

ACARE-Annual Meeting of the African Great Lakes Stakeholders Network



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Convenor/Lead
Lake Victoria Advisory Group

Day 1 Presentation
Mulungushi International
Conference Center
4-6 February 2025
Lusaka, Zambia



Presentation Outline

- **Biogeography of Lake Victoria**
- **Advisory Group Founding: Goals and Objectives, and membership**
 - Key Objectives & Goals:**
 - Approaches/methodologies,**
 - Needs/resources,**
 - Roles/responsibilities distributions**
 - Timelines**
- **2024 Critical Objectives: Priorities, Achievements, lessons learnt and key take-aways**

Biogeography of the Lake



- World's largest tropical freshwater lake and largest lake in Africa
- Covers surface area of 68,800 Km²
- Located in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania with Rwanda and Burundi part of the catchment area
- Supports ~4 million livelihoods
- Produces about 1 million tones of Fish annually



Lake Victoria

- ❑ Source of Livelihood of more than 40 million people;
- ❑ Source of Water Supply to 90% to cities'
- ❑ Fishery Resource that yields more than 1 million MT/Annually
- ❑ Produce Hydropower Potential of about 720 Mega Watts
- ❑ Fertile Soil for Agriculture Potential (1.1 million ha irrigation)
- ❑ Ecosystem Function such as wildlife habitats of Masai Mara and Serengeti (wonders of wild beast migration)
- ❑ Rich biodiversity
- ❑ Connect cities through major means Transport; and
- ❑ Possibility of Hydrocarbons (oils & gas)

Advisory Group Founding and Goal

- **LVAG was founded in November 2019**
- **Main goal: Strengthening Capacity in Research, Policy, and Management**

OPPORTUNITIES

- **Intellectual capital within lake Victoria**
- **LVFO and LVBC will support and help with the uptake and operationalization of policy briefs**
- **Partnerships and collaborations**

Current AG membership: Uganda (9 members), Tanzania (10 members), Kenya (11 members) Advisors (2 members)

Challenges on Lake Victoria

- Record high rising water levels
- High pollution levels
- Invasive species
- Overfishing
- Habitat degradation
- Climate change
- Conservation challenges



Advisory Group Membership & Functions

Dr. Anthony Taabu Munyaho (Convener/Lead)

Dr. Lily Kisaka Co-convener/Vice-Lead

Policy & Governance Committee	Scientific Committee	Communication & Dissemination Committee	Resource Mobilization & Fundraising Committee
Dr. Rukuunya Edward (Lead)	Prof. Julius Manyala (Lead)	Mr. Hillary Mrosso (Lead)	Dr. Anthony Taabu Munyaho (Lead)
Dr. Modesta Medard Dr. Barasa James Dr. Lily Kisaka Ms. Stella Mbabazi Mr. Bernard Opa Dr. Shigalla Mahongo Ms. Lucyphine Kilanga	Dr. Mary Kishe Dr. John Walakira Dr. Chrisphine Nyamweya Mr. Hillary Mrosso Dr. Robert Kayanda Dr. Tallent Dadi Dr. Baraka Sekadende Dr. Frank Masese Ms. Cesilia Mataba Dr Amon Paul Shoko Ms. Sharon Gubamwoyo Ms. Beryl Omollo Ms. Julie Bwoga Dr. Samwel Mchele Limbu	Mr. Alfred Otieno Andrew Gemmel Mr. Bernard Opa Dr. Samwel Mchele Limbu	Dr. Winnie Nkalubo Mr. Hillary Mrosso Richard Grosshans

Current AG membership: Uganda (9 members), Tanzania (10 members), Kenya (11 members) Advisors (2 members)

2024 Critical Objectives: Reflections on the Priorities

- 1. To advise policy makers on pertinent issues relating to Lake Victoria**
- 2. To undertake a meta- analysis of the impacts and possible mitigation/adaptation measures of rising water level changes on the Lake**
- 3. Initiate preparation for the expedition of Lake Victoria 2027 (Graham 100 years on)**
- 4. To Fine tune rules governing the advisory group to ensure they adequately cover admission and removal from the group**

2024 Key Achievements & Take-aways

Trainings

- Nominated two participants (Racheal Nabwire & Beryl Omollo) to Tropical Lake Ecology training organized by ACARE and her Partners

Conferences

- ARBEC II by KMFRI
- FAR4ViBE by TAFIRI
- Regional Aquaculture Conference _in Partnership with TRUEFISH
- IIFET Conference Malysia

Meetings

- Monthly Advisory group meetings
- Inter-advisory group meetings
- LVAG members attended and contributed to LVFO Sectoral Council of Ministers Sessions to support understanding of policy briefs

2024 Critical Objectives: Key Achievements & Take-aways

Critical Objective	Achievements	Take-aways
1) To advise policy makers on pertinent issues relating to Lake Victoria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Policy brief has been prepared in collaboration with LVFO to advice on the conflict between Dagaa & Nile perch fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● With increasing population viz vee limited resource base expansion conflicts are bound to escalate● Focus should be on conflict resolution
2) To undertake a meta-analysis of the impacts and possible mitigation/adaptation measures of rising water level changes on the Lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● References posted on google drive● Communication enhanced and common understanding on the available information● Preliminary analysis and gaps identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Data gap challenges● Very few published studies

2024 Critical Objectives: Key Achievements & Take-aways

Critical Objective	Achievements	Take-aways
3) Initiate preparation for the expedition of Lake Victoria 2027 (Graham 100 years on)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Collaboration with Precursor survey by Mark● Core task team the 2027 survey formed● Collaborators engaged including Graham's institute (CEFAS)● CEFAS contacted embassies in EAC● Costed concept and draft proposal prepared● Sensitized LVFO Sectoral Council for effective buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Preparations are on course and lessons from the precursor survey will inform fine tuning preparations for the Graham 100 years survey in 2027● Appreciation and buy in by the LVFO Council of Ministers is a great step towards success

2024 Critical Objectives: Key Achievements & Take-aways

Critical Objective	Achievements	Take-aways
4) To Fine tune rules governing the advisory group to ensure they adequately cover admission and removal from the group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Database with member expertise developed and updated	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Interest in advisory group continues growing and for sustainability there will be need for a clear mentorship and backup plan

2024 Critical Objectives: Lessons & Areas of Improvement

LESSONS Learnt

- Importance of Teamwork in accomplishment of assignments
- The importance of the AG monthly meetings
- Good communication strategies (whatsapp group and email address)

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT

- Planning and implementation of activities
- Observance of timelines and deadlines
- Collaborative platform for sub-committees
- Strengthening of information and data-sharing/linkages



Zikomo

Thank you

Questions, please contact:

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<https://www.agl-acare.org/advisory-groups>