

LAKE VICTORIA BASIN COMMISSION

TRANSBOUNDARY WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN LAKE VICTORIA BASIN

by

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- 1.0 Lake Victoria Basin
- 2.0 Lake Victoria and its basin
- 3.0 Lake Victoria Commission
- 4.0 Water resources, WRM challenges in LVB, and LVBC endeavours towards WRM
- 5.0 Support needs
- 6.0 Conclusion

1.1 LVB Morphometric Data

Country	Lake Surface Area		Catchment Area		Lake Shoreline	
	Sq Km	%	Sq Km	%	Km	%
Tanzania	33,756	49	79,570	44	1150	33
Uganda	31,001	45	28,857	15.9	1750	50
Kenya	4,113	6	38,913	21.5	550	17
Rwanda	-		20,550	11.4	-	
Burundi	-		13,060	7.2	-	
Total	68,870		180,950		3,450	

1.2. Rivers in the Lake Victoria Basin

Country	Basin	Discharge (m ³ s ⁻¹)	Percent
Kenya	Sio	11.40	1.50
	Nzoia	115.30	14.80
	Yala	37.60	4.80
	Nyando	18.00	2.30
	North Awach	3.70	0.50
	South Awach	5.90	0.80
	Sondu Miriu	42.20	5.40
	Kuja Migori	5.80	7.50
Tanzania	Mara	37.50	4.80
	Grumeti	11.50	1.50
	Mbalageti	4.30	0.50
	East shore streams	18.60	2.40
	Simiyu	39.00	5.00
	Magogo Maome	8.30	1.10
	Nyashishi	1.60	0.20
	Issanga	30.60	3.90
	South shore streams	25.60	3.30
	Biharamulo	17.80	2.30
	West shore streams	20.70	2.70
	Kagera	250.90	33.50
	Bukora	3.20	0.40
	Uganda	Katonga	5.10
North shore streams		1.50	0.20
Total		778.30	100

2.0. Lake Victoria and its Basin

- Largest inland water fishing sanctuary
 - Major inland water transport linkage
 - Source of water Reservoir for HEP
 - Major climate modulator in the region
 - High Biodiversity reservoir
 - Tourist Attraction Sites
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- The region is EAC's – economic growth zone
 - GDP over USD 40 billion
 - Population 38.5 million
 - Favourable Climate conditions

3.0 Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC)

- An institution of EAC established through a Protocol
- Mandate: coordinate sustainable development in LVB in line with the provisions of the Protocol
- Objectives: to promote
 - ✓ Equitable economic growth and poverty eradication
 - ✓ Sustainable management of Natural Resources
 - ✓ Compliance to safety of navigation
- Effective in 2006
- Governed by a Sectoral Council of Ministers for LVB

**4.0. Water resources,
WRM challenges in LVB
LVBC endeavours towards WRM**

4.1. Water Resources in Lake Victoria Basin

- The Water Resources of the Basin comprises of surface water resources, ground water resources, and rainwater.
- Lake Victoria is the main surface water body in the Basin and hence defines the operational framework for the Basin activities.
- Direct rainfall over the Lake contributes by far the greatest (82 %) source of water
- Ground water resources - no comprehensive studies to establish the potential of this resource.
- The resource supports most of the productive sectors in the Basin and hence the need for an integrated and transboundary approach

4.2. Water Resources Management Challenges

- Access to clean water remains a major challenge: Water supply for domestic and industrial use is far below the demand levels; *On the average about 40% the urban Basin population is served with clean water.*
- Most of the water supply and sewerage infrastructure is outdated;
- Degradation of water quality, pollution loading (urban & municipal)
- Emergence of water hyacinth
- Catchment degradation (poor agricultural practices), Silt loading into the Lake

4.2 Water Resources Management Challenges

- Drainage of critical wetlands
- Dropping water levels
- Conflicting policies/unharmonized
- Legislation challenges
- Sectoral approach to Water Resource Management and Development
- Scattered Data for resource management

4.3. LVBC endeavors towards WRM

- Harmonization of policies, laws and regulations governing utilization of water resources
- Preparation of Water Resources Management plan for Lake Victoria Basin
- Development of a new water release and abstraction policy for Lake Victoria Basin, and Establishing of an independent transparent mechanism for monitoring water releases and abstraction from LVB
- Preparation of a water resources information system for LVB and a data and information sharing protocol
- Development of decision support system (DSS) for the LVB

4.3. LVBC endeavors towards WRM

- Infrastructure development for Water Supply and Sanitation (LVWATSAN) in 15 secondary towns in EA Partner States
- Sustainable Land Management and Watershed protection
- Maritime Communication, safety and security, and promotion of maritime transport: transport Act (2007) and Regulations (2010)
- Bill on establishment of a Transboundary Ecosystem Management Commission (2012) (by East Africa Legislative Assembly in February 2012)

5. Areas of possible cooperation (support needs) in infrastructure development

- Multipurpose dams on key rivers for control floods, irrigated agriculture, fish production, hydropower, water supply and sanitation
- Watershed management in Mt Elgon to reverse degradation of one of water towers of Lake Victoria, and stop landslide
- Comprehensive Climate Change adaptation strategy and its piloting implementation in the LVB
- Maritime transport and safety: communication, search and rescue services, ports infrastructure
- Infrastructure for water hyacinth removal and processing into biogas (mixed with wastes from riverine towns)

6.0 Conclusion

- With a well established Commission, supported by high level commitment of partner states, the Lake Victoria Basin is a sea of challenges but an ocean of opportunities
- Shared Water Resources are a binder and a critical driver for social economic development in Lake Victoria Basin: Economic growth zone
- Harnessing of the shared water resources will lead to socio-economic development, more peace and stability, and ensure environment sustainability

THANK YOU

CONTACTS

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