



African Center for Aquatic Research and Education
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African Center for Aquatic Research and Education: Prospects for enhanced collaboration on the African Great Lakes

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African Center for Aquatic Research and Education



African Great Lakes Stakeholder Workshop
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November 5, 2019



~~African Great Lakes are~~

^
WE

The 7 Lakes

- Lake Albert
- Lake Edward
- Lake Kivu
- Lake Malawi/
Nyasa/Niassa
- Lake Tanganyika
- Lake Turkana
- Lake Victoria

10 Riparian Countries

- Burundi
- DR Congo
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Rwanda
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia

The African Great Lakes support the livelihoods of millions of people, hundreds of thousands of fishers, and are species-rich.

These freshwater resources are threatened by

increasing, multiple stressors such as climate change, demographic pressure, invasive species, pollution, over-fishing, increased land cultivation, oil drilling, and industrialization.

This situation is not sustainable if these freshwater resources are to be conserved for future generations.



Why the need for collaboration

1. To address problems of disparate, parochial, short-term research resulting in:
 - Lack of comprehensive, comparable scientific data
 - Lack of long-term, continuous, and constant data sets
 - Country- or project-specific results
 - Lack of focused resources (financial and research)

2. To respond to >3 decades of ongoing calls for increased research and academic collaboration in Africa



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Goal

Administer a highly collaborative network of experts dedicated to strengthening science and positively affect research, policy and management on Africa's Great Lakes



©Ted Lawrence



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How

Enhance Collaboration

Through a vast network of freshwater partners, ACARE will enhance global collaboration among freshwater learning institutions, organizations, ministries, and other entities to address the challenges facing the African Great Lakes



