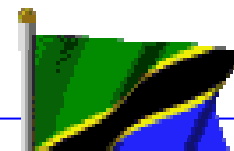
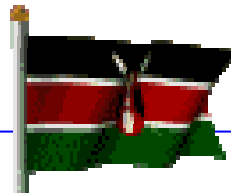


LAKE VICTORIA BASIN COMMISSION



REGIONAL MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES ON LAKE VICTORIA & ITS BASIN

A PRESENTATION TO THE ANBO GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
JOHANNESBURG; March 2007



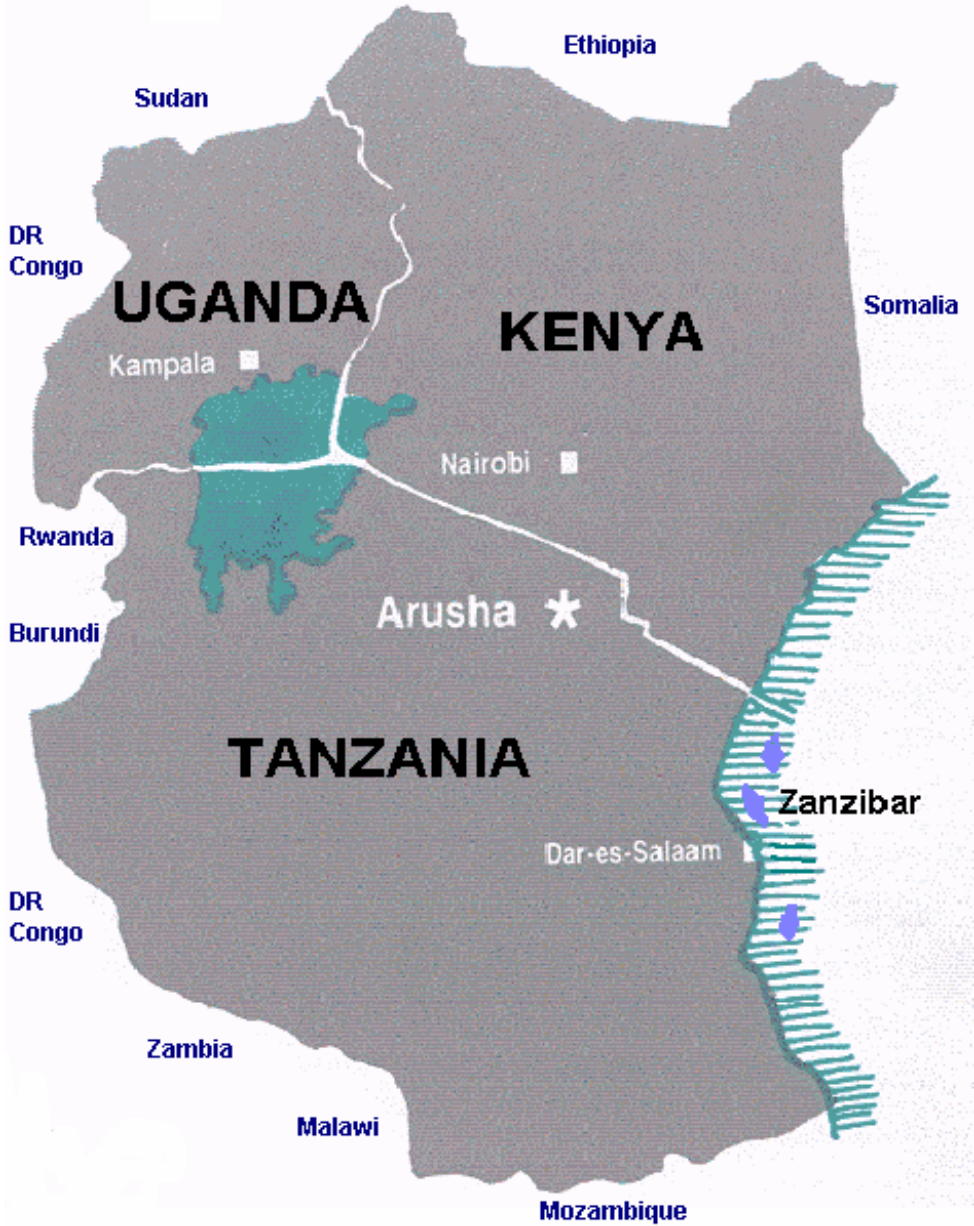
Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Factors for a Regional Management Approach
- EAC Strategy
- Key Outputs of the Strategy
- Management Status- LVBC; Programs & Water Levels
- Conclusion

