

from fisheries resources in Kagera

From MEDDY MULISA in
Bukoba

OVER 3bn/- in revenue was collected from fisheries resources in Kagera region during the 2020/2021 financial year due to heightened security on water bodies, including Lake Victoria, it has been disclosed.

Kagera Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS), Prof Faustin Kamuzora explained that revenue collections from fisheries resources increased from 1,042,486,115/- during 2015/2016, to 3,139,722,518/- during 2020/2021,

He cited concerted efforts made including mounting surveillance on Lake Victoria and discouraging the use of banned gear.

"During the same period, different banned fishing gear including undersized nets were confiscated and destroyed while immature fish weighing 2,289 kilograms worth

175.5m/- were impounded.

Nile perch, which is the most commercially viable species is not allowed to be harvested until it is 50cm long or weighing 2 kilograms," he said.

The East African Community has designated the Lake basin as an 'economic growth zone', with the potential to develop into a major economic region. The fisheries are vital in creating employment opportunities, mostly rural-based, thereby helping to reduce rural-urban migration.

Fish is also a rich source of animal protein for human consumption and provides raw material (fishmeal) for processing animal feeds. The fish industry contributes to GDP and has continued to be an important source of foreign exchange earned from fish exports.

Besides, the fish industry contributes to the national and local government revenues through levying of various taxes, levies and license fees. The sector has also contributed directly and indirectly to the improvement of physical infrastructure and social facilities, such as roads, schools and hospitals, particularly in remote fishing communities.

Based on current stock estimates, the Lake has the potential to yield fish valued at over US\$ 800 million annually on a sustainable basis.

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Iringa livestock stakeholders praise govt for closing donkey slaughterhouses

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya

LIVESTOCK stakeholders in Iringa region have commended the government for banning donkey meat trading and closure of abattoirs which were mainly run by Chinese investors.

Commenting on a recent move by Livestock and Fisheries Minister, Mubimba Ndaki to ban trading in donkey meat, the stakeholders said the decision was long overdue because locally bred donkeys were facing the threat of extinction. Minister Ndaki said the Chinese investors have failed to adhere to agreed conditions including introducing hybrid donkeys to save existing locally bred ones from extinction.

Speaking in a random interview by The Guardian last week, the Iringa based livestock stakeholders said the existence of donkey slaughterhouses had led to an increase in donkey theft in the region but also endangered the safety of and existence of the animals.

They said that presence of the abattoirs and donkey skin processing factories in the country contribute to increased donkey demand hence fuelling thefts and illegal trading of the live animals.

A resident of Mitali village in Iringa district, Rhoda Mwangosi said the government's decision has restored law and order because theft of donkeys in her village has disappeared. Mwangosi added as one of the victims of the donkey thieves, she strongly backs Minister Ndaki's move. Two of my four donkeys were stolen because of presence of these slaughterhouses and tanneries," she charged.

Mwangosi was optimistic that the closure of the factories will help restore donkey numbers in the country for use as beasts of burden especially in rural areas where motorised transport is scarce. "The donkeys are very important to us because they help us fetch water, firewood

and farm produce to markets," she noted.

Mwangosi's arguments were backed by Mirra Village resident, Isideta Mngwile who said that, finally, the government heard their cry and took action. "We are happy that these animals are now safe and we as owners are at peace," Mngwile said while noting that existence of the factories and slaughterhouses forced them to pay herd-uses between 30,000/- and 40,000/- per month to protect them.

A Project Officer from Inades Formation Tanzania, Fortunata Tarimo said donkeys have made a significant contribution to the well-being of the families and smallholder farmers, as they are important beasts of burden. Tarimo said that when donkeys are not present in villages for household use, its mostly girls and women who suffer because their responsibilities are done by the group.

"In rural areas, many activities are done by donkeys such as taking maize or rice mills, help women fetch firewood, take women to clinics and children to school," she argued while saying that the presence of donkeys at community level is a big relief to girls and women.

She said increasing demand for donkeys had pushed prices to new levels peaking at 250,000/- each on average. "As we know a donkey takes a long time to reproduce due to being overworked which negatively affects pregnant donkeys," the Inades Formation Tanzania Project Officer noted.

Malin Koturu, whose is Chairperson of Mbwelili Village, advised the government to keep the ban permanent because livestock keepers had suffered enough due to thieves. "We have now returned to normal because the threat has gone away," Koturu said.