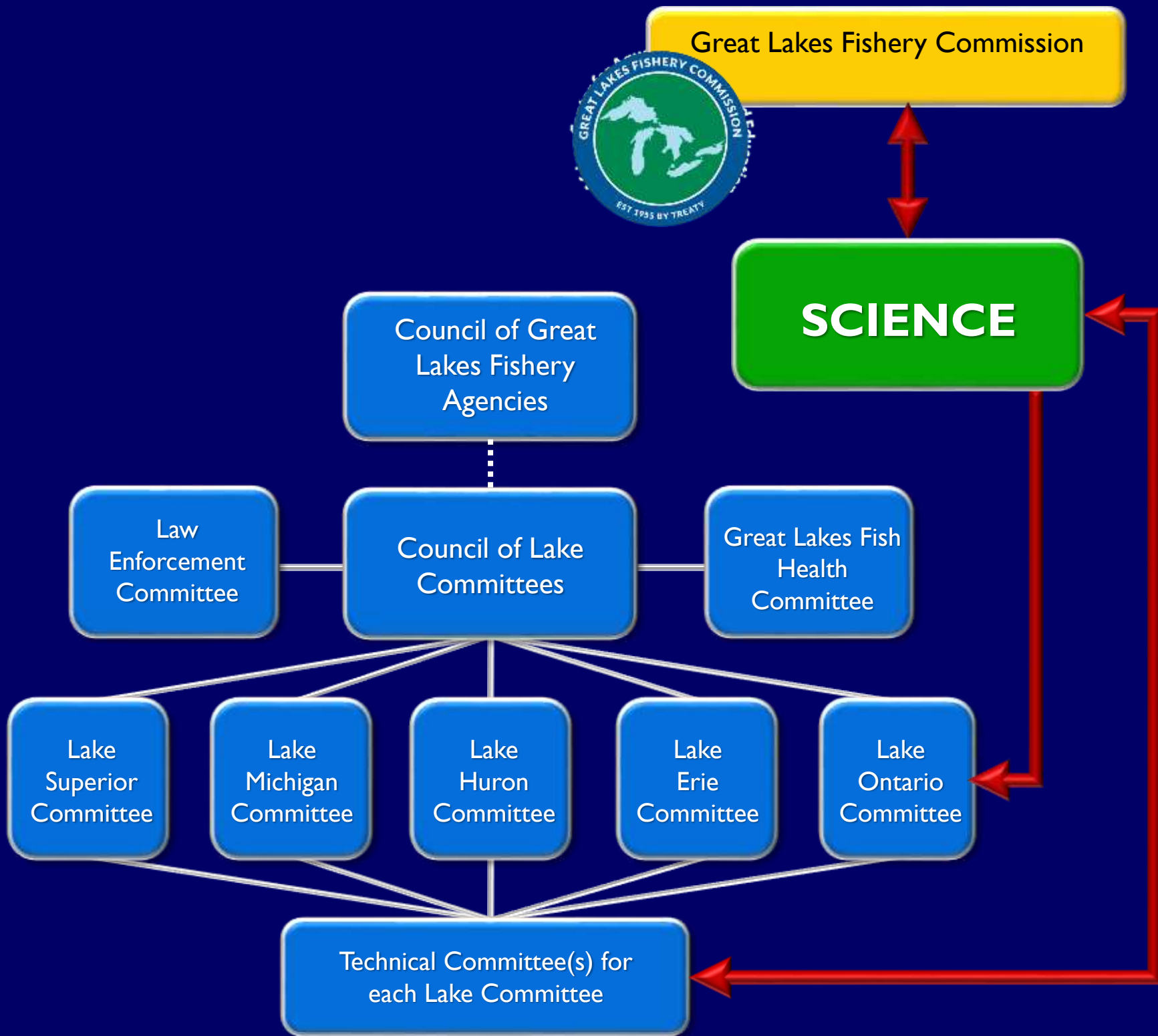
Strengthen Research, Policy, Management

ACARE will coordinate regular communication among experts to strengthen science-policy interface towards managing and conserving the African freshwater resources.

Increase Education & Training

ACARE will coordinate an innovative learning experience for the next generation of freshwater experts in the African Great Lakes riparian countries through innovative research and global partnerships.







African Center for Aquatic Research and Education

SCIENCE

Council of Ministers (??)

