Lake Victoria Basin (LVB), Challenges and Application of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in Water Management

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Contents Lake Victoria

The Lake Victoria Basin Commission Mandates

- Challenges in the Basin
- Key Achievements in NbS in water management
- Key challenges in NbS implementation
- Strategic focus in 2026 and beyond (From Here to Where? and How?

Our core mandate

- 1. Sustainable development and management of:
 - i. water resources;
 - ii. fisheries resources;
 - iii.forestry resources;
 - iv.Wetlands
 - v. sustainable agricultural and land use practices;
 - vi.Environment & Climate change
 - vii.wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism

How many sectors here that we should deal with?

Challenges in the Basin

- Stresses within the lake over-fishing, Water quality, fluctuating water level;
- Stresses on littoral zones construction and farming in shoreline, conversion of wetlands;
- Stresses from basin land degradation, deforestation, sediment loads; nutrients flowing into the lake
- Climate change (floods and severe droughts)
- Population increase that influences the above

Key achievement

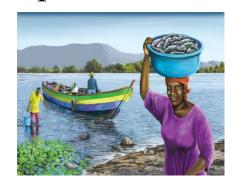
- Harmonized Policies/Laws/Standards & Regulations that are facilitative of NbS thereby to strengthening the regional enabling envt.
- Basin-wide Analytical Work and Specific Studies for informed naturebased Programming of LVB and Decision Support
- Private Sector Adoption and Investments in Resource Efficiency & Cleaner Production & Green Growth Agric Value Chain Development
- (Over USD\$32Million Worth)

• Build Consensus and prepared over 22 Instruments for Collaborative Management of ENR in LVB

 Piloted River Basin based Watershed/ Catchment Rehabilitation and Protection

• Community Livelihood Improvement "empowering Communities through alternative Nature-based livelihood

options"





Key challenges in NbS implementation in the basin

- Knowledge gap among different key players; (agriculture, urban planers, architects & engineers, environmentalists, policy makers etc.
- Difficulty in managing trade offs
- Lack of finance to at least implement tangible pilot projects and support research in NbS for specific sectors

At the basin level:

- A wide range of stakeholder with competing priorities;
- Different levels of stakeholder involved at countries level then at sectorial level
- Resources constraints (both human capital and finance)

Strategic focus in 2026 and beyond (From Here to Where? and How?)

WHERE?

HOW?

- Enhanced climate change mitigation
 & adaptation capacity in the basin through NBS
- Integrated Water Resources management and Development promoted;
- Social development programs in the Basin facilitated mainly through NbS;
- Strengthened and expanded partnership with Key stakeholders for better results

- Develop and promote the operationalization of harmonized regional policies and Legal Framework
- Establishment and operationalizing multi -sectoral steering committees in the EAC partners states;
- Coordinate & Facilitate basin wide data and information generation & dissemination
- Sustainable Agriculture and land use management practice
- Contribute to and coordinate basin-wide ecosystem monitoring and knowledge mgt and sharing
- Restore and protect selected Water catchments and water sources in the LVB in partnership with other key players

Quote

The best possible solutions come only from a combination of a rational analysis based on the nature of things. And imaginative reintegration of all the different items into a new pattern. Using non-linear brain power.

By Kenichi Ohnae



Thank you for your kind attention