

Lake Victoria



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Abbreviations

ACFC	Agro Chemical and Food Company
AfDB	African Development Bank
AFRA	Sida's Africa Department
AMREF	African Medical and Research Foundation
AWEPA	Association of European Parliamentarians for Africa
BRLi	Bas-Rhône et du Languedoc Ingenierie
CDS	City Development Strategies
COSMER-LAV	Community Based Strategies for the Management of the Environment and Resources of Lake Victoria
CP	Cleaner Production
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
EABC	East African Business Council
EAC	East African Community
EACJ	East African Court of Justice
EALA	East African Legislative Assembly
ECOSAN	Ecological Sanitation
ECOVIC	The East African Communities' Organisation for Management of Lake Victoria Resources
EE	Environmental Education
ERS	Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation
FED	Farm Enterprise Development
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEA	Gateway East Africa
HELCOM	Helsinki Commission
HRDI	Human Rights Development Initiative
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPRSP	Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
ITP	International Training Programme
IUCEA	Inter- University Council of East Africa
KCC	Kampala City Council
KNCP	Kenya National Cleaner Production Centre
LVBC	Lake Victoria Basin Commission
LVDP	Lake Victoria Development Programme
LVCEEP	Lake Victoria Catchment Environmental Education Programme
LVEMP	Lake Victoria Environment Management Project
LVI	Lake Victoria Initiative

LVP	Lake Victoria Programme
LZARDI	The Lake Zone Agricultural Research and Development Institute
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MERECF	Mt. Elgon Regional Ecosystem Conservation Programme
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MS	Danish Association for International Cooperation
NAADS	The National Agricultural Advisory Services
NALEP	National Agricultural and Livestock Extension Programme
NBI	Nile Basin Initiative
NBTF	Nile Basin Trust Fund
NCPC	National Cleaner Production Centres
NELSAP	Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Programme
NELSAP-CU	Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Programme Coordinating Unit
NELTAC	Nile Equatorial Lakes Technical Advisory Committee
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
NILE COM	Nile Basin Council of Ministers
NIR	Näringslivets Internationella Råd (International Council of Swedish Industry)
NSC	National Steering Committee
PMUs	Project Management Units
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RBM	River Basin Management
REMA	Rwanda Environment Management Authority
RC	Red Cross
ROEA	Regional Office for Eastern Africa
RRD	Resource Centre for Rural Development
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAP	Strategic Action Plan
SCC	Swedish Cooperative Centre
SMM	Sio Malaba Malakisi
SRCS	Swedish Red Cross Societies
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
UCSD	Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development
UK	United Kingdom
UNA	United Nations Associations
ViAFP	VI Agroforestry Programme
WB	World Bank
WCK	Wildlife Clubs of Kenya
WSF	World Social Forum
WREM	Water Resource and Environment Management
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

1. Executive Summary

This is the Annual Report for Lake Victoria Initiative for the period January to December 2007. The report highlights some of the key developments in the region with implication on the programme. It also shares information on progress in regard to the implementation of the Country Plan for Lake Victoria for 2007.

The preparation of a new Strategy for Support to Sustainable Development and Poverty reduction in the Lake Victoria Region was foreseen during 2007. However the strategy process was halted with the Swedish country focus for development cooperation process. LVI has done an Internal Outcome assessment of the programme 2004–2006, that argues that Swedish support through LVI has largely been relevant and effective, especially in the areas of capacity development, natural resources and environment. Support could however benefit from a further sharpened focus, prioritising transboundary aspects of sustainable natural resources management and the environment. Furthermore the strategic framework of LVI needs to prioritise and improve follow up by i.a. provide a results framework.

LVI did not radically change its portfolio during 2007, due to the then expected development of the new Lake Victoria Strategy. Internal monitoring of the programme was carried out quarterly. LVI has a framework for programme review and reporting to effectively carry out the portfolio. One priority for the rest of 2007 was to follow-up on the Swedish government's assignments for new strategies during 2008. Also, the dialogue with LVBC and NBI/NELSAP regarding institutional development, collaboration and integration continued to be a priority. LVI's development partners seem to gradually adopt the Swedish conceptual frameworks of the Sub-Saharan Strategy.

The allocation for LVI increased from SEK110 million in 2005 to SEK120 million in 2006. The utilisation of the allocation during the same period was SEK88 million and SEK123 million respectively. LVI allocation during 2007 arrived at SEK 120 million while the utilisation of the allocation was SEK 112 million representing 93,3%.

The joining of Rwanda and Burundi into the expanded East African Community (EAC) was important development during the period. LVI has been instrumental in pushing for the signing of Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation around Lake Victoria and support for the participation of these two countries on Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project II. This is also reinforced by the Government of

Sweden's decision to include Burundi as one of the prioritised countries for development co-operation. The Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) moved to Kisumu Kenya in early 2007 and was officially inaugurated by President Kibaki in June 2007. The agreement on support to Lake Victoria Partnership Fund was extended to 2009 in late December 2006.

Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project planning phase (LVEMP II) is under completion by EAC/LVBC and the 5 countries in the basin with support from World Bank (WB). WB will establish a Trust fund for the programme in 2008. LVI will assess a request for funding during 2008.

As per the annual plan, LVI followed up its proposal to move/delegate its HIV/AIDS contributions to Lusaka. This year, LVI initiated EAC/ African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) partnership support for mobile populations in the Lake Victoria region was moved to Lusaka. A new agreement (2007–2009) was signed in May 2007 with the Norwegian Swedish Regional HIV/AIDS Team for Africa, based in Lusaka.

LVI commissioned a background study on empowerment which was concluded in February 2007. The study concluded that Sida/LVI was on the right track of empowerment interventions and it was “work in progress.” The review of the Lake Victoria Catchment Environmental Education Programme (LVCEEP) was conducted in the months of May and June 2007. Overall programme performance was rated as good despite the various challenges.

2. Political, Economic and Poverty Development

Major strides in regard to regional integration were witnessed during 2007. The formal joining of Rwanda and Burundi into East African Community is a welcome move. Commitments by the partner states towards keeping Lake Victoria issues on the agenda as evidenced by the official relocation of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission to Kisumu and the development of an operational strategy for the commission were other significant steps.

The political developments in the region however were a big challenge to the nascent efforts towards political federation and a common market. The botched elections in Kenya in late 2007 had far reaching ramifications in the region and more so to the on-going efforts towards regional integration and establishment of political federation.

In Kenya, the implementation of the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation (ERS) was completed by the end of 2007. In the meantime, the government finalised Kenya Vision 2030, which will be the basis for further policy development. It will be based on three pillars – economic, social, and political – and its ambitious goals are: to maintain sustained 10 per cent annual economic growth for the next 25 years; to build a just and cohesive society enjoying equitable social development in a clear and secure environment; and to build an issue-based, people centred, result-oriented and accountable democratic political system.

Constitutional and legal reforms as well as deepening macroeconomic and structural reforms are considered key pillars for attaining the goals of “Kenya Vision 2030” to transform the country into a medium income country within 25 years. Although the authorities have increased the democratic space significantly since 2002, governance issues are still hampered by the corruption and political manipulation allowed by inadequacies in the legal framework to fight corruption at high levels in the system. This continues to affect the image of the government amongst development partners, and if it is not contained, it could slow down the pace of economic development that the country has recently realised¹.

The Ugandan economy has continued to grow rapidly in recent years. Real GDP growth in the 2005/06 fiscal year was close to the 5.5 per cent

¹ African economic outlook country study Kenya 2007 <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/26/34/38562812.pdf>

² African economic outlook country study Uganda 2007 <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/27/0/38563109.pdf>

average recorded over the past six years. Growth in 2005/06 was largely driven by the strong performance of the services sector, which grew at 9.2 per cent, up from 8.7 per cent in 2005, led by road transport, telecommunications, financial services, tourism and air travel². Telecommunications has been the fastest growing subsector as a result of substantial increases in the number of mobile phone subscribers, largely the consequence of an ineffective telecommunications infrastructure in terms of land lines.

Regional integration constitutes one of the cornerstones of Uganda's trade policy. The government has continued to consolidate its participation in regional integration activities with the objective of facilitating trade and investment in the East African Community (EAC).

