




The status of Lake Victoria Fisheries under limited access fisheries



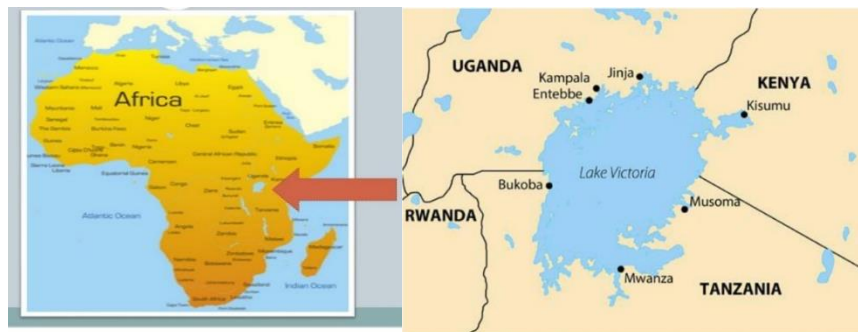
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Presented during the Global Conference of Tenure and User Rights in fisheries 2018, Yeosu, Republic of Korea, 10th – 14th September 2018

Outline

- *Description of the fishery*
 - *Economic contribution*
 - *Management*
 - *Sustainability concerns*
 - *Main challenges*
 - *Recommendations*
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Description of the fishery



Surface area 68,800 km², Shared by Tanzania (51%), Kenya (6%) and Uganda (43%)

Main Commercial species: Nile perch, Nile Tilapia, and Mukene/Dagaa/Omena

Landing sites: 1,535, Fishing canoes: 74,257, Fishers: 219,919

Canoes operated by paddle 56%, outboard engine 9.5%, sails 0.1%



Economic and social implications

Total Production: 876,547 metric tonnes

Dagaa: 65%

Nile perch: 19%

Tilapia: 2%

Total beach value: USD 588,680

Nile perch: 52%

Tilapia: 5.9%

Dagaa: 32%



Export of Nile Perch to international market: USD 400 million annually: 60% to Europe



Management

- *Lake Victoria Fisheries Management Plan III 2016-2020*
- *Regional level: Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization*
- *National: Central, Local/Devolved Governments*
- *Community: Beach management Units – co-management since 2003*

Sectoral Council Decision on fishing canoes, March 2018

- *Kenya: 13,403*
- *Tanzania: 29,154*
- *Uganda: 28,139*

Sectoral Council Decision on Nile perch fishing canoes, March 2018

Kenya: 7,531

Tanzania: 15,327

Uganda: 14,821

***Other controls:** mesh sizes, slot size of Nile perch, minimum size of Tilapia*

Requirements for fishing vessel license

- Registered with Beach Management Units, have legal fishing gears and a seaworthy canoe.
- In Kenya and Tanzania only citizens, In Uganda, pay a higher fee
- Fishing vessel license valid from date of issue to 31st December of that calendar year, not transferable
- No special considerations for poor, vulnerable individuals or women
- No limit to number of fishing canoes per individual and charges are the same for all species

Sustainability concerns

Trend on fishing characteristics:

Between 2006 and 2016: increase in fishers by 12%, fishing vessels by 8%, seines targeting Dagaa by 221%; longline hooks targeting Nile Perch by 67%; fishing canoes using outboard engines increased by 102%



Biomass estimates:

Decline of Nile Perch from 1.23 million in 2014 to 0.851 in 2016, in 2017: 1.12 million but mainly juvenile fish

Dagaa: Decline from 1.29 million to 0.706 in 2017

Main challenges

Increase in illegalities and reduction in fish catches

Between 2006 and 2016:

- *Illegal small hook* (≥ 10) mainly targeting Nile Perch increased by 302% from 3 million to 14 million.
- Monofilament nets which are illegal increased by 3,044% from 2,293 to 72,101
- illegal small seines mainly targeting Dagaa increased by 170% from 4,370 to 11,805.

Nile Perch catches decreased by 37% from 264,070 metric tonnes in 2006 to 165,083 metric tonnes in 2015.

Industrial processing plants decreased by 59% from 41 to 17

Dagaa catches decreased from 602,295 in 2006 to 566,570 metric tonnes in 2015

Projects are short term (3-5 years)

However, Partner States are intensifying enforcement-some signs of recovery

Recommendations for improving fisheries sustainability

- i. Need to develop specific User Rights system suitable for inland water bodies-Lake Victoria fisheries
 - Over 70,000 fishing canoes
 - Over 1,500 landing sites
 - Over 200,000 fishers
 - Beach value USD 600 million annually
 - Fish exports to more than 50 Countries
- ii. Develop and implement long term fisheries programmes (10 to 15 years)

Thank you

