



# NELSAP NEWS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE NILE EQUATORIAL LAKES  
SUBSIDIARY ACTION PROGRAM, NELSAP-CU  
ISSUE NO. 07 APRIL 2019



NELSAP-CU  
**NILE BASIN INITIATIVE**  
INITIATIVE DU BASSIN DU NIL



ENG. ELICAD ELLY NYABEEYA, NELSAP REGIONAL COORDINATOR-RC (C) EXPLAINS TO THE PRIME MINISTER OF TANZANIA HON. KASSIM MAJALIWA MAJALIWA (THIRD LEFT) NELSAP WORK AT NELSAP-CU EXHIBITION DESK IN DAR ES SALAAM

## TANZANIA PRIME MINISTER OFFICIATES NELCOM, URGES NILE BASIN COUNTRIES TO RATIFY THE NILE RIVER BASIN C.F.A

The Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania Hon. Kassim Majaliwa Majaliwa was the chief guest at the 21<sup>st</sup> Nile Equatorial Lakes Council of Ministers' (NELCOM) Meeting held on November 22, 2018 at Serena Hotel in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The meeting was attended by six cabinet ministers and other high level officials representing their respective countries from the Nile Basin Member states. Specific dignitaries present were: the NELCOM members (Ministers in-charge of the water affairs) Hon. Dr. Eng. Seleshi Bekele (Ethiopia) Hon. Sophia Pal Gai (South Sudan) Hon. Prof. Makame Mbarawa (Tanzania) who was the outgoing NELCOM Chair, Hon. Sam Cheptoris (Uganda) who is the new NELCOM Chair. Other Ministers in attendance were: Hon. Dr. Medard Kalemani, Minister of Energy (Tanzania) and Hon. Augustino Mahiga, Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation (Tanzania). The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Irrigation Prof. Kitila Mkumbo and the Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, Mr. Paul Makonda were also in attendance.

In his address, the Prime Minister urged countries that are yet to ratify the Nile River Basin Cooperative Framework Agreement (CFA) to do so in order to finalize the establishment of a legal permanent Nile River Basin Commission, which will speed up the optimization of how the River Nile is utilized and sustained. He recognized the 238 million people living within the Nile Basin who depend on the River's waters directly for agriculture, fishing, domestic use and electricity among others. He said finalizing

ratification of the CFA will pave way for a stronger and binding cooperation that will generate sustainable benefits for the Basin member countries. The Prime Minister further urged member countries to speed up disbursement of their required financial contributions so that the NBI Centres could be sustained to undertake their given mandates more effectively and efficiently. He urged countries to accelerate decision making to reduce the current delays witnessed when implementing joint transboundary

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ONGOING CONSTRUCTION AT THE REGIONAL RUSUMO FALLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (RRFHP) SITE

## CONSTRUCTION AT THE REGIONAL RUSUMO FALLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (RRFHP) WELL ON COURSE

Construction at the transboundary Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project (RRFHP) that is jointly owned by Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania is well on course. The main constructions of the power plant are being done around the Rusumo border mainly on the Tanzania side. The workers' camp is located in Tanzania 5km from the Rusumo border while the switchyard is located on Rwanda side of the border.

The overall Project implementation status is at 35%. The civil and electromechanical works have made good progress: the first phase of the dam spillway, the headrace tunnel, the powerhouse excavation works, the tailrace channel, the switchyard excavation as well as the Rusumo Power Company Limited (RPCL) residential camp are right on track.