Tanzania's economic improvement is consolidating and although the recent harsh drought caused food shortages and impaired electricity generation, economic activity has remained resilient. Real GDP growth was 5.7 per cent in 2006 and was expected to pick up to 6.8 per cent in 2007 and to 7 per cent in 2008³ as increased investment begins to drive growth. This reflects confidence in the economy and shows a positive outlook for sustained growth. Improvement in economic management is delivering relatively low inflation despite the adverse impact of the drought. The external sector has benefited from improvements in exports and considerable debt relief under the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative. However, government finances still suffer from under-performance in domestic revenue mobilisation as a result of weakness in tax administration.

While Tanzania has been able to maintain progress towards macroeconomic stability, the country is still faced with the daunting challenge of raising the incomes of its people and reducing poverty. Considerable challenges remain in overcoming structural constraints to development, including improvement of infrastructure services in the energy, water, transport and communication sectors as well as in fostering local entrepreneurial capacity through improvement of the regulatory environment. Tanzania fares poorly on measures of the business climate, such as the World Bank's Doing Business survey in which it ranks 142nd out of 175 countries.

Rwanda is now engaged in an ambitious privatisation exercise. This follows years of strong government involvement in many aspects of the economy⁴. The government is now embracing the private sector with deliberate and systematic policy. Private businesses, schools, universities and tour firms are now competing with state-owned enterprises. The government's privatisation programme started with the enactment in 1996 of Law No.2 on Privatization and Public Investment. As of end-December 2006, 70 out of a total of 104 public enterprises had been privatised, four had been removed from the list and 14 remain to be privatised. In addition, the management of two other companies had been contracted out. Most of the privatised enterprises were small, with a few exceeding \$1 million in sale price. The privatisation of the telecommunication company, Rwandatel, is the largest to have taken place. Several enterprises have also been liquidated.

² African economic outlook country study Uganda 2007 <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/27/0/38563109.pdf>

³ African economic outlook country study Tanzania 2007 <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/26/62/38563053.pdf>

⁴ African economic outlook country study Rwanda 2007 <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/27/19/38562991.pdf>

Rwanda continued to make progress on gender issues and on poverty reduction. The country's first Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (IPRSP) in 2000 hardly addressed any gender issues, even though women accounted for some 60-70 per cent of the post genocide population.

Burundi's economy grew by 3.5 percent in 2007 owing to poor coffee production, missing a predicted 5 percent growth. The country is struggling to rejuvenate an economy destroyed by 12 years of civil war. In 2006 it clocked a growth of 5 percent.

2.1 Rwanda and Burundi joins East African Community

Rwanda and Burundi on 18 June 2007 signed the Treaties of Accession into the East African Community, formally joining Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania in the now enlarged regional economic community. LVI has been instrumental in the signing of Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation around Lake Victoria and support for the participation of these two countries on Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project II. This is also reinforced by Government of Sweden's decision to include Burundi as one of the prioritised countries for development co-operation. It also implies the need for increased strategies to bring on board regional institutions and/or institutions working on regional issues relevant to LVI mandate to reach out to Rwanda and more to Burundi.

2.2 Progress on Political Federation in East Africa

The Heads of State Summit reviewed the progress of the National Consultations on Fast Tracking the process towards Political Federation and approved the extension of the deadline for submission of the reports of the National Committees to 30th June 2007. Thereafter, an Extraordinary Summit Meeting was convened in August 2007 to receive the Reports of the National Committees. The level of political commitment by the Heads of States is however not clear.

2.3 The Second East African Legislative Assembly⁵ (EALA)

Implementation of planned activities got off to a slow start, considering the controversy with regards to EALA and the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) towards the end of 2006, and the subsequent delay in the swearing in of the new Legislative Assembly. The legislative programme set for the Assembly during fiscal year 2007/2008 included consideration of a number of Bills introduced by the EAC Council of Ministers including among others the Lake Victoria Transport Bill, 2007; and the Lake Victoria Basin Commission Bill. Lake Victoria Transport Bill which was enacted by the East African Legislative Assembly in September will bring sanity in water transport in the EAC countries. Once operationalised and domesticated, the Act will pave way for the development of regulation on safety of navigations and control of maritime pollution.

2.4 Cooperative Framework for the Nile Basin

The Nile Council of Ministers responsible for Water Affairs (Nile-COM) concluded its negotiations on the Nile River Basin Cooperative Framework Agreement on June 26, 2007 in Entebbe, Uganda. The Cooperative Framework will create the legal basis for the establishment of a permanent Nile River Basin Commission through which the countries will act together to manage and develop the resources of the Nile. However, the Nile-COM ministers did not manage to resolve all outstanding

⁵ The Second East African Legislative Assembly tenure commenced on 5th June 2007 and would run up to 4th June 2012

issues in the agreement and have therefore referred the negotiations back to the Heads of States to reach an agreement. The chairmanship of the Nile-COM for the year 2007/2008 is held by Uganda.

2.5 Water Hyacinth Re-invades Lake Victoria

Water hyacinth is back in the lake following the heavy rains in November and December 2006 that flooded the rivers that feed into the Winam Gulf and other parts of the Lake. The rain and floods raised water levels on the lake and swept agricultural run-off and nutrient-rich sediment into the water. The influx of fertilizer and sediments not only turned the water brown, but it also fed a fresh outbreak of water hyacinth. Bright green plants cover much of the Winam Gulf in Kenya. Though other plants such as algae may be contributing, water hyacinth is almost certainly one component of the soupy mass. Water hyacinth was growing along the shoreline, particularly in Kisumu Bay and Nyakach Bay. A comparison between December 2005 and December 2006 shows that Kisumu Bay was entirely covered by water hyacinth in 2006, and the shoreline of Nyakach Bay also appeared to change shape as the plant grew out from the shore. This re-invasion will pose additional challenges to the proposed LVEMP II programme.

2.6 Mabira Forest⁶

Social movements to advocate for conservation of Lake Victoria and its environs are growing stronger, with people's realisation that their social capital may influence negative government policies. A good example is "Save Mabira" campaign in Uganda. Social groups and environmental activists among whom are organisations supported by Sida/LVI continuously demonstrated against the government's proposal to degazette Mabira forest for sugar farming. There was continuous debate on the government's intended actions. The government has shelved the decision but in the meantime, it is also realising the people's demands for environmental conservation. CSOs also called upon LVBC to act on this matter.

2.7 Elections in Kenya

Towards the end of the year, elections were held in Kenya that ended up in a dispute over the presidential vote. Violence was witnessed in most parts of the country especially in Rift Valley, Western, Nyanza and Nairobi. This greatly affected LVI financed programmes within Kenya as nothing happened during the late part of the year and early part of 2008 due to insecurity. The violence led to deaths of over 1,000 people with 350,000 being internally displaced.

2.8 HIV/AIDS

Although HIV/AIDS is still a great threat to the livelihood of the population in Lake Victoria Region, recent country reviews are recording decline in prevalence with Kenya recording 5.9% in 2007 from 6.7% in 2006⁷. Uganda is still stagnant at 6.4% for the last two years and Tanzania is at 7%. The Lake Victoria region remains an area where the population is vulnerable to HIV/AIDS.

There is internationally increased re-emphasis on HIV/AIDS prevention along side treatment, care and support for effective response. There is also increased emphasis on the critical importance of promoting and

⁶ Mabira is one of the only enduring green natural tropical rain forest that also hosts part of the sources of water streams/rivers feeding into lake Victoria on the Uganda's side. It is also a source of air (carbon) filtration

⁷ Kenya Report on Joint HIV/AIDS Programme Review (JAPR), 2007

protecting human rights and eliminating all forms of gender inequality, stigma and discrimination. The country reports also observes that poverty is a big draw back to mitigation of socio-economic impacts of HIV/AIDS. The region is still prone to poverty.

3. Swedish Development Cooperation – Overall Assessment of the Lake Victoria Initiative Regional Programme

3.1 New Lake Victoria Strategy

The preparation of a new Strategy for Support to Sustainable Development and Poverty reduction in the Lake Victoria Region was foreseen during 2007. However, the strategy process was halted in light of the country concentration process. LVI undertook the following studies and analysis in anticipation of a strategy process during 2008:

- Environment Policy brief for Lake Victoria
- Empowerment study
- Outcome assessment
- Terms of Reference for Lessons learned from pilot studies and channels for effective dissemination of these (2006–2007)
- Publication of Financing of Regional Public goods paper for Nile Basin
- Final project report from the Roadmap project

In light of the Government of Sweden (GoS) decision not to have a new strategy for Lake Victoria, the results of the outcome assessment and the listed studies have been forwarded to Sida's Department for Africa as an account of the three years of LVI's operation in the region. The outcome assessment noted that the Swedish support through LVI has largely been relevant and effective, especially in the areas of capacity development, natural resources and environment. The area of empowerment needs to be refocused to address regional aspects of empowerment such as influence over and accountability of regional bodies. More effective and efficient modalities for support to civil society is also needed. HIV/AIDS is important as a dialogue and mainstreaming issue but for programme development the HIV/AIDS-team in Lusaka is better suited. Private sector development would benefit from a sharper focus on what is most relevant at the lake basin level, such as lake transport. The Swedish support could in all benefit from a continuation of the process to sharpen the focus, prioritising transboundary aspects of sustainable natural resources management and the environment, including support to enabling institutions. The strategic framework of LVI needs to prioritise,

define more specific objectives and provide a results framework to improve on follow-up. The Swedish support (and the strategy) should be underpinned by a long-term scenario of a development co-operation framework for sustainable development around Lake Victoria.

