IFMP Socio-economics Series 7

MIGRATION OF FISHERMEN AND ITS IMPACTS ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ON LAKE VICTORIA, UGANDA





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Implementation of a Fisheries Management Plan

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Objective

The purpose of the study was to investigate the migratory movements of fishermen on Lake Victoria. To identify the causes of fishermen migration with a view to establishing the patterns of migration; determining seasonality of migration and assessing the impacts of migration on fisheries management and development.

Methodology

Coverage of the study included 13 landing sites in the districts of Busia, Bugiri, Mayuge, Jinja, Mukono, Kampala, Wakiso, Mpigi, Masaka, Rakai and Kalangala on Lake Victoria. The methods of data collection included Key Informant Interviews, Focus Group Discussions, Case Studies of selected individuals and selected PRA tools. The target groups included boat owners, crew (barias), and fish traders/processors.

Socio-economic profiles of stakeholders

The survey comprised of stakeholders of different categories and groups ranging from Boat owners, crew and women, mostly of the Baganda and Basoga tribes but originating from different districts. Stakeholders were of mean age of 33.6 years and had spent an average of 6.6 years in fisheries and majority had not moved between beaches (54.4%).

Getting in to fisheries

Most of the stakeholders were born with in the fisheries communities visited and had joined fisheries activities for different reasons, including: search for employment, historical activity was fishing, the need to improve on incomes from other activities etc. Many boat owners and women were also involved in other income activities, namely crop farming, petty trading, charcoal burning and brick making among others. However, most of the crew members were reportedly engaged in fishing only.

Moving to new places

The stakeholders interviewed described "movement" as the seasonal shifting of fishers from one beach to another in search for fish and better prices. The majority of them moved from beach to beach in search for fish and better fish prices followed by the increased piracy and theft of fishing equipment including gears.

Most fishers ranked the search for fish and better prices as the foremost reason for movement followed by the need to learn new experiences, skills and technologies for fishing while the need to build friendships and partnerships across beaches was ranked third.

However, some of the stakeholders said that staying on one beach was advantageous mainly because it did not cause any family disorders and fishers were able to attend to other investments and livelihood activities. The disadvantages of staying on one beach, on the other hand, included loss of other opportunities to fishers, like better markets for fish and improved fish prices, lack of appreciation of other skills and ways of doing things.

Fishers' movements followed a rather complex pattern as movement varied among beaches. Most fishers from the one landing site normally moved to the same landing sites but mainly to islands and the busy beaches. People who moved in most cases kept moving over years especially the crew. Boats normally went out from landing sites at the same times of the year especially seasons characterized by high levels of catches at the destination beaches.

Staying somewhere temporarily

On arrival at the new landing sites, fishers normally reported to BMU or/and LC chairpersons. At introduction to the relevant authorities, transfer letters would be presented and for those without them, they would pay a pre-determined fee.

In most cases, all respondents in the three stakeholder groups were in agreement that mobile phones helped them to keep in touch with people at home (relatives) during movement and also for current information on fisheries businesses.

Access to services

The new fishers at the beaches accessed treatment from the available health facilities at the beaches. Such facilities ranged from health centres, drug kiosks, clinics, dispensaries, mobile clinics depending on the landing site.

Employment/income

In order to get work at the destination beaches, most of the crew members approached boat owners for work. Most of the crew did not plan for low seasons reportedly due to the fact that they could access the lake to fish anytime. It was revealed that all the three stakeholder groups mostly accessed information from the radios, fisheries officers and BMU leaders.

Membership of the Beach Management Units

The survey results revealed that most of the stakeholders interviewed were members of BMUs apart from a few who had just joined fishing activities at various beaches especially at Wakawaka. It was established that the mean annual lowest and highest number of people resident at the beaches was 33.64 people and 606.6 people respectively.

The results showed that the mean annual lowest and highest number of boats recorded by the beaches was 33.6 boats and 70.7 boats respectively.

The Key informant Interviews held with BMU chairmen revealed that some members of the BMU committees across beaches had moved or migrated. The study established that most of the stakeholders interviewed got involved in BMU decision making and activities. However, involvement of the stakeholders depended on individual commitment and activities they were involved in.

Most of the stakeholders interviewed had some knowledge about BMUs, that is, they were aware of the roles and responsibilities of BMUs but majority did not know the structure and membership of BMUs.

In conclusion therefore, the study revealed that many fishers considered that not moving or little moving provided better livelihoods than much moving.

MIGRATION OF FISHERFOLK AND ITS IMPACTS ON MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) is in the process of implementing a Fisheries Management Plan, working with and through its partner states of Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya. The implementation of this plan has received support from the European Union through the 'Implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan' (IFMP) project.

A key component of the Fisheries Management Plan is the introduction of a paradigm shift in fisheries management, moving away from 'command and control' approaches to community-based co-management, where fisheries communities work with government in managing the resource base. Central to the co-management approach is the formation of Beach Management Units (BMUs) on Lake Victoria.

The formation of BMUs has, however, failed to recognise the scale, nature and implications of the movement of stakeholders of fisheries communities for fisheries management and institutions. It is believed that people, particularly boat crew and traders, move around the lake, or into and from the lake, to take advantage of peak fishing seasons and to follow fish as they themselves migrate. Migration and mobility are therefore central to their livelihoods, providing better income and livelihood security. Evidence is, however, anecdotal and there are no reliable estimates of how many people migrate and which fisheries and communities are most affected.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE SURVEY

The movement of members of fisheries communities has potential impacts on a wide range of components of the Fisheries Management Plan for Lake Victoria. The movement of fisher community stakeholders is, therefore, very challenging to the IFMP and for the long-term operation and success of BMUs, if mechanisms are not developed to take account of migration and its implications. Everyone involved in fisheries at beach level is required to register with a BMU in the three East African countries. It is believed by some involved in fisheries management that the formation of BMUs will encourage, or require, migrating

fisherfolk to settle down. From a poverty reduction viewpoint, however, it is not clear what the implications of not moving would be for those who undertake this practice. The migration of fisherfolk may indeed be an important coping mechanism to adapt to changes in fish catch in one location. In addition to contributing positively to fisher folk livelihoods, migration may support the sharing of skills and knowledge around the lake, and provide business opportunities, such as renting rooms and selling food.

In addition to generating a better understanding of migration, the study was concerned with generating information and understanding mobility within fisheries, moving between landing sites, and being based at one site.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The overall objective/purpose of the study was to investigate the migratory movements of fishermen on Lake Victoria.

3.1 Specific objectives

i) To identify the causes of fishermen migration.

ii) To establish the patterns of migration.

iii) To determine seasonality of migration.

iv) To assess the impacts of migration on fisheries management and development.

3.2 Key Research Questions

i) Who moves, to where and how often?

ii) Do fishers move in the same directions and to the same landing sites each year, or are there variations?

iii) Are there key seasonal variations that guide movement of fishers? Are these variations predictable and are there patterns?

iv) What networks exist to facilitate migration and does the mobile phone network have a role in facilitating movement?

v) Are cultural norms and practices maintained by the migrating fisherfolk, or do they adapt their own and/or others, or agree upon new norms and practices?

vi) How does migration impact on the spread of technology, information, cultural practices and fishing methods?

vii) Is increasing mechanization (engines) reducing migration, as boats can go out further, reducing the need to move?

viii) Does seasonal migration sometimes become permanent?

ix) How those are left behind affected?

x) How does migration affect institutions involved in fisheries management and do people who move participate in decision-making at the landings to which they move?

xi) What are the gender concerns/dimensions of fisherfolk migration? Which women are left behind? Who moves and why? What are the implications?

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 Area of study

The study was conducted within the Lake Victoria communities in the districts of Busia, Bugiri, Mayuge, Jinja, Mukono, Kampala, Wakiso, Mpigi, Masaka, Rakai and Kalangala. A sample of landing sites was randomly selected from each district. The list of landing sites sampled is given in Appendix 1.

