



LVBC Monthly Review

July 2024 - Issue No. 11

IT'S TWENTY NINE WEEKS TO GO



LVBC headquarter under construction.

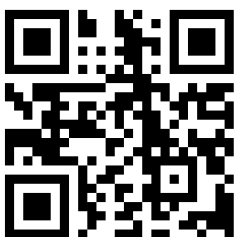
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The construction of the ultra modern Lake Victoria Basin Commission Headquarters is on course. Already the construction of the office block wing B is 75% complete while wing A is at 45%.

The construction of the middle core is also at 35% while the external work is at 58%. The construction of the second phase kicked off on 7th August 2023 after official handover to a new contractor that was done on 25th July.

The second phase of construction will cost two million, five hundred and sixty thousand seven hundred and seventeen point six eight US dollars (USD\$ 2, 560,717.68). The new

headquarters that will help in promoting regional integration is fully funded by the East African Community Partner States.

The Executive Secretary of Lake Victoria Basin Commission Dr Masinde Bwire said, "We are committed to ensure that we deliver the construction of this building as expected of us and that is why me and my team we are fully dedicated".

Dr Bwire Secretary said that the East African Partner States are closely monitoring this project and are keen to ensure that it is completed soon. **Contd Pg 2...**





LVBC Headquarters' Interior of Wing A under construction

Contd from Pg1

The construction of the new headquarters which is supervised by the state department of public works under the ministry of lands, public works housing and urban development of the Republic of Kenya, will host several departments for various projects undertaken by the Lake Victoria Basin Commission, a body within the East African Community.

The headquarters is being built on a 2.8-acre land within the shores of Lake Victoria donated by the Kenyan government in 2016. Upon completion, the headquarters will fast-track consolidation and ensure smooth coordination of the activities of the commission across the Great Lakes region.

13TH MARA DAY SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

Theme: "Flowing Forward Together: Conserving the Mara Basin Ecosystem for Sustainable Biodiversity & Climate Resilience"

Date: 14th September, 2024
Venue: Maasai Mara University

Sub-themes

- i) Environmental conservation and climate resilience in the Mara Basin ecosystem
- ii) Natural resource management for inclusive socio-economic development in the Mara Basin ecosystem
- iii) Legal justice, gender equality and governance framework for trans-boundary cooperation as an enabler for sustainable conservation in the Mara Basin ecosystem
- iv) Knowledge, innovation and technology in conservation of the Mara Basin

Key Dates:

- Submission deadline - 15th August, 2024
- Notification of Accepted Submissions - 20th August, 2024
- Submission of full papers deadline - 25th August, 2024
- Programme notification - 30th August, 2024

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KFW COMMITS TO FUND MORE PROJECTS IN LAKE VICTORIA BASIN



KfW team during a past tour in Nyalenda slums, Kisumu

On a bi-annual basis, the East African Community and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany represented by its Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) held the negotiation, known as “Germany – EAC Negotiations” on development cooperation.

Through those negotiations, the EAC Secretariat and affiliated institutions presented their plans and project proposals to the Partner, who at the end made financing commitments.

It is through that cooperation framework that, KfW Development Bank, the BMZ committed EUR 10 million in December 2021 and EUR 20 million in July 2022 as additional funding to the LVB-IWRM Programme presently under implementation.

Furthermore, in July 2022, EUR 15 million were committed for prioritizing and financing climate-proof infrastructure investment, including measures in Lake Victoria Basin that include landscape restoration, climate change resilience through Nature-based Solution approach.

The above commitments translate into EUR 30 million additional to the LVB-IWRM Programme and EUR 15 million for a new Nature-based Solution Programme.

The recent 22nd SECOM for LVB resolved that the commitment of EUR 15 million be utilized in piloting Nature-based Solution Projects in Burundi and Rwanda, while additional EUR 30 million be utilized to expand the High Priority Investment projects (HPIs) currently under implementation in the Cities of Mwanza-Tanzania, Kampala-Uganda, and Kisumu-Kenya in close collaboration between the LVBC Secretariat and the National Project Executing Agencies.

For the implementation of construction works in the partner states, LVBC has entered into Project and Financing Agreements with the National Project Executing Agencies (NPEAs) in the Republic Rwanda (WASAC Ltd), United Republic of Tanzania (MWAUWASA), and in the Republic Kenya (LVSWWDA). **Contd Pg4...**



Kfw team during a past tour in Nyalenda slums, Kisumu

Contd from Pg3...A similar agreement with NWSC in Republic of Uganda is yet to be signed. The projects to be expanded in the Cities of Kisumu, Kampala, and Mwanza are meant to reduce the amount of untreated effluent discharge into the Lake, hence improving Lake's water quality and availability.

According to Project Coordinator for Integrated Water Resources Management for Lake Victoria Basin (IWRM-LVB), Eng Arsene Mukubwa, millions of people living within the Basin are set to benefit from the above-mentioned interventions.

The City of Kigali will have the highest number of beneficiaries of the project where approximately 1,836,685 people are set to benefit from the constructed Kigali Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant.

The City of Kampala will have the second largest population of beneficiaries with the total number of people estimated to 24,534 people, while the Cities of Kisumu and Mwanza will record 17,600 and 7360 people respectively.