Monitoring Committee

Council of Advisory Groups

Aquaculture Committee

Lake Albert Advisory Group

Lake Edward Advisory Group

Lake Kivu Advisory Group

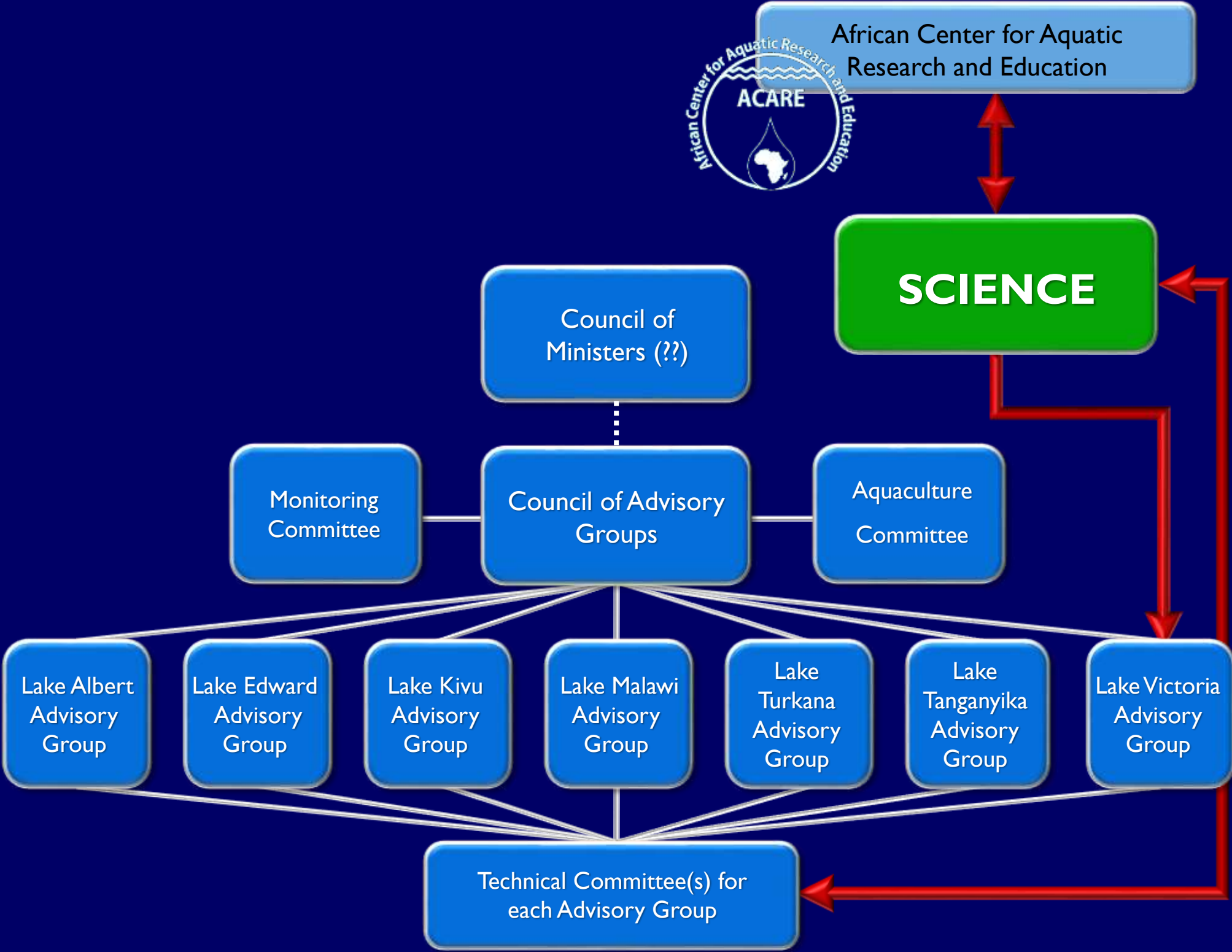
Lake Malawi Advisory Group

Lake Turkana Advisory Group

Lake Tanganyika Advisory Group

Lake Victoria Advisory Group

Technical Committee(s) for each Advisory Group





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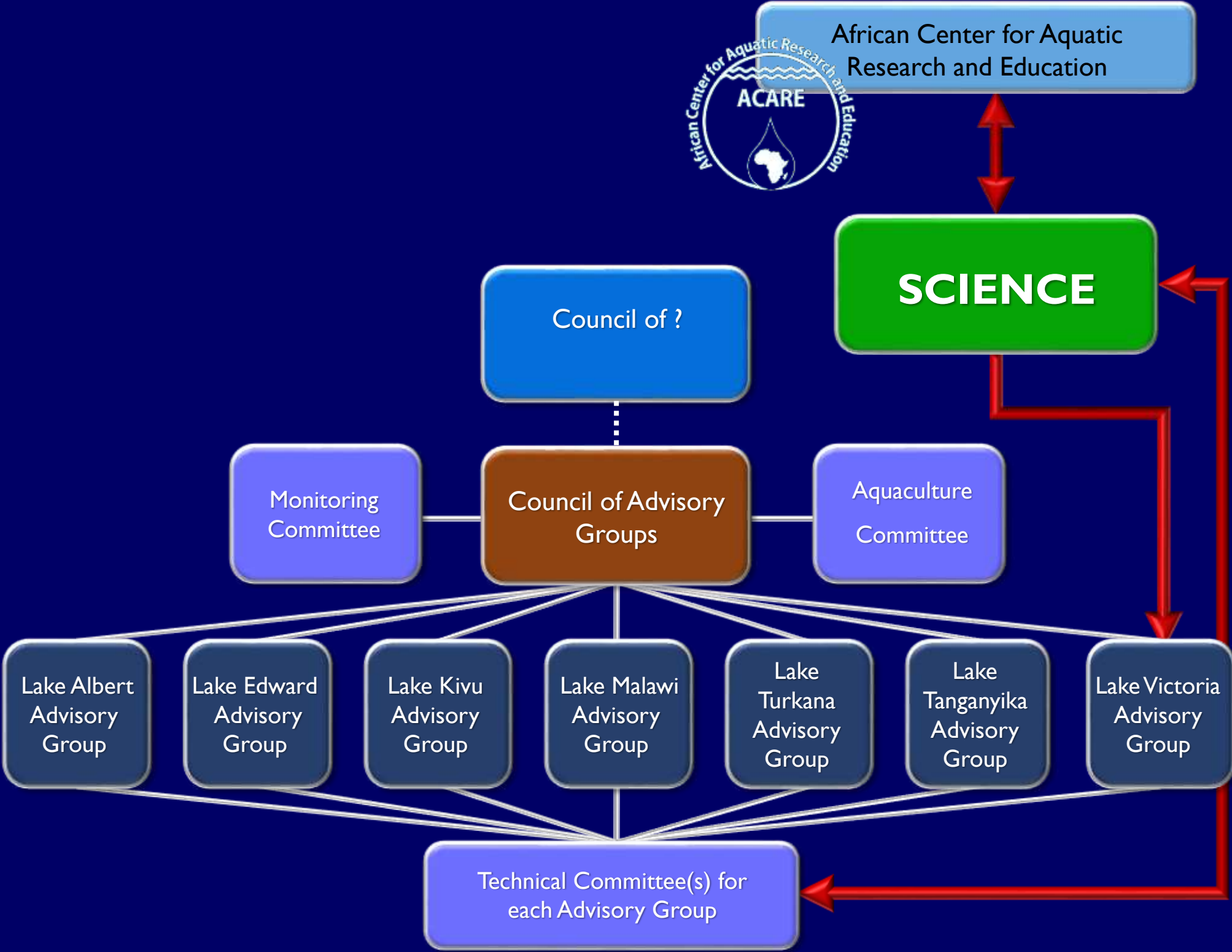
Lake Malawi Advisory Group

Lake Turkana Advisory Group

Lake Tanganyika Advisory Group

Lake Victoria Advisory Group

Technical Committee(s) for each Advisory Group



Advisory Groups:

Meet at least annually to:

- Prioritize research on their lake
- Give updates on on-going research
- Information exchange / present trends
- Local research opportunities
- Develop policy/management solutions

Lake Albert
Advisory
Group

Lake Edward
Advisory
Group

Lake Kivu
Advisory
Group

Lake Malawi
Advisory
Group

Lake
Turkana
Advisory
Group

Lake
Tanganyika
Advisory
Group

Lake Victoria
Advisory
Group

The Council of Advisory Groups consists of members from each individual Advisory Group, ensuring harmonization across basins.



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Monitoring
Committee

Council of Advisory
Groups

Aquaculture
Committee

Specially focused committees or Advisory Group,
and technical groups can be formed when
necessary, meeting as often as deemed appropriate.

Technical Committee(s) for
each Advisory Group



ACARE will facilitate the lake committee process:

- Provide travel support for committee members
- Provide meeting support for each committee (facilities, etc.)
- Facilitate communications among members when necessary