4.2 Study coverage and sampling

The study, which was conducted in Uganda, covered a range of beach types, defined by the species principally targeted, based on the Frame Survey data of 2004.. Nile perch beaches were further divided between those where the use of outboard engines predominated (NP-O) and those where paddles and sails were the main form of propulsion (NP-M).

4.3 Survey Design

The study largely employed three major research instruments. The instruments included; Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) for BMU chairmen, Fisheries Staff and Local Council (LCs) officials; Focus Group Discussion topic guides for stakeholder groups (Women, Crew and Boat owners); and Case Study checklists for a few selected informants from the stakeholder groups.

Topic guides for Focus Group Discussions were used to enable the facilitators to obtain the information required, whilst also encouraging participants to speak freely and offer information not thought of during the study design. Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques were also used to generate in-depth understanding of the nature of, and reasons for, migration. The PRA tools included:

i) Seasonal calendars: that showed 'seasonal' changes in fishing and where and why people moved during the course of a year.

ii) Mapping: stakeholder groups were asked to draw maps of the area they moved around, indicating where and when they moved, as well as the movement of fish.

iii) Ranking reasons for, and impacts of, migration: ranking was mainly used on the benefits and disadvantages of moving and not moving to different beaches by fishers. Both positive and negative impacts were examined.

iv) Historical timelines. Timelines were used to describe particular times in the past that were remembered for significant migration as well as specific events.

The Socio-economic profile of each participant in the focus group and case studies of individuals were also used, to generate a detailed picture of moving between beaches and the implications of, and opportunities for, livelihoods.

4.4 Data Collection

The study involved both secondary and primary data collection. A review of secondary data was undertaken using published materials, internet documents and other records. The secondary data was obtained from government institutions namely Department of Fisheries Resources (DFR), ministries, local government headquarters and public libraries.

Two survey teams worked simultaneously to collect the data and a total of 39 Focus Group discussions were held within 13 beaches distributed in 10 districts mentioned in 4.1 above. The data collection instruments are provided in the Appendices 2 to 7. In addition, direct observations were made at the landing sites. Data on the socio-economic profiles of individual stakeholders involved in Focus Group Discussions were collected using a semi-structured checklist.

4.5 Target groups

At each beach, interviews were conducted over two days with respondents from three stakeholder groups: boat owners, crew (barias), and fish traders/processors. The target sample for each group was 10-15 respondents, though this was not always achieved, especially at some smaller beaches. The team leaders were responsible for ensuring that targets were met and that interviews were timed to ensure coverage of different types of fishers that might land at different times. Respondents were selected at random on arrival.

4.6 Data analysis

Data for the socio-economic profile and KIIs with BMU chairmen was entered into an SPSS data file using agreed formats. Analysis of the quantitative information was performed using SPSS and output summaries were presented as frequencies and charts and for the numerical data; means, minimums and maximums were computed. The qualitative information in the KIIs was analyzed using agreed formats. Content analysis was used to analyze the information from the Focus Group discussions held with the different stakeholder groups from which a synthesis of results was obtained.

5.0 KEY FINDINGS

5.1 Socio-economic profiles of stakeholders

The socio-economic profiles of stakeholder groups were examined, to determine the characteristics of the people who regularly moved and of those who did not move so much. The data revealed that the mean age of the stakeholders was 33.64 years. The minimum age of stakeholders was 17 years and the maximum age was 83 years. *See Table 1below.* The young population, reflected by the low mean age observed, means that the people would be able to migrate as they are still looking forward to achieving more in the future. Older people would be resigned to what they already had and would not be interested in moving so much.

Table 1: Age of respondents

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
Age	333	17	83	33.64

Source: survey data, 2007

The data showed that respondents were born in various districts and belonged to different ethnic groups but the majority were of the Baganda tribe (44.1%), followed by Basoga (13.5%) and Samia (9.6%) respectively. The presence of fishers from different districts and ethnic groups means that movement has been common among the fishing communities.

The number of years spent in fisheries was examined. The mean number of years spent in fisheries by stakeholders was 6.6 years while the minimum period spent in fisheries was two months. The maximum number of years spent in fisheries by stakeholders was 62 years (Table 2).

Table 2: Respondents' years in fisheries

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
Years	245	.2	62.0	6.664

Source: survey data, 2007

The number of years at beach by stakeholder groups was investigated. The mean number of years spent at a beach was 8.0 years while some stakeholders had spent just one month at a

beach. *See Table 3 below.* Such a long mean period at the beach means that the migrants went and came back to their base beaches.

Table 3: Years spent at beach

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
Years	328	.1	52.0	8.06

Source: survey data, 2007

Most of the respondents interviewed belonged to BMUs except those who had just joined the industry in the various activities at the beaches. Belonging to BMUs means that the respondents planned to say at the base beaches.

The majority of the stakeholders (54.4%) interviewed reported that they were not moving between beaches while a significant number of them (45.6%) were involved in movement across beaches. *See Chart 1 below.*

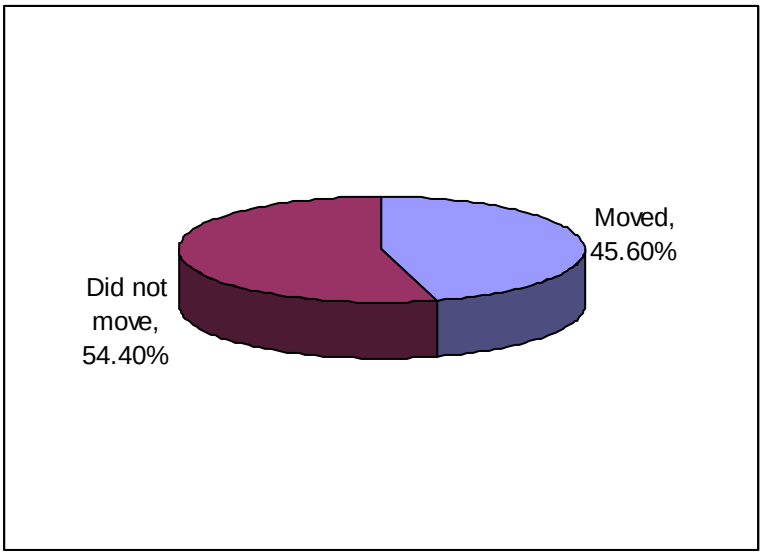


Chart 1: Movement of respondents
Source: survey data, 2007

5.2 Getting into fisheries

The survey assessed how stakeholders got into fisheries. Majority of the crew and boat owners reported that they were born within lake side communities and therefore they had

grown up with fishing as the major family activity. Others joined fisheries to supplement incomes from other activities carried out near the beaches among other factors. However, FGDs with women stakeholders revealed that they mostly moved in to fisheries in search for capital for businesses while others were basically involved in helping their husbands in post-harvest handling and processing. The case studies held also established that most of the people were not born at the landing sites where they were operating but they just migrated, some having come with friends and relatives to the landing site mainly in search for employment opportunities.

The survey investigated stakeholders' involvement in other livelihood activities other than fishing. Results indicated that majority of the boat owners and women were often engaged in other activities, like crop farming, petty trading, charcoal burning and brick making among others. However, most of the crew members were reportedly engaged in fishing only.

Movement from one activity to another depended on the season. The stakeholders were mainly engaged in crop farming during rainy seasons while fishing was predominantly practiced during dry seasons. Most of the stakeholders interviewed described movement as the seasonal shifting of fishers from one beach to another in search for fish and better prices. The boat owners and crew often moved between beaches while women hardly moved.

5.3 Causes of movement

The survey investigated the reasons for movement of fishermen between beaches on the lake. Focus Group Discussion (FGDs) results showed that majority of the boat owners and crew members moved from beach to beach in search for fish and better fish prices followed by the increased piracy and theft of fishing equipment including gears. The third highly ranked reason for fishers' movements was the need for acquiring new skills and knowledge.

Other reasons that were reported to have caused movement of fishers included; poor governance at some BMUs, debt burdens that forced fishermen to move and socio-cultural conflicts.

