



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

EAC ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2020/21



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAU	Association of African Universities
ACE II	The Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project
ACP	African Caribbean Pacific
ACOA	African Congress of Accountants
AfDB	African Development Bank
AMREF	African Medical and Research Foundation
APPPF	Academia-Public-Private Partnership Forum
BCAA	Burundi Civil Aviation Authority
BMU	Beach Management Unit
CAAs	Civil Aviation Authorities
CAAU	Civil Aviation Authority Uganda
CAM	Centre for Aviation Medicine
CAPs	Corrective Action Plans
CASSOA	Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency
CCPAD	Corporate Communications and Public Affairs Department
CMP	Common Market Protocol
CIPP	Certified International Procurement Professional
CPA	Chartered Public Accountants
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
COP	Conference of Parties
DAAD	Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (German Academic Exchange Service)
DLI/R	Disbursement Linked Indicators/Results
DMEs	Designated Medical Examiners
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DVC	Deputy Vice Chancellor
EABC	East African Business Council
EAC	East African Community
EACDF	East African Community Development Fund
EACHEA	East African Community Common Higher Education Area
EACJ	East African Court of Justice
EADB	East African Development Bank
EAHEMIS	East African Higher Education Management Information System
EALA	East African Legislative Assembly
EALP	EAC/AMREF Lake Victoria Partnership Programme
EAQAN	East African Higher Education Quality Assurance Network
EASA	European Aviation Safety Agency
EASTECO	East African Community Science and Technology Commission
ECSA	Eastern, Southern and Central Africa
EDF	European Development Fund
ELP	English Language Proficiency
EOI	Expression of Interest
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement

ESAF	Eastern and Southern African Office
EU	European Union
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FY	Financial Year/Fiscal Year
GIZ	German Society for International Development Cooperation
HAQAA	Harmonization of African Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation
HRK	Hochschul rektoren konferenz (German Rectors Conference)
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICF	International Cooperation Forum
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IDA	International Development Association
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IoT	Internet of Things
IPSAS	International Public-Sector Accounting Standards
IT	Information Technology
ITS	Inspectors Training System
IUCEA	Inter-University Council of East Africa
KCAA	Kenya Civil Aviation Authority
LVBC	Lake Victoria Basin Commission
LVEMP	Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project
LVFO	Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization
LVRI	Lake Victoria Research Initiative
LVWATSAN	Lake Victoria Water Supply and Sanitation
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEAs	Mutual Environmental Agreements
MERECAP	Mount Elgon Regional Ecosystem Conservation Project
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCD	Non- Communicable Diseases
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa Development
NFPOs	National Focal Point Officers
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NTBs	Non-Tariff Barriers
OSBP	One Stop Border Posts
PEL	Personnel Licensing
PF	Partnership Fund
PR	Public Relations
PSs	Partner States
RCAA	Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority
RFU	Regional Facilitation Unity
RSC	Regional Steering Committee
RTD	Retired
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SARPs	Standards and Recommended Practices
SARUA	Southern Africa Regional Universities Association

SAUT	Saint Augustine University of Tanzania
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SMS	Safety Management System
SOFIA	Safety Oversight Facilitated Integration Application
SSP	State Safety Program
STI	Science Technology & Innovation
TCAA	Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority
TCM	Transport, Communication and Meteorology
TGMs	Technical Guidance Materials
TMEA	Trade Mark East Africa
UK	United Kingdom
USA	United States of America
USAP	Universal Security Audit Programme
USOAP	Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme
UTANA	Uganda Textbook Academic and Non-Fiction Authors Association
VC	Vice Chancellor
WG	Working Group

FOREWORD BY CHAIRPERSON OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

In accordance with Article 49(2c) of the Treaty, the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers annually presents a report of the activities of the Community describing the key developments, achievements and milestones made during the year. The 2020/2021 EAC Annual Report gives a description of the key achievements and accomplishments by the various EAC Organs and Institutions namely, the EAC Secretariat; the East African Legislative Assembly; the East African Court of Justice; the Civil Aviation and Safety and Security Oversight Agency (CASSOA); the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC); the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO); the Inter University Council of East Africa (IUCEA); The East African Kiswahili Commission(EAKC); the East African Health Research Centre(EAHRC); the East African Competition Authority (EACA); the East African Science and Technology Commission (EASTECO) and the East African Development Bank (EADB).

During the period under review, the Community registered major achievements in the integration agenda. I wish to particularly highlight notable interventions in the following areas:

- Enhancement of integrated Customs Institutional and Legal Framework;
- Strengthening of Trade Facilitation, Customs Integrity, Revenue Management and Customs Information Management Systems;
- Promotion of Fair and Competitive Intra and Extra Regional Trade;
- Development of Regional Infrastructure including Transport, Communication and Meteorological Services to support the integration Process;
- Promotion of economic integration and convergence in the EAC through harmonization of fiscal and financial/monetary policies;
- Development and implementation of a framework for enhancing the competitiveness and productive capacity of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and strategic regional value chains;
- Promotion of Regional Political integration and enhancement of frameworks for good governance and constitutionalism; and
- Strengthening of inter-state security cooperation and Regional conflict Prevention and Resolution Capacity.

On behalf of the Council of Ministers, I wish to thank all the Partner States, development partners, management and staff of EAC Organs and Institutions for the progress achieved over the period and I look forward to your continued support of the EAC integration agenda. As a Treaty requirement and on behalf of the Council of Ministers, I hereby present the EAC Annual Report of the Financial Year 2020/2021, providing key highlights on the implementation of EAC activities during the period of July 2020- June 2021.

Hon.Dr.Vincent Biruta
Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
CHAIRPERSON OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTER

REPORT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The EAC Annual Report 2020/2021 covers the period of one year from July 2020 to June 2021. The report captures the progress made in the implementation of planned activities and achievement of targeted results as at end-June 2021, highlighting the key success stories and challenges encountered during the period under review. It also portrays innovative solutions the various Organs and Institutions adopted to overcome challenges encountered; insight into the priority programs and other strategic actions and the status of budget performance as at the end of the financial year.

Overall, implementation and delivery of planned outputs was below expectations during the financial year largely due to limited financial resources occasioned by the outbreak of COVID 19 which affected the implementation of many activities across or EAC Organs and Institutions. The Secretary General further instituted a number of internal control measures and guidelines, all aimed at enhancing efficiency in the use of community resources. It expected that the Secretariat will mobilize more external resources during the FY2020/2021.

In line with the 5th EAC Development Strategy (2016/17 – 2020/21) and various Summit and Council directives, the following were the global priority areas planned for the Financial Year 2020/2021:-

- a) Consolidation of the Single Customs Territory (SCT) to cover all imports and intra-EAC traded goods, including agricultural and other widely consumed products
- b) Infrastructure Development in the region
- c) Enhancing free movement of all factors of production and other areas of cooperation across the Partner States as envisaged under the Common Market and Monetary Union Protocols
- d) Enhancement of regional industrial development through investment in key priority sectors, skills development, technological advancement and innovation to stimulate economic development
- e) Improvement of agricultural productivity, value addition and facilitation of movement of agricultural goods to enhance food security in the region
- f) Promotion of regional peace, security and good governance
Institutional transformation at the regional and Partner State level

Heights of the key achievements during the period under review:

CUSTOMS UNION

To consolidate the gains made under the Customs Union, the EAC Secretariat continued to implement the Single Customs territory where the region has rolled out all intra trade goods and exports; accredited 135 operators under the Regional Authorized Economic Operator program contributing 11% on revenue collected at regional level; supported the operationalization of the 13 One Stop Border Posts; enhanced interconnectivity of Customs Systems maximized efficiency in Customs Administrations and other agencies; strengthened Customs institutional capacity, and; enhanced measures to mitigate the emergence and re-occurrence of Non-Tariff barriers.

Under creating one single customs territory is to enable Partner States to enjoy economies of scale, with a view to supporting the process of economic development, the Proof of Concept (PoC) was enhanced to support transit regimes, Product Identification Bulletins were developed for 6 items (aluminum foils, powdered milk, diapers, wet wipes, and photocopy paper) and all are being implemented. Inter-agency framework to align the operations of other agencies with the processes under SCT was developed, including the revision of the SCT Procedure Manual 2014.

Under trade, the EAC successfully enhanced trade facilitation by reducing the cost and time of clearance of goods. The region is also developing a regional customs bond, which will facilitate Partner States to secure customs duties and taxes for goods not accounted for while being transferred through the Partner States.

EAC as a major player in international trade and strengthen intra-EAC trade, the region commenced the comprehensive review of the EAC Common External Tariff (CET) and the EAC Customs Management Act (CMA), 2004. Under the CET review, Partner States have adopted a four-band structure (0%, 10%, 25% and a rate above 25%). The reviewed CET and EAC CMA are expected to enhance trade facilitation and spur growth and economic development in the region

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the EAC Administrative Guidelines to facilitate movement of cargo and services during the COVID 19 pandemic were developed and implemented, Capacity of border agencies was enhanced to combat COVID 19 through training of over 2000 stakeholders.

To implemented the EAC Customs Protocol the EAC Customs Strategy 2021/22-2025/26 was developed in the Financial Year 2020-2021

A long-term sustainability strategy on the Regional Electronic Cargo Tracking System (RECTS) was developed to provide for long term funding. And Framework and guidelines to facilitate cross border trade through mutual recognition of product quality marks and test certificates in food and cosmetic products were developed.

To improve on standards development for regional integration and supporting of the national bureaus of standards in achieving regional harmonization to improve trade in

goods, over 145 standards for commonly traded goods in over 16 sectors were harmonized.

In line with the provisions of the WTO TFA the Republic of Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania launched Trade Information Portals to enhance access and availability of information on import and export processes and procedures.

The EAC Rules of Origin on agricultural commodities translated into French and three other local languages (Swahili, Kinyarwanda and Luganda) to facilitate trade.

At the AfCFTA level, a draft Schedule of Tariff Concessions on Category A products representing 85.11% of the EAC CET was submitted.

In a bid to eliminate and resolve non-tariff barrier that could hinder trade between Partner States, the Non-Tariff Barriers Act 2017 was reviewed and approved by the Sectoral Council of Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment . Twenty Four (24) reported Non-Tariff Barriers were resolved through National Monitoring Committees, Regional Monitoring Committees, and Tripartite online Mechanism

To create a more enabling environment for women cross-border traders at the border points, among the establishment of a trade information desk and building storage facilities at the one stop border post to facilitate proper storage of the women's goods while processing import and export, a Training Manual for Women Cross Border Traders and Service Providers was adopted

Under health, construction of permanent handwashing facilities at five (5) border posts: Nemba/Gisenyi (Rwanda side); Holili (Tanzania side); Vurra (Uganda side); Busia (Kenya side); and Malaba (Kenya side).

Regional Industrial Development

To enhance competitiveness in the cotton, leather, automotive, fruits and vegetables, and pharmaceutical value chains, the Community formulated development strategies for each sector and has kicked off their implementation through established public-private sector coordination platforms. To consolidate these efforts, the region has embarked on the preparation of a five-year EAC Industrial Policy Implementation Action Plan for (2022-2027) to be finalized in the new Financial Year.

In order to address the severe challenges of access to quality and affordable medicine in the region as nearly 70-90 percent of all medicines are imported from outside EAC Region, an EAC Framework for Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) in the pharmaceutical sector has been developed and support to Pharmaceutical Procurement Task Force for Verification of Pharmaceuticals Molecules provided. The EAC has now capacity to produce on accorded incentives

The Regional and National Industry Platforms comprising public and private sectors was established; and Action Plans to improve quality Infrastructure for the leather and fruits and vegetables value chain developed;

Established the Regional Network of National Industrial Research and Development Organizations to support adaptation and transfer of manufacturing. Signed an MoU with the Government of the Republic of Estonia on cooperation in the field of information and communications technology.

COMMON MARKET

As the East African Community Partner States continue to undertake a number of reforms to facilitate implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol, the EAC Secretariat conducted the first formative Evaluation of the Implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol since it came into force on 1st July, 2010. The evaluation assessed the relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency, impact and sustainability aspects of the Common Market Protocol by taking stock of the CMP implementation gains, identifying key implementation challenges and lessons learned with the intention to generate evidence-based recommendations for moving forward.

It is anticipated that the Council, Partner States and other stakeholders while designing new implementation and programmatic strategies and approaches for full implementation of the Common Market Protocol, will use the Evaluation findings and recommendations. The Report was adopted by the 31st meeting of the SCMEACP held on 11th June, 2021

The EAC Common Market Scorecard on tracking the compliance in the Movement of Labour, Right of Establishment and Residence in the Community (EAC CMS, 2018) was adopted. The Scorecard covers Protocol obligations on Free Movement of Workers related to: Harmonisation of Mutual and Academic and Professional Qualifications; Labour Policies; Laws and Programmes; Right of Establishment and Right of Residence and Regulations thereto and commitments made by each Partner State at three levels, namely: the Major Group, Sub-Group, and Minor Group

In Article 5(2)(c) of the EAC Common Market Partner States are expected to among others, remove restrictions to the movement of labour, harmonise labour policies, programmes, legislation and establish common standards, Article 10 of the Protocol (CMP) guaranteed the free movement of workers, who are citizens of the other Partner States in their territories and Article 12 requires Partner States to harmonise their labour laws and align them with the protocol provisions. With support from International Organization for Migration (IOM);

- National Consultation meetings to validate the draft Labour Migration Policy in Partner States were conducted.
- Regional validation meeting of Directors of Labour to validate the draft EAC Labour Migration Policy and Situational Analysis Report conducted

EAC Secretariat further with the support from the World Bank Group finalized the research leading to the third edition of the EAC Common Scorecard (CMS). CMS 2020 measures progress made by Partner States toward the development of a common market in goods, services, and capital.

EAC Partner States committed to fully implement the Yamoussoukro Decision as part of the Common Market Protocol and in line with the ongoing efforts by the African Union

Commission (AUC) 11 and the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) to establish and operationalize the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM).

MONETARY UNION

The legal instrument for the establishment of The East African Monetary Institute (EAMI) was gazetted on 20th November 2019 and is expected to come to force on 1st July 2021. Also, the administrative procedures for the establishment of the EAMI have been initiated, including the identification of host Partner State and development of organizational structure for the EAMI. The Bill for the establishment of East African Bureau of Statistics was passed by the Legislative Assembly (EALA) in September 2018 and is expected to be assented by the next Summit. Bills for the establishment of EAC Surveillance, Compliance and Enforcement Commission and the Financial Services Commission are in advanced stages of approval process.

The EAC Central Banks have made good progress in harmonizing monetary and financial policies. In principle, all the EAC Central Banks have so far agreed to move from reserve money-based framework to a forward-looking price based monetary policy framework. In addition, the East African Payment System (EAPS) has been established

Regional statistics compilation guidelines have been developed and adopted for Consumer Price Indices and Government Finance Statistics production of harmonized statistics. Regional guidelines for the other priority statistics domain are under development. The Guidelines specify the minimum harmonized standards for Partner States to follow to compile reliable and comparable statistics for national, regional and international use.

With AfDB technical support the EAC data dissemination Portal has been redeveloped. Currently, the portal contains data on Merchandise Trade Statistics (MTS) for the period 2016-2020.

As part of enhancing the statistical capacity in the Partner States, training support to staff from Partner States National Statistics Offices (NSOs) is ongoing as follows:-

- NSO in the Republic of Burundi: 2 officers pursuing Doctoral studies in Ivory Coast; 3 undertaking PHD in Cameroon; and 2 undertaking master's degree in Cameroon.
- NSO of the Republic South Sudan: 4 officers pursuing Master's degree at Eastern Africa Statistics Training Centre (EASTC) in Tanzania.

EAC Domestic Tax Harmonization Policy has been developed and approved by the Council and is now in the implementation process. In addition, an EAC Model Tax Treaty has been developed to guide future treaty negotiations by the EAC Partner States. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Currency Convertibility and Repatriation among the EAC Partner States has been signed by the Central Bank Governors in order to promote currency convertibility in the EAC region

The EAC Central Banks agreed to move from reserve money-based framework to a forward- looking price based monetary policy framework and Memorandum of

Understanding (MOU) on Currency Convertibility and Repatriation was signed by the Central Bank Governors.

POLITICAL FEDERATION

Constitution-making for the EAC Political Confederation

As a mandate under the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC and as per the directive of the Council of Ministers on observation of elections in the EAC Partner States. The Community deployed two Election Observation missions to the United Republic of Tanzania for the 28th Oct 2020 and Republic of Uganda for the 14th January 2021

With regard to the drafting of the Constitution for the EAC Political Confederation, the National Stakeholder Consultations on the Political Confederation have been carried out in the Republic of Burundi in January, 2020 and in the Republic of Uganda in April to May 2021.

The Community's Youth Ambassadors collaborated with the African Union Youth Envoy and other partners to map out the impact of COVID-19 and prepare plans to mitigate the challenges. The Youth Ambassadors also reached out to the border communities to engage them on the pandemic and its control measures.

A framework establishing the Youth Peace & Security forum in the Region and a Strategy for Youth Peace and Security, and its implementation Plan was developed.

Peace and Security

The Community continued to implement measures towards combating regional and cross border threats that include money laundering, terrorism, Small Arms and Light Weapons Proliferation, smuggling, trafficking of both persons and narcotics through Partner States subventions that complemented EU support.

Three MoU were signed to strengthen the regional and multilateral strategies as follows:

- a) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) was signed 2020 to strengthen cooperation in the areas of Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, Electoral Assistance, women Peace and Security Gender Equality, Youth and Peace Building joint activities implementation.
- b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation (MS TCDC) was signed in 2020 to Collaborate and strengthen programs aimed at skilling youth and promoting youth employment within the EAC.
- c) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IIDEA) was signed in 2021 to support to cooperate for mutual interest and the common vision of consolidating and strengthening democracy and development within EAC Member States and other African nations in areas of Elections Support and Technical Assistance to EMBs, Knowledge Management, Early Warning Systems, Platforms for Peer Learning/Cooperation , Constitution Building and EAC Parliament Support.

A framework establishing the Youth Peace & Security forum in the Region was developed.

EACWARN Operationalization tools and conflict dynamic and structural data analysis tool were developed which will facilitate peace and security threats monitoring in EAC Region, data collection, analysis and reporting.

Mapped out borders & boundaries disputes in EAC region and produced a comprehensive report showing causes, possible trends, gaps in dispute resolution frameworks and measures to sustainably prevent, manage and settle manifest and latent border disputes/conflicts in the region;

A Police handbook on EAC Integration has been finalized and distributed to Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and South Sudan.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Planning and Research

The 6th EAC Development Strategy (2021/22 – 2025/26) was formulated to guide the Community's strategic direction in the next five years. The overall goal of the Strategy is "To Transform the East African Community into a Stable, Competitive and Sustainable Lower- Middle Income Region by 2030." The overarching theme of the Strategy is "Building Momentum towards post-COVID-19 Recovery and Accelerating Regional adaptation to the Dynamic Socioeconomic Environment

The Pre-budget Conference was held on 22nd October 2020. The Conference recommended six (6) Global Priority Areas for the Financial Year 2021/22 and the respective Sector-specific Priority Areas which were adopted by the 40th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers (EAC/CM/40/Decision 03).

Upgraded the EAC Secretariat Quality Management System certification to ISO 9001:2015 Standard

The EAC Secretariat was able to completion of i) the Study on the Status of EAC Integration; ii) the Study on Equitable Sharing of Benefits and Costs of EAC Integration Process, iii) the Study on the Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Implementation Customs Union Protocol; and iv) Cost Benefit Analysis of each Partner State Concluding FTA Agreements with Third Parties.

To track the implementation of the Summit, Council and Sectoral decisions and directives, a comprehensive assessment on implementation of directives and decisions of SCMEACP from the 1st - 30th meetings report was prepared and considered by the 31st Sectoral Council on EAC Affairs and Planning held on 11th June, 2021

Under Investment and private Sector development, the EAC Investment Policy was adopted by EAC Council of Ministers in February 2021 and is geared towards providing measures for improvement of the EAC investment climate, and the EAC Investment Guide published both in print and online version as a tool for investment promotion and attraction

The Private Sector Development Strategy (PSDS) was adopted by SCTIFI and aims at increasing the words of the private sector in the EAC integration process; and Adoption and implementation of the consultative dialogue framework for engagement of private sector, civil society and other interest groups in the EAC Integration process: More than 8 national SG' CEOs Forum have been held in the Partner States. Six regional SG CEOs Forum have also been held. Recommendations have been forwarded to the relevant Sectoral Councils for Partner States implementation.

Infrastructure Development

Roads Sub-sector

The Secretariat has continued to coordinate development of multinational roads linking the Partner States and among others is the construction of the Multinational Tanzania/Burundi road: Kabingo-Kasulu-Manyovu (260 km) in Tanzania and Gitaza-Rumonge (45 km) in Burundi is ongoing following Burundi and Tanzania securing financing amounting to USD 322.35 million in the form of grants and loans from the AfDB. Furthermore, detailed design of the Mugina-Manyovu One Stop Border Post is ongoing through a grant secured by the EAC from the AfDB amounting to USD 480,000. The design of the OSBP is expected to be completed by July 2021.

Railways

The implementation of the Northern Corridor and Central Corridor Standard Gauge Railways in Kenya and Tanzania respectively is ongoing. To support seamless railways operations across the region, the Secretariat is developing principles of harmonized EAC Railways legal and regulatory framework

Civil Aviation and Airports

The EAC Secretariat continued coordinating the implementation of EAC Upper Airwords Seamless Operations Project. This included the harmonization of regulations, Manuals of Air Navigation Services operations, development of common Secondary Surveillance Radar (SSR) codes and development of technical specifications that will facilitate acquisition of the EAC Upper Airwords Seamless Operations Platform (System).

The harmonized Health Protocols in Civil Aviation in Collaboration with Aviation Medical (AVMED) Experts were developed the period under review; and the implementation of €500,000 GIZ funded Project on COVID-19 Pandemic Preparedness and Response Training for Staff in EAC Partner States commenced and ongoing.

Developed Harmonized Measures in aviation safety in Collaboration with the National Continuous Monitoring Coordinators (NMCs) during the COVID-19;

THE PRODUCTIVE SECTORS

Energy Sector

In terms of the Energy development, the Implementation of the Power interconnectors has continued. Projects are at different stages to completion. For example: Zambia-Tanzania-Kenya (ZTK) interconnector to be commissioned 2022. EAC together with the Eastern Africa Power Pool secured funding to update the Power System Master Plan 2038 to 2063; and

Environment and Natural Resources

Under Environment, the final draft Protocol on Environment and Natural Resources Management and the draft EAC Forest Policy and Strategy were considered by the 40th ordinary meeting of Council of Ministers.

In collaboration with Water Aid International, EAC Secretariat constructed permanent handwashing facilities at five (5) border posts: Nemba/Gasenyei (Rwanda side); Holili (Tanzania side); Vurra (Uganda side); Busia (Kenya side); and Malaba (Kenya side).

EAC mobilized USD 150,000 from IUCN for the development of EAC Water Policy and Integrated Water Resources Strategy. The implementation will start from 2021/22 financial year.

The sector developed the first draft Regional Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and Project on the initial implementation

Agriculture

EAC harmonized pesticides registration guidelines were developed and adopted and EAC Seed and Plant Varieties Bill was developed

Draft EAC Fertilizer Policy and draft Fertilizer Bill were finalized in September 2020
Regional guidelines for extraction, processing, packaging and marketing of fish maws in EAC were developed and approved by FASCoM

Institutional and functional Frameworks were developed for transforming LVFO to the East African Fisheries Organization

Policy brief on guidelines for extraction, processing and trading in fish maws was produced and disseminated to key stakeholders

Mobilized USD 2 million from IFAD to support small fish project now awaits final approval from IFAD Board

Fisheries and Aquaculture Manuals, Guidelines, Policies printouts were distributed to key stakeholders.

The EAC deployed two Election Observers. The Mission to the United Republic of Tanzania for the 28th Oct 2020 and Republic of Uganda for the 14th January 2021

The National Stakeholder Consultations on the Political Confederation have been carried out in the Republic of Burundi in January, 2020 and in the Republic of Uganda in April to May 2021.

A framework establishing the Youth Peace & Security forum in the Region was developed;

Tourism and Wildlife Development

To improve Tourism in the EAC Region, the Draft Protocol on Tourism and Wildlife Management and the EAC Regional Tourism Marketing Strategy was finalized and approved by the Sectoral Council on Tourism and Wildlife Management (SCTWM);

An EAC COVID-19 Regional Tourism Recovery Plan and the EAC EAC Regional Guidelines for Resumption of Services in the Tourism Sector and Hospitality Establishments were developed and approved by the Sectoral Council of Tourism and Wildlife Management

SOCIAL SECTORS

2020 EAC Secondary School Students Essay Writing Competition successfully undertaken. National and Regional Adjudication have been undertaken. National awards ongoing.

Successfully supported the EAC Partner States efforts and the region in responding to the COVID -19 pandemic through interventions including supporting testing capacity, provision of laboratory supplies, test kits and personal protective equipment, policy guidance among others;

Concluded two regional studies on status of integration of Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAH) and HIV and AIDS service packages, and the burden of Sexually Transmitted infections. These are informing policy and programming in the region;

Successfully supported EALA in the drafting of the EAC Sexual Reproductive Health Bill, 2021. The Draft bill will be tabled in EALA before December for adoption

The Action Plan of the EAC Gender Policy (2018) developed and was adopted by the 5th Sectoral Council on Gender, Youth, Children, Social Protection and Community Development in May 2021.

The Digital Regional East African Community Health (Digital REACH) Strategic Plan 2019-2028 was adopted and implemented. The EAC also launched the East Africa web portal for health information as part of the official East African Community comprehensive compendium of health information in East Africa.

Resource Mobilization for the health sector for current and future projects on strengthening laboratory capacity (12 million Euros; COVID -19 response US\$ 9.0million) from the AFDB. The EAC minimum package for RMNCAH and HIV and AIDS integration

and linkages and the EAC Integrated Reproductive Maternal newborn Child and Adolescent Health and HIV and AIDS were developed.

Tuberculosis (TB) and sexually transmitted Infections (STI) Scorecard for monitoring key health indicators and the EAC Advocacy and Communication Strategy for RMNCAH, and HIV and AIDS were developed.

On Child health protection, a Study on the harmonization of child related laws in the EAC and midterm Review of the EAC Child Policy (2016) was conducted and the report adopted. EAC Child Policy and its Facilitators Guide were developed.

A Study on adolescent and young people HIV Social Protection Mechanisms in the EAC was finalized and the report adopted.

.A COVID-19 Response, Mitigation and Adaptation Plan for youth and children developed and adopted.

OTHER EAC ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS

East African Legislative Assembly

On the legislative front, this August House passed the East African Community Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2020; the EAC Appropriation Bill, 2020; The LVBC Bill, 2020; and the East African Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2021.

The Assembly also adopted a number of resolutions in order to further its legislative work and that is, the resolution to establish an emergency fund to facilitate the response of the Community to Pandemics and Disease outbreaks to the Council.

The Assembly also launched its 3rd Strategic Plan 2019-2024.

The draft merger Regulations and guidelines were developed and Prioritization framework for Enforcement and Market inquiries were developed and approved by SCTIFI

To play its oversight role, the Assembly adopted a number of recommendations to the Council of Ministers, the EAC Secretariat and the Partner States aimed at improving the overall performance of the Community in the implementation of its integration agenda

Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA)

IUCEA awarded scholarships as follows: 33 scholarships from the Regional Centre of Excellence in Embedded and Mobile Systems (CENIT); 125 STEM scholarships for gifted unemployed ICT graduates to pursue training in Android programming in Partner States other than their own; and 35 scholarships from Kyung Dong University, South Korea.

The East Africa Skills for Transformation Project (EASTRIP) is on course with 40 teachers/tutors from 16 TVETs institutions either having embarked on or waiting to embark on their studies in various Chinese universities.

Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC)

Under Water Resources Management, Lake Victoria Basin Commission partnered with Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) to implement a Five-Year Nile Cooperation for Climate and Resilient (NCCR) project with the grant from World Bank amounting to Thirty Million US dollars (30,000,000 USD). Among the five Project components, LVBC will implement the one focusing on the Water Quality in the Lake Victoria Sub-Basin. The Activity will contribute to the thematic Areas of Platform for cooperation and Water quality investment planning and prioritization.

The Project Agreement was signed on March 11, 2021 between the EAC (Secretary General) and World Bank (WB). The MoU between NBI and EAC/LVBC focuses on enhancing cooperative management and development of the LVB and closer collaboration between the entities, which will help to leverage their technical and stakeholder engagement strengths for the benefit of their member states. It is in that direction; the two Entities (NBI and LVBC) signed a Subsidiary Agreement for the Implementation of the Component under the NCCR Project.

Through LVB IWRM Programme, the LVBC has made progress in strengthening its water resources management. An Institutional Assessment towards the development a regional IWRM Strategy have been undertaken, a Programme Operational Manual (POM) designed to guide investment planning was revised; and the selection of integral parts of the Water Information System (LVB-WIS) being developed to inform decisions and plans on the health of the Lake basin has completed.

Through the same Programme, the Commission coordinated the preparation of feasibility studies for four (4) strategic and high priority investments to be implemented in Kisumu/Kenya, Mwanza/URT, Kigali/Rwanda, and Kampala/Uganda, geared to improve water quality and availability within the Lake Victoria Basin. Feasibility Study Reports for 3 out of 4 Projects, except for Kampala HPI, are ready to be advanced to the detailed design' level and subsequent implementation.

Under Conservation of Transboundary ecosystem LVBC facilitated the signing of the MoU between the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania in 2015 aimed at sustainable management of the Mara Ecosystem.

Under strengthening the LVBC Institutional Capacity, the Commission in January 2021 commenced the construction of its headquarters in Kisumu. Under Water Resources Management, Lake Victoria Basin Commission partnered with Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) to implement a Five-Year Nile Cooperation for Climate and Resilient (NCCR) project with the grant from World Bank amounting to Thirty Million US dollars (30,000,000 USD). Among the five Project components, LVBC will implement the one focusing on the Water Quality in the Lake Victoria Sub-Basin. The Activity will contribute to the thematic Areas of Platform for cooperation and Water quality investment planning and prioritization.

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Under Conservation of Transboundary ecosystem LVBC facilitated the signing of the MoU between the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania in 2015 aimed at sustainable management of the Mara Ecosystem. In line with the afore-mentioned Sectoral Council of Ministers directive, LVBC in partnership with the Narok County organized the 8th Mara day Celebrations on 15th September 2020 in Masai mara, Narok County, Republic of Kenya. One key uniqueness of the 8th Mara Day was holding stakeholders Scientific Conference on Sustainable Management of Trans-boundary ecosystem—Mara River Basin connecting the United Republic of Tanzania and Republic of Kenya. The Conferenced ended with resolutions to guide policy interventions in Mara Region. The Mara ecosystem is one of the critical ecosystems in the Lake Victoria Basin that supports sustainable socio-economic development and biodiversity conservation.

Under strengthening the LVBC Institutional Capacity, the Commission in January 2021 commenced the construction of its headquarters in Kisumu, Kenya. The Phase one of the HQ is expected to be completed by December 2021. Further, the LVBC act 2020 was enacted by EALA and await the Assent to by the Heads of State, Kenya. The Phase one of the HQ is expected to be completed by December 2021. Further, the LVBC act 2020 was enacted by EALA and await the Assent to by the Heads of State

Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO)

Under LVFO, a lake-wide fish stock assessment was carried out in Lake Victoria through hydro-acoustic survey in October 2020 reported that the lake had 3.47 million tons of fish (including Caridina), which was a 29% increase from the previous survey of October 2019. Dagaa was the most dominant (37%) followed by Nile perch (30%), Caridina (20%) and haplochromines and others (15%). Nile perch increased by 25% while Dagaa increased by 10%. The increase is attributed to enhanced enforcement operations by the Partner States in the recent years (2017-2020) in April 2021.

LVFO developed regional guidelines for extraction, processing, packaging and marketing of fish maws in EAC. The guidelines were approved by *Fisheries* and Aquaculture Sectoral Council of Ministers (FASCoM)

Fisheries co-management guidelines reviewed validated and submitted to Partners States for consultations and concurrence, Partner States facilitated and completed consultations and submitted for FASCoM approval

LVFO developed the institutional and functional Frameworks for transforming LVFO to the East African Fisheries Organization

East African Kiswahili Commission (EAKC)

The Commission finalized review and development of the Programme and Manual for Kiswahili Training for Basic Education Teachers (Primary and Secondary) in Burundi; Programme and Manual for Kiswahili Training Program for Parliament of Uganda; Programme and Manual for Kiswahili Training for Trade and Business (SMEs) in Rwanda; Programme and Manual for Training of Teachers of Kiswahili at Secondary School Level in South Sudan; Programme and Manual for Kiswahili Training Program for Parliament in Kenya; and the Programme and Manual for Training experts to teach Kiswahili to users of other languages for URT is in final stages of completion

East African Competition Authority (EACA)

Under EACA, the EAC Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2020 was passed by EALA in May 2021, draft merger Regulations and guidelines and Prioritization framework for Enforcement and Market inquiries developed and approved by SCTIFI

East African Science and Technology Commission (EASTECO)

The Commission developed a Regional Research Agenda, Regional Research Management framework; and Regional Research Manual

East African Health Research Commission (EAHRC)

The Commission implemented the Digital Regional East African Community Health Initiative; assessment of facility registry, terminology services and regional data warehouse in five EAC Partner States; redesigned the East Africa Cross Border Health Services Pilot Programme;

During the period, two regular issues of East African Health Research Journal and one regular issue of the East Africa Science were published and; a study conducted on the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 in patients with Severe Acute Respiratory Infections in EAC Partner States as a two-step molecular and sero-epidemiological cross-sectional study

Conclusion

The region's economic performance for the period 2020/21 was generally impacted negatively by the COVID-19 Pandemic

Although the implementation of the activities during the Financial Year 2020-2021 were greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic which ravaged economies through lockdowns and economic shutdowns resulting in the loss of millions of jobs, livelihoods and general economic malaise all over the world, the EAC made substantial progress across sectors as outlined in the Annual Operational Plan for the Financial Year. Key among all is that most of Statutory Meetings (Summit, Council and Sectoral Councils) were held, albeit some challenges relating to lack of quorum, and changes of dates/postponements, problems due to COVID-19 which affected implementation of other activities.

In the next Financial Year, the EAC Secretariat looks forward in strengthening and expanding regional integration with continued engagement of Partner States and Development Partners to ensure timely disbursement of funds to facilitate timely implementation of projects and programs and expedite the process of formulating alternative financing options for consideration by the Council.

I take the opportunity to thank all our key stakeholders, particularly the Partner States and Development Partners for the continued commitment and support towards the Regional Integration

Hon. (Dr) Peter Mutuku Mathuki
EAC SECRETARY GENERAL

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The East African Community (EAC) is a regional organization mandated by the Governments of Burundi, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Rwanda, Republic of Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. The EAC expanded in 2007 by the admission of the Republic of Burundi and the Republic of Rwanda and was further expanded in 2016 by the admission of the Republic of South Sudan. The Treaty for the establishment of the EAC was signed in November 1999 and came into force on 7th July 2000. The regional cooperation and integration envisaged in EAC is broad based. Article 5 (1) of The Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community states that “The objectives of the Community shall be to develop policies and programmes aimed at widening and deepening cooperation among the Partner States in political, economic, social and cultural fields, research and technology, defence, security and legal and judicial affairs for their mutual benefit.” Since then, the EAC Customs Union was established in March 2005 and has made significant progress. In 2010, the EAC established a Common Market followed by Monetary Union signed in 2013 that will come into force in 2023 and then a Political Federation as the ultimate goal.

As one of the fastest growing Regional blocs in Africa, the EAC has a population of about 150.6 million people with a combined GDP of US\$150 billion by 2015. The economies of the EAC mainly depend on export of agricultural commodities although industrial production especially manufacturing has recently increased in all the countries that comprise the trading bloc. At the same time, the services sector has grown mainly with respect to tourism, ICT and financial services.

The Vision of the EAC is to attain a prosperous, competitive, secure and politically united East Africa, while the Community’s Mission is to widen and deepen economic, political, social and cultural integration in order to improve the quality of life of the people of East Africa through increased competitiveness, value added production, enhanced trade and investment. The Brand of the East African Community is “One People, One Destiny”.

1.2 EAC ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS

The Treaty establishes the following Organs and Institutions for the Community: The Summit composed of the Heads of State of the Governments of Partner States; The Council composed of the Ministers responsible for East African Community Affairs and other Ministers as each Partner State may determine; and the Coordination Committee composed of Permanent Secretaries. The Sectoral Committees composed of Senior Officials from the Partner States are responsible for preparation of comprehensive programmes implementation reports and priorities in the respective sectors.

Other Organs are:- The Secretariat, as the executive organ of the Community responsible for initiating and coordinating the harmonization of policies and strategies relating to the development of the Community and general administration and financial management of the Community; East African Legislative Assembly, the legislative organ of the Community composed of fifty two members consisting of nine elected members from each National

Assembly of the Partner States; seven ex-officio members who include the Ministers responsible for EAC Affairs, the Secretary General and the Counsel to the Community; and the East African Court of Justice, a judicial body of the Community responsible for administration of justice.

The EAC Institutions that handle specific and specialized mandates are:- Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA); Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO); Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC); and Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency (CASSOA); the East Africa Kiswahili Commission(EAKC) ; the East Africa Science and Technology Commission (EASTECO) ; and the East African Health Research Commission(EACHRC); East African Competition Authority (EACA); and the East African Development Bank (EADB);

1.3 STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

This report is structured as follows: Chapter 1.0 presents the introduction to the Annual report, followed by brief analysis of recent social economic development in Chapter 2. Performance on planned activities across the EAC Secretariat is presented in chapter 3 through Chapter 8. Performance registered by the EAC Organs and Institutions is presented in Chapter 9 through Chapter 17. The report ends with presentation of challenges faced and proposed solutions in Chapter 18, and 19 and lastly conclusions in Chapter 20.

1.4 RECENT SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN EAST AFRICA

The East African Community with its six Partner States constitutes an important regional economic block in Africa in terms of its coverage, population and economic strength. The region with its territorial area of around 2,463,146 km² is endowed with vast ranges of arable land, massive water resources, forest coverage and related resources, tourist's attractions, and a number of mineral resources notably gold, diamonds, gas and petroleum resources. Complimented to its population of around 186,121 million people in 2020, and overall gross domestic product (GDP) of over US\$157,350 billion in 2019.

