



Republic of Kenya



Kenya Deltas Alliance Initiative

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF DELTAS IN KENYA-POLICY AND DECISION DIALOGUE

HELD AT RE-INSURANCE PLAXA CONFERENCE ROOM, NAIROBI

FRIDAY, 26TH MAY, 2017



Participants Attending Delta Alliance-Kenya Wing Nyando Delta Policy and Decision Makers Dialogue in Nairobi, Kenya Organized by the Wing

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1. Introduction

This was a one day multi - stakeholder engagement for the Nyando River Delta Plan Development workshop supported. The objective of the workshop was to engage with policy and decision makers as stakeholders drawn from various stakeholders from Lake Victoria Region comprising of 16 counties. The main objective of the dialogue was to share experiences from other deltas under Delta Alliance Initiative and to start the Nyando Delta Plan development consultations.

The theme of the discussions was “**Nyando River Delta combined Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) and Land Use Planning (LUP) inception dialogue**”. The event brought together key stakeholders-policy and decision makers from-national and county governments, delta experts, thought and opinion leaders, representatives from local indigenous people, women and youth representative, policy makers, private sector, civil society organisation CSOs, development partners, students and academics from universities. At the end of the dialogue, participants understood the following:

- Impacts of Climate change within the lake victor basin, Nyando delta and the entire Nyando River basin
- Negative consequences of un planned and uncontrolled development within the deltas in Kenya,
- An overview of the State **of Deltas** in Kenya in comparison with other Deltas of the world where Delta Alliance International works,
- A road map for the Nyando River delta planning highlighting measures required to protect the fragile delta delta ecosystem in Kenya.
- Mechanisms for actualizing the Nyando river delta climate change adaptation and mitigation measures to access climate finance such as the green climate fund, Adaptation fund, etc, for the sustainable management of the deltas.
- Readiness actions required to develop and build resilience within the Nyando River Delta (NRD) and the entire Lake Victoria Basin
- Adopting the **International Planning Award Winning a combined Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Land Use Plan (LUP) methodology to restore the Deltas ecosystem.**

This event was facilitated and supported by the Delta Alliance International-Kenya Wing is as one of its annual activities in countries which have established the Delta Alliance Wing. It was the start off Nyando River Delta Plan development, for sustainable management of Delta ecosystem. The engagement of policy and decision makers jointly with various delta resource users in the conceptualisation of delta plan development is one of the most innovative, transformative and bankable planning interventions that will address some of the challenges within the Delta Region and the upper Catchment Mr. Peter Odhengo Snr Policy Analyst/Delta Alliance-Kenya Wing Coordinator.

1.1 Event Organisation and Support

The meeting was organized by the Delta Alliance-Kenya Wing in collaboration with the government of Kenya, Greening Kenya Initiative Trust, Lake Victoria Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation Platform (LVCCA&MP), and the Lake Region County Governments. The meeting was co-hosted by Kisumu County-Environment and Green Energy and Climate Change Departments, under the Lake Victoria Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Platform, Homabay County, and Siaya County

1.2 Structure of the Dialogue

The meeting consisted of welcoming remarks, policy and legislative briefs, presentations, followed by plenary discussions, questions and answers. The participants were taken through the Overview of:-

- Delta Alliance and its activities within major deltas of the world,
- Status of Nyando river delta ecosystems and resources,
- Causes of degradation and conflicts within the delta and the entire lake Victoria basin
- Role of Green Climate Fund in supporting deltas,
- Mechanism for the start of Nyando Delta Plan development and then all other major rivers flowing into Lake Victoria to follow.
- The participants generally agreed that all the Rivers will be covered and the name of the initiative be Lake Victoria Rivers Delta Alliance.

3. Workshop Presentations

3.1 Planning for Nyando Delta Plan Development

The development of the NRDP has a key role in enhancing the sustainable development and management of Nyando Delta and Lake Victoria Basin ecosystem by enabling the County Governments within the basin to play a key role and action in order for protect and conserve the basin. In addition, the dialogue and the plan will help the National Government as well as the County Governments within the basin to strengthen their: conservation activities, planning processes and budgeting systems in order to promote sustainable management of delta resources and be able to account for the same their utilization among different resources users.