However, the women respondents argued that they mostly moved between beaches in search of market for fish products followed by family break-ups and also to look for male

counterparts among other issues. Case studies conducted also showed that people mainly moved in search for places where there was plenty of fish, with high marketability of fish including high prices. The times of the year when people moved varied for the different landing sites. In a nut shell, all months of the year were characterized by movements.

The survey investigated who made decisions on movement in the household. The results established that majority of the boat owners made their decisions without any consultations while most of the crew who were married consulted their female counterparts before movement or migration. The decision to move or migrate by women was rather varied. Those who were married reportedly reached a mutual agreement with their male counterparts while unmarried women decided to move on their own.

The FGDs also showed that boat owners moved with their crew members but not friends and/or relatives and that those who had migrated to other beaches had moved with their families. The survey assessed who was involved in movement or migration. The survey results revealed that, in most cases, both the married and unmarried boat owners and crew of the ages of 17 to 40 years and above moved between beaches while very few women (both married and unmarried) moved. In most cases, respondents reported that women rarely moved.

The survey investigated what happened when married stakeholders moved and it was revealed that in most cases some fishers got involved in extra marital relationships during movement although this depended on individual character.

The study assessed which stakeholders did not often move. The FGDs recognized that, most often, very old people, women and the children did not move between beaches. This was because the women had to stay behind to look after the children and the old people and also to do other activities especially farming. The children were considered too young to be involved in fishing.

5.4 Benefits and disadvantages of movement

The survey assessed the advantages and/or benefits of moving from beach to beach by fishers. It was discovered that most of the fisher stakeholders mainly moved for economic gains rather than social gains. Most fishers ranked the search for fish and better prices as the

foremost reason for movement followed by the need to learn new experiences, skills and technologies for fishing while the need to build friendships and partnerships across beaches was ranked third. The women stakeholders, however, revealed that they mostly moved to look for fish and markets with better prices since most of them were traders and processors.

The other reasons given for movement included; the search for better services like health facilities, schools etc. at other beaches, more time was devoted to fishing as they moved away from their families, the search for partners (relationships) at other beaches especially for women stakeholders.

The survey also assessed the costs and/or disadvantages of moving from beach to beach. Most respondents ranked; family disorders that often led to break up of families, theft of gears and other equipment at the new beaches and high risks of disease acquisition like HIV/Aids as the major costs/disadvantages of movement. The women and boat owners interviewed also argued that migration and movement of fishers had significantly rendered BMUs ineffective as some of the committee members had migrated. The other disadvantages of movement sighted by respondents included;

i) Increased costs of operations e.g. fuel costs

ii) Learning of bad behaviors from peers at other beaches

iii) Underdevelopment of home beaches as emphasis is put on new beaches

5.5 Benefits and disadvantages of not moving

The study assessed the benefits and disadvantages of not moving from beach to beach.

5.5.1 Benefits/Advantages

Staying in one place was considered an important factor towards ensuring stable homes, as husbands and wives liked partners who did not engage in movements from a landing site to another for whatever reasons. To the respondents, engagement into a lot of movements was associated with high chances of succumbing to adultery an act that would destabilize the homes. Having stable homes was vital for the women as they had the advantage to have children with one man/husband.

The respondents also argued that one was able to mobilize savings, make lucrative investments and accumulate wealth even if he/she did not move. Investments included: buying land, constructing houses for rent, livestock farming etc.

The stakeholders interviewed further argued that some landing sites had unworthy facilities e.g. toilets, health facilities, water. Staying in one place (beach) enabled them to enjoy some of the better facilities at particular landing sites. This would alleviate the spread of diseases morbidity and mortality. Staying in one place, therefore, could save one from all such dangers.

The FGDs held also elaborated that stakeholders were in a better position to access other services like credit only if he/she was a permanent resident on a particular landing site. The fishers also said that it actually becomes easy for them to form groups for saving money without doubt of any body running away with their money.

The stakeholders also revealed that it was easy to entrust people living permanently at the landing sites with leadership responsibilities like on BMU executives than migrant fishers, as communities were sure they would not be shifting away to other places.

5.5.2 Disadvantages

The main disadvantages of staying in one place were also elaborated. The FGDs showed that it was hard for fishermen who were confined to particular landing sites to make friends at other sites. Most stakeholders attached movement between beaches to making friends for the reasons of being supported in several aspects.

The FGDs also revealed that staying in one place (beach) deprived fishers of other opportunities like better markets for fish and improved fish prices. It was thus argued that fishers permanently residing at beaches had no option apart from selling their fish at the prevailing beach prices in the available markets, which were sometimes not adequate. In times of fish scarcity, one was not able to get enough fish to sell which affected their saving patterns.

The survey established that it was difficult for fishers staying in one place to acquire new skills and technologies that could otherwise have helped them to enhance and improve their

livelihoods. This reportedly retarded fishers' development due to lack of exposure to a wide range of experiences from other communities.

The respondents also said that during seasons of fish scarcity some fishers who did not move sometimes used up their capital due to operations being based on one landing site and failure to move to other landing sites to ensure business continuity.

Some of the landing sites did not have health facilities especially on islands where most fishermen moved to, which was very dangerous to their health because it put their lives at risk. Migration may aid to ensure that you finally stay at a landing site with better health and social facilitates.

5.6 Moving to new places

The movement of fishers was examined. From the survey, it was established that fishers mainly moved to the same places. This did not necessarily mean that individual movements could be determined. Most fishers from the different landing sites normally moved to the same landing sites but mainly to islands and the busiest beaches. It would not matter whether they moved in groups or not but the destinations were normally the same. People normally decided where to go depending on the scarcity of fish at their local landing sites and availability of fish at others. Some of the islands where fishers moved include: (Lolwe, Sagiti, Khaza, Yebe) in the eastern part of the lake; Buvuma and Kome islands in the central part of the lake; and Ssese islands in the southern part of the lake and to the busy landing sites.

The key informant interviews with BMU chairs also revealed that majority (81.8%) of the BMU chairmen knew where their fishers came from while very few (18.2%) did not as depicted by Table 4 below.

Table 4: Whether BMU chairmen knew fishers' origins

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	9	81.8%
No	2	18.2%
Total	11	100.0%

Source: survey data, 2007

The survey assessed the rules and regulations of movement for BMUs. The data established that there were rules and regulations that governed migrant fishers at the destination beaches. Some of the major rules and regulations included the following;

i) Registering with BMUs
ii) Observing general cleanliness at the beach
iii) No use of illegal gears and methods
iv) No landing in ungazetted areas and/or beaches
v) Observing the rules and adopting the beach culture

It was also established during the study that the rules and regulations for beaches were developed through consultative processes that followed a series of exercises as below:

i) Development of by-laws/ordinances/rules by the BMU committees during committee meetings.
ii) Consensus about and adoption of the rules during BMU general assemblies.
iii) Implementation of the rules within the fisher communities as binding obligations.

5.6.1 Movement of boats

Boats did not normally go out from landing sites sometimes of the year especially seasons characterized by high levels of catches. This meant that for most times/seasons when there is plenty of fish at a landing site, boats normally did not go out of local landing sites.

5.6.2 Problems encountered during movement

The problems encountered during movements of fishers were examined. In the FGDs with the fishers, more than half of them reported that they did not face any conflicts with police or any authority as long as one was doing legitimate work. For the other few, the following problems were identified:

a) They encountered people who pretended to be patrol officers who further confiscated fishers' legal and illegal fishers' gears by false pretence.

b) Failure by the crew to identify the fish breeding grounds at the destined landing sites for which they would find themselves conflicting with the patrol teams for fishing in such areas.

c) Hatred from inhabitants, some of which would lead to witchcraft tendencies especially when they thought that one was making "too much" profits compared to them.

d) Failure to secure accommodation at the destined landing sites due to too many fishers flooding in to landing sites to exploit fish boom season.

e) Failure to secure transfer letters due to the high costs and also not being accepted in the new/destined BMU.

f) Theft of gears and personal belongings by stakeholders at the destined landing site. They usually hid them and waited for the owners to go back to their beaches of origin and then they would begin using such gears or property.

g) Others faced a problem of paying too much money to the BMUs or/and LCs of the destined landing sites whom they claimed charged them a lot of money.