On 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019, the Project's Council of Ministers (COM) composed of Burundi Minister of Energy Hon. Eng. Come Manirakiza, Rwanda Minister of Infrastructure, Hon. Amb. Claver Gatete and Tanzania Minister of Energy Hon. Dr. Medard Kalemani, visited the 80 MW Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project to take stock of the power plant construction progress. During their visit, the Council of Ministers (COM) members appreciated the progress recorded so far. The COM urged NELSAP-CU to speed up the construction works in order to complete on time and have the 80MW Power Plant operational with the Transmission Lines by February 2020. The Project has so far employed about 231 Rwandans, 254 Tanzanians and 81 Burundians. Majority of casual laborers are from the neighbouring districts from the three countries. The Project has established a workers' camp 5km from Rusumo Border in Tanzania that provides casual laborers with the best living and

leisure environment after working hours with well observed environmental social health safety measures for a conducive atmosphere during working time and after work. Compensation of all the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) has been done. Those compensated are 53 households and 1 commercial group in Rwanda and 135 households and 3 commercial groups in Tanzania respectively. A total USD 3.1 million was paid out to the PAPs as compensation in the two Districts; Ngara in Tanzania and Kirehe in Rwanda. The Project has successfully implemented the Livelihood Restoration Program (LRP) for Persons Affected by the Project which started in February 2017 and is on-going. About USD 711, 612 has been earmarked for Kirehe and Ngara districts. The Local Area Development Plan (LADP) a benefit-sharing program worth USD 15.5 Million has been designed to enhance regional economic and social development in the Rusumo area as an extended program related to the construction of the project. LADP is expected to improve community livelihoods and promote socially sustainable outcomes of the riparian citizens of the affected districts. For Burundi, both Giteranyi and Busoni Communes are implementing the rehabilitation and extension of water supply systems, integrated agricultural production for key crops (cassava, beans and maize) and livestock intensification for cows, goat and pigs as well as soil and water conservation and the construction and support to a youth training centre.

For Kirehe District of Rwanda, the project rehabilitated the 30 km feeder road in Kigarama and Musaza (Cyagasenyi-Gasarabwayi-Nganda Road) and also constructed the Kigina Health Center.

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ONE OF THE FOUR MODERN EQUIPPED SURVEILLANCE BOATS LEAF II PROJECT PROVIDED TO THE D.R CONGO AND UGANDA FOR JOINT SURVEILLANCE OF TRANSBOUNDARY LAKES EDWARD AND ALBERT

## LEAF II PROJECT PROVIDES 4 FULLY EQUIPPED PATROL BOATS TO D.R CONGO AND UGANDA, TRAINS ON THEIR USE

The LEAF II Project is a transboundary project being jointly implemented by the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Uganda and is coordinated regionally by the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP-CU). Its overall objective is to sustainably utilize the fisheries and allied natural resources of the Lakes Edward and Albert Basin through harmonized legal framework and policies.

In order to facilitate better and coordinated management of the fish and water resources of the two transboundary lakes between the D.R. Congo and Uganda - Lakes Edward and Albert, NELSAP-CU procured four high capacity patrol boats and trained 24 boat coxswains and operators from the two countries on their use and maintenance. The aim of this initiative is to support both countries in lake monitoring, control and facilitate cooperation and promote joint surveillance of the two transboundary lakes. This is for mutual benefit of the two countries and will reduce the rampant illegal activities, and reduce conflicts and infractions between the two countries over the shared water resources. This activity is within the framework of the Bilateral Agreement for the Sustainable Management of Fisheries and Aquaculture for the Lakes Edward and Albert and their Basin, which was signed by both countries on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in Kampala, Uganda. The LEAF II Project provided technical support in drafting the Bilateral Agreement, and facilitated country-level dialogue, consultations and adoption of the Bilateral Agreement. LEAF II Project continues to monitor and lead the implementation of different provisions of this Bilateral Agreement. One such provision is the establishment of a mechanism for joint (bilateral) patrols on the two transboundary lakes. It is towards these efforts that LEAF II Project procured and delivered four fully equipped patrol boats to DR Congo and Uganda (with two to each country)

and trained 24 boat coxswains and operators (12 from each country) on operation and maintenance of the patrol boats. The boats were delivered to the Ugandan sites of Mweya on Lake Edward and Butiaba on Lake Albert, on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019; and to the DRC sites of Kihongiro on Lake Edward and Kasenyi on Lake Albert, by 9<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The technical trainings were conducted at Mweya and Butiaba waterfronts in Uganda between 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019.

