

NILE BASIN INITIATIVE



Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program

Integrated Management of Transboundary Water Resources of Cyohoha and Rweru Lakes and Akanyaru Marshlands. Rwanda and Burundi.

PROJECT OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To reduce poverty and reverse environmental degradation in the Bugesera region, principally in the area surrounding the lakes Cyohoha and Rweru and the Akanyaru marshlands.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project area covers the Akanyaru marshland and Lakes Cyohoha and Rweru and their watersheds, located respectively in the Akanyaru sub-basin and the downstream Nyabarongo sub-basin, both being parts of the Kagera sub-basin shared by Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and Tanzania.

The Akanyaru marshland is a vast drowned valley which forms a natural border between Rwanda and Burundi. Its dimensions range from 200 to 3 000 m wide and 70 km long. Its surface area is estimated at about 200 km². The marshland is characterized by waters highly loaded with suspended matter due to mechanical erosion from river banks, deforestation and environmental degradation of the watersheds.

The lakes of Rweru and Cyohoha also located at the border between Rwanda and Burundi, cover respectively over 80 km² and 60 km². The lakes are fed by groundwater from the river Nyabarongo and constitute freshwater reserves which are easily accessible to local population and offer great potential for fish and aquaculture development.

The project area covers some sectors of Bugesera, Gisagara, Ngoma and Huye districts in Rwanda and some communes of Ngozi, Kirundo and Muyinga provinces in Burundi. The population in the region is estimated at 834 113 inhabitants (274 113 inhabitants for Bugesera district in Rwanda and 560 000 inhabitants for Kirundo province in Burundi).

OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES: The project specific objectives include:

- i) To prepare integrated management plans for the two lakes and the marshland based on comprehensive diagnostics of the water-bodies;
- ii) to build the capacity of stakeholders for better resource management through training and water resource monitoring.

THEMATIC AREAS

Water Resources Development and Environment Conservation

EXECUTING AGENCIES:

PARTNER(S):

African water Facility/ AfDB and Governments of Burundi and Rwanda

PROJECT DURATION

Phase I: 16 Months

START/CLOSING DATE

Phase I: May 2010 to August 2011.

BUDGET

The first phase of the project received a grant from the AWF/AfDB for a total of 770,000 Euros

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

The Project Management Unit is located in Kigali, Rwanda. The projects cover 3 Provinces in Burundi, 4 Districts in Rwanda.

PROJECT DETAILS

IMPACT STATEMENT

The Project will contribute to the improvement of living conditions of riparian communities through the social economic development, poverty reduction and reversal of environmental degradation.

KEY OUTPUTS OF THE FIRST PHASE

- 3 Diagnostic Analysis
- 3 integrated Management plans
- 1 Project profiles with investments proposals
- 3 operational hydrometric and meteorological stations
- 1 capacity building plan and key actors trained on IWRM, fishery law and environment conservation.

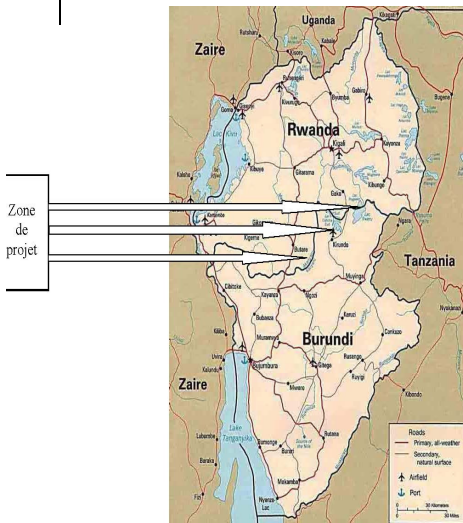
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Map of Project Area