5.7 The pattern of fishers' movements

The survey examined the patterns of movement of fishermen. The People who moved in most cases kept on moving from year to year, especially the crew. FGDs held with women revealed that some of the women who often moved among beaches had other intentions like sex trading. Fishers normally moved in search for work but for those who finally settled down in one place, did it due to reduced capital, old age, engagement in a marriage relationship, and engagement in permanent work among others. Fishers mainly moved due to variations in fish catches, among other considerations.

The key informant interviews held with BMU chairmen showed that there were established patterns of movement of fishermen (Table 5). Almost all the respondents did not move to other water bodies or countries except for a few. Those who moved said that they knew just a few regulations but mostly moved to visit friends.

Table 5: Whether there was a pattern of movement of fishermen

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	6	54.5%
No	5	45.5%
Total	11	100.0%

Source: survey data, 2007

The Focus Group Discussions and most of the Key Informant interviews held revealed that fisher movements followed a rather complex pattern as movement varied among beaches. In general, however, movement of fishermen mainly depended on relative availability of fish, economic activities, social facilities and infrastructure at beaches among other factors.

The results from the FGDs further revealed that the scale of movement of fishers had significantly reduced as compared to the times before. This was reportedly because most fishers were now able to access information about availability of fish at various beaches with the introduction of new technology (mobile phones), which reduced unnecessary movements on the lake. The other reasons included; the increase in other livelihood activities by fishers and the general scarcity of fish in the lake. However, some few respondents said that movement of fishers had increased due to the decline in fish stocks especially on mainland beaches compared to islands. This explains why movements were more to islands.

The seasonality and frequency of fisher movements was examined. The data revealed that fishers moved often during seasons of scarcity of fish at particular beaches. The movement of fishers occurred virtually all year round although significant movements were reported during periods of scarcity of fish at beaches. The fishers moved most to beaches were fish catches were relatively high especially within the islands. The time spent at destined landing sites varied, but mainly ranged between two weeks to three months although sometimes it went less or beyond that time. The case studies conducted further revealed that fishers tended to stay at the destined landing sites mainly for a period of two weeks to three months. Most of the respondents who admitted to having been moving had done it for a period ranging from one to fifteen years.

Most of the respondents knew about the variations in fish catches. Most of the fishers argued that they had established the movement of fish on the lake before, which had facilitated their movement between beaches but that it was now hard to know the pattern due to the changes in the bio-diversity of the lake and the environment. However, most of the stakeholders said that they used mobile phones to get communication on places /beaches where plenty of fish were available. To others they came to know about availability of fish at particular beaches from friends.

The acquisition of transfer letters by mobile fishers was examined. Most of the respondents interviewed agreed that it was a requirement for every one moving to get transfer letters from either BMU or LC chairpersons. The FGDs with crew and boat owners confirmed that most of them got transfer letters before movement. Those who were found without them at the destination beaches were asked to get the letters from their former BMUs. The majority of stakeholders said that the transfer letters were mainly issued by BMUs and LC officials within the landing site communities. However, it was noted that a significant number of stakeholders did move without transfer letters across beaches and these included fishers who practiced illegal fishing on the lake and others did not care about the way they fished because they had been fishing for a long time. Most of the women stakeholders did not get transfer letters whenever they moved.

The Key Informant Interviews held with BMU chairmen also revealed that the majority (91.7%) of the BMU chairmen issued transfer letters to all the moving and migrant fishers who requested for the letters. However, FGDs revealed that the majority of those who moved and/or migrated rarely moved along with the transfer letters. The Table 6 below shows the responses of BMU chairmen on whether they issued transfer letters.

Table 6: BMU Chairmen who always issued transfer letters

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	11	91.7%
No	1	8.3%
Total	12	100.0%

Source: survey data, 2007

The BMU chairmen also said that the transfer letters documented issues like; names of fishers, the reasons for movement, the description (type and number) of equipment the stakeholder(s) was moving or migrating with, character and destination of the migrant as well as the recommendations among others.

The majority (75%) of the BMU chairmen interviewed said that they kept records for people who stayed temporarily at the beaches while 25% of them did not as depicted in the Table 7 below. These records included information on transfer letters issued among other things.

Table 7: Whether BMU Chairmen kept records on immigrants

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	9	75.0%
No	3	25.0%
Total	12	100.0%

Source: survey data, 2007

The survey investigated whether BMUs charged fees for transfer letters. The results showed that majority (58.3) of the BMU chairmen interviewed reported that they did not charge fees for transfer letters while 41.7% of the chairmen charged fees. *See Chart 2 below:*

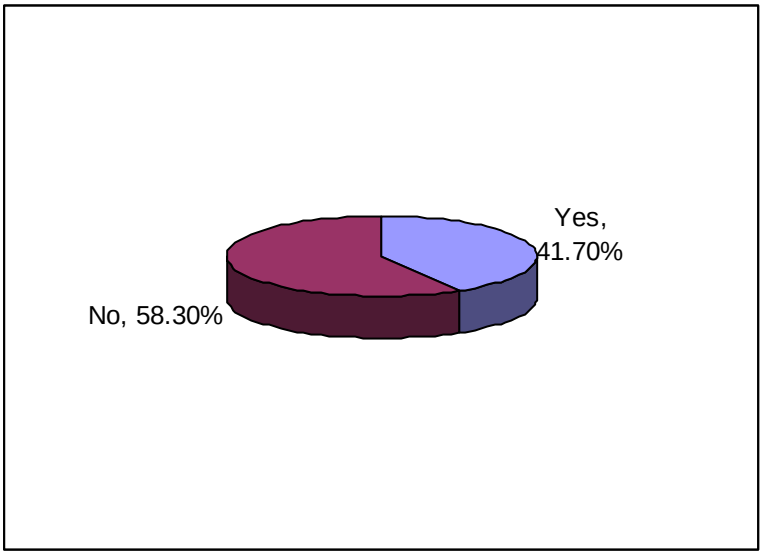


Chart 2: Whether transfer letter fees were charged
Source: survey data, 2007

The amount of fees charged for transfer letters varied from beach to beach. The FGDs and key informant interviews showed that the fee charged for the transfer letters ranged between Uganda Shillings (UShs) 500 to 5,000.

The key informant interviews revealed that most (91.7%) of the BMUs usually asked for transfer letters from the people who temporarily stayed at the beaches to carry out some fishing activities but belonged to other BMUs while others (8.3%) did not. *See Table 8 below*

Table 8: Whether letters were required from temporary fishers who belonged to other beaches

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	11	91.7%
No	1	8.3%
Total	12	100.0%

Source: survey data, 2007

The survey investigated the actions that various beaches implemented on the immigrants or those who moved without transfer letters. The actions considered by most BMUs were; sending them back for the transfer letters (36.4%), followed by chasing them away (18.2%) and giving them a grace period to produce the letters (18.2%). *See Table 9 below.*

Table 9: Actions taken if people don't have transfer letters

	Frequency	Percent
Give them a grace period to provide them	2	18.2%
Send them back for letters	4	36.4%
Allow them to introduce themselves	1	9.1%
Report them to police and FO	1	9.1%
Chase them away	2	18.2%
Communicate with beach where he/she come from	1	9.1%
Total	11	100.0%

Source: survey data, 2007

The survey also investigated whether temporary processors/traders were charged some money by some beaches. The results showed that majority of the BMUs (58.3%) charged fees for temporary trading and processing (Table 10).

Table 10: Whether temporary traders/processors were charged by BMUs

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	7	58.3%
No	5	41.7%
Total	12	100.0%

Source: survey data, 2007

The fees charged comprised of registration fees, membership fees and fish movement fees. The fees were paid to either the BMUs or the L.C.1 offices within the beach and they ranged from UShs 1,000 to 5,000 depending on the beach. The fees were meant to support activities of LCs and /or BMUs. For some landing sites, such charges were not charged.

