
**THE IMPACT OF FISHING ACTIVITIES AS A TOOL ON SOCIAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT IN UGANDA; A CASE STUDY OF KASENYI LANDING SITE
WAKISO DISTRICT**

1 Bukomeko Tanansi, 2 Mukoyani Geophery

1, 2 Metropolitan International University

ABSTRACT

This study looked at the impact of fishing activities as a tool on social economic development in Uganda; a case study of Kasenyi landing site Wakiso district. The purpose of this study was to examine the impact of fishing activities as a tool on social economic development in Uganda using of Kasenyi landing site as the case study. This study was guided by three main objectives that is, to find out how fishing activities contribute to social economic improvement of local community around Kasenyi fishing landing site, to find out the different activities involved in fishing around Kasenyi fishing landing site and to establish the relationship between fishing and other social economic activities around Kasenyi fishing landing site. The findings show that respondents in the age bracket of 18 - 30 years were the majority representing 48% followed by those in the age racket of 31 – 40 years who constituted 25%. Those between 40 – 50 years constituted 18% while those over 50 years constituted 10%. The results confirm what was observed by Muzige (2009) that fishing activities are mostly done by people of between the age of 20 and 40. The study recommends that there is need to formulate and package policies, byelaws and regulations to guide enforcement of quality of fish yield standard. Approaches to fisheries conflicts arbitration to address these issues at local, national and international challenges must be emphasized in guiding management decisions.

Key words: *fishing activities and social economic development*

Background of the study

Fishing is an ancient practice that dates back to at least the beginning of the upper Paleolithic period about 40,000 years ago. The analysis of the remains of the Tianyuan man, a 40,000 years-old modern human from eastern Asia, shows that he regularly consumed freshwater fish. Archaeology features such as shell maidens, discarded fish bones, and cave paintings show that sea foods were important for survival and consumed in significant quantities.

Fishing in Africa is evident very early on in human history 200,000 BC years people could have developed basketry for fish traps, and spinning and early forms of knitting. In the 17th century, the British dogger was the first type of sailing trawler, but the modern was developed in the 19th century at the English fishing port of Brigham.

The earliest steam powdered fishing boats first appeared in the 1870s and used the trawl system of fishing as well as lines and drift nets. The importance of fish-based SMEs in economic development cannot be over-emphasized in Uganda and rely on these firms to support a significant segment of the population. Over 2 million people respectively in Uganda depended on fish for their livelihood in 2006. The industry supports food security, supply of animal protein, incomes of players and major earner of foreign exchange for the country. Fishing industry forms a crucial part of poverty alleviation strategy in the country being the largest agricultural export commodity in Uganda, also meeting fish nutrient needs of about 22 million people in East Africa (Ishengoma and Koppel's, 2008; Hammerless et al., 2010; Jaabi and Esemu, 2013).

Uganda is a landlocked country in East Africa bordered to the east by Kenya, north by South Sudan, west by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, southwest by Rwanda and to the south by Tanzania. Uganda is the second most populous landlocked country (Keizire, 2004).

Problem statement

The idea of fishing should be illustrated by expansion of fishing grounds to fishing ponds in developing the country. Formal fishing is generally hesitant to lake fishing with limited

spices while private fishing ponds have a reasonable opportunity, they have low quality nutrients. Despite technological improvements in Uganda, there is still room for further changes as fish exports enter EU with limited value addition (semi-process products) which are processed further and repackaged for overseas markets according to customer preferences.

Specific objectives

- 1. To find out how fishing activities contribute to social economic improvement of local community around Kasenyi fishing landing site.*
- 2. To find out the different activities involved in fishing around Kasenyi fishing landing site.*
- 3. To establish the relationship between fishing and other social economic activities around Kasenyi fishing landing site.*

Research questions

- 1. What are the different activities involved in fishing around Kasenyi fishing landing site Wakiso district?*
- 2. How has fishing activities contributed to the social economic improvement of local communities around Kasenyi fishing landing site Wakiso district?*
- 3. What is the relationship between fishing and other socio-economic activities at Kasenyi fishing landing site Wakiso district?*

Methodology

Research Design

The study used a qualitative research design in nature and it used a correlation survey design which intended to help in finding out the relationship between the major study variables. According to Whitley & Kite, (2013) and Amin, (2005) research design is relevant for studies looking at linear relationships and not necessarily cause and effect relationships.

