



CONCEPT NOTE

4TH LVFO-ECOFISH PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC) MEETING

29TH – 30TH MARCH 2023; KISUMU - KENYA

1.0 Background

Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) is implementing a programme called “*Contribution of Sustainable Fisheries to the Blue Economy of the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean Region – EEOFISH programme*”. The funding is Euro 2 million to LVFO for activities implemented in the Republics of Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

The overall objective is to enhance equitable economic growth by promoting sustainable fisheries in the EA-SA-IO region. The specific objective is to support sustainable management and development of fisheries, while addressing climate change resilience and enhancing marine biodiversity. On Lake Victoria, the purpose of the Programme is to support sustainable management and development of fisheries resources.

The ECOFISH programme came into force in September 2018 when the Agreement was signed between the European Union and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC). LVFO initially signed a Start Up Programme Estimate with IOC and EU Mauritius to be implemented for a period of four months, from 25th October 2019 to 24th February 2020.

During the implementation phase of Program Estimate (PE) 1 and 2 a number of achievements have been made in Results Areas 1 and 2 (*Annex 1*) necessitating review and consideration by the next PSC.

2.0 Programme Steering Committee (PSC)

Under the project implementation arrangements, it was envisaged that the project requires high level policy guidance for efficient implementation. LVFO instituted a Policy Steering Committee (PSC) composed of 13 members as follows: The 3 Directors of Fisheries Management from Partner States (*Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda*), EU Delegation in Uganda (1); EU Delegation in Mauritius (*Technical Coordinator & TL/ECOFISH*); Fisheries MCS Expert- ECOFISH Project (IOC) Office; Operations Advisor- European Union Delegation to Uganda and Project Manager - EU Delegation Mauritius (4), Representative of Industry (1), Representative of Beach Management Unit networks (*BMU regional network - 1*), LVFO Executives (2) LVFO Director Fisheries Monitoring and Research and Director Fisheries Management and Development/Project Coordinator (1). This is detailed in section 3. The meeting is held once a year to provide policy guidance to the implementation.

The first meeting was held on 24th January 2020 at Imperial Express Hotel, Kisumu, Kenya; the 2nd in Dar es-Salaam, Tanzania from 29th to 30th June 2021 and the 3rd meeting on 2nd to 3rd June 2022 at Kabira Country Club, Kampala, Uganda.

This 4th PSC is scheduled to take place from 29th to 30th March, 2023 in Kisumu, Kenya and the meeting will consider the progress of implementation of project activities and provide policy guidance. The meeting will be co-chaired by the current Chairperson of the Senior Official and the LVFO Executive Secretary. The 1st day of the meeting will consider technical aspects of the project and the 2nd day policy matters - *It is also planned that a regional consultative multi-stakeholder meeting to harmonize MCS operation on Lake Victoria be held back-to-back with this LVFO Project Steering Committee meeting to extend guidance.*

The Concept Note for the regional consultative multi-stakeholders meeting (*31st March 2023*) is attached separately.

2.1 Specific objectives

- a) To consider progress of implementation of project activities so far;
- b) To provide high-level policy guidance on project implementation
- c) Rights based approaches to fisheries management

2.2 Expected outputs

- a) Updated status on progress of implementation of project activities disseminated to all implementers
- b) Policy guidance and direction on programme implementation offered to the project implementation team

2.3 Aspects on which guidance will be provided by PSC:

2.3.1 Technical aspects

- a) Implementation of regional MCS operations in Partner States
- b) Harmonized Regional Strategy for Conservation of Aquatic Biodiversity and Joint Action Plans

2.3.2 Policy aspects

- a) Completion of the legal framework analysis of the proposed East African Fisheries Organization (EAFO);
- b) Development of a financing and resource mobilisation strategy for the LVFO Fisheries Management Plan IV (FMPIV);
- c) Funding for Frames survey data gaps;
- d) Lessons learnt for the proposed new rights-based paradigm shift for fisheries management
- e) Strengthening collaboration with other Regional Fisheries Management Organisations; and
- f) Backstopping and capacity building of LVFO project staff by IOC project officials

3.0 Participants to the PSC meeting

Participants to the meeting will include:

