



ADAPTATION FUND

PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL PROJECT/PROGRAMME

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme:	Adapting to climate change in Lake Victoria Basin
Countries:	Lake Victoria Basin Countries (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda)
Thematic Focal Area ¹ :	Transboundary water management
Type of Implementing Entity:	MIE
Implementing Entity:	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Executing Entities:	Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC)
Amount of Financing Requested:	\$5,000,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Project / Programme Background and Context:

Lake Victoria is the world's second largest freshwater body with a catchment area extending to five countries: Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. The lake is a shallow water body and is a sub-basin of the Nile River Basin. The Lake Victoria Basin (LVB) has an estimated area of 194,200 Km²; and hosts over 30 million people. The major economic activities in the Basin include both cash and subsistence crop agriculture and livestock production, fisheries production, wildlife and tourism, minerals and management of water resources. Lake Victoria is the largest inland fishery in the region with about 3 million people engaged directly or indirectly in subsistence and commercial fishing. The lake is important for water supply, power generation, and transport, providing numerous transport linkages at the national and regional levels. Irrigation, both small and medium scale is common in the basin. With the large outflow from the lake and the sharp decrease in altitude to Lake Albert, the Lake Victoria Basin system has a very high hydroelectric power generation potential. These services from the lake however, face serious risks from climate change. The specific features of the lake further exacerbate the risk to climate change, in general and the importance of rainfall and evaporation rates on the water balance outcome for the lake. Hence climate change has direct impacts on downstream hydropower, water availability for irrigation, drinking, fishing and transport. Other important climate change effects include risks of drought and localized flooding. Other drivers such as land degradation, mismanagement of water resources and the rapid population growth in the basin could worsen all of these risks.

The Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) was established by the Protocol for the Development of the lake Victoria Basin as a specialized institution of the East African Community (EAC) mandated to coordinate among others transboundary management of the water resources of the basin. The EAC Council of Ministers; and Presidents (Summit) approved EAC Climate Change Master Plan and Climate Change Strategy that provide guidelines to address climate change adaptation in the region. The EAC is expecting to finalise and approve the LVB Climate Change adaptation Strategy and action plan by June 2016. The East African countries are undertaking numerous projects in the lake basin. Most notable of these, the Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project I (LVEMP-I) has made significant progress in relation to the water quality in the lake and in addressing the water hyacinth infestation and sustainable land management. While more recent work such as LVEMP-II, UNEP's Nile Basin Adaptation Project and the USAID funded PREPARED project (*Planning for resilience in East Africa through Policy, Adaptation, Research and Economic Development*) have started to plan for climate change, there has been little implementation of climate change adaptation actions so far. Moreover the mechanisms for coordinating a regional approach remain inadequate. There is a lack of mechanisms for gathering, managing and

¹ Thematic areas are: Food security; Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems; Transboundary water management; Innovation in adaptation finance.

utilizing relevant data to adaptation, lack of institutional cross-sectoral mechanisms for planning and implementing adaptation measures that contribute to climate resilience at the regional level. The bottom-up approach of implementing adaptation actions within the catchment area of the lake in the respective countries has usually been isolated and disconnected to the overall resilience approach for the entire basin.

Project / Programme Objectives:

The following are project objectives:

- a) To build adaptive capacity of regional and national institutions in creating resilience for the Lake Victoria Basin through integrated transboundary water resources management and informed by sustainable early warning systems;
- b) To establish an early warning system for identifying risks from climate change to water management in the Lake Victoria Basin
- c) To implement adaptation actions in three key areas/topics, as identified in the Lake Victoria Climate Change Action Plan (being developed by PREPARED) and the LVBC Climate Change Strategy;
- d) To establish a small grants programme to support local institutions to implement site based adaptation actions that contribute to regional resilience and are in consistent with the LVBC climate change strategy; and
- e) Develop basin-wide lesson learning and knowledge management framework.