“I came to this training to learn about the new boats, I have never seen such a boat before, but I am very grateful to the initiators of this project of LEAF II because now we have been fully trained on how to operate the boat,” says Ceasar Mazimwe, a Marine Commandant and Ranger working for the Virunga National Park in the D.R Congo. “This boat will help us to better manage our Lakes and since we have been trained together and will eventually do patrols together, it will help forge a closer relationship with our brothers from Uganda,” added Ceasar Mazimwe.

“Today we have learnt how to operate this new speed boats, how to drive the boats and how to navigate through the lake using it,” says Nikambi Jonathan, a UPDF Marine based at Butiaba, Uganda.

“We came together to train with our brothers from the D.R Congo and we have learnt how to coordinate with our colleagues, how to communicate using the boat communication system and how we can help one another,” explains Nikambi Jonathan. The speed boats are currently under test runs before official launch later in the year. The speed boats are fitted with among others night vision and recording of vision gadgets, water ejector system to avoid drowning, latest VHF radio frequency for communication with police and military, a radar detection system, fixed and mobile search lights, high speed and noise reduction systems.





KARERE MADINA FROM KIREHE, RWANDA, IS ONE OF BENEFICIARIES OF THE LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAM (LRP) AT THE REGIONAL RUSUMO FALLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (RRFHP)

## SUCCESSFUL RELOCATION AND COMPENSATION PROGRAM AT THE REGIONAL RUSUMO FALLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (RRFHP)

It is early morning at Kirehe District of Rwanda at the Rusumo border between Rwanda and Tanzania. Karere Madina, a mother of five is attending to close to 1,000 layers chicken (exotic chicken kept for eggs). Madina is one of 53 people displaced by the Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project (RRFHP) on the Rwanda side of the trans-boundary project. Madina and nine other people started this poultry project from the Livelihood Restoration Program (LRP) money that they received from NELSAP-CU.

“We benefitted a lot from this Rusumo project because as a result of the money we received, we started poultry farming and this has benefitted me and my family a lot,” says Karere Madina. “I am now able to give my children eggs to eat, I sell the eggs and get money to pay school fees, buy household items and improve my well-being,” she explains.

“My neighbours also benefit a lot from this poultry project because they get fertilizer from me to improve yield of their farms,” she adds. Madina is a widow, but because of her project, she is able to support herself and her children, two of whom are in secondary school while the others are still in primary level. She explains that her old home in Rusumo, was very near the project area and that before the project started, the District and NELSAP-CU informed them that due to the proposed project, they would be relocated after receiving compensation. Madina was resettled at Kiyanzi, a small shopping centre that is a few kilometers from Rusumo border. When asked what she thinks of the Regional project, Madina says she believes it is a very good project since it will increase electricity production in her country and increase employment. She doesn’t see any negative side of the project because all of them were given money through their bank accounts and were given free hand to choose a project of their desire as long as it would improve their livelihoods. She says they

were trained on various income generating ventures and then advised to form groups and start joint projects if they so wished. “We are happy and we thank NELSAP and our District for being close to us and our projects and for their support since we were settled at Kiyanzi,” Madina says.

Karimunda Nasoro is another beneficiary of the Livelihood Restoration Program (LRP) money. He is a father of six and has invested in dairy farming. Together with ten others, they have a large cow shed with over 30 improved dairy cattle. The shed is jointly managed by the group, but individuals tend to their own respective cows and provide feed and supplements to them. Karimunda says that he has benefited from trainings by NELSAP-CU on how to run their dairy project and specific trainings on how to take care of cows in a manner that will result to optimum milk production and good health.

