

# Evaluation of Requirements for the Design of Water Resource Management ICT Model for Integrated Water Resources Management: The case of Management of Lake Victoria Basin

Godfrey ODONGTOO<sup>1,2</sup>, Peter Okidi LATING<sup>2</sup>, Denis SSEBUGGWAWO<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Busitema University, Dept. of Computer Engineering, P.O Box 236 Tororo, Uganda  
 Tel: +256772385722, Email: godfreyodongtoo@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup> Makerere University, Dept. of Electrical & Computer Eng., P.O Box 7062 Kampala, Uganda  
 Tel: +256772122264, Email: plating@cedat.mak.ac.ug

<sup>3</sup> Kyambogo University, Dept. of Computer Science, P.O Box 1, Kampala, Uganda  
 Tel: +256783474318, Email: dssebuggwawo@kyu.ac.ug

**Abstract:** The paper addresses the use of partial least square-structural equation modelling (PLS- SEM) technique to evaluate the requirements for a design of a water resource management (ICT) model for an integrated water resource management. Researchers employed a quantitative approach using smart-PLS version 3. The sample size of 152 was computed from a population size of 245 across some districts within LVB. This study revealed the perceptions of different experts based on their experiences in water resource sectors. The findings of the study discovered that distribution and management, efficient use, pollution reduction, water conservation & storage factors had a significantly positive effect on the design of an effective water resource management ICT model. Pollution reduction had the highest path coefficient ( $\beta = 0.536$ ) thus having the highest influence on the design of water resource management ICT model. The four exogenous latent constructs wholesomely explained 65.2% of the variance in the design of an effective water resource management ICT model that was also confirmed by the value of  $R^2$  being 0.652. The study recommends putting a special attention on a pollution reduction related requirement to achieve an effective design of water resource management ICT model. These findings can support practitioners and decision makers engaged in the management of LVB and other water bodies in designing an effective water resource management ICT model.

**Keywords:** ICT model, Lake Victoria Basin, PLS-SEM, Water Resource Management

## 1. Introduction

Lake Victoria is the largest fresh water lake in Africa with a surface area of 68,800km<sup>2</sup> [1]. It is a very important resource for the five riparian countries: Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi. The basin provides resources for fishing, agriculture, medicine, forestry, water transport and other economic activities. However, Lake Victoria Basin (LVB) is affected by rapid population growth, urbanization, industrialization, increasing commercial activities and inadequate provision of sanitation services[2],[3]. The above authors noted that pollution from point and non-point sources of water resources is responsible for the deterioration of the quality of water. This phenomenon makes water to be unusable and its treatment becomes costly. Water