



LVBC Monthly Review

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OTHER HEADLINES

HPI PROJECT IN BURUNDI IDENTIFIED

Lake Victoria Basin Commission and the ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock in the Republic of Burundi have jointly agreed to fast track the implementation of High Priority investment (HPI) project in the region. **Pg2**

110: NEW NAVIGATION HOTLINE IN LAKE VICTORIA NOW OPERATIONAL

A common telephone code to be used by all the riparian states to communicate to all the rescue centers in case of Marine accidents in Lake Victoria is now officially in use. **Pg3**



LVBC OFFICER WINS INTERNATIONAL AWARD

The award recognizes all those involved in global maritime search and rescue (SAR) efforts. **Pg4**



IMMENSE POTENTIAL IN LAKE VICTORIA, SAYS WORLD BANK



LVBC Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire presents a gift to the World Bank's Vice President of Eastern and Southern Africa Dr Victoria Kwakwa in Marrakesh Morocco.

The World Bank has acknowledged the potential of Lake Victoria in the integration and economic development for the East African Community.

The financial institution pointed out the need to unlock the other potentials including tourism, fisheries, transport and maritime. According to World Bank's Vice President of Eastern and Southern Africa Dr. Victoria Kwakwa, there was also need in investing in sustainable energy and digital technologies for enhancing economic development, health and education.

Dr Kwakwa made the remarks during a meeting with Lake Victoria Basin Commission and EAC secretariat led by Executive secretary Dr Masinde Bwire in Marakech Morroco , during the 2023 Annual World Bank and IMF meeting held from 9th - 15th October.

During the meeting, LVBC presented priority interventions such as Lake wide Inclusive Sanitation (LVB-LWIS) Strategy that was developed jointly between LVBC and the World Bank, in collaboration with the LVBC Partner States in...**Contd Pg2**



HPI PROJECT IN BURUNDI IDENTIFIED



LVBC Executive Sec Dr Masinde Bwire, Deputy Executive Sec Eng Colletha Ruhamya and Burundi's Agriculture and livestock minister for Agriculture and Environment Hon Prof Sanctus Niragira

Contd From Pg1... partnership with Korea Green Trust Fund for the period from November 2022 to June 2023.

The strategy aimed to address pollution to improve the water quality of the Lake.

The needs were informed by a study that was conducted by the World Bank in 2023 that confirmed three main sources of pollution that include: human waste, industrial runoff, and unsustainable land use.

The commission also presented the current collaboration of developing a concept note of a program me that aimed to implement the regional sanitation strategy to address sanitation challenges and control pollution in the Lake.

Lake Victoria Basin Commission and the ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock in the Republic of Burundi have jointly agreed to fast track the implementation of High Priority investment (HPI) project in the region.

The two institutions have already set up committees to steer the feasibility study and preparation of the project implementation.

The committees are a High-Level Committee for policy & strategic guidance, and a Technical Committee to support and monitor day-to-day project activities.

They are expected to draw lessons from existing success models for other projects under implementation.

The capacity development & strengthening of water and sanitation sector is of great and urgent need for the Partner State.

The resolutions were made during a special meeting held in the Republic of Burundi that was chaired by the minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock Hon Prof. Sanctus Niragira.

Lake Victoria Basin Commission team led by Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire presented the status of preparation of large –scale collective sanitation in the town of Ngozi and highlighted the related challenges threatening its advancement to feasibility study stage from the findings conducted in December 2022 through the LVB IWRM Programme.

The meeting was attended by Eng Joseph Nimfasha LVB-IWRM National project coordinator in the Republic of Burundi and LVBC Focal point officer Mr Deo Bukeyenza.

LVBC Deputy Executive Secretary Eng Colletha Ruhamya and LVBC IWRM-LVB Programme Coordinator Eng Arsene Mukubwa also attended the meeting.

110: NEW NAVIGATION HOTLINE IN LAKE VICTORIA NOW OPERATIONAL



Pic1: Passengers in a boat in lake Victoria.