Study Population

The study was carried out at Kasenyi fishing landing site Entebbe, Wakiso district Uganda. Kasenyi landing site is a busy trading center located 8 km before Entebbe, off Abayita Ababiiri. The study focused 200 respondents in number which made the study population including fishermen as they are the major respondents at the site.

Sample size and selection

The study used a sample size of 200 respondents as determined by the Krejcie and Morgan table, on sample size determination. The sample included both male and female respondents in Kasenyi landing site in Wakiso district. The study therefore used total of 200 respondents that is 150 fishermen, 5 local leaders, 6 Sub-country leaders, 5 politicians, and 36 other stakeholders. This sample size was effective and a good representative of the population, convenient to the researcher in terms of funds, time and others.

Table 1: Sample Size Determination

Population	Target	Sample size	Sampling Method
<i>Cateagory</i> fishermen	<i>Population</i> 300	150	Simple random samplina
Local leaders	8	5	Simple random samplina
Sub-country leaders	12	6	Purposive sampling
politicians	5	3	Purposive sampling
OTHER STAKE HOLDER	600	36	Simple random samplina
Total	925	200	

Simple Random Sampling

The study employed a simple random sampling on selected citizens (both fishermen and other stake holders) because it was taken to be scientific as it allowed equal chances to all members in the population to participate (Frerichs, 2008). The method was used because the setting in which the study to be conducted has a relatively big population.

Purposive sampling

Purposive sampling techniques was used for selecting key informants. The key informants are the fishermen or beneficiaries of fishing at the site and these are major students. The study therefore purposively selected fishermen to represent the fishing' body. Purposive sampling was used because the method was fit for the category of respondents as they are few in number and the method reduced on response errors (Palys, 2008). Purposive sampling was used to generate data that would clarify and or confirm the data generated from the group respondents.

Data Collection Methods

Since the study collected primary data, it employed two data collection methods, both questionnaires and interviews.

Questionnaire Survey Method

A semi-structured questionnaire was used to collect data from randomly selected respondents. Questionnaires was distributed to the selected respondents for completion, and then collected after an agreed time. Questionnaire method was used because it is cheaper, time saving and allowed the study to utilize first-hand information from many people over a short period of time as recommended by (Kothari, 2004).

In-depth Interview Method

This involved interaction between the researcher and the respondents which provided the

opportunity to probe for answers where necessary or for respondents to explain and build on their responses and non-verbal communication would be ready and used as it varied relevance for the study (Somekh & Lewin, 2005). The total of six respondents comprising of two fishermen leaders and four heads of leaders were the key informants for this study, therefore, they are the ones who were interviewed as they are considered knowledgeable to provide information to reinforce the data generated from questionnaires.

Data analysis

Since both qualitative and quantitative data were used to collect, there was analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data.

Quantitative data analysis

Before quantitative data analysis, the collected data was coded, entered in SPSS, edited and verified to ensure accuracy, completeness and consistency. After the necessary data edited, the Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) was used for analysis because it has a wider variety of analysis options like frequencies, percentages, mean and standard deviation, graphs and charts that made it easier to do statistical tests and make proper interpretation (Junker, 2010). Descriptive statistics was used to draw conclusions concerning the variable relations using data from respondents.

Qualitative data analysis

Qualitative data from interviews was qualitatively analyzed. Data was sorted, edited, arranged and coded according to the study objectives. The data was thematically analyzed. Basing on the study variables and objectives, themes were generated and narrative interpretations and conclusions made as explained by (Mugenda, 2003).

RESULTS

Presentation of the findings

Contribution of fishing activities to social economic improvement of local community around Kasenyi fishing landing site.

This study further sought to establish the contribution of fishing activities to social economic development of local communities. This section therefore, required the respondents to indicate their extent of agreement or disagreement on various statements regarding the contribution of fishing activities to social economic development

Table 1: Contribution of fishing activities to social economic development of local communities

Statement	F	SA	F	A	F	NS	F	D	F	SD
<i>Food security at household level through feeding the world's growing population</i>	60	30%	55	28%	20	10%	40	20%	25	13%
<i>Generate substantial income and job opportunities</i>	90	45%	35	18%	15	8%	25	13%	18	7%
<i>Increases the country's GDP</i>	45	23%	50	25%	10	5%	33	20%	10	5%
<i>Provide opportunities to empower individuals to meet their own physical and psychological needs and provide for their dependents</i>	95	48%	35	18%	9	6%	31	16%	30	15%

Source: field data 2022

The table 1 above indicates that 30% strongly agree, 28% agree, 10% of the respondents are not sure, 20% disagree while 13% strongly disagreed with the point that Food security at household level through feeding the world's growing population, the table also indicates that fishing generate substantial income and job opportunities with the following statistics 45% strongly agreed, 18% agreed, 8% not sure, 13% disagreed and 7% of the respondents strongly disagreed. Further still, the table above indicated that 25% strongly agreed, 34% agreed, 5% are not sure, 20% disagreed and 5% strongly disagreed that Increases the country's GDP.

