



LAKE GEORGE BASIN INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION

LAKE GEORGE BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN

2003/04 – 2005/06

SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Lake George Basin Integrated Management Organisation (LAGBIMO) was launched in April 2003 by the three districts bordering Lake George, Bushenyi, Kamwenge and Kasese, together with the eight community-based Beach Management Units (BMUs) and representatives of key lead agencies.

The Lake George Basin Management Plan (LGBMP) is the operational plan for LAGBIMO. The plan reflects the priorities of Government, articulated in the Poverty Eradication Action Plan, National Fisheries Policy (2004), National Environment Statute (1995) and the Plan for the Modernisation of Agriculture.

VISION OF THE PLAN

The vision to be achieved through the implementation of the plan is:

Sustainable management and use of Lake George natural resources for the improved livelihoods of low-income communities within the Basin by 2013.

ACTION AREAS

The vision of the plan will be achieved through action in the following areas:

- 1. Improving planning and information generation and management:**
 - Collecting, using and transferring fisheries information for planning and management.
 - Developing and using environmental and social information collection systems.
- 2. Sustainable management of the Lake George fishery:**
 - Development and implementation of the Fisheries Management Strategy.
 - Development and operation of a community based lake patrol team for monitoring, control and surveillance.
 - Drafting, approval and enforcement of by-laws for fisheries management.

3. Improving infrastructure and services for post-harvest activities:

- Lobbying for infrastructure and service needs to be included in local government development plans, including improved roads, public sanitation, drinking water supplies, provision of electricity and improved fish handling facilities.

4. Improving the livelihood security of lake dependent communities:

- Lobbying for improved access to education, savings schemes, HIV/AIDS support services and health facilities.

5. Securing equitable access to natural resources:

- Monitoring implementation of licensing system to ensure equitable access and that targets for baria and women are met.
- Facilitate relations between BMUs and the Queen Elizabeth Protected Area to develop access agreements and support BMUs in accessing funds from the Uganda Wildlife Authority revenue sharing scheme.

6. Improving environmental management (including wetland management):

- Lobbying private sector companies to develop and implement environmental action plans to reduce environmental threats to the lake basin.
- Lobby for more support to farmers to adopt soil and water conservation measures.
- Support local government and BMUs in developing and implementing wetland action plans.

7. Capacity building of stakeholders, particularly community members:

- Facilitate training of BMUs in what a BMU is and should be doing, fisheries management and book keeping.
- Facilitate capacity building of members of LAGBIMO structures.

8. Increasing revenue from, and investment in, the lake:

- Increase revenue from the lake for sub-counties and districts through lobbying for a more fair and transparent revenue collection system.

- Support BMUs in local and fair revenue collection, to be used for fisheries management and beach development.
- Lobby BMUs and local governments for investment in fisheries management.
- Ensure equitable fisheries taxation for all stakeholders.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN

The implementation of the LGBMP will involve many stakeholders and partners. The plan will be implemented through:

- Local government development plans
- BMU beach development plans
- BMU fisheries management plans
- National government programmes
- The work of LAGBIMO Standing Committees
- The plans and programmes of development partners

All members of LAGBIMO, including BMUs, must actively seek opportunities to attract support to implement the plan, as well as take action through their own management and development plans.

The implementation of the plan will be monitored by the Secretariat, the Finance, Planning and Budgeting Committee, and the Fisheries Management Committee.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the activities of LAGBIMO and the implementation of the plan, please contact the Executive Secretary, LAGBIMO, PO Box 181, Kasese (tel: 078 320782). Or, contact your LAGBIMO contact person, as shown in the table below:

District	LAGBIMO contact person
Kasese:	Acting District Environment Officer
Muhokya	Sub-County Chief
Lake Katwe	Sub-County Chief
Kamwenge:	District Environment Officer and District Planner
Mahyoro	Sub-County Chief
Bushenyi:	Senior Population Officer
Katunguru	Sub-County Chief