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'Wanawake ni wachakataji, wamiliki wa mazao ya uvuvi'

Na Fadhili Abdallah, Kigoma

TAFITI unaonesha kuwa asilimia 78 ya wanawake ni wamiliki, wachakataji na wauzaji wa mazao ya uvuvi kwenye mwambao wa Ziwa Tanganyika.

Mtafiti kutoka Chuo Kikuu cha Sokoine Kampasi ya Mizengo Pinda mkoani Katavi, Profesa Anna Sikira alisema hayo akitoa taarifa ya matokeo ya awali ya utafiti ambao kituo hicho kimefanya juu ya usawa wa kijinsia na ushiriki wa wanawake katika shughuli za uvuvi uliofanywa kwenye mikoa ya Kigoma, Katavi na Rukwa.

Profesa Sikira ambaye ni mkurugenzi wa kituo hicho, amefanya utafiti huo kwa ajili ya utekelezaji wa mradi wa uendelezaji wa uvuvi kwenye mwambao wa Ziwa Tanganyika (FISH 4 ACP) unaotekelezwa na kufadhiliwa na Shirika la Chakula la Umoja wa Mataifa (FAO).

Kutokana na hali hiyo mtafiti huyo alisema kuwa sehemu kubwa ya wanawake wanabaki kuwa wamiliki ambapo utafiti unaonesha kuwa asilimia 78 ya wachakataji wa mazao ya uvuvi kwenye mwambao wa Ziwa Tanganyika ni wanawake.

Akizungumzia kufanyika kwa utafiti huo Mratibu wa Shirika la Chakula la Umoja wa Mataifa (FAO), Hashim Muumin alisema kuwa utafiti huo unalenga kubaini changamoto, fursa na kutengeneza mpango ambao utawezesha kuinua ushiriki wa wanawake kwenye shughuli za uvuvi.

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RPCs join forces to fight illegal fishing

From PETI SIYAME in Sumbawanga

POLICE commanders from Western Zone Regions have logether and jointly called on fishermen to refrain from illegal fishing activities on Lake Tanganyika and Lake Rukwa.

They emphasised that such activities have huge impact on the economy, natural resources and environment, such as decline in fish production.

The three RPCs are Mr Shadrack Masija (Rukwa) Mr Philemon Makungu (Kigoma) and Mr Alli Makame (Katavi).

They insisted that fishermen should support the government's efforts in protecting water bodies for the three regions to enable the country benefit more from the blue economy.

The RPCs met recently in Mpanda municipality with various fishery stakeholders and institutions to evaluate and set strategies on curbing illegal fishing activities on Lake Tanganyika.

The meeting was under the chairmanship of Katavi Regional Commissioner (RC), Ms Mwanamvua Mrindoko.

Equally, RC Ms Mridoko

Initially, Commissioner of Police Operation and Training, Mr Juma Haji briefed the RC that such meetings which are convened after six months have helped to make illegal fishing to decline considerably on Lakes Tanganyika and Rukwa and other water bodies in the country.

directed government executives and other stakeholders to ensure that they contain illegal fishing practices in their respective precincts.

"Ending illegal fishing is a must in efforts to scale up the

economic growth," she said.

She further emphasised that the task of curbing illegal fishing must be overseen by leaders from the region to village levels, stressing that illegal fishing can be contained if all people engaged in the sector adhere to the laws, policies and regulations.

Ms Mrindoko underscored that regular meetings to remind fishermen on sustainable fishing, the use of authorized fishing equipment, regular patrols by marine officers and environmental conservation are crucial in containing illegal fishing.

"Illegal fishing such as the use of monofilament nets, 90 watts' battery and solar powered bulbs which emit intense heat radiation and harvesting fish below six inches affect the fishery sector," noted the RC.

Latest statistics show that currently the fisheries sector contributes 18 percent of the National Gross Domestic Product (GDP) with five million people employed in the sector,

Initially, Commissioner of Police Operation and Training, Mr Juma Haji briefed the RC that such meetings which are convened after six months have helped to make illegal fishing to decline considerably on Lakes Tanganyika and Rukwa and other water bodies in the country.

CP, Mr Haji mentioned challenges including some of the officers being involved in soliciting and receiving bribes from perpetrators as well as leaking strategies set by the force in containing illegal fishing activities and failing to deal effectively with cases related to illegal fishing activities.

In the same vein, CP Haji warned all those who are engaging in criminal activities, including stealing of fishing nets, canoes and illegal fishing to refrain with immediate effect, short of which they will face the wrath of the law.