In the Government decision UD2007/23643/AF dated 2007-06-28, prolonging the existing Lake Victoria Strategy and the Regional Africa strategy up to 30 June, 2008, Sida was instructed to phase out of water provision and sanitation at household level, urban development, culture, education, and health (excl. SRHR). These areas were considered to be of less regional relevance. Sida was moreover instructed to intensify program work within the following areas; peace and security, regional management of shared natural resources (incl. water), transport, energy, HIV/AIDS and regional integration and trade guided by the African Agenda. LVI continues to streamline its portfolio according to these instructions.

3.2 Key Issues for Dialogue with Partner Country and Partners

The LVI dialogue with EAC/LVBC and Nile Basin Initiative focused on the harmonization and coordination among regional organizations with over-lapping mandates like Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) and NBI/NELSAP. The two institutions have established cooperation in certain areas but there is still a lot to be done. NBI has developed a proposal for Institutional Strengthening of the Nile institutions which has been commented on by LVBC. Sida/LVI has been asked to participate in the final World Bank appraisal mission of this programme.

The dialogue on better coordination between regional and national policies and interventions is on-going. LVI's development partners seem to gradually adopt the Swedish conceptual framework from the Strategy for Regional Development Cooperation in Sub-Saharan Africa.

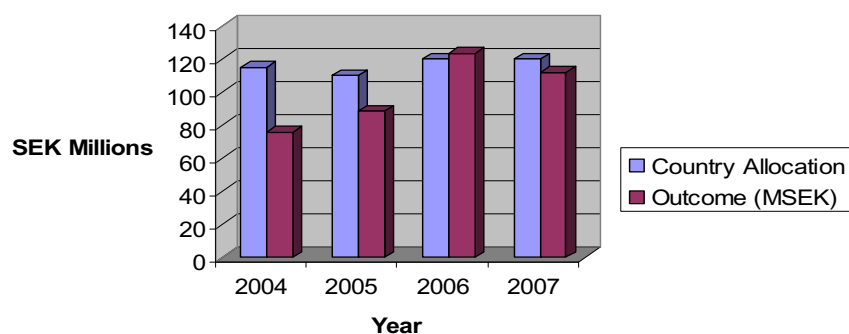
Utilisation of EAC Vision for Lake Victoria as a planning instrument for support to the region has been pursued consistently with our civil society partners. LVBC has published a popular version which is being distributed to all partners in the region.

3.3 Volumes and Disbursements During the Year

The allocation for LVI increased from SEK110 million in 2005 to SEK120 million in 2006. The utilisation of the allocation during the same period was SEK88 million and SEK123 million respectively. LVI allocation during 2007 arrived at SEK 120 million while the utilisation of the allocation was SEK 112 million representing 93,3%. Due to an extra injection of funds from Norway to the NELSAP River Basin projects – where Norway and Sweden has entered into a delegated partnership – explains the somewhat lower than expected disbursement rate. The total disbursements for the LVI since its inauguration stands at SEK552,3 million.

Graph 1 below presents the trends in the allocation and utilisation over the period 2004 to 2007, as well as accurate disbursement projections.

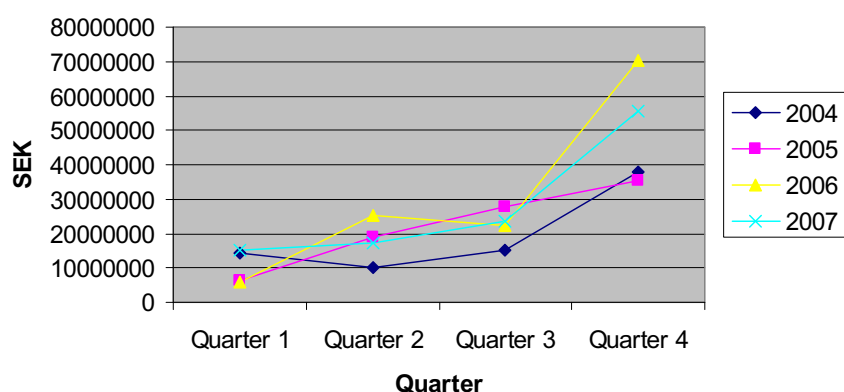
Graph 1: Utilisation of LVI Allocation 2004 - 2007



Rigorous quality assurance and control mechanisms have resulted in that significant amount of funds are disbursed in Quarter three and four. This bias is further reinforced by the fact that LVI started operating in Nairobi in August 2004 implying that a number of new agreements were signed during quarter four. Efforts have however been made to ensure that there is a reduction in the number of disbursements to be made during the last quarter of the year. A graphical presentation of quarterly disbursement over the period 2004 and 2007 is presented in Graph 2 below.

Another change in the LVI allocation has been the continuous and strategic reduction in the number of contributions thereby cutting transaction costs. Beginning 2006, LVI embarked on the process of consolidating its contributions by building on the reduction of small contributions and improve the management of the contribution portfolio. During 2004, the total number of LVI contributions stood at 70 against a budget allocation of SEK 115 million. This increased marginally to 72 contributions in 2005 against a budget of SEK110 million. As a result of the consolidation process, the contributions reduced to 68 in 2006 against a budget of SEK 120 million. A further reduction was realized in 2007 where the total number of contributions stood at 59 against a budget of SEK 120 million. LVI will continue with this process during 2008 with a view to arrive at an optimal level.

Graph 2: Quarterly Disbursement Trends 2004 - 2007



3.4 Strategic Adjustments, Alternatives, Possible Risks and Choices Ahead

During the period under review, plans were to increase the financial contributions to some of the best performing partners and reward those with increased capacity. Eligibility would cover partners whose agreements were to be renewed during the year. However, a reduced allocation (120 MSEK compared to a requested 145 MSEK) implied little room for expansion as LVI started the year with over SEK 109 million in committed funds.. As a corollary LVI had to adjust its projections downwards and adjust its scope accordingly.

Although the main conceptual framework of the Roadmap project was an issue for dialogue with all development partners around Lake Victoria, the halted strategy process and the reduced allocation had some implications in terms of expanding the financing of initiatives relating to the Road Map project.. LVI has come to realize that this persistent dialogue has achieved observable results as most development partners, donors as well as cooperating institutions, are making a clear distinction between responsibilities and activities at the regional level and responsibilities and activities at national level to sustain a regional public good in the shape of a shared water resource; Lake Victoria or the Nile.

As noted previously, LVI did not radically change its portfolio during 2007. This was due to the expectations regarding the development of the new Lake Victoria Strategy, the Swedish country focus for development cooperation process (with a GoS Decision in August 2007), and the Sida re-organisation process that was set in motion. Internal monitoring of the programme was carried out quarterly. LVI has a framework for programme review and reporting to effectively carry out the portfolio. There is a need to focus on a few highly relevant potential outputs for the poor in the Lake Victoria Basin in alignment with the East African Agenda for Lake Victoria. Smaller, local contributions and multi-country projects with limited regional relevance have continued to be phased out.

One priority for 2007 was to follow-up on the Swedish government's assignments for new strategies during 2008. This will still continue and so will the dialogue with LVBC and NBI/NELSAP regarding institutional development, collaboration and integration.

The HIV/AIDS team in Lusaka agreed to support the planned EAC/AMREF HIV/AIDS Programme for Mobile populations in Lake Victoria which was initially planned and assessed by LVI. There will be need for greater collaboration with Lusaka for LVI to keep updated on the Lake Victoria Basin HIV/AIDS programmes and situation. LVI is continuously mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in all contributions.

Other areas for potential collaboration were in regard to technical input on issues especially in areas where Sida-S departments have the technical knowledge. Efforts were also put towards refocusing LVI contribution in line with the recommendations of the Road Map project.

