JANVI LA HABARI



Government conducts research on reports of decline of fish stocks in Lake Victoria by unsustainable fishing practices

THE government is conducting research to find informed answers to reports of decline of fish stocks in Lake Victoria.

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Permanent Secretary in the ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Prof Riziki Shemdoe made the remarks when receiving research equipment worth \$200,000 from Nanjing Institute of Geography and Limnology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (NIGLAS).

He said the ministry was conducting research to find the

understand the causes and the rate of decline.

"We have heard of these reports but we do not know exactly to what extent the decline is, so such equipment will help us to make informed decisions," he said.

The equipment was handed to the Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI) and is expected to help in water security research among water bodies in the country.

There has been reports of fish decline in fish Lake Victoria due to dramatic ecosystem changes caused

- including overfishing and the use of undersized nets that catch fish before they reach maturity alongside rapid population growth, and pollution by wastewater, agropesticides, and fertilisers threaten the future of fishing in Lake Victoria.

Prof Ganling Zhang Director for NIGLAS said the support was part of the Memorandum of Understanding between Tafiri and his institution which was signed in 2008 aimed at enhancing collaboration in research.

relationship between the two institutions which has led to a generation of experts in which 10 people have graduated with Master and PHDs." he said.

Charge de Affairs of the Embassy of China in Tanzania Suo Peng said the collaboration of the two institutions is also a result of the existing relationship between China and Tanzania which dates back to more than 50 years ago.

Lake Victoria is among the major sources of freshwater fish followed

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