Monitoring
Committee

Aquaculture
Committee

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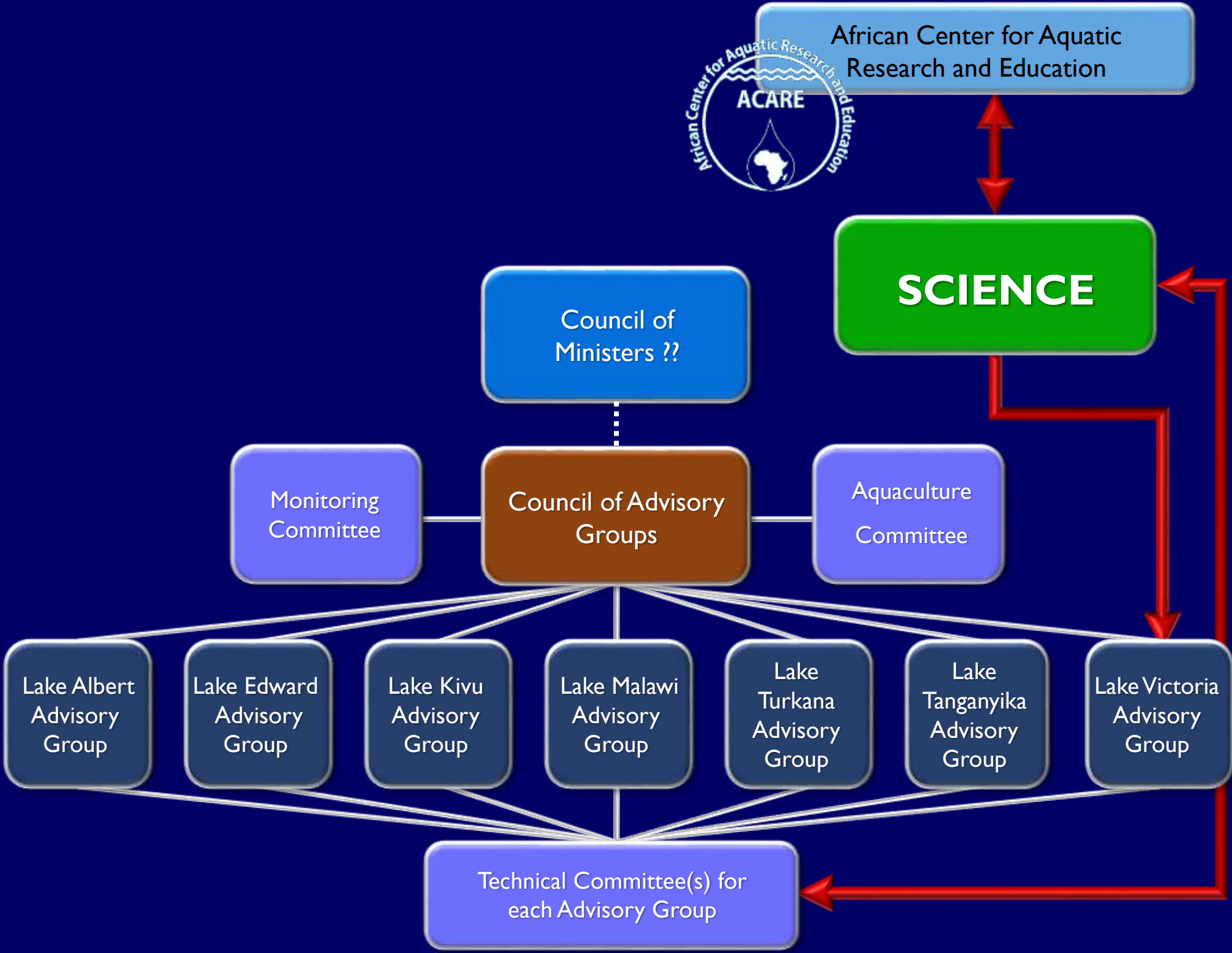
Lake Malawi Advisory Group

Lake Turkana Advisory Group

Lake Tanganyika Advisory Group

Lake Victoria Advisory Group

Technical Committee(s) for each Advisory Group



ACARE: Facilitating Collaborative Research

Tentative composition of an Advisory Group

Example: Lake Malawi Advisory Group

Potential Membership of an Advisory Group - TBD by Community of Experts)

General

- ACARE-sponsored Lake Committee Manager

Malawi

- Lead researchers from Dept of fisheries
- Professors from university departments working on freshwater issues/courses
- Decision makers (Ministers or reps)
- Managers of freshwater resources
- Local NGOs or community institutions

Tanzania

- Lead researchers from TAFIRI
- Professors from university departments working on freshwater issues/courses
- Decision makers (Ministers or reps)
- Managers of freshwater resources
- Local NGOs

