional cards
Kenya	No	Yes	The word registration is used only for fishing vessels, and not for fishers.
Madagascar	Yes	Yes	The word registration is used in the very start of the Law for small-scale fishers, however, in the rest of the text it is used for registration of vessels. Fishing boats are registered, but fishers are licensed, however, the licensing fee for small/scale fishers is waived
Mauritius	Yes	Yes	The word registration is mainly used for vessels, even though it is also used for fishers
Mozambique	No	Yes	All commercial fishing boats need to be registered, but for fishers no registration is needed, however each fisher needs a licence, with costs varying according to species
Seychelles	Yes	Yes	The word registration is used 4 times in the Law, three times with regard to vessels, once for registration of fishers, for permitting or restricting any activity in any specific field
Tanzania	No	Yes	Fishing boats need to be registered, while fishers just need a licence,

Experiences from other regions

- The Philippines started in 1999 with a FAO project to prepare registration and fishermen cards
- The registration system is under the Municipalities
- Municipal fisherfolk are engaged in different types of fisheries livelihood such as capture fishing, fish farming or aquaculture, fish processing, fish vending, gleaning, and other fishery-related jobs. Based on the Municipal Fisherfolk Registration System, 1.03 million fisherfolk or nearly half (49.50 percent) of the total 2.08 million registered fisherfolk are engaged in capture fishing. Additional 233 000 persons work in the aquaculture sector.
- This number show the overall importance of the sector, representing 4 percent of the working population

Registration Control Number (Philippines)



Registration number system

Country	Province	City	Year	Identifier	Number		Gender		

Registration system

Name	Gender	Identifier of Activities	Country	Province	City	Year	Number

Activity Identifier: 1 marine capture fisher, 2 inland capture fisher, 3 aquaculturist, 4 fish processor, 5 fish vendor

Creation of a coherent registration system of fishers in the South West Indian Ocean region

- **April 2024**
- **Budget 1 million EUR**
- **5 years duration**

Description of a Implementation Project

- **Project objectives and goals**
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- The general objective of the project is to better understand the magnitude of the fisheries sector. The project consists of applying the ***Regional Framework and Standard Operating Practices for registering fishers and fishing assets: boats and gears in small-scale fisheries.***
- The objective is to create a regional framework of registering of all fishers and harvesters. The goals are to promote the approach with all stakeholders, ensure inter agency collaboration, communicate on user rights systems and underline the usefulness of a registration system to overcome the open access system.

Project activities

The project activities will carry out the promotion of the idea of a registration system with the fisheries administration and with the fishers.

After creating an informed buy-in into the registration idea, the format of the registration module will be decided, again with inputs from all stakeholders. Following this, two pilot sites in two countries will be selected and the registration system will be applied in these communities. Later, the experience from these pilot centres will be replicated in all communities and all participating countries.

- The detailed activities will include:
 - Promotion of registration idea with stakeholders
 - Development of a registration format, and its electronical support (including storage data base of information)
 - Pilot activities implementing the registration system in two pilot sites
 - Application of registration in all participating countries