Fig 1.1: Dr. George Wamukoya, Explaining the Importance of the Plan

3.2 The Development of County Spatial Plan

The participants were informed that, all the counties are required to develop spatial plans on the basis of Tana SEA-LUP approach. Spatial Plan is a 10 year plan that outlines the space and area covered, focusing key aspects of the environment, natural resources, and ecosystem ecosystems. In particular, it emphasizes on: land use, legal aspects among other. It relied heavily on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to give details of the space covered by the plan.

3.3 County Sector Plan

It is a 5-year Plan that outlines the various Sectors of the Counties and their details based on the needs. It covers the entire county in terms development and available resources and required resources in each Sector and how to conserve them. This plan is developed to fit into the Spatial Plan.

3.4 County Integrated Development Plan

This is a five-year document that is developed as an instrument that enables County Governments to access funding from the National Treasury. Sector Plans, and Spatial Plans must fit into the CIDP. Dr. George Wamukoya outlined that development of the NRDP has come at the right time, when the first generation of CIDPs is coming to an end, and development of the second generation CIDPs is almost starting, therefore Counties should spearhead the process of ensuring that priority areas are included in the CIDP, including the Nyando Delta Initiative.

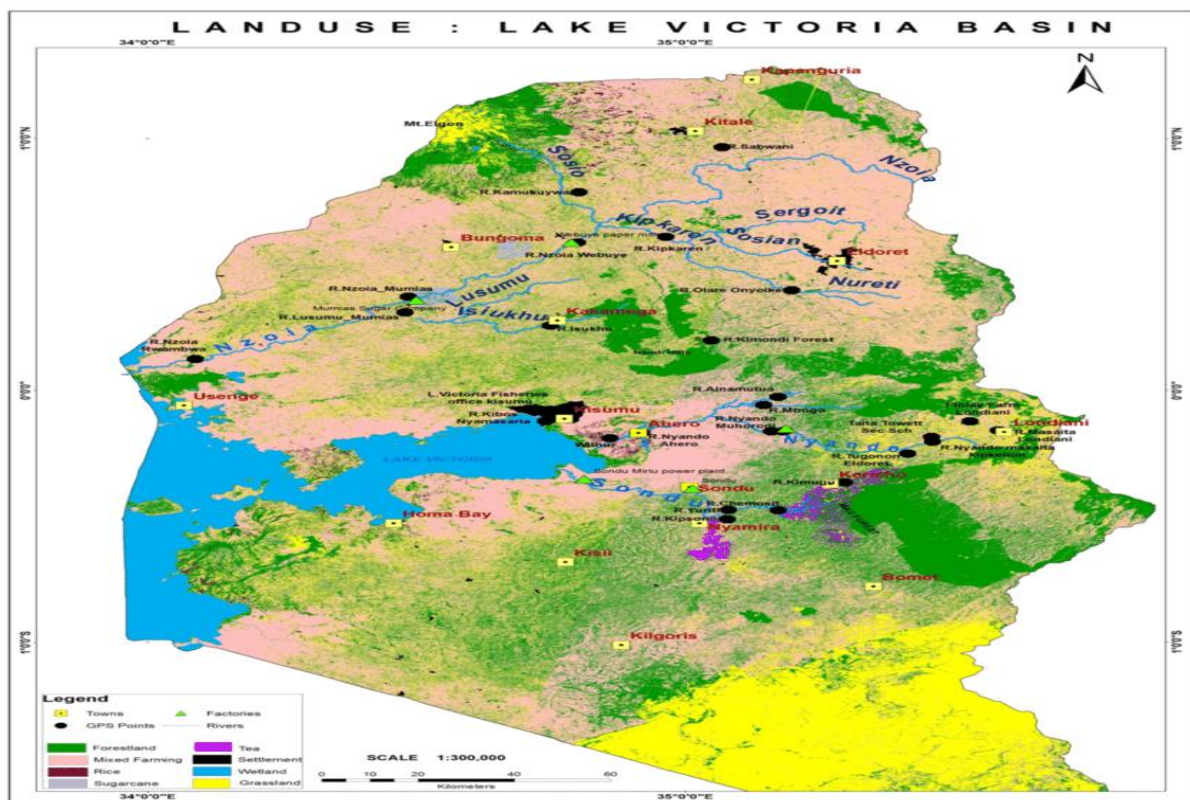


Fig 1.3: Lake Victoria Basing Sowing the Nyando Delta Description of study area

3.5 Challenges Facing the Delta Ecosystem

Kenya has five major Deltas, which are Tana, Yala, Malewa, Nyando and Omo. Their Ecosystems status are at a critical stage of degradation almost losing their essential life support services, ecological integrity as well as provision of ecosystem goods and services. Kenya Delta Alliance-Wing has intensified activities in three of the five Deltas including Tana, Yala and Omo to restore their ecosystems, however, much has not been done in the Nyando Delta. As such, urgent intervention by policy and decision makers is needed to restore the ecosystems. There are many factors contributing to the degradation of Nyando Delta including: Lack of awareness on the fragility of deltas ecosystems; Capacity gaps on valuation of deltas sensitive ecosystems services; Overexploitation of the delta natural resources; increased unsustainable commercial activities; increased pollution in rivers and soils; increased oil and gas exploration; commercial agriculture, overfishing and land grabbing; increased conflicts among resource users.