With the exception of the Republic of South Sudan and the Republic of Burundi where no data were provided, , the rest of the EAC Partner States have an average of real GDP growth rate of 1,1% in 2020 while the average was 5.8% in 2019 Burundi included . The region is considered as the world's fastest reforming with stable economic and political environment; harmonized tariff; great market access to all regions in Africa, Middle East and Asia and preferential market access to the US, EU and some other developed countries.

1.5 ECONOMIC TRENDS

The region's economic performance for the period 2020/21 was generally impacted negatively by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Available data indicate that real GDP growth in EAC Partner States varied over the past three years to 2020, with an annual average growth of 5.0% in 2017. It is 1, 1% in 2020 for four partner states except Burundi and South Sudan where data are missing. In Kenya, real GDP growth of -0, 3% in 2020 while it was 3, 8% in 2017, while Tanzania has 4, 8% in 2020 with a GDP rate growth of 6, 8%

in 2017. Rwanda has a GDP rate growth of -2, 4% GDP Growth in 2020 while it had 4, and 0 % in 2017. Uganda has a GDP rate growth of 3, 3% in 2020 while it was 6, 3% in 2017. Burundi had 4, 5% in 2019, while it was 5, 3 in 2018. In general, the GDP growth has decreased due to many parameters among others COVID -19 impact on inter trade.

Partner State	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Burundi =2005	4.0	4.4	4.9	4.2	-0.4	3.2	4.2	5.3	4.5	
Kenya= 2016	5.1	4.5	3.8	5.0	5.0	4.2	3.8	5.6	5.0	-0.3
Rwanda =2014	8.5	8.6	4.7	6.2	8.9	6.0	4.0	8.6	9.5	-3.4
South Sudan = 2009										
Tanzania = 2015	7.9	5.1	6.8	6.7	6.2	6.9	6.8	7.0	7.0	4.8
Uganda = 2016/17	3.8	3.6	5.1	5.2	4.8	3.1	6.3	6.4	3.0	3.3

Table 3.5e: Intra - EAC Trade (Million USD)

Partner states	Flow	2011	2012	2020
Burundi	Export	28,6	32,9	16,4
	Import	153,5	173,6	173,0
	Balance	-1249	-1406	-1566
Kenya	Export	1,544.70	1808,9	1479,6
	Import	302,.9	365,2	518,2
	Balance	1,241.80	1,443.70	961,4
Rwanda	Export	81,2	343,5	54,4
	Import	384,9	447,8	905,2
	Balance	-188.8	-14.1	-850.8
Tanzania	Export	416,8	519,8	822,9
	Import	378,0	678,6	324,3
	Balance	38.6	-158.8	498.6
Uganda	Export	734,0	879,2	1039,6
	Import	705,9	871,0	1652,3
	Balance	28.1	208.2	-612.7

Source: Partner States

(1) series revised for Uganda since 2006 to include informal trade

The table above gives an overview of intra trade between EAC partner states. Kenya and Tanzania have up to 2020 had a positive balance respectively +961.4 Million USD and +498.6 million USD. However, compared with previous years like 2011 and 2012, the balance of Kenya was low and Tanzania has exported more in 2020 than the previous years 2011 and 2012.

Except Tanzania, all partner states imported more than the last 9 years. This was due to many factors including the COVID -19 pandemic that caused lockdowns affecting the free movement of goods

The table further shows that Partner States are dependent on imports hence a need to increase their capacity of exports.

1.6 DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

a) Population

The EAC has a combined population of around 169.6 million in 2017, compared to an estimated 186,121.8 million persons in 2020. This indicating that there is a population growth of 8.9% in the three years. This further implies that in 2050 the population of EAC partner states shall have increased up to 89%. Among the population, 50.7% are female and 49.3 % are male. Looking at the EAC Population in general, the demographic trend, highlight the youthful population people estimated at 82.7% with age group from 0-39 years old with 42.6% under 5 years old.

Table 1: Annual Population Growth rate (in %)

Partner states	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Average
Burundi	3.6	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.7
Kenya	2.6	3	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.6	1.1	1.1	2.3	2.4
Rwanda	2	3.3	1.5	2.8	2.7	1.8	2.6	2.5	1.7	3.0	2.4
South Sudan	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.5	4.0
Tanzania	1.4	1.0	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	2.8
Uganda	3.2	2.8	3.1	2.8	2.5	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.0
EAST AFRICA	2.85	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.9	2.9

Source: Partner states

Table 2.4b: Average household size, number

Partner State\Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Burundi	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Kenya	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4
Rwanda	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4
South Sudan	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

Tanzania	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Uganda	-	-	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
EAST AFRICA										

Source:
Partner States

As per the table above, the analysis shows that South Sudan has a big number of the household size (6 persons per house) compared to other Partner States. Kenya and Rwanda had the least household size where some families are at 4 persons per household

1.7 SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

1.7.1. Life Expectancy

Expectancy at birth on average stood at 63 years in the East African countries, .Rwanda has the highest life expectancy at 68 years, and Burundi, Kenya and South Sudan have lowest life expectancy compared to the average given above with respectively 60 years, 61 years and the South Sudan ranking the least at 58.years.

Table 2.1k: Life expectancy at birth, number of years

Partner State\Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Burundi	50	51	51	52	52	59	59	60	60	60
Kenya	59	59	59	61	61	61	61	61	61	61
Rwanda	55	55	65	65	65	66	67	67	68	68
South Sudan	55	56	56	57	57	57	57	58	58	58
Tanzania	55	62	66	66	66	67	67	67	67	67
Uganda	50	50	50	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
EAST AFRICA	54	55	58	61	61	62	62	63	63	63

Source: Partner States

1.7.2. Infant Mortality per 1000 births

The under-five mortality rate per 1000 births was on average at 90 deaths in 2012, while average in 2020 was 60 deaths (per 1000 births) .South Sudan has the highest number with 96 deaths followed by Burundi and Uganda , respectively 78 deaths and 64 deaths per 1000 births

The overall average number for infant all ages included is about 45 deaths per 1000 births in 2020 while it was 64 deaths in 2011

Table 2.1h: Infant and under five mortality rates, infant/under five deaths per 1,000 live births

	Partner State\Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Infant Mortality rate	Burundi	114	112	112	107	105	60	47	47	47	47
	Kenya	52	52	52	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
	Rwanda	50	50	49	32	32	32	32	32	33	33
	South Sudan	66	64	63	62	62	62	62	62	62	62
	Tanzania	51	46	46	46	46	43	43	43	43	43
	Uganda	54	54	54	53	53	43	43	43	43	43
	EAST AFRICA	64	63	63	57	56	47	44	44	45	45
Under 5 Mortality rate	Burundi	173	169	169	160	156	78	78	78	78	78
	Kenya	74	74	74	52	52	52	52	52	52	52
	Rwanda	76	76	76	50	50	50	50	50	45	45
	South Sudan	102	99	97	96	96	96	96	96	96	96
	Tanzania	32	32	32	32	25	25	25	25	25	25
	Uganda	90	90	90	80	80	64	64	64	64	64
	EAST AFRICA	91	90	90	78	77	61	61	61	60	60

Source: Partner States

The tables below show that East African average of the number of births per 1000 persons is about 38 births in Burundi and Tanzania, the highest ones, followed by Uganda and Kenya respectively 37 births and 35 births per 1000 persons, while Rwanda has the lowest number, 28 births per 1000 persons.

Furthermore, the number of deaths per 1000 persons, 10 deaths per 1000 persons is the highest in Burundi, South Sudan and Kenya, while Uganda and Rwanda register 6 deaths per 1000 persons which is low rate compared to other partner states

TC46:W67table 2.1i: Crude birth rate, number of births per 1,000 persons

Partner State\Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Burundi	38	38	38	43	43	38	38	38	38	38
Kenya	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Rwanda	34	34	34	33	33	30	30	30	28	28
South Sudan	38	37	37	37	36	36	35	35	35	34
Tanzania	39	39	39	39	38	38	38	38	38	38
Uganda	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	37	37
EAST AFRICA	38	38	38	38	38	36	36	36	35	35

Source: Partner States

Table 2.1j: Crude death rate, number of deaths per 1,000 persons

Partner State\Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Burundi	15	14	14	14	13	10	10	10	10	10
Kenya	12	12	12	12	12	10	10	10	10	10
Rwanda	14	8	8	7	7	7	7	6	6	6
South Sudan	12	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	10	10
Tanzania	14	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	8	8
Uganda	9	9	8	8	7	7	7	7	6	6
EAST AFRICA	12	11	10	10	10	9	9	9	8	8

Source: Partner States

b) Employment

According to the table below, The EAC unemployment rate is estimated to be 9.9%. Rwanda and South Sudan have the highest rate of unemployment respectively 17.8% and 12.7% while Burundi and Kenya have the lowest rate of Unemployment, respectively 4.7% and 5.3%. Kenya had 12.7% of unemployment rate in 2011 and in 2020, Kenya has 5.3% which is a good performance followed by Tanzania with 11.0% in 2011 and 9.5% in 2020. However it appears that unemployment remains a big challenges for EAC Partner states.

Table 2.5d: Unemployment rate, percent

Partner State\Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Burundi	-	-	2.0	2.0	-	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
Kenya	12.7	12.7	12.7	12.7	-	7.4	7.4	7.4	5.3	5.3
Rwanda	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.0	18.8	17.3	15.1	15.2	17.8
South Sudan	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.5	12.4	12.4	12.2	12.1	12.0	12.7
Tanzania	11.0	11.0	11.0	10.3	10.1	10.0	9.9	9.7	9.6	9.5

Uganda	-	-	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.2	9.2
EAST AFRICA	-	-	8.3	8.2	6.8	10.5	10.2	9.7	9.3	9.9

Source: Partner States

1.7.3. Literacy

The East Africa Community had an average literacy rate of 68 % in 2020, South Sudan and Burundi have the lowest respectively 35% and 62% , while the other partner states of East African Community have highest rate compared the average above, respectively 85% for Kenya, 78% Tanzania , 76 % Uganda and 72% of Rwanda ..

Table 2.2g: Literacy rate, percent

Partner State\Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Burundi	60	65	65	66	66	67	62	62	62	62
Kenya	62	62	62	62	62	85	85	85	85	85
Rwanda	83	83	83	86	86	86	87	87	72	72
South Sudan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	35	35
Tanzania	-	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78
Uganda	73	71	71	71	72	71	71	71	76	76
EAST AFRICA	70	72	72	73	73	77	76	69	68	68

Source: Partner States

*Data for Rwanda represents Literacy rates among population 15 years and above

2.0 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The office of the Secretary General is headed by the Secretary General assisted by three Deputies Secretary General and coordinates all regional projects and programs in the Community. The office, however, directly supervises the following functions: Legal and judicial affairs; Cooperation in Defence; Corporate Communications and Public Affairs; Internal Audit; and Resource Mobilization.

2.1 OFFICE OF THE CHEF DE CABINET

The office of the Secretary General continued with its objective of strengthening the Social Dimensions of the Regional Integration, Accelerating strategies and mechanisms for establishment of a Political Federation and strengthening the capacity of all EAC Organs and Institutions to effectively execute the EAC Integration Mandate.

For the purpose of articulating EAC integration initiatives towards mobilizing greater support for EAC integration objectives and to ensure that EAC's integration objectives are widely understood and supported internationally, a number of meetings were held such as GIZ, EU COP21, World Bank, TMEA, and other Tripartite meetings, with the view to articulate the EAC integration Agenda to the International Community resulting in signed/renewed MOUs and more resources mobilization.

21st Ordinary Summit was held, and a number of EAC Organs and Institutions meetings were held, including more than five (5) meetings with the Chair of the Council. The Secretary General's Forums held with the Civil Society and Private Sector.

2.2 INTERNAL AUDIT

Internal audit of the EAC Secretariat provides independent, objective assurance and consulting activity designed to add value and improve the Community's operations. It helps the EAC Organs and Institutions accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control, and governance processes. Internal Audit Unit reports administratively to the Secretary General and functionally to the EAC Audit and Risk Committee.

During the period under review, the Internal Audit Unit planned to: conduct 16 internal audit assignments by 2021, and procure of Audit tools

a. 16 internal audit assignments conducted by 2020

12 Audit assignments out of 16 completed and reported to the EAC Audit and Risk Committee for consideration and 3 quarterly meetings of the EAC Audit and Risk Committee were held to consider internal audit reports

b. Procurement of Audit tools by June, 2021

Computers procured and are in use (Number of the Computers)

2.3 DEFENCE LIAISON

Defence Liaison Unit at the EAC Secretariat provides a coordination link between Armed Forces of Partner States and the Secretariat; does research on all agreed matters of Defence; and such other duties as may be assigned by the Secretary General. Defence Liaison Officers report to both the Secretary General and the Chiefs of Defence Forces of Partner States.

During the period under review, the Defence Liaison Unit planned to: Harmonize Military Training Syllabi and Doctrines by June 2021; Implement Joint operations by June 2021; Carry out visits and exchange information by the EAC Partner States Armed Forces; Military Health and Industrial facilities improved and increased for shared utilization by June 2021; and Mutual Defense Pact ratified by June 2021.

a. Harmonize Military Training Syllabi and Doctrines by June 2021;

DLOs developed zero draft roadmap for the harmonization of training syllabi to be considered during a meeting of Commandants of Military Academies

b. Carry out visits and exchange information by the EAC Partner States Armed Forces;

All planned country consultations were carried out. Senior Defence leaders were briefed and DLOs received guidance accordingly.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Defence Office amounted to US\$ 275,760.00 for the Financial Year 2019/2020 with an expenditure of US\$ 238,173.26 with a budget performance of 86%

Challenges and Recommendations

Most activities under the department were not carried out due to Covid 19

2.4 COOPERATION IN LEGAL AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS

The Office of the Counsel to the Community is established under Article 69 of the Treaty and is responsible for legislative drafting and parliamentary services; advisory services and litigation; drafting of agreements and legal instruments; and corporate secretarial services among others.

In the period under review, the Office of the Counsel to the Community planned to achieve two targets as follows: provide Legal Support to Meetings of Organs and Institutions of the Community; and gazette Community laws, Decisions of Summit/Council.

a) Legal Support provided to Meetings of Organs and Institutions of the Community

Conducted judicial trainings together East African Judicial Education Committee headed in the EAC Partner States in December 2019. One Training of Judges and Judicial Officers was conducted in December 2019.

b) Community laws, Decisions of Summit/Council Gazetted

The Community continues to be a nominal defendant in a number of matters before the East African Court of Justice and Courts in the Partner States. The Council appreciates all the judicial pronouncements that were made and continue to focus our integration agenda in the right direction and is committed to advancing good governance, the rule of law, accountability and transparency in the Community.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to support cooperation in Legal and Judicial Affairs amounted to \$ 133,650.00 for the Financial Year 2020/2021, with an expenditure of \$ 124,549.90 . The budget performance was at 93% due to the low disbursement and as such no funds available to enable maximum budget performance.

2.5 RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The Resource Mobilization Office (RMO) is responsible for the overall coordination of Resource Mobilization (RM) initiatives of the EAC Organs and Institutions. The mandate of the RMO originates from the Treaty for the establishment of the EAC. Article 71(i) states that “the Secretariat shall be responsible for the mobilization of funds from Development Partners (DPs) and other sources for the implementation of projects of the Community”. Article 132 (4) states that “the budget of the Community shall be funded by equal contributions by the Partner States and receipts from regional and international donations and any other sources as may be determined by the Council.

The Treaty further provides that other resources shall include: - grants, donations, funds for projects and programmes, technical assistance and income earned from activities undertaken by the Community. The RMO therefore creates an enabling environment for mobilization of resources, by providing in house knowledge for donor intelligence, policy advice, guidelines, tools and instruments for RM and leading the negotiation and development of financing agreements as well as oversight on donor compliance.

In the period under review, the RMO planned to: Development of tools and instruments for effective resource mobilization; The EAC Resource Mobilization Strategy developed and validated by 2019; Donor Mapping conducted for EAC; Networking and participation in Donor Forums/ Donor Missions for Resource Mobilization; Donor Missions; Support from Development Partners increased and maintained; Donor round tables organized;

Key achievements were registered during the period under review as follows: -

a. Donor Mapping conducted for EAC

EAC Donor mapping was undertaken and now awaits validation

b. Networking and participation in Donor Forums/ Donor Missions for Resource Mobilization

Donor Missions to 4 potential DPs' embassies in Dar-es-Salaam were conducted. These include: India, Canada, Korea and China. Areas of partnership were identified and project proposals submitted for their consideration

c. Donor Missions

Donor Missions to 8 potential DPs' embassies in Dar-es-Salaam were conducted. These are: UAE, Morocco, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, and project proposals submitted.

d. Support from Development Partners increased and maintained

Despite the challenges of COVID -19, the Secretariat managed to mobilize and sign financing agreements for more than \$100 million grant to support the EAC projects and programmes, and the EAC COVID 19 Response Plan. Development partners who provided support include the Federal Republic of Germany through KfW and GIZ, African Development Bank, European Union Commission, and the Peoples Republic of China. Technical assistance was also provided by TMEA and Africa CDC towards the EAC COVID 19 response.

e. Donor round tables organized

Meetings were conducted with USAID, AfDB, World Bank and EU. However, due to the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, it was not possible to convene the annual EAC Development Partners Group (DPG) Forum with Organs and Institutions in 2020.

One steering Committee meeting was held in June 2020: to among others

- a) Confirmed the minutes of 29th PFSCM and the Matters Arising.
- B) Considered the Interim financial progress Report & Activity Implementation Matrix (July, 18 - May 2019)
- c) Confirmed the total disbursements for FY 2018/19 and Commitments for FY 2019/20.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to support Resource Mobilization amounted to \$ 114,000.00 for the Financial Year 2019/2020 with an expenditure of 85,564.07. The budget performance was 75%

Challenges and Recommendation

For FY 2020/2021, the main challenge has been COVID 19 pandemic, which led to cancellation of international forums and other donor engagements on which EAC capitalizes on to engage new donors; there has also been shift of priorities by Donors to support COVID 19 response plans. The EAC continues to engage its Development Partners mostly virtually

2.6 CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Department of Corporate Communications and Public Affairs (CCPAD) is responsible for increasing public awareness of the EAC and its projects and programmes. CCPAD derives its mandate from Article 71 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC (Functions of the Secretariat), Section 1 [f]) which states that the Secretariat shall be responsible for “the general promotion and dissemination of information on the Community to the stakeholders, the general public and the international community.”

In the period under review, CCPAD planned to: Develop the 2nd EAC Communication Policy and Strategy (2018/2019-2023/2024); prepare and submit the Draft 2nd EAC Communication Policy and Strategy (2018-2023); provide PR Management Support for EAC Meetings and Events; Print and distribute EC integration publications to Stakeholders, and; Finalize the EAC Brand Architecture.

The key achievements made during the Financial Year 2020/2021 were:

a. 2nd EAC Communication Policy and Strategy (2021-2026) developed:

The EAC Secretariat had earlier secured funding from the US Agency for International Development (USAID) to undertake the Evaluation of the 1st EAC Communication Policy and Strategy and to develop the 2nd EAC Communication Policy and Strategy as a single consultancy.

Impact Africa, a consultancy firm based in Nairobi, Kenya was recruited by USAID and brought on board to undertake the consultancy. The consultants developed the Draft 2nd EAC Communication Policy and Draft 2nd Communication Strategy that were subjected to an Internal Validation Meeting on 20th August, 2020 and to a Regional Validation Workshop bringing together Partner States’ delegates on 30th September, 2020.

The two draft policy documents and the report of the Regional Validation Workshop were presented to the 31st Meeting of the Sectoral Council of Ministers of EAC Affairs and Planning that met in Arusha, Tanzania from 7th – 11th June, 2021. The Sectoral Council deliberated at length on the policy documents and the validation report, and directed the

EAC Secretariat to expedite the finalization of the draft 2nd EAC Communication Policy and draft 2nd EAC Communication Strategy and report to the 32nd SCMEACP.

The Secretariat plans to hold a two-day Final Regional Validation Workshop in March 2022 to finalize the two documents in readiness for their adoption and launch by the Council.

b. Finalization of the New EAC Brand Architecture:

In accordance with the directive of the 37th Meeting of the EAC Council of Ministers, the EAC Secretariat procured a Brand Design Expert to work with the six youth (one from each Partner State) to finalize the EAC Brand Architecture Strategy. The Brand Design Expert (Consultant) reviewed the existing gaps in the current EAC Brand Architecture and evaluated the submissions by the Youth from the region and submitted an Inception Report.

A Special Meeting of the EAC Communication Experts Forum bringing together Communication Experts from the Ministries responsible for EAC Affairs in the Partner States validated the Inception Report and roadmap submitted on 21st August, 2020. The Brand Design Expert subsequently worked with the six (6) youths (one from each Partner State) to finalize their respective Emblem/Logo designs. The Expert engaged the youth through online channels such as Teams, Zoom and Google Meet in the months of September and October 2020. The youth subsequently revised their designs and resubmitted to the consultant for evaluation by 25th October, 2020.

The 2nd Special EAC Communication Experts' Forum held on 14th December, 2020, among other things, adopted the Brand Design Expert's Report for finalizing the EAC Brand Architecture Strategy.

The 31st Meeting of the Sectoral Council of Ministers of EAC Affairs and Planning held on Arusha from 7th to 11th June, 2021, among other things, adopted the Brand Design Expert's Report for finalizing the EAC Brand Architecture Strategy, and directed the Secretariat in consultation with the Consultant and the six (6) youths to work with the Organs and Institutions to make any improvements that may be required on the respective logos.

The 41st Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers held on 29th November, 2021 approved a supplementary budget for finalizing the EAC Brand Architecture. The Secretariat plans to hold a five-day workshop in Arusha, Tanzania for purposes of finalizing the New EAC Brand Architecture for adoption and launch by the Council.

c. PR Management Support for EAC Meetings and Events provided:

In 2020/2021 FY, the Department provided PR Management Support for the following high profile EAC Meetings and Events:

- The EAC Election Observer Mission to the United Republic of Tanzania (October 2020);
- EAC Election Observer Mission to the Republic of Uganda (January 2021);
- Consultations on the Drafting to the EAC Political Confederation (April-May 2021)
- Outgoing and New SG's Handover Ceremony (April 2021)
- SG's visit to the President of South Sudan
- SG's visit to the President of Tanzania
- SG's visit to the President of Uganda
- SG's visit to the President of Burundi
- SG's visit to the President of Rwanda
- SG's visit to the President of Zanzibar
- Verification Mission to DRC, Kinshasa, DRC
- Launch of the EAC Verification Mission in Goma DRC by the SG in the presence of the President of DRC

d. To print and distribute EAC integration publications (Treaty, Protocols and occasional publications) to stakeholders:

In the 2020/2021 Financial Year, the following publications were printed and distributed to stakeholders:

- Treaty – 3,500 copies

The EAC web portal has remained a critical communication channel. During the period under review, the EAC web portal (www.eac.int), maintained a 99.99% uptime, attracting monthly average of 200,000 unique visits and 1,200,000 hits. Further, the EAC Secretariat developed the following microsites:

- i. EAC Investment Guide - www.eac.int/investment-guide;
- ii. Mobile Labs Project - www.eac.int/mobilelabs;
- iii. Medicines Regulatory Harmonization - www.eac.int/mrh

e. To develop and distribute infomercials on EAC integration for dissemination on Radio, Television and Social Media Channels:

The production of video documentaries often requires that the Videographer and Crew travel to most or all of the Partner States. This was not possible during the 2020/2021 Financial Year due to the travel restrictions that were imposed in most Partner States due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The EAC Secretariat has continued to capitalize on social media platforms to communicate and disseminate information on the EAC activities, projects and programmes. During the period under review, the Secretariat enhanced its social media following and engagement on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Budget execution

The budget allocated to the Corporate Communications and Public Affairs Department c Affairs amounted to US 154,700.00 for the Financial Year 2020/2021 with an expenditure of US\$ 125,803.24 marking a budget performance of 81%.

Challenges

- Outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic which made the implementation of certain activities especially those requiring travel outside station impossible;
- Inadequate funding for some key activities including PR Management Support and production of public education programmes/documentaries.

Recommendations

- Communication Experts from EAC Organs and Institutions, and Partner States Ministries of EAC Affairs to develop Annual Communication Plans for purposes of implementing the Draft 2nd EAC Communication Policy and 2nd EAC Communication Strategy once they are adopted by the Council;
- Mobilize funds from either Partner States or Development Partners to finance the development of the 2nd EAC Communication Policy and Strategy, and;
- Undertake the 3rd EAC Media Caravan to document EAC achievements in various sectors including infrastructure development, investment promotion, education, EAC Centres of Excellence, health, peace and security, One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs);
- Re-establish the EAC Media Summit to discuss role of media in promoting the EAC agenda, and;
- Work out concrete mechanisms for collaboration between the Media industry and EAC Secretariat.

3.0 THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL – PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

3.1 REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Office of the Deputy Secretary General - Planning and Infrastructure is responsible for the following sectors: infrastructure development comprising of Roads, Railways, Civil Aviation and Airports; Meteorology, Information and Communication Technology, Monetary, Fiscal, Financial Sector development, harmonization of regional statistics, Private Sector Investments and Corporate Strategic Planning.

3.2 TRANSPORT AND WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Department of Transport and Works coordinates cooperation programmes for the road transport and railway transport sectors, as provided for in Articles 90 and 91 of the Treaty. In the period under review, the Transport and Works Unit planned to implement a

uniform EAC road classification by 2020; harmonize the National Road Standards, Specifications and Regulations ; Regional road fatalities reduced by at least 20% by 2020; At least five regional projects prepare and present to development partners for investment; Two regional projects financed from the fund; complete three (3) Studies on new corridors ; and the necessary Institutional study on the establishment of an EAC Railways Regulatory Agency and carried approved out by 2020.

The following were achieved under Transport and Works:

- a) Implementation of the 400 km long Multinational Kenya/Tanzania road: Malindi-Lunga Lunga and Tanga-Bagamoyo road is at the procurement stage following the two Governments securing a financing package of EUR 375 million from the African Development Bank (AfDB) and European Union for construction of road sections in Kenya and Tanzania which is expected to commence in 2021.
- b) Construction of the Multinational Tanzania/Burundi road: Kabingo-Kasulu-Manyovu (260 km) in Tanzania and Gitaza-Rumonge (45 km) in Burundi is ongoing following Burundi and Tanzania securing financing amounting to USD 322.35 million in the form of grants and loans from the AfDB. Furthermore, detailed design of the Mugina-Manyovu One Stop Border Post is ongoing through a grant secured by the EAC from the AfDB amounting to USD 480,000. The design of the OSBP is expected to be completed by July 2021
- c) The Government of Tanzania secured funding from the World Bank for construction of the 92 km Lusahunga-Rusumo road in Tanzania linking to the 70 km Kayonza-Kigali Road in Rwanda. Procurement of Contractors is ongoing for the Tanzania section while resource mobilization is ongoing for the Rwanda section.
- d) Resource mobilization for the construction of the Multinational Tanzania/Uganda road project, Masaka-Mutukula (90 km) in Uganda linking Mutukula-Kyaka and Bugene-Kasulo-Kumunazi Road (163 km) in Tanzania is ongoing following the completion in December 2020 of the feasibility studies and detailed engineering designs that were funded by a grant from the AfDB
- e) The implementation of the Northern Corridor and Central Corridor Standard Gauge Railways in Kenya and Tanzania respectively is ongoing. To support seamless railways operations across the region, the Secretariat is developing principles of harmonized EAC Railways legal and regulatory framework

Budget execution

The budget allocated to Transport and Works amounted to US\$ 1,105,359.60 for the Financial Year 2017/2018 with an expenditure of US\$ 215,107.16 leading to budget performance of 19 %.

3.3 METEOROLOGY

The Department of Meteorology coordinates cooperation programmes on meteorology, including collection, processing and dissemination of meteorological information; expansion and upgrading of meteorological infrastructure, human resource development, and climate analysis as guided by article 100 of the Treaty on cooperation in meteorology.

During the period under review, the department of meteorology planned to complete project identification and preparation under Lake Tanganyika Program by 2021; review and update Maritime Transport Policies and Regulations and new regulations developed by 2021; At least 50% of the recommendations contained in the Meteorological Plan and Strategy are implemented; more accurate and reliable forecasts issued and disseminated to users; and Aeronautical Meteorological Services in the National MET Services ISO Certified

The following were achieved under Meteorology:

a. Project identification and preparation under Lake Tanganyika Program completed by 2021.

Meeting of the 17th TCM held on June 2021 in Dar es Salaam where the Maritime Transport Issues were deliberated.

b. At least 50% of the recommendations contained in the Meteorological Plan and Strategy are implemented

Meeting of the Meteorological Operations and Heads of Meteorological Services was held in Mombasa Kenya in June 2021 to deliberate on Meteorological issues and policy recommendations were developed and adopted by the 17th TCM.

c. More accurate and reliable forecasts issued and disseminated to users

Meeting of the Taskforce on Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) was held in April 2021 in Dar es Salaam and developed strategies for improving the accuracy of NWP.

d. Aeronautical Meteorological Services in the National MET Services ISO Certified

Meeting of the Taskforce on Aeronautical Meteorology held on 25th – 27th May in Zanzibar in June 2021 and progress in the implementation of QMS for aeronautical Meteorological Services was deliberated.

Budget execution

The budget allocated to Meteorology amounted to US\$ 53,170.00 for the Financial Year 2017/2018 with an expenditure of US\$ 49,633.51 leading to budget performance of 93%

3.4 CIVIL AVIATION AND AIRPORTS

As per Article 92 of the Treaty, the Department of Civil Aviation and Airports coordinates the harmonization of policies, regulations, and programmes on civil aviation to promote the development of safe, reliable and economically viable civil aviation.

In the period under review, the Department of Civil Aviation and Airports planned to finalize and adopt the regulations for Liberalization of Air Transport services in EAC; Implement the adopted roadmap for the operationalization of the EAC Search and Rescue Agreement; Implement approved priority Airports projects and operationalization of EAC tourism circuits; establish a EAC Seamless Upper Airwords through implementation of the 5 year Plan for seamless operations

The following were achieved under Civil Aviation and Airports Office:

e. The regional regulations for the Liberalization of the Air Transport services in EAC promulgated, adopted and implemented by 2021

EAC Partner States have committed to fully implement the Yamoussoukro Decision as part of the Common Market Protocol and in line with the ongoing efforts by the African Union Commission (AUC) 11 and the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) to establish and operationalize the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM)

Meeting of the Heads of Civil Aviation and Airport Authorities held on 7th -11th June 2021 in Zanzibar and considered implementation of Civil Aviation and Airport Programmes.

f. At least 2 approved Priority Airport Projects per Partner State implemented by 2021

Meeting of the Subcommittee of Air transport was held in March 2021

g. Activities earmarked for each year of the Seamless Operations implemented by 2021(Reference: EAC UFIR Detailed Implementation Plan 2017 – 2021 for the Seamless Operations)

The EAC Secretariat continued coordinating the implementation of EAC Upper Airwords Seamless Operations Project. This included the harmonization of regulations, Manuals of Air Navigation Services operations, development of common Secondary Surveillance Radar (SSR) codes and development of technical specifications that will facilitate acquisition of the EAC Upper Airwords Seamless Operations Platform (System).

Meeting of the 16th EAC Seamless Upper Airwords held on 10th – 15th May 2021 in Moshi Tanzania, and developed Specifications for the integration platform for EAC Seamless Upper Airspace.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Civil Aviation and Airports amounted to US\$ 40,800.00 for the Financial Year 2017/2018 with an expenditure of US\$ 37,795.04 thus the budget performance was 93%

3.5 COMMUNICATIONS

In line with Articles 98 and 99 of the Treaty, the Department of Communications coordinates Partner States cooperation in the communications sectors. Cooperation activities encompass harmonization of policies, laws and regulations and promoting investment in infrastructure and services in the telecommunications and the postal services.

During the period under review, the Communications Department planned to Five harmonized regulatory instruments developed (licensing, tariff, spectrum management, numbering, and infrastructure sharing; Implementation of World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) Plan of Action; and The EAC Postal Development Strategy Implemented by 2021.

The following milestones were made:-

Meeting of technical experts to review the Concept Paper on the need for an EAC Institution to coordinate development programs in the Communications Sector was held on 4th – 6th May 2021 in Mwanza Tanzania

Meeting of the Heads of Communications Regulatory Authorities held to deliberate on Communication Sector Issues including the implementation of the EAC Postal Development Strategy was discussed.

Budget execution

The budget allocated to communication amounted to US\$ 24,170.00 for the Financial Year 2017/2018 with an expenditure of US\$ 20,031.37 thus the budget performance was 83%

3.6 PLANNING, RESEARCH, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Department of Planning, Research, and Monitoring & Evaluation coordinates the Community's strategic planning, management and monitoring of programmes for the development of the Community.

3.6.1. PLANNING AND RESEARCH

During the Financial Year 2020/2021, Planning and Research Unit focused on Implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol at National Level Monitored bi-annually; Implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol at Regional Level Monitored bi-annually; The Community's Global Priority Areas for next Financial Year identified through the Pre-budget Conference and approved by the Council by August each Year; The Community's Consolidated Annual Operational Plans approved by May Each Year; A Coordination Framework for Regional Planning Developed and Operationalized by June 2021; and EAC Quality Management System rolled out to all Organs and Institutions by 2021;

a. Implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol at National Level Monitored bi-annually; Implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol at Regional Level Monitored bi-annually;

Finalized the research leading to the third edition of the EAC Common Scorecard (CMS). CMS 2020 measures progress made by Partner States toward the development of a common market in goods, services, and capital.

The Draft CMS 2020 was validated in February and March 2020 in the Rwanda, Kenya and Burundi.

The national implementation committee meetings were conducted virtually, however due to the COVID Pandemic the national reports were not validated

b. The Community's Global Priority Areas for next Financial Year identified through the Pre-budget Conference and approved by the Council by August each Year;

Enhancements were made on the EAMS Common Market Module to align the system to the revised EAC Common Market M&E Framework

c. The Community's Consolidated Annual Operational Plans approved by May Each Year;

Due to unavoidable circumstances, the Meeting of the Sectoral Council of Ministers Responsible for EAC Affairs and Planning could not be held as scheduled during the period under review

The Pre-budget Conference was held on 22nd October 2020. The Conference recommended six (6) Global Priority Areas for the Financial Year 2021/22 and the respective Sector-specific Priority Areas which were adopted by the 40th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers (**EAC/CM/40/Decision 03**).

d. A Coordination Framework for Regional Planning Developed and Operationalized by June 2021;

The Draft Annual Operational Plan 2021/22 was prepared and considered by the meeting of the EAC Planning and Budget Committee held in Dodoma in February 2021. The

meeting was attended by representatives from the EAC Organs and Institutions to review and rationalize the proposed activities in view of the prevailing budget constraints.

e. EAC Quality Management System rolled out to all Organs and Institutions by 2021;

The 6th EAC Development Strategy (2021/22 – 2025/26) was finalised and adopted by the 40th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers held in February 2021 **(EAC/CM/40/Decision 02).**

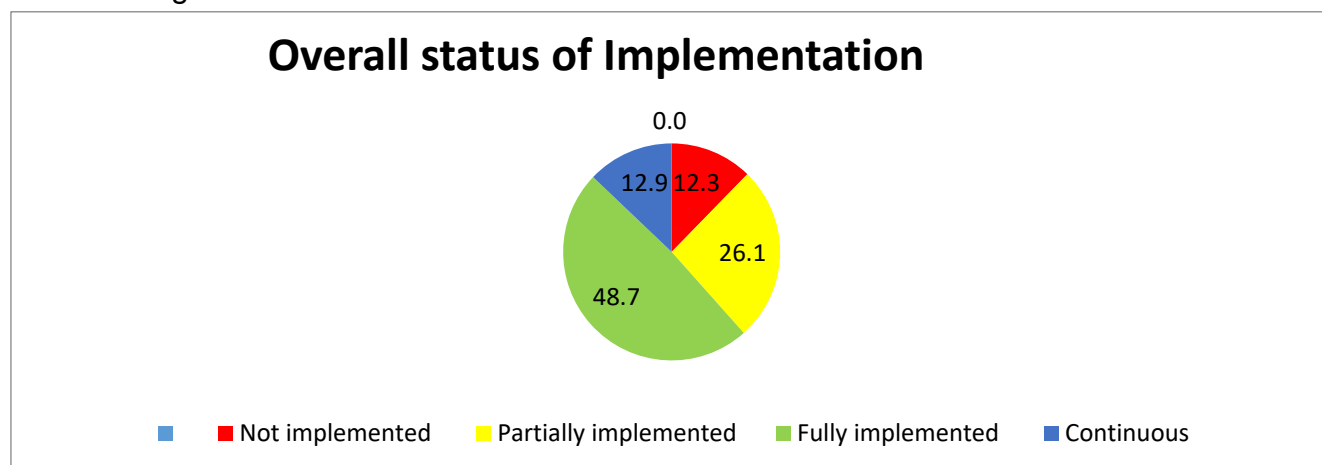
Budget Execution

The budget allocated to planning amounted to US 316,300.00 for the Financial Year 2017/2018 with an expenditure of US\$ 301,843.96 marking budget performance of 95%

3.6.2. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

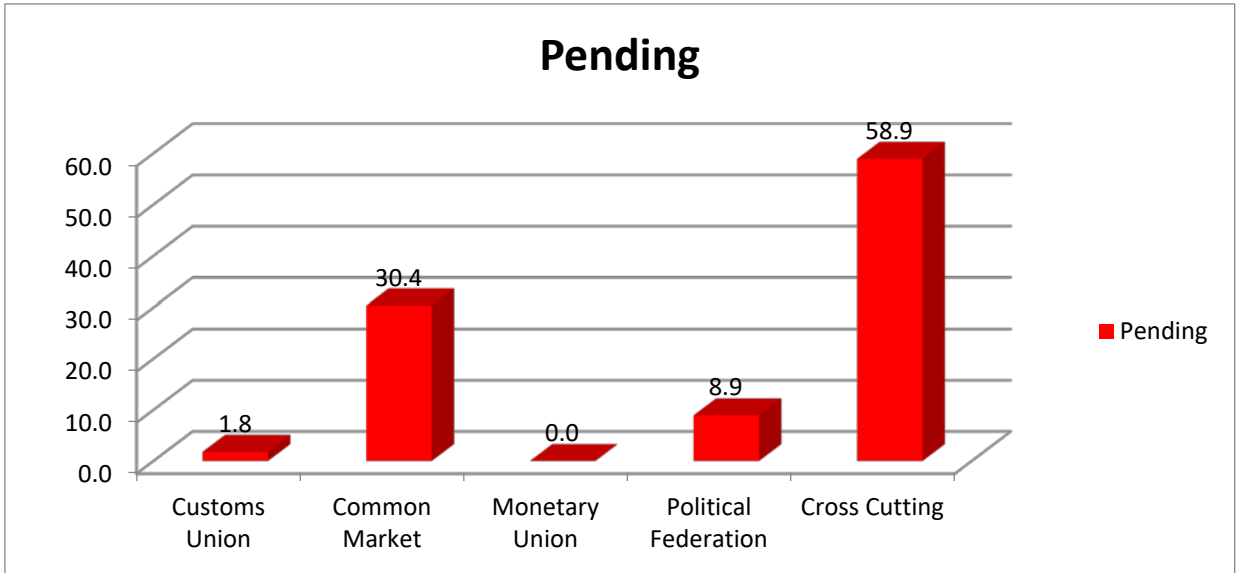
A Web based MIS developed at regional level and linked to MEACAs by 2021; Development of the East African Monitoring System (EAMS) currently enhancing the System to incorporate a module for monitoring and reporting on implementation of EAC projects and programmes.