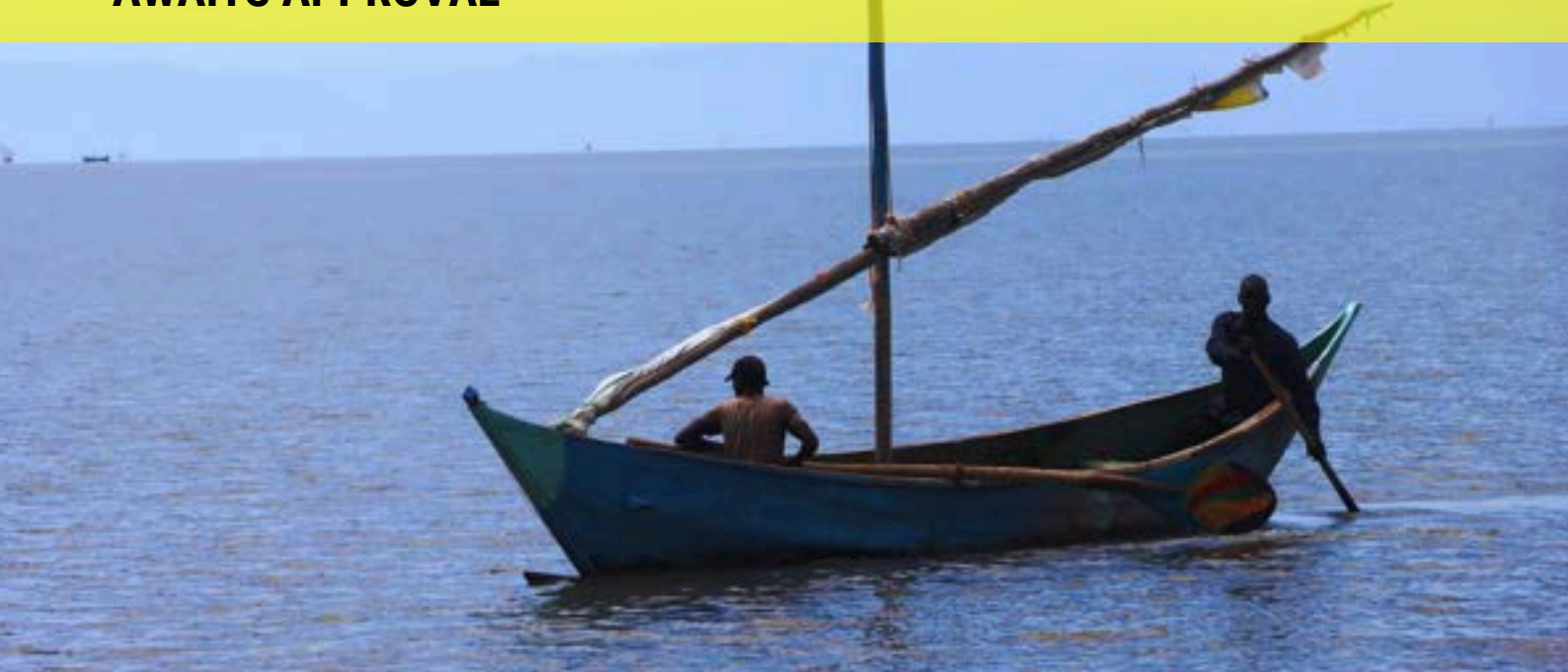
All the cities will benefit from improved sanitation services through sewer connections.

On the other hand, the commitment of EUR 15 Million for the Program on "Fostering the Potential of Lake Victoria" will be utilized in piloting a Nature-based Solution Projects in Rwanda and Burundi, and the remaining funds will be used to promote and enhance knowledge on Nature-based Solutions in the EAC Partner States.

In Rwanda, the Programme will support the preparation and implementation of the "Integrated Mukungwa Wetland and Landscape Restoration Project" and in Burundi, a potential NbS Project to be funded is yet to be identified.



WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN AWAITS APPROVAL



Fishermen in Lake Victoria

The final draft for Water Quality Management (WQM) strategy and action plan, which was validated by regional experts from partner states and Nile Basin Initiative centers in March 2024 has already been submitted to Partner States for their record and approval process. The documents will be presented at the 11th LVBC Regional Policy Steer Committee (RPSC) and 23rd Sectoral Council of Ministers (SECOM).

The development of this Strategy for the management of water quality in the East African Community represents a collective commitment of the Partner States to safeguarding the Community's invaluable water resources and ensuring their availability for present and future generations. Water quality management is an intricate and multifaceted challenge requiring the harmonization of efforts across nations, the integration of science and policy, and a profound dedication to environmental stewardship.

This Strategy also recognizes the diversity of the region, acknowledging that water quality challenges differ from one corner of our community to another. From the vast Lake Victoria to the arid regions of the East African interior, the complexities of water quality management vary, but the shared purpose remains constant - to protect, preserve, and improve the water resources of the Community.

The strategy is expected to be a beacon guiding actions and decisions to safeguard and enhance the water quality in the East African Community.



PICTORIAL



Mr Conrad Thombansen, Programme Manager GIZ makes his submission during a meeting at LVBC headquarters.



Mr Conrad Thombansen, Programme Manager GIZ introduces a member of his team to Executive secretary Dr Masinde Bwire.



Dep Executive secretary Eng Coletha Ruhanya during a meeting with a team from South Sudan at the LVBC headquarters.

Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire during a meeting with a team from Nile Basin discourse in Entebbe- Uganda.



East African Community - Lake Victoria Basin Commission

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PICTORIAL



Executive secretary Dr Masinde Bwire with Prof Godrick Bulitia, Deputy VC in charge of academics and student affairs, Maasai Mara university.



Executive Secretary Dr Masinde Bwire and SPO Ms Faith Kinywa pose for a photo with KRA officials.



LVBC management team and a team from Maasai Mara University.



GIZ team pose for a photo with LVBC staff after appraisal meeting.

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