4. Swedish Development Cooperation

– Review of the Country Plan

The Lake Victoria strategy does not categorise contributions according to Sida's definition of sectors but identifies 5 multi-sector activity areas. According to the statistics provided LVI operates in 7 sectors. The five activity areas of capacity building for sustainable development, sound environment and sustainable utilisation of natural resources, empowerment of communities and individuals, combating HIV/AIDS and private sector development for economic growth have remained as the key pillars for LVI activities.

4.1 Activity Area 1: Capacity Building for Sustainable Development

The LVI country plan envisioned that a new agreement for support to the Lake Victoria partnership Fund would be signed. A strategic 5 year plan for LVBC would be approved in early 2007. Details of the various components to be financed inside and outside of the Partnership Fund were to be defined in this plan.

Nile Basin Trust Fund (NBTF) – earmarked contributions to NBI/SVP ended in 2006. However, Sweden continues to be an active partner in the cooperation around the Nile as the Swedish support to the Coordination Unit for the sub-regional Nile Equatorial Lakes is still on-going.

Assessment of a proposal from the Baltic University programme (BUP) in collaboration with the Inter-University Council of East Africa (IUCEA) for introduction of a holistic environmental education in tertiary institutions with focus on the Lake Victoria Basin started during the year.

During 2007, the highest amount of LVI resources (52%) were utilised under this activity area. A total of SEK 58,7 million were disbursed to various activities within this activity area. During 2006 SEK 42,9 million representing 35% of the total LVI disbursements were utilised under this activity area.

4.1.1 Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC)

The Lake Victoria Basin Commission moved to Kisumu Kenya in early 2007 and was officially inaugurated by President Mwai Kibaki in June 2007. The agreement on support to Lake Victoria Partnership Fund was extended to 2009 in late December 2006. A project coordinator at LVBC was recruited which has speeded up the implementation of studies and regional project preparations at the commission. The dialogue

between LVBC and LVI is intensive and creative. Among the issues dealt with is the relation between the EAC institution LVBC and a possible future Nile Commission which will partly cover the same water body. The EAC has approved a strategic five-year action plan (SAP) for the LVBC in early 2007, and an operational plan for 2007–2010 has been prepared for the secretariat. LVBC held a Donor Conference in December 2007 to present their plans and ideas of a future funding mechanism. During the deliberations on the Lake Victoria Basin Commission Bill, by East African Legislative Assembly a new proposed governance structure of the LVBC was tabled. LVBC will gain additional independence but at the same time there is risk of decreased political support and less predictable funding of the commission.

4.1.2 Nile Basin Trust Fund (NBTF)

The annual NBTF committee meeting was held in Entebbe, Uganda in March 8–9. Among the issues discussed were the need for strengthening of the NBI as an institution and its capacity, and the links to EAC and its Lake Victoria Basin Commission. Sweden was asked to take a lead in promoting closer collaboration between the institutions. Midterm review was undertaken for all Shared Vision Projects and revision of project documents are on-going. Of the two projects “ear marked” for Swedish support, the Applied Training Project was evaluated as “almost on track” while the Regional Power Trade project was advised to undertake major revisions of the project document in light of the developments in the region.

4.1.3 Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP)

The first Joint Donors meeting review for NELSAP-CU took place in Kigali in May 2007 with an objective of reviewing the progress of implementation of the NELSAP programme. The meeting noted that the performance of NELSAP-CU was less than satisfactory due to the weak capacity to follow-up and monitor the river basin management. Inadequate supervision due to unclear linkages and responsibilities in the projects governance mechanisms affected the performance of the River Basin Management.

The first review meeting for implementation of the three River Basin Management projects of Mara, Kagera and Sio, Malaba-Malakisi was held in Kigali, Rwanda. A monitoring consultant hired by Sida provided valuable input to the review. It was noted that all three river basin projects are substantially behind schedule, that the small-scale investments component is likely to overshoot budgets considerably, and that the quality of reporting from the Project Management Units has not been appropriate.

The process for the two studies on Cooperative framework and Monograph and information database under implementation for Kagera by COWI Ltd Uganda and BRLi, begun the first week of June and the inception report was discussed in stakeholder workshop in Dar es Salaam on 1st of August.

Development of a Cooperative Framework for Sustainable Management and Development in the Sio-Malaba-Malakisi River Catchments was undertaken by Water Resource and Environment Management (WREM) International Inc. There have been management problems with the Mara Project management Unit (PMU) that are currently being addressed.

The second annual review meeting for implementation of the River Basin Management (RBM) took place in Kigali November 26–27, 2007 in line with financing agreement between Sida and NBI. The participants commended the projects for the progress achieved in 2007, so far and noted the need to ponder on development with the projects. The meeting coincided with that the implementation phase has reached mid term, and provided an opportunity to take stock of the achievements of the project and assess what can be realized within the project time frame without compromising the quality.

A procurement audit for the three river basin management was carried out and the findings were encouraging because there was no mismanagement or embezzlement of the funds. The audit exposed both the strengths and weaknesses of the PMUs. The PMUs fulfill their obligations regarding follow up of the Project's Financial Agreement and the Sida Procurement Guidelines. However, there is still room for improvement.

4.1.4 Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Co-operation (LVRLAC)

Facilitating Sustainable Development in the Lake Victoria Region through Local Authority Action, is a project implemented by the Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation (LVRLAC) which started in December 2006. The 3-year (2006–9) project is aimed at developing the institutional and human resource capacity of LVRLAC and its membership to fully harness its potential as a regional network platform of Lake Victoria Local Authorities and to leverage opportunities and resources for enhanced possibility of member Local Authorities actively contributing to poverty alleviation and environmental management in the Lake Victoria Region. LVRLAC will, through the project, be applying its network platform experience to consolidate and further the collective action of Local Authorities in the Lake Victoria Region towards realization of the common Lake Victoria Vision.

A review of the first year revealed that the implementation was on course. Significant results included;

- Successful mobilization of the 8 Local Authorities implementing the City Development Strategy (CDS) program in partnership with UNHABITAT and ECOVIC to lead their communities in a massive regional clean-up campaign towards protecting Lake Victoria under the theme of 'My responsible action today is a better lake tomorrow'.
- Through a collaborative effort with the NBI and UNHABITAT, LVRLAC convened a successful regional conference in Jinja bringing together over 100 participants who included Mayors, Chief Executives and Planners from selected Local Authorities in the region, including Civil Society watchdog organization under the umbrella of Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development. The conference under the theme 'building synergies for sustainable development in the Lake Victoria Region' resolved to rally and promote an inter-agency approach to sustainable development under the Swahili slogan 'Mtazamo wa Pamoja' (a joint perspective) with lead agencies identified as LVRLAC, NBI, LVBC, UNHABITAT and Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD).
- Conducted the first good governance assessment for member Local Authorities with three winning members presented with awards at the 6th Annual General Assembly in Jinja.

- Finalization of the Micro-Project Fund Guidelines ready for application in the second year upon approval by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and Sida respectively.
- Development of a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plan for LVRLAC, gender mainstreaming, and competitive partnership building based on key synergy building blocks.

4.1.5 Lake Victoria City/Municipal Development Strategies (CDS) for Improved Urban Environment and Poverty Reduction, Phase 3

The City Development Strategies programme (CDS) implemented by UN-Habitat together with LVRLAC and eight municipalities in the basin has started its third phase, following the signing of an agreement for Swedish support in late 2006. The programme has so far carried out a number of preparatory and capacity-development activities in the region. Furthermore, the programme has during 2007 been expanded with a component of solid waste management using Public-Private Partnerships. In a first stage, this component will be carried out in Kisumu as a test case, in partnership with International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Municipal Council of Kisumu.

4.1.6 Partnership between AWEPA and EALA

The second East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) was sworn in on 5th June, 2007, for a five year term. Out of the 27 members from the first assembly, only 6 were re-elected (a turnover of 77%). Many new members were without prior parliamentary background. Rwanda and Burundi were admitted to the EAC, and the elected members will thus increase to 45. Similarly, the staff component will also be significantly expanded. Rwanda and Burundi follow a different political-judicial background and are predominantly French speaking. This has created challenges. Project activities implemented in 2007 were developed to tackle the new challenges.

While implementation of activities got off to a slow start as a result of the delayed inauguration of EALA, most planned activities (including induction of members to parliamentary procedures and practices) were still carried out during 2007. The result of these activities were the development of the capacities of EALA staff, committees and members, contributing altogether to a better functioning EALA. Very few planned activities were not executed in 2007, and these are still planned for 2008.

