

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP) Coordination Unit



NELSAP News

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NEL Info

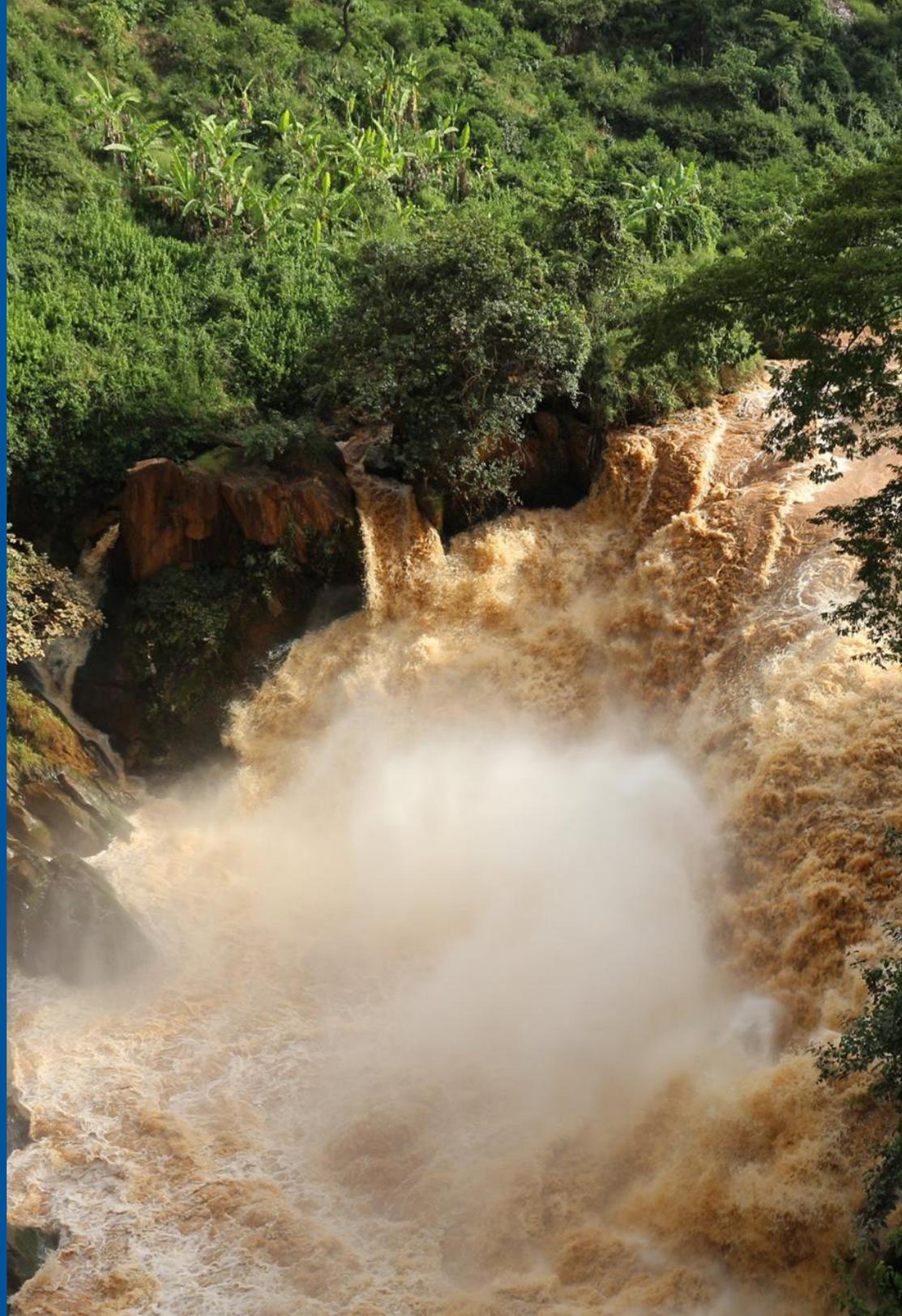
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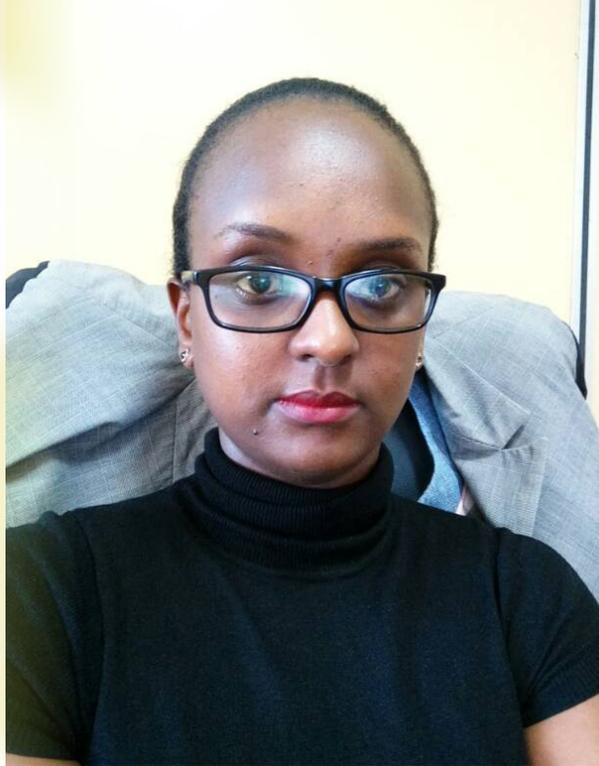
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Message from the Communications Desk