Comprehensive assessment on implementation of directives and decisions of SCMEACP from the 1st - 30th meetings report was prepared and considered by the 31st Sectoral Council on EAC Affairs and Planning held on 11th June, 2021. The assessment showed the following below:



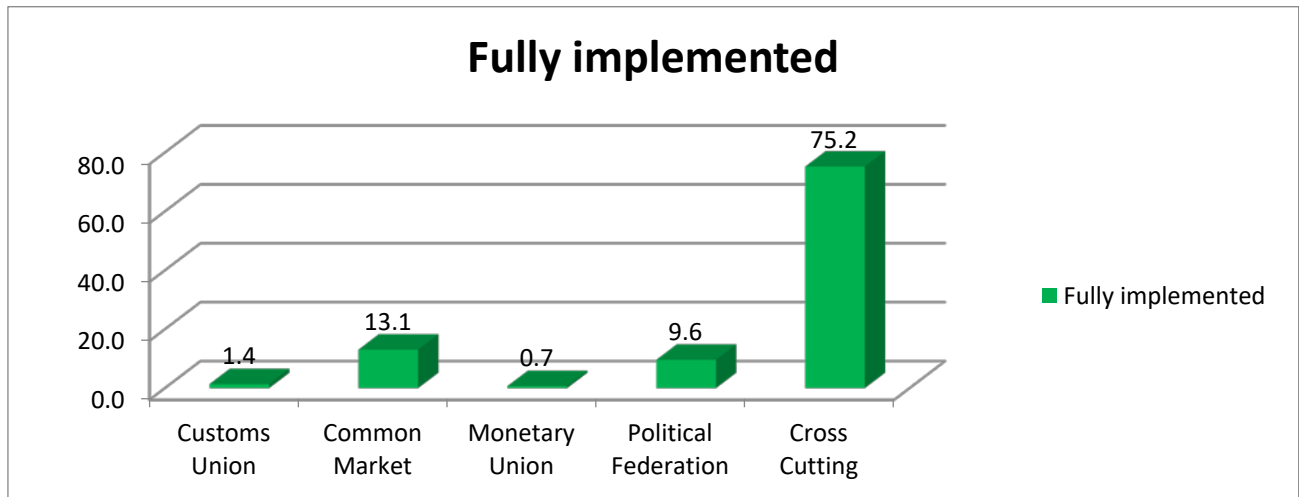
The implementation status shows that 48.7% of the Directives and Decisions have been fully implemented, 12.3% haven't been implemented, 26.1% are partially implemented and 12.9% are continuous

2.1 Status of implementation per pillar



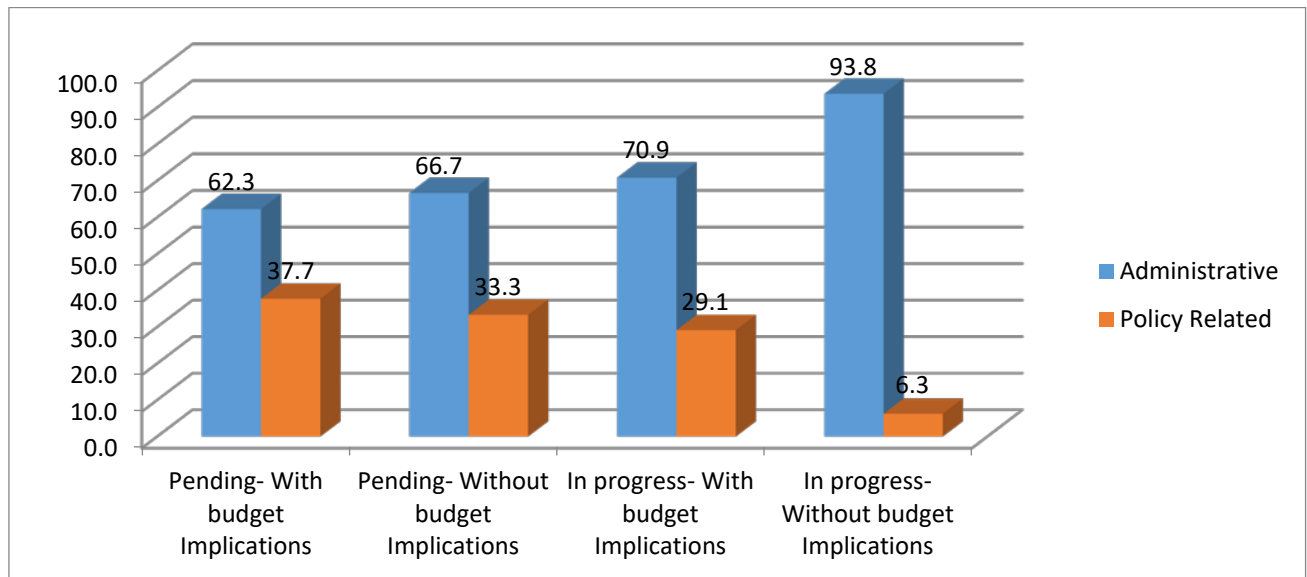
The analysis indicates that out of the directives/decisions which have not been implemented, 1.8% of them are under the Customs Union Pillar, 30.4% of them are under the Common Market Protocol, 8.9% are under Political Federation and 58.9% are cross-cutting.

The information above shows that out of the directives/decisions which are partially implemented, 4.2% of them are under the Customs Union, 31.4% under Common Market Protocol, 5.0% under Political Federation, 1.7% under Monetary Union and 57.7% are cross-cutting. It appears that most of these directives/decisions are either related to the Common Market Protocol or cross-cutting.



The analysis above shows that most of the fully implemented decisions are cross cutting decisions (75.2%). The fully implemented decisions/directives that affect the integration pillars only add up to 24.8%.

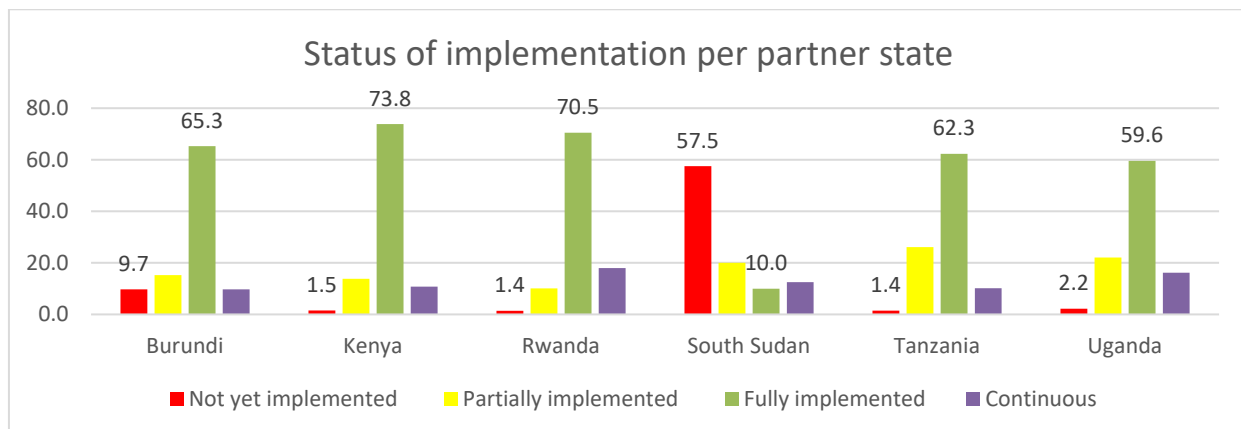
2.2 Nature of Directives/Decisions and Budget implication



The information above shows that most of the directives/decisions (73.4%) are administrative in nature while policy related directives/decisions are only 26.6%. Policy related directives/decisions with budget implications are about 37.7%. This explains that a limited budget is among the leading causes of delayed implementation of decisions/directives.

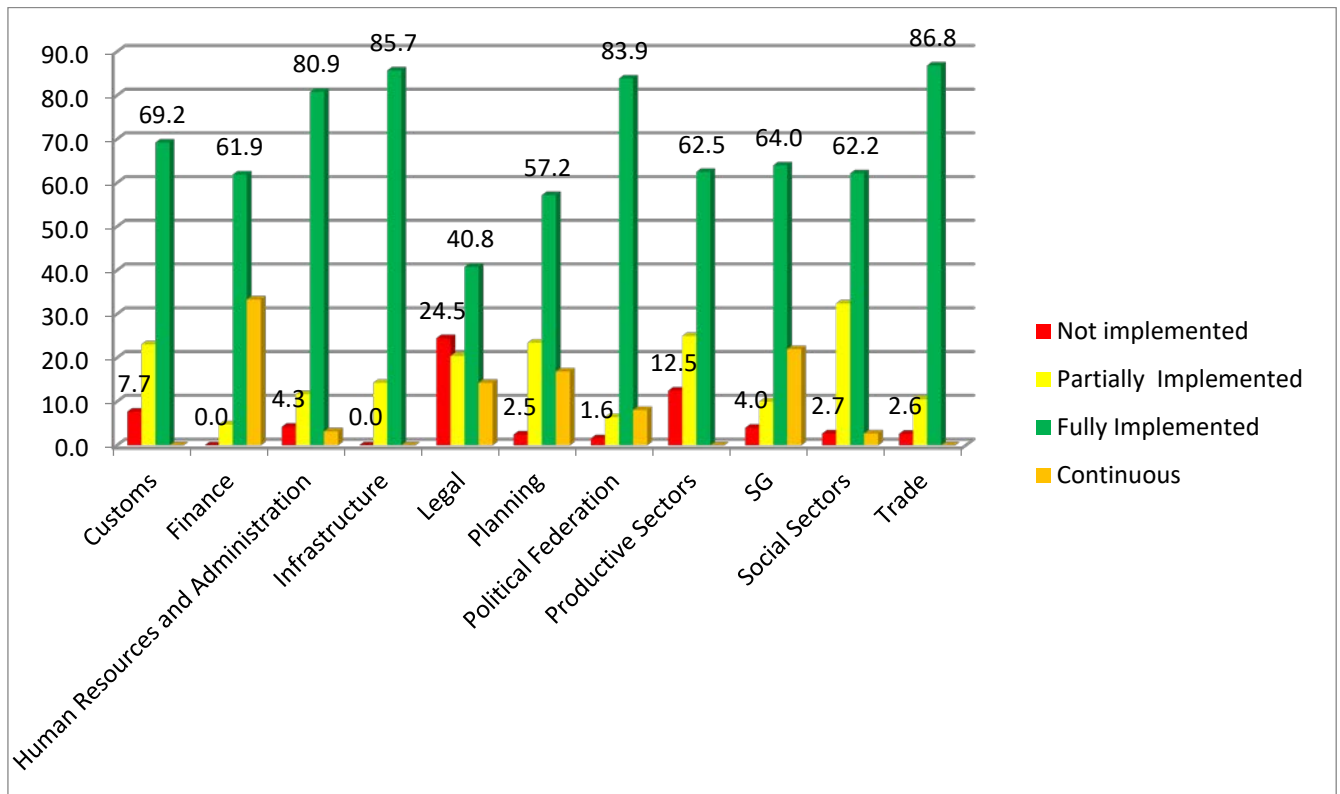
2.3 Overall Status of Implementation of Directives/Decisions per Responsibility Center.

2.3.1 Status of Implementation by Partner States



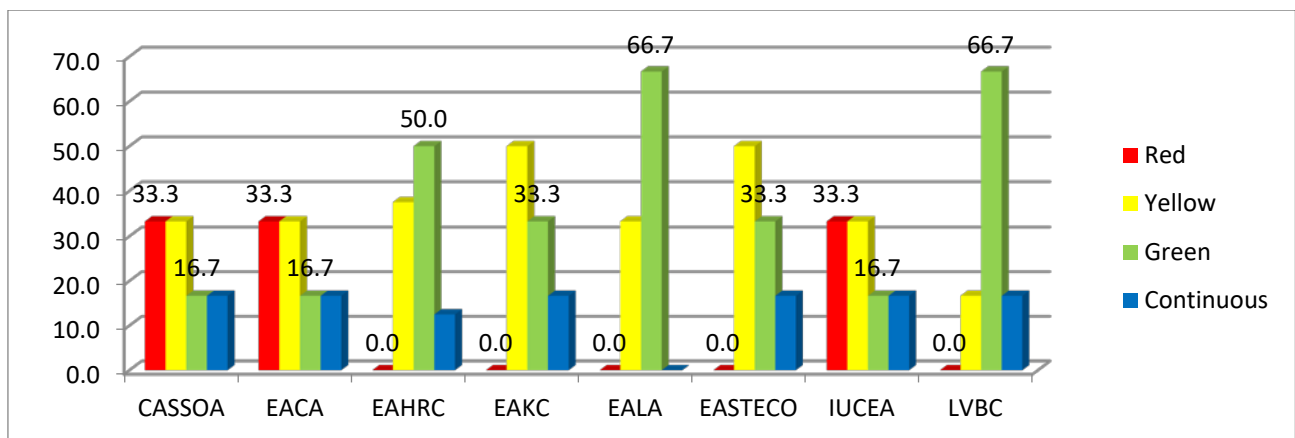
The information above shows that most of directives of the Sectoral Council of Ministers Responsible for EAC Affairs and Planning are fully implemented except for the Republic of South Sudan.

2.3.2 Status of Implementation per Directorate



Most directives/decisions have been fully implemented except for Legal Department. This can be explained by the fact that Legal Department is more focused on policy related decisions that take long to be implemented.

2.3.3 Status of Implementation per Institution



The information above indicates that most of directives are either fully implemented, or partially implemented except for East African Competition Authority, IUCEA and CASSOA where many directives and decisions are still pending.

The Status reports for each Partner State, Organ and Institution are as below: -

2.3.4 The United Republic of Tanzania

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	2	
Under implementation	28	
Fully implemented	99	
Continuous	25	
Total	154	

2.3.5 The Republic of Uganda

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	4	
Under implementation	29	
Fully implemented	79	
Continuous	25	
Total	137	

2.3.6 Republic of Kenya

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	1	
Under implementation	18	
Full implemented	101	
Continuous	25	
Total	145	

2.3.7 Republic of Burundi

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	9	
Under implementation	28	
Full implemented	86	
Continuous	25	
Total	148	

2.3.8 Republic of Rwanda

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	2	
Under implementation	14	
Fully implemented	98	
Continuous	25	

Total	139	
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2.3.9 Republic of South Sudan

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	34	
Under implementation	22	
Fully implemented	13	
Continuous	12	
Total	81	

2.3.10 EACJ

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	0	
Under implementation	3	
Full implemented	9	
Continuous	0	
Total	12	

2.3.11 EALA

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	0	
Under implementation	5	
Full implemented	8	
Continuous	0	
Total	13	

2.3.12 LVBC

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	0	
Under implementation	1	
Full implemented	4	
Continuous	1	
Total	6	

2.3.13 LVFO

Status	Total	Color Code
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Not yet implemented	0	
Under implementation	1	
Full implemented	4	
Continuous	2	
Total	7	

2.3.14 EAKC

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	0	
Under implementation	4	
Full implemented	2	
Continuous	1	
Total	7	

2.3.15 EACHRC

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	0	
Under implementation	4	
Full implemented	4	
Continuous	1	
Total	9	

2.3.16 EASTECO

Status	Total	Color Code
Not yet implemented	0	
Under implementation	3	
Full implemented	2	
Continuous	1	
Total	6	

2.3.17 EAC Secretariat

Responsibility Centre	Red	Yellow	Green	Continuous	Total
Customs	1	3	9	0	13
Finance	0	2	26	14	42
Human Resources and Administration	4	11	76	3	94
Infrastructure	0	1	6	0	7
Legal	12	10	20	7	49
Planning	6	57	139	41	243
Political Federation	1	4	52	5	62
Productive Sectors	1	2	5	0	8
Rwanda	2	14	98	25	139
SG	4	10	64	22	100
Social Sectors	2	24	46	2	74
Trade	1	4	33	0	38
Total	34	142	574	119	869

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit amounted to US\$. 129,400.00 for the Financial Year 2017/2018 with an expenditure of US\$120,516.16 thus 93%

3.6.3. STATISTICS

During the period under review, Statistics Department planned to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Community Statistical System (CSS) enabled by creativity, innovation and technology to facilitate production of harmonized and quality statistics; promote the usage of statistics, especially for evidence-based policy, planning, decision-making, monitoring, evaluation and reporting in public, private and civil society sectors and across society; and harmonize methodologies for compilation of comparable statistics in the areas of Consumer Price Indices (CPI), Balance of Payments (BOP), Government Finance Statistics (GFS), National Accounts Statistics (NAS), Monetary & Financial Statistics, Financial Soundness Indicators, and Poverty Statistics; and maintain and regularly update the EAC statistical data portal.

Key achievements registered

- A. Enhanced statistical capacity at the EAC Secretariat following recruitment of Seven (7) subject matter specialist through under a 5-year Project Statistics Development and Harmonisation Regional Project (StatDHRP) supported by the World Bank.
- B. Regional methodological guidelines for compilation of comparable statistics in the areas of Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and Government Finance Statistics were developed and are under implementation by the Partner States. In addition, draft regional guidelines for compilation of BOP; MFS; FSIs; and Poverty Statistics were developed.
- C. The EAC Statistics data portal was reviewed and revamped and regularly maintained and updated. A comprehensive Merchandise Trade Statistics database was introduced in the portal during the review period.

Challenges and Recommendations

The main challenge was low budget absorption which was occasioned by low expenditure on planned activities due to travel restrictions that prevailed in the region; and delayed procurement of IT equipment for regional statistical training centres. The department adopted virtually platform to conduct some of the planned activities in order to realise StatDHRP development objectives.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Statistics Department amounted to US\$ 5,867,768.00 for the Financial Year 2020/2021 with an expenditure of US\$ 2,723,273.34 about 46% of budget estimates

3.6.4. FISCAL AND MONETARY AFFAIRS

During the fiscal year 2020/21, the Secretariat continued to implement the East African Monetary Union Roadmap, focusing on activities that are aimed at building foundation for the establishment of monetary union in the EAC region. Some of these activities include harmonization of fiscal policies, modernization and harmonization of the Monetary and exchange rate policies as well as development of the legal instrument for the establishment of EAMU institutions.

Summary of key achievements

(i) Legal instrument for the establishment of EAMU institutions

The EAMU Protocol provides for establishment of four support institutions including: (i) the East African Monetary Institute (ii) East African Statistics Bureau (iii) East African Surveillance, Compliance and Enforcement Commission and (iv) East African Financial Services Commission. The East African Monetary Institute Act, 2019 come to force in 2021 and administrative procedures for the establishment of the Institute have been initiated, including the identification of host Partner State. A total of five EAC Partner

States submitted their applications to host the EAMI and a Verification Committee composed of three delegates from each of the EAC Partner States has been constituted to verify the applications, including suitability of the location and facilities being offered by the interested Partner States.

(ii) EAC Capital Markets Infrastructure (CMI)

The EAC Capital Markets Infrastructure (CMI), which offers a digital financial platform for integrating financial services in the EAC region attained operational acceptance in January 2021. The Capital Market's Infrastructure (CMI) is a technology platform whose objective is to integrate the Capital Markets of the East African Partner States, by linking the respective Stock exchanges and Central Securities Depositories. The CMI project is expected to provide a larger pool of financial securities to investors and a larger capital raising base for companies and governments. The CMI project was completed successfully in December 2021, and the platform is now operational with the markets of Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. Efforts are underway to include the markets of Kenya and South Sudan.

(iii) The EAC-IMF Workshop on the Fiscal Challenges after COVID-19 in the EAC Region.

The East African Community (EAC) Secretariat, and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) jointly organized a high-level conference entitled "*the Fiscal Challenges after COVID-19 in the EAC Region*". This workshop was held virtually on 14th April 2021 and brought together Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors from all EAC Partner States, as well as senior representatives from International Monetary Fund (IMF). The workshop focused mostly on alternatives to the debt-to- GDP anchor and highlighted the importance of fiscal flexibility to address unforeseen circumstances.

The workshop highlighted the large impact of COVID-19 on the EAC economies, including on budgets and debts. It was noted that restrictions on movement, the unexpected higher spending for the health sectors, and the support provided to economies through tax reliefs have widened fiscal deficits and increased debt. Participants recognized that central bank financing was an exceptional measure and that this should not become the usual modus operandi going forward. It was also indicated that access to vaccines, including financial resources, pose a risk to a strong and resilient recovery. It was noted that the EAC is one of the fastest growing regions within Sub-Saharan Africa and there is a need to maintain a balance between supporting growth and maintaining macroeconomic stability in a context of large development needs. Improving domestic revenue mobilization was seen as crucial for the EAC region.

The participants stressed the importance of incorporating capacity to repay debt in the discussion and design of debt anchors and emphasized the importance of a more holistic approach to determine acceptable debt levels. The current integration timeline will need to be reviewed, including transition periods and the proper debt anchor and fiscal balance ceilings. Dealing with differentiation in country fiscal positions was discussed and it was questioned if it proper for countries with fiscal words to be constrained by fiscal rules to address high deficits and debt levels. It was emphasized that the COVID-19 pandemic

has highlighted the importance of policy flexibility to address unforeseen shocks and countries will need to retain that flexibility in a fiscal framework.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Fiscal and Monetary Affairs amounted to US\$ 6,927,721.00 for the financial Year 2020/2021 with an expenditure of US\$ 2,328,506.62 leading to budget performance of 34%

3.6.5. INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

During the period under review, Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development, had the following key priorities: EAC Investment Strategy developed and adopted; Harmonize and rationalize investment initiatives and incentives to promote the Community as a single investment area; Develop diaspora investment strategy; Undertake at least three (3) regional investment promotion events for strategic sectors (manufacturing, ICT, health among others); and At least three (3) investment promotional materials developed or updated specifically i-Guide and sector specific investment profiles.

Key Achievements

The following were achieved under Investment Promotion and Private Sector:

(i) EAC Investment Policy

The 40th meeting of the EAC Council of Ministers held on 25th February, 2021 adopted an EAC Investment Policy following recommendations of the regional meeting of experts on investment promotion held on 16th February, 2021 that considered the comments submitted by United Republic of Tanzania on the draft Policy. The Policy provides policy interventions that are geared towards improving the EAC Investment climate and promoting the region as a single investment destination.

Following the adoption of the EAC Investment Policy, the Secretariat commenced the process for the development of an EAC Investment Strategy and the Terms of Reference for the development of an EAC Investment Strategy were adopted by the Sectoral Council on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (SCTIFI) and development of an EAC Investment Strategy is to commence in the FY 2021/2022.

(ii) EAC Investment Guide

An EAC Investment Guide was developed and adopted in November, 2020 by the EAC Sectoral Council of Ministers on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (SCTIFI) as a promotional tool in attracting the much needed investments and provide information on

the EAC investment climate, procedures and laws governing investments in the EAC Partner States and the investment opportunities. Following the development of the Guide, the Secretariat printed copies of the EAC investment guide document for distribution to the EAC Partner States and in investment fora and taking cognizance of the need to promote investment opportunities to a wider market through the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), the Secretariat developed an online EAC Investment Guide that is accessible through the EAC website.

(iii) EAC Private Sector Development Strategy (PSDS)

In line with the Treaty establishing the East African Community that provides for a private sector led integration process, an EAC Private Sector Development Strategy (PSDS) was developed, validated by the regional validation meeting held on 27th November, 2020 and 7th December, 2020 and adopted by the Sectoral Council on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (SCTIFI) in May, 2021. The PSDS aims at increasing the words of the private sector in the EAC integration process and enhancing the competitiveness of the private sector.

(iv) EAC Buyer-Seller Platform

An EAC Buyer-Seller platform is an e-commerce platform and aims to increase intra-EAC trade and visibility of the products that are produced in the region. During the FY 2020-21, an e-market place was developed to provide an online market place for EAC produced goods and due to resource constraints the platform could not be developed to fully provide for online transactions. The Secretariat is mobilizing resources to integrate payment modules and a logistical network into the platform.

(v) Capacity Building of the Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs)

A capacity building session for the IPAs was held from 1st – 4th March, 2021 to train them on creating high quality investment journey for potential investors. The training was delivered by CINDE-an Investment Promotion Agency of Costa Rica which is recognized as one of the top performing IPAs in the world. The training was followed with a 60 minutes coaching session organized for each of the IPAs held from 8th -12th March, 2021. The feedback from the training was positive and IPAs identified that the training was insightful and they learned new things.

The EAC Partner States agreed to negotiate the AfCFTA Investment Protocol as a bloc and to equip the negotiators and IPAs with the necessary knowledge and skills, the Secretariat convened a Capacity Building workshop for the IPAs and the Investment Protocol negotiators held in June, 2021 on Investment Treaties and policies in preparations for the development of an AfCFTA Investment Protocol.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated and that was available to the Investment Promotion and Private Sector amounted to US\$ 188,260.00 for the Financial Year 2017/2018 with an expenditure of US\$103,531.28 with a budget performance of 55%

4.0 THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL – PRODUCTIVE AND SOCIAL SECTORS

The Office of the Deputy Secretary General Productive and Social Sectors contributes directly to the strategic objective of promoting sustainable social, economic and political integration. The Office oversees the following functions: Agriculture and Food Security; Labour, Employment and Immigration; Gender and Community Development and Civil Society; Education, Culture and Sports; Training, Science and Technology; Health; Energy; Tourism and Wildlife Management; Environment and Natural Resources; and Industry.

4.1 PRODUCTIVE SECTORS

4.1.1. AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY AND LIVESTOCK SECTOR

The Department of Agriculture and Food Security is mandated to coordinate activities relating to co-operation in the agricultural sector, achievement of food security and rational agricultural production within the Community as per Articles 105 and 110 of the Treaty. This includes coordinating undertakings to adopt a scheme for the rationalization of agricultural production with a view to promoting complementarity and specialization in and the sustainability of national agricultural programmes in order to ensure a common agricultural policy, food sufficiency within the Community; an increase in the production of crops, livestock, fisheries and forest products for domestic consumption, exports within and outside the Community; and as inputs to agro-based industries within the Community; as well as post-harvest preservation and conservation and improved food processing.

During the period under review, the Department of Agriculture and Food Security Department, planned to adopt and implement the EAC Food Security Action Plan (2017-2021); develop and implement the EAC Integrated Crops Harvesting Calendar; Establish traceability and certification framework for locally produced rice in the EAC; adopt the monitoring and evaluation framework for the EAC Postal Development Strategy; EAC fertilizer Bill finalized by the Legal and Judicial Affairs experts; EAC CAADP RAIP implementation plan presented to stakeholders and development partners by June 2021; Two meetings of the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security (SCAFs) held by June 2021; Biennial Review Report High Level EAC Convening of EALA Members; Knowledge products on EAC Agriculture Joint Sector Review (JSR) developed, published and disseminated; Enactment of SPS Bill by EALA supported by EALA by June 2021; EAC Aflatoxin Prevention and Control Bill validated and presented to SCAF for adoption by June 2021; Two meetings of the EAC Technical Working Group (TWG) on pesticides harmonization held by June 2021; Training on pesticides risk assessment and dossier evaluation conducted by June 2021; Standard Operating Procedures for implementation of supervised residue trials validated by June 2021; Border Control Officers trained on harmonized procedures for conducting Pest Risk Analysis (PRAs) on maize, beans and maize; Guidelines for implementing the Integrated Regional Coordination Mechanisms (IRCM) developed; Guidelines for implementing the Integrated Regional Coordination Mechanisms (IRCM) developed; Animal Health SPS measures finalized and validated;

Technical guidelines for implementing Mutual Recognition Procedures for Pharmaceutical Veterinary Products developed by the TWG on MRP; EAC-USAID Coordination meetings held by June 2021; Improve regional coordination and emergency response capacity for priority transboundary plant and animal diseases (TADs) and pests;

The key achievements during the period under review were as follows:

a. EAC fertilizer Bill finalized by the Legal and Judicial Affairs experts

Draft EAC Fertilizer Policy and draft Fertilizer Bill were finalized in September 2020 and considered by 14th Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security in June 2021. The two instruments once approved by the Council will contribute towards creating an enabling environment for local production of fertilizer and promotion of intra-regional trade of the same

- b. Draft EAC Seed and Plant Varieties Bill considered by the 22nd Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Legal and Judicial Affairs held in June 2021
- c. Harmonized Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for operationalizing the Pest Risk Analysis (PRAs) for maize, beans and rice developed and adopted by 14th Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security;
- d. EAC Fruits and Vegetables Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2031 developed and adopted by SCTIFI during the period under review
- e. Development of the EAC Rice Development Strategy (EARDS) is ongoing.
- f. Policy research studies on current issues affecting intra-regional rice trade and define the most strategic pathways to address them to promote regional rice trade was undertaken. The findings of the study were packaged into three policy briefs (i) impact of covid-19 on rice trade within the East African community (ii) opportunity to influence and impact policy mechanization and infrastructure delivery for Rice – in the East African Community and (iii) policy options for an Intra-regional trade-based value chain development of rice in the EAC.
- g. The EAC Rules of Origin (ROO) on agricultural commodities were translated into French and three other local languages, namely Swahili, Kinyarwanda and Luganda to facilitate trade by making it easy for the customs officers/traders to understand the benefits provided under the Rules of Origin, thus facilitate compliance with the requirements. The translated ROO versions can be accessible through the following link: <https://www.eac.int/documents/category/agriculture>
- h. Situational analysis study on the status of the current Potato sub-sector in the EAC were undertaken during the period under review. The findings of the study will be used to draft the regional strategy to promote potato sub sector in the region.

i. EAC CAADP RAIP implementation plan presented to stakeholders and development partners by June 2021

Due to challenges occasioned by COVID 19 and delays in accessing funds from the donor, regional; validation of the RAIP implementation plan to pave way for presentation to stakeholders is still pending; Validation of the JSR Action plan has been concluded in October 2020 is awaiting adoption by the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security

j. Two meetings of the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security (SCAFs) held by June 2021

14th Session of the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security is planned to take place in May 2021

k. Biennial Review Report High Level EAC Convening of EALA Members

Enactment of SPS Bill by EALA supported by EALA by June 2021

l. Two meetings of the EAC Technical Working Group (TWG) on pesticides harmonization held by June 2021

The EAC Secretariat convened a virtual meeting of the TWG on 2nd and 3rd February 2021 to evaluate findings from Season 1 and Season 2 pilot efficacy trials in accordance with EAC requirement

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Agriculture, Food Security and Livestock Sector amounted to US\$ 1,773,290.00 for the financial year 2019/20 with an expenditure of US\$. 106,499.98 leading to budget performance of 6%

4.1.2. ENERGY SECTOR

The Department of Energy is charged with the responsibility of coordinating development of policies and mechanisms for promoting the efficient exploitation, development, joint research and utilization of various energy resources available within the region in accordance with Article 101 of the Treaty. In particular this includes promoting the least cost development and transmission of electric power, efficient exploration and exploitation of fossil fuels and utilization of new and renewable energy sources; and joint planning, training and research. It is also charged with the exchange of information on the exploration, exploitation, development and utilization of available energy resources; development of integrated policy on rural electrification; development of inter-Partner State electrical grid interconnections; and the construction of oil and gas pipelines, as well as all such other measures to supply affordable energy to their people taking cognizance of the protection of the environment as provided for by the Treaty. The department also coordinates preparation of regional emergency plans where need arises.

In the period under review, the Energy Sector planned to prepare Minimum Energy performance Standards (MEPS) for electric appliances and lighting; Two (2) Interconnection Project commissioned by June 2021; Build capacity in packaging power projects by June 2021; Prepare Instruments to develop the Regional Energy market by participating in Prepare Instruments to develop the Regional Energy market by participating in Tripartite meetings of COMESA-EAC-SADC and EAPP by 30th June 2021; Hold one East African Petroleum Conference and Exhibition by June 2021; Mobilize resources to conduct one feasibility studies on oil and gas pipeline by 30th June 2021; Investor for Nshongezi hydro power project identified and engaged in negotiations; and Four joint Partner States (Tanzania and Uganda) Technical Supervision mission conducted 30th June 2021..

The department continued with the implementation of the ongoing projects as below:-

a) Implementation of the Power System Master Plan Projects

- EAC together with the Eastern Africa Power Pool secured funding to update the Power System Master Plan 2038 to 2063;
- Implementation of the Power interconnectors has continued. Projects are at different stages to completion. For example: Zambia-Tanzania-Kenya (ZTK) interconnector to be commissioned 2022.

b) Implementation of Cross border shared projects

- Construction of Kikagati/Murongo hydro power project has continued and the project is expected to be completed by end of October 2021; the project implementation was at 75% by end of August 2021.
- Construction of Rusumo hydro power project (81 MW) has continued to over 70%.
- Together with EACREEE EAC continued to Implement the Energy Efficiency for Lighting and appliances (EELA) project and minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) prepared and considered by EAC Standards Committee.

c) Masaka (Uganda)-Mwanza (Tanzania) Power Interconnector project. EAC together with the Eastern Africa Power Pool secured funding to update the feasibility study for the project. AUDA NEPAD selected the among the continental priority projects and funds are being sourced for the construction phase.

d) Prepare Minimum Energy performance Standards (MEPS) for electric appliances and lighting;

Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) for electric appliances were developed

e) Two (2) Interconnection Project commissioned by June 2021; Build capacity in packaging power projects by June 2021;

Six (6) Power interconnection projects are under implementation but at different stages of progress. None has been commissioned yet.

Held a multi sector oral meeting of experts that prepared a project concept paper on improving agricultural productivity, community livelihoods and environmental sustainability through promotion of solar energy technologies

f) Prepare Instruments to develop the Regional Energy market by participating in

Tripartite meetings of COMESA-EAC-SADC and EAPP by 30th June 2021;

Two meetings COMESA-EAC-SADC were attended and the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan prepared.

g) Mobilize resources to conduct one feasibility studies on oil and gas pipeline by 30th June 2021;

Proposal presented to AfDB for consideration and was short listed for funding but now the Bank has scaled down activities in oil and gas sector

h) Investor for Nsongezi hydro power project identified and engaged in negotiations;

Feasibility Study for Nsongezi Hydro Power Project between Uganda and Tanzania on River Kagera was Included in the 2021 reserve projects list. Rwanda to join the project to make tripartite

i) Four joint Partner States (Tanzania and Uganda) Technical Supervision mission conducted 30th June 2021.

One joint meeting held in Mbarara Uganda and the progress of implementation of the project updated. The power station is expected to be commissioned in July 2021.

Challenges

- a. East African Petroleum Conference and Exhibition 2021 budget and 1st circular prepared but due to Covid 19 the preparations stalled

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Energy Sector amounted to US\$ 159,420.00 for the financial year 2019/20 with an expenditure of US\$ 82,650.72 leading to budget performance of 52%

3.1.1 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is charged with coordinating the implementation of Chapter 19 of the Treaty for establishment of the East African Community (EAC). Under Chapter 19 of the Treaty, Partner States agree amongst other things to undertake through environmental strategy, to co-operate and co-ordinate their policies and actions for the protection and conservation of natural resources and environment against all forms of degradation and pollution arising from developmental activities. The activities undertaken by Environment and Natural Resources Department seek to develop and strengthen the Regional and Sustainable Productive Sectors to Support Regional and Global Integration Process.

During the period under review the Department of Environment and Natural Resources planned to: Updated EAC climate change Policy and Strategy in place by June 2021; Updated EAC climate change Policy and Strategy in place by June 2021; Three (3) climate change projects developed and implementation started by June 2021; The EAC climate change Bill developed by June 2021; The EAC DRRM Strategy (2021/2022-2029/2030) in line with the SFDRR (2015-2030) in place by June 2021; EAC Disaster Risk Reduction Management mechanisms and tools in place by June 2021; Awareness on Environment and Natural Resources Management Programmes and activities of EAC at the strategic regional and international conferences raised by June 2021; Framework for conservation and management of transboundary ecosystem implemented by June 2021; Adoption of EAC Water Policy and Integrated Water Resources Management Strategy and their implementation started by June 2021; Implementation of the Protocol on Environment and Natural Resources Management started by June 2021.

The Key achievements registered were:-

a. **Updated EAC climate change Policy and Strategy in place by June 2021;**

- Development of the Technical Assessment report on regional climate finance needs, current international public climate finance flows, and identification of gaps.
- Development of draft Regional Climate Finance Mobilisation and Access Strategy. A high-level regional Stakeholder Forum was organized to catalyze the discussions on NDC by sharing experience (progress, lessons, challenges and opportunities) on NDC development in the region.
- Draft template on national best practices and lessons on management of climate change developed
- The draft Climate Change Communication and Advocacy Plan was validated by the regional experts through the Climate Change Technical Working Group (CCTWG) held on 26th-28th May, 2021

b. **Three (3) climate change projects developed and implementation started by June 2021;**

Status NDCs revision and/or updating prepared

c. **The EAC climate change Bill developed by June 2021;**

3 Concept Note on climate change developed. Five (5) draft climate change project pipelines were developed: (1) Enhanced Climate Resilient Landscapes and improved livelihoods in selected areas within EAC member states; (2) Capacity building in accessing climate finance and development of bankable projects to strengthen coordination at EAC level and collaboration among EAC Member States; (3) Enhanced Small-scale Farmers' Resilience to climate change; (4) Strengthened Early Warning Mechanisms and Disaster Risk Management within the EAC member states; and (5) Enhancing Private Sector participation in the Implementation of NDCs.

d. **The EAC DRRM Strategy (2021/2022-2029/2030) in line with the SFDRR (2015-2030) in place by June 2021;**

TORs adopted

e. **EAC Disaster Risk Reduction Management mechanisms and tools in place by June 2021;**

The Zero Draft EAC Disaster Risk Reduction Management Strategy available since May 2021. The EAC sub-regional Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction available.

f. **Awareness on Environment and Natural Resources Management Programmes and activities of EAC at the strategic regional and international conferences raised by June 2021;**

g.