On arrival at the new landing sites, fishers normally reported to the BMU and/or LC chairpersons. At introduction to the relevant authorities, transfer letters would be presented and for those without them, they would pay a pre-determined fee. One of the reasons why some migrants did not commit themselves to moving along with transfer letters was that they were already familiar with the leaders of the destination beaches, which they commonly went to. However, they could also present voters cards or other forms of identification.

For the case of accommodation, the boat owners sometimes provided for their crew who could not afford. The mobile fishers normally slept in rented houses while some of them joined other fishers who had stayed for a longer time at the destination landing sites. Some fishers especially crew said that they did not need accommodation as they did most of their fishing in the night.

The study established that it was unusual for people of the same ethnic groups/nationalities to stay together. Those who did so did it not necessarily because of being of the same ethnic groups but for other reasons like belonging to one boat owner, originating from the same landing site among others.

On the whole, people at the destination landing sites were hospitable. A few women reported that other women on such landing sites were skeptical about them (women immigrants) falling in love with their husbands. This made the migrations/movements of women a threat to women of the receiving landing sites.

Most respondents had their home bases at the landing sites where they mainly operated. The minority who had their homes away from the lake normally sent money/went to visit their families at different time intervals ranging between one to four weeks. The money that was sent home was normally used for family expenditures with some being put in investments like buying land and cattle among others. Some women reported that there were some irresponsible men who forgot all about their families and, therefore, did not bother to send home some money for a very long time. Some women also engaged in some income generating activities like crop farming which they could depend on just in case there was no money from a husband, and this would supplement the household incomes.

5.8 Mobile Phones and fisher's mobility

The effect of mobile phones on fishers' movements was investigated. In most cases, the respondents in the three stakeholder groups (boat owners, crew members and women) were in agreement that mobile phones helped them to keep in touch with people at home (relatives) during movement and also for current information on fisheries businesses. They used the phones mostly to get information on availability of fish at other beaches, markets for fish, locating other beaches on the lake and price variations within different fish markets. The women stakeholders also stressed that mobile phones had enabled them link with their customers. In general, therefore, mobile phones had significantly reduced unnecessary movements of fishers between beaches.

5.9 Sickness of mobile fishers

The health facilities available at landing beaches are among the most important aspects considered during movement. The survey investigated what happened when people (like the new fishers at beaches) got sick.

The respondents reported that in most cases new fishers at beaches accessed treatment from the available health facilities at the beaches. Such facilities ranged from health centres, drug kiosks, clinics, dispensaries and mobile clinics, depending on the landing site. The crew and boat owners explained that in case the sickness became worse, arrangements were made to transport the sick people to their home beaches or referral health units for further treatment. Fishers also reported that in the event of death of a fisherman, arrangements were done by fellow fishers to burry the dead at his/her ancestral home but where his/her origin could not be established, they were buried at the landing site.

5.10 Employment/income

The survey investigated the employment and income issues of the various stakeholders.

5.10.1 Crew members

The study revealed that most of the crew members approached boat owners for work. The others explained that they were recruited by their relatives who were boat owners while some of them had got the jobs through friends. However, boat owners recruited the crew depending on their skills and experience, trustworthiness and hard work among other factors.

5.10.2 Women stakeholders and incomes

The income activities of women at landing sites were assessed. The interviews established that most women were engaged in income generating activities like fish trading, cultivation, petty trading, fish processing and charcoal burning. Some of the women owned hair saloons, hotels and drug kiosks from which they earned a living while others were prostitutes.

5.10.3 Movement of boats

The frequency of movement of boats was investigated. Both the crew and boat owners explained that boats moved as well as fishers. It was also established that in most cases, boat owners moved with their crewmembers on their boats but sometimes the crew moved alone in search for better jobs on other landing sites thus leaving their 'bosses'-*boat owners* on their own.

5.11 Planning during low seasons

The livelihoods of fishers depended on the activities they were engaged in. The survey investigated whether fisher stakeholders planned during low seasons. The FGDs revealed that most of the crew did not plan for low seasons, reportedly due to the fact that they could access the lake to fish anytime. However, very few crew members reported saving some of their earnings while others were engaged in other activities like livestock rearing and casual labour.

The majority of the boat owners said that they planned for low seasons while only a few said they did not. Among the strategies adopted in were:

- Crop farming
- Livestock rearing
- Other businesses
- Continuation with fishing
- Reduction on their expenses

The wages and employment conditions of boat crew were investigated. The study indicated that wages of the boat crew varied across landing sites but the main system of payment was the percentage share system which was standard. In most cases, crew members received the same percentage whether in high or low seasons. However, if the catch was very poor to the extent that proceeds could not be shared, the boat owners reportedly gave all the proceeds to their crew members after cost deductions.

5.12 Fish trade by migrant fishers

Fish trade by migrant fishers was assessed. FGDs showed that migrant fishers sold their fish in the same way like other fishers. They, therefore, accessed the same markets for fish but information about prices and markets was usually got from traders who had stayed at some beaches for sometime.

5.13 Access to services

The level of access to services around landing beaches and access to information about such services was investigated. It was revealed that all the three stakeholder groups mostly accessed information from the radios, fisheries officers and BMU leaders. Information on health was accessed through district health inspectors, NGOs and community trainers. The other means of accessing information on services available at the beaches included; news papers, mobile phones, sign posts, LC officials and fellow fishers.

All the stakeholder groups reported that it was difficult to access health services as there were insufficient health units with adequate drugs. Respondents said that they accessed treatment from private clinics and drug kiosks which were expensive and sometimes sold expired drugs. The survey also revealed that some respondents had access to local saving and credit facilities (SACCOs), and village schemes which fishers could access but information on savings and credit facilities was not widely known.

Most of the respondents needed information about savings and credit schemes, HIV/AIDS, water and sanitation awareness and health while the women stakeholders needed information on fish business management in particular.

The Key Informant Interviews also revealed that migration significantly affected provision of services at beaches as shown in Table 11 below.

Table 11: Whether migration affected provision of services

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	8	66.7%
No	4	33.3%
Total	12	100.0%

Source: survey data, 2007

Results from Key Informant Interviews showed that migration and movement of fishermen had negatively impacted on social and infrastructural development, service provision and utilization, revenue collection and the general performance of BMUs. It was believed that movement and/or migration of fishers from beaches had deprived some beaches of national

developments like improvement of access roads to and construction of health facilities at beaches, as the number of people reduced at these beaches.

5.14 Relationships with women

The survey investigated the relationship of women and the migrant fishers. Both the crew and the boat owners reported that they often left their women behind during movements. They always went to work for their families and then brought the money back so there was no need to move with the families including women. The women only moved with their husbands when they were required to help in fish processing and trading and this was predominant among mukene fishers. However, some women confessed to having followed their husbands at a particular point while others just moved on their own.

The social life of migrant fishers was also assessed. Both the crew and boat owners often got involved in other relationships although they were mainly temporary in nature. Focus Group Discussions also revealed that the number of partners depended on individuals but most of the fishers often got involved with several women but very few of them reported to have traveled with those other women. It was also established that some fishers who moved between beaches got involved in relationships with women who were artisanal food vendors and hoteliers at the beaches. The implication was that the incidence of disease like HIV/Aids among fishers and family disorders increased.

5.15 Beach Management Units

The survey assessed the status of fisherfolk migration on fisheries management and development. The survey results revealed that most of the stakeholders interviewed were members of BMUs apart from a few who had just joined fishing activities at various beaches especially at Wakawaka landing beach.

The data from the Key Informant Interviews held with BMU chairmen showed that on average, BMUs had registered about 527 people as per Table 12 below.

Table 12: Number of people registered

Number	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
11	138.00	1358.00	527.00

Source: survey data, 2007

The mean number of boats registered by BMUs was 69 boats. The minimum number of boats registered was 40 boats while the maximum was 163 boats.

The number of people annually residing at beaches was examined. It was established that the mean annual lowest and highest number of people residing at the beaches was 33.64 people and 606.6 people respectively. The lowest numbers of people residing at beaches were recorded mainly in January, May and December while the highest numbers were recorded in the month of April. It can be seen that the months in which the lowest number of people resident at beaches actually were those months in which migration was at its peak at most of the beaches.