The annual review meeting that was due to take place in December 2007, will take place in March 2008, due to unforeseen circumstances.

4.1.7 Regional Training Programme relevant for Lake Victoria Region

The Sida International Training Programme- Lake Victoria Integrated Transboundary Water Resources Management – was held with a total of 26 participants from 4 of the 5 eligible countries. Following start-up seminars in each country, the programme held sessions in Nairobi and Stockholm for a total of 3 weeks (November 2006 and February 2007 respectively). Case Studies (including field visits) were taken from the Kagera River with particular focus on negotiation processes and environmental assessments as well as the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) Baltic Sea collaboration. Evaluations show that the participants were overall highly satisfied and that they found the work with their individual projects most relevant.

In late 2007 a decision was taken by Sida/INEC/ITP, proposed from LVI, to duplicate an ITP course on Education for Sustainable Develop-

ment currently targeting Southern Africa to the Nile River Basin and the Mekong River Basin. The course will start during 2008.

4.2 Activity Area 2: Empowerment of Communities and Individuals

The implementation of empowerment of communities and individuals has been on course this year as planned. However, the envisaged increased partnership with new civil society organisations during this year was halted while awaiting the decisions on strategy development and country concentration. The result of this implied that only SEK 2,5 million representing 2% of the LVI allocation was disbursed under this activity area. This was a remarkable decline when compared to 2006 when SEK 21,4 million were disbursed representing 17% of the total LVI disbursements within this activity area. The caution taken regarding entering into new agreements coupled with the interrelated nature of this contribution meant that only a few of the activities were supported. Further, LVI's decision to consolidate its contribution also accounted for this as small contributions were closed.

4.2.1 Empowerment Study

LVI commissioned a background study on empowerment which was concluded in February 2007. The study concluded that Sida/LVI was on the right track of empowerment interventions and it was "work in progress." The study identified the main notions of empowerment as understood by the community and the people in the Lake region as empowerment relating to closely intertwined poverty and rights discourses; disempowerment related to poverty; and disempowerment linked to lack of knowledge, education and skills. In the region, one major obstacle to empowerment is the entrenched socio-cultural practices.

The study recommended among others an integrated rights, service delivery and poverty perspective; a flexible notion of regional perspective; i.e. the geographical space and regional and other institutions that address regional problems; and interventions for empowerment being both specific and embedded. Specific interventions were also proposed for possible consideration by LVI. The results of the study will feed into the forthcoming strategy process.

4.2.2 New Contributions

In 2007, LVI signed only one new agreement with Fältbiologerna/Lake Victoria Youth Cooperation for short time support to the youth information sharing and learning on environmental conservation of the Lake region. Over 260 youths from schools around the lake in three countries – Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania (including 20 students from Sweden) participated in the Entebbe conference that included practical learning on conservation and chemical analysis by the Swedish students. The cross-fertilisation of ideas and experiences was aimed at stimulating conservation skills and positive attitude of the East African students.

As a result, the East African students (from Lake Victoria Youth Cooperation) and their teachers are actively participating in the Lake Victoria Clean up week that is undertaken yearly to create community awareness and participation on environmental conservation and to clean the lake. The Lake Victoria Youth Cooperation were part of the organising institutions of the week long activity in recognition of their role in conserving the environment. Fältbiologerna will pull out as LVI-partner and hand over coordination to Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK).

4.2.3 Monitoring and Follow up of Old Contributions

Most of the work, this year focused on monitoring and follow-up of the existing partnerships with Swedish NGOs and others as below:

4.2.3.1 *Red Cross*

The current support (November 2004 – June 2007) to the Red Cross – Sweden in partnership with Red Cross Societies in East Africa was concluded in June 2007. An end of phase evaluation was undertaken.

The following conclusions were made:

- The greatest relevance and impact of the Lake Victoria Programme (LVP) is its involvement in pursuing a regional development program in the Lake Victoria region and its active and widespread presence at the community level all around the lake.
- However, there is a need to balance the choice of these intervention areas between what is the Red Cross mandate and expertise and what the priority needs are in the communities as well how much resources should be invested in each prioritised area.
- There is a major concern over its coordination. Despite an elaborate organizational structure, the project overall coordination is found to be weak at all levels. The current implementation structure poses a major coordination challenge, as there is no proper overall authority vested in any body.
- On the issue of adherence to Swedish Red Cross Societies (SRCS)-Sida agreement, it is noted that the Red Cross Lake Victoria Programme was not able to adhere fully to the agreed distribution of funds between different budget lines. A larger percentage of funds were utilized for ‘capacity development’ purposes. Parts of funds used for capacity development were registered under programs against the agreement conditions.
- Red Cross need to challenge the governments on taking on their responsibility of service delivery to communities.

The Red Cross is expected to use the lessons from this phase to prepare a next phase proposal to be submitted to Sida/LVI. However a general Red Cross proposal including the Lake Victoria programme was already in late 2006 submitted to Sida centrally and assessed by Sida/SEKA. LVI and SEKA/HUM will discuss a basket funding to Red Cross in order to facilitate effective management, monitoring and reporting.

4.2.3.2 *The East African Communities’ Organisation for Management of Lake Victoria Resources (ECOVIC)*

Sida funded ECOVIC (a regional network of community based organisations in Lake Victoria basin) in a pilot phase from 2004 to 2006. An evaluation of the programme was conducted in 2006 and the findings shared with the stakeholders. The review noted that ECOVIC was an important regional organisation and had gained a lot of respect and acceptance amongst the East African Community organs. In preparation for further funding, Sida commissioned an institutional capacity assessment study to establish the possibilities of direct funding through ECOVIC Uganda Chapter as opposed to intermediaries. The study will guide both ECOVIC and Sida on important areas to focus the capacity development efforts.

The preliminary report indicates that ECOVIC is still a relevant institution in setting the regional agenda in Lake Victoria Region. The

Study also approves that ECOVIC – Uganda is in position to take the lead and sign agreements with Sida. Weaknesses and gaps identified by the report will be in-built in the proposal to strengthen its internal capacity and regional role. A proposal was submitted later in the year and is under consideration for 2008 funding.

4.3 Activity Area 3: Sound Environment and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

According to the country plan, LVI in collaboration with Resource Centre for Rural Development (RRD), were to promote the use of the concept green-blue water initiatives in a large and coordinated scale. This was however initially to be financed through other sources.

The “Road Map” project which is an internal project for exploring ways to increase support within natural resources management has been concluded, and a summary report has been produced and disseminated to Sida in Stockholm. The Road Map report will feed into Sida’s and Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ strategic thinking for future support to regional co-operation around Lake Victoria.

The share of total disbursements for this activity area remained the same as the year before, i.e. 30%. In numbers this translates into SEK 34 million in 2007 and SEK 36.8 in 2006.

4.3.1 The Pilot Project for Promoting Ecological Sanitation in Kampala

The Pilot Project for Promoting Ecological Sanitation which began in October 2002 and implemented by Kampala City Council (KCC) was finally completed. The project had initially been scheduled to run for three years but had to be extended due to poor efficiency. Project implementation was hampered by limited project management capacity and the cumbersome administrative environment within KCC. The agreement was extended twice in order to enable the project objectives to be achieved within the initially approved budget. In order to document valuable lessons, a local consultant was engaged to assist the project management for a period of six months. A post-evaluation of the project is planned during the first quarter of 2008.

According to the project completion report, the project achieved several key outputs as planned:

- The project implementation structure was established and operational with activities defined.
- EcoSan systems suitable for poorly sanitised areas of Kampala were developed.
- Capacity development for stakeholders in EcoSan and associated system approaches was done.
- Four suitable EcoSan toilet designs for the project were developed and tested.
- Related promotion and awareness raising strategy was developed and implemented.
- Safety from a human health point of view of the proposed EcoSan systems was ensured.
- A model for reuse of EcoSan products in farming was developed but not yet fully operational.

The establishment of the collection system, in particular, was not fully concluded with potentially severe negative consequences for the functionality of the EcoSan systems developed

4.3.2 Natural Resource Management, Improved Market Oriented Farming System and Financial Services in the Lake Victoria Basin (The Lake Victoria Development Programme) through Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC)/VI Agroforestry

SCC/VI was able to meet its set benchmarks for its preparatory phase. Inception and environmental impact assessment reports were submitted as per the decision. The programme's focus on Farm Enterprise Development (FED) has been well established and internalised within SCC/VI as well as among its partners. More farmers are taking farming as a business with the programme support. The process has been propagated by financial support through Co-Save⁸, which has become a natural part of FED process. Various aspects of farming as a business such as tree planting, agroforestry as well as diversified marketable agroforestry products with coordinated financial services are being promoted. There is increased accessibility of market information in all areas of operation.