However, there are possible solutions to these problems: Organize the delta round-table policy and decision makers dialogue; Undertake the development of Delta Plans; Creation of awareness; Capacity building to the local delta communities; Establishment of community based institutions such as Delta Advisory Committees (DAC); undertaking resources mobilization; promoting replication of combined Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) and Land Use Plan (LUP) process for the achievement of sustainable management and protection of deltas sensitive ecosystems. The key elements of Nyando Development Plan includes the following pillars: sustainable management, delta ecosystems health; sustainable livelihood support for the delta communities; reduce over-dependency on the finite delta ecosystems services and their products.



Fig. 3: Peter Odhengo, Delta Alliance Kenya Wing Coordinator presentation on the climate change and State of Deltas in Kenya

Milestones and Sources of Climate change related Funds which can support program for building delta resilient and adaptive capacity of ecosystems and communities:

- United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 1972
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 1988
- UN Framework Convention in Climate Change, 1992
- Kyoto Protocol, 1997
- Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), 2001
- Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), 2001
- Adaptation Fund (COP7), est. 2001, launched 2007
- Climate Investment Funds, 2008
- Green Climate Fund, est. 2010, launched in 2012 & operational 2013
- Tana delta SEA-LUP process launch, 2012
- Yala delta SEA-LUP launch, 2014
- Paris Agreement, 2015

Table1.0: Nyando delta Specific Issues

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Energy access and power generation ▪ Forestry and land use activities e.g. water resource, management, forest conservation and management, agroforestry, agricultural irrigation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance ecosystem based adaptation in climate-sensitive ecosystem and economics sectors within the delta and the entire basin. ▪ Mainstreaming climate change mitigation and adaptation in the planning system ▪ Promote appropriate and diverse market-based livelihood strategies and climate smart agriculture technology in crops, livestock and fisheries within the delta. ▪ Strengthening human and institutional capacity for effective ecosystem-based climate change governance, advocacy, knowledge management at national capacity, county and community level ▪ Support implementation of policies for improved energy access and reduced deforestation in the basin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support to effective governance for ecosystem based adaptation leads which improved concentration and management of resources.

