

BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

COMMUNITY VALUATION OF FISHERY RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

CASE STUDY: VICTORIA NILE NAMASAGALI SUBCOUNTY, KAMULI DISTRICT

By

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**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF NATURAL
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DECLARATION

I MPOMWENDA VERONICA do hereby declare that this is my original work and has not been submitted for any other degree award to any other university or institution of higher learning.

Signature..........


MPOMWENDA VERONICA

Date.....5th/JULY/2013.....

APPROVAL

This is to certify that this report by Mpomwenda Veronica 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.

Mr. TAAKO EDEMA GEORGE (SUPERVISOR)

Signature..........Date. 12/07/2013.....

DEDICATION

I dedicate this report to my parents Mr. .Wairagala Nelson Peter and Ms. Ikima Rose Mary.

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I thank the Almighty God for the gift of life given to me during my period of study in Busitema University, Namasagali campus.

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ACRONYMS

CVM	Contingent Valuation Method
FAO	Fisheries and Agriculture Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
LVEMP	Lake Victoria Environment Management Project.
LVFO	Lake Victoria fisheries organization
MAAIF	Ministry of agriculture, animal industry and fisheries
MWTP	Maximum Willingness to Pay
NaFIRRI	National Fisheries Resources Research Institute
NARO	National Agricultural research organization
NDP	National Development Plan
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NRE	Natural Resource Economics
SPSS	Statistical Packages for Social Sciences
UEPB	Uganda Export Promotion Board
UBOS	Uganda National Bureau of Standards
WTP	Willingness to Pay

ABSTRACT

The study was about community valuation of fisheries resources and conservation at Victoria Nile, Namasagali Sub County Kamuli district. There has been no attempt taken to find out the value community attaches to the fishery resource. Study objectives were to assess the socio economic contribution of the fishery to the community of Namasagali Sub County, to find out the willingness to pay for future benefits of the resource, to evaluate the level of conservation efforts on the resource by the community and to identify strategies for community involvement in fish conservation.

A cross sectional study was used which involved use of questionnaires covering 50 respondents. Data collected was analyzed using SPSS 16; this facilitated the formation of frequency tables, graphs, pie charts and cross tabulations for univariate and bivariate analysis. Study findings indicated that; the socio economic contribution of the fishery is basically through provision of domestic income, the estimated average MWTP value was Ugandan shillings 25,250,019, this figure does not reflect the true value of the resource this is because the study considered only tangible use benefits and majority of community members have alternative preferred economic activities to fishing. Study findings also indicated that majority of respondents have knowledge on conservation methods and are willing to adapt to them but they are only limited to gear ban and finally study indicated that there is an gender and occupational imbalance in fisheries which mostly neglects women and fish traders respectively.

In conclusion community valuation of the fishery resource is low due to the exclusion of other non marketable benefits, low educational levels and preference alternative activities to fishing, this is also accelerated due to the reducing chances of resource conservation because community is knowledgeable to only gear ban which is not an effective conservation method as regards regulation of fish stocks and an imbalance in resource management. Thus the researcher recommends that community members be sensitized on both the tangible and non tangible benefits of the resource, other effective conservation methods should be adopted and finally boost women and fish trader participation in resource management. These help increase community members WTP value for future benefits and willingness to adopt sustainable conservation practices.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

This chapter includes the back ground to the study, problem statement, objectives and research questions of the study, significance and justification of the study, and finally the study scope.

1.1 Background to the study

Uganda has a potentially high and substantial fisheries resource comprising of capture fisheries and aquaculture, it produces 4% of the global in land fish production (FAO 2010). About 17% of the country's surface is covered by Lakes, Victoria, George, Albert, Edward, and other small lakes. Fish is the country's second most important export accounting 6% of total export earnings(UEPB,2009) It contributes 2.5% to GDP at the current economic prices in 2009/2010 fiscal year(UBOS,2010),as such it plays an important role in contributing to achieving the overall economic growth of NDP planning period 2010/2011-2014/15.The importance of fish in the diet of local communities is said to be a source of easily digestible high quality proteins and the cheapest among its close substitutes of beef, mutton and others. Fishing sector is estimated to employ about 136,000 artisan fishermen and over 700,000 people indirectly employed through involvement in secondary and tertiary activities related to the sector. (Odongkara et al, 2008).

Fisheries in Uganda is mostly on the major lakes of Victoria ,Albert, Kyoga and others like Lake Edward and George plus rivers like River Nile. Riverine fisheries are also part of the fishery Sector Rivers include Nile and others. Victoria Nile borders Namasagali at the eastern bank of the sub county. Its among the last sites located downstream of Victoria Nile and reported to have the greatest number of fish species among the four transects (Bujagali report 2000).The most exploited fish species are Tilapia, Nile perch, mukene (*Rastrineobola argentea*, spp, *Haplochromines* catfish, *hydrocynus spp* among others. (Bujagali report 2000).Currently the main commercial fish species are *Lates niloticus* (Nile perch), *oreochromis niloticus* (Nile tilapia) and *Rastrineobola argentea* (mukene)

Uganda has some beautiful fishes in its water bodies with vast economic values for example. Some of the *Haplochromines* which are exploited as ornamental fish are; for export, making aquariums, cultural practices among others. According to FAO, 2010 mainly the fish species are valued through selling. Valuation of the fisheries resource provides a means of measuring and

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