Mozambique

- Lead researchers from Dept of fisheries
- Professors from university departments working on freshwater issues/courses
- Decision makers (Ministers or reps)
- Managers of freshwater resources
- Local NGOs

Optional/temporary membership

- Special task forces
- Advisors relevant to the process
- Advisors relevant to specific issues
- Experts necessary to make informed decisions
- Local stakeholders
- International NGOs

ACARE: Facilitating Collaborative Research

Tentative composition of the Council of Advisory Groups

Example: Council of Advisory Groups

Membership of the Council of Advisory Groups :

General

- ACARE-sponsored Council of Advisory Group Manager

Burundi, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia

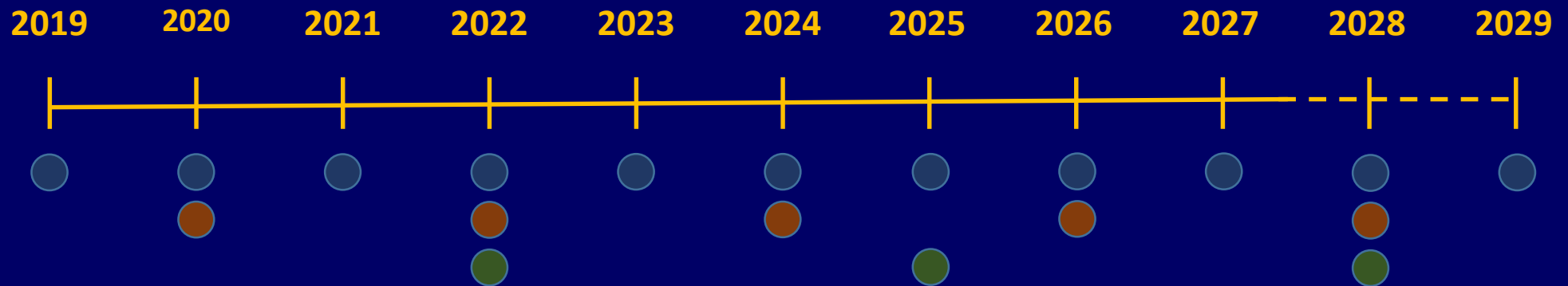
- Chair and Co-Chairs from each lake
- Other members as deemed appropriate

Optional/temporary membership

- Special task forces
- Advisors relevant to the process
- Advisors relevant to specific issues
- Experts necessary to make informed decisions
- Local stakeholders
- International NGOs

ACARE: Facilitating Collaborative Research

Tentative schedule of the Advisory Group process



- Lake Albert Adv. Gr.
- Lake Edward Adv. Gr.
- Lake Kivu Adv. Gr.
- Lake Malawi Adv. Gr.
- Lake Tanganyika Adv. Gr.
- Lake Turkana Adv. Gr.
- Lake Victoria Adv. Gr.

Council of
Advisory Groups

African Great
Lakes Research
Conference

Special or
technical
meetings

Annually = ●

Biennially = ●

Triennially = ●

As needed = ●

ACARE: Facilitating Collaboration

Collaboration will result in:

- Increased opportunities for global research collaboration
- Enhanced accumulation of research resources
- Creation of consistent, credible, comparable long-term data
- Increased certainty of research impact