Pic2: Call centre in the Republic of Uganda

A common telephone code to be used by all the riparian states to communicate to all the rescue centers in case of Marine accidents in Lake Victoria is now officially in use.

The new code will help in improving coordination of rescue activities in the event of marine tragedy within Lake Victoria.

The new code 110 will be picked by call center agent who will direct the caller to the police officer to coordinate the rescue operation.

The new code is already in operation in the Republic of Uganda and is set to be rolled out in Kenya and Tanzania.

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According to Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) Maritime Project Coordinator Mr Henry Ategeka the number will be integrated as a roaming number.

Ategeka said, "there are plans to make sure that the number can be called anywhere within the EAC to any network in case of any emergency".

Lake Victoria Basin Commission Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire said through the new code, relevant authorities will be alerted of any marine accident that occurs in Lake Victoria within Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

Dr Bwire said, "we are appealing to all the boat users within the EAC partners states that share Lake Victoria to make use of this number that will greatly help in the co-ordination of rescue activities in the event of any accident".

Several lives have been lost in the recent Marine tragedies in the United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Kenya and the Republic of Uganda.

In July this year fourteen people died after their two boats capsized in Bunda District, Mara Region in the United Republic of Tanzania.

Over twenty people also lost their lives in the Republic of Uganda after a boat overloaded capsized.



LVBC OFFICER WINS INTERNATIONAL AWARD



Mr Henry Ategeka, LVBC Maritime project coordinator.

Lake Victoria Basin Commission Maritime Project Coordinator Mr Henry Ategeka is the winner of this year's International Maritime Rescue Federation (IMRF) Award.

The award recognizes all those involved in global maritime search and rescue (SAR) efforts.

It also acknowledges those that have shown excellence in their field, developed innovative technology and equipment, or acted as a role model to inspire others.

The awards also shine a light on those colleagues who offer the tireless support, training, and planning that enables SAR crews to do what they do, safe in the knowledge that they are all part of the same team.

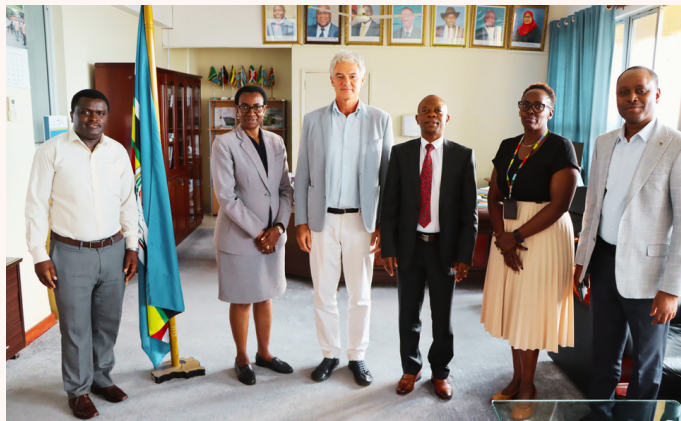
Mr Ategeka beat nine other nominees from other countries to scoop the prestigious award.

The judging panel reviewed an incredible number of nominations from all corners of the globe that highlighted some of the amazing feats achieved by the maritime SAR community over the last 12 months,

Mr Ategeka said, "I am very excited to be recognized and awarded this prestigious award and it's going to make me work much harder to ensure our inland water transport is safest in the world".



PICTORIALS



LVBC Executives led by Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire held discussions with Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Fisheries and Aquaculture officer Mr Valerio Crespi at the LVBC Headquarters.



Part of LVBC staff during the induction meeting at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha Tanzania



Part of LVBC staff during the induction meeting at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha Tanzania



LVBC team at the 7th Nile Basin Development Forum 2023 in Munityono, Uganda



LVBC team with Dr PLO Lumumba at the 7th Nile Basin Development Forum 2023 in Munityono, Uganda.

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