“As a result of the trainings by NELSAP-CU, we get enough milk for our families and even for sale at the local market,” says Karimunda. Asked what he expects from the Rusumo project, Mr. Karimunda says he hopes the project will create jobs for his community and also connect electricity to their homes.

By end of February 2017, NELSAP had compensated Project Affected Persons (PAPS) totaling to 53 households and one commercial group in Rwanda and 135 households and three cooperatives in Ngara District of Tanzania. NELSAP has paid USD 3.1 million to People Affected by Project (PAPs) in Rwanda and Tanzania and is implementing Local Area Development Projects to the tune of USD 15.5 million. In terms of employment, the Rusumo project has 231 employees from Rwanda, 254 employees from Tanzania and 81 employees from Burundi.





GOVERNMENTS OF THE D.R CONGO AND UGANDA SIGNING THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES OF LAKES EDWARD AND ALBERT OCTOBER 20, 2018 IN KAMPALA, UGANDA

## LEAF II PROJECT FACILITATES DEVELOPMENT AND SIGNING OF BILATERAL FISHERIES AGREEMENT BETWEEN D.R CONGO AND UGANDA

After strong lobbying, technical and material support from the Lakes Edward and Albert Integrated Fisheries and Water Resources Management Project (LEAF II) of NELSAP, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Uganda signed the Bilateral Agreement for Sustainable Management of Fisheries Resources and Aquaculture in Lake Edward and Lake Albert and their Basins. The agreement was signed at Munyonyo Resort Uganda on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2018 by his Excellency Paluku Kisaka Yere Yere, Minister of Fisheries and Livestock on behalf of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Hon. Kibanzanga M.T Christopher, Minister of State for Agriculture on behalf of the Republic of Uganda. The Bilateral Agreement recognizes the right of each country to equitable access and utilization of the water and aquaculture resources in a sustainable manner. It forms mechanisms for harmonization of fisheries policies and joint management and joint surveillance of activities of the two lakes.

Work on this Bilateral Agreement begun when LEAF II project, with support from the Africa Development Bank, AfDB and the Global Environment Facility, GEF, hired an international consultant and jurist to study the fisheries laws and regulations existing in the two countries. LEAF II Project further organized national level dialogues in the two countries bringing together top legal experts, other stakeholders and the ministries of the two countries. Joint meetings were then organized with participation of both countries. The Project also supported the actual drafting of the signed Bilateral Agreement and processes for prior consensus on its clauses. The project then handed the draft Bilateral Agreement back to the countries for approval. A key outcome of the bilateral agreement is the establishment of a joint commission, the Lake Edward and Lake Albert Fisheries and Aquaculture Organization, which once established will be a permanent organization managing the two trans-boundary lakes

and will be composed of representatives of the two countries and led by a council of ministers from the two countries. The Commission will be led by a joint Executive Committee and a joint Secretariat. This Bilateral Agreement also paves way for development of the Lakes Edward and Albert Basin Development Plan, which is expected to attract investors and reduce poverty in the basins of the two lakes.

The Bilateral Agreement is further expected to help eradicate conflicts, standardize fishing practices and pave way for joint surveillance of fishing activities on the two lakes, a process that will be supported by among others supply of four high speed, world class surveillance boats to be done by LEAF II project. It will also lead to joint catchment management plans, for which the project is already laying the groundwork. The project is currently making follow-up and supporting the enforcement of the clauses in the Bilateral Agreement. The Agreement also paves way for establishment of alternative livelihoods projects that will reduce over dependence on the lakes by communities living near them.

For years there has been tensions and disagreements between the two countries on the use and management of resources of the two lakes. This has been occasioned by conflicting policies and different systems of regulating fishing and catchment management. For example fishing closure periods were previously not synchronized leading to arrests of fishermen who unknowingly went to the 'wrong' side of the lakes, not considering that the lakes have no visible international boundary. The standard authorized nets also differed between the two sides, with some fishermen using very small sized nets which led to capture of small immature fish while at the same time exposing them to arrest.