Project / Programme Components and Financing:

Project/Program me Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	Amount (US\$)
1. Institutional strengthening to support transboundary water management adaptation strategies.	<i>Strengthened institutional capacity to integrate climate resilience into transboundary water management through integrated sectoral policies and management basin-wide practices.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate resilient transboundary institutional framework; • Institutional capacity of government ministries and agencies, civil society and the private sector to meet the challenge of climate change strengthened. 	ALL LVBC Countries (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi)	540,000
2. Basin-wide Early warning system	<i>Decision-makers informed of changes in key parameters for water management on both seasonal and longer term basis.</i>	Lake Victoria Basin Early warning system in place; and tested	ALL LVBC Countries	800,000
3. Adaptation action to address key risks at the regional level	<i>Increased regional resilience & adaptive capacity.</i>	Transboundary climate resilient measures implemented.	ALL LVBC Countries	1,700,000
4. Small grants programme	<i>Increased contributions from ten or more sites to regional resilience.</i>	Small-scale adaptation initiatives supported in all countries.	ALL LVBC Countries	850,000

5. Knowledge Management & Learning	<i>Strengthened regional knowledge management framework and ownership of the adaptation options and processes at the regional level.</i>	An integrated Lake Victoria transboundary Knowledge Management system for adaptation/climate resilience developed.	ALL LVBC Countries	318,489
5. Project/Programme Execution cost (9.5%)				399,806
7. Total Project/Programme Cost				4,208,489
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (8.5%)				391,705
Amount of Financing Requested				5,000,000

Project Duration: 3 years (36 Months)

PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

In order to achieve its objectives, the project has five main components.

- Institutional strengthening to support transboundary water management adaptation strategies.*
This project will build on other LVBC projects including LVWATSAN, LVEMP and PREPARED to support inter-sectoral integration of adaptation measures for better transboundary water resources management. Activities under this component will include building and strengthening institutional capacity of government ministries and agencies, civil society and the private sector to meet the challenge of climate change. Activities will serve to review and inform sectoral/regional policies and planning frameworks; integrate on-the-ground experience that will inform higher-level regional policy processes through the EAC; managing emergency and risks from climate change to the transboundary water resources by providing tools, required information and raising awareness of adaptation options.
- Early warning system for identifying risks from climate change to water management in Lake Victoria Basin*
This component will build on previous and ongoing work on early warning for the lake region, including IGAD Climate Predictions and Applications Center, the LVB Water Information system, the "Adaptation to CC induced water stress in the Nile Basin" UNEP project, the GEF Floods and Drought Management Tools project and others. It will include actions such as: (i) Developing LVB early warning information systems to inform water resources utilization, agricultural and livestock activities; and natural resources management; (ii) Strengthening the capacities of Meteorology, Hydrology and Food Security services in the LVB in terms of providing required tools to access, store and manage information in a coherent and synergistic manner; and (iii) Improving seasonal early warning climate forecasts by improving the seasonal/ weather early warning; and climate hydro-agro meteorological Forecasts system and rapid intervention mechanisms.
- Adaptation actions to address key risks at the regional level*
This component of the proposed project will entail implementing adaptation actions as identified by the Lake Victoria Adaptation Action Plan and building on outputs from the PREPARED project. It is envisaged that these actions will be mainly regional and aim to strengthen regional resilience and focus on larger scale adaptation actions. Such actions will include (i) promoting management of cross-border water resource management to minimize water stress based conflict for agriculture, pasture for pastoral communities and wildlife among others; (ii) Supporting development and implementation of climate related disaster risk reduction and management as a tool for adaptation; and (iii) Promoting, and incentivizing rainwater harvesting techniques for agricultural and domestic use.
- Funding for small-scale adaptation actions*
The proposed project will make available grants to support small-scale adaptation actions in the range of US\$50,000 – 100,000. Strict criteria for selection will be formulated in full in the project development phase. The criteria will include: the contribution of the action to *regional* resilience; the innovativeness of the action; its complementarity with larger scale actions (Component 3) of the project; cost effectiveness; delivery of co-benefits; and compliance with Environmental and

Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund. The actions under this component will support Community-based adaptation initiatives to improve water resources, river services and food security (small irrigation schemes) and other relevant initiatives.