- Support EAC's Preparation and participation on Multilateral Environmental Agreements on Biodiversity Conversations: National and regional consultative meetings were undertaken and guided development of the regional Position Paper to guide Partner States participation in the 24th Subsidiary Body on Scientific , Technical and Technological Advise (SBSTTA);
- EAC Forestry Policy was considered by the 40th Council of the Minister;
- The East African Community joined the rest of the world to commemorate the World Environmental Day through organizing the "EAC Environment Week" (EACEW) on 1st to 5th June 2021 in Dodoma, Tanzania where it showcased its achievements on environment and natural resources;
- Program on Nature based solution developed;
- Draft Regional Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and Regional Project on the Initial Implementation of the Regional Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan were developed.
- Regional Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan is validated and;
- The 2nd EAC Regional Multi-stakeholders Policy and Learning Platform on Conservation and Sustainable Development was put in place

h. **Framework for conservation and management of transboundary ecosystem implemented by June 2021;**

Program description on improving collaborative Conservation and Management of Transboundary Natural Resources in the East African Community was implemented (1 year work plan

i. **Adoption of EAC Water Policy and Integrated Water Resources Management Strategy and their implementation started by June 2021;**

In collaboration with WaterAid International, EAC Secretariat constructed permanent handwashing facilities at five (5) border posts: Nemba/Gasenyi (Rwanda side); Holili (Tanzania side); Vurra (Uganda side); Busia (Kenya side); and Malaba (Kenya side).

EAC mobilized USD 150,000 from IUCN for the development of EAC Water Policy and Integrated Water Resources Strategy. The implementation will start from 2021/22 financial year

The draft concept note for two project proposals Concept Proposal on “Enhanced Water and Livelihood Security in East African Community Region” developed and considered by the Climate Change Technical Working Group (CCTWG) held on 26th-28th May, 2021.

j. **Implementation of the Protocol on Environment and Natural Resources Management started by June 2021**

The Protocol on Environment and Natural Resources Management was harmonized and considered by the 40th ordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Environment and Natural Resources amounted to US\$ 1,551,009.50 for the financial Year 2019/2020 with an expenditure of US\$ 278,823.98 leading to budget performance of 18%

3.1.2 TOURISM AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

The Department of Tourism and Wildlife Management is charged with the responsibility of coordinating activities aimed at developing a collective and coordinated approach to the promotion and marketing of quality tourism into and within the Community, as well as in conservation and sustainable utilization of wildlife and other tourist sites in the Community in accordance with Articles 115 and 116 of the Treaty. In particular, these activities comprise development of coordinated tourism and wildlife policies; common code of conduct for tour and travel operators; a standardized hotel classification system; regional strategy for tourism promotion and coordinated efforts in controlling and monitoring encroachment and poaching in respect to wildlife resources.

During the period under review the Department planned to undertake a number of key activities that included producing and disseminating EAC branded tourism promotional materials; coordinate introduction of EAC Single Tourist Visa by all Partner States; review

of the classification criteria for classification of tourism accommodation and catering establishments implementation of the regional strategy for combating poaching and illegal trade in wildlife management; Development of EAC Tourism Marketing Strategy and finalization of Protocol on Tourism and Wildlife Management.

The Department made the following key achievements:

a) Production and dissemination of tourism promotional materials

About 1,000 tourism promotional items that included key holders and pens were produced and distributed to key tourism stakeholders.

b) Finalization of Protocol on Tourism and Wildlife Management

Following submissions by the United Republic of Tanzania, the Draft Protocol on Tourism and Wildlife Management was submitted to the Sectoral Council on Tourism and Management for consideration and guidance.

c) Development of the EAC Tourism and Marketing Strategy

The Draft EAC Tourism Marketing Strategy was updated in order to take into account the impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the tourism sector. The Draft was validated by the technical experts and submitted to the session of Permanent Secretaries of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Tourism and Wildlife Management for consideration. In addition to the Marketing Strategy, a Draft Regional Tourism Recovery Plan as well as COVID-19 Guidelines for Resumption of Tourism Services were developed and submitted to the Sectoral Council for consideration.

d) Review of the Classification Criteria for Tourist Accommodation Establishments and Restaurants.

Draft Classification Criterion for Vacation Hotels was developed by a meeting of the panel of the experts that took place in Moshi from 23rd – 25th June 2021.

e) Development of Minimum Standards for Tourism Service Providers.

Through the support of GIZ, a consultant to assist in development of minimum standards for various tourism service providers was engaged. The Consultant developed an Inception Report that was considered by the Panel of Experts during their meeting of 23rd – 25th June 2021.

f) Implementation of a Strategy to combat poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products

The Strategy to combat poaching and illegal trade and trafficking of wildlife and wildlife products was implemented by the EAC Secretariat as well as by Partner States. This included sensitization of the key stakeholders such as wildlife law enforcement officers, technical experts in transboundary wildlife management, local communities, women and youth through virtual workshops. Data collection and validation in respect to economic

valuation of natural capital in respect to priority transboundary wildlife landscapes were undertaken.

g) Extra-ordinary Meeting of Sectoral Council on Tourism and Wildlife Management

An Extra-ordinary Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Tourism and Wildlife Management was convened from via video conference provide policy guidance in the tourism and wildlife management sector. The meeting took place up to the Session of Permanent Secretaries and considered among other agenda items the Draft EAC Tourism Marketing Strategy, EAC Tourism Recovery Plan, Concept Note on organizing EAC Regional Tourism EXPO, COVID-19 Guidelines for Resumption of Tourism Services and Terms of Reference for development of EAC Wildlife Policy, EAC Wildlife Bill, Review of Classification Criteria and Identification of Centres of Excellence for Wildlife Education and Public Awareness.

Challenges and Recommendations

Challenges encountered in implementation of planned activities by the Department include the following:

- i) Disruption by COVID-19 that devastatingly affected the tourism sector and led to the need to review some of the documents that had been developed and validated such as the EAC Tourism Marketing Strategy;
- ii) The pandemic led to cancellation and postponement of a number of meetings including the 10th Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Tourism and Wildlife Management as well as planned International and Regional Tourism Trade Fairs in which EAC participates. This in turn led to delayed approvals of Terms of Reference for different assignments;
- iii) Inadequate staffing levels for the Department
- iv) Inadequate funding

To address these challenges, it is recommended that more collaboration with relevant Departments such as Communication, Investments, Environment and Natural Resources be undertaken. It is also recommended that the Council approves the proposed secondment of Senior Wildlife Officer to assist in implementation of wildlife conservation and management activities.

Budget performance

The budget allocated to the Tourism and Wildlife Management amounted to US\$ 209,400.00 for the financial year 2020-2021 with an expenditure of US\$ 101,530.43. The budget performance was about 48% of budget estimate.

4.1.3. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Industrial Development draws its mandate from Articles 79 and 80 of the Treaty. In this regard, the Department coordinates activities relating to promoting self-sustaining and balanced industrial growth; improving the competitiveness of the industrial

sector so as to enhance the expansion of trade in industrial goods within the Community and the export of industrial goods from the Partner States in order to achieve the structural transformation of the economy that would foster the overall socio-economic development in the Partner States; and encouraging the development of indigenous entrepreneurs. In particular, the Department coordinates, among others, development and implementation of East African Industrial Development Strategy; promoting linkages among industries within the Community through diversification, specialization and complementarity; facilitating the development of small-and-medium scale industries, basic capital and intermediate goods industries and food and agro-industries; and rationalizing investments and the full use of established industries. It also promotes industrial research and development; harmonizing and rationalizing investment incentives; and disseminating and exchange industrial and technological information.

In the period under review, and according to Review and Develop EAC Industrialization Action Plan 2019-2024; automotive sector/CTA sector Regional Strategy adopted by private sector; and private sector platform created; Review and Develop EAC Industrialization Action Plan 2019-2024;

The key achievements during the year were as follows:

- a) Region undertook a Verification Mission on Productive capacities of the cotton, textiles and apparels industry;
- b) Currently the region is developing a study on Post Harvest Loss Management as part of implementation of the fruits and vegetables Strategy;
- c) To capture data on fruits and vegetables import, export and local production is Fruits and Vegetables Management Information System;
- d) Terms of Reference for Undertaking a study on Feasibility Study of an EAC Low Cost/Affordable Vehicle was adopted by SCTIFI and the process of procuring a consultant has been kicked off;
- e) Under development to capture data on production, imports and exports of pharmaceutical data is a regional Pharmaceutical Management Information System (IPMIS);
- f) The Pharmaceutical Procurement Task Force & Verification of Pharmaceuticals Molecules is currently considering the impact of COVID on the production of the selected molecule;
- g) TORs for CTA. Leather, Automotive and Fruits and Vegetables Platforms were developed and adopted by SCTIFI in the period under review, The platform meetings are currently being planned;
- h) Actions Plan to improve quality Infrastructure for the leather and fruits and vegetables value chain were developed and adopted

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Industrial Development amounted to US\$ **25,000.00** for the financial Year 2019/2020 with an expenditure of US\$ **25,000.00** leading to budget performance of 100%

4.2 DIRECTORATE OF SOCIAL SECTORS

4.2.1. GENDER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY

The Department coordinates the affairs concerning Gender, Women in Socio Economic Development and in Business, Youth, Children, Persons with Disabilities, Social protection and social welfare, Community development, and Civil Society mobilization.

In the period under review, the Gender, Community development and Civil society Department planned to fully integrate gender perspectives in EAC Organs, Institutions and Partner States' Ministries; adopt and implement the Regional Strategy for Promoting Women in Socio-economic Development and Women in Business; develop and adopt an EAC Policy on Social Protection; finalize the development of the project on empowering Border Communities through modernization of locally shared markets; develop a proposal to establish an EAC Training Centre for skills development and skills incubation centres for the Youth; implement Exchange Programmes for young workers, Internships for young professionals and regional volunteer programmes; and implement the Action Plans for the EAC Child, Youth and Persons with Disabilities policies and the Consultative Dialogue Framework.

The Key Achievements registered were:

- a. The Action Plan of the EAC Gender Policy (2018) developed and was adopted by the 5th Sectoral Council on Gender, Youth, Children, Social Protection and Community Development in May 2021.**

The Action Plan address Gender concerns in Governance and Participation; Education and Training; Health and HIV/AIDS; Gender-Based Violence; Environment and Climate change; Energy; Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition; Trade and Economic Empowerment; Security, Peace Building and Conflict Resolution; Mining and Extractive Industries; Access to Safe water, Sanitation and Housing; as well as Migration.

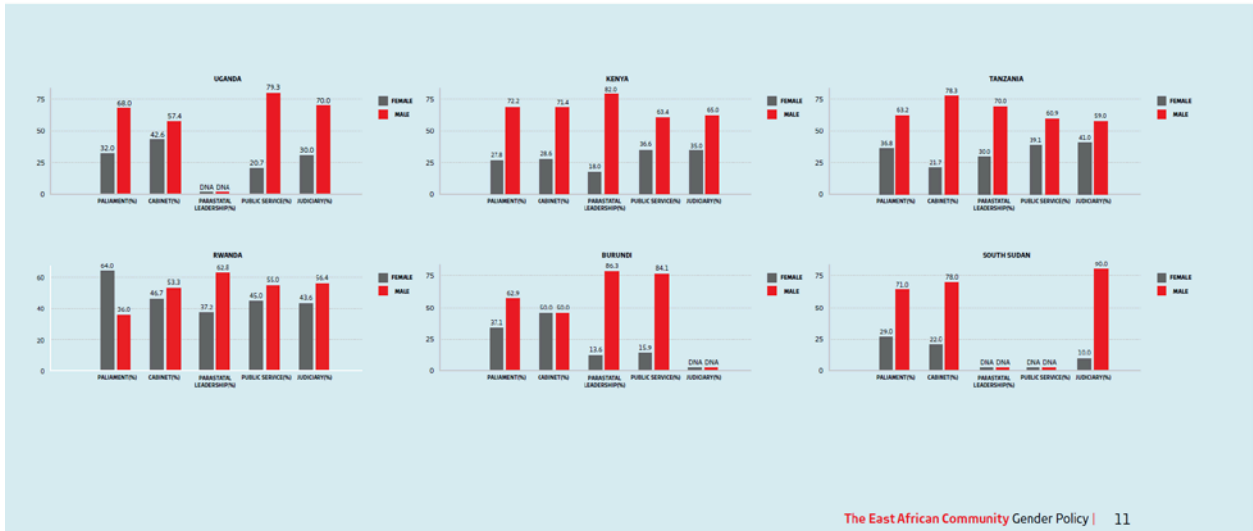
GOVERNANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Article 121 of the Treaty provides for women's participation in governance including appropriate affirmative action at all levels.

The Constitutions of EAC Partner States also provide for inclusive representation of women and men, boys and girls at all levels of governance.

They further advocate for representation of at least one third gender at all levels of government.

Governance and Participation: Percentage of Women and Men in Top Decision-Making Positions



- b. **A Training Manual for Women Cross Border Traders and Service Providers within the East African Community which was developed and adopted by the 5th meeting of the Sectoral Council on Gender in May 2021.**

This follows up on the development in 2018 of a Simplified Guide for Micro and Small-Scale Women Cross Border Traders and Service Providers within the East African Community. The guide provides information on key EAC trade rules, regulations and procedures related to trade within the EAC in a simplified and user-friendly manner.

The training manual for the simplified guide will be used to build the capacity of various stakeholders and actors in the cross border eco-system. These include the border agency staff, business management trainers / consultants, women entrepreneur associations, national cross border traders' associations and women cross border traders' associations / cooperatives.

- c. **A study on the harmonization of child related laws in the EAC was conducted and the report was adopted by the 5th Sectoral Council in June 2021.**

The EAC Secretariat concluded a study on the Harmonization of Laws on Children by EAC Partner States. The study provided an in-depth analysis on the status of domestication of laws on children by EAC Partner States following their ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC).

The study was conducted in response to objective two of the Child Policy whose focus is on harmonization of Child Laws within Partner State legal regimes. This priority area is vital because it sets the pace upon which all the other nine objectives can or stand a chance of being meaningfully achieved/ implemented. In the absence of clear laws and their administrative mechanisms, the other nine objectives of the policy would encounter serious difficulties in implementation. For that reason, the study report also analyses some relevant thematic areas covered in the other nine objectives of the EAC Child Policy.

The study established that Partner States have done commendable work on harmonization of laws with the three international instruments but to varying extents. It also highlighted valuable lessons especially from those Partner States that have achieved a lot in the harmonization process.

Harmonisation criteria	Status on harmonization criteria – baseline versus current review (Baseline values in brackets, 1=Yes, 0=No)					
	BU R	KE N	RW A	TA N	UG A	SO U
1. A comprehensive, consultative and multisectoral review of all laws relating to children to bring them in conformity with the international Instruments has been undertaken	0	1	1	1	1	0
2. A well-qualified advisor to parliament has been nominated to assist in technical matters	(1)1	(1)1	(0)1	(0)1	(0)1	(0)1
3. Partner State provides Law Reform Commissions with concrete directions and the necessary resources to perform their mandated tasks	(0)0	(1)1	(0)1	(1)1	(1)1	(0)1
4. Harmonisation on all applicable provisions of different jurisdictions (customary/traditional, religious and regular law) has been undertaken	(0)0	(1)1	(0)1	(0)0	(1)1	(0)0
5. Efforts and resources necessary to enact comprehensive children’s legislation promoted as a matter of priority	(0)0	(1)1	(0)1	(0)0	(0)1	(0)0
6. Broad based review committees and coordination structures for systematic revision of laws are established	(1)1	(1)1	(0)1	(1)1	(1)1	(0)1
7. A national policy/plan to enhance compliance has been established	(0)1	(1)1	(0)1	(0)1	(0)1	(0)0
8. A Comprehensive Child Act has been enacted	(0)0	(1)1	(1)1	(1)1	(1)1	(1)1

Harmonisation criteria	Status on harmonization criteria – baseline versus current review (Baseline values in brackets, 1=Yes, 0=No)					
	BU R	KE N	RW A	TA N	UG A	SO U
9. New sectoral laws have been enacted following ratification	1	1	1	1	1	1

d. A Midterm Review of the EAC Child Policy (2016) was conducted assessing the status of implementation of the EAC Child Policy and the report was adopted by the 5th Meeting of the Sectoral Council.

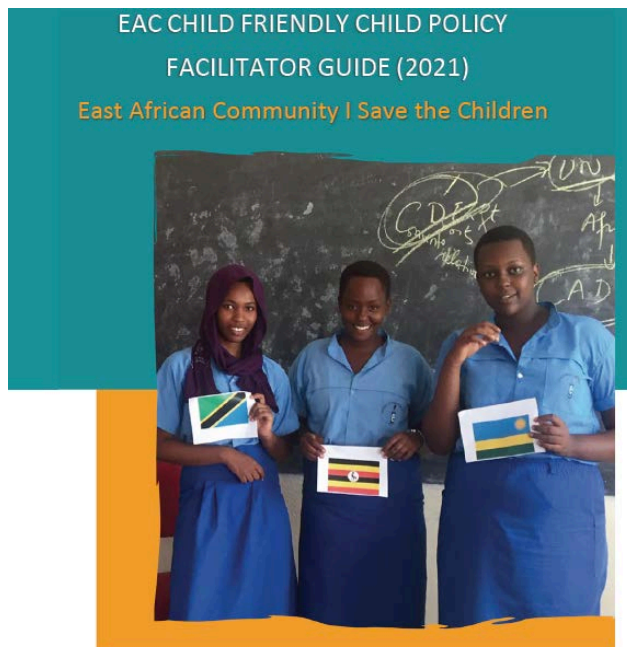
The review of the EAC EAC Child Policy was conducted over six months, from November 2019 to May 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions enforced in Partner States, some activities, such as the validation process, were completed in December 2020, and the publishing was finalised in January 2021. The report was translated into both Kiswahili and French, and country briefs for each Partner State have been developed and designed. The EAC Secretariat launched the Study Report in a hybrid meeting held on 28th May 2021 at Four Points by Sheraton New Africa Hotel in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.



e. Developed the Development of the Child Friendly Version of the EAC Child Policy and its Facilitators Guide. Currently undertaking sensitization and popularization in schools.

Since the adoption of the EAC Child Policy in 2016, several follow-ups and support initiatives have been undertaken to ensure enhanced implementation and a better understanding of the policy by the targeted beneficiaries. One of such initiatives is the development of the child-friendly version of the EAC Child Policy and training of Child experts, and consultation workshops with children at the national level.

In view of this, creating an enabling and supportive environment for children to engage in matters concerning them requires intense and regionally nuanced facilitation training for field workers. Save the Children, and the EAC Secretariat have developed a facilitator's guide to accompany the knowledge of the child friendly EAC policy. This guide will supply facilitators with tools, workshop strategies, and interactive materials to bolster children's understanding of the EAC child policy.



f. Completion of Phase One of the 50 Million African Women Speak Networking Platform Project

Phase one of the 50 Million African Women Speak Networking Platform Project, a three-year project of US\$ 13.82 Million that cut across three Regional Economic Communities (RECs) namely the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC) and the Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS), was successfully concluded.

The project registered the following Key Successes

- a) The digital platform was developed and is operational;
- b) The Platform was launched in EAC Partner States except Republic of South Sudan;
- c) Training of Trainers were conducted in EAC Partner States except Republics of Kenya, Uganda, and South Sudan; and
- d) Outreaches and marketing consultancies

The EAC Secretariat engaged consulting firms in Partner States to develop and implement Communication, Marketing and Outreach Campaigns for the 50 Million African Women Speak Networking Platform. The EAC supported content development strategy and SMS integration, consultancies that benefit the Project at continental level.

50 MILLION AFRICAN WOMEN SPEAK NETWORKING PLATFORM PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION
PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 2018-MARCH 2021



IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS REPORT

50 MILLION AFRICAN WOMEN SPEAK NETWORKING PLATFORM PROJECT

JANUARY 2018- MARCH 2021



4.2.2. EDUCATION, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Department of Education Sector draws its mandate and functions from Article 5, Article 102, and Article 103 of the EAC Treaty, in which the EAC Partner States commit to undertake concerted measures to foster cooperation in education, training, Science and Technology within the Community.

During the period under review, the planned activities included: EAC approved Education Structures and Frameworks operationalised by 2021; New Designated EAC Centres of Excellence Operationalised by June 2021; EAC Students Essay writing Competitions conducted at National and Regional levels Annually; The EAC Represented in regional and international Education and Training for annually; The 4th and 5th Editions of the EAC Art and Culture Festival - Jumuiya ya Afrika Mashariki Utamaduni Festival (JAMAFEST) held by 2021; The 1st and 2nd Editions of the EAC Sports Tournament - EAC Games (EACoG) held by 2021; Culture and Sports networks at regional and Global levels established by 2021; Training of professionals of the culture sector conducted by 2021.

The key achievements that were realized during the planned period include:

The 16th SCESTCS was held from 31st May 2021 to 4th June 2021 in Dar es Salaam Tanzania and gave policy guidance to the institutions and departments covered by the SCESTCS.

National Meetings to update the Draft EAC TVET Harmonization Strategy were held in all EAC Partner States.

- 2020 EAC Secondary School Students Essay Writing Competition successfully undertaken. National and Regional Adjudication have been undertaken. National awards ongoing.
- Presented EAC in several regional meetings (Mainly virtual).
- EAC Stakeholders Education Forum/Conference postponed due to COVID 19.
- Annex VII of the EAC Common Market Protocol on MRA still with SCLA.
- -Resources mobilized for finalization and implementation of EAC TVET Harmonization Strategy.
- -MOU for partnerships signed with UNICEF and MSTCDC.
- Resources mobilized for operationalization of Centre of Excellence (Tumba Polytechnic) in Rwanda.
- French adopted as official language of the EAC.
- Resources mobilized for the Study on Modalities for Including French as a language of the Community.
- Preparations for the 5th Edition JAMAFEST not initiated due to COVID 19 pandemic.

Preparations for 2nd Edition of EAC Games not initiated due to COVID 19 Pandemic. 2nd Edition of EAC Games were thus not held due to the COVID situation.

Budget Execution

The overall budget allocated to the Education, Culture & Sports, and Science & for the Financial Year 2017-2018 amounted to US\$ 211,670.00 with an expenditure of US\$ 140,079.65. Thus budget performance of was 66% though this is the total of what was received.

4.2.3. HEALTH SECTOR

The Health Department oversees and coordinates all health policy and governance aspects in the region. The Health Department is made up of Six Units namely: Regulation of Health Professionals and Health Services Unit; Health Systems Development and Policy Unit; Disease Prevention and Control Unit; Medicines, Food Safety and Health Technologies Unit; HIV and AIDS & Sexually Transmitted Infections Unit; and Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition Unit. The EAC Health Sector draws its mandate from Article 118 of the Treaty that establishes the Community and as well as the EAC Regional Health Policy (2016) and the EAC Health Sector Strategic Plan (2015-2020).

In the period under review, the Health Sector planned to: EAC Partner States Experts capacity is built on key SDG 3 concepts and interventions annually; Relevant tools,

framework and interventions are developed and implemented to support medicines, health technology and food production, safety and quality by 2021; Effective health sector governance, leadership and partnerships frameworks adopted/implemented by 2021; Seven (7) flagship EAC Health Sector Programmes and Initiatives effectively implemented by 2021;

The key achievements were:

At the policy and strategy level, key achievements include the development of the EAC minimum package for RMNCAH and HIV and AIDS integration and linkages, Regional EAC Integrated Reproductive Maternal new-born Child and Adolescent Health and HIV and AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB) and sexually transmitted Infections (STI) Scorecard for monitoring key health indicators in the region; and the EAC Advocacy and Communication Strategy for RMNCAH, and HIV and AIDS. Other achievements registered were:

- a) Successfully supported the EAC Partner States efforts and the region in responding to the COVID -19 pandemic through interventions including supporting testing capacity, provision of laboratory supplies, test kits and personal protective equipment, policy guidance among others;
- b) Concluded two regional studies on status of integration of Reproductive Maternal New-born Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAH) and HIV and AIDS service packages, and the burden of Sexually Transmitted infections. These are informing policy and programming in the region;
- c) Successfully supported EALA in the drafting of the EAC Sexual Reproductive Health Bill, 2021. The Draft bill will be tabled in EALA before December for adoption;
- d) Concluding regional studies to validate the COVID-19 Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs);
- e) Adoption and implementation of the Digital Regional East African Community Health (Digital REACH) Strategic Plan 2019-2028;
- f) Launch of the East Africa web portal for health information as part of the official East African Community comprehensive compendium of health information in East Africa; and
- g) Mobilization of resources for the health sector for current and future projects on Strengthening laboratory capacity (12 million Euros), COVID -19 response (US\$ 9.0million from the AFDB);

h) 8th August 2020 – December 2020 - In Country Training for Mobile Laboratories by the ToTs of About Ten (10) Trainees (Lab Experts) Per Partner State in the Use of the Mobile Labs.

Following the official launch, dispatch and deployment of 9 Mobile Laboratories to the EAC Partner States on 15th April 2020, the Project facilitated in country trainings and provided the necessary guidance to ensure that the Mobile Laboratories were effectively deployed for operational use in Partner States. This ensured that the Mobile Lab operators were adequately trained and adhered to the designated quality systems to ensure the integrity of data generated in the mobile laboratories.

The In-country trainings were conducted by the ToTs for a period of 20 days and numbers trained mobile laboratory operators in each of the Partner States is indicated in the table below.

Sn	Partner States	No of Trainees	Major Challenges
1.	The Republic of Burundi	10	- The training scope was limited to the COVID 19 response
2.	The Republic of Kenya	10	- Limited time theoretical sessions - The training scope was limited to the COVID 19 response
3.	The Republic of Rwanda	10	- The training scope was limited to the COVID 19 response
4.	The Republic of South Sudan	6	- Limited personnel
5.	The United Republic of Tanzania	10	- Participants had limited knowledge to PCR
6.	The Republic of Uganda	24	- Limited time to train and deploy COVID response

Complementary to the in - country training, the above TOTs and trainees were also introduced to an online training of the German platform for biosecurity & biosafety (GO4BSB)

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Health Sector amounted to US\$ 4,108,972.00 for the financial year 2017-2018 with an expenditure of US\$ 1,152,010.28 with the budget performance of 28%

4.2.4. IMMIGRATION, LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REFUGEE MANAGEMENT

The Department coordinates areas of cooperation under labor, immigration and refugee management sector with a view to operationalize Articles 76, 104 & 124 of the Treaty. Article 76 establishes the EAC Common Market Protocol; Article 104 on free movement of persons, labor, services, right of establishment and residence; and Article 124 on development of common mechanisms to management of refugees in the Community. The Department also coordinates the implementation of Articles 7, 8,9,10,11,12,13 and 14 of the EAC Common Market Protocol.

During the period under review the department planned the following activities; Partner States Immigration laws reviewed in line with the EAC Common Market Protocol EAC CMP provisions by 2021; Revise the draft EAC Council Directive (Articles 12(2) & 10(3)(f) on Coordination of Social Security Benefits by December 2020; Develop the EAC Decent Work Program 2020-2025 by 2021.

The Key achievements were: - : -

The EAC Common Market Scorecard on tracking the compliance in the Movement of Labour, Right of Establishment and Residence in the Community (EAC CMS, 2018) was adopted by the 31st Meeting of the Sectoral Council of Ministers responsible for EAC Affairs and Planning held on 10th June 2021. The Scorecard covers Protocol obligations on Free Movement of Workers related to Harmonisation of Mutual and Academic and Professional Qualifications; Labour Policies; Laws and Programmes; Right of Establishment and Right of Residence and Regulations thereto and commitments made by each Partner State at three levels, namely: the Major Group, Sub-Group, and Minor Group

The Sector obtained technical and financial support from International Organization for Migration to review and finalise the revised draft Council Directive on Coordination of Social Security Benefits in the EAC. Finalized consultative meetings of the draft report of the EAC Decent Work Program 2020-2025.

The department also obtained technical and financial support from African Union Commission through Joint Labour Migration Program to develop a regional policy on labour migration;

Conducted the National Consultation meetings to validate the draft Labour Migration Policy in the Partner States

Regional validation meeting of Directors of Labour to validate the draft EAC Labour Migration Policy and Situational Analysis Report conducted

Undertook national and regional validation meeting of Directors of Labour on the revised draft Labour Migration Policy.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Immigration, Labour and Employment amounted to US\$ 33,820.00 for the financial year 2020- 2021 with an expenditure of US\$ 32,996.52 marking the budget performance at 98%. The major contributing factor was from IOM, ILO and AUC JLMP through off -budget support.

5.0 THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL - POLITICAL FEDERATION

The Office of the Deputy Secretary General Political Federation comprises of the three departments namely: Political Affairs; International Relations; and Peace and Security.

5.1 POLITICAL AFFAIRS

In the period under review, the Political Affairs Department planned to Policy Frameworks and Institutions for establishment of the EAC Political Federation developed; Constitutional framework for EAC Confederation developed and adopted; Deployment of EOM and Observation of Elections in Partner States; Protocols on Good Governance adopted and ratified by Partner States; Protocols on Anticorruption adopted, ratified by Partner States; Protocols on Good Governance and Anticorruption operationalized; Tooling of Nyerere Centre for Peace and Research for conduct research and build capacity of youth; and Enhanced policy decisions on governance through NCPDR research and dialogue processes.

The key achievements were:

a. Policy Frameworks and Institutions for establishment of the EAC Political Federation developed;

The process of drafting the Constitution for the EAC Political Confederation is ongoing. The Constitutional Experts have since commenced the consultations of stakeholders in Partner States with a purpose to collect views an input as a prerequisite for determining the Model of the EAC Political Confederation. So far, the Stakeholders' consultations have been carried out in the Republic of Burundi in January, 2020 and in the Republic of Uganda from April to May 2021. The progress of consultations has been interrupted by COVID-19 pandemic that restricted travel and meetings in Partner States. The draft Reports of National Consultations in Burundi and Uganda are pending completion since the Consultation process is not complete. The stakeholder's consultations aim to create awareness of the process and to solicit participation of EAC citizens and government authorities in drafting the Constitution.

b. Deployment of EOM and Observation of Elections in Partner States;

EAC deployed an Election Observation Mission to the United Republic of Tanzania in October 2020 and Republic of Uganda in January 2021 ahead of the General Elections.

- The Mission to the United Republic of Tanzania for the 28th Oct 2020 General Elections was led by H.E Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, Former President Republic of

Burundi. The Mission was comprised by 59 members and was on ground from 23rd – 30th October, 2020

- The Mission to the Republic of Uganda for the 14th January 2021 was led by Domitien Ndayizeyi Former President Republic of Burundi. The Mission was on ground from 9th – 16th January, 2021.

The two reports of the Missions have been presented to the Council of Ministers and await adoption upon which they will be forwarded to the respective countries.

c. Protocols on Good Governance adopted and ratified by Partner States; Protocols on Anticorruption adopted, ratified by Partner States;

Planning Meeting of the EAC Election Observer Mission to the United Republic of Tanzania was conducted to map out deployment areas and undertook consultations with the Electoral Commission on the preparedness for the upcoming elections.

d. Protocols on Good Governance and Anticorruption operationalized;

The Secretariat is commencing the re-drafting of the Protocol on Good Governance and the Protocol on Combating and Preventing Corruption. Support was provided to EAC Forum of Anti-Corruption Agencies to participate in EAC-EOM in Tanzania/Uganda and to the EAC forum of Human Rights Commission to participate in the EAC-EOM in Republic of Uganda

e. Tooling of Nyerere Centre for Peace and Research for conduct research and build capacity of youth; and Enhanced policy decisions on governance through NCPR research and dialogue processes.

Facilitated the 4th EAC Youth Leadership Summit (You Lead) from 23rd – 27th November 2020, in Arusha-Tanzania.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Political Affairs Department amounted to US\$ 801,530.00 for the financial year 2017-2018 with an expenditure of US\$. 769,816.73 leading to budget performance of 96%.

5.2 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

In the period under review, the Department of International Relations planned to strengthen Foreign Policy Formulation; A framework by Partner States for mutual provision of consular and diplomatic assistance; harmonize the Partner States' Foreign Policies harmonized by 2020; Areas for Partner States to speak with one voice agreed upon by 2020; strengthen the Multilateral/International Networks in pursuit of EAC Objective; and establish a Framework for EAC/Accredited Missions cooperation established by June 2020

The under international relations, three MoU have been signed to strengthen the regional and multilateral strategies as follows: \

- a) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) was signed 2020 to strengthen cooperation in the areas of Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, Electoral Assistance, women Peace and Security Gender Equality, Youth and Peace Building joint activities implementation.
- b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation (MS TCDC) was signed in 2020 to Collaborate and strengthen programs aimed at skilling youth and promoting youth employment within the EAC.
- c) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) was signed in 2021 to support to cooperate for mutual interest and the common vision of consolidating and strengthening democracy and development within EAC Member States and other African nations in areas of Elections Support and Technical Assistance to EMBs, Knowledge Management, Early Warning Systems, Platforms for Peer Learning/Cooperation , Constitution Building and EAC Parliament Support.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the International Relations Office amounted to US\$ 71,200.00 for the financial year 2018-2019 with an expenditure of US\$ 64,770.90 with budget performance of 91%

5.3 PEACE AND SECURITY

In the period under review, the Peace and Security office planned to:- provide Policy guidance in the Peace and Security Sector; finalize Police led exercise on DM&DRR by 2021; enhance the EACWARN Regional Early Warning Center (REWC) Situation Room capacities by 2021; EACWARN operationalized & capacity strengthened in accordance with its Roadmap for its operationalization; National Early Warning Centers establishment processes supported and capacities enhanced by 2020; support National Early Warning Centers establishment processes and enhance capacities by 2021; Capacity built for mediation and negotiation carried out and Mediation Roster developed by 2021; At least one Exchange visit, retreats or best practice exposure visit carried out; Modality for the operationalization of the EAC Peace Facility developed and operationalized by 2020; establish a joint Partner states criminal database; develop Gender Peace and security Strategy and its implementation framework; Technical Guidance given to the sub Sectors on operational modalities on annual basis; Technical Guidance given to the sub Sectors on operational modalities on annual basis; Strategies to counter Terrorism incorporating both women, media and faith based as well as a regional strategy on prevention of violent extremism developed; At least undertake 4 Measures to combat illicit arms proliferation and cattle rustling implemented; Refugee and Disaster Crisis Management and Response Measures Developed by June 202

The key achievements registered were:-

Under strengthening of inter-state security cooperation and Regional conflict Prevention and Resolution Capacity the following were achieved:-

- a) Two Policing standard operating procedures were finalized for adoption
- b) Regional Trainings on Human Rights for Prisons and Correctional Services undertaken
- c) Foundational studies supportive to implementation of measures to combat trans-national organized crime carried out
- d) Conclusion of legal framework and training framework for the Regional Forensic Referral Centre(Ballistics)
- e) A framework establishing the Youth Peace & Security forum in the Region was developed.
- f) Assessment of the OSBPs on implementation of the council decisions on cross border and transboundary security by the frontline security agencies done.
- g) A Strategy for Youth Peace and Security and its implementation Plan was developed.
- h) A Number of joint trainings in areas of Forensic investigations specifically in Ballistics were conducted to enhance common good practices in ballistic investigations
- i) Mapped out borders & boundaries disputes in EAC region and produced a comprehensive report showing causes, possible trends, gaps in dispute resolution frameworks and measures to sustainably prevent, manage and settle manifest and latent border disputes/conflicts in the region.
- j) Assessed the status of existing national early warning structures in EAC region, the capacities, challenges and opportunities and developed a roadmap to fast track the establishment, operationalization and capacity building of NEWCs and coordination with the REWC.
- k) Continued to develop EACWARN Operationalization tools and developed a conflict dynamic and structural data analysis tool which will facilitate peace and security threats monitoring in EAC Region, data collection, analysis and reporting.
- l) EACWARN continued supporting EAC Partner States in the establishment and operationalization of National Early Warning Centers as per the Directive of the Sectoral Council Interstate Security and the Council which directed Partner States to establish National Early Warning Centers (NEWCs) and provide them with appropriate human and financial resources.
- m) EACWARN conducted a field mission to South Soudan in this regard to assess the status of implementation of this Directive.

- n) EAC through EACWARN has been in the process of procuring IT Equipment to support the operationalization of NEWCs.
- o) Developed a Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) on the basis of domestication of the AU PCRD Policy Framework. This will require the development of a specific EAC PCRD Framework
- p) Developed a Framework for engagement of Women, Youth and Civil Society in the EAC Peace and Security activities and Agenda. It will require further action to include budget estimates and time framework for the successful implementation of the Framework.
- q) Developed an Operational Modality for the Operationalization of the EAC Peace Facility to finance peace and security interventions which have been mostly donor dependent except for Staff salaries since 1998. The Modality will be further refined.

Under operationalization of the regional strategy on peace and security through establishment of centers of excellence and network of higher education institutions offering regional integration and related studies

- a) All the 14 Police Centers of Excellence established on critical policing areas are at different stages of development towards full operationalization.
- b) A Police handbook on EAC Integration has been finalized and distributed to Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and South Sudan. We are in process to deliver those for Rwanda and Burundi for use in their Policing High education/training institutions to facilitate understanding and their contribution towards the EAC Integration.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Peace and Security office amounted to US\$ 3,036,181.00 for the financial year 2019-2020 with an expenditure of US\$ 1,045,282.09 with the budget performance of 34%.

6.0 THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL - CUSTOMS AND TRADE

The Office of the Director General (Customs and Trade) is responsible for the implementation of the customs and trade (internal and external) functions in the EAC. Customs encompasses tariff and valuation, compliance and enforcement, procedures and facilitation while trade covers international trade, internal trade and Standards, Quality Assurance, Metrology and Testing

6.1 DIRECTORATE OF CUSTOMS

The Directorate of Customs initiates policies on Customs and Trade related matters and coordinates such policies in the Partner States. The Departments of the Directorate of Customs include Tariff and Valuation, Compliance and Enforcement, Procedures and Facilitation.