No.	Institution	Names/Number of PSC members	No.
1	Directors of Fisheries Management from Partner States (<i>Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda</i>)	1. Director Fisheries United Republic of Tanzania 2. Director Fisheries Republic of Uganda 3. Director of Fisheries and Blue Economy Republic of Kenya	1 1 1
2	EU Delegation in Uganda and Mauritius/ ECOFISH Team	1. Representative from EU Delegation in Uganda 2. Representative from EU Delegation in Mauritius 3. Mr. Madev Balloo (<i>Project Manager</i>) 4. Dr. Soobaschand Sweenrain Sunil (Technical Coordinator & Task Leader Result Area 1) 5. Jude Talma-Task Leader Result Area 2 – MCS) 6. Andry Rasoanindrainy (<i>Communication and Visibility expert</i>)	1 1 1 1 1 1
3	Representative of Industry	1. Mr. Philp Borel	1
4	Representative of Beach Management Unit networks	1. Mr. Tom Guda	1
5	LVFO	1. Dr. Shigalla Mahongo (<i>Executive Secretary</i>) 2. Dr. Anthony Taabu Munyaho (<i>Deputy Executive Secretary</i>) 3. Dr. Rukuunya Edward (<i>Director Fisheries Management and Development</i>) 4. Dr Robert Kayanda (<i>Director Fisheries Management and Development</i>) 5. Ms. Susan Serwadda (<i>Director Finance and Administration</i>) 6. Mr. Abura Samson (<i>Director ICT</i>) 7. Mr. Benjamin Muyakana (<i>Project Administrative Assistant</i>) 8. Mr. Mashaka Nyabange (<i>Project Accounts Assistant</i>) 9. Ms Claire Mukobi (<i>Secretary</i>)	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
6	LTA representative	1 delegate	1
	Total		21



4.0 Tentative Programme for the PSC Meeting

4TH LVFO-ECOFISH Project Steering Committee meeting, Kisumu, Kenya

TUESDAY, 28TH March 2023 – Travel to Kisumu, Kenya		
WEDNESDAY: 29TH MARCH 2023		
<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
8.30 - 9.00 a.m.	Registration	LVFO Secretariat
9.00 - 9.30 a.m.	Prayer Introductions Welcoming Remarks LVFO Secretariat Remarks from IOC Remarks from EU Delegation Remarks from LTA Remarks by Chair LVFO Senior Officials	ES, LVFO
9.30 – 10.30 a.m.	Presentation of LVFO-ECOFISH Technical Progress report on result areas 1 and 2	PC/LVFO
10.30 – 11.00 a.m.	General Discussion	Members of Project Steering Committee
11.00 - 11.30 a.m.	TEA BREAK	
11.30 – 12.00 p.m.	Implementation of regional MCS operations in Partner States	PC/LVFO
12.00 – 1.00 p.m.	Discussions	Members of Project Steering committee
1.00 – 2.00 p.m.	LUNCH	
2.00 – 3. 00 p.m.	Rights based approaches to fisheries management	PC/LVFO
3.00 – 4.00 p.m.	Discussions	Members of Steering committee
4.00 p.m.	EVENING TEA	

THURSDAY, 30TH MARCH 2023		
<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
8.30 – 9.00 a.m.	Registration	LVFO Secretariat
9.00 – 9.30 a.m.	Completion of the legal framework analysis of the proposed East African Fisheries Organization (<i>EAF</i> O)	PC/LVFO
9.30 – 10.00 a.m.	Development of a financing and resource mobilisation strategy for the LVFO Fisheries Management Plan IV (<i>FMP</i> IV)	Dr. Sunil Soobaschand Sweenrain/IOC
10.00 – 10.30 am	Discussions	Members of Steering committee
11.30 - 11.00 a.m.	TEA BREAK	All participants
11.00 – 11.30 a.m.	Funding for Frames survey data gaps	Dr. Robert Kayanda/LVFO
11.30 – 12.00 noon	Discussions	Members of Steering committee
12.00 – 12.30 noon	Lessons learnt for the proposed new rights-based paradigm shift for fisheries management	LVFO
12.30 – 1.00 p.m.	Press Briefing	LVFO Secretariat and IOC
1.00 – 2.00 p.m.	LUNCH	

