

Ziwa Letu Conference

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Insights on Environmental Programmes Management in
Lake Victoria Basin – Tanzania Input

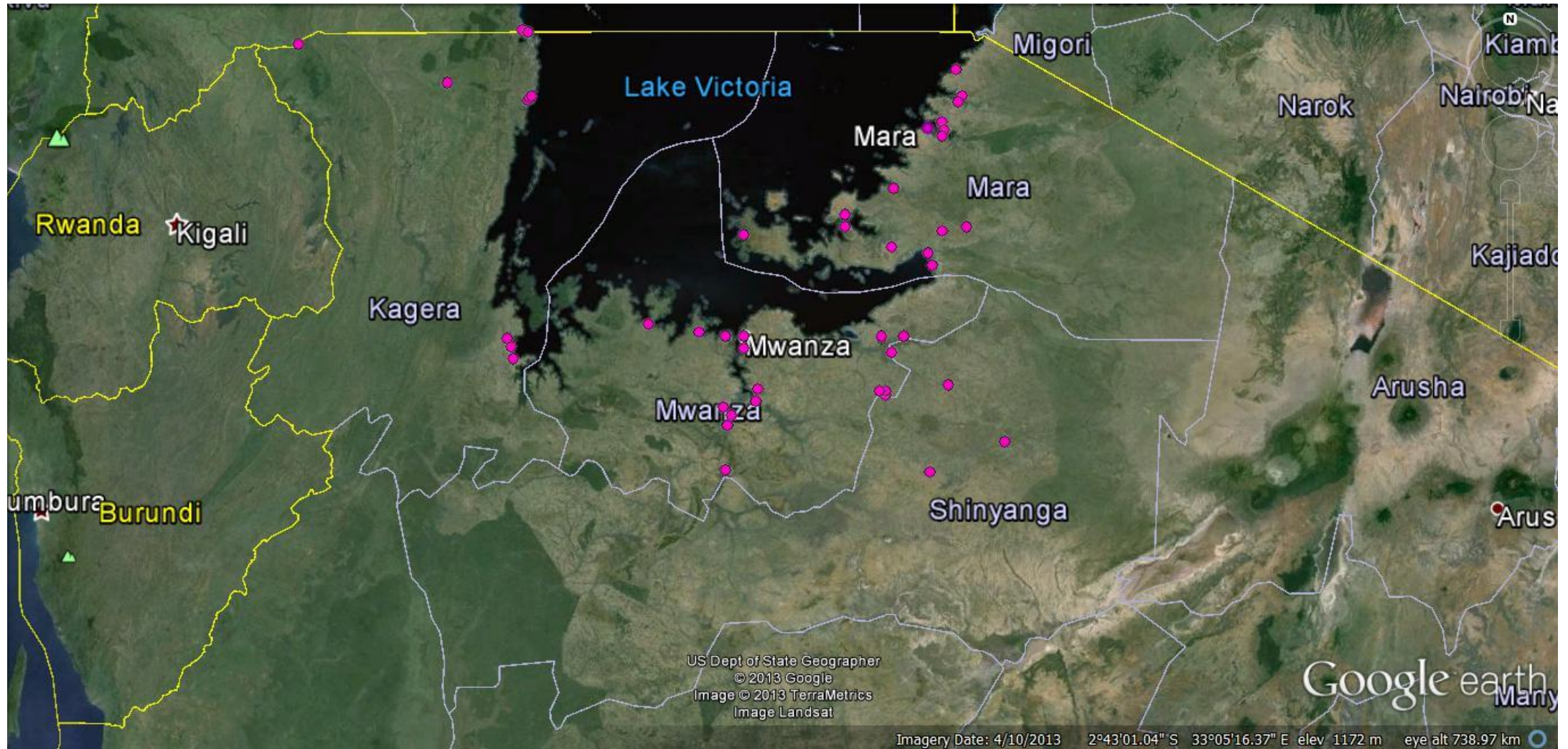
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Lake Victoria Basin - Tanzania



Major Environmental Issues affecting the Basin

- Deforestation
- Overfishing
- Decreased number of fish species
- Invasive weeds (e.g. water hyacinth)
- Pollution (Industrial, municipal, mining, agricultural, lake transport)
- Climate change