During the period under review the Directorate of Customs planned to conduct technical and Policy organ meetings in order to guide implementation of customs directorate objectives;

The key achievements registered:

A. POLICY ORGAN MEETINGS

Policy organs meetings to provide policy directions such as the Pre-budget consultation, the Sectoral Council on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (SCTIFI) and Committee on Customs were convened during the period under review.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Customs and Trade amounted to US\$ 52,400.00 for the financial year 2020-2021 with an expenditure of US\$ 46,382.46 with the budget performance of 89%

7.1.2 TARIFF AND VALUATION

In the period under review, the Department planned to harmonize and implement the EAC Customs Valuation operations; Policy review and coordinated / monitored implementation of the Common External Tariff (CET); harmonize and implement EAC Customs Valuation operations;

The key achievements were:

- a) Review of the EAC CET is ongoing. Partner States agreed on products to be classified under the three bands of 0%, 10%, 25%, a rate above 25% and Sensitive Items as follows:

Table 1: Tariff bands

Tariff Band	No. of Tariff Lines	OVERALL STATS	
		% Share	Overall % Share
0	2,245	37.80%	94.50%
10	1,174	19.80%	
25	1,639	27.60%	

4th Band	462	7.80%	
Sensitive	87	1.50%	
No Consensus (4 th Band)	326	5.50%	5.50%
Total Tariff lines	5,933	100.00%	100.00%

Source: SCTIFI Report November 2021

- b) At the AfCFTA level, EAC submitted a draft Schedule of Tariff Concessions on Category A products improved to 87.6% towards attaining the required threshold of 90%. On Rules of Origin, State Parties including EAC PSs have agreed on 87.7% of the applicable rules;
- c) At TFTA level, EAC PSs provided input in developing the Manual and Regulations on the Implementation of the Rules of Origin.
- d) EAC - CET 2017 was transposed to HS 2022. A linguistic French version of the EAC - CET 2017 was also transposed to HS 2022. EAC CET 2022 will be implemented from 1st July, 2022;
- e) Transposition of the EAC Rules of Origin, 2015 to HS 2022 Version; The activity is planned for the second week of January 2022. The letter convening the expert meeting for the activity was shared with Partner States;
- f) Development of the E Tariff tool is ongoing which will include modules for the functionality of factors affecting the CET such as Stays, Duty Remission ETC and aims for improved and increased engagement by the private sector giving more access to trade information in a more enhanced digitally connected environment. Piloting and rollout of the tool is expected within the first half of 2022;
- g) Product Identification Bulletins were developed for 6 items namely aluminum foils, powdered milk, diapers, wet wipes, and photocopy paper. Two bulletins for Aluminum & Plastic Profiles and Mobile Phones were updated;
- h) Bilateral joint on the spot investigation for rice, gypsum boards, maize and tiles produced in the United Republic of Tanzania;
- i) Bilateral joint on the spot investigation for clinker and other inputs to manufacture cement in the Republic of Kenya;
- j) Tariff experts meeting was held in Moshi in September 2021 considered and transposed the EAC CET to HS 2022 version into French language. The Experts also incorporated all changes made to the EAC CET 2017 version from July, 2017 to June 2021;

- k) Approval by SCTIFI of the splits on tariff lines;
- l) Electronic Tariff System ongoing development with piloting scheduled in the 1st quarter 2022 and rollout of the system by July 2022;
- m) Adoption of the revised Operational Guidelines on the implementation of the Infrastructure Levy by SCTIFI (*EAC/SCTIFI 39/Decision 04*);
- n) Approval of additional submissions by Partner States for the Financial Year 2021 / 2022

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Tariff & Valuation Department amounted to US\$ 72,400.00 for the financial year 2021 - 2022. It is noted that of the US\$ 69,875.30 thus the budget performance stood 97%

7.1.3 PROCEDURES AND FACILITATION

In the period under review, Procedures and Facilitation Department planned to harmonize and simplify Customs procedures to attain free circulation of goods under the Single Customs Territory; Enhance Stakeholder engagement in the implementation of the Single Customs Territory; conduct stakeholders sensitization on the Single Customs Territory (SCT); Enhance of customs information management systems;

The key achievements were: -

- a) EAC Customs Strategy 2021/22-2025/26 was developed and adopted by the 38th SCTIFI.
- b) Adoption of the the revised SCT Procedure Manual, 2021 (*EAC/SCTIFI 39/Decision 05*);
- c) Adoption of the EAC OSBPs Sustainability Strategy 2021 / 2022 – 2025 / 2026 (*EAC/SCTIFI 39/Decision 08*).
- d) Enhanced capacity of border agencies to combat COVID 19. Over 2000 officials and stakeholders were sensitized on COVID 19 pandemic.
- e) Capacity building of government officials and stakeholders has been enhanced through conducting training of trainers' courses, Cross-border agencies joined training, training of AEO validation officers and on AfCFTA ROO.
- f) Training courses and materials have been developed on Lifestyle Audit and Cross-Border Regulatory Agencies.

- g) Adoption of the reviewed EACFFPC curriculum as a regional training programme by the Sectoral Council on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (*EAC/SCTIFI 39/Decision 23*);
- h) Adoption of the guidelines for the establishment, composition, roles and responsibilities and conduct of meetings of Joint Border Operations Committees, National, Bilateral and Regional OSBPs Steering Committees (*EAC/SCTIFI 39/Decision 09*);
- i) Decision by SCTIFI to establish a Regional OSBPs Steering Committee (ROSC) (*EAC/SCTIFI 39/Decision 10*);
- j) In line with the provisions of the WTO TFA the Republic of Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania launched their Trade Information Portals. This will enhance access and availability of information on import and export processes and procedures.
- k) Substantial progress was made on the development of the EAC customs bond. A viable minimum and maximum customs bond premium rate was adopted of between 0.4 to 1%. Additionally, user requirements for the Management Information System (MIS) of the EAC Customs Bond were developed and adopted. A hybrid insurance product that covers transit and warehousing risks was adopted.
- l) The EAC Administrative Guidelines to facilitate the movement of cargo and services during the COVID 19 pandemic was developed.
- m) Development of EAC guidelines on trade facilitation during Covid – 19;
- n) Developed OSBP training tools and alternative Capacity building methodology;
- o) Proof of Concept (PoC) was enhanced to support transit regimes under SCT. In addition, requirements for automation of the Regional Authorized Economic Operator, Management of Clearing and Freight Forwarders Associations and OSBP Performance Measurement were developed for purposes of incorporating them under the PoC.
- p) To consolidate the benefits of the Single Customs Territory, the Inter-agency framework was developed to align the operations of the other agencies with the processes under SCT. This included the review of the SCT procedure manual 2014.
- q) To ensure continuity of the EAC projects, a long-term sustainability strategy on the Regional Electronic Cargo Tracking System was developed to provide for long term funding of RECTS.
- r) (a) adoption USD 50 by the SCTIFI as the de minimis value where customs duties shall not be collected based on customs value (*EAC/SCTIFI 38/Decision01*); and
- s) (b) Section 124 of the EAC CMA, 2004 as amended by SCTIFI to provide for the USD

50 as de minimis based on the value of goods instead of computed duties (EAC/SCTIFI 38/Decision02);

- t) Lifestyle audits training material for border agencies was developed and validated.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Tariff and Valuation Department amounted to US\$ 95,820.00 for the financial year 2020-2021 with an expenditure of \$ 91,445.63 thus, budget performance stood at 95%

7.1.4 PREVENTION AND ENFORCEMENT

In the period under review, the EAC Prevention and Enforcement Department coordinated the review of the EAC CMA, regulations on the assembly scheme and AEOs.

The key achievements were:

- a) The adoption of EACCMA, 2004 by the 22nd Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Legal and Judicial held on 29th to 30th October, 2021.
- b) The signature of the Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) Action Plan by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) of India with the East African Community Customs Administrations on 12th July 2021.
- c) The adoption of the simplified AEO Accreditation criteria to suit the MSMEs by The Sectoral Council on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment; *(EAC/SCTIFI 39/Decision 19*
- d) The development of the Draft EAC Regulations on the Assembly Scheme.

Budget Execution

The budget allocated to the Prevention and Enforcement Department amounted to US\$. 206,600.00 for the financial year 2020-2021 with an expenditure of US\$ 115,414.29 leading to budget performance of 56%

Overall challenges

In the implementation of the Customs Programmes, the directorate encountered the following challenges:

- *Budget constraints and late disbursement of funds*

The budget constraints affect the implementation of intended objectives. However Customs has mobilized resources from development Partners in order to bridge the gap from the Partner States budget.

- *Delayed or non-implementation of policy organs directives and decisions*

Delayed or non-implementation of the directives/decisions affected the full achievements of the objectives of the department of Customs. However, Revenue Authorities tried their best to implement what was agreed upon.

- *delayed implementation of Customs Union Protocols by the Republic of South Sudan (RSS)*

The Republic of South Sudan has delayed implementation of EAC the Customs Union Protocol and reforms in the Tax Administration have delayed too.

- *Operational challenges at borders during the COVID-19 pandemic*

COVID 19 pandemic has caused an impact on the East African Community (EAC) economies both directly and indirectly as a result of the measures being taken currently to contain the spread of the disease.

Operations at borders during this period of the COVID -19 pandemic is proving to be a major challenge. Whereas the Customs procedures may be clear and applied according to the later, the nature of our transport system in the region heavily relies on trucks, the requirement that drivers and crew be tested before entering the next partner State and more critical, that the testing is done at the entry/exit points, has led to unprecedented long queues i.e. at Malaba, Busia and Namanga.

Figure 13: Long queues at Busia/Busia at the beginning of covid19



Source: Amateur photographer

6.2 DIRECTORATE OF TRADE

6.1.1. INTERNAL TRADE

During the period under review, the Internal Trade Department planned to enhance trade facilitation through Elimination of NTBs and implementation of the EAC Simplified Trade Regime; formalize and engage Micro and Small Enterprises in cross border trade in the region; compile the EAC Trade and Investment statistics, publicized and disseminated; put in place a regional strategy to enhance cross border trade by MSEs.

Key achievements were:-

a. Trade Facilitation Enhanced through Elimination of NTBs and implementation of the EAC Simplified Trade Regime;

The Non-Tariff Barriers Act 2017 review process completed and approved by SCTIFI

24 reported Non-Tariff Barriers were resolved through National Monitoring Committees, Regional Monitoring Committees, and Tripartite online Mechanism

b. A regional strategy to enhance cross border trade by MSEs in place;

Development of the frameworks and guidelines to facilitate cross border trade through mutual recognition of the product quality marks and test certificates especially in areas such as food and cosmetic products where there have been persistent NTBs.

The framework approved by SCTIFI and its operationalization guided by the roadmap ongoing

Budget Execution

The approved budget for the Internal Trade Department was US\$ 78,820.00 while the actual utilized budget is US\$ 67,680.41 representing 86%.

6.1.2. INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The mandate of International Trade Department is to promote trade between EAC region and the rest of the world through negotiating trade agreements with third parties. The Department provides strategic guidance during trade negotiation processes and organizes EAC Partner States to develop and agree on the EAC common position.

The International Trade Department coordinated the development of regional and national action plans on Trade Facilitation and Draft Regional Action Plan on Trade Facilitation was finalized during the Second Meeting of the EAC Subcommittee on Trade Facilitation held June 2016.

During the period under review, the International Trade Department planned to conclude the TFTA negotiations; implement the EAC US Trade and Investment Partnership; negotiate Trade Agreements with third Parties; implement the AfCFTA Agreement i;

develop and implement the EAC Export Promotion Strategy; engage the Private Sector cross border service providers in the implementation of Trade in Services Programmes engaged at the regional level by 2021; and develop the EAC Trade Policy by 2021

The key achievements were

To ensure that the AfCFTA Agreement is implemented; International trade continued to put in place mechanisms to enhance intra-EAC trade at the same time actively participated in the negotiations at the Tripartite (COMESA, EAC and SADC) and at Africa Continental Free Trade area (AfCFTA).

a. Budget Execution

The budget allocated to International Trade Department amounted to US\$ 105,460.00 while the budget utilization was US\$ 94,054.49 Representing 89%

6.1.3. STANDARDIZATION, QUALITY ASSURANCE, METROLOGY AND TESTING (SQMT)

The Department is mandated to ensure the standardization, quality assurance, metrology and testing of products produced or traded in the Community in order to facilitate Industrial development and trade; to make provision for ensuring the protection of health and safety of society and environment in the Community.

In the period under review the department planned to harmonize 100 Standards for commonly trade goods, approved, gazetted, adopted and implemented by June, 2021

The key achievements registered were:

- a) Harmonization of over 145 standards for the commonly traded good in over 16 sectors in the financial year 2020/2021;
- b) Implementation a Regional Standardization Plan (RSP) and the SQMT Strategic plan that lays out broad strategies to harmonize standards, measurement systems, accreditation and conformity assessment regimes to reduce NTBs. So far, the RSP guided the review of the obsolete standards;
- c) Finalising the review of the SQMT Act 2006 so as to streamlining and strengthen the EAC Quality Infrastructure to deepens its integration process in the Tripartite and AfCFTA. At the same time, align the quality infrastructure with the multilateral agreements and International. Legal drafting of the SACA Bill finalised awaiting that of the Metrology Bill.

8.2.3.1 Budget Execution

The budget allocated to SQMT department amounted to US\$ 65,950.00 while the budget utilization was US\$ 61,933.20 Representing 94%

7.0 THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL –FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

7.1 HUMAN RESOURCE AND ADMINISTRATION

7.1.1. HUMAN RESOURCE

The purpose of the Department is to procure and manage EAC workforce from entry to separation from service for effective service delivery to the Community. For the Financial Year 2019/20, the department registered the following key achievements:

Despite the challenges of COVID -19, the Secretariat managed to mobilize and sign financing agreements for more than \$100 million grant to support the EAC projects and programmes, and the EAC COVID 19 Response Plan. Development partners who provided support include the Federal Republic of Germany through KfW and GIZ, African Development Bank, European Union Commission, and the Peoples Republic of China. Technical assistance was also provided by TMEA and Africa CDC towards the EAC COVID 19 response

The concept note on the establishment of the EACPSF is being reviewed

Donor Missions to 4 potential DPs' embassies in Dar-es-Salaam were conducted. These include: India, Canada, Korea and China. Areas of partnership were identified and project proposals submitted for their consideration.

Donor Missions to 8 potential DPs' embassies in Dar-es-Salaam were conducted. These are: UAE, Morocco, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, and project proposals submitted.

One steering Committee meeting was held in June 2020: to among others

- a) Confirmed the minutes of 29th PFSCM and the Matters Arising.
- b) Considered the Interim financial progress Report & Activity Implementation Matrix (July,18 - May 2019)
- c) Confirmed the total disbursements for FY 2018/19 and Commitments for FY 2019/20.

7.1.2. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Management Information department is charged to ensure that all EAC records and archives are provided with efficient information management systems which ensure proper creation, management and retirement. In the period 2019/2020 the department registered the following:-

- a) Established a well-defined records management system, Digitized 704 incoming correspondence.
- b) Digitized 1016 outgoing correspondence.
- c) Indexed & preserved 22,602 correspondence at the EAC Records center.
- d) All incoming & outgoing correspondence have been registered in the electronic records management system (TRIM)
- e) Dispatched all outgoing correspondence to stakeholders
Provided documentation during virtual 42nd and 43rd Extra Ordinary Council meetings.

7.1.3. LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION

A framework for data, information and knowledge management within the EAC Organs and Institutions has been developed. Awareness on EAC Information and Knowledge was raised through: EAC Information Repository; IRC representation at inter- departmental sessions; Visitation of delegates from Moi University; University of Dodoma; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, URT; Development Partners – GIZ head office- Dar es Salaam

Due to COVID-19 we were unable to exhibit at EAC/National/Regional Forums

7.2 DIRECTORATE OF FINANCE

The Directorate of Finance is responsible for administers and manages all financial aspects of Community including preparations and control of the budget, control of expenditure; documentation of all the receipts and payments, assets and liabilities and safe custody of security documents, and facilitation of audit. This is derived from the EAC Budget Act (2008), the EAC-Financial Rules and Regulations (2012) as derived from the Articles 7(h), 132 and 135 of the Treaty for Establishment of the East African Community (EAC) and the Financial Procedures Manual (2019).

The Directorate registered the following key achievements during the Financial Year 2020/2021

Due to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic only Four (4) submissions were conducted in the FY and the remaining submissions will be made in the FY 2021/2022.

The Department undertook to enhance its capacity by reviewing the Financial Procedures Manuals in line with the Financial Rules and Regulations, 2012. They are awaiting legal input and validation by Executive Management, which will be done in FY 2021/2022.

The Integration of the core accounting systems (SUN Systems) to the other peripheral applications like InspiroPeople; Hardcat System; Budget Management System;

Requisition and Accountability Management System and the iBank KCB Payment System is on-going and will be finalized in the FY 2021/2022.

7.3.1. EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Table 12: East African Community Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2021

ASSETS	NOTES	30/6/2021	30/6/2020
		USD	USD
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1	14,909,256	7,704,273
Other Financial Assets	2	6,000,000	6,000,000
Receivables from non-Exchange Transactions	3	17,243,063	14,696,425
Receivables from Exchange Transactions	4	541,333	557,237
Inventories	5	129,570	129,938
Prepayments	6	196,947	-
Taxes Recoverable	7	3,230,492	2,913,522
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		42,250,661	32,001,396
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Work in progress	8	-	1,319,054
Property, Plant and Equipment	9	16,053,862	16,796,378
Intangible Assets	10	937,419	28,389
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS		16,991,281	18,143,821
TOTAL ASSETS		59,241,942	50,145,217
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS/EQUITY			
Payables	11	2,899,014	2,126,593
Employee Benefits	12a	2,456,637	2,840,420
Deferred Funds from Development Partners	13	3,286,285	5,328,713
Other Current Liabilities	14	585,560	65,259
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		9,227,496	10,360,986
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee Benefits	12b	4,730,797	4,343,758
Deferred Credit for Assets	15	1,493,288	1,735,659
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		6,224,086	6,079,417
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	15,451,582	16,440,403
Net Assets/Equity	-	--	-
Accumulated Surplus	-	26,415,215	16,329,669
Capital contribution and Grant	-	17,375,145	17,375,145
Total Net Assets/Equity	-	43,790,360	33,704,814
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS/EQUITY	-	59,241,942	50,145,217

East African Community – Audit Commission 2020

7.3.2. EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

Table 13: East African Community Statement of Financial Performance for the Year ended 30 June 2020

REVENUE		2020/21	2019/20
Revenue from non-Exchange Transactions	NOTES	USD	USD
Contribution from Partner States	16	17,466,257	18,600,413
Special funds from Development Partners	17	10,102,799	10,185,882
Other Revenue	18	30,114	124,637
		27,599,169	28,910,932
Revenue from Exchange Transactions			
Other Revenue	19	357,350	341,322
Total Revenue		27,956,519	29,252,254
EXPENSES			
Salaries, Wages and Employee Benefits	20	11,783,458	12,662,044
Administrative, Meetings & Consultancy Expenses			
	21	12,113,385	12,213,712
Transfers to Other Institutions	22	714,201	570,235
Finance Cost	23	18,307	73,766
Depreciation and amortization Expenses	24	1,237,612	1,147,552
Other Expenses	25	-	1,978
TOTAL		25,866,964	26,669,288
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD		2,089,555	2,582,966
Attributable to:			
EAC		2,089,555	2,582,966

East African Community – Audit Commission 2020

7.3.3. EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS/EQUITY AT 30 JUNE 2020

Table 14: East African Community Statement of Changes in Net Assets/Equity at 30 June 2020

	(2) Capital contribution/Reserve	(3) Accumulated Surplus	Total Net Assets/Equity
Description	USD	USD	USD
At 30 June 2019	17,375,145	13,583,761	30,958,907
Review of creditors for previous years	-	213,454	213,454

Transfers from/to Reserve			(50,512)	(50,512)
Surplus / (deficit) for the year			2,582,966	2,582,966
At 30 June 2020		17,375,145	16,329,669	33,704,814
At 30 June 2020		17,375,145	16,329,669	33,704,814
Review of creditors for previous years			(88,843)	(88,843)
Transfers from/to Reserve	3		8,084,834	8,084,834
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	4		2,089,555	2,089,555
At 30 June 2021		17,375,145	26,415,215	43,790,360

East African Community – Audit Commission 2020

7.3.4. EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Table 15: EAC Statement of Cash Flow for the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Description	Note	2020/21	2019/20
Cash flows from operating activities		USD	USD
Surplus / (Deficit) at the end of the year		2,089,555	2,582,966
Add back (Sub struct)			
Depreciation and Amortization for the year	24 & 25	1,237,612	1,149,530
Interest Received	19	(337,635)	(272,670)
Unrealized Exchange Gain	19	(92,508)	0
		2,897,023	3,459,826
Changes in working Capital	3	(2,546,638)	507,771
(Increase) / Decrease in Receivable from Non Exchange Transactions			
(Increase) / Decrease in Receivable from Exchange Transactions	4	15,904	49,016
(Increase) / Decrease in Inventory	5	368	(4,864)
(Increase) / Decrease in Prepayments	6	(196,947)	0
(Increase) / Decrease in Taxes Recoverable	7	(316,969)	(329,137)
Increase / (Decrease) in Payables	11	772,420	(2,089,829)
Increase (Decrease) in Employee Benefits	12(a) & (b)	3,256	945,857
Increase (Decrease) in Deferred Revenue	13	(2,042,428)	1,692,255
Increase / (Decrease) in Other Current liabilities	14	520,301	0
Increase / (Decrease) in Deferred Credit for assets	15	(242,371)	140,236
Net Cash flows from operating activities		(1,136,080)	4,371,132
Cash flow from investing activities			
Acquisition of fixed assets	9 & 10	(81,406)	(375,841)

(Increase) Decrease in Work in Progress except reclassification	19	-	100,000
Decrease (increase) in Investment in Fixed Deposits	2	-	(1,000,000)
Cash generated from investing activities		(81,406)	(1,275,841)
Cash flow from Financing activities			
Interest Received	19	337,635	272,670
Transfers to (from) Reserve Fund		8,084,834	(50,512)
Cash generated from financing activities		8,422,469	222,158
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		7,204,983	3,317,448
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		7,704,273	4,386,825
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period		14,909,256	7,704,273

East African Community – Audit Commission 2021

7.3.5. EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, STATEMENT OF COMPARISON OF BUDGET AND ACTUAL AMOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

Table 16: East African Community Statement of Comparison of Budget and Actual Amounts for the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Description	Budgeted Amounts in USD		Actual Amounts on comparable basis in USD	Difference: Final Budget and Actual (in USD)	Exp of vari
	Original	Final			
RECEIPTS					
Contribution from Partner States	17,466,257	17,466,257	11,893,578	5,572,679	(1)
Special funds from Development Partners	30,635,373	30,876,823	11,250,706	19,626,117	(2)
Miscellaneous Revenue	462,770	462,770	387,463	75,307	
Total Receipts	48,564,400	48,805,850	23,531,747	25,274,103	
PAYMENTS					
Salaries, Wages and Employee Benefits	15,787,425	15,787,425	11,783,458	4,003,966	(3)

Administrative, meetings & consultancy Expenses	24,359,261	24,600,711	12,113,385	12,487,325	(4)
Transfers to Other Institutions	714,201	714,201	714,201	0	
Finance Cost	22,650	22,650	18,307	4,343	(5)
Capital Expenditure	7,680,864	7,680,864	103,185	7,577,679	(6)
TOTAL	8,564,400	48,805,850	24,732,537	24,073,313	
NET RECEIPT / (PAYMENTS)	0	0	(1,200,790)		

East African Community – Audit Commission 2021

Explanation of Variances

(1): as at 30th June 2021, the Secretariat had received 67% of the Partner States contribution. Therefore, part of the incurred expenditure had not yet been paid for. (2) The amount received from Development Partners was 36% of that budgeted for. For other projects, the next disbursement is subject to absorption capacity, which explains the variance between the budget and received amounts.

(3) And (4) are positively correlated. There were number of project staff positions not filled and activities not carried out, due to late disbursements from Development Partners.

(5): The moderate Finance cost was due to better negotiations with banks to charge less fees

(6): The underspending in Capital Expenditure is due to delays in the procurement process where no objection from Development Partners is required.

EAC ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS

8.0 EAST AFRICAN COURT OF JUSTICE (EACJ)

The East African Court of Justice (EACJ) is the judicial Organ of EAC, which ensures the adherence to law in the interpretation and application of and compliance with the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community. The Court has jurisdiction over interpretation and application of the Treaty. The core business of the Court is dispensation of quality justice through: settlement of disputes; provision of advisory opinions; provision of preliminary rulings; and arbitration.

Summary Progress made and Achievements made

1. EACJ held virtual and hybrid Court Sessions as a result of COVID 19 pandemic. The hybrid system gives advocates the option of attending the Court Sessions

physically or online. A total of 67 matters were heard and 22 Judgements/Rulings delivered.

- The mid-term review of the EACJ Strategic Plan 2018-2023 was undertaken. The revised Strategic Plan was validated and it gave new impetus to achieve the goals set out to take the Court to the next level

Detailed Implementation Matrix – EACJ

Department/ Sector Development Objective(s)	Key outputs/ Targets	Key Performance Indicators	Status of implementation of planned activities and achievement of the targeted output as at 30 th June 2021	
Hold Court Sessions and other outreach programs in the Partner States as a matter of policy	To hold Court Sessions - quarterly 30 working days each involving 6 Judges of the First Instance Division	At least 4 Court Sessions	Cases received	51 References 21 Applications 3 Taxation Causes
			Matters heard	52
			Judgements delivered	9
			Rulings delivered	10
	To hold Court sessions quarterly 30 working days each involving 5 Judges of the Appellate Division	At least 4 Court Sessions	Cases received	12 Appeals 6 Applications
			Matters heard	15
Rulings delivered			3	
Developing and strengthening the capacity of all EAC Organs and Institutions to effectively execute their mandates.	To attend Statutory meetings (Audit and Risk, EALA, Audit Commission)	8 meetings attended	The Court attended the Statutory meetings	
	To Procure Library Books		65 legal text books procured	
	To hold Court Plenary twice a year for policy decisions and planning	2 Plenary Sessions	2 Sessions of Court Plenary held in which Hon. Judges to discussed administrative and judicial affairs of the Court	

Department/ Sector Development Objective(s)	Key outputs/ Targets	Key Performance Indicators	Status of implementation of planned activities and achievement of the targeted output as at 30 th June 2021
	To conduct training for Judges on Arbitration and other Legal issues		Training on Arbitration not done due to COVID Pandemic Induction Workshop for the newly appointed Judges conducted in April 2021
	To hold a retreat to conduct mid-term review of the EACJ Strategic Plan 2018-2023		Mid-term review of the EACJ Strategic Plan conducted and the reviewed Plan validated
Actively engage EAC Policy organs and other stakeholders on the role and place of the Court in the EAC integration agenda	To present a paper in Commonwealth Magistrates & Judges Association (CMJA) Annual Conference	Annual Conference	Conference not held due to COVID 19 pandemic
	To present a paper on a topical issue in East African Magistrates & Judges Association (EAMJA) Conference	Annual Conference	Conference not held due to COVID 19 pandemic

EACJ PROGRESS REPORT JULY TO DECEMBER 2021

9.0 EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)

Under Article 49 of the Treaty for the establishment of the East African Community, the EALA is established as the legislative Organ of the Community. EALA's core functions are; legislative, oversight and representation. The Assembly contributes to a number of strategic objectives of the EAC by effectively discharging its mandate.

10.1.1 SUMMARY OF THE PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR UNDER REVIEW

During the Financial Year 2020/2021, the Assembly planned to carry out the following activities:

- a) Six plenary sessions/meetings in the Partner States
- b) Oversight activities, mainly through its six Standing Committees
- c) Sensitization in the Partner States
- d) Strengthening the relations with its stakeholders

10.1.2 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

10.1.3 LEGISLATION AND PLENARY MATTERS

The Assembly conducted **six (6) Plenary Meetings** namely:

- a) The 1st Meeting of the 4th Session of the 4th Assembly from 6th -26th November, 2020, held at a virtual meeting via video conference.
- b) The 2nd Meeting of the 4th Session of the 4th Assembly from 28th January -17th February, 2021, held at a virtual meeting via video conference.
- c) The 3rd Meeting of the 4th Session of the 4th Assembly from 12th March-1st April, 2021, held at a virtual meeting via video conference.
- d) The 4th Meeting of the 4th Session of the 4th Assembly from 6th -26th April, 2021, held at virtual meeting via video conference.
- e) The 5th Meeting of the 4th Session of the 4th Assembly from 9th -29th May, 2021, in Arusha, Tanzania.
- f) The 6th Meeting of the 3rd Session of the 4th Assembly from 17th June-7th July, 2021, in Arusha, Tanzania.

a) Bills

The Assembly passed the following Bills to support the integration process in accordance with the Treaty;

- a) The East African Community Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2020.
- b) The Lake Victoria Basin Commission Bill, 2020.
- c) The East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2020.
- d) The East African Community Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2020.
- e) The East African Community Supplementary Appropriation Bill 2021.
- f) The East African Community Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2021.
- g) The East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2021.

a) Resolutions

The Assembly adopted seven (7) Resolutions as shown below and were transmitted to Partner States for consideration and implementation.

- a) Resolution of the Assembly urging the Council of Ministers to urgently establish an emergency fund to facilitate the response of the Community to Pandemics and Disease outbreaks.

- b) Resolution of the Assembly to compel the Secretary General as a matter of urgency pay all the outstanding arrears owed to EALA Members and Staff in line with the Council Directive.
- c) Resolution of the Assembly to pay tribute to his Excellency Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli of the United Republic of Tanzania.
- d) Resolution of the Assembly paying tribute to the late Honorable Mathias Kasamba, Member of the East African Legislative Assembly.
- e) Resolution of the Assembly recommending to the Council of Ministers and Partner States to enhance measures to prevent illicit financial flows.
- f) Resolution of the Assembly urging the Council of Ministers to recommend the Partner States to enhance utilization and access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern renewable energy in the Community.
- g) Resolution of the Assembly urging the Council of Ministers and Partner States to eradicate child, early and forced marriages from the Community.

8.1.2.2 OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES

8.1.2.2.1 COMMITTEE REPORTS

During the same period, the Assembly conducted oversight activities through its Standing Committees. The findings from these activities were debated in the House, which adopted a number of recommendations to the Council of Ministers, the EAC Secretariat and Partner States aimed at improving the overall performance of the Community in the implementation of its integration agenda. The Reports of the Assembly were also transmitted to the National Parliaments of the Partner States and other key stakeholders to inform their necessary action to support the attainment of the objectives of EAC integration.

The reports adopted are as follows:

- a) Report of the Committee on General Purpose Committee on the EAC Annual Report for the period 2016/2017.
- b) Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the on-spot assessment of the activities of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission.
- c) Report of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution on the progress made by the Community towards achieving the EAC Confederation Constitution and the EAC Election Observer.
- d) Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the withdrawal of the EAC Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Bill, 2017.
- e) Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the capacity building workshop.
- f) Report of the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges on the capacity building workshop.
- g) Report of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution on the progress made by the EAC to operationalize the provisions of the common market protocol on free movement of persons and issuance of the new generation E-Passport as standard travel document.

- h) Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the oversight activity to assess the impact of COVID -19 Pandemic on women in cross border trade in the EAC.
- i) Report of the Committee on Legal Rules and Privileges on the oversight activity on compliance with the EAC Protocols and Laws by the EAC Institutions (Phase two).
- j) Report of the Committee on Communication Trade and Investment on the Capacity building workshop.
- k) Report of the Committee on Accounts to assess the status of Implementation of the Assembly's recommendations on the Audited Accounts for the FY ended 30th June 2017 and 2018 for East African Court of Justice and the East African Community Competition Authority.
- l) Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the capacity building workshop to enhance the capacity of Members in Legislative and budget oversight.
- m) Report of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution on the capacity building activity.
- n) Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the oversight activity on the impact of COVID 19 pandemic on food security in the EAC.
- o) Report of the Committee on Accounts on the capacity building activity.
- p) Report of the Committee on Accounts to assess the status of implementation of the Assembly's recommendations on the EAC Audited Accounts for the East African Health Research Commission and the East African Kiswahili Commission for the FY ended 30th June 2017 and 2018.
- q) Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the EAC Budget estimates for revenue and expenditure for the FY 2021/2022.

8.1.2.3 SENSITIZATION ACTIVITIES

The Assembly undertook sensitization and outreach activities from 1st -7th March, 2021 anchored on the theme: "EAC beyond 22 years: EAC Integration agenda: Accessing the gains of Integration". Sensitization is a key component of regional Assembly's work and the EALA's Strategic Plan anticipates a people-centered approach to widening and deepening of the integration agenda. The sensitization activities ran simultaneously in the Partner States.

8.1.2.4 LAUNCH OF THE ASSEMBLY STRATEGIC PLAN 2019/2024

The Assembly unveiled its 3rd Strategic Plan with a commitment to keep sight of its overall mandate as it continues with the quest to embrace a people centered approach in its work.

8.1.2.5 MID-TERM REVIEW

The EALA Commission and Chairpersons of Committees conducted the Mid-Term review activity held at a virtual meeting from 19th -21st January, 2021. The activity afforded the Assembly the opportunity to carry out an internal evaluation of its performance and take corrective action in the course of the financial year. In this respect, the Meeting evaluated the status of implementation of the respective activities of the Commission and the Standing Committees and formulated appropriate recommendations for effective implementation of the EALA activities for the financial year 2020/2021.

8.1.2.6 INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

8.1.2.6.1 Oath of Allegiance, Member of EALA

During the period under review, the following Members took oath of allegiance in accordance with Rule 5 (4) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly. The Rules of Procedure say in part: “A Member shall not sit or vote in the Assembly before taking the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to the Treaty.

- a) Hon. Deng Alor Kuol, Minister for East African Community Affairs, Republic of South Sudan virtually took Oath of Allegiance as an Ex-Officio Member of the Assembly.
- b) Hon. Amb. Ezekiel Nibigira Minister for East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports and Culture, Republic of Burundi virtually took Oath of Allegiance as an Ex-officio Member of the Assembly.
- c) Hon. Mbarouk Nassor Mbarouk, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation United Republic of Tanzania, virtually took Oath of Allegiance as an Ex-officio Member of the Assembly.
- d) Hon. Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga, 1st Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for East African Affairs, Republic of Uganda took Oath of Allegiance as an Ex-officio Member of the Assembly.
- e) Hon. Amb. Liberata Mulamula Rutageruka, Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation virtually took Oath of Allegiance as an Ex-officio Member of the Assembly.

8.1.2.7 RELATIONS WITH OTHERS

The Assembly is a key player in both regional and international fora and therefore continued to relate with a number of key stakeholders both at Regional and International levels. It is on the basis of this recognition that EALA participated in a number of meetings, workshops and seminars through which it benefited from best parliamentary practices. The gatherings attended include the following: -

- a) The SADC-PF-47th Plenary Session from 9th – 10th October 2020 (virtual meeting).
- b) EAC Election Observation in United Republic of Tanzania from 21st -31st October, 2020.
- c) The Inter-Parliamentary Union Webinar on the Universal Health Coverage in Times of COVID-19-Parliamentary Best Practices and Challenges on 17th November, 2020.
- d) Celebrations to mark the International Women’s Day: 12th March 2021 (virtual meeting).
- e) Joint meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Turkic Speaking Countries (TURKPA): 30th March 2021 (virtual meeting).

- f) 7th Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians under the Theme: *Post COVID-19 recovery: A Youth responsive approach*: 28th - 29th April 2021 (virtual meeting).
- g) Swearing in Ceremony of the President elect of the Republic of Uganda on 12th May, 2021.
- h) The 49th Plenary Assembly of the SADC Parliamentary Forum: 25th – 27th June 2021 (virtual meeting).

8.1.2.8 BUDGET PERFORMANCE

The overall budget performance for the financial year 2020/2021 stood at 77% due to the following variances;

- a) Delayed remittances by Partner States. The Assembly faced liquidity challenges hence could not implement certain activities as planned.
- b) Due to outbreak of the COVID 19 Pandemic, most activities in various Partner States in the last financial year could not be implemented arising from different measures and approaches adopted by Partner States, other Nations and directives by WHO to manage the Pandemic worldwide which included NTB's like lockdowns, curfews, social distancing among others.

8.1.3.1 KEY CHALLENGES

The Assembly encountered the following challenges:

- a) Delayed remittance of funds by Partner States which affected proper planning and timely implementation of some of the planned activities of the Assembly.
- b) Limited funding for Committee oversight activities.
- c) Overlapping of activities between EALA and the EAC Secretariat.
- d) Delays in tabling to the Assembly the EAC Statutory reports by the Council of Ministers.
- e) Non -tabling of the legislative programme by the Council of Ministers to be considered by the Assembly during each financial year.
- f) The outbreak of COVID 19 Pandemic which caused restriction on movements of people prevented the Assembly from implementing some of its planned activities.
- g) The interruptions of Virtual Meetings due to internet disconnections.
- h) Non replacement of the 11 Staff (including the Clerk and Deputy Clerk Assistant) who completed their tour of duty of the Assembly due to end of contracts affected the capacity of the Staff to support the Assembly effectively.

8.1.3.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) Partner States should adhere to their commitments to remitting their contributions on time.
- b) The Council of Ministers should fast-track its work on alternative and sustainable sources of funding of the Community.

- c) The EALA and EAC Secretariat should coordinate and harmonize their respective annual work plans to avoid any overlap.
- d) The Council of Ministers should comply with its obligation to submit statutory annual reports to the Assembly.
- e) The EAC Council of Ministers should adhere to the provisions of section 4 of the Budget Act in respect of timelines for the presentation of the Budget Estimates to the Assembly.
- f) The Council of Ministers should table to the Assembly the legislative programme to be considered by the Assembly during each financial year.
- g) The Council of Ministers should fast-track recruitment of staff to fill the vacant employment positions of the Assembly.

10.0 LAKE VICTORIA BASIN COMMISSION (LVBC)


Article 40(b) of the Protocol for sustainable Development of the Lake Victoria Basin requires the Executive Secretary of LVBC to present an Annual Report of the activities of the Commission as well as the audited accounts to the Council for consideration highlighting the progress of implementation of regional projects and programs during the financial year. The Report provides synthesized information about key activities implemented by Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) covering the period 2020/2021. For purposes of making the reader(s) understand the operating context of LVBC, an overview is provided.