2.00 – 2.30 p.m.	Strengthening collaboration with other Regional Fisheries Management Organisations	Dr. Sunil Soobaschand Sweenrain/IOC
2.30 – 3.00 p.m.	Support and sharing experiences in the planned registration and licensing of fishers and boats in small scale fishing on Lake Victoria and marine environment	Jude Talma/IOC PC/LVFO
3.00 – 3.30 p.m.	Closing remarks	ES/ LVFO
3.30 p.m.	<i>EVENING TEA</i>	

ANNEX 1: Brief summary on Status on Implementation of the Work Plan as of February 2023

Result Area	Sub result area	Sub-activities	Implementation status
Result Area 1:	Evaluate and review existing management plans and/or develop and support the implementation of new management plans	Enhance the institutional, structural, and legal framework of LVFO against the backdrop of expanded scope and mandate	Consultancy ongoing with national technical and stakeholder consultations completed. Final report awaited. Remaining is technical validation and multi-sectoral meeting to approve the report
		Review the performance of Lake Victoria Fisheries Management Plan-III (2016-2020) and draft Lake Victoria Fisheries Management Plan-IV (2021-2025)	Lake Victoria Fisheries Management Plan-IV (2021-2025) in place including a policy. The documents were considered by the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sectoral Council of Ministers (senior official and Coordination Committees). Pending Ministerial approval
	Promote coherent regional registration and licensing frameworks in the small-scale inland and marine fisheries Promote coherent regional registration and licensing frameworks in the small-scale inland and marine fisheries	Conduct a regional workshop to harmonise annual licensing of fisheries, fishing boats and gear	Planned for April 2023
		Expansion and updating of the existing fisheries database	Expansion and updating of the existing fisheries database were held in December 2022 by the e-CAS regional database developers including training of staff in data capture and management
	Support the adoption and implementation of management measures aiming at protecting marine biodiversity with regional impacts.	Mark and protect biodiversity hotspots and breeding/nursery areas in selected areas	Not yet implemented but synergies build with the GIZ funded Responsible Business Chain Project and AU-IBAR
		Procurement of equipment, marking and demarcating fish breeding areas	Planned for April 2023
	Improve data collection and management in support of more evidence based regional policies	Conduct lake wide Frame Survey on Lake Victoria	Frame survey conducted in December 2020 with collection of data on fishermen, fishing gears, fishing boats, and other

			fishing input and services at the landing sites in Lake Victoria riparian districts/local governments. Draft regional report produced. <i>No funding for FS 2022;</i>
Result Area 2	Establishing and implementing a regional MCS system that encompasses among other, the development of regional guidelines or framework on fisheries licensing, the establishment of user rights-based management system (control of open access)	Regional consultative multi-stakeholders meeting to harmonize MCS operation on Lake Victoria	Planned back-to-back with the PSC meeting (i.e. 29 th - 30 th March 2022) and regional meeting on 31 st March and 1 st April 2023
		Plan the implementation of Regional MCS operations	Technical planning meeting conducted in May 2021 and August 2022 to harmonise MCS operations, capacity building and harmonisation of protocols
		Conduct MCS operations	Awaits equipment procurement and training in enforcement and prosecution
	Built capacity to implement regional cost-effective inland monitoring and surveillance programs	Procurement and maintenance of equipment and supplies to support MCS operations	Ongoing with bids received from prospective service providers. The evaluation process is in advanced stages
	Support capacity building in enforcement, compliance and prosecution procedures in in the fisheries sector at national levels	Training in enforcement, compliance and prosecution procedures in enforcement procedures at national level	Regional ToTs and national training of enforcement teams completed
		Facilitate National high level policy dialogue on IUU fishing and sensitize fisher communities and lower-level leadership on importance of their roles in combating IUU	National IUU policy dialogues conducted in the 3 Partner states during February/March 2023
Communication and visibility		Conduct communication and visibility for result areas 1 and 2	Publications done in newsletters, community awareness material produced and disseminated. A C&V plan was also developed