

Project Update: October 2010

From snorkeling and observation activities, it is clear for the participants that the better the coral reefs' condition, the greater the fish abundance and marine biota. The coral reefs' condition is highly affected by human activities on both land and sea. From the live-in activity, the participants came up with their social analysis. Their analysis indicates that the actual situation is that the coral reefs in the north Coast of Sumbawa Island have been degraded because fishermen catch fish using bombs and potassium to get a lot of fish. The degraded coral reefs have caused a decline in fish abundance and potential diversity. This then forced the fishermen to go further from the land to catch fish which means increasing distance, longer time, and more fuel needed. In addition, climate change poses a significant threat for the fishermen through more frequent and higher storm magnitude. Difficulty in getting fish affected their income and consequently their families' level of education, nutrition, and psychological state.



Left: Anemone and Clown Fish in Sumbawa Island. Right: Traditional Fishermen in Sumbawa Island.