## TANZANIA PRIME MINISTER OFFICIATES NELCOM MEETING URGES, COUNTRIES TO RATIFY NILE RIVER BASIN C.F.A

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projects. As a start he urged countries to speedily implement the 10-Year NBI Strategy 2017 – 2027, which has identified key six strategic goals the basin will be addressing in the next 10 years.

The Prime Minister commended NBI Centres, NELSAP-CU in particular for efforts it has put towards identification and preparation of transformative transboundary investment projects for sustainable use of the water resources of the Nile. He noted that through NELSAP-CU, a number of development projects had been realized in water – food – energy nexus. In particular he mentioned the on-going construction of hydropower dams, fisheries improvement and environmental protection. Specifically in Tanzania, the PM cited the recently completed feasibility study by NELSAP-CU for preparation of Tanzania – Zambia power interconnection transmission line aimed at interconnecting the Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP) and the Southern Africa Power Pool (SAPP). He also mentioned the on-going construction of the 80MW Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project (RRFHP) within the Kagera River basin, which is shared by three countries (Burundi, Rwanda, and Tanzania).

During this event, Tanzania handed over the rotational chairmanship of both the Nile Equatorial Lakes Council of Ministers (NELCOM) and the Nile Equatorial Lakes Technical Advisory Committee (NELTAC) to Uganda.

## CONSTRUCTION OF THE REGIONAL RUSUMO FALLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (RRFHP) WELL ON COURSE

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In Ngoma District it is supporting the construction of 28.7 km mixed water pipeline supplying 10,500 people of Gatonde-Gahima cells. It is also working on the 33 km Gituku-Murama water supply system and the 9.54km Kigabiro-Rurenge-Gatore Feeder Road.

In Tanzania Ngara District, the project will increase livestock intensification and cattle milk production, bee keeping to increase honey production, increase agricultural production for key crops (cassava, sunflower, banana and horticulture) rehabilitate water systems in 4 villages (Mshikamano, Kasharazi, Kasulo and Rwakalemela). It will also construct water supply systems in Rusumo village and support the Remela Vocational Training Center.

The Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project (RRFHP) is recognized by the three energy-strapped beneficiary countries of Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania as a good buy that will improve its socio-economic benefits. Once operational, the project will bring 80 MW of renewable, clean, relatively low-cost power to the national grids of the three countries shared equally, with each country receiving an additional 26.6 Megawatts. Construction of the power plant is implemented by the NELSAP-CU an investment program of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) through the Rusumo Power Company Limited (RPCL) that was established by the three countries. The project is funded by the World Bank to the tune of USD 340 million and the transmission lines are financed by the African Development Bank at USD 120 million.

## PICTORIALS



ONGOING CONSTRUCTION AT THE REGIONAL RUSUMO FALLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (RRFHP) SITE





GOVERNMENTS OF THE D.R CONGO AND UGANDA SIGNING THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES OF LAKES EDWARD AND ALBERT, ON OCTOBER 20, 2018 IN KAMPALA, UGANDA



ENG. ELICAD ELLY NYABEEYA, THE NELSAP REGIONAL COORDINATOR-RC (C) EXPLAINS TO THE PRIME MINISTER (TANZANIA) HON. KASSIM MAJALIWA MAJALIWA (THIRD LEFT) NELSAP WORK AT NELSAP-CU EXHIBITION DESK IN DAR ES SALAAM





MUKOSI SALIM, A COAXWAIN FROM UGANDA, BEING TRAINED IN ONE OF THE FOUR MODERN EQUIPPED SURVEILLANCE BOATS LEAF II PROJECT PROVIDED TO THE D.R CONGO AND UGANDA



KARIMUNDA NASORO (L) FROM KIREHE RWANDA, ONE OF THE BENEFICIARIES OF THE LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAM (LRP) AT THE REGIONAL RUSUMO FALL HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (RRFHP) TENDING TO HIS DAIRY COWS

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