Mbwelili Village Executive Officer, Christina Matayo also backed Minister Ndaki's decision saying civil society organizations such as Inades should sensitise the public on how

to take care of donkeys to increase their numbers.

"I would like to call upon organisations such as Inades to collaborate closely with the government in giving farmers expert advice on how to raise healthy donkeys," Matayo said saying the banning of donkey meat trade and tanneries will restore their numbers about also give owners peace.

Iringa District Council's Livestock Officer, Isidory Karia said donkeys are valuable assets in rural areas and decision by the government of President Samia Suluhu Hassan through Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to ban their trading was meant to protect interest of rural farmers.

Karia commended a project implemented by Inades Formation Tanzania since 2019 for improving donkeys' livelihood as the animals are better off currently. "Before the project, the donkeys were found to have sores, overloaded and owners not following the five donkeys' rights," he stated saying the situation is completely changed now.

"In short, we commend the Inades organization for helping to provide education on animal welfare to the public and for motivating the community to engage in better animal husbandry practices," he noted.

Inades Formation Tanzania's Director, Spencora Kifutu commended the government through Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries for effectively enforcing the Livestock Act of 2008, which has been applied to stop donkey trading business mainly in Shinyanga and Dodoma regions.

Kifutu said abolition of such slaughterhouses and tanneries will lead to an increase in the number of donkeys in the country where so far it is estimated that there are on average of 632,000 donkeys. She said the decision was based on the slower pace of breeding donkeys compared to the high market demand.

"Only a small percentage of farmers are able to get rid of the hand hoe and move to mechanised agriculture technology with donkeys as beasts of burden," the Inades Formation Tanzania Director added.

She pointed out that use of animals such as donkeys is vital for the rural population towards mechanising farming. Kifutu called on the government to continue cooperating with Inades in ensuring that animal welfare laws are implemented and leading to the complete abolition of the trade in the country.



Iringa Regional Veterinary Officer, Isidory Karia (in white coat) giving a de-worming drug to one of the donkeys found at Mbwelili village during a mobile veterinary clinic organised in collaboration with Inades Formation Tanzania last week. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya.

After record year, Bitcoin faces the uncertain 2022 amid more potential regulatory pressure

NEW YORK

The price of Bitcoin hit record highs in 2021, thanks to support from traditional finance, but cryptocurrency specialists

of cryptocurrencies, while the risk of wider regulatory action, from the like of Europe and the US, weighs on Bitcoin. "There is no certainty in crypto, never mind regulation," said Huong Haaduc

Wezi 85 wa ng'ombe wauawa mwaka 2021

KARAMOJA

VIKOSI vya pamoja vya usalama vimewaua watu 85 wanaoaminika kuwa wezi wa ng'ombe katika operesheni ya kuwapokonya silaha katika eneo la Karamoja katika kipindi cha mwaka jana.

Msemaji wa Polisi wa Mkoa wa Karamoja, Michael Longole, alisema vikosi vya usalama viliwaua wezi hao katika makabiliano tofauti kati ya Januari na Desemba, 2021.

Kwa mujibu wa Longole, vikosi vya usalama vya pamoja vilifanikiwa kupata bunduki 135 na risasi 1,271 kutoka kwa wezi hao.

Alisema vikosi hivyo viliwakamata wezi 600 na 386 kati yao wamehukumiwa kwa makosa mbalimbali.

"Tunasajili maendeleo katika kurejesha bunduki na tunakabiliana na wahalifu hao wanaojaribu kupinga kukamatwa," alisema.

Kikosi cha pamoja cha usalama kinachojumuisha Jesu la Wananchi wa Uganda (UPDF) na polisi kilizindua awamu ya tatu ya kazi ya kupokonya silaha eneo la Karamoja baada ya kuibuka tena kwa uvamizi na kuvizia baada ya miaka 14 ya amani katika mkoa huo.

Mkazi wa Moroto, Grace Akolong, alisema makabiliano yanayoendelea kati ya vikosi vya usalama na wezi yataathiri ongezeko la watu katika Karamoja.

Naye mkazi wa Kata Ndogo ya Panyangara Wilayani Kotido, Samson Lokut, alitaka UPDF na polisi kupeleka nguvu zaidi katika mpaka wa Karamoja, Kenya na Sudan Kusini, ambako ni chanzo cha silaha kwa wezi hao.