The last quarter of 2017 was arguably the busiest period in our calendar with a lot of activities going on and us as NELSAP did our best to work towards our mission which is to contribute to the eradication of poverty, to promote economic growth, and to reverse environmental degradation in the Nile Equatorial Lakes region.

The extraordinary Nile Equatorial Lakes Technical Advisory Committee (NELTAC) meeting along the Nile Equatorial Lakes Council of Ministers (NELCOM) was held in October 2017 and saw to a change of leadership.

Projects worked hard to realize their activities; LEAFII started national consultations with the aim of harmonizing fisheries in both member states, the Zambia-Tanzania and Kenya Interconnector project commenced after the conclusion of the feasibility studies and the construction of the Regional Rusumo Hydroelectric Power Project took on a stable progress.

As we promised to keep you updated with the activities on our calendars every quarter through The NELSAP INFO newsletter, we hope that this issue will be as informative to your liking.

Here at NELSAP, we wish you a great year full of possibilities and actions ■

Our Mission

To contribute to the eradication of poverty, economic growth, and reversal of environmental degradation in the Nile Equatorial Lakes region

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Development partners visit Rusumo Falls Hydro Electric Project



On 27th of October 2017, development partners (DPs): EU, World Bank, Sida and DFID/UK along with NELSAP staff visited the Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric project (RRFHP), whereby the tour covered the project dam construction site and a few selected projects' beneficiaries of the Livelihood Restoration Program (LRP).

RRFHP has invested more funds to bring quick socio-economic im-

pacts for both the PAPs and communities at the border of Rwanda, Tanzania and Burundi. While the project is expected to produce about 80 MW at the cost of US\$340 million, quick win impacts were required to ensure the project neighborhood society enjoys the project related activities.

The project that is expected to provide 26.6MW to each of the three countries through each country's

electric grids has already provided benefits to the households.

Janinah Mbabazi, the Social Development and Resettlement Officer at the RRFHP told the visitors that "on-going programs include a three-year Livelihood Restoration Program (LRP) whose implementation started in January 2017 with a budget of US\$670,000".

The LRP activities were advanced

on both Rwanda and Tanzania. In Rwanda, the project affected persons (PAPs) opted for cattle, poultry, piggery and beekeeping projects in the livestock component while others are into crop production practices raising mushrooms, soya beans, vegetables and beans. Under the off farm activity component, PAPs (a group of them) established a restaurant and hair dressing businesses, among other things



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Development partners visit Rusumo Falls Hydro Electric Project

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On the power project side of things, after the ground-breaking ceremony at the end of March, a lot of achievements have been made including the compensation of the 156 households in the three countries directly affected by necessary resettlement operations to pave way for construction is complete.

In Rwanda alone, 53 households were resettled as the regional power project, Peter Jewitt explained.

In Kirehe district, the Cyagasenyi-Gasarabwayi-Nganda murram feeder road is up for development, in addition to the construction of a health center in Kigina Sector.

Two other projects are being implemented under LADP in Ngooma District as well; construction of a 28.7 kilometre water pipeline supplying a population of 10,500 people in Gatonde and Gahima cells; and construction of the Mugesera-Rukumberi irrigation project, a 1,500 hectare zone farmland with 10,212 household beneficiaries.



NELSAP participates in the 5th NBDF



NELSAP participated in the 5th Nile Basin Discourse Forum, a high level regional science-policy dialogue that discussed how the Nile cooperation can contribute to sustainable development in the Nile Basin countries that was held from October 23 – 25, 2017 at the Kigali Convention Centre Complex in Kigali, Rwanda.

The organization of the event was mainly coordinated by the Nile Basin Initiative Secretariat

(NILESEC) in collaboration with the Government of Rwanda and with support from the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), the World Bank and Cooperation in International Waters in Africa (CIWA) among other stakeholders.

The 5th Forum had robust, insightful and productive dialogues between the participants and representatives of the ten NBI Member States and other stakeholders.

Through the insightful and compelling technical discussions held over the event days, participants noted that there are different burdens being faced by the countries in the Basin and the Nile Basin Initiative is needed to ensure current and future generations can deal with any adverse consequences that might result from pressures like climate changes and socio-economic variations.

