

**ASSESSING FISHING ACTIVITIES AS A TOOL FOR POVERTY
REDUCTION
A CASE STUDY OF KATETA SUB-COUNTY, SERERE DISTRICT**

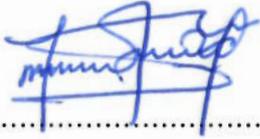
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**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF NATURAL
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FULFILLMENT FOR THE AWARD OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

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DECLARATION

I OKELLO SAMUEL declare that this report is wholly my own efforts and has not been submitted for any other degree award to any other higher institutions of learning.



Signature

OKELLO SAMUEL



Date

APPROVAL

This is to certify that this research report by Okello Samuel has been successfully completed under my supervision and recommend it for submission to the Faculty of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences of Busitema University with my approval.

Ms. GIMBO REBECCA (SUPERVISOR/ LECTURER)

Signature

Date

DEDICATION

I dedicate this report to my lovely parents Mr. Tom Oluka and his beloved wife Faith Oluka. Not forgetting my mother Mrs. Alupo Martha, grandmother Mrs. Asio Grace and the rest of the family members for your tireless efforts towards my education.

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Great thanks go my God for the protection, wisdom and understanding he granted me for all that time at Busitema University and the entire academic life.

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ACRONYMS

MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
BMU	Beach Management Unit
LVFO	Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization
IUU	Illegal Unreported and Unregulated fishing
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
UPPAP2	The second Participatory Poverty Assessment process
RFMOs	Regional fisheries management organizations.
FADs	the Fish Aggregating Devices
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
WTO	World Trade Organization
SACCOS	Saving and Credit Cooperative Society
MoFPED	Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development
NAFIRRI	National Fisheries Resources Research Institute
DFR	Department of Fisheries Resources
DSIP	Development Strategy & Investment Plan
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
TFSDP	Tanzania Fisheries Sector Development Program
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly

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ABSTRACT

The study was about assessing fishing activities as a tool for poverty reduction, in Kateta sub-county, Serere District. Objective of study included; investigating the role of fishing in poverty reduction, to find out the level of gender participation in the fishing activity, to identify challenges to fishing in relation to poverty eradication and to establish the possible solutions to these challenges of the fishing activity in Kateta sub-county, Serere District.

This study investigated fishing activity and its role in poverty alleviation and the study focused on the three landing sites of Acomia, Olupe and Jinja landing sites. A qualitative research method was employed because the nature of the study, descriptive due to the fact that most of the respondents were illiterate or semi illiterate.

60 respondents from the study areas constituted the sample. The study was cross sectional involving use of questionnaires. Analysis was done by use of excel and stata statistical packages. The methods of data collection that used in this study were observation, interview using questionnaire, and literature review.

Results were presented as frequency tables, bar graphs, pie charts and the cross tabulation of the univariate and bivariate analysis. The study findings and analysis showed that fishing activity had contributed immensely in improving the general welfare of the local people through increased income and access to cheap food. It has also reduced income poverty by increasing local purchasing power, many fishermen have purchased a number of family assets for example domestic animals such as cows, others have bought land and others plots of land in Kateta, Iningo, Aaudi and Acomia trading Centre's. The study showed imbalance in the level of participation of the women and men in the fishing activity as men dominated the activity. A number of challenges to fishing in the sub-county were advanced as diseases such as malaria and blurred visual problems during sunny days to the fishermen, perishability of the fish and weeds in the lake, which limit the fishing in the various landing sites.

Recommendations include adoption of the fish preservation methods such as smoking of fish, sun drying and salting at the sites which is not in existence at the moment, this can increase more employment opportunities to those who will carry it out, and also serves to add value and reducing the levels of perishability of fish. The provision of the refrigerators is also recommended by the researcher at the landing sites to reduce fish perishability at the various sites and thus increasing the earnings of fishermen, this helps to reduce poverty in the fishing communities.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Overview

This chapter deals with the background of the study, the objectives and questions of the study, significance of the study, justification of the study, statement of problem, scope of the study and methodology and limitations.

1.1 Background of the study

The contribution of the fishing to poverty reduction in developing countries cannot be underestimated. The sector has been named as one of the major contributors' to rural income, food, rural developments and above all poverty reduction.

According to recent research and policy, the importance of the small-scale fisheries has been highly recognized in terms of wealth generation, poverty alleviation and food security (Garcia and Rosenberg, 2010). The fact that fishing in developing countries requires low capitals, low level technologies and the household unit entities, this low capital requirement has thus opened the ground for majority of people to get involved in fishing activities according to World Bank, FAO and world fish Centre, 2010, over 90% of the people are employed globally in capture fisheries and the related activities classified under small scale fisheries.

The Poverty Eradication Action Plan (2004) estimates indicate that 1.2 million Ugandans depend on fishery-related activities (PEAP, 2004). Lake Victoria employs about 700,000 Ugandans, which among these people include; fish traders, fish processors, boat builders and net makers or repairs. It provides livelihood to more than 1.2 million people at different levels of the value chain and nearly 40% of the unskilled indirect employment are women involved in support to the fishing activities. The contribution of the fisheries to the country's GDP is 2.1 % (MAAIFDSIP, 2011).

Uganda is endowed with enormous water resources comprising of lakes, rivers, valley dams and tanks, wetlands and water reservoirs, which raise the potential for the fisheries developments. About 18% of the country's surface area of 236,040 km² is estimated to be under water with most of the water bodies contributing to fish production in one way or the other. Major lakes include Lake Victoria, Kyoga, Albert, George/Edward, and the extent River Nile. There are also over 160 minor lakes and many rivers, floodplains and swamps all of which are critical fish breeding and nursery grounds. Currently fish production is estimated at

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