5. *Knowledge management and learning*

This component will aim at strengthening awareness and ownership of adaptation options at the transboundary level. Hence the outputs and proposed activities could include elements of capturing, analyzing, sharing and disseminating experiences across the basin and beyond; appropriate mechanisms for sharing experiences will be identified and these could include the regional forums, meetings, exchange visits to project sites between participating “projects” within the basin etc. Additional global platforms will also be critical for learning and sharing such as Global Adaptation Network (GAN), UNFCCC Nairobi Work Programme, Adaptation Committee (AC), The International Environment Forum for Basin Organizations etc.

This project proposal is consistent with and will be contributing to the East Africa Community (EAC) Climate Change Strategy and the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) Strategic Plan (2011 – 2016). In addition, it also aligns with the planned National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), which make linkages between adaptation and development plans. As such it is expected to contribute to promotion of integrated transboundary water issues focusing on climate resilience; with coordinated measures that are coherent with regional and national development plans & priorities, international commitments and also aligned to sustainable development goals (SDGs).

The proposed project will therefore be contributing to actions such as restoration of vital ecosystems, regional institutional strengthening and sharing of experience of climate-resilient management of transboundary waters. This proposal is also aligned with the National Climate Change policies, National adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs) and country strategy and programs. Through its innovative approach, the project is expected to spearhead the development of innovative transboundary water management instruments that work towards resilient ecosystems and communities. At the same time the project will work towards generating experiences and lessons from the basin and this will enable further replication in other transboundary water bodies.

Consultation process for full proposal development

The development of the full proposal will go through two stages: 1) preparation of a full concept; 2) preparation of full proposal. In the preparation of the full concept UNEP will work with LVBC and other partners to elaborate the project components.. The proposed project will be undertaken in consultation with the various stakeholders such as the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC), East Africa Community (EAC), Nile Basin Initiative (NBI), and other partners undertaking work within the river basin. Initial considerations during the concept development phase have been given to complement currently on-going initiatives such as the USAID funded PREPARED Programme.

Cost-effectiveness and sustainability

For cost-effectiveness purposes, this proposed project will build on the experiences from present and past initiatives within the basin. Furthermore it will explore the existing delivery mechanisms and institutional structures, strengthening and adjusting them where necessary. In addition, the proposed project will consider regional coordination mechanisms by working through existing structures such as inter-ministerial and cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms at the lake basin level. The LVBC as the executing agency of the project will pursue the sustainability of the project results by integrating climate resilience and adaptation related issues into the basin work programming and budgetary planning.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

This project will be executed by a consortium of partners coordinated by the Lake Victoria Basin Commission Secretariat (LVBC). UNEP will provide oversight and guidance and will have the responsibility of monitoring and evaluating the implementation of project. It is envisaged that the LVBC will set up a Programme Management Unit (PMU), which will be responsible for implementing the project


components and activities. The PMU will also be responsible for day-to-day coordination and ensuring stakeholder engagement. A Project Steering Committee (PSC) will provide overall strategic guidance and direction of the programme. It is envisaged that the LVBC will also liaise with National ministries responsible for water resources management; and particularly directorate for international waters in all EAC Partner States.

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENTS AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government²

Burundi: Mr. Simon Sindayihebura, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of water, environment, lands and urbanization.	Date: (Month, day, year)
Kenya: Dr. Richard Lesiyampe, MBS. Principal Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.	Date: (Month, day, year)
Rwanda: Mrs. Fatima Mukarubibi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Lands, Environment, Forestry, Water & Mines.	Date: (Month, day, year)
Tanzania: Mr. Sazi Salula, Permanent Secretary, The Office of the Vice President.	Date: (Month, day, year)
Uganda: Mr. David Obong, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water & Environment.	Date: (Month, day, year)

B. Implementing Entity certification

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.	
Mette L. Wilkie,  Director, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI) Implementing Entity Coordinator	
Date: (Month, Day, Year) <i>July 30 2015</i>	Tel. and email: +254 20 7624782 & Mette.Wilkie@unep.org
Project Contact Person: Barney Dickson (Head, Climate Change Adaptation Unit)	
Tel. and Email: +254 20 7623545 & Barney.Dickson@unep.org	

Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.