SCC/VI is increasingly linking up with other agricultural research and education organisations in the region such as The Lake Zone Agricultural Research and Development Institute (LZARDI), The National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS), National Agricultural and Livestock Extension Programme (NALEP). It also increasingly provides training of young people, "farmers of the future", through school programmes. A wide range of farmers have also been reached and livelihood improved. HIV/AIDS and gender mainstreaming have been implemented at programme and community level. SCC/VI has embraced HIV/AIDS workplace and gender policy in the programme – both have been established and are operational.

4.3.3 Mt. Elgon Regional Ecosystem Conservation and Development Programme (MERECP)

The Mt. Elgon Regional Ecosystem Conservation and Development Programme (MERECP) is co-financed by Norway who also act as lead donor. The project implemented over a period of 4 years starting 1st September 2005 to 30th August 2009 aims at enhancing the conservation status and benefits of Mt Elgon ecosystem for environment quality and livelihoods. MERECP will support the EAC Secretariat and governments of Kenya and Uganda to strengthen management of protected areas components of the Mt. Elgon ecosystem and initiate sustainable development activities in the districts of Trans-Nzoia, Mt. Elgon, Kapchorwa, Sironko and Mbale.

The first annual review of the programme took place in May 2007 and suggested that implementation is on track and no major problems have been encountered to date. There is a realization that synergy exists between MERECP and some of the on-going projects/ programmes in the region specifically within the Lake Victoria Basin. The case in point are the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Plan (NELSAP) of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) based in Kakamega Kenya. For instance MERECP and NELSAP do compliment each other and there are opportunities for consolidation of institutional set ups; promoting scaling up particularly in areas where both programmes/projects are being implemented such as the Mt. Elgon District in Kenya and Manafwa and Bududa Districts in Uganda; and sharing experiences and lessons.

⁸ The Community-based Savings for Empowerment Project (CO-SAVE) is an integrated financial component in the Lake Victoria Development Programme. The project began its implementation in June 2006 after a structural redesign in March 2006.

However for the second year, the project only managed to utilise less than half of the funds allocated. This is attributed to the fact that implementing institutions⁹ take longer time to internalize the MERECF programme, implementation manual and systems and procedures despite receiving MERECF funds early. Insecurity in some areas of operations is another reason. The most affected is the Mount Elgon County Council. Other factors included low absorption of the MERECF funds budgeted for in the work plan, compliance to MERECF technical quarterly and financial reporting as required, inadequate budgetary allocations for some of the key MERECF activities in particular the consultancies and weather conditions have had negative implications on the implementation of planned activities. The most affected include activities directly dependent on weather conditions.

The use of firearms by poachers and cattle rustlers as well as the use of the Mount Elgon forest ecosystem as hideouts and escape routes heightens insecurity in the ecosystem. A mid-term review will take place during 2008.

4.3.4 WWF – Lake Victoria Environmental Education Programme

The review of the Lake Victoria Catchment Environmental Education Programme (LVCEEP)

was conducted in the months of May and June 2007. Overall programme performance was rated ‘good’ despite the various challenges.

The programme was found to be relevant to the needs of the target groups in the catchment area and also contributed positively to the EAC Protocol for Sustainable development of the Lake Victoria. The project design was found to be good technically. Its drawbacks were that it was not an all inclusive process and the financial resources were inadequate. The implementation performance was found to be fair because at the beginning there were many teething problems, the project executants were not conversant with the log frame, the project was in fits and starts, leading to poor planning with stakeholders. But once these problems were ironed out the programme was implemented more efficiently. In addition the approaches used i.e. capacity development in Environmental Education (EE) and the greening initiatives elicited a lot of impact in the target area.

The impacts were found to be very good both at school and community levels. This is because catchment rehabilitation has begun, wetland degradation is reducing and the attitudes and behaviours of the target groups towards environmental conservation have changed positively. There was strong synergy between the target schools and their communities with the strongest link being the children. The findings from the review formed a basis for the next phase of support which was signed later in the year.

4.3.5 Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project Phase II

Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project planning phase (LVEMP II) is under completion by EAC/LVBC and the 5 countries in the basin with support from World Bank (WB). WB will establish a Trust fund for the programme in 2008. LVI will assess a request for funding during 2008.

⁹ These institutions include: Mbale, Kapchorwa, and Sironko Districts, Uganda Wildlife Authority and Kenya Wildlife Service

LVI received a request from the World Bank to make available and finance two experts in the areas of watershed management and institutional development. Two consultants were provided and completed their tasks on time. The purpose of the consultancy assignment was to review essential LVEMP II preparatory documents and to be part of World Bank LVEMP II appraisal missions. These experts worked with a team from the World Bank and reported directly to the LVEMP II Task Leader based in Nairobi, Kenya..

The process to ensure that both Rwanda and Burundi fully participate in the LVEMP II was put in earnest through the support that LVI provided in late 2006. The recruitment of Burundi and Rwanda National Coordinators for LVEMP II was completed and preparation of a request for proposals for three consultancies (Natural Resource Management, Institutional Arrangement and Review of Technical studies) under the LVEMP II framework and submission to Sida for a no objection was done. The procurement of the three core consultancies were concluded and Inception Reports received by NELSAP/Kagera PMU and discussed by the stakeholders in the two countries. The final reports are due in the first quarter of 2008.

4.3.6 Osienala

Community Based Strategies for the Management of the Environment and Resources of Lake Victoria (COSMER-LAV) aims at reducing environmental degradation and to ensure sustainable management of resources in the Lake Victoria region. The second year of COSMER-LAV focused on four components. These are Industrial waste management and pollution control; Ecological sanitation; HIV/AIDS; and capacity development. In addition, Osienala continued to identify more partners to be involved in implementation of COSMER-LAV activities. During the second year three more partners from Tanzania were identified and incorporated in the programme's activities.

Osienala has promoted the use of constructed wetlands for management of waste water in industries. In collaboration with Agro Chemical and Food Company (ACFC), Osienala is constructing a demonstration wetland site at its Muhoroni factory.

A number of ecological sanitation (ecosan) demonstration sites were constructed in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. A social cultural study on adaptation of ecosan has been conducted in Tanzania and Uganda to provide a regional perspective. The findings of these studies were combined with a similar study done in Kenya during the first year of COSMER-LAV. Education radio programmes were conducted through out the year to promote ecosan.

HIV/AIDS sensitization and education radio programmes were conducted on Radio Lake Victoria. The programmes were aired once a week for eight months. The programmes aimed at improving the quality of life for those affected by HIV/AIDS pandemic by initiating skills and knowledge base that will lead not only to reduction of HIV/AIDS but also to better care and management of those affected. This is handled as a mainstream issue.

4.3.7 The East African Civil Society Watchdog Project for Sustainable Development in the Lake Victoria basin

The East African Civil Society Watchdog Project for Sustainable Development in the Lake Victoria basin is a 3 year project that started in December 2006. The project has the overall objective of developing the

capacity of CSOs in collective advocacy and lobbying activities aimed at supporting/enhancing sustainable development policies within the Lake Victoria basin at local, national and regional levels. The first year review will take place in early 2008. Key outputs during 2007 include:

- input into the draft Lake Victoria Commission Bill through presentation of CSO views to EALA, preparation and distribution of the civil society discussion paper No.1: “Barriers to promotion of sustainable development in the Lake Victoria Basin”,
- prepared a statement to the commonwealth heads of government meeting, EAC and the commonwealth peoples forum: “Voicing out Lake Victoria Concerns”.
- organised and facilitated side event during the World Social Forum (WSF 2007) in Nairobi: Neglected commitments, neglected hopes for another world – a civil society assessment of implementation barriers to sustainable development in Asia, Africa and Latin America in addition to facilitation of 18 East Africans to attend the WSF 2007.
- capacity needs assessment of participating civil society organisations to enable targeted capacity development efforts in the second year.

4.4 Activity Area 4: Combating HIV/AIDS

A support to EAC’s efforts to coordinate interventions targeting trans-boundary issues through AMREF which started with an inception phase in 2006 was to be fully implemented in 2007–2009. The programme that focuses on mobile populations in the Lake Victoria region was delegated to the Norwegian Swedish Regional HIV/AIDS Team for Africa, based in Lusaka. LVI continued to build synergy with the Lusaka team through joint support to the Human Rights Development Initiative (HRDI)¹⁰.

