ABSTRACT

This study was done to improve Tanzanian traceability systems by investigating what role of information systems/ information technology (IS/IT) play in fish traceability system. From the point of view of marketing fish products on the European Union (EU) market, the relevant EU regulations and standards were reviewed in order to get an overview on what regulations on traceability the factories in Iceland and Tanzania aiming at exporting fish products to the EU are faced with.

A field study was carried out at ministry of livestock and fisheries development and Tanzanian fish processing factories to study the current traceability systems. The traceability systems from reception of raw material to the point the product is dispatched were followed and studied, including how the information is recorded and registered in each link. Information relevant to the traceability of products in the factory was then analyzed for the purpose of designing a digitized traceability system. The results are the designs of traceability systems for the fisheries sector in Tanzania.

The questionnaires were given to the staff, and interviews were conducted and reviewing of documents concerning the implementation and uses of IS/IT at the ministry of livestock and fisheries development have been done to make sure that the author come out with relevant and valid information for the study.

The results of the study revealed those ministry particular fisheries quality control department not only consider IS/IT usage as a support for fish traceability but also perceive it as an enabling technology

Finally recommendations are made to the management to implement and use IS/IT in fish traceability activities and It was concluded that it is high time for Tanzania and the developing world to have an IT based traceability system as they provide information which will make the fishing industry meet, not only market and regulatory demands, but also produce products in the most efficient way.