Background

Lake Victoria and its Basin

Lake Victoria (LV), with a surface area of 68,870 Km², is Africa's largest and the world's second largest freshwater lake. The Lake lies at an altitude of 1134m above sea level and touches the equator on its northern reaches. It is relatively shallow, reaching a maximum depth of about 80m, and an average depth of about 40m. Precipitation is the main source of water into the lake accounting for 82% while the rest (18%), comes in through river discharges. Evaporation accounts for 76% of the loss of water from the lake. The other 24% is lost through outflow through the River Nile. The lake's water residence time is estimated to be 23 years, while its flushing time is 123 years. The Lake Victoria's catchment area covers 180,950 Km² with Tanzania occupying 44%, Kenya 21.5%, Uganda 15.9%, Rwanda 11.4% and Burundi 7.2%. The catchment in most of the Partner States is characterized by hilly terrain and consequently soil erosion is a major problem. The basin is endowed with a huge natural resource base upon which its inhabitants depend for their livelihoods. Major sources of income include: agriculture and livestock production, fisheries, wildlife and tourism, mining among others.

Table 1: Lake Victoria and its Basin

Country	Flag	Lake Surface Area		Catchment Area		Lake Shoreline	Population
		Sq Km	%	Sq Km	%	%	(million)
Tanzania		35,124	51	79,570	44	33	5.7
Uganda		29,613	43	28,857	15.9	50	10.3
Kenya		4,113	6	38,913	21.5	17	12.1
Rwanda		-		20,550	11.4	0	



T

he 1st EAC Development Strategy (1997 – 2000) and subsequently the EAC Council of Ministers designated Lake Victoria Basin as a ‘Regional Economic Growth Zone’ and ‘an area of Common Economic Interest’ for the people of the East Africa. Despite huge growth and development potential, LVB still faces interrelated development challenges: rapid population growth, ill-health, poverty, land degradation, declining agricultural productivity and water quality all of which must be addressed concurrently to achieve sustainable development. It is for this purpose; Lake Victoria Basin Commission was established.

Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC)

The LVBC is a specialized institution of the East African Community (EAC) that is responsible for coordinating sustainable development of the Lake Victoria Basin. The Commission commenced its operations in January 2005 after the ratification of the Protocol for sustainable development of LVB and later relocated to its designated headquarters in Kisumu City, Kenya on January 2007.

The Protocol for Sustainable Development of Lake Victoria Basin as the guiding legal instrument of the LVBC, the Partner States agreed to cooperate in the areas relating to the conservation and sustainable utilization of the resources of the Basin, specifically: (i) Sustainable development, management and equitable utilization of water resources; (ii) Sustainable development and management of fisheries resources; (iii) Promotion of sustainable agricultural and land use practices including irrigation; (iv) Promotion of sustainable development and management of forestry resources; (v) Promotion of development and management of wetlands; (vi) Promotion of trade, commerce and industrial development; (vii) Promotion of development of infrastructure and energy; (viii) Maintenance of navigational safety and maritime security; (ix) Improvement in public health with specific reference to sanitation; (x) Promotion of research, capacity building and information exchange; (xi) Environmental protection and management of the Basin; (xii) Promotion of public participation in planning and decision-making; (xiii) Integration of gender concerns in all activities in the Basin; and (xiv) Promotion of wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism development.

LAKE VICTORIA BASIN COMMISSION’S PARTNERSHIPS

Since its establishment, LVBC has partnered with state and non-state actors with a view of achieving its mandate and EAC vision through programmatic interventions and partnerships with EAC Partner States and Development Partners. During the period under review the Commission continued partnering with World Bank (WB), African Development Bank (AfDB), USAID Kenya and EA, Adaptation Fund/UNEP and the Federal Republic of Germany/KFW in implementing its projects and programmes.

To build local ownership and sustainability, the Commission further partnered with local civil society organization and Private sector actors in specialized domains such as Health, Water and Sanitation, Natural Resources Management and Environmental Conservation in EAC Partner States. Specifically, the Nile Basin Discourse Forum Rwanda, Sustainable Water Partnership, Pathfinder International, have spread messages through awareness campaigns at local levels in the Partner states.

ACHIEVEMENTS BY PRIORITY AREAS.

A. Enhancing the management of ecosystems, natural resources including climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies

- **Adapting to Climate Change in LVB Project**

The Lake Victoria Basin has been witnessing extreme weather conditions such as floods and drought occasioned by the climate change and climate variability phenomenon. To address this challenge, The UNEP (UN Environment) supported the LVBC in addressing these challenges and during the reporting period despite the outbreak of COVID-19 the project carried out regional capacity building training focusing on trans-boundary water catchment management and climate change adaptation in the LVB. The tailored National trainings are now scheduled to take place in the FY 2021/2022. Further LVBC engaged IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC) to assist in down-scaling regional climate information to national and subnational levels. The climate information to be generated will be tailored to the requirements of end-users in the LVB, including regional and national policy- and decision-makers, technical staff in national and local government agencies as well as local communities.

- **Natural assets protected or rehabilitated**

Further, all partner states have designed and validated adaptation technologies for rehabilitation and restoration of degraded agricultural and forest landscapes. For Burundi, 240hectares of agricultural land was rehabilitated in 2019 while Uganda and Tanzania earmarked 200ha and 250ha of agricultural land for rehabilitation respectively. In the FY 21/22, Uganda intends to rehabilitate 30ha of rangelands as well as restoration of 100ha forest/woodlands whereas, Tanzania identified 100ha for forest/woodland restoration activities.

- **Water Conservation Practice**

Under this component, 160 households in Rwanda are benefiting from water conservation practices after rooftop water harvesting tanks were installed in their households. In Burundi, 300 households are currently benefitting from soil and water conservation

interventions and a total of 1,484 households benefited from water conservation practices including climate-smart agriculture and EbA interventions. In Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania water conservation initiatives are currently being implemented.

- **Restoration of land using an EbA approach and climate-smart agriculture**

Activities related to technologies for enhance flood and soil erosion control measures using contours and bio engineering techniques to promote climate-smart agriculture were implemented in 240ha in Gatete, Rwabikara in Busoni / Nzove-Kayove and Rukusha - Kijumbura areas in Giteranyi in Burundi. The contours lines were constructed and engineered with 820,000 stocks of nappier grass as stabilizing materials. In Rwanda, 7.1ha were rehabilitated through construction of gabions and planting of soil stabilizing trees and grasses. For Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, climate smart agriculture interventions are currently being implemented.

B. Scaling out resilient Water and Agricultural Systems (scaleWAYS project)

The scaleWAYS project is the result of a prior research project which looked at the current and future water balance in the extended Lake Victoria Basin up to 2050 based on regional development scenarios. This project convened a stakeholder's workshop in December 2017 and 2018 which also involved government, academia, civil society and private sector from the Lake Victoria Basin in order to develop the regional development scenarios and review the modelling results. The key results of this project can be accessed on: <http://www.iiasa.ac.at/wfas-eastafrika>

- **The Partnership and Implementation arrangement**

The work is being undertaken as a partnership between the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) based in Austria together with the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) as the local regional implementing partner. LVBC involves all its member countries in the research project. The International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) contributes as an international research partner. The project was initially scheduled to be implemented over a 3 years' period that started on 1.12.2018. However, due to COVID pandemic, the project requested and was given a 1 year no-cost extension and is now scheduled to end in November 2022. The Austrian Development Agency provided a grant of up to EUR 1,440,900 for the total estimated project costs of EUR 1,601,000. The remaining funding comes from own in-kind contributions from IIASA, LVBC and ICRISAT.

- **Project Expected outputs and Outcome**

The expected outcome is to have an improved understanding of up scaling of promising local and regional land and water management practices for sustainable intensification of rain-fed and irrigated agriculture. Activities being carried out over the course of the project implementation period are structured around four (4) output areas: i) **Identification and scoping of pilot initiatives:** Promising pilot initiatives for resilient local and regional agricultural water management are identified and scoped in detail to determine up scaling potential in selected agro-ecological zones; **Multi-dimensional up-scaling simulations:**

A biophysical and economic model for up scaling the sustainable intensification of selected rainfed and irrigated agricultural practices is produced/adapted and tested for at least two agricultural production systems (Specifically rice and fodder); **Political economy analysis and stakeholder engagement:** Political economy aspects, social and gender dimensions relevant to the up scaling of selected pilot initiatives in selected agricultural production systems are analysed and level of understanding is documented; and **Capacity development:** Capacities of practitioners and researchers from regional and local institutions from academia, government, NGOs and business advanced in the scope of the research project.

1. Key Highlights of planned activities and achievements

During the period under review, several activities had been planned for implementation under this project under the LVBC deliverables. The major planned activities included: (i) Finalization of the ScaleWAYS project scoping study; (ii) Supporting the convening of project workshops; (iii) Operationalization of the Community of Practice; (iv) Jointly planning and implementing the framework for engaging and supporting MSC students research grants; (v) Coordinating the provision of inputs and supporting at basin level the outputs of the project partners-IIASA & ICRISAT; and (v) Project coordination and management. The status of implementation of these planned activities is detailed as follows.

2. Finalization of the ScaleWAYS Project Scoping Study

After a rigorous, participatory and consultative process among the three project partners (LVBC, IIASA & ICRISAT) the commission had awarded the consultancy for the *Project Scoping Study on the Status and Development Ambitions for Rice Cultivation and Fodder Production in the Extended Lake Victoria Basin (E-LVB) in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania & Uganda*. The overall objective of the scoping study was to provide better understanding on the status and development ambitions of rice and fodder production in the Extended Lake Victoria Basin (e-LVB) covering Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. The study:

- i. Assessed and documented the current production status and development plans / ambitions for rice production and fodder production including their integration into their respective production systems in the five EAC Partner States covering e-LVB including but not limited to distribution, methods of production, yield levels, production efficiency, demand, specific production practices among others;
- ii. Assessed and documented the prevailing institutional and policy frameworks at regional (basin) and national levels (States) that either hinder or promote sustainable intensification in rice and fodder production in each of the five LVB countries.
- iii. Identified and mapped key stakeholders in the rice and fodder production in e-LVB and illustrated their role and responsibilities in detail (narrative description, as well as graphically); and
- iv. Identified key pilot projects and / or key implemented policy practices per country on sustainable intensification options of both, rice and fodder production (rainfed and irrigated) in e-LVB

The consultant therefore produced two *Project Scoping Study on the Status and Development Ambitions for Rice Cultivation and Fodder Production in the Extended Lake Victoria Basin (E-LVB)*.

3. Operationalization of the Community of Practice

During the researchers' workshop, LVBC participated and collaborated with project Partner IIASA to coordinate the initiation of the Community of Practice (CoP). The project prepared the draft framework of the CoP including the terms of Reference (ToRs) detailing among others: (i) elaboration of community of practice including membership, practice and domain; (ii) values of a community of Practice; (iii) possible roles and responsibilities of the CoP for the scaleWAYS project; (iv) basic structure of the CoP; (v) the implementation framework for the CoP; (vi) Its goal, vision and mission; (vii) Its specific objectives which are to; (a) To improve the capacity of members to undertake and deliver services for scaling out resilient water and agricultural management systems; (b) increase the visibility and policy outreach of its membership so they are more influential in the regional, national and local policy and practice; and (c) enhance the impact of its members for scaling up resilient water and agriculture management systems; (viii) Criteria for membership; (ix) benefits of a CoP; and (x) structure of the CoP. The workshop deliberated on the framework and adopted it subject to incorporation of the comments and inputs provided by the stakeholders.

To guide the operationalization of the CoP, core group members were nominated by the respective partner states and to fully operationalize the CoP , the Commission convened several virtual meetings/sessions of the core group of CoP which deliberated and guided the operation of the larger CoP including guiding members on recruitment of more members, formation of country chapters, and agreeing on the CoP activities.

4. *Jointly planning and implementing the framework for engaging and supporting MSC students research grants*

During the period under review, the commission jointly with the other two project partners (IIASA & ICRISAT) virtually implemented the framework for engaging and supporting MSC students with research grants. The Masters Research grants were awarded as per a pre-defined criterion. To further enhance gender equity and regional balance, it was agreed by all project partners that; (i) each country gets its share of two masters research grant scholarship; and (ii) gender balance be an important factor in the selection process. The beneficiary students were selected during the period under review. The table below provides a summary of the beneficiaries who are currently going on with their research in different universities within East Africa.

Table 1: Summary of Masters Research Grants Beneficiaries in East Africa

Applicant (M/F)	Country	Research title	Sub-Theme (Rice/Fodder)
1. Rachelle BUHUNTAHE (Female)	Burundi	Comparative study of managed and unmanaged rice marshlands in Burundi: Case of Nyamasagwe and Nyabikenke in the Giheta and Bugendana communes.	Rice
2. Oscar MANIRAKIZA (Male)	Burundi	The role of fodder production in today's settings of agro-pastoral systems in the extended Lake Victoria Basin and likely future changes: Case of the Kayanza province	Fodder
3. Mary Stacey AYUKO (Female)	Kenya	Analysis of effects of fodder production on agropastoral livelihoods and traditional lifestyle in Seme Sub County, Kisumu County, Kenya	Fodder
4. Adunde Phoebe AKOTH (female)	Kenya	The rice production systems and its effects in selected wetlands in LVB, Kenya	Rice
5. Jean Claude MANZI (Male)	Rwanda	Lake Victoria Basin - country comparisons of laws, markets and hybrid institutions toward the resilient water and effective agricultural systems – Rwanda context	Others
6. UWERA Marie Henriette (Female)	Rwanda	Effect of fodder production on agro-pastoral livelihoods and traditional lifestyle in Gatsibo, Rwanda	Fodder
7. Beatrice NZAMUKOSHA (female)	Rwanda	Understanding the role of wetlands in rice production and impact of rice production on wetlands	Rice
8. Glory Khanje RUSTIS (Female)	Tanzania	Understanding the Role of Fodder Production and Utilization for Sustainable Agro-pastoral Livelihoods in Lake Victoria Basin	Fodder
9. Hamenya Kasase MABUGA (Male)	Tanzania	Determinants and effects of adoption of system of rice intensification and improved rice seeds by smallholder farmers in Geita District	Rice
10. Ivan NTEGE (Male)	Uganda	Understanding of the potential suitability of biophysical models for simulating rice and fodder production under sustainable rainfed and irrigated agricultural practices	Ricer
11. Aloysius MUBANGIZI (Male)	Uganda	Use of ICT in irrigation scheduling forecasting for better farm planning and efficient water utilization and management	Others

ii. **The 9th Mara Day Celebrations**

Under Conservation of Transboundary ecosystem LVBC facilitated the signing of the MoU between the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania in 2015 aimed at sustainable management of the Mara Ecosystem. In line with the afore-mentioned Sectoral Council of Ministers directive, LVBC in partnership with the Narok County organized the 9th Mara day Celebrations on 15th September 2020 in Masai mara, Narok County, Republic of Kenya. One key uniqueness of the 8th Mara Day was holding stakeholders Scientific Conference on Sustainable Management of Trans-boundary ecosystem—Mara River Basin connecting the United Republic of Tanzania and Republic of Kenya. The Conferenced ended with resolutions to guide policy interventions in Mara Region. The Mara ecosystem is one of the critical ecosystems in the Lake Victoria Basin that supports sustainable socio-economic development and biodiversity conservation.

b. Water Resources Management

i. Nile Cooperation for Climate and Resilient (NCCR)

Under Water Resources Management, Lake Victoria Basin Commission partnered with Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) to implement a Five-Year Nile Cooperation for Climate and Resilient (NCCR) project with the grant from world Bank amounting to Thirty Million US dollars (30,000,000 USD). Among the five Project components, LVBC will implement the one focusing on the Water Quality in the Lake Victoria Sub-Basin. The Activity will contribute to the thematic Areas of Platform for cooperation and Water quality investment planning and prioritization.

The Project Agreement was signed on March 11, 2021 between the EAC (Secretary General) and World Bank (WB). The MoU between NBI and EAC/LVBC focuses on enhancing cooperative management and development of the LVB and closer collaboration between the entities, which will help to leverage their technical and stakeholder engagement strengths for the benefit of their member states. It is in that direction; the two Entities (NBI and LVBC) signed a Subsidiary Agreement for the Implementation of the Component under the NCCR Project.

ii. LVB IWRM Programme

Through LVB IWRM Programme, the LVBC has made progress in strengthening its water resources management. An Institutional Assessment towards the development a regional IWRM Strategy have been undertaken, a Programme Operational Manual (POM) designed to guide investment planning was revised; and the selection of integral parts of the Water Information System (LVB-WIS) being developed to inform decisions and plans on the health of the Lake basin has completed.

Through the same Programme, the Commission coordinated the preparation of feasibility studies for four (4) strategic and high priority investments to be implemented in Kisumu/Kenya, Mwanza/URT, Kigali/Rwanda, and Kampala/Uganda, geared to improve water quality and availability within the Lake Victoria Basin. Feasibility Study Reports for 3 out of 4 Projects, except for Kampala HPI, are ready to be advanced to the detailed design' level and subsequent implementation.

c. Strengthening coordination capacity of the LVBC Secretariat (LVBC)

The Commission continued to take stock of gains made in strengthening her coordination and management capacity from the previous years. Some of the notable gains include: (i) facilitating adequate and quality staffing of the secretariat; (ii) enhanced delivery of financial services including facilitating & completion of the annual audit of the FY 2019/20; (iii); resource mobilization among Development Partners towards the support of interventions in Lake Victoria Basin. The EU and Adaptation Fund continued to support the IWRM program and Adaptation to Climate Change in LVB project; (v) facilitation of implementation and monitoring missions for LVBC projects and programme by both LVBC, oversight institutions and Development Partners; (vi) Facilitating internal quarterly audits and external annual audit of LVBC as well as for projects and programmes despite the Covid-19 Pandemic ; (vii) Enhancing communication, image and visibility of LVBC and (viii) Facilitated the recurrent operational and maintenance cost for both LVBC Secretariat and its projects and programmes.

- **Construction of the LVBC Headquarters in Kisumu, Kenya**

Under strengthening the LVBC Institutional Capacity, the Commission in January 2021 commenced the construction of its headquarters in Kisumu, Kenya. The Phase one of the HQ is expected to be completed by June 2022.

- **Lake Victoria Basin Commission Act 2020**

The East African Legislative Assembly tabled and passed the Lake victoria Basin Commission act 2020 and await the Assent to by the Heads of State.

Financial Matters

The Lake Victoria basin commission mobilizes its financial resources from EAC Partner states and Development partners to achieve its mandate as outlines in the 2004 Protocol for Sustainable Development in Lake Victoria Basin.

LVBC’s budget for the financial year 2020-2021 was USD 9,059,569 out of which the Partner States contribution amounts to USD 2,789,104 and Contribution from Partner States (EAC Reserve Fund which account for (38%) and funding from Development Partners USD 5,590,954 (62%). The absorption rate as at 30th June 2021 was 40%

To enhance LVBC’s fiduciary function and effective management of financial resources, EAC Partner States conducted financial audits and LVBC secured clean-audit (2019-2020). Similarly, the ACC-LVB, IWRM, IISSA and USAID-funded projects were audited during the same period and obtained a clean audit opinion.

Table 3: STATEMENT OF COMPARISON OF BUDGET AND ACTUAL AS PER THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2020/2021

Description	Budget	Actual	Variance	Utilization %	notes
	2021	2021	2021	2021	
	USD	USD	USD		

REVENUE					
Contribution from Partner States	2,789,104	1,734,040	1,055,064	62%	1
Contribution from Partner States (EAC Reserve Fund)	679,512	679,512	0	100%	
Miscellaneous Income	0	46,378	-46,378		
Funds from Development Partners'	5,590,954	1,105,029	4,485,925	20%	2
TOTAL REVENUE	9,059,569	3,564,959	5,494,610	40%	
	Budget	Actual	Variance	Utilization %	
EXPENDITURES	2021	2021	2021	2021	
Personnel Emoluments (PS)	1,965,123	1,436,608	528,515	73%	
Administrative Expenses (PS)	823,981	660,763	163,218	80%	
HQ construction	679,512	416,099	263,413	61%	3
Integrated Water Resource	1,370,237			12%	4
Management		169,509	1,200,728		
Maritime Communication & Transport Project	1,117,379	86,348	1,031,031	8%	5
IIASA PROJECT	439,040	178,111	260,929	41%	6
Adapting to Climate Change (ACC)	1,675,120	599,089	1,076,031	36%	7
USAID –PHE	447,035	0	447,035	0%	
USAID -PREPARED	542,144	71,972	470,172	13%	8
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	9,059,570	3,618,499	5,441,071	40%	

Notes:

1. Partner States disbursements were not remitted timely as per notes on receivables
2. Funding for the projects was not done timely as explained in the notes under expenditure.
3. LVBC Headquarter construction process is progressing significantly and its anticipated that the budgeted phase 1 will be completed by January 2022
4. The recruitment of the project staff was finalized in January with their reporting and thereafter the project activities were affected by the lock down due to the pandemic

5. Disbursement of funds from the Partner States for implementation of regional activities is still hampering project progression. However, the Project coordinator has now been recruited.
6. A consultant to undertake project scoping activities was engaged which will enable project implementation to be fast tracked
7. The Climate change project was to affect by the lockdown, the funds advanced to the Implementing agencies have not yet been accounted for to enable further disbursements.

11.0 EAST AFRICAN KISWAHILI COMMISSION (EAKC)

The East African Kiswahili Commission (EAKC) is an institution of the East African Community (EAC) responsible for the coordination and promotion of the development and use of Kiswahili in the region and beyond. During the Financial Year 2020/2021, the Commission planned to Facilitate exchange of stakeholders amongst and between institutions that develop and use Kiswahili in EAC Partner State, design Kiswahili Training Manuals for EAC Partner State, Develop an EAKC Bill, Translate key EAC documents on the Four Pillars of Integration from English into Kiswahili, facilitate coordination of audit exercises, attend statutory meetings of the Community, meet contractual obligations related to staff emoluments and allowances and other administrative expenses. In view of the planned activities, achievements registered were as follows:-

a) Finalization of Kiswahili Training Programs and Manuals for EAC Partner States

The Commission completed Programmes and Manuals initiated in the previous year as per the 35th Council of Ministers directive (**EAC/CM35/Directive 95**), to the Commission to develop Kiswahili Training Programs and Manuals in Partner States. The Programmes and Manuals address key Kiswahili training areas identified by the Commission during Kiswahili needs assessment in EAC Partner States. Different Kiswahili training needs were identified but each Partner State had to prioritise at least one areas where the Programme and Manual could be developed. The identified needs for each Partner State are as per the table below;

Partner State	Training Program
Republic of Burundi	<i>Kiswahili Training for Basic Education Teachers (Primary and Secondary)</i>
Republic of Kenya	<i>Kiswahili Training Program for Parliament</i>
Republic of Rwanda	<i>Kiswahili Training for Trade and Business (SMEs).</i>
Republic of South Sudan	<i>Training of Teachers of Kiswahili at Secondary School Level.</i>
United Republic of Tanzania	<i>Training experts to teach Kiswahili to users of other languages.</i>
Republic of Uganda	<i>Kiswahili Training Program for Parliament.</i>

The developed Programmes if implemented will help in improving Kiswahili communicative competencies to EAC citizens necessary for active participation in integration activities.

b) Partnerships and Collaborations

EAKC/ACALAN Meeting held from 26th to 28th June, 2019 that led to the signing of the Dar es Salaam Framework for Action for the Recognition and Promotion of Kiswahili in Africa opened doors for more collaborative efforts between EAKC and African Union to promote and develop Kiswahili as an African language. Two follow-up meetings were held during 2020/2021 financial year convened by African Union bringing all Kiswahili stakeholders together in EAC and beyond. The meetings explored ways of strengthening collaborations between the two institutions to promote the development and use of Kiswahili in regional and continental integration and development efforts. Further engagements aimed at mobilizing strong national, regional, Pan-African and international political commitment to develop Pan-African, Regional and National Plans for the development and recognition of Kiswahili as official and language of wider communication.

c) EAC Summit Declares Kiswahili as Official Language of the Community.

The 21st Ordinary Summit of the East African Community Heads of State declared Kiswahili as an official language of the Community and directed the Council to expedite the implementation modalities of the Summit directive. Whereas this pronouncement by the EAC Heads of State is a big stride towards the use, promotion and development of Kiswahili in EAC Partner States, the need to inform Partner States on the implications of having Kiswahili as an official language of the Community was considered an important step towards implementation of the Summit directive . The Commission highlighted the implications of making a language official and submitted to the 16th meeting of the Sectoral Council on Education, Science and Technology, Culture and Sports (SCESTCS) for noting.

d) Challenges

Although the Commission had planned to recruit staff to strengthen its capacity to implement its mandate, this was not possible due to inconclusive recruitment processes that have been going on for the last two year. Other activities were affected by Covid19 pandemic which restricted travel to different Partner States.

12.0 EAST AFRICAN COMPETITION AUTHORITY (EACA)

Introduction

The EAC Competition Authority (EACA) is an institution of the East African Community established pursuant to Article 9 of the Treaty Establishing the East African Community (EAC) and regulated within the framework of Article 75 (1) (i), Article 21 of Protocol on the Establishment of the EAC Customs Union and Article 33 - 36 of the Protocol on the Establishment of the EAC Common Market Protocol. In particular, Section 37 of the EAC

Competition Act, 2006 (the Act), which came into force in December, 2014, provides for the establishment of the EACA.

The EACA is mandated to promote and protect fair trade and ensure consumer welfare in the EAC. It has both investigative and adjudicative functions as a regional body responsible for regulating cross border anti-competitive business practices and advocating for efficient and competitive EAC regional markets. The key functions of EACA are (i) regulation of market structure (mergers and acquisitions and control of subsidies); (ii) regulation of market conduct (cartels and abuse of dominance); (iii) protection of consumers; and (iv) advocacy and capacity building.

Section 38 of the Act also provides for the appointment of commissioners by the Council (one from each partner State). The Commissioners, who are a quasi-judicial body are charged with the responsibility of providing policy guidance and making determinations on the cases brought before EACA.

In the year under review, the EACA prioritized the following activities: to finalize on the amendments to the Act; develop Outreach and Advocacy Strategy; develop merger Regulations and Guidelines; Develop prioritization framework; conduct stakeholder sensitization Workshops on competition policy and law in the Partner states; and build human capacity, including creating visibility for EACA mandate.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

ENACTMENT OF THE EAC COMPETITION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020

The 39th Meeting of the Council of Ministers held on 21st – 28th November, 2019 approved the East African Community Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2019 [EAC/CM 39/Decision 07]. It was published in January, 2020 as the EAC Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (Bill). The Chairperson Council of Ministers introduced the East African Community Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2020 in the House on 18th February, 2020 as required by Rules 65 and 66 (2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly. Pursuant to Rule 66(4), the Rt. Hon. Speaker referred the Bill to the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment (CTI) to examine the Bill and report back to the House. The Committee considered the Bill as required by Rules 66 and 67 and read for the first time before the plenary of East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) on 18th February, 2020.

The Bill seeks to amend the East African Community Competition Act, 2006 to streamline the provisions on mergers with the international best practice on competition; to confer legal personality on the Authority; to empower the Authority to impose and collect financial penalties; and provide for related matters.



The CTI recommended to the Assembly to adopt the Report of the Committee on the East African Community Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2021; and Pass the East African Community Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2020 together with the Amendments proposed by the CTI. After the second and third the EALA passed the EAC Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2021 on 26th May, 2021 and its now awaiting assent by the Summit.



DEVELOPMENT OF EAC COMPETITION MERGER REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES

Section 49 of the EAC Competition Act, 2006 (the Act) provides that the Council may make regulations generally for the better carrying into effect the provisions of the Act. Further, the EAC Competition Authority Strategic Plan 2019/20 – 2023/24 prioritizes building an effective merger regulation by developing Regulations and guidelines that would address the potential uncertainties that would result from implementing the Act.

The Authority undertook a study and developed EAC competition mergers and acquisitions Regulations and Guidelines. The instruments developed include the following:

- a. the draft EAC Competition (Mergers and Acquisitions) Regulations, 2021
- b. draft EAC Competition Merger and Acquisition Notification Thresholds
- c. EAC Competition (Merger and Acquisitions) Notification fees
- d. draft EAC Competition (Merger and Acquisition) Sharing of fees Regulations

The Authority is set to commence enforcing its substantive mandate as provided by the Act and the Regulations will ease implementation of the Act once adopted by Council.

EACA PRIORITIZATION FRAMEWORK ON COMPETITION ENFORCEMENT AND CONDUCT OF MARKET STUDIES

The Authority developed a draft prioritization framework on competition enforcement and conduct of market studies (Prioritization Framework) to facilitate:

- a. process of translating strategic objectives into operational priorities.
- b. direct resources, time, and energy to those activities - achieving the objectives laid out in the strategic plan.
- c. focus high-impact activities.
- d. involves the selection of a set of criteria and application -specific enforcement cases and/or sectors and markets.

The Prioritization Framework was informed by the EAC Vision 2050 - competitiveness of the region, EAC Industrialization Policy objectives and strategies 2012 – 2032, 5th EAC Development Strategy, 2016/17 – 2020/21 and EACA Strategic Plan 2019/20- 2023/24. The EACA will consider sectors and economic issues earmarked in the policy documents likelihood of anti-competitive conduct, potential impact of an enforcement case on competition and consumer welfare, impact on the EAC economy and size of the EAC market concerned among other things.

The Prioritisation Framework shall guide the Authority on areas of focus because everything cannot be done at once and reconciliation with the EAC Competition Authority Strategic Plan 2019/20 – 2023/24 was necessary. Prioritization shall focus on enforcement cases initiated by the Authority, otherwise all notified cases would be a priority.

DEVELOPMENT OF A RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Records management involves the manual and electronic storage of the institution documents, physical storage of paper documents, custodial retention and archive management. Therefore, the Authority developed a records management system to ensure the safety information, case management and archiving.

The system has ensured that Authority records: created, received and maintained meet legal, statutory and operational requirements, records are available at points of use and easily accessible, enhanced effective use of information and service delivery, transparency and accountability in working processes, that records generated and maintained by EACA meet administrative and regulatory requirements, Authority records correctly reflect what was communicated or decided or what action was taken, records created/received and maintained by the EACA are reliable, authentic, have integrity, useable and able to provide consistency, continuity and productivity in management and administration and proper identification, storage, retrieval, protection, retention, and disposal of records.

DEVELOPMENT OF A LOGO FOR EACA

The Authority appreciates that branding helps represent one's identity, enhances the visibility of any institution and gives key stakeholders and the general public a better understanding of what the Authority is all about and what it hopes to achieve. Therefore to ensure the visibility and successful implementation of the mandate of EACA, it is necessary for the Authority to have a strong and visible identity, which stems from the development of a Logo for the Authority.

Today's world is becoming increasingly visually oriented and logos have become a prime asset of institutions. Logos are essential in branding and brand building and aims to facilitate cross-language marketing.

The *1st EACA Strategic plan, 2019/20 – 2023/24*, sees the role of the EACA as critical and calls on the EACA to create and enhance visibility and image for EACA in the EAC region by among others, developing an independent corporate identity (logo) for EACA. The meeting considered the proposed EAC Brand Architecture Strategy and zeroed in on the draft EACA logo seeking to understand the common unique identifier and psychology of colours. The proposed EACA logo is as illustrated below:



RATIONALE:

The EACA is all about ensuring fair trade in the EAC community, thus we have used the iconic bar code to demonstrate price which is at the heart of any trade transaction.



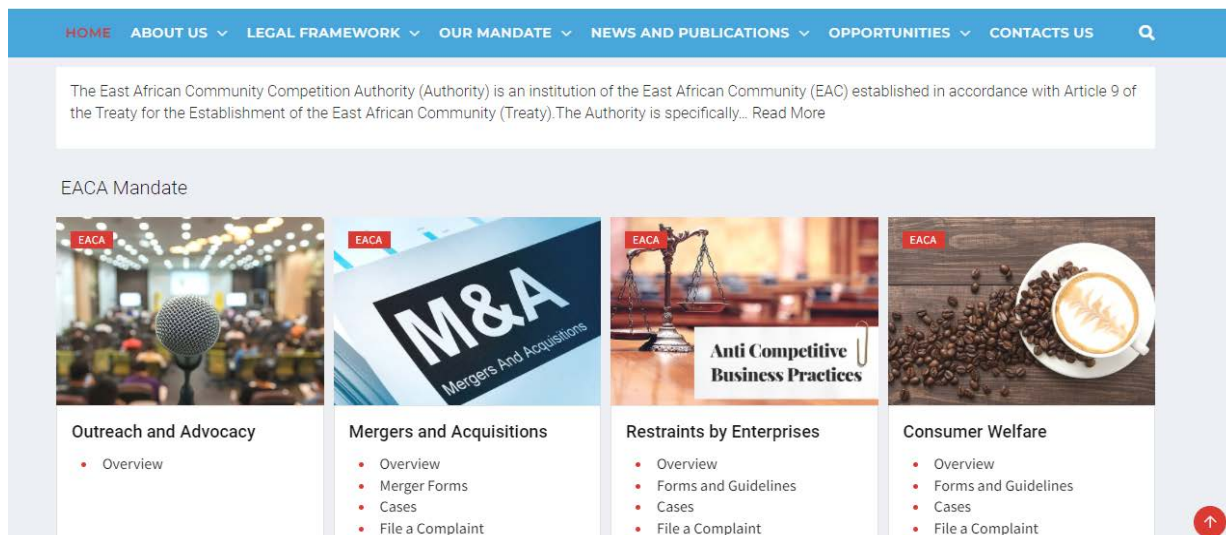
The Authority recommended that the logo designed reflects the mandate of the Authority which is to promote and protect fair competition and provide for consumer welfare in the Community.

DEVELOPMENT OF EAC COMPETITION AUTHORITY WEBSITE

The Authority developed a website as an online platform for interface with its stakeholders on competition policy, regulations and activities. The website domain was registered and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) is www.eacompetition.org.

The Commissioners' meeting held on 4th – 7th May, 2021 made comments on the draft website which were incorporated. The Commissioners' meeting held on 25th – 28th October, 2021 reviewed the final version of the website, noted the upgrades made and approved it for launching.

The Commissioners commissioned the website as an official online platform of the Authority. Launching of the website, which was considered an important advocacy activity of the Authority, will be carried out on a future date to be determined.



COOPERATION FRAMEWORKS BETWEEN EACA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Section 42 (1) (I) of the Act provides that the Authority shall have all powers, express and implied necessary for and conducive to the implementation and enforcement of the East African Community Competition Law. In the performance of its functions under the Act, the Authority shall have powers to co-operate with regional and international organizations and with foreign competition authorities.

In addition, the EAC Competition Authority Strategic Plan 2019/20 – 2023/24 prioritizes development of cooperation framework through the conclusion of Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with the COMESA Competition Commission (CCC). The cooperation framework is aimed at promoting a degree of harmonization in the implementation of competition laws and setting out how the jurisdictions will consult with each other, exchange information (including the treatment of confidential information), cooperate in investigations, develop capacity and resolve disputes.

Following initial discussions held between the EACA and Leiden University staff on 30th August 2019, the two institutions agreed to develop a formal cooperation framework. The two institutions have held further discussions on how to formalize their relationship.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND VISIBILITY FOR EACA

Awareness creation on competition policy and law in the partner states - the Authority conducted Partner States stakeholder's sensitization on competition policy and law. The topics covered include Establishing Jurisdiction to Review: Defining Mergers: Assets, shares, and other acquisitions that can change the structure of the market and notification thresholds, Merger Review Procedure and Timing, Assessment Framework, Institutional Arrangements and Resources for Enforcing an EAC Merger Regulation, Draft

EAC competition merger regulations, 2020 Institutional Arrangements and Resources for Enforcing an EAC Merger Regulation

Recruitment – the 37th Extraordinary Council of Ministers held on 4th September, 2018 directed the EAC Ad hoc Service Commission to expedite the recruitment of a Registrar and other staff of EAC Competition Authority (EAC/EX/CM/37/Directive 22). The Registrar was appointed by the Council of Ministers held in November, 2019 (EAC/CM 39/ Decision 61). The recruitment of two Deputy Registrars and two support staff was initiated.

Participation in Regional competition meetings

The EACA is coordinating EAC Partner States for negotiations under the Tripartite FTA (COMESA-EAC-SADC). EACA, is part of the Tripartite Technical Working Groups (TWG) on Competition Policy. The TWG on competition policy developed a final Draft Tripartite Protocol on Competition Policy which contained contentious issues and EACA facilitated consultations with EAC partner states in developing a common understanding as a regional block.

The Authority also participated in other international competition meetings, including International Competition Network Conference, in which competition enforcement topical issues were discussed such as the digital economy and the competition enforcement investigative process.



Budget performance

In the year under review, the approved budget of EACA, USD 1.128,240, was allocated to fund its operations. The entire budget was expected from Partner states contribution. The amount received from Partner States was less than the approved and amount utilized in the year was USD

Key challenges and Recommendations

During the year under review, EACA faced challenges which include:

- a. Lack of adequate human Capital - Although the EACA's vacant positions were advertised in the year to facilitate in fully operationalizing the Authority and even budget allocated, no recruitment was done. There is only one established staff (Registrar and one short term staff. EACA intended to recruit its staff in two phases. The delay in recruitment was necessitated by the Moratorium to stay recruitment for EAC organs and institution to facilitate reorganization of EAC;
- b. Covid-19 Pandemic - due to uncertainties and travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the activities planned for the financial year 2019/20 were not finalized;
- c. Budgetary constraints
- d. Limited competition culture in the EAC region

The recommendations include:

- a. Expedite recruitment of EACA staff to facilitate implementation of the EAC competition Act, 2006.
- b. Implement the outreach and advocacy activities to deepen competition culture in the EAC region.

13.0 EAST AFRICA COMMUNITY CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY AND SECURITY OVERSIGHT AGENCY (CASSOA)

The East African Community Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency (CASSOA) was established following the signing of the Protocol on the Establishment of the East African Community Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency on 18th April 2007. The mandate of CASSOA is based on Article 92 of the EAC Treaty, under which the Partner States undertake to make air transport services safe, efficient and profitable; adopt common policies for the development of civil air transport in the region; harmonize civil aviation laws and regulations and coordinate measures and co-operate in the maintenance of high security.