The continued endeavour of moving from direct support towards HIV/AIDS mainstreaming resulted in a that disbursement levels within this activity area during 2007 were rather modest. A total of SEK 6,5 million was disbursed representing 6% of the total LVI disbursements. This nevertheless represents an increase compared with 2006 when disbursements within this activity were SEK 3,5 million, making up 3% of total LVI disbursements.

4.4.1 Diakonia

Two review meetings with Diakonia and its partners have been held. The programme aims at promoting and supporting sustainable livelihoods of the fishing communities of the lake through addressing HIV/AIDS prevention and mitigation; civic education on human rights and good governance; economic empowerment; and increasing the role of faith-based community organisations in HIV/AIDS and development through networking and coordination in the region.

Measurable progress to date in this project includes:¹¹

- Increased tolerance and cooperation of Muslim and Christian on development issues especially combating HIV/AIDS in the areas of operation within the Lake region. This is evident in Ukerewe in Tanzania and Sio Port in Kenya where there is multi-denominational cooperation.

¹⁰ An innovative collaborative effort of key public interest lawyers and stakeholders who recognised both the gap and the challenge with respect to building a strong cadre of lawyers who will use the international and regional human rights mechanisms to advocate with and on behalf of communities within Africa

¹¹ Ref: Diakonia Interim Progress Report (January – June 2007) – Submitted to Sida in July 2007

- Functional project establishments and management with active community project committees with strong ownership and participation of the various stakeholders, holding coordination meetings regularly.
- A team of community resource persons trained, who are integrated in communities and reach out to the fishing communities. Orphans and vulnerable persons are trained on vocational and income generation skills. There is increasing collaboration with other stakeholders and government institutions, enhancing the synergies within the community programmes. On overall, there is observed increased willingness among community members to seek medical services and improve their nutrition coupled with reduced stigma including open discussions on HIV/AIDS in communities and religious groupings.
- Paralegals have been trained and are creating increased awareness of basic human rights issues. Communities are engaging the paralegals in discussion on rights issues (especially property and children rights). In some communities, some of the affected have been able to effectively voice their rights as a result of the awareness and training.

4.4.2 EAC/AMREF Partnership

As per the annual plan the LVI initiated EAC/AMREF partnership support for Mobile populations in the Lake Victoria region was delegated to the Regional HIV/AIDS Team for Africa, based in Lusaka. A new agreement (2007 – 2009) was signed in May 2007 (the Regional HIV/AIDS Team being the counterpart) and the programme was launched in October 2007. However, LVI keeps a foot in the support, as the key focus area is Lake Victoria Basin region. This programme has enabled LVI and the Regional HIV/AIDS Team to build synergies and enhance collaboration.

4.4.3 Mainstreaming

It should be noted that this year LVI has not made new strides in signing new agreements. However, discussions and follow up with the old partners is continuous and mainstreaming aspects within old partners has taken shape. VI/SCC, LVRLAC, Friendship with Ihushi, and Diakonia have developed major HIV/AIDS integrated initiatives within their programmes. LVBC is setting up an HIV/AIDS Unit (under the AMREF support) to take charge of the issues in the commission's jurisdiction in close collaboration with EAC HIV/AIDS and Health Coordination Unit in Arusha.

There is also increasing realisation by our partners that issues of combating HIV/AIDS are part and parcel of all development sectors and initiatives. However, there is a glaring need to improve planning and implementation, by support to designing specific activities and progress indicators for effective follow-up and monitoring of the mainstreaming efforts.

4.5 Activity Area 5: Private Sector Development for Economic Growth

Discussions on capacity development of the cleaner production centres in the region had been held in 2006 and support provided in readiness for the launch of the LVEMP 2. In 2007 Country plan LVI committed to also support the cooperation between ILO, UN-Habitat and cities around Lake Victoria to harmonise their responses to solid waste management with private-public partnerships.

No new agreements were signed within this activity area and the review period saw minimal disbursements amounting to SEK 4 million, representing 3,6% of total LVI disbursements. This was a significant decrease when compared to 2006 where LVI disbursed SEK 14,5 million within this activity area, accounting for 11% of the total disbursements during that year.

4.5.1 The International Council of Swedish Industry (NIR)/East African Business Council (EABC) Partnership

Gateway East Africa aims at supporting the development of the private sectors in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda through cooperation between Swedish and East African industry. Important aspects of the programme are business strengthening activities, marketing activities and to some extent institutional development.

An evaluation of Sida support to the partnership between NIR and EABC was finalized in early 2006. The final part of the joint EABC and NIR programme was a trade mission to Sweden. 16 businessmen from export companies in East Africa were invited to Sweden to meet with interested Swedish importers. The businessmen were accompanied by officers from each country's export promotion organisation. The prioritised product sector was agriculture but other items were included. The visit to Sweden took place on October 15th to 17th. Prior to the visit EABC and NIR arranged preparatory workshops in East Africa in order to meet with the selected companies that were to take part in the delegation and inform them about special circumstances on the Swedish market.

EABC and NIR were thankful for the important support Sida has given the GEA programme since 2003. An application for support for another three-year-period was submitted to Sida last year. However, the proposed continuation of the programme was not approved.

EABC and NIR have produced a catalogue with important information and contact data for the East African companies interested in exporting to the Swedish market. It was to be presented as a booklet, as well as on EABC's and NIR's websites, in the end of August and be a valuable tool for any company wanting to explore the Swedish market. It was to contain information on importers, exporters and different support organisations available for exporters.

4.5.2 Kenya National Cleaner Production Centre

National Project Steering Committees (NSCs) have been put in place in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Rwanda. In addition, awareness raising activities are going on in all the countries. Recruitment of Project Accountants has been done in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Rwanda are augmenting the remuneration of the current REMA Accountant to offer services for this project.

The first drafts of the Human resource manual, financial and procurement manuals have already been developed by KNCPC and are undergoing expert peer review. They shall then be presented to the KNCPC Advisory Board especially for policy guidance before adoption.

Awareness raising and short Cleaner Production (CP) training sessions for businesses, local authorities and financial institutions are ongoing in all the four participating countries; Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda.

With regards to procurement of equipment, this has been done by the National Cleaner Production Centres in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

The procurement procedures for the Rwanda Environment Management Authority are much more cumbersome and therefore the purchase of equipment has taken longer, although it is in progress. The KNCP has purchased Quick Book financial package and is liaising with the other partners to adopt the same.

Generally speaking the project has taken off well and scheduled activities are on course. Constraints observed in all the participating entities include: insufficient personnel to handle the extra workload of activities under this project, and for the NCPCs, inadequacy of space for new staff within the small offices provided by host institutions. This may indicate potential lack of ownership and may hamper efficiency and effectiveness and may eventually translate into a sustainability challenge. It shall be monitored accordingly.

5. Office and Administrative Issues

In January 2007 LVI welcomed a Posted Senior Programme Officer for Water and Natural Resources Management to the Embassy in Nairobi. The appointment of a National Programme Officer for LVI in Dar es Salaam is a positive move in ensuring the participation of the Embassy on LVI issues. The envisaged relocation of one Regional Programme Officer to Kampala was not realised during the review period.

LVI continued to work towards the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Action Plan. LVI actively participated in development of a Quality Assurance Plan for the Embassy in Nairobi.