Kijana auawa mgogoro wa wafugaji, wakulima

Na Yohana Shida, Geita

MKAZI wa Kijiji cha Msasa, Kata ya Busanda wilayani Geita, Richard Gogyagosa (18), ameuawa kwa kukatwa mapanga akiwa anachunga ng'ombe.

Kamanda wa Polisi wa Mkoa wa Geita, Henry Mwaibambe alithibitisha tukio hilo alipozungumza na waandishi wa habari na kueleza mauaji hayo yalitokea Jumamosi saa 12:00 jioni. Mwaibambe alisema chanzo cha tukio hilo ni mgogoro kati ya wakulima na wafugaji ambao umekuwepo kwa muda mrefu kijijini hapo.

"Huyu kijana alipitisha ng'ombe kwenye shamba la mtu mmoja anayefahamika kwa sura, aliyekuwa ameandaa shamba lake la viazi, baada ya tukio hilo huyu jamaa akakimbia. Aliongeza: "Tayari Jeshi la Polisi tumeshachukua mwili na kupeleka hospitali kwa ajili ya uchunguzi, shamba lenyewe lilikuwa halijapandwa mazao yoyote.

"Kitendo cha kumshambulia kijana mdogo anayechunga ng'ombe ni kitendo ambacho hakikubaliki na baada ya kufanya mauaji haya ametoroka, tunamsaka na tuna imani tutampata." Mkazi wa Kijiji cha Msasa, Kulwa Sayi alisema aliomba viongozi kuangalia namna ya kutatua mgogoro huo wa wakulima na wafugaji ili kuepuka kujirudia.

Mgambo Mkuu wa Kijiji cha Msasa, Masumbuko Kazungu alisema mgogoro wa wakulima na wafugaji una zaidi ya miaka miwili na hata mwaka jana tukio kama hilo lilijitokeza.

Diwani wa Kata ya Busanda, Selemani Gamara alisema ili kukabiliana na tatizo hilo, juhudi zinafanyika ikiwemo kutoa semina kwa wananchi na wafugaji na utaratibu huo ni endelevu.

Ofisa mifugo akutwa amejinyonga

Na Said Hamdani, LINDI

OFISA Mifugo wa Kata ya Milola mkoani Lindi, Joel Nanjambwa (51), amekutwa amefariki dunia kwa kujinyonga kwa kile kina-chodaiwa kuibiwa fedha kwa njia ya utapeli.

Kamanda wa Polisi Mkoa wa Lindi, Mtatiro Kitinkwi, amethibitisha kutokea kwa tukio hilo lililotolea Desemba 28, mwaka jana na mwili wake kuonekana siku tatu baadaye.

Akifafanua kuhusu tukio hilo, Kamanda Kitinkwi alisema Desemba 28, mwaka jana, Nanjambwa aliondoka nyumbani kwake na hakurejea hadi Desemba 31, majira ya saa 11 alasiri mwili wake ulipokutwa katika pori la Kijiji cha Mkangaulani ukiwa unaning'inia juu ya mti.

"Mwili wa Nanjambwa umegunduliwa katika pori la Naiputa, Kijiji cha Mkangaulani akiwa amejinyonga kwa kutumia shati lake, ukiwa umeharibika," alisema.

Kamanda Kitinkwi alisema chanzo cha tukio hilo hakijafahamika

na Jeshi la Polisi linaendelea na uchunguzi ili kubaini sababu za kujinyonga kwa ofisa huyo wa serikali.

Wakizungumza na Nipashe, baadhi ya ndugu na majirani wa karibu wa marehemu (majina yamehifadhiwa) walidai kwamba kujinyonga kwa Nanjambwa kumechangiwa na hasira ya kuibiwa fedha zake kwa njia ya utapeli.

"Huyu Nanjambwa alipata fedha zilizotokana na kubashiri, wajanja wakampigia simu na kuweleza walichomwambia na kukomba fedha zake zote," walidai mashuhuda hao.

Walidai kitendo hicho kilimchukiza mke wake na kuanza kumsema maneno yasiyofaa, ndipo Nanjambwa akachukuwa uamuzi wa kujiua kwa kujinyonga.

Wakati huohuo, Kamanda Kitinkwi alipongeza utulivu ulioonyeshwa na wananchi katika kusherehekea kwa amani na utulivu sikukuu za mwisho wa mwaka, huku akitaka utaratibu huo uwe endelevu na kudumu katika Mkoa wa Lindi.