The number of boats recorded in a year at beaches was examined. The results showed that the mean annual lowest and highest number of boats recorded by the beaches was 33.6 boats and 70.7 boats respectively. The lowest number of boats ever recorded by the beaches was 3 boats while the highest number of boats ever recorded by beaches was 180 boats.

The time spent by migrant fishers at a beach was also examined. The data revealed that the majority of migrant stakeholders moved temporarily for about 1-2 months while just a few of them moved for a long time (a year and over). The frequency of movement shows that migration among fishermen had reduced due to several factors that included availability of mobile phones that eased access to information between beaches.

The number of times in a year temporary residents flocked a particular beach was examined. The data revealed that the highest number temporary residents flocked a beach in a year was once a year (50%) followed by twice a year (37.5%) (Chart 3).

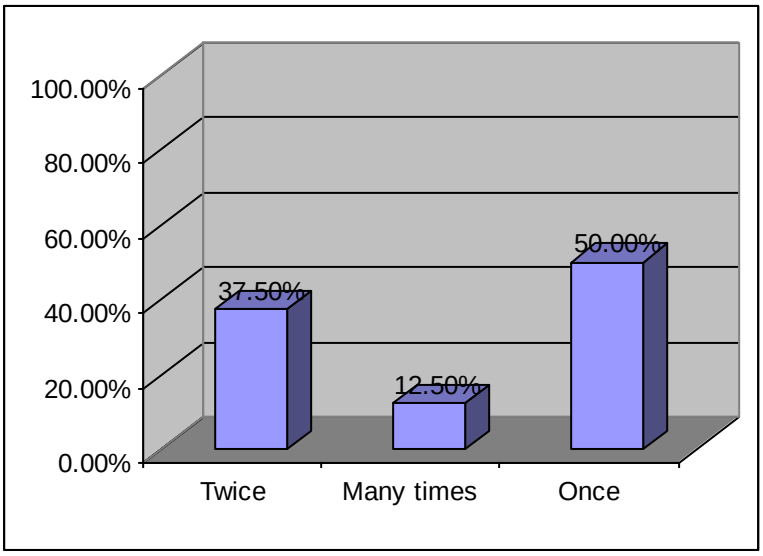


Chart 3: Number of times in a year temporary residents flock a beach

Source: survey data, 2007

The reasons for the massive movement of temporary residents at a beach were varied by beach and included;

- Persistent changes in weather on the lake
- High catches recorded at particular beaches on the lake
- Holidays in the year e.g. Christmas and Easter.

The survey also investigated the movement/migration of BMU committee members. The Key Informant Interviews held with BMU chairmen revealed that some members of the BMU committees had moved or migrated. The people on the executive committees who had migrated most were the committee members followed by the treasurers and the chairmen respectively. Migration and/or movement of BMU committee members had significantly affected fisheries management and development at the affected beaches.

It was also revealed that most (54.5%) of the BMU committee members who had moved or migrated had had training in fisheries related issues and had told other members about the training (Table 13).

Table 13: Whether committee members received training

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	6	54.5%
No	5	45.5%
Total	11	100.0%

Source: survey data, 2007

The responses by other committee members, however, varied. Some of them especially at Katosi Landing Beach, said that they had not filled the positions of those who had left while at Wakawaka, the other members had reported the matter to the District Fisheries Officer. Other beaches had assigned the roles of the departed members among themselves while some had locally trained others on several responsibilities.

5.16 BMU Decision making and activities

Involvement in BMU decision making and activities by stakeholders was examined. The survey established that most of the stakeholders interviewed got involved in BMU decision making and activities. However, involvement of the stakeholders depended on individual commitment and activities involved in. Fishers interviewed said that they did not attend committee meetings but rather attended general assembly meetings as and when organized. However, most of the women interviewed reported that they rarely participated in such meetings and activities because they had household chores to attend to as well as other livelihood activities especially crop farming. It was also revealed through the Key Informant Interviews that temporary residents who were involved in fisheries activities also had to attend BMU meetings.

5.17 Knowledge on BMUs

The knowledge of stakeholders about BMUs was assessed. Survey results indicated that most of the stakeholders interviewed had some knowledge about BMUs. Most fishers were aware of the roles and responsibilities of BMUs but majority did not know the structure and membership of BMUs. The roles of BMUs described by the stakeholders included:

- It is the body charged with supporting the Fisheries Department in managing the lake fisheries in Uganda.
- It helps solve conflicts amongst fishermen within fishing communities.
- It is a structure that involves locals (fishers) in decision making processes for beach management and planning.

5.18 Belonging to multi-BMUs

The survey investigated whether respondents belonged to BMU committees of other BMUs. All the respondents reported that no one belonged to a committee of another BMU. However, those committee members who had left particular BMUs had been replaced by others while other positions had been left vacant in some BMUs. However, some women expressed concern over inadequate representation on the BMU committees.

5.19 Stakeholder assessment of migration and movements

Migration in and out or movement between beaches by fishers was assessed during the study. The researchers weighed both the advantages and disadvantages of movement/migration and the benefits and disadvantages of not moving and set out to answer the question of:

"Could people move less, or not move at all, and still have good livelihoods?"

The responses were rather varied but most of the stakeholders argued that the net effect of movement or migration of fishermen was negative. In most cases, movement and/or migration of fishermen between beaches was considered as a livelihood strategy, providing safety nets for the inadequate supply of fish at some beaches within a fishing season. Fishers relied on other beaches for fish supplies to improve on their incomes. However, most fishers usually reported losses as expected benefits of movement were rarely realized.

In conclusion therefore, the study established that if fishers moved less or did not move at all, they would have better livelihoods than if they moved. This would, however, apply if certain conditions were addressed, namely effective training of fisheries stakeholders, involvement and support of stakeholders in fisheries management and good political will across beaches.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Conclusions

The age of stakeholders varied but the mean age of was 33.64 years. Such youthful communities would be more interested in moving in search for better livelihoods than a community of aged people. The stakeholders interviewed were born in various districts and belonged to different ethnic groups but the majority were of the Baganda tribe, followed by Basoga and Samia respectively. This diversity n community composition could be explained in the migration of members from different districts and ethnic groups.

The study examined stakeholders of different categories and groups, namely boat owners, crew members and women with varied age categories. Stakeholders had spent an average of 8.0 years at beach and majority (45.6%) had at least moved to other beaches by the time of the survey.

Movement from one activity to another was said to depend on the season. The boat owners and crew often moved between beaches while women hardly moved. Most of the stakeholders interviewed described movement as the seasonal shifting of fishers from one beach to another. The search for fish and better prices were ranked the foremost reasons for movement, followed by the need to learn new experiences, skills and technologies for fishing while the need to build friendships and partnerships across beaches was ranked third.

Most of the stakeholders argued that staying on one beach was advantageous mainly because it did not cause any family disorders and fishers were able to attend to other investments and livelihood activities. The disadvantages of staying on one beach, on the other hand, included denial of other opportunities like better markets for fish and improved fish prices, lack of acquisition of other skills and ways of doing things.

Fisher movements followed a rather complex pattern as movements varied among beaches. Most fishers from the different landing sites normally moved to same landing sites, mostly to islands and the busy beaches. People who moved usually kept moving over years especially the crew.

Fishers normally reported to BMUs and/or LC chairpersons on arrival at other beaches. At introduction to the relevant authorities, transfer letters would be presented and for those without them, they could be made to pay a pre-determined fees, in the case of some beaches.

Mobile phones had significantly reduced fisher movements as information on fisheries businesses and communication with family members and relatives was possible.

The new fishers at beaches accessed treatment from the available health facilities with in the beach communities. Such facilities ranged from health centres, drug kiosks, clinics, dispensaries, mobile clinics depending on the landing site.

The mean annual lowest and highest number of people resident at the beaches were 33.64 and 606.6 people respectively. The mean annual lowest and highest number of boats recorded by the beaches was 33.6 boats and 70.7 boats respectively. The wide ranges of people and boats showed the scale of movements among fishers with their boats.