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Annex

CONTRIBUTION PORTFOLIO 2007

Country	(All)
Resp Unit	(All)
Resp Officer	(All)

Delimitation:
Status: I, P, A and C (Ag' end > 2007/00 or Outcome2007 <= 0)
Region/Country:
Main sector:
Alloc account: 155028
Other criteria:
Department:

Country Alloc	Alloc Account	Contribution	Status	Data	DAA Total	Outcome up to 2006	Outcome 2007	FC 2007	FC 2008	FC 2009	FC 2010
OUTSIDE	Lake Victoria										
		33100014 East African Suswath	A		5 000 000	899 977	999 688	1 000 023	1 400 000	1 700 000	0
		21000405 NPO Lake Vic	C		2 518 344	1 721 119	797 168	797 141	0	0	0
		33000035 Local Lake Victoria PO	C		2 463 805	1 896 184	567 621	567 620	0	0	0
		21000404 NPO Lake Vic	C		2 401 514	1 854 835	546 679	546 678	0	0	0
		33000069 BUP-IUCEA Inception	A		300 000	0	0	0	0	1	0
		71004512 Kampala Eco San	A		15 800 000	14 398 020	530 602	1 426 081	0	0	0
		73000521 IUCN Mount Elgon	A		12 600 000	3 150 000	1 288 900	1 288 900	5 011 100	3 150 000	0
		33100019 Ecosan capacity dev/disse	I		5 000 000	0	0	0	0	0	0
		21000390 LVI Prog Dev Cap Building	C		200 000	0	0	0	0	0	0
		21000420 LVEMP 2 Programme Support	I		40 000 000	0	0	0	10 000 000	15 000 000	15 000 000
		21000425 Lake Vic. Cleaner Product	A		4 700 000	4 700 000	0	0	0	0	0
		21000375 LVI Programme Development	A		12 700 000	640 362	1 434 647	3 985 394	3 500 000	3 500 000	0
		21000364 SAFINA-AAA network	A		3 800 000	3 800 000	0	0	0	0	0
		21000396 UN-ass. Sweden - Lake Vic	A		6 500 000	4 135 269	2 197 299	2 364 731	0	0	0
		21000383 Osiernala	A		14 000 000	9 282 750	4 617 250	4 717 250	100 000	0	0
		21000371 EA Legislative Ass/AWEPA	A		6 000 000	3 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	0	0
		21000466 Nile Basin Trust Fund	I		14 000 000	0	0	0	7 000 000	7 000 000	0
		21000372 Friends with Ihushi	A		1 107 000	907 000	200 000	200 000	0	0	0
		21000440 WWF Lake Vic Eduprogram2	A		19 400 000	0	6 800 000	6 800 000	0	6 200 000	6 400 000
		21000442 UN Habitat City Dev Strat	A		42 450 000	8 000 000	15 316 500	15 317 000	15 133 000	4 000 000	0
		21000416 LVI proj. Roadmap	A		1 000 000	105 750	40 226	120 000	0	0	0
		71000592 AEA NBI Power Trade	C		19 000 000	19 000 000	0	0	0	0	0
		21000394 LVI Communication & Coord	A		600 000	0	466	300 000	300 000	0	0
		21000523 LV partnership fund	C		9 297 925	9 297 925	0	0	0	0	0
		21000462 Osiernala 2008-2010	I		13 000 000	0	0	0	5 000 000	4 000 000	4 000 000
		21000428 IUCN Journalist Network	A		487 000	481 662	-7 864	0	0	1	0
		21000437 NBT/NEL/SAP-CU 2006-2009	A		26 000 000	7 100 000	9 500 000	9 500 000	9 400 000	0	0
		73000501 Applied Training	C		19 000 000	19 000 000	0	0	0	0	0
		21000471 LVEMP 2 Prep Rwanda/Burun	A		3 630 000	3 630 000	0	0	0	0	0
		21000343 Amref HIV/AIDS	A		3 348 000	3 348 000	0	0	0	0	0
		33100021 Network Env Journalist IU	P		6 000 000	0	0	0	2 500 000	3 500 000	0
		21500072 HRDI, Aids discrimin LVI	A		4 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	0	0
		21000439 Swe Red Cross Lake Vic 07	P		12 500 000	0	0	0	4 500 000	4 000 000	4 000 000
		21000341 Support Civil Soc. Orgn	P		14 009 200	0	0	2 009 200	4 000 000	4 000 000	4 000 000
		71004522 LVRLAC 2006-2009	A		21 000 000	4 992 157	4 361 429	4 549 996	6 857 847	5 200 000	0
		21000377 LVI Prog dev-Priv Sector	C		200 000	82 364	0	0	0	0	0

Country Alloc	Alloc Account	Contribution	Status	DAA Total	Outcome up to 2006	Outcome 2007	FC 2007	FC 2008	FC 2009	FC 2010
OUTSIDE	Lake Victoria									
		21000385 LVI Prog Dev HIV/AIDS	C	395 038	395 038	0	0	0	0	0
		21000463 UN-Ass Sweden-Lake Vic 2	I	7 000 000	0	0	0	2 000 000	2 000 000	3 000 000
		21000363 Swe Red Cross Lake Vic Pr	C	12 000 000	12 000 000	0	0	0	0	0
		21000384 LVI Prog Dev Environment	C	400 000	297 058	0	0	0	0	0
		21000380 Prog Dev Empowerment	C	129 740	129 740	0	0	0	0	0
		21000464 Lake Vic Safety Commun	I	3 000 000	0	0	0	1 000 000	2 000 000	0
		33100023 SCCMI LVDP 2009	I	40 000 000	0	0	0	0	20 000 000	20 000 000
		21000389 WWF Lake Vic Eduprogram	A	5 200 000	5 200 000	0	0	0	0	0
		21000339 LVEMP2 plan support	A	4 080 000	3 599 998	480 000	0	0	0	0
		21000426 Ecovic	P	15 000 000	0	0	5 000 000	0	5 000 000	5 000 000
		21000340 LVEMP2 bridging support	A	10 000 000	10 000 000	0	0	0	0	0
		21000421 Diakonia - Reg. HIV/AIDS	A	15 000 000	5 000 000	5 000 000	5 000 000	5 000 000	0	0
		33100022 BUP - IUCEA Cooperation	P	12 000 000	0	0	3 000 000	4 000 000	5 000 000	0
		21000451 Exchange LVBC-HELCOM	A	650 000	508 600	0	141 400	0	0	0
		21000477 Faithbiologema - LVYCO	A	590 800	0	590 800	590 800	0	0	0
		21000438 LV Part. Fund 2006-2008	A	13 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 499 998	0	0
		72500319 Makerere Journalist edu 2	I	21 000 000	0	0	7 000 000	8 000 000	13 065 250	0
		73000459 NELSAP River Basins (NBI)	A	59 000 000	12 734 849	19 761 796	22 232 477	14 700 000	0	0
		21000057 The Lake Victoria Post	C	13 832 103	11 929 553	1 902 550	1 909 091	0	0	0
		21000407 NPO Lake Vic, Tanzania	C	444 550	411 491	33 059	33 060	0	0	0
		21000400 Reg Adv Lake Vic	C	1 285 306	1 285 306	0	0	0	0	0
		21200050 PO Lake Vic	A	2 298 948	1 268 661	2 172 287	2 172 286	0	0	0
		78000227 244 TWM Lake Victoria	A	10 200 000	1 268 665	2 819 274	2 819 273	3 200 000	1 900 000	0
		71000764 NIR/Gateway East Africa	C	5 585 878	5 085 878	500 000	500 000	0	0	0
		72001137 Makerere Journalist edu.	A	25 800 000	25 477 666	300 233	300 233	0	0	0
		73004522 WB TF023542 Nile/Zambezi	C	11 000 000	10 996 956	-27 103	0	0	0	0
		21000436 VI/SCG Life prog. 2006-08	A	68 500 000	20 500 000	22 500 000	26 000 000	31 000 000	0	0
		74002428 Forum Syd Lake Vic 04	C	18 950 000	15 368 659	-487 572	0	0	0	0
		21000485 EAC/LVBC Developm Fund	I	70 000 000	0	0	0	0	15 000 000	15 000 000
		21000513 Support NEL-CU	C	7 000 000	7 000 000	0	0	0	0	0
		21000483 Regional Solid Waste PPP	I	15 000 000	0	0	0	0	5 000 000	5 000 000
		21000484 LVYCO/Kenya Wildlife Club	I	13 000 000	0	0	0	4 000 000	5 000 000	4 000 000
		21000337 EAC/LVBC Trust Fund	I	25 500 000	0	0	0	1 500 000	6 000 000	6 000 000
		31100042 EA Leg Assembly 2009-2011	I	7 500 000	0	0	0	0	2 500 000	2 500 000
	Lake Victoria Total			879 355 151	281 039 480	111 735 935	132 668 635	157 101 946	153 715 251	109 400 000
	OUTSIDE Total			879 355 151	281 039 480	111 735 935	132 668 635	157 101 946	153 715 251	109 400 000
	Grand Total			879 355 151	281 039 480	111 735 935	132 668 635	157 101 946	153 715 251	109 400 000

Halving poverty by 2015 is one of the greatest challenges of our time, requiring cooperation and sustainability. The partner countries are responsible for their own development. Sida provides resources and develops knowledge and expertise, making the world a richer place.



SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

SE-105 25 Stockholm Sweden
Phone: +46 (0)8 698 50 00
Fax: +46 (0)8 20 88 64
sida@sida.se, www.sida.se