On fishing provides opportunities to empower individuals to meet their own physical and psychological needs and provide for their dependents the statistics show that 48% strongly agreed, 18% agreed, only 9% were not sure, 16% disagree and 30% strongly disagree with the statement.

Different activities involved in fishing around Kasenyi fishing landing site.

This study further sought to establish the different activities involved in fishing around Kasenyi fishing landing site.

Table 2: Different activities involved in fishing around Kasenyi fishing landing site

Statement	F	SA	F	A	F	NS	F	D	F	SD
Fish processing operations	50	25%	85	43%	10	5%	30	15%	25	13%
The transshipment of fish	45	23%	65	33%	15	8%	25	13%	50	25%

Harvesting fishery resources	35	18%	50	25%	20	10%	65	33%	30	15%
Transportation	90	45%	30	15%	8	4%	20	10%	52	26%

Source: *field data 2022*

The table 2 above indicates that 25% strongly agree, 43% agree, 5% of the respondents are not sure, 15% disagree while 13% strongly disagreed with the point that one of the fishing activities used at Kasenyi Landing site is fish processing operations, the table also indicates that another fishing activity is transshipment of fish with 23% strongly agreed, 18% agreed, 8% not sure, 13% disagreed and 25% of the respondents strongly disagreed. Further still, the table above indicated that harvesting fishery resources is among the fishing activities used at Kasenyi landing site 18% strongly agreed, 25% agreed, 8% are not sure, 10% disagreed and 26% strongly with the statement.

Relationship between fishing and other social economic activities around Kasenyi fishing landing site.

Table 3: Relationship between fishing and other social economic activities around

Kasenyi fishing landing site.

Statement	F	SA	F	A	F	NS	F	D	F	SD
Preservation of the sea and the environment at large creates tourism opportunities	85	43%	35	18%	10	5%	40	20%	30	15%

<i>Preservation of the sea controls environmental changes and creates a safe and free environment from natural calamities</i>	60	30%	55	28%	11	6%	30	15%	44	22%
<i>The quality of employment at the fishing sites is increasingly seen as an important social and economic aspect of fisheries</i>	90	45%	30	15%	10	5%	30	15%	20	16%
<i>Fishing activities respond directly to some environmental stressors such as toxic and thermal pollution, flow regime change, and climate change</i>	75	38%	55	28%	9	5%	31	16%	30	15%

Source: field data 2022

43% of the respondents agreed that preservation of the sea and the environment at large creates tourism opportunities, 18% agreed, 5 were not sure, 20% disagreed while 15% of the respondents strongly disagreed with the statement which indicates that there is a relationship between fishing activities and social economic development. 45% of the respondents strongly agreed that the quality of employment at the fishing sites is increasingly seen as an important social and economic aspect of fisheries, 15% agreed, 5% were not sure, 15% disagreed with the statement while 22% strongly disagreed with the statement.

On the quality of employment at the fishing sites is increasingly seen as an important social and economic aspect of fisheries the statistics show that 45% strongly agreed, 15% agreed, only 5% were not sure, 15% disagree and 16% strongly disagree with the statement. 38% of the

respondents strongly agreed that fishing respond directly to some environmental stressors such as toxic and thermal pollution, flow regime change, and climate change, 28% agreed, 5% were not sure, 16% disagreed with the statement while 15% strongly disagreed with the statement.

Conclusions

The study concluded that the government of Uganda through fisheries authorities carries out regular inspection of fish businesses on this landing site to ensure compliance with national quality standards; the fisheries authorities on this landing site regularly issue quality control guidelines to be followed by fishermen and regularly train the fisheries traders in better quality control practices; the government also encourages the use of improved techniques of fish handling, processing, preservation, storage, transportation and marketing on this landing site.

Recommendations

The study recommends that there is need to formulate and package policies, byelaws and regulations to guide enforcement of quality of fish yield standard. Approaches to fisheries conflicts arbitration to address these issues at local, national and international challenges must be emphasized in guiding management decisions. Institutions for enforcing quality should be established and strengthened at local, national and regional level for effective management.

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