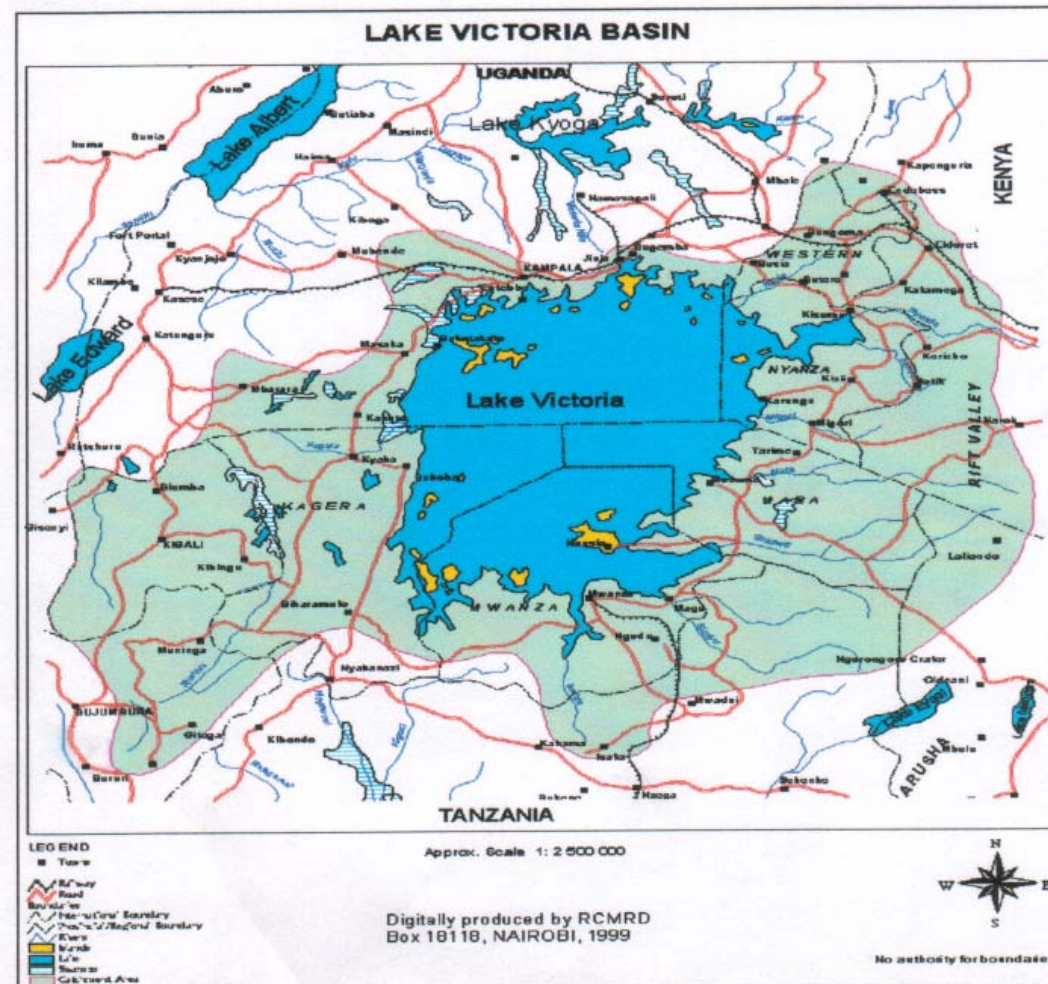
THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC)

1. **EAC: = Kenya + Uganda + Tanzania + Burundi + Rwanda**
(admitted Nov 2006; effective July 2007)
2. **Combined Population: just over 100Million**

EAST AFRICAN REGION



LAKE VICTORIA BASIN (LVB)