4. Plenary Discussions

During plenary discussions, a number issues regarding the basin were discussed. The following are some of the key highlights from the discussions:

- The Delta Alliance Wing is already doing a lot of work and initiatives in the deltas including Nyando, and therefore there's need to harness the already existing knowledge base as well as other ongoing activities by other organisations, to help in the development of the Plan,
- Focus should also be placed on the upper catchment because it is the source of the challenges faced downstream, as much as the program will focus on the delta, lower and middle catchments -the great delta.
- Bottom up approach should be adopted during the plan development as per the EAS-LUP methodology- the Tana delta approach,
- Active local community involvements is a prerequisite for the plan ownership the process, implementation and compliance.
- The meeting noted that structures and the already existing systems should be brought on board to support the process, for instance integration of Water Resource Users Association (WRUAs) and Community Forest Association (CFAs) already registered and working within the delta,
- Involvement of the counties leadership is paramount to ensure that the process succeeds,
- It was noted with a lot of concern that there have been a number of initiatives in the Lake Victoria Basin, aimed at reducing the challenges; however the initiatives have not succeeded. Therefore, there is need to identify the hiccups that have hindered the achievement in the past, in order to identify sustainable pathway through which this process will succeed,
- Public awareness is very important to ensure that the communities are aware and empowered with relevant information to be able to participate effectively and sustainably manage the Nyando Delta.
- There is need to consider involvement of the Council of Governors as an important initiative especially through their Environmental Management Committee.
- Poverty plays a major role in environmental degradation across the delta, therefore, there is need to find interventions to alleviate poverty, in order to enhance sustainable environmental management, for instance, identify Economic Blocs and align the process on them to guide the process.



Dr. Philip Raburu, Natural Resource Management Lecturer at Moi University Eldoret and VIRED Coordinator facilitating the session.

5. Stakeholder Mapping for the Delta Plan Development

It was resolved that, all the relevant stakeholders in the delta and the entire basin were mapped out during the meeting and based on criteria as presented in the table below:

Table 1.1: Potential List of Stakeholder for the Nyando Delta Plan Development

Criteria	Stakeholders
Multi-stakeholder	Implementation process should be done through a multi-stakeholder approach involving all the relevant stakeholders
Instructional Mandate	Lake Victoria Basin DA
	16 County Governments in the Lake Basin region excluding Nakuru County
	National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)
	Water Resource Management Authority (WRMA)
	Kenya Forest Service (KFS)
	Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS)
Technical Capacity (Academia and research Institutions)	Regional Water Boards (RVWSB, LVWSB, LVNWSB)
	University of Eldoret
	Maseno University
	Moi University
	Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology
	Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology (JOOUST)
	Kisii University
	Rongo University
	Lake Basin College
	KEMFRI
Regional Representation	KEFRI
	Civil Society – NGOs (VIRED International, SUSWATCH) and CBOs (Youth League, B-forant)
	Private Sector – KEPSA, Chamber of Commerce
	International - ICRAF
	Regional Media – shall be grouped into 4 based on the regions (Luo Nyanza, Western, Kisii, Rift Valley and shall include but not limited to: Nam Lolwe, Radio Lake Victoria (OSIENALA), Mayienga among others
Inter and Intra-generational equity	Faith Based organizations like churches
	Youths and special needs

6. The Way forward

From the discussions and deliberations, below are the agreed ways forward from the meeting:

- The meeting agreed that Delta Alliance-Kenya Wing collaborates with the Lake Basin Development Authority as an institution with an overall legislative mandate, which overrides all the other institutions in the delta to spearhead the development of the Delta Plan,
- The next meeting would be a retreat of 3 days, to be held in Naivasha, start the
- Preparation of background information about the Nyando River delta and LVB
- The Counties were tasked to create desk officers in the Counties, to act as contact persons for the Lake Victoria Region Rivers Delta Alliance Initiative.

7. List of stakeholder participants

No.	Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
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30.		Uasin Gishu County		
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Other photographs for the meeting include



Fig. Participants during the Dialogue



Peter Odhengo Responding to Questions during the Delta Alliance Dialogue



More Participants