The majority of stakeholders interviewed were members of BMUs apart from a few who had just joined fishing activities at various beaches especially at Wakawaka landing beach. Some members of the BMU committees at the beaches visited had moved or migrated and these included chairmen, treasurers and committee members. Majority of the stakeholders revealed that movement and migration of committee members had affected functioning of BMUs. Most of the stakeholders interviewed were involved in BMU decision making and activities. However, involvement of the stakeholders depended on individual commitment and activities involved in. Most of the stakeholders had some knowledge about BMUs, they were also aware of the roles and responsibilities of BMUs but majority did not know the structure and membership to BMUs.

Finally, the survey established that fishers would have better livelihoods if they moved less or did not move at all.

6.2 Recommendations

It is recommended that continuous monitoring of the migratory status of fishermen on Lake Victoria be undertaken to guide fisheries planning and management.

Government should emphasize capacity building in form of training of fishers and other stakeholders about livelihood skills in order to minimize migration and its related impacts on fisheries management.

Social facilities and infrastructure at landing sites should be improved in order to strengthen the livelihood activities of fishers and reduce the need for migration.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Timeline for Selected landing sites

Time line for Katosi

2003- Fish ban
2004- Comprehensive medical check up after suspecting that so many people had Bilharzia
2005- Construction of fish slab and dysentery outbreak

Timeline for Maganda Sagiti

2003- Health center construction
2004- Construction of Government Primary school
2005- BMU elections
2007- Killed crocodile

Timeline for Lwanika

1993 to 1994- Acute Smuggling of goods from Kenya to Uganda and vise versa
1995-96- Acute out-migrations of people from Lwanika due to instituting stringent measures on smuggling
1998- Serious cholera outbreak that lead to out migration from Lwanika
2000- Construction of school building by LVEMP
2001- Construction of borehole
2006- Tap water use launched by ECOVIC and ecosan toilet launched

Timeline for Kamaliba

1997- Tsunami made people to shift a distance away from the lake
2001- Kamaliba landing site private owner was forced to liberalise and allow people to build houses but with resentment
2005- BMU was elected, toilet was constructed

Timeline for Kiziru landing site

2001- People were forcefully chased from sanga island-were canned and came and settled at Kiziru
2003- Crocodile ate one person called Baker-ate his leg and crippled him
2003/4- Wembley caned and shot people for indulging in illegal fishery related activities
2007- Got portable water and NAPE constructed toilet

Time line for Wakawaka

1997-98- Acute cholera outbreak due to tsunami
2000- Smuggling fuel, cigarettes etc from Kenya to Uganda
Constructed health clinic.
2002- URA, stopped the smuggling by canning people involved
2003- constructed a government primary school
Wembley caned people on stomachs in a bid to discourage illegal fishing
2005- People were displaced due to construction of ice plant.
Elections of BMUs
2006- Houses got burnt due to unknown reasons- believed to have been spirits

Appendix 2: List of beaches sampled

List of Beaches Sampled

Beaches	Frequency	Percent
Maruba	9	2.7
Wakawaka	20	6.0
Lwanika	27	8.1
Kiziro	34	10.2
Katosi	36	10.8
Lwamunyu	31	9.3
Kamaliba	24	7.2
Maganda	8	2.4
Busuyi	16	4.8
Buwagajjo	14	4.2
Namirembe	37	11.1
Kivunza	42	12.6
Mweena	35	10.5
Total	333	100.0

Appendix 3:

KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW WITH BMU CHAIR

Name of landing site …… Name of BMU……

Name of interviewer …… Date ……

1. Are records kept of people who leave the landing site for another landing site?

   Yes = 1
   No = 2

2. Do you issue transfer letters for people who want to move?

   Yes = 1
   No = 2

3. If yes, what do they say (briefly)?

……

……

……

4. If no, why not?

……

……

……

5. If you do issue transfer letters, do you charge a fee?

   Yes = 1
   No = 2

6. If yes, how much is the fee? …….

7. Are records kept of people who stay temporarily at the landing site but are registered with another BMU?

   Yes = 1
   No = 2

8. Do you require people who stay here temporarily to fish or process/trade fish to have a letter from another BMU?

   Yes = 1

No = 2

9. Why yes/ why not?

……

……

……

10. What do you do if people do not have a letter?

……

……

11. Are people who come to fish or process/trade fish here temporarily required to pay some money?

Yes = 1
No = 2

12. If yes, who to and how much (one off payment?)?

……

……

13. Number of people registered with BMU …….

14. Number of boats registered with BMU …….

15. Lowest number of people residing here in a year……. Which month? ……

16. Highest number of people residing here in a year……. Which month? ……

17. Lowest number of boats in a year……. Which month? ……..

18. Highest number of boats in a year……. Which month? ……..

19. Who do people who want to stay at a landing site report to when they come? *Circle all that apply.*

Village Chair/LC1/Sub-Chief = 1
BMU Chair = 2
Other (specify) = 3

……

20. How long do most people stay? …… months

21. How many times a year does the landing site have an influx of temporary residents?

    …….

22. Why this number and which months do they arrive in (usually)?

    ……

    ……

23. Do you know where people come from?

    Yes = 1
    No = 2

24. Is there any pattern to movements in and out? (i.e. timing and where they come from and go to)

    Yes = 1
    No = 2

25. If yes, what are the patterns?

……

……

……

26. Does migration affect the provision of services at the landing site?

    Yes = 1
    No = 2

27. If yes, how?

……

……

……

28. Where do 'migrants' stay?

    They construct their own temporary dwellings = 1
    They rent rooms = 2
    Construct own dwelling and rent rooms = 3
    Other (specify) = 4 ……

29. Are there any rules or customs at this landing site about people coming to stay and work here?

Yes = 1
No = 2

30. If yes, what are the rules?

……

……

……

31. How and why were those rules made?

……

……

……

32. What happens if a temporary resident gets sick or dies?

……

……

……

The BMU

33. Have any members of the BMU Committee migrated?

Yes = 1
No = 2

34. How many months after they were elected did they move?

……..

35. How many moved? …….

36. Have any of the following move? *Circle all that apply.*

Chair = 1
Treasurer = 2
Secretary = 3

37. Did any of the members that have moved receive training from the fisheries department?

Yes = 1

No = 2

38. If yes, did they tell other members about the training?

Yes = 1
No = 2

39. If yes, what?

……

……

40. What did the remaining members of the BMU Committee do?

……

……

……

41. Do temporary residents at the landing site attend BMU Assembly meetings?

Yes = 1
No = 2

42. How does the movement of fisherfolk affect revenue at the beach?

……

……

……

43. Do you have any other comments to make about people moving between landing sites and BMUs?

……

……

……

Appendix 4:

Implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan
Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization

Mobile Fishers: the scale and impact of the movement of fishers on fisheries management in Lake Victoria

KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW

Name of landing site …… Name of BMU……

Name of interviewer …… Date ……

Interviewee: Circle Fisheries officer/assistant

Village Chair/Councillor

VEO/Sub-Chief

1. Are you aware of people moving into and out of this landing site?

2. If yes, can you please tell me what you know about the movement of fisherfolk?
   For fisheries staff, movement within the area of their responsibility.

3. What impacts do you think the movement of fisherfolk has on life at the landing site (good and bad)?

4. What is the access to services (health, education, markets, etc.) like at this landing site and what is it like for people who move here temporarily?

Appendix 5:

Implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan
Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization

Mobile Fishers: the scale and impact of the movement of fishers on fisheries management in Lake Victoria

FOCUS GROUP TOPIC GUIDE: MEN (CREW AND BOAT OWNERS)

March 2007

Purpose of the research
The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization is carrying out research around the lake to have a better understanding of how and why people move around the lake within fisheries. The information will be used to guide fisheries management and to help government and NGOs provide better services to the fishing communities.

Use of topic guide
Use the topic guide to guide the discussion, keeping it focused, but not sticking rigidly to the guide, i.e. the questions may not be asked word for word, or in the order given, but the discussion should address the questions as far as possible.