The specific functions of the Agency are to: -

- 1) Develop policies on the development of safe, reliable, efficient and economically viable civil aviation with a view to developing appropriate infrastructure, aeronautical skills and technology as well as the role of civil aviation in support of other economic activities;
- 2) Assist the Partner States in meeting their safety and security oversight obligations and responsibilities under the Treaty and the Chicago Convention and its Annexes; and
- 3) Provide the Partner States with an appropriate forum and structure to discuss, plan and implement common measures required for achieving the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation through the implementation of international standards and recommended practices relating to the safety and security of civil aviation

B. Key Priorities during FY 2020/21

EAC CASSOA had planned its activities under one-priority areas for supporting the development of a safe, secure and efficient air transport in the region.

2. Key achievements

(A) Finalised EAC Civil Aviation (Personnel Licensing) and (Approved Training Organisations) Regulations, 2020.

The joint working group meeting of PEL, legal experts and draft persons was convened from 31st August to 4th September 2020. The purpose of the meeting was to review and finalise the Model EAC Civil Aviation (Personnel Licensing) Regulations of 2020 in line with the latest amendments to Annex 1 and comments from stakeholders in partner states and industry best practices. It is now awaiting promulgation by Partner States.

(B) Finalized Model EAC Civil Aviation ANS/CNS related regulations.

A joint draftspersons, legal and ANS/CNS experts' virtual working group meeting was convened from 14th to 18th September 2020 to review and finalise the Model EAC Civil Aviation ANS/CNS related regulations. The experts also considered stakeholders' comments from Partner States and incorporated latest amendments to the ICAO annex 10. The following draft regulations were considered and approved by the CASSOA Board of Directors;

- Model Civil Aviation (Radio Navigation Aids) Regulations, 2020.
- Model Civil Aviation (Communication Procedures) Regulations, 2020.
- Model Civil Aviation (Communication Systems) Regulations, 2020.
- Model Civil Aviation (Surveillance and Collision Avoidance Systems) Regulations, 2020.
- Model Civil Aviation (Radio Frequency Spectrum Utilisation) Regulations, 2020

(C) EU ASA collaborative Project.

EASA initiated the EU – Aviation Safety in Africa for the purpose of enhancing collaborations/co-operative environment with other global RSOOs and COSCAPs. The project is financed by EU and is structured to build capabilities and capacity of RSOOs and member states under the RSOOs. The project is expected to run for a period of 36 months. The Agency implemented sub project 2.1.3 which is implementation of technical committees / working groups meetings through virtual means. The activities were conducted between September and October 2020.

(D) Reviewed and developed health operational guidelines.

EAC CASSOA convened EAC Partner States Aviation Medicine experts virtual working group meeting from 28th September to 1st October 2020. The meeting developed reviewed and amended operational guidelines for management of aircrew, air passengers and other aviation personnel in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Partner states are now expected to customize, harmonise and implement the developed guidelines with assistance from CAM.

(E) Developed a technical guidance on remote audit procedure.

During the year under review, CASSOA Board of Directors considered and approved **order no. CAA-O-GEN039 on conduct of remote oversight activities**. This was a result of a 3rd virtual joint meeting of the National Continuous Monitoring Coordinators (NCMCs), SSP and Bowtie focal persons, which was held on 22nd September 2020. Representatives attended the meeting from the Republic of Burundi, the Republic of Kenya, the Republic of Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Republic of Uganda.

(F) Reviewed Model EAC Civil Aviation (Security) Regulations.

A joint Aviation Security and Legal experts virtual working group meeting was held to review and amend the Model EAC Civil Aviation (Security) Regulation, 2019 in line with the 17th amendments to ICAO Annex 17 Standard and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and considered for adoption the procedures for amendments of the Civil Aviation Act, Civil Aviation Regulations and Technical Guidance Materials (TGMs). The meeting was held virtually from 1st to 2nd October 2020.

(G) Newly developed Model EAC Civil Aviation OPS related Regulations.

A joint Legal Drafter, Legal and Flights Operations experts virtual working group meeting was convened from 5th to 9th October 2020 to review and finalise the Model EAC Civil Aviation Operations of Aircraft related Regulations in line with the latest amendments to ICAO Annex 6, comments from stakeholders and industry best practice. The Board considered, approved and directed the Agency to transmit the following set of Model EAC Civil Aviation (OPS related) Regulations.

- Civil Aviation (Operation of Aircrafts – Commercial Air Transport Aeroplanes) Regulation 2020;
- Civil Aviation (Operation of Aircraft – General Aviation Aeroplanes) Regulation 2020;
- Civil Aviation (Operation of Aircraft – Commercial Air Transport and General Aviation Helicopters) Regulation 2020;
- Civil Aviation (Instruments and equipment) Regulations 2020; and;
- Civil Aviation (Air Operator Certification and Administration) Regulations, 2020.

(H) Newly developed Model EAC Civil Aviation Aerodromes related Regulations.

During the year under review, a model EAC Civil Aviation (Aerodromes) Regulation was separated into three different sets and adopted the provision of Annex 14 volume II. This

exercise was done virtually between 12th and 16th October 2020 and the following sets of Aerodromes related Regulations were developed;

- Model EAC Civil Aviation (Certification, Licensing and Registration of Aerodromes) Regulations;
- Model EAC Civil Aviation (Aerodrome Design and Operations) regulations; and;
- Model EAC Civil Aviation (Heliports) Regulations.

(I) Technical Support to the Republic of Uganda

The Uganda Civil Aviation Authority presented their request to the Agency for dedicated technical support in the area of FSS to the Republic of Uganda as prerequisite in preparation for the ICAO USOAP CMA Audit slated in June 2021. The FSS experts from CASSOA reported to UCAA on the 12th October 2020 and worked alongside the UCAA USOAP CMA Audit Preparation Team.

(J) Developed a Corrective Action Plan for Common Findings

The Agency reported on the Working Group meeting of the EAC - Aerodromes and Ground Aids Experts to review the common USOAP CMA Audit and ICAO Coordinated Validation Mission (ICVM) findings was convened virtually from 25th to 26th January 2021. The EAC Partner States with the exception of the Republic of South Sudan have all undergone USOAP-CMA Audits and ICVM and as a result there are outstanding findings generated from various Protocol Questions (PQs). The Partner States have developed Corrective Action Plans to address these findings and ICAO requires that these are updated on the On-Line Framework (OLF) regularly.

The objective of the Working Group meeting was to review the common findings in Partner States and consider the appropriate harmonized Corrective Action Plans in order to provide satisfactory closure in all the Partner States

(K) USAP-CMA Audit Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the Republic of Burundi

Pursuant to its mandate, the Agency convened a virtual meeting with BCAA AVSEC experts from 22nd to 24th March 2021 to review the status of implementation of the ICAO USAP CMA

CAPs of 2018. The Agency Principal AVSEC Officer reviewed the BCAA CAPs with the view

of evaluating the Status of Implementation. The meeting was in lieu of the ordinary way of Conducting technical missions to partner States

(L) Concept on the operationalization of Centre for Aviation Medicine, Nairobi.

The Republic of Kenya offered to a structure for CAM and the construction began in June 2020. Based on this, CAM office convened a meeting of experts from 15th to 16th March 2021 to review and develop a program for its operationalization. ICAO ESAF regional director also attended the meeting.

(M) Capacity building in the region.

AFCAC and ICAO organized the third AFI CIS training funded by the EU-Africa Safety in Aviation project held from the 22nd to the 31st of March 2021. The Technical Experts

of the Agency were in attendance of the Training. The objective of this training was to provide induction training to the newly selected inspectors and refresher training to the existing AFI-CIS inspectors with the aim of improving the coverage of assistance to be provided to AFI states in resolving safety oversight deficiencies including significant safety concerns (SSCs) identified during the ICAO USOAP and ICVM audits as well as provide AFI-CIS inspectors further guidance on the effective implementation of the corrective action plans (CAP), developed in response to audit findings.

(N) Reviewed draft South Sudan Civil Aviation (Security) Regulations

An interactive meeting between the Agency's AVSEC Expert and AVSEC Inspector was conducted on the 13th April 2021. In the meeting further support was provided to the SSCAA to review and amend the regulations and related programmes documentation in line with the latest Annex 17 SARPs amendments.

3.0 Budget Performance

3.1 Revenue

Revenue received by 30th June 2021 as contributions from Partner States through their Civil Aviation Authorities was **US\$ 1,137,720**. This amount comprised 100% contributions from the Republics of Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda respectively, 29% contributions from the United Republic of Tanzania and 6% contributions from the Republic of Burundi. No contribution had been received from the Republic of South Sudan. The Agency also received miscellaneous income of US\$ 7,855 being interest from banks on current deposits and other sundry income.

3.2 Expenditure

Total actual expenditure incurred as at 30th June 2021 was US\$ 1,800,351 which is 88% of the annual Budget and comprised US\$ 1,549,454 staff emoluments, US\$ 232,179 administrative expenses and US\$ 18,718 capital expenditure.

4.0 Main challenges

Lack of a Title Deed for the Agency premises.

4.1 Addressing the Challenge

The Agency has since made progress on this matter, and with full cooperation from the Uganda Land Commission, has formally applied for the renewal of the Title Deed. The next step in the process was an inspection to be carried out by officials of the Uganda Land Commission which was scheduled for the week of 8th February 2021.

However, the Agency, vide communication from the Uganda Civil Aviation Authority dated 2nd March 2021, was informed that the Lease was in fact offered to the Uganda CAA with CASSOA being the sub-Lessee. Therefore, the UCAA is meant to apply to the Uganda Land Commission to extend the Lease.

The Agency has since formally written to UCAA requesting for an extension of the sub-Lease and by extension UCAA is to follow up on the same with Uganda Land Commission.

14.0 EAST AFRICAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION (EASTECO)

East African Science and Technology Commission (EASTECO) was established in accordance with the Treaty of the East African Community under the relevant provisions as set out on Chapter 16, Article 103(a). The establishment of EASTECO added to the existing Organs and Institutions of the Community as per Article 9 of the Treaty.

The objectives of the Commission are to promote and coordinate the development, management and application Science and Technology in the Partner States.

In line with the 6th EAC Development Strategy and the EASTECO Strategic Plan 2017/18-2021/22, the Financial Year 2020/2021 Annual Operational Plan under the above stated budget was pursuing targets and activities including:

- Evidence based regional STI policies developed;
- Scientific and Technological knowledge and Innovation promoted;
- Application of Science Technology and Innovation for socio-economic developed;
- Stakeholder engagement and partnerships for STI enhanced;
- EASTECO's institutional framework for effective and efficient governance and operations strengthened.

The following are among the key achievements recorded during the FY2020/2021:

i. Development of the EAC Regional Policy for Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)

The final draft EAC Regional Policy for STI has been approved by the EASTECO Board on its 11th June 2020 meeting and recommended to the EAC Sector Council of Education, Science, Technology, Culture and Sports to consider and approve.

ii. Development of the EAC regional Policy for Intellectual Property (IP)

The final draft EAC Regional Policy for IP has been approved by the EASTECO Board on its 11th June 2020 meeting and recommended to the EAC Sector Council of Education, Science, Technology, Culture and Sports to consider and approve the draft EAC Regional Policy for Intellectual Property.

iii. Development of the EAC Regional Bio-economy Strategy

The final draft EAC Regional Bio-economy Strategy has been approved by the EASTECO Board on its 11th June 2020 meeting and recommended to the EAC Sector Council of Education, Science, Technology, Culture and Sports. The project has also developed Bioeconomy Knowledge sharing observatory portal to provide regular data for policy makers to monitor the development of the bioeconomy and accordingly to support the implementation of the EAC Regional Bioeconomy Strategy. <https://bioeconomy.easteco.org/>

iv. The East African Journal of Science, Technology and Innovation (EAJSTI) was published

The 2nd, 3rd and 4th Issues of the Journal, each of which contain five scientific articles were published in March, June and September 2020 respectively. Volume 2 has had one issue, which was published in December 2020, and in March and June 2021. A special issue consisting of 25 manuscripts was published in May 2021. The second issue is due in March 2021. The journal has been indexed in CABI Abstracts and is awaiting indexation in three other major global referencing databases. It is geared to join the prestigious listings of impact peer review scientific journals within 2021.

v. The Regional Research and Development agenda and management framework developed and validated

EASTECO has developed a Regional Research Agenda and Management framework through a national and regional consultative process. The Draft Agenda and the framework were finalized and validated. A high level regional validation workshop was held in March 2020 in Arusha and subsequently presented to the Governing Board who also approved it and recommended to the EAC Sector Council of Education, Science, Technology, Culture and Sports to consider and approve.

vi. Implementation of the EAC Regional Collaborative Research Grant Program

In order to strengthen regional Collaborative Research Programme within the East African community, EASTECO piloted a collaborating multidisciplinary research through the first competitive research grant call research under Regional Cooperative Research

Grant Initiative (CGI) in partnership with the National Commissions/Councils of Science and Technology and the (SGCI). Three grants were given out.

vii. Development and carried out open online (MOOC) knowledge and skills in scientific writing for manuscripts and competitive grant proposals course.

EASTECO, in collaboration with the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP) piloted a 6-weeks massive open online course (MOOC) on scientific writing training. A total of 212 participants enrolled in the course and 182 made a start, out of which 105 completed the essential modules, giving a completion rate of 58%.

viii. Development of Research Technological Organizations database for enhancing access, adaptation, transfer and diffusion of manufacturing & industrial technologies in EAC region

A regional interactive on-line platform for the available technologies and innovations in the EAC region has been developed. Data on available technologies, innovations, facilities, industrial experts, projects and programmes has been collected from the 5 RTOs in EAC Region and online regional Research Technological Organisations database developed for Enhancing access, adaptation, transfer and diffusion of manufacturing & industrial technologies in EAC region. <https://eacinnovations.easteco.org/>

ix. The East African Research and Technological Development Fund (EARTF)

The 39th Council of Ministers directed the EASTECO to expedite the development of the EAC Regional Collaborative Research Program including the development of the EAC Regional Research Agenda, the Research Management Framework and the EAC Regional Research and Innovation Fund to be operationalized in FY 2020/21 [EACICM 391 Directive 80}. EASTECO developed the Draft Concept Paper and the Terms of Reference for the consultant to develop a legal instrument for the Fund, which were presented to and approved by the 16th SCESTCS.

x. The Mid Term Review of the first EASTECO Strategic Plan 2016/17 -2021/22

EASTECO conducted Midterm review of its First Strategic Plan for 2017- 2022. The goal of the review was to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the implementation of the Strategic Plan, based on experiences gained during the first half of the implementation cycle. EASTECO's overall performance on target was 68%. The performance index for strategic priority 1- Support for Evidence-Based Policies, was 40.25%; performance index for the Strategic Priority 2 - Promotion of STI Knowledge and Innovation was 54.45 %; the performance index for the Strategic Priority 3 - Application of STI for Socio-Economic Development was 50%; and the performance index for the Strategic Priority 4 - EASTECO Foundational Commitments was 69.45%. The distribution of Mean Term Targets within the balanced Scorecard (BSC) was

heavily biased in favour of Stakeholder Perspective (83.3%); Financing and Internal Processes Perspectives had 8.3% each, while learning and Growth Perspective was 0%.

xi. Convened 1st Eastern African Bio-economy Ministerial online Conference.

The East Africa Science and Technology Commission (EASTEKO), together with its partners organized an online 1st Eastern African regional bio-economy Ministerial conference, under the auspices of the BioInnovate Africa Programme from 21 – 22 October 2020. The theme of the conference was “Bio-economy growth prospects for Eastern Africa)”. During the conference, EASTECO launched the EAC Regional Bioeconomy Observatory Knowledge sharing portal that will provide regular data for policy makers to monitor the development of the bioeconomy and assess its impact, allow regional open access repository for sustainable bioeconomy data and information, and support the implementation of the Regional Bioeconomy Strategy for Eastern Africa. The bioeconomy observatory portal can be accessed through: <https://bioeconomy.easteco.org/>

xii. Signed MoU between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and EASTECO on cooperation in the field of information and communications technology.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the East African Science & Technology Commission (EASTEKO) was signed and is aimed at implementation of digital ID to provide training and exchanges of experiences and technical solutions in the area of Estonia’s digital ID-system; promoting cooperation of ICT companies for implementing various state of the art IT solutions developed by Estonian ICT companies’ smart borders and other information systems where appropriate; awareness building on cyber security and protection of critical infrastructure to provide training and exchange experience in areas of data protection, cybercrime and protection of critical infrastructure; support the EASTECO in developing the digital agenda policy and strategy on e-Governance and Digital Transformation for Africa and working together for the establishment of the East African Community e-Governance training programs and regional competence hubs for the EAC Partner States. The implementation of the MoU started with Online training on Digital Identity Systems for EAC Partner States Institutions that was held on 21st Jan 2021.

xiii. Online training on Digital Identity Systems for EAC Partner States Institutions.

EASTEKO in partnership with Government of the Republic of Estonia conducted an online training on 21st January 2021. The training gave overview of the main principles of implementing a Digital Identity system in a country, what kind of legislation and institutional setup is needed and what kind of privacy protection measures need to be taken throughout the process; status of the Digital ID system processes in the

EASTECO Partner States and find potential follow-up cooperation opportunities with Estonia. 51 participants from EAC Partner States Institutions participated in the online training.

xiv. Convened the 3rd EAC Regional E-Health and Telemedicine Workshop, Ministerial Conference and Virtual Exhibition

EASTECO Convened the 3rd EAC Regional E-Health and Telemedicine Workshop, Ministerial Conference and Virtual Exhibition on June 16-17, 2021. The objective of the Workshop and Ministerial conference was to provide a dialogue platform for academia, researchers, technologists, developers and government decision makers, to present and discuss existing and new digital technologies for enhancing healthcare in the East Africa.

xv. Convened the EAC Regional 2nd Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Conference

The EAC Regional STI Conference was held both virtually and physically on 27th – 29th October 2021. The Physical Conference was held in Bujumbura, Burundi. The STI conference was organised to enhance networking relations among researchers, technology developers and innovators; establish a platform for stakeholders for setting agenda as well as priorities areas in STI in the region; enhance linkages and partnerships between academia, industry and the public sector; enhance exposure to stakeholders on 5 priority issues for research, extension services, teaching and learning; and enhance capacity for benchmarking research outputs in the region

The STI Conference stimulated the establishment and strengthening of strategic alliances among stakeholders to promote the generation, translation and dissemination of research findings; building collaborations and networks; and harness partnerships among stakeholders in the region, including aspects related to recognition of prior learning as one of ways of promoting innovation. The conference, therefore, enhanced sharing of research findings, collaboration and linkages through conference presentation, ministerial roundtable, exhibitions and publication for enhanced regional integration and socio-economic development. The output of the conference will be published in the East African Journal of Science, Technology and Innovation (EAJSTI) to boost the dissemination of research findings within the region and improve regional visibility and competitiveness.

15.0 LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANISATION (LVFO)

INTRODUCTION

This report provides information on activities undertaken by the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) in the FY 2020-2021. The mandate of the organization is to coordinate the management and development of fisheries and aquaculture in the East

African Community (EAC). The Organization implements its activities through four technical four program directorates. The four directorates are:

- i) Fisheries Management and Development
- ii) Aquaculture Management and Development
- iii) Fish Quality Assurance and Marketing
- iv) Fisheries Resource Monitoring and Research

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Harmonization of the Regional Policies, Legislations and Standards

The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) Secretariat obtained funding under GIZ Responsible Fisheries Business Chains Project (RFBCP) and European Union under the project on Contribution of sustainable fisheries to the blue economy of the Eastern Africa, southern Africa and Indian ocean region – E€OFISH Program for harmonization of fisheries policies, and legal frameworks. As part of the process and under GIZ financing, guidelines for fish maw extraction, processing and trade were developed and approved by FASCoM and Draft guidelines for co-management were developed that are yet to be finalized.

With EU funding through the LVFO-E€OFISH program the LVFO Fisheries Management Plan III (FMPIII) has been reviewed and a FMPIV developed geared towards increasing productivity and value of the Lake Victoria fisheries and aquaculture to contribute to blue economy growth in Eastern Africa. The final FMPIV was validated by the Partner States and key Stakeholders and now await FASCoM approval. A consultant was also recruited in June 2021 to undertake legal, institutional and organisational framework analysis of the proposed East African Fisheries Organisation (EAFO). The consultancy is expected to be completed in the FY 2021-22.

Monitoring, Control and Surveillance

The 9th Regular Session of the LVFO Fisheries and Aquaculture Sectoral Council of Ministers (FASCoM) took note of the need to strengthen Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS), to address the increasing illegalities in the fisheries. FASCoM urged Partner States to establish a functional MCS inter-agency structure and support single spine enforcement from the center to Beach Management Unit (BMU) level with appropriate funding (LVFO/CM16/RS9/4/I). In line with above, LVFO held a regional planning meeting to harmonise the implementation of MCS operations on Lake Victoria.

The meeting was held in Homa Bay (Kenya) from 5th to 6th May 2021 (**Plate 1**). It was attended by MCS experts from the technical Departments/Directorates and agencies responsible for fisheries enforcement and interagency/co-management enforcement officers from Partner States. In addition, a team of experts from the Regional hydroacoustic working group attended to give a science led approach to enforcement. The meeting came up with a regionally harmonised approaches, timing, resources and human capacity required for MCS operations and agreed on use of interagency approaches in the all MCS operations in the region.

A regionally harmonised plan for training and capacity building in enforcement, compliance and prosecution procedures planned in the FY 2021-22. A short-term

consultant was procured to undertake a regional training of trainers to be followed by national level training, provision of equipment and support to national MCS operations.



Plate 1: Regional planning meeting to harmonise the implementation of MCS operations on Lake Victoria was held in Homa Bay, Kenya: 5-6 May 2021

Re-Planned strategy for implementation of the Operation Save Nile Perch (OSNP)

LVFO prepared a revised workplan and Budget for Operation Save Nile Perch (OSNP) funds and presented the 39th EAC Council which referred the the same to the Sectoral Council on Fisheries and Aquaculture to revise and specify the expected outcomes and submit to the 40th Ordinary Meeting of the Council. Because of the Covid 19 pandemic, the Ordinary Session of the LVFO FASCoM did not meet since March 2019 and a virtual meeting of the Coordination Committee was held on 8th Feb 2021, that directed that the work plan be further revised to include aspects of rehabilitation of fisheries infrastructure and facilities devastated by floods and raised lake levels, and also address the impact of covid-19 on the fisheries community.

The Fisheries Management Technical Committee meeting on Operation Save Nile Perch was held in Arusha from 13th to 15th February 2021 at the East African Community Affairs Secretariat and was attended by Partner States' Fisheries Management Technical Officials from the Republics of Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. The meeting was also attended by representatives from Ministries responsible for East African Community Affairs (MEACA) from Republic of Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania, Executive Secretary of the LVFO and LVFO Secretariat staff to address the above concerns.

The following was resolved to Convene Technical MCS experts and Heads of enforcement units - FPU (Uganda), Coast Guard Services (Kenya) and Multi agency (URT) meeting in Mwanza to develop regional plan of action for undertaking coordinated and synchronized operations on the lake. The meeting also highlighted the need for Sensitization of Stakeholders - Fishing communities; Procurement of MCS equipment; Conducting National MCS operations; Regional meeting of MCS technical Officers and Heads of enforcement units for MCS for data synthesis and report writing; Management, Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation of OSNP program.

The team agreed on a budget but also noted that the available budget does not suffice to also address the impacts of covid-19 and rehabilitation of infrastructure devastated by floods and rising lake levels. The 3rd Regular Session of FASCoM sitting virtually on 27th

April 2021 approved the revised workplan and Budget of OSNP for submission to EAC CoM for consideration. The work plan and Budget now awaits EAC COM approval to initiate implementation.

Co-Management in Lake Victoria

Co-management approach in Lake Victoria is clearly recognized in the Fisheries Management Plan III (2016-2020). A study on 'Strengthening Fisheries Co-Management on Lake Victoria, 2016, conducted by the three Research Institutions (KMFRI, TAFIRI and NaFIRRI) in collaboration with the University of Birmingham, UK observed the following:

- a) Co-management remained undermined by lack of government financial and technical support;
- b) corruption amongst some BMU leaders, fisheries staff, police, and local politicians and political interference;
- c) The BMUs performance has thus been minimal and shadowed by other national enforcement arrangements.

While national Partner States have been involved in review of legislation to support revamping of BMUs there is need for redesigning the approach. Based on the above study, LVFO supported the review of co-management guidelines and presented them in the 3rd regular FASCOM for approval but the Republic of Uganda requested for more time to do further consultations. Uganda has since submitted comments and they are incorporated. A final approval expected by next FASCOM.



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANIZATION
SECRETARIAT



REGIONAL GUIDELINES FOR FISHERIES COMANAGEMENT ON LAKE VICTORIA



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August 2021

Plate 2: Regional Co-Management Guidelines

LVFO Strategic Plan 2021-2026

The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) activities have been previously guided by the Strategic Plan Vision: 1999 – 2015 and Strategic Plan: 2016-2020. These instruments expired and in view of the major developments taking place in the operating environment including the integration of LVFO in the EAC to serve as fisheries and aquaculture technical arm, the expansion of LVFO mandate to incorporate all the EAC Partner States and the process of finalizing the 6th EAC Development Strategy 2021 – 2025, LVFO developed its five-year Strategic Plan for 2021- 2025. Prior to the development of the new Strategic plan, the organization evaluated the performance of the previous SP.

The objectives of the evaluation were:

1. To evaluate the implementation of the expired LVFO Strategic Plan (2016 –2020) and the LVFO delivery capacity;
2. To undertake a situation analysis of the institutional, national, regional and international fisheries and aquaculture and any other related instruments (policies, strategies);

3. To identify the factors affecting the implementation (both constraining and facilitating factors)
4. To draw key lessons and provide recommendations which may inform future programme/project implementation strategies of the Organisation

This development process was conducted in a participatory and consultative manner whereby all key and relevant stakeholders were engaged. Findings indicate that expired strategic plan of LVFO (2016-20) had eight (8) Strategic issues worth reviewing. Evaluation findings has established that only 33% of planned activities were fully implemented; 46% were partially implemented; and (22%) were not implemented at all. Key strategic achievements included the LVFO's support to the development of policies, guidelines, and standards for fisheries and aquaculture management as a part of the harmonisation process.

FISH QUALITY ASSURANCE AND MARKETING

Development of Guidelines for Extraction, Processing and Trading of Nile Perch Maws in East Africa

The guidelines on extraction, trading and processing of Nile Perch Maws in East Africa promote regional and international trade by facilitating the adoption of measures that promote best practices during the extraction, processing and trading of the maw. Such measures ensure that only safe and quality maw is exported from the region. The guidelines facilitate adoption of common systems, requirements and documentation procedures by extractors, traders, processors and exporters. The guidelines promote fair practices among the maw business operators at every stage in the chain to ensure equitable distribution of benefits.

The guidelines also facilitate institution of measures to formalize all maw businesses, promote application of regionally agreed technical requirements and standards, inspection and certification to enhance compliance as required to protect the fisheries resource and increase competitiveness and value of maw in export markets. The guidelines are aimed to standardize the operation of official control services offered by the regional mandated bodies to ensure sustainability of the resources and enhancement of safety and quality of maw produced and exported. The guidelines were approved by the 3rd FASCoM's meeting which took place virtually on 27th April 2021.

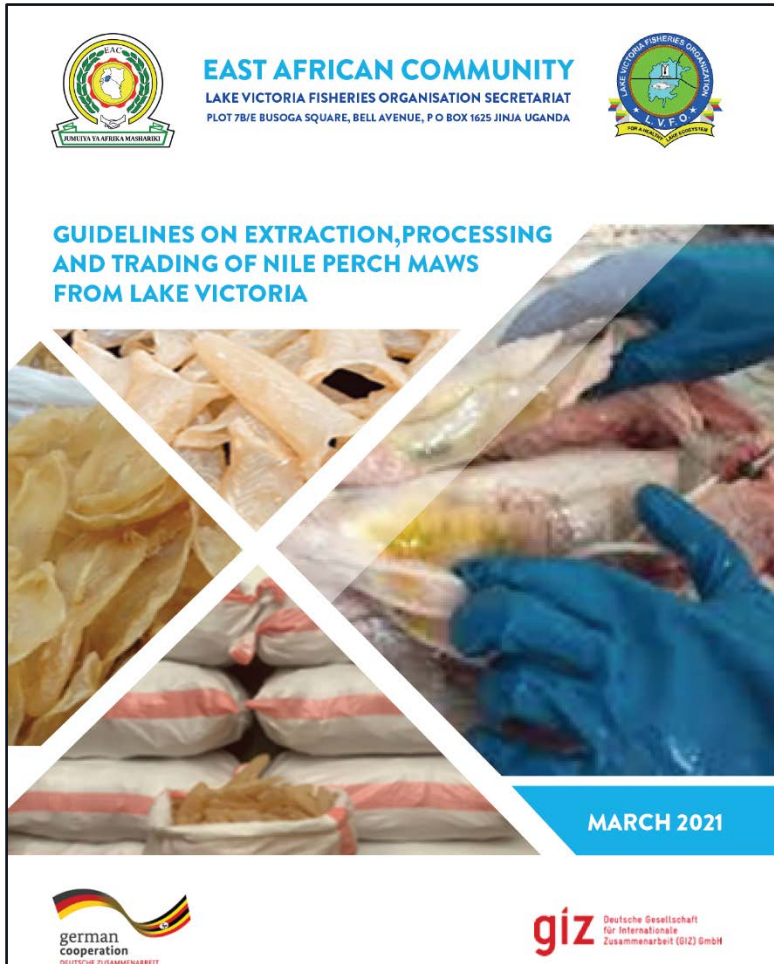


Plate 3: Guidelines on Extraction, Trading and Processing of Nile Perch Maws



Plate 4: Regional workshop to finalize the draft guidelines for the extraction, processing and trading of Nile perch maws in East Africa.

Training of Women and Youth in Dagaa Value addition

Fish and fishery products are among the important sources of food in the East African Community. Lake Victoria produces about 1million tons of fish annually and the major commercial types are Nile perch, Tilapia and Dagaa. Dagaa is locally called Omena in the Republic of Kenya, Mukene in the Republic of Uganda and Dagaa in the United Republic of Tanzania. The harvested Dagaa from Lake Victoria has significantly increased and by 2014 contributed 55% (510,000 tonnes) of the total annual fish production. Dagaa is dried using heat from the sun and largely spread on the ground, nets and grass. During the rainy season when there is less sunshine, post-harvest losses can be as high as 40%. The high post-harvest losses can be reduced through improved handling, processing, packaging and storage.

As a result of poor processing, about 70% of Dagaa harvested from Lake Victoria is used for animal feeds but can contribute significantly to nutrition and food security if improved. Dagaa has got a high crude protein content (47.9-58.8%) and is rich in Iron (8.18-10.91mg/100g), zinc (4.07-10.25mg/100g) and calcium (1556.4-1866.5 mg/100g). Despite the high nutritive value, only 30% of the harvested Dagaa is used for human consumption leaving the bulk (70%) for production of animal feeds. Fish consumption in the East African Community is less than 10kg while the recommended amount by WHO is 25Kg and the world average is 20kg (SOFIA 2018). The Africa Agriculture transformation dashboard 2018 produced by African Union show high percentage of stunted children below 5 years in EAC Partner States (Burundi 58%, Kenya 26%, Tanzania 35%, Rwanda 38%, Uganda 29% and South Sudan 18%).

In order to facilitate regional trade, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) Secretariat organized training of women and youth in Mukono, Uganda from 19th to 22nd May 2021. A total of 38 women and Youth from the Republics of Burundi, Kenya and Uganda; and the United Republic of Tanzania were trained. The training was conducted by Senior Fish Inspectors from Ministries responsible for fish quality assurance and Technical Officers from Fisheries Training Institutes from the Republics of Burundi, Kenya and Uganda; and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Women and Youth were selected for training because they are the majority in the processing and marketing of Dagaa and they are the less privileged regarding access to fish as majority of the boats are owned by men. It is expected that the training will contribute to the reduction of post-harvest losses in Dagaa, it will lead to increased consumption of Dagaa and promotion of trade across borders (**Plate 8**).



Plate 5: Training session for artisanal women processing held in Mukono, Uganda in May 2021

AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Aquaculture in East African Community has not developed its full potential and accounts for only 7-8% of regional fish consumption. The overall demand for fish in the region is projected to rise substantially in the near future due to high growth, increasing incomes and urbanization. Developing aquaculture to meet the increasing demand for fish in East Africa is therefore crucial. The EAC Partner States have increased fish production by attracting more aquaculture projects to meet the fish deficit occasioned by declining catches from capture fisheries and population growth in the region; however, there are still some ways to go in order to satisfy the demand, which is increasing.

In order to harmonize aquaculture documents guiding the management of Aquaculture in the EAC, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization a specialized institution of the EAC in Fisheries and Aquaculture has developed a number of guidelines and policies such as:

- i) *Guideline for Establishment and Operation of Cage Fish Farming in the East African Community;*

- ii) *Guideline for certification of fish seed and fish feed in the East African Community (EAC); and*
- iii) *Cage Fish Farming Policy in the EAC, which is in its final stage of development.*

Status of Aquaculture in the EAC

The Status of Aquaculture as of June 2021 in the four Partner States was as follows:

The total aquaculture production has increased over the years from 78,640 metric tons in 2009 to 163,690 metric tons in 2020 with Burundi contributing 1,520 metric tons, Kenya contributing 19,950 metric tons, Uganda 125,000 metric tons and Tanzania 17,233 metric tons.

Table 1: Trends of National Aquaculture Production ('000 Metric tonnes)

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Kenya	1.00	12.20	16.50	21.50	23.50	24.10	18.70	15.00	12.36	15.00	18.54	19.95
Uganda	76.70	94.90	85.70	96.0	98.10	111.0	117.6	121.3	112.4	103.7	102.92	125
Tanzania	0.94	0.95	0.96	0.97	3.00	3.00	3.12	3.84	11.00	14.80	16.29	17.23
Burundi	-	-	-	-	-	0.42	0.89	1.21	1.25	1.29	1.35	1.52
Total	78.64	108.05	103.16	118.47	124.60	138.52	140.31	141.35	137.03	134.83	139.10	163.69

Based on Table 1 above, aquaculture production has increased in all the partner states from 2016 to 2020 with Burundi having very low aquaculture production compared to the rest of the Partner States.

Development of guidelines for the certification of fish seed and fish feed in the East African Community (EAC)

The meeting of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sectoral Council held on 2nd March 2018 urged Partner States to develop harmonized standards and certification procedures for fish seed and fish feed across the EAC region (FASCoM/RS1/7.3 (I)). This was as a result of increased concerns about quality of fish feed and seed and negative impacts on aquaculture development in the EAC. Following this directive, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) Secretariat convened and facilitated national meetings to consult and come up with inputs to the regional guidelines.

The LVFO Secretariat compiled the national inputs into a regional draft guideline for the certification of fish seed and fish feed for consideration by Partner States and eventual validation. The validation meeting was conducted on 29th September 2020 from 2.00p.m. to 4.30 p.m. through a virtual meeting. The participants requested that the draft guidelines should be restructured to have a section for fish seed and another section for fish feed and addresses the comments on the content. A consultant was then engaged to restore the guidelines as guided by the Partner States.

Development of Cage Fish Farming Policy in the EAC

The LVFO Secretariat coordinated the development of the Draft Cage Fish Farming Policy in the EAC in the financial year 2020-2021. There were concerns that Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy of the EAC does not address specifically the issue of Cage Fish Farming which is increasing in the EAC water bodies without proper laws and regulations.

In 2018, LVFO developed Guidelines for Establishment and Operation of Cage Fish Farming in the East African Community whose overall aim is to streamline and guide the establishment and operation of cage fish farming in line with international codes of practice for aquaculture to ensure environmental sustainability and harmony among the resource users. In addition, the EAC Fisheries and Aquaculture policy underscored the importance of conserving our environment for

Increased fish production from both capture and aquaculture production. Therefore, policy was needed to guide sustainable utilization of these natural water bodies to ensure that cage culture is conducted in sustainable manners without compromising reproductive potential of these water bodies and other usages. The consultant from Tanzania Dr. Charles Mahika has been recruited and presented an inception report in Arusha Tanzania on 1st June 2021. He also produced a draft policy, which was presented to the technical validation in a workshop in Bujumbura Burundi on 21st June 2021. The consultant completed and submitted the final Cage Fish Farming Policy by and is now awaiting FASCoM approval.



Plate 6: Participants in the validation meeting of Cage Fish Farming Policy on 21st June 2021 at Mount Zion Hotel in Bujumbura, Burundi

Training of Trainers of Cage Fish Farmers on Good Management Practices and Biosecurity Measures

The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation (LVFO) produced regional guidelines on cage fish farming for the East African Community (EAC) in 2018, which aims at ensuring that cage aquaculture enterprises are established, operated and managed in a manner that is in line with the Ecosystems Approach to Aquaculture (EAA). The approach required that aquaculture operations are sustainable and considers all ecosystem users, taking into account their influence on the social and natural environment surroundings. The content

of these guidelines needed to be popularized to current and prospective cage fish farmers in the EAC.

Thus, the need for training on good management practices and biosecurity to be done effectively through training of Trainers (5 per Partner State) who will in turn popularize the guidelines through their respective aquaculture associations, lower fisheries and aquaculture staff, and other key stakeholders. The training of trainers was done from 14th to 17th June 2021 at Cold Spring Hotel in Homa Bay Kenya and was attended by Senior Officers from the Ministries responsible for Aquaculture and Technical Officers from Fisheries Training Institutions from the Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.



