



LVBC Monthly Review

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JOY AS ACC-LVB PROJECTS ENDS

The successful implementation of the Adapting to climate change in Lake Victoria Basin (ACC-LVB) project has put a smile on the faces of over 3 million people in the East African community region. **Pg2**

NEL COUNTRIES AGREE ON WATER QUALITY POLICIES

Members of the Nile Equatorial Lake (NEL) have agreed to harmonize and strengthen Water Quality Policies which govern Water Quality Management in the sub-basin countries. **Pg3**

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A joint team of relevant stakeholders from the two East African Partner States, the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania have agreed on a range shared action that would...**Pg4**

LVBC STRENGTHENS PARTNERSHIP WITH NBI SECRETARIAT

Lake Victoria Basin Commission and the Nile Basin Initiative have jointly agreed to partner for the preparation and implementation of various projects within the East African Community Region.

LVBC'S Executive Secretary, Dr. Masinde Bwire, and



LVBC Executive Sec Dr Masinde Bwire and Nile Basin Executive Director Eng Sylvester Matemu

the Nile Basin Initiative's Executive Director, Eng. Sylvester Matemu, said the collaboration between the two institutions will ease the task of resource mobilization initiatives for the projects in the pipeline.

The two institutions acknowledged the Nile River Basin Investment Program (NR-BIP) Concept and agreed to partner for its preparation and further implementation. Both institutions also agreed to share foundational documents such as the LVBC Act 2022, the Strategic Plans, and engage more at the Senior Management level in the operationalization of the existing EAC-NBI MoU.



Executive director Eng Sylvester Matemu with his team at the new LVBC headquarters currently under construction



LVBC Executive secretary Dr Masinde Bwire presents copies of LVBC Act to Executive director

A six-member team from both sides was formed to spearhead and strengthen collaborative efforts including preparation of a collaboration plan with respect to the above-mentioned MoU.

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The Deputy Executive Secretary, Eng. Coletha Ruhmya, was nominated to lead...**Contd Pg2**





JOY AS ACC-LVB PROJECTS ENDS



Sheep shed in Ng'ahaya village, Magu district constructed by the ACC-LVB project

The project which began in 2018 received USD\$ 5M grant from the Adaptation fund through UNEP. LVBC Secretariat disbursed US\$520,000 to each of the five partner states of the Republic of Kenya, Republic of Uganda, Republic of Burundi, Republic Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

The successful implementation of the Adapting to climate change in Lake Victoria Basin (ACC-LVB) project has put a smile on the faces of over 3 million people in the East African community region. Thousands of farmers are now reaping the fruits of bumper harvests courtesy of the support provided by project.

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The project was aimed at reducing the impact of climate change on local communities and water-dependent sectors in the EAC region.

In the Republic of Kenya, the project was implemented in Siaya and Busia counties while the Republic of Uganda it was

implemented in Masaka and Mubende districts.

In Tanzania, it was implemented in Magu District Mwanza Region while In Rwanda it was implanted in Kirehe district.

Burundi's Muhiga and Kirundo provinces were the beneficiaries of the project.

The activities included improving water security, climate induced water security and promotion of innovative adaptation technologies through community based sub projects and promotion of climate smart agriculture.

According to Lake Victoria Basin Commission Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire, positive impacts of the projects have been felt in various villages.

Dr Bwire said, "As a coordinating entity of this project we are glad that the impact has been positive felt by many people living within the EAC region".

Contd from Pg1... the LVBC team while Deputy Executive Director, Dr. Michael Kizza, will head the NBI wing. Other members of the LVBC team were Programme Coordinator (LVB IWRMP) Eng. Arsene Mukubwa, and Senior M&E Officer Mr. Theoneste Ntakiyimana.

Ms. Mwasiti Ally Rashid, the NELSAP CU Program Officer - Water Resources Management and Development, and Mr. Tom Waako, Program Officer – Nile-SEC, will represent the NBI team.

The LVBC's Executive Secretary, Dr. Masinde Bwire said: "as an institution, we welcome this partnership. We note the commonalities in our mandates that are geared towards improving the lives of people within the EAC region".

On his part, the NBI Executive Director, Eng. Sylvester Matemu, said: "This coordination and working together will ease the task of resource mobilization thus making a call for working together".

The two institutions are currently working together on implementation of various projects including the Nile Cooperation for Climate Resilience (NCCR) Project and the Lake Victoria Basin Integrated Water Resources Management (LVB-IWRM) Programme.

Later, the NBI Delegation visited the new LVBC Headquarters that is currently under construction.

NEL COUNTRIES AGREE ON WATER QUALITY POLICIES



Participants of the second regional workshop held in Mwanza, Tanzania.

Members of the Nile Equatorial Lake (NEL) have agreed to harmonize and strengthen Water Quality Policies which govern Water Quality Management in the sub-basin countries.