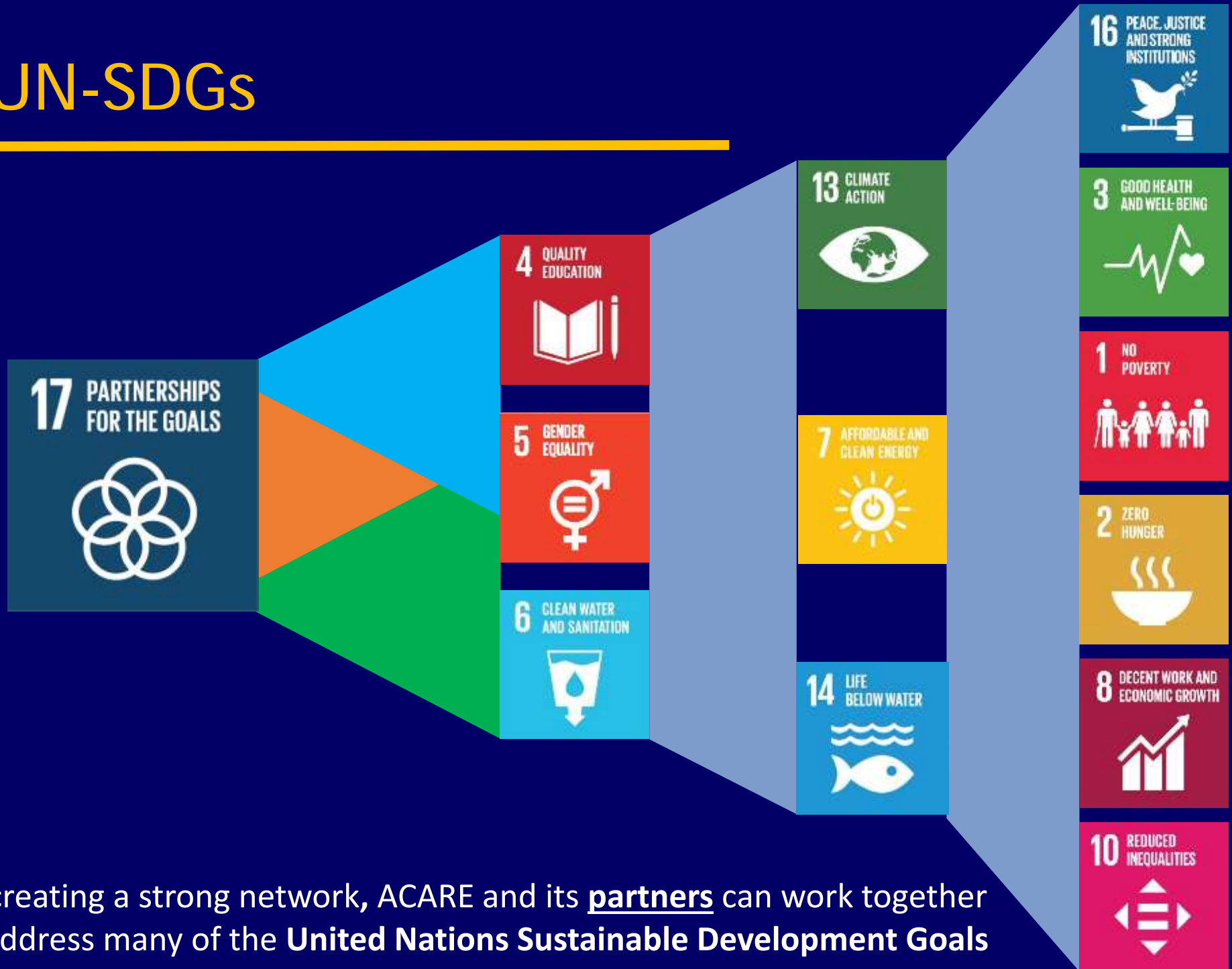
Collaboration will strengthen research, academic and policy influence to enhance positive societal changes in freshwater management and conservation

ACARE: Partnerships

Benefits of Partnership:

- Collaborate with a network of national and international freshwater scientists, managers, and decision-makers
- Increase policy and management influence through coordinated research efforts
- Create research goals and design world-class research
- Reduce barriers to research
- Enhance the learning of the next generation of freshwater specialists
- Increase exposure to world class information and training

UN-SDGs



By creating a strong network, ACARE and its partners can work together to address many of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**

Blue Economy

- Harnesses the potential of our oceans, seas, lakes and rivers to improve the lives of all, particularly people in developing states, women, youth and Indigenous peoples
- Leverages the latest innovations, scientific advances and best practices to build prosperity while conserving our waters for future generations





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