Major Environmental degradation drivers

- Lack of sustainable livelihood opportunities for poor, rural, small farmers and fishers
- Rapid population growth
- Investment Rush
- Climate change

Artisanal Mining in Lake Victoria Basin



Climate Change Impact



Conservation/Environmental Management Initiatives

- Donor-funded programmes TAMP (FAO); LVEMP I, II; Mara River Basin Management Initiative (WWF/USAID);
- LVBC Activities - Protocol for Sustainable Development of Lake Victoria
- NEMC monitoring/control activities; EIA Emphasis, with renewed vigour under 5th Phase Govt.
- Lake Victoria Basin Board Programmes (under Ministry of Water and Irrigation)
- Central government programmes on natural resources conservation and land utilization
- LGAs' sector development activities
- LVRLAC Initiatives
- CSOs programmes in environment, social economic development, governance

Challenges to sustainability of programmes/projects

- Low local/beneficiary ownership
- Top-down approach
- Poor governance within beneficiary groups
- Limited capacity (implementing institutions and communities)
- Donor-driven programme time-scales
- Limited institutional integration
- Inadequate multi-sectoral planning/involvement
- Political pressures (Community selection, etc)

Lessons Learnt from Environmental Management Programmes

- Need for adequate lead and lag time in development and implementation of sub-projects
- Local/beneficiary ownership is key
- All key stakeholders should be involved
- There are legitimate competing priorities in communities/implementing institutions including LGAs
- Need to go hand in hand with alternative livelihoods interventions
- Need to build-in sustainability aspects at all stages

Sustainability of Programmes/Initiatives

- Sustainability refers to the continuation of project's goals, principles and efforts to achieve desired outcomes
- It is a measure of whether the benefits of project interventions are likely to continue after project funding has ended.
- An environmentally sustainable system must maintain a stable resource base, avoid overexploitation of renewable resources and preserve biodiversity

“SILVER” Principles Chart



Suggested SILVER Principles for Sustainability of Environmental Initiatives

- S = SYSTEMATIC APPROACH
- I = INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRATION
- L = LOCAL OWNERSHIP
- V = VERSATILITY
- E = ECOSYSTEM-WIDE SCOPE
- R = RESOURCE OPTIMIZATION

SILVER Assessment for sub-project X

	CATEGORY	SUSTAINABILITY MEASURE (PERCENTAGE)
1	SYSTEMATIC APPROACH	52.8
2	INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRATION	84.0
3	LOCAL OWNERSHIP	76.3
4	VERSATILITY	31.6
5	ECOSYSTEM WIDE APPROACH	14.2
6	RESOURCES OPTIMIZATION	51.3
	OVERALL INDEX	52

Examples of community views

- “Illegal fishing gear should be stopped so that the fish can grow and we can get sizable fish” – *Bonifas, Trader/Resident of Ukerewe Island*
- “Education is key for success of law enforcement measures e.g. when closing off parts of the lake to fishing activities.” – *Patrick, Environment & Entrepreneurship Advocate, Musoma*
- “People should be patient to allow lake control measures to take positive effect” – *Mereciana, Mwanza City resident and entrepreneur*

Recommendations

- Capacity Building for CSOs (technical, governance, management)
- Improve Climate Information and Adaptation Measures
- Regular consultative forum (Government, CSOs, Private Sector, Beneficiaries)
- Targeted community interventions based on needs/sustainable capacity
- Enhance understanding of legislation/policies relating to environment
- Dissemination of successful regional models
- Strong youth involvement
- Sustainability considerations at all stages of programme/project planning, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation

Conclusion

- Concerted, coordinated, sustainable programmes are needed to help reduce poverty through utilization of abundant natural resources and human capital of the Lake Victoria Basin while maintaining environmental sustainability
- Success is possible through collaboration between regional, national and local stakeholders - government, private sector civil society and communities, and Development Partners. Not afraid to take hard/bold steps necessary

Illegal fishing gear - combating



Youth Involvement - key for the future



Lets revitalize Ziwa Letu
("Nyanza" aka "Nam Lolwe")



***THANKS FOR
YOUR ATTENTION***