The move will enhance the cooperation and management of shared resources and develop an action plan. They made the deliberations during the Second Regional Validation Workshop for Situation assessment report for Water Quality Policy and Institution Harmonization, Development of a Strategy and Action Plan held in Mwanza in the United Republic of Tanzania.

This assignment is carried out under the Nile Cooperation for Climate Resilience (NCCR) Project, a project jointly implemented by the three centers of NBI that is NBI Secretariat, NELSAP, and ENTRO),

Other implementing agencies are Nile Basin Discourse (NBD), and LVBC. It is undertaken through five (5) thematic areas and project components that are each aligned to the implementing agencies.

Lake Victoria Basin Commission, a coordinating entity of the East African community is leading Component 4 which is **"Water Quality in the Lake Victoria Sub-Basin"**.

This component specifically focuses on Water Quality Policy and Institution Harmonization, Development of a Strategy and Action Plan.

This activity covers seven (7) NEL-countries which also double as East Africa Community Partner States; that is the Republic of Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo and Republic of Kenya.

Others are the Republic of Rwanda, Republic of South Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, and the Republic of Uganda.

LVBC is mandated to coordinate the sustainable development and management of the Lake Victoria Basin, a home to over 40m people.

EXPERTS ADOPT RESOLUTIONS ON MARA RIVER CONSERVATION



Mara Regional Commissioner Hon Said Mtanda and Tanzanian's Deputy Minister Of Water Hon Eng Mary Prisca Mahundi witnessing the signing of the resolutions.

A joint team of relevant stakeholders from the two East African Partner States, the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania have agreed on a range shared action that would help to conserve the Mara Serengeti Ecosystem that continue to be threatened by degradation occasioned by several factors.

During the 12th Mara Day Celebrations held from 12th to 15th September 2023 in Mugumu town, Serengeti District in the United Republic of Tanzania, Conservation experts called upon the two neighboring EAC Partner States to seek partnerships for the application of Artificial Intelligence, Earth Observation, and other innovative technologies in management of this shared ecosystem.

Under the coordination of LVBC Secretariat, the experts agreed on 12 resolutions that included the strengthening of the institutional framework for cooperative management of the transboundary Masai Mara-Serengeti ecosystem between the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania.

The experts also called for promotion and investment in climate- smart agriculture, Nature-based Solutions (Nbs), Ecosystem- based Adaptation (EbA) and renewable energy to mitigate the negative effects of climate change on the riparian communities on the Mara- Serengeti ecosystem as part of the African Climate Adaptation Programme agreed upon at the Africa Climate Summit held in Nairobi in September 2023.

Dr George Lugomela who is the director of Water Resources in the Ministry of Water in the United Republic of Tanzania and Andrew Mware Kinyua who is the Director of Natural Water Resources, Ministry of water, sanitation and irrigation in the Republic of Kenya signed the resolutions on behalf of their respective countries as a way of adopting them for implementation over the next 12 months.

The annual event was jointly organized by LVBC, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Kenya in Mugumu town, Tanzania, under the theme

"Conserving Mara River for Biodiversity and Sustainable Economy".

Tanzania's Deputy Minister of Water Eng. Mary Prisca Mahundi who was the Chief Guest reiterated their commitment in conserving the Mara-Serengeti Ecosystem.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of East African Community Affairs from Republic of Uganda Madam Edith Mwanje who was the chief guest in the 12th Mara Day Scientific Conference said that Mara Day celebration was a testament to power of regional cooperation and diplomacy.

Deputy Director Regional Integration in the ministry of East African affairs Mr. Julius Mwabu who led the Kenyan delegation and read a speech on behalf of the Principal Secretary Abdi Dubat said the Kenyan government
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12TH MARA DAY CELEBRATION PICTORIALS



Farmers from Magu district in the United Republic of Tanzania display their produce



Guests joining the dancers during the celebrations



Exhibitors from Tanzania under the ACC-LVBC Project



Republic of Uganda's PS in the Ministry of East African Community Affairs Hon Edith Mwanje plants a tree during the celebrations



Kenyan and Tanzanian representatives after signing of the resolutions

Contd from Pg4... was working with both state and non-state actors within the Mau complex to grow trees and restore degraded forest cover in the catchment area.

LVBC Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire reiterated the importance of the Mara River between the two EAC partner states. Dr Bwire said,

“LVBC will lead concerted efforts to address challenges affecting the Mara River Basin by reaching out to more partners to work together and enhance conservation and management strategies, strengthen Law enforcement and engage local communities in sustainable practices”.



Winner of the essay competition receiving award



12TH MARA DAY CELEBRATION PICTORIALS



LVBC Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire confers with the Chief Guest, Deputy Minister of Water in the United Republic of Tanzania Hon Eng Mary Prisca Maundi.



Eng Conrad Thombansen, Programme Manager EAC/LVBC-GIZ IWRM receives certificate from the Chief Guest



Participants at the Mara Day Scientific Conference



Eco Bank Tanzania's Manager Ms Furaha Shanuru receives a certificate from the Chief Guest Hon Eng Mary Prisca Maundi

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