ZTK project commences with financiers roundtable conference

NELSAP among other stakeholders participated in the Zambia- Tanzania- Kenya (ZTK) power interconnector project financiers' roundtable that held during November 29 – 30, 2017 at David Livingstone Safari Lodge in Livingstone, Zambia.

The roundtable brought key stakeholders as part of resource mobilization for infrastructure development just after the key reports, feasibility and ESIA/RAP studies were approved. Power interconnection transmission lines and substations will be constructed once finances are mobilized by the respective countries running a line of about 2,300km from Kenya (Isinya) through Tanzania to Zambia (Kabwe).

In her opening remarks, the PS of the Ministry of Energy of Zambia Brig. Gen. Emelda Chola said Energy plays pivotal role in the development of nations and regional development, the reason ZTK should be given priority. Feasibility and ESIA/RAP studies were conducted by NELSAP in support of the three countries financed by different financiers.

Once the line is constructed, it will enable countries from the Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP) and Southern Africa Power Pool (SAPP) trade electricity among themselves improving both availability of electricity and purchasing power of countries while reducing unnecessary investments on power generation facilities.



Kabuyanda Multipurpose Water Resources Project ESIA/RAP Studies commences

Building from the on-going feasibility & ESIA/RAP studies on different project preparation, NELSAP conducted a stakeholders' workshop held during November 20 – 21, November 2017 at Africana Hotel in Kampala, Uganda for the Kabuyanda Multipurpose project to discuss the final feasibility study report and technical design.

The team then visited the communities in Isingiro District where the Kabuyanda Multipurpose Dam and irrigation infrastructure which will be along the Mishumba River in Kabuyanda in Isingiro District. The study is financed by the NCORE/CIWA and managed by NELSAP in support of the Government of Uganda.

“The project started way back in 2012 when it was identified and we got the funding in 2013 from the Cooperation of International Waters for Africa to conduct the studies along with other 5 projects and now, this final report indicates that the project is feasible and ready for implementation” explained Andy Maro Tola, the Head of the Program at NELSAP while speaking to the Isingiro community who are the beneficiaries of the project.

The Kabuyanda Multipurpose project will develop a water reservoir that will provide water for domestic use (drinking), for cattle and irrigation at the peak of dry season.

“We therefore should be engaged as community members in understanding the importance of this project and embrace it because it will answer most of our water based issues, said Mr. Musota Richard the representative of the Ministry of Water and Environment while addressing to the Kabuyanda people.

Mr. Jeremiah Kamurari the District Chairperson of Isingiro District said the intervention of the leadership in the project to inform the people of the importance to the success of the project and not contradict with the environmental impact report.



NELSAP holds the Annual NEL governance meetings



Just like as always, the 20th Nile Equatorial Lakes Council of Ministers (NELCOM) was held preceded by the 28th Nile Equatorial Lakes Technical Advisory Council (NELTAC) during October 12 – 14, 2017 in Entebbe, Uganda.

The governance meetings are held annually with the purpose of giving accountability on the operations of NELSAP.

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NELSAP management presented to the governance the strategic issues for guidance and approvals. During the October 2017 meetings were able to approve the 2017/2018 NELSAP budget, the 5 – Year NELSAP Strategic Plan, which set priorities NELSAP will be implementing in the next five year. It was during the same meetings, the chairmanship was handed over. The Sudan handled the Chairmanship to Tanzania who will chair both the NELTAC and NELCOM agenda throughout the year.

Power Interconnection Project Shared Between DRC and Uganda

NELSAP facilitated the signing of the cooperative and collaborative Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the two countries (DRC & Uganda) for joint development of the power interconnection transmission line infrastructure: Uganda (Nkenda) – DRC (Beni-Bunia-Butembo) 220kV. The DRC Ministry of Finance already written a letter to AfDB & WB firming up that the said power transmission line is of high priority while Uganda was processing on her side to share the letter with the financiers.





NELSAP Continued Supporting Member Countries on the water resources allocation and economic modelling trainings

NELSAP continued supporting member countries in capacity building to strengthen the interventions on water resources allocation and economic modelling. The trainings were conducted in three countries of the South Sudan, The Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo. Participants in the trainings gained special skills on improving water allocation for economic production, and water for supporting the environment and society. A total of 45 participants benefited from the trainings conducted in the three countries.

The training provided participants with key relevant skills on water allocation scenarios to optimize use of the available limited water resources.



NELSAP staff and development partners Participated in Community Works (Umuganda)

NELSAP Staff accompanied by the development partners (DPs): EU, World Bank, Sida and DFID/UK on October 28, 2017 participated in the Community work (Umuganda), which is a practice happening on every Saturday towards the end of each month. The specific activity the team participated was planting trees at Gikomero sector in Gasabo District. The Umuganda event has the main objective of contributing to the overall national development in Rwanda.



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