Plate 7: Participants in Training of Trainers of Cage Fish Farmers on Good Management Practices and Biosecurity Measures at Homa Bay, Kenya: 14-17 June 2021



Plate 8: Participants of the Training of Trainers of Cage Fish Farmers on Good Management Practices and Biosecurity Measures visiting Rio Cage Fish Farming at Homa bay, Kenya

FISHERIES RESOURCE MONITORING AND RESEARCH

The directorate during the FY 2020/2021 implemented several activities that included:

Hydroacoustic survey 2020

Through financing from the RFBC project, LVFO coordinated the conduct of 2020 hydroacoustic survey in October 2020. Results of the survey indicated that the lake had 3.47 million tons (t) of fish, including Caridina, which was a 29% increase from the previous year 2019 (2.68 million tons). Nile perch (30%), was the most dominant followed by Caridina (28%), Dagaa (27%) and haplochromines and others (15%) respectively. The following key observations were made:

- i) Nile perch was generally more abundant in the western part of the lake, consistent with findings from the previous survey.
- ii) Nile perch biomass continued to expand, increasing by 25% compared to the 2018 and 2019 survey (Figure 1). As in the previous survey (2019), the highest increase in biomass was observed in Uganda and Tanzania waters;
- iii) The average size of Nile perch also improved slightly, increasing from 15.0 cm TL in 2019 to 18.39 cm in 2020, with the highest increase (of sizes above 50 cm TL), observed in the north-western parts of the lake (Uganda).
- iv) The biomass of dagaa increased by 10% relative to 2019 (Figure xx). The increase was only observed in Uganda and Kenya. Tanzania on the other hand recorded a decrease in dagaa biomass (36%). Unlike the previous survey, spatial differences were observed, with more dagaa concentrated in coastal and deep transects compared to inshore areas.
- v) Haplochromines and other fish, registered a 33% increase in biomass compared to the previous year. This group registered the highest average density (8 tons/km²) since 2017.
- vi) Caridina registered a 48% increase in biomass compared to the previous survey (Figure xx).

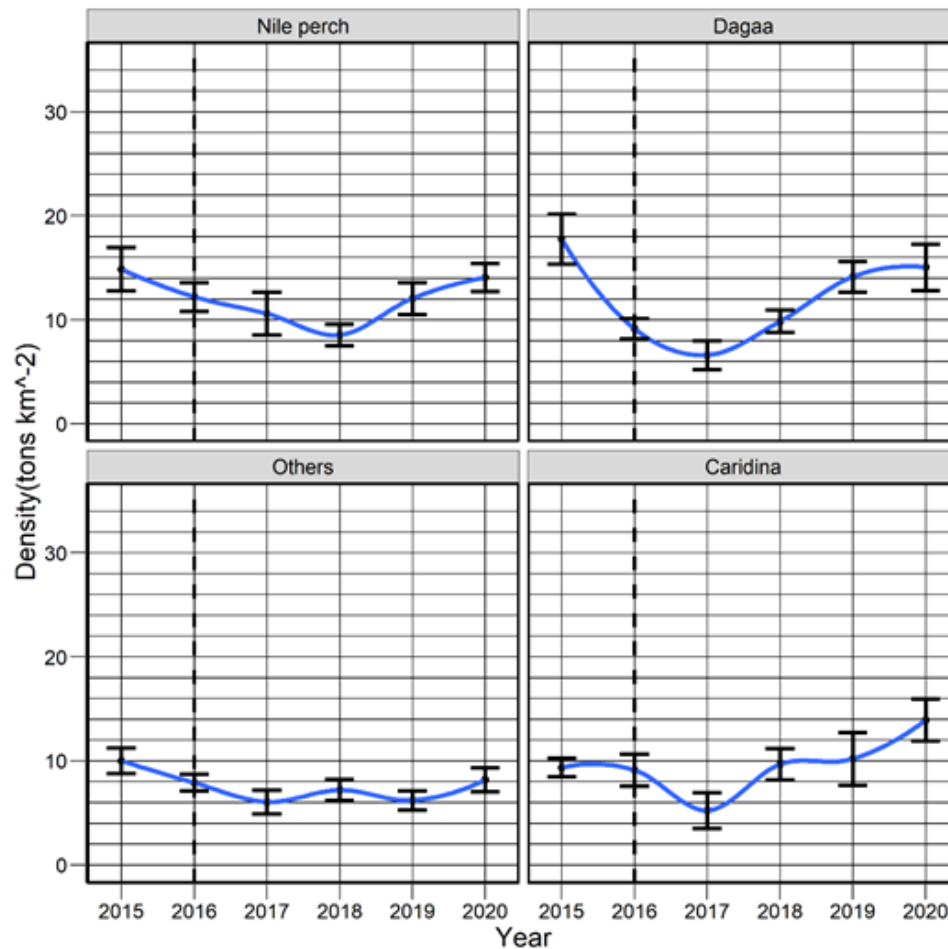


Figure 1: Trends in fish stock and Caridina estimated from the hydroacoustic surveys
Impacts of Covid-19 and water level rise to the livelihood of the fishing communities

With funding from Research Center for Environmental Economics (RCEE), Heidelberg University, Germany a study on the impact of COVID and rising water level to the livelihood of fishing communities was conducted in March 2021. The general results indicated a bigger shock on the Nile perch fishery, as reflected on the income derived from the different activities, than in the case of the Dagaa fishery. Kenya side of the lake was very much affected when compared to Tanzania and Uganda. Due to COVID restrictions, mobility restrictions were indeed felt by the communities as a source of interference with the daily activities, particularly by the strong enforcement practices especially in Kenya. For the rising water level, Dagaa fishery was more affected as most of the postprocessing infrastructure such as drying racks and smoking kilns were submerged. In addition, Nile perch handling facilities were as well affected, especially receiving place such as bandas and slabs (**Plate 9**) were submerged.



Plate 9: Nile perch receiving slabs destroyed by rising water level in Kenya

Frame survey 2020

The Frame Survey 2020 showed an overall improvement in landing site facilities, services and infrastructure such as primary schools, HIV/AIDS services, electricity, bandas, drying racks, fish store and engine repair facilities. Such facilities, services and infrastructure are very important in improving health of the fishing communities and address the issue of fish quality and safety. However, few important facilities such as landing sites with mobile network, cold rooms, smoking kilns, jetties, toilets, potable waters and banking facilities have reduced. This could be mainly the combination of several factors which include the current Covid-19 pandemic and water level rise among others.

The result also indicated that the total number of landing sites on the lake in 2020 has declined from 1,536 in 2016 to 1,364, In addition, the number of fishers has also decline from by 9,300 from 219,919 in 2016 to 210,619 in 2020 (**Figure 2**). The decline is mainly recorded in Tanzania and Uganda mainly due to major crack down of illegality put place in the recent years.

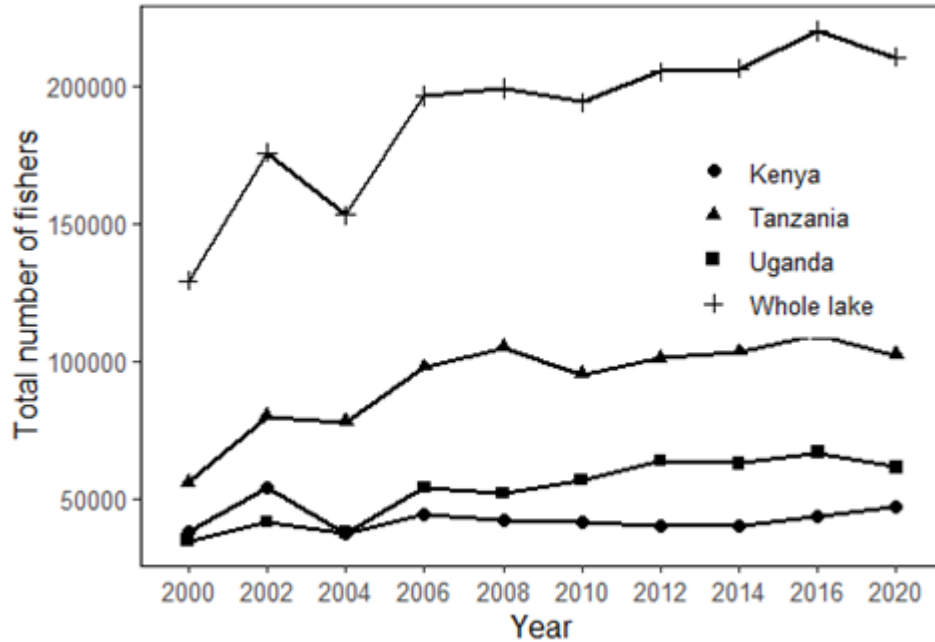


Figure 2: Distribution of fishers in Lake Victoria between 2000 and 2020

The major category of fish effort such as number of boats (**Figure 3**) and gears have decreased in different proportion with many fishers using triple gillnet panels to target Nile perch. In addition, there is a major increase of outboard engines indicating a major shift from Sesse pointed to Sesse flat boats in order to access more deep waters especially for Nile perch fisheries.

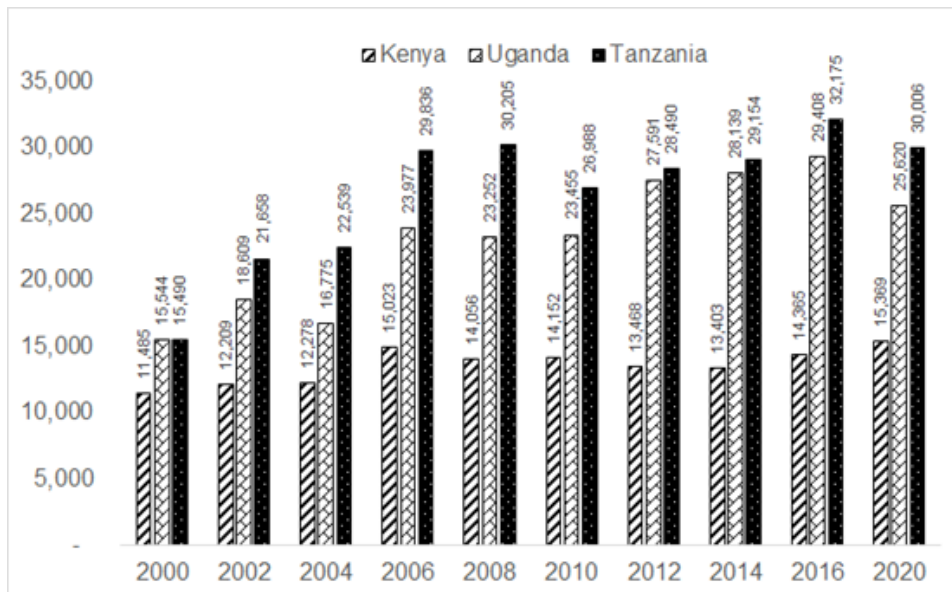


Figure 3: Distribution of fishing crafts in Lake Victoria recorded from 2000 to 2020 Frame Surveys

Further illegal fishing gears and methods have also been increasing due to weak enforcement of fisheries regulations and may undermine the efforts of Partner States in sustainable management and utilization of the fisheries resources for improved food security and poverty reduction

Further illegal fishing gears and methods have also reduced generally. The monofilament nets reduced by 20.2% from 20,842 in 2016 to 16,632 in 2020. The drastic decrease of monofilament nets in Uganda was attributed to increased enforcement of using legal gears on the Uganda side of Lake by the Fisheries Protection Unit instituted by the President of Uganda.

Therefore, some recommendations are proposed to guide proper planning, management and development of the fisheries sector for sustainability of the fisheries resources of Lake Victoria. These include:

1. Governments both Central and Local/Devolved should direct efforts to landing sites to increase provision of such essential facilities, services and infrastructure such as public toilets, portable water, health clinics so as to improve on the health of the fishing communities and address issue of fish quality and safety;
2. The Local/Devolved Governments should ensure fisheries officers are present at the landing sites to ensure adherence to fisheries laws and regulations;
3. Access and new entry of crafts into the fishery should be controlled consistently with both Regional Plan of Actions for managing fishing capacity (RPOA-Capacity) and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fisheries (RPOA-IUU) in Lake Victoria;
4. Control fishing effort and restrict entry into the fishery through species specific licencing of fishing vessels and fishers;
5. Unregistered and/or unlicensed fishing crafts and fishers should be removed from the fisheries;
6. Restrict establishment of new landing sites in favour of designated landings to facilitate management and law enforcement;
7. Village government and BMU leaders to be held responsible and accountable for any illegal fishing practices in their areas of jurisdiction;
8. Fish farming and other alternative sources of livelihood for fishing communities should be promoted to reduce fishing pressure on the dwindling wild fish stocks;
9. Bait collection should be monitored along with stock assessment of bait species to establish their potential to support the longline fishery;
10. Extensive sensitization and mentoring programmes initially supported by donor funded projects should be taken over by national and local governments;
11. Continued increase in the use of illegalities in the fishing calls for more efforts in MCS by both the BMUs and government agencies;
12. Fast tracking of the fish levy trust fund to provide supplementary funding of fisheries management activities; and
13. There is need for the fishing community to engage in alternative livelihoods e.g. sustainable cage culture, fish farming etc to reduce fishing effort.

Nile perch book writing

LVFO has collected and collated data and information on various aspects of Nile perch fisheries in Lake Victoria dating back to its introductions in 1950s and 1960s through a number of fisheries dependent and independent studies (Hydroacoustic, gillnetting,

bottom trawls, Catch Assessment, Frame surveys, Socio-economics among others). The Organization has constituted a team of scientists from the Partner States to come up with a book to inform policy formulation and management decision-making processes.

The draft book with ten closely related chapters has been completed and now undergoing internal review. The titles of these chapters are Chapter 1: The Lake Victoria Environment; Chapter 2: The Biology of Nile Perch; Chapter 3: The Introduction of Nile perch into Lake Victoria; Chapter 4: Ecological Impacts of Nile perch in Lake Victoria; Chapter 5: Biology of Nile perch; Chapter 6: Nile perch fishery; Chapter 7: Socio-economic impacts of Nile perch Fishery; Chapter 8: Nile Perch Fisheries Management; Chapter 9: Emerging Issues on Nile Perch Fisheries; Chapter 10: The future of Nile perch in Lake Victoria. Out of the 10 chapters, 9 were completed and ready for final editorial work (**Figure 4**). The last chapter which provides the information on the Future and synthesises information from other chapters will be completed once all the editorial work is completed.

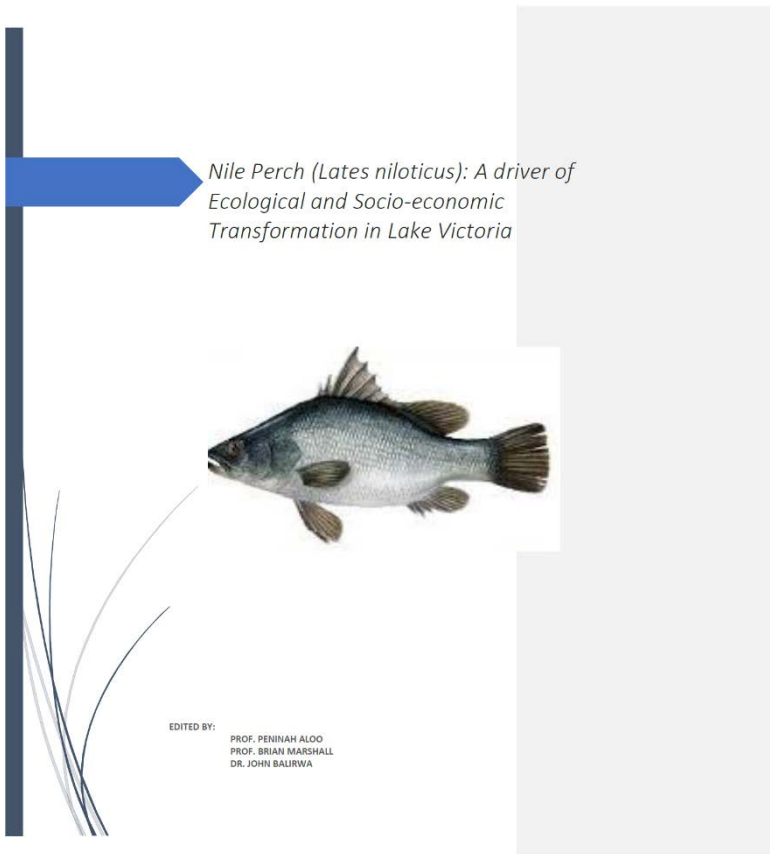


Figure 4: Draft Nile perch book cover

Economic and Financial Impact Assessment (EFIA) of Nile Perch Fisheries

The results of the Economic and Financial Impact Assessment (EFIA) indicated that the total fish landings in Tanzania and Kenya for dagaa fishing crafts propelled by outboard engines using small-seine have the highest catches averaging 53,767 and 56, 621 kilograms/year while in Uganda the highest annual landing is from Sesse-pointed boats using monofilament (22,388 kilograms). However, in terms of annual revenue, boats

targeting Nile perch have the highest income as represented by Sesse-flat using longline in Tanzania USD 15,528.9, Sesse-pointed using monofilament in Uganda USD 15,000 and Sesse-flat using gillnets in Kenya USD 25,439.

Results further show that the share of benefits between fishing units, that is, boat owners and fishing crews working in Sesse-flat boat using longline have the highest individual income of USD 7,649.5 and USD 6,920.9 respectively in Tanzania. This is different from Uganda where crew working in Sesse-pointed using longlines USD 6,068 and boat owners in Sesse-flat using longline USD 9,167 have the highest income. In Kenya, boat owners USD 15, 529 working in Sesse-flat using gillnets and crews USD 9,503 have the highest income.

The least income realized in Tanzania is by foot fishers USD 410.5, fishing crew working in Sesse-pointed using gillnet in Uganda USD 1,749 and crew working in parachute using gillnet USD 1,304.9 in Kenya. On the other hand, fish processors in Tanzania have an annual average income of USD 10,405 while a fish trader earns about USD 17,908. In Uganda, fish processors earn about USD 18,135 and a fish traders' annual profit of USD 8,500. Processors in Kenya pocket about USD 17, 918 compared to USD 49,043 for fish traders.

The findings suggest that motorized crafts are likely to be more profitable than non-motorized ones. And this could be because they fish in off-shore waters, and this could be considered a sustainable way of harvesting the fisheries resources. In addition, the study has shown that there may be discrepancy between data found on this study and what is normally recorded on official fisheries statistics and this may lead to under-estimation of actual contribution of the fisheries in economic growth and employment. Our reconstructed estimates estimate that catches are 1.8 times less, whereas the value of landings in Lake Victoria is two (2) times less than published official estimates. In a nutshell, it is clear that the fisheries sector has more economic benefits beyond the production level which needs to be measured in order to estimate the actual economic impact.

PROJECTS AND COLLABORATIONS

EU-EAC True Fish Farming Story in the Lake Victoria basin (EDF-11-TRUE-FISH) Project

LVFO Secretariat in collaboration with Landell Mills, FAO and WorldFish is implementing the EU-EAC TRUEFISH Farming Story in Lake Victoria Basin (TRUEFISH), a project financed under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF 11), for the benefit of the East African Community (EAC). The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the development of competitive, gender equitable and sustainable commercial aquaculture in order to support economic development and sustainable management of natural resources in the Lake Victoria basin. The overall budget is EUR10.15 million. Three result areas are: Result 1: Improved access to commercial networks for competitive aquaculture-related businesses; Result 2: Increased availability and quality of local skilled workers in aquaculture-related businesses; Result 3: Sustainable and bio-secure regional aquaculture production systems. The project will focus particularly in the Lake Victoria Basin in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda however, the components on aquatic animal health and biosecurity shall be extended to other EAC Member States.

So far, Letter of Agreement (LoA) between LVFO and FAO and hosting agreement between LVFO and WorldFish Centre have been signed on 19 December and 11th December 2021 respectively. Project staff from FAO and Landell Mills are on the ground. LVFO has also finalized the recruitment process with True Fish Project Coordination Unit (PCU) staff reporting to duty on 11 January 2021. Project staff recruited are:

- i) Project Coordinator: Dr. Elysee Nzohabonayo – Republic of Burundi
- ii) Project Administrative Assistant: Ms, Teresa Anyango Werrhe – Republic of Kenya
- iii) Project Driver: Mr. Mohamed Lutaaya – Republic of Uganda

The EAC Secretariat signed a contract with Landell Mills on 12th May 2021 to support implementation of project activities under Component 1, which is to support improved access to finance and to commercial networks for competitive aquaculture-related businesses. An inception workshop and Steering committee was done on 31st May and 1st June 2021 in Arusha. During this period the FAO and Landell Mills team were allocated the newly partitioned offices at the LVFO Secretariat and office furniture and equipment were procured for the PCU team. The project also received the project vehicle a Toyota Hilux double cabin.

TrueFish Project inception workshop and steering committee

The LVFO Secretariat in collaboration with FAO and World Fish is implementing the EU-EAC TRUEFISH Farming Story in the Lake Victoria Basin (TRUEFISH), a project financed under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF 11), for the benefit of the East African Community (EAC). The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the development of a competitive, gender equitable and sustainable commercial aquaculture in order to support economic development and sustainable management of natural resources in the Lake Victoria Basin. The project will focus particularly in the Lake Victoria Basin in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda however, the components on aquatic animal health and biosecurity will be extended to other EAC Member Partner States like Burundi and Rwanda.

The inception workshop was convened on 31st May 2021 in Arusha, Tanzania to formally launch the project and discuss the implementation and status of the project. This was also to create an opportunity for networking among the stakeholders and was attended by Senior Officials (Directors) from the four (4) Partner States, LVFO Senior Officers, EU Delegation and the implementing partners: Landell Mills, FAO and WorldFish together with other collaborators on the three project components. The following are the recommendations from the Inception workshop:

- i) Landell Mills and World Fish to relocate to LVFO Secretariat in Jinja within one month from the date of the meeting;
- ii) All implementers to submit their inception reports to LVFO including work plans for the 1st 6 months of implementation;
- iii) LVFO to review the reports and submit to EAC, EU and the Project Steering Committee;
- iv) LVFO to complete and share the report of this meeting in one-month time;
- v) Project steering committee to meet a day after the project launch in the same venue;
- vi) Extension of the project deadline will depend on results given by the implementers.

The PSC meeting was also convened on the next day 1st June 2021, in Arusha, Tanzania to review the overall policy and strategic directions of the project, monitor the overall performance and coherence between the different components, and provide guidance as appropriate to ensure delivery of the project outputs and the achievement of project outcomes. The PSC recommended the following:

- i) LVFO to communicate to Partner States and other stakeholders to nominate members to the various committees in one month
- ii) To hold the next Project Steering Committee in December 2021
- iii) The implementers to fill the M&E frameworks by end of June 2021
- iv) LVFO to complete the monitoring and evaluation framework by end of July 2021
- v) To increase communication between implementers and heads of beneficiaries' institutions



Plate 10: Participants in the True Fish Inception Workshop, on 31st May 2021 at the EAC Secretariat, Arusha, Tanzania



Plate 11: Participants in the True Fish steering committee on 1st June 2021 at the EAC Secretariat, Arusha, Tanzania

Responsible Fisheries Business Chains on Lake Victoria Project

The project 'Responsible Fisheries Business Chains on Lake Victoria (RFBC) is supported under the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) Global Programme 'One World-No Hunger'. The project is formulated to implement some key interventions identified in the NPFMP (2015-2019) and the Lake Victoria Fisheries Management Plan III. The guiding framework is intending to adopt new approaches to fisheries management that are based on economics, wealth creation, value chains, business enterprises and a proactive private sector, adoption of a business approach linked to resource management and a move from open to controlled fisheries access using licensing as management tools only in Uganda.

Under resource monitoring, GIZ is supporting the reviews of Standard Operating Procedures and Nile Perch Fisheries Management Plan III which is still under development, development of Electronic Catch Assessment System pilot the system, Conduct of hydroacoustic surveys (2018,2019 and 2020), Implement E-CAS survey, Economic and Financial Impact Assessment, Support Review of Co-management and guidelines for fish maw extraction, processing and trade.

The project is implemented in Public Private Partnership arrangement involving LVFO Institutions, the Private Sector – The Fish Processors Associations in the three Partner States (AFIPEK; TIFPA & UFFPEA); and BMU Networks. The estimated budget is EUR 8 Million; with about EUR 1.62 Million allocated to LVFO Institutions and about EUR 1.2 Million to the Associations while about EUR 5 Million is for the support and administrative costs through the GIZ. During this financial year, financial agreement was signed to implement activities in the extension phase up to July 2022.

Collaboration with the University of St. Andrews (Scotland)

LVFO in collaboration with the University of St. Andrews secured funding (UK£ 724,548.80) from the UK Royal Society to implement two Projects:

Schistosomiasis, shallow-water fisheries and human resilience around Lake Victoria: towards a multidisciplinary solution for interlinked human-health and food-security challenges

This is a three-year project intended to untangle the relationship between fish production and schistosomiasis (bilharzia) infection in the fishing communities on the major islands of Lake Victoria. Comprehensive studies were conducted in 2019 and 2020 to establish the extent of schisto infestation on island fishing communities and types of fish around these areas to determine the types that eat snails in order to reduce schisto intermediate hosts. This project is worth UK£ 500,000. Two surveys were conducted during this period.



Plate 12: Scientists going out for field trip during schisto sampling

Cutting-edge fisheries research for sustainable management of Lake Victoria's Silver Cyprinid'

The main objective of the project is to improve understanding of Dagaa variability in its temporal and spatial distribution and improve long-term sustainable management. The project has been implemented effective 1st January 2019, to run for 3 years. This project is worth UK £ 224,548.80. So far, two surveys using new EK80 hydro-acoustic wide band system has been organized to identify and characterize schools of dagaa in the water column with a view to improve its biomass estimation. In addition, 7 scientists were taken for a short course in UK and 2 are pursuing long term training in UK at PhD level. Activities for this year were postponed due to new covid-19 restrictions imposed by the UK government, apart from one activity in February 2020 which brought scientists for capacity building and fieldwork to recover mooring equipment.

Tipping Points in Large Lake Fisheries: Multi layered System Governance and Behavioural Responses (MultiTip)

In collaboration with the University of Heidelberg, Germany through Multi-Tip project, EUR 500,000 were mobilized. The objective of MultiTip is to apply the conceptual and methodological toolbox of mental models and behavioural economics to stakeholders' collective management of a freshwater fishery that is predicted to encounter a population collapse in the commercially most important species in the near future. This application builds on empirical evidence from cognate, but different contexts, such as climate change and eutrophication. In these contexts, mental models have been found to be important drivers of stakeholders' beliefs in the consequences of their actions and to co-determine observed behaviour.

MultiTip will provide evidence on how the mechanisms through which mental models and behavioural economics affect the presence, and shape of, collective action work in a freshwater fishery setting. Furthermore, it will assess how leveraging these mechanisms through external intervention can contribute to stakeholders' collective action to save the threatened ecosystems. In the reporting period a number of works has been done which included Impacts of Covid-19 and water level rise to the livelihood of the fishing communities reported in section 5.2 and modelling work which built capacity of LVFO modelling team through some modelling training.

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

During the year under review, the organization saw diverse forms of development in the directorate of information Communication Technology ranging` for software development to diverse acquisition and revamping of hardware. The directorate developed/acquired a number of software licenses to support the technical and administrative functions of the organization as follows:

- i)** Electronic Recruitment system
- ii)** Electronic Catch Assessment Software
- iii)** Virtual meeting platforms (Zoom, MsTeams, google apps, etc)
- iv)** Hardware developments

FINANCE, HUMAN RESOURCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Audit

The organization books of accounts were audited by the Audit commission that issued an unqualified opinion; status obtained for nine consecutive years running

Finance

The approved Budget for the LVFO for the FY 2020-21 as approved by EAC COM and appropriated by EALA was USD3, 077,934, against which USD1, 945,938 was to be contributed by Partner States and USD1,131,996 by Development Partners. As at 30th June 2021, actual disbursements were USD1, 709,442.18 from Partner States and USD1, 129,044.83 from Development Partners. The overall performance of the institution stood at 69%.

Human resource

Mandatory retirement of staff

During the FY 2020-21, the Former Director Fisheries Management and Development Dr. Rhoda Tumwebaze retired from active service in September 2020 upon attaining the mandatory retirement age as specified in Regulation 102 (1) of the LVFO staff rules and Regulations 2018.

Recruitment to fill critical vacant positions in the organization

Following the retirement of the Former DFMD, the organization recruited Dr. Edward Rukunya as Director Fisheries Management and Development. In addition, 5 officers were recruited on project specific activities as illustrated in section 6 of this report.

Staff establishment vs staffing levels

The LVFO established structure is comprised of two (2) Executive staff and twenty-one (21) professional staff. During the year under review, the organisation had two (2) Executive staff and seven (7) Professional staff in place.

Administration

Disposal of old assets

A number of the institution assets that were obsolete / damaged and no longer in use were valued by a team of Government of Uganda Valuers from the Ministry of Works and Transport and recommended for Disposal. The Fisheries and Aquaculture Sectoral Council of Ministers sitting in April 2021 authorized the organization to dispose the assets off. The process is under way and will be concluded in 2021-22.

Acquisition of new project vehicles

During the same year under review, the organization acquired three new project vehicles to support diverse project activities.



16.0 EAST AFRICAN HEALTH RESEARCH COMMISSION (EAHRC)

1. Introduction

During the period under review, the East African Health Research Commission worked under The East African Health Research Commission (EAHRC) is an Institution of the East African Community EAC) established by the 5th Extra-Ordinary Summit of the EAC Heads of State on 18th June 2007. The EAHRC has been established as a mechanism for making available to the community, advice upon all matters of health and health related research the Development Objective of the East African Community which is:

Strengthening the Social Dimensions of the Regional Integration process to deliver quality, effective and efficient socio-economic services - with emphasis on enhancing Human Capital Development; gainful employment and decent work; health status; as well overall welfare of the people of East Africa, and under the priority area of Providing a Mechanism for making available to the Community, advice upon all matters of health and health-related research and findings necessary for knowledge generation, technological *development, policy formulations, practices and the related matters*

2. Key activities planned to be achieved during the FY 2020-2021 are as following:

- (i) To develop the EAHRC 05 Year Strategic Plan 2021 – 2026
- (ii) To implement telemedicine linking E.A Centres of Excellence (CoE) with other Health and academic facilities across the region for advanced and specialized Healthcare services, continuous medical education, and research in the region
- (iii) To organize a biannual workshop to refine the health data to be collated on the EA Web Portal for Health Information: put in place strategies for collation, update, & Quality assessment of health data; & design indicators for quality assessment.
- (iv) To publish at least 03 issues of the EAHRJ annually
- (v) To publish at least 02 issues of the East African Science Journal (EASci) annually
- (vi) To convene a regional workshop of East African Journals Editors in Chief to discuss the indexation of the Scientific materials to the EA web portal
- (vii) To strengthen Young East African Research Scientist (YEARS) in research ecosystem skills: Part III & IV, Monitoring & Evaluation of Research, and Strengthening health systems by generated evidence
- (viii) To convene and hold the 8th East African Health and Scientific Conference March 2021
- (ix) To convene at least 04 National Steering Committee Meetings in preparation for the 8th EAHSC March 2021
- (x) To convene at least 02 Regional Steering Committee meetings in preparation for the 8th EAHSC March 2021

(xi) To conduct Staff Recruitment for Priority Staff to fill the organogram of EAHRC

(xii) To convene and conduct 02 EAHRC Commissioners Meetings, 02 General NFP Meetings, attend all EAC Statutory Meetings & develop next EAHRC 05 Year Strategic Plan

(xiii) To convene and hold consultative meetings with Donors & Development Partners to develop and implement strategies for monitoring & mitigating the 10/90 gap

3. Key achievements

3.1 Institutional Capacity Development

3.1.1 EAHRC permanent Headquarters

As per Article 2 (1) (a) of the Headquarters Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Burundi and the EAC for the EAHRC, the Government of Burundi was to avail land for EAHRC permanent Headquarters.

On 25th November 2019, the Government of the Republic of Burundi granted a plot free of service fees to the EAHRC to build a permanent EAHRC headquarters. The piece of land has a square of 24,395.97 m² and is located in Kizingwe - Bihara, Bujumbura. The attribution letter of the plot to the EARC.

During the 39th Meeting of Council of Ministers, EAC/CM39/Decision 45, a supplementary budget of US\$ 66,200 was adopted for the preparatory activities related to the construction of the permanent EAHRC Headquarters. However, due to the negative impact of the worldwide COVID19 pandemic on travel restrictions, the EAHRC Secretariat was unable to proceed with the preparatory activities.

The EAHRC secretariat is currently in the process of developing the architectural plan. Furthermore, the EAHRC submitted a request of budget line for the FY 2021-2022 to initiate the preparatory activities.

3.1.2 EAHRC organogram and staffing

The 13th ordinary meeting of the EAC Sectoral Council of Ministers of Health approved the EAHRC organogram and staffing. The approved organogram comprises 34 staff and was expected to be fully implemented during the period 2016 – 2021 to coincide with the period of the 1st EAHRC strategic plan 2016-2021.

Recruitment process of approved staff was prolonged and lagged behind the approved recruitment schedule under the EAHRC Strategic Plan 2016 – 2021 and all recruitment processes were suspended due the Workload Analysis and Job Evaluation Exercise of the EAC Organs and Institutions that started in 2018.

Advertisement on recruitment of EAC staff issued by EAC Secretariat for the FY 2019-2020 included critical positions for the EAHRC namely the position of the Executive

Secretary, the Deputy Executive Secretary, the Principal Knowledge Management Officer, the Principal Ethics Regulatory Affairs and Research Environment Officer, the Senior ICT Officer and the Procurement Officer. So far, the recruitment process is not yet concluded. Recruitment of the staff is of critical importance to enable the EAHRC to implement its strategic plan.

In August 2020, the two (02) Executive Staff of the Commission ended their tenure i.e. the Executive Secretary and the Deputy Executive Secretary. The 41st Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers appointed Dr. Novat Twungubumwe as the acting Executive Secretary and appointed Dr. Fabian Mashauri as the acting Deputy Executive Secretary. The 40th Ordinary Council of Ministers held in Arusha, Tanzania on 22nd -25th February, 2021 approved the renewal of the two EAHRC acting Executives positions for the period of 6 months starting in February 2021.

3.2 Research Collaboration and Capacity Development

Prevalence of COVID -19 in patients with Severe Acute Respiratory Infection in EAC region.

Prevalence of COVID -19 in patients with Severe Acute Respiratory Infection in EAC region: The EAHRC Secretariat conducted a study on the prevalence of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)-CoV-2 in patients with severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) between 1st November 2019 and 29th February 2020 and of available antibodies. The overall objective of the study was to verify if COVID-19 infections had already occurred in the region before the first cases in Africa were officially reported by WHO in March 2020. The study was implemented in five (5) EAC Partner States with 2 phases. The first phase consisted of testing archived swab samples of patients who presented with SARI-like symptoms between 1st November 2019 and 29th February 2020 were to be re-tested with PCR for the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2. The second phase would be conducted upon positive results from the 1st phase. All the samples tested negative, which indicates that COVID-19 was not present in the EAC region before the first official cases were reported.

d) Web Portal for Health – EAC one-stop center for health information. The web portal continues to be a vibrant source of information on health matters within the year. The web portal activities includes; scraping data from various databases and uploading them in web portal, preparing conference website and abstract submission system for the 8th EAHSC.

e) East African Health Research Journal (EAHRJ) – **The EAHRJ is now published** thrice annually. During the year, EAHRJ was registered and **indexed on PubMed** (leading international medical search engine) and African Journals OnLine (AJOL). The issues published in the FY were EAHRJ volume 4 issue 1; EAHRJ volume 4 issue 2 and EAHRJ volume 5 issue 1

f) East African Health Science Journal (EAHSci) – This is a no fee, open access, peer reviewed journal. It publishes papers on a wide range of topics relevant to basic science,

technology, and innovation for health. The EASci is already registered and indexed to African Journals OnLine (AJOL). The issue published in this FY is EASci volume 3 issue

3.3 The 8th East African Health and Scientific Conference

The main theme of the 8th EAHSC is ‘‘ *East African Community Sustainable Development Goal on Health: Reflection and Path Ahead to 2030*’’. The 18th Sectoral Council decided that the 8th East African Health and Scientific Conference was to be held from 24th to 26th March 2021 and would be hosted by the Republic of Kenya. Due to prevailing circumstances of COVID-19 pandemic, the 20th Sectoral Council of Ministers of Health directed the EAHRC to hold the 8th Scientific Conference **in November 2021**. In the process of the preparatory activities, the EAHRC Secretariat met with High level Officials from the Ministry in charge of Health of the host Country, participated in the meeting with the regional steering committee, the national steering committee and the scientific sub-committee.

3.4 Report of the 7th meeting of the Commissioners of EAHRC

The 7th meeting of the Commissioners of EAHRC was held from 12th -13th November 2020 in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania. The agenda included among others the implementation status of the recommendations of the 6th meeting of EAHRC Commissioners, implementation status of the decisions and directives of the 18th and 19th Sectoral Council of Ministers of Health, preparations of the 8th East African Health and Scientific Conference, Mid Term Review of the EAHRC Strategic Plan 2016-2021, the implementation status of ongoing/initiative programs.

The 7th meeting of EAHRC Commissioners made a number of decisions, recommendations and directives that guide the EAHRC to achieve its mandate and were submitted to the Sectoral Council of Ministers for consideration.

4. Budget performance for the FY 2020-2021

5. General challenges

The key challenges which affected implementation of Community programs and projects during the period under review include: -

a) The then worldwide ongoing COVID-19 pandemic which affected the implementation of Commission’s activities; most of activities being planned to be implemented with physical presence.

b) Limited staffing capacity as most Departments/Units have a single established position-staff are highly overwhelmed by workload, situation that is detrimental to their health and work performance

17.0 GENERAL CHALLENGES

The key challenges which affected implementation of Community programmes and projects during the period under review include: -

- a) Delays in disbursements of financial commitments by Partner States and Development Partners especially during first two quarters of the financial years.
- b) The approval process by Finance and Administration Committee and EALA sometimes cut Budget of key priority areas adopted during the pre-budget conference
- c) Limited staffing capacity as most Departments/Units have a single established position- staff are highly overwhelmed by workload, situation that is detrimental to their health and work performance
- d) COVID 19 Pandemic

18.0. RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) There is need to adopt and implement harmonized regional approaches in responding to the ongoing COVID - pandemic and any other epidemic outbreaks that may happen in future
- b) Partner States to adhere to schedule of disbursement of contributions to the EAC Budget;
- c) Increase staffing levels at the EAC Organs and Institutions commensurate to its workload;
- d) Introduce enhanced/objective staff performance evaluation tool that enables granting rewards to best performers;

19.0 CONCLUSION

The Covid Pandemic affected the implementation of most activities, but though substantial progress has been attained across sectors and thematic areas as outlined in the Annual Operational Plan for the period under review (July 2020 – June 2021). Key among all is that most of Statutory Meetings (Council and Sectoral Councils) were held, albeit some challenges relating to lack of quorum, and changes of dates/postponements, problems due to COVID-19 which affected implementation of other activities.