Questions to guide discussion

Getting into fisheries
1. How did you all get into fisheries? E.g. family are in fisheries, unemployment, etc.
2. Do people move in and out of fishing? i.e. combine fishing with agricultural (own land or labour?), petty trading, etc.? What do people turn to?

Moving to new places
3. Why do you think that people move from place to place within fisheries?

IDENTIFYING AND RANKING REASONS

4. Who decides who moves (within a household?) i.e. was it your decision to move? Household or individual decision to move?
5. Do people move with friends/family/partner/on their own?
6. Who moves? Age, marital status (and what happens if they are married?) etc.
7. Who does not move and why?
8. What are the benefits of moving from place to place?
9. What are the costs/disadvantages of moving from place to place?
10. What are the advantages and disadvantages of staying in one place?

IDENTIFYING AND RANKING BENEFITS AND DISADVANTAGES OF MOVING AND NOT MOVING

11. Do people keep moving over years, or do they sometimes stay in one place?
12. When do people move? Do people move at roughly the same times each year? How long do people tend to stay in one place?

13. Are there some times of the year that boats do not go out from this landing site (how many months)?

CALENDAR ACTIVITY

Mapping

14. Where do people go? Same places or different?
15. How far do people move to?
16. Do they know the movements of the fish, or is there a lot of variation over time?

MAPPING MOVEMENT OF FISHERFOLK AND FISH

17. Do people move to other water bodies and/or other countries? Why?
18. If people move to other countries, do they know the fisheries regulations in that country?

Staying somewhere temporarily

19. What happens when you move to a new beach? i.e. government and BMU leadership, transfer letters, report to whom, permission needed, pay any fees (to whom, how much, what for), housing, employment, etc.
20. Do people stay together? With same ethnic groups/nationalities? How much are people who move integrated into the host community?
21. Do people have a home base – in the fisheries or away from the lake? How often do people go home and what links do they have with home? Do they send money home? Use money for investment?
22. Do people encounter any conflict or problems when they move? Interaction with government officers, politicians and police?
23. Have mobile phones made any difference to the mobility of fisherfolk?
24. What happens if people get sick?

Employment/income

25. How do boat crew get employed by a boat owner?
26. Do boats move as well as fishers?
27. Do boat owners/crew/traders/processors plan for low seasons? e.g. boat owners know that they won't send the boat out so often, but do they plan for this financially?
28. Do migrant crew accept lower 'wages' or poorer employment conditions that others?
29. How do migrant fishers sell their fish?

Access to services

30. Access to services – where do they get information from? Is it difficult to get good access to health services? Savings and credit?

Relationships with women

31. If men move without their wife/wives/partners, do they get relationships with other women?
32. Do they live with those women temporarily?
33. One woman or many women?
34. Do women travel around with the men?
35. What about women who cook for the men?

BMUs

36. Are the people present members of BMUs?
37. Do the people who move get transfer letters?
38. Do they get involved in BMU decision-making and activities?
39. What do they know about BMUs?
40. Does anyone belong to a Committee of another BMU? If yes, what happens when they are not there?

Specific questions for women

Do you follow your partner or certain men from place to place?
Do you follow the seasonal movement of fish if trading or processing?
How do women who are new to a landing site buy fish?
Do women who stay permanently at a landing site accept women who may move with male fishers?

Appendix 6:

Implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan
Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization

Mobile Fishers: the scale and impact of the movement of fishers on fisheries management in Lake Victoria

FOCUS GROUP TOPIC GUIDE: MEN (WOMEN)

March 2007

Purpose of the research
The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization is carrying out research around the lake to have a better understanding of how and why people move around the lake within fisheries. The information will be used to guide fisheries management and to help government and NGOs provide better services to the fishing communities.

Use of topic guide
Use the topic guide to guide the discussion, keeping it focused, but not sticking rigidly to the guide, i.e. the questions may not be asked word for word, or in the order given, but the discussion should address the questions as far as possible.

Questions to guide discussion

Getting into fisheries
1. How did you all get into fisheries? E.g. family are in fisheries, unemployment, etc.
2. Do people move in and out of fishing? i.e. combine fishing with agricultural (own land or labour?), petty trading, etc.? What do people turn to?

Moving to new places
3. Why do you think that some women move from place to place within fisheries?

IDENTIFYING AND RANKING REASONS

4. Who decides who moves (within a household?) i.e. was it your decision to move? Household or individual decision to move?
5. Do people move with friends/family/partner/on their own?
6. Who moves? Age, marital status (and what happens if they are married?) etc.
7. Who does not move and why?
8. What are the challenges and opportunities for women moving? Are there cultural barriers to moving? If so, what and why?
9. What are the advantages and disadvantages of staying in one place?

IDENTIFYING AND RANKING BENEFITS AND DISADVANTAGES OF MOVING AND NOT MOVING FOR WOMEN

10. Do people keep moving over years, or do they sometimes stay in one place?
11. When do people move? Do people move at roughly the same times each year? How long do people tend to stay in one place?

CALENDAR ACTIVITY

Mapping

12. Where do people go? Same places or different?
13. How far do people move to?
14. Do women move independently of male fishers, or tend to follow them?
15. Do you follow the seasonal movement of fish if trading or processing?
16. Do you know the movements of the fish, or is there a lot of variation over time?

MAPPING MOVEMENT OF FISHERFOLK AND FISH

17. Do people move to other water bodies and/or other countries? Why?
18. If people move to other countries, do they know the fisheries regulations in that country?

Staying somewhere temporarily

19. What happens when you move to a new beach? i.e. government and BMU leadership, transfer letters, report to whom, permission needed, pay any fees (to whom, how much, what for), housing, employment, etc.
20. Do people stay together? With same ethnic groups/nationalities? How much are people who move integrated into the host community?
21. Do people have a home base – in the fisheries or away from the lake? How often do people go home and what links do they have with home? Do they send money home? Use money for investment?
22. Do people encounter any conflict or problems when they move? Interaction with government officers, politicians and police?
23. Have mobile phones made any difference to the mobility of fisherfolk?
24. What happens if people get sick?

Employment/income

25. How do women earn money at the fish landing sites?
26. How do women get access to fish at new landing sites?
27. Do women who stay permanently at a landing site accept women who may move with male fishers? Does this affect access to fish?

Access to services

28. Access to services – where do they get information from? Is it difficult to get good access to health services? Savings and credit?

Relationships with men

29. Do women move with their male partners?
30. If not, do women get into relationships at the new landing site?
31. Do women who always live at the site get into relationships with fishers who migrate here?
32. Do they live with the men temporarily?
33. One man or many men?

BMUs

34. Are the people present members of BMUs?

35. Do the people who move get transfer letters?
36. Do they get involved in BMU decision-making and activities?
37. What do they know about BMUs?
38. Does anyone belong to a Committee of another BMU? If yes, what happens when they are not there?

Appendix 7:

IFMP/LVFO MOBILE FISHERS STUDY: Socio-economic profile of focus group discussion participants

Name of landing site ……Name of BMU ……Type of focus group……..……
Names of facilitators …… Date ……

Number	Age	Where born?	Ethnic group	Years in fisheries	Years/months at beach	Engine/ manual	Move/ don't move	Type of fish targeted	Member of BMU (Y/N)	Name of BMU
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
13										
14										

Appendix 8:

Implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan
Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization

Mobile Fishers: the scale and impact of the movement of fishers on fisheries management in Lake Victoria

INDIVIDUAL CASE STUDIES

Name of landing site …… Name of BMU……

Name of interviewer …… Date ……

Interviewee: Male boat owner = 1
Male boat crew = 2
Woman = 3

1. Were you born at this landing site, or did you move here? If moved, where from? How did you get into fisheries?

2. Why do you, or people in your household, move? (At what times of year)

3. When do you (people in your household) move and how long do you (they) stay away from your (their) permanent place of residence? For how many years have you (or people in your household) been moving?

4. How does your family manage when you are gone? (For women left behind, how do they manage)

5. What are your experiences of moving around (or, of being left behind) (good and bad)?

Continue on other sheets if necessary.