Facts on LVB

1. Lake Victoria (LV) is the single most important shared and treasured resource that defines the EAC
2. LV and its entire Basin is one of the main focal areas of cooperation among the Partner states of EAC
3. LV Basin was designated in 1997 as a “Regional Economic Growth Zone”
4. Different competing multi-stakeholders

LVB Environmental Concerns- f1970's

1. Declining Water Quality
2. Reduction in species abundance esp. fish
3. Proliferation of water hyacinth
4. Increase in Pollution loading - urban & industrial
5. Catchment degradation: Land, forests
7. Drainage of critical wetlands
8. Increase in silt loads entering the Lake
9. Dropping Water Levels (recent development)

Management concerns by 1994

1. Many stakeholders with diverse interests
2. Several programmes and projects are being implemented independently
3. Minimum interaction between and among the various stakeholders
4. Weak National Institutions & non regional
5. Absence of a regional institutional and legal framework

EAC Management Strategy: 1997-

Critical Requirements identified as prerequisites for addressing the concerns

1. Sustained political commitment at the highest level
2. Establishment of a regional coordinating mechanism
3. Strengthening existing organizations
4. Involvement /participation of key stakeholders in both technical and management aspects
5. Partnerships with local and international groups
6. Funding by the Partner States governments

Political Commitment

1. Committee for Lake Victoria Development Programme (PS's) set up in (1999) to supervise the LVB issues
2. Summit designates LVB as “*an economic growth zone*” and “*an area of common economic interest.*” (1997)
3. Lake Victoria Development Programme Unit (funded by Partner States) established in 2001 to execute & coordinate the Programmes & projects of LVB
4. National Focal Point Ministries specific for LVB designated and set up in each Partner States (2002)
5. A Protocol for Sustainable Development the LVB developed, signed (2003) and ratified (2004)
6. Lake Victoria Basin Commission established (July 2005) and operationalised (April 2006)

Partnerships

1. Partnership Agreement (2001) concluded with governments of Sweden, France and Norway, WB & *EADB*)
2. MoUs concluded with the republics of Rwanda and Burundi (2004);-
3. MoUs concluded with International NGOs- IUCN, WWF, ICRAF (2003-05)
4. MoU concluded with Nile Basin Initiative 2006
5. Planned MoUs with UNHabitat



Stakeholder involvement-

Full engagement in project designs and implementation with the following:

(a) Civil society:

- Lake Victoria Regional Local Authorities (LVRLAC);
- East African Law Society
- Civil society network for LV (Ecovic)
- Environmental Journalist of EA
- African forestry forum

(c) Private Sector

- East African Business Council
- East African Investment centres



Funding by PS

1. Critical aspect that demonstrates commitment
2. Growth from US72,000 to 957,000: 2001 – 2006. (no arrears)
3. Recurrent expenditure – all
4. Counterpart funding for regional projects
5. Facilitation of Sectoral Meetings
6. Commission personnel- emoluments

Projects & Programmes

1. Lake Victoria Environment Management Project (LVEMP-1) 1997 to 2005; LVEMP II under Preparation effective July 2007
2. Mt Elgon Regional Ecosystem Conservation Project Sep. 2005-(IUCN)
3. Lake Victoria Safety of Navigation Project; 2002-;
4. Lake Victoria Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (LVFO)
5. 3 River Basin projects: Sio-Malaba- Malakisi; Mara RB & Kagera (NELSAP)
6. The Partnership Fund supported Projects 2002-



Conclusions.

1. For trans-boundary systems, joint efforts supported by a legal framework are essential
2. Governments direct budgetary allocations for identified programs is necessary for sustainability and integration of their priorities
3. Stakeholder actual involvement in programme cycles builds a sense of ownership/belonging and drives the sustenance of programs.
4. Partnerships (mutually agreed upon) should be promoted in resource management and all parties engaged should be committed to the agreements defining the cooperation.

- **Asante Sana**

Lake Victoria Basin Commission
6th Floor Re-Insurance Plaza,
P.O. Box 1520, Kisumu Kenya
+254 57 202 6433/6349 (tel)

lvdp@eachq.org

www.eac.int/lvdp