



INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM AND WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE LAKE VICTORIA BASIN REGION OF KENYA. CONFERENCE

DATES: 3RD-6TH Feb. 2015

VENUE: KISUMU HOTEL (MASENO UNIVERSITY - KISUMU CAMPUS) – KENYA

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION: Collaboration between Maseno University; Moi University; Lake Basin Development Authority; - Kenya; BayCEER-CREATE at University of Bayreuth – Germany and ARIDnet – China-USA.

Invitation:

Lake Victoria Basin ecosystems are increasingly affected by human activities. Development agencies, policymakers and managers, require scientific advice on which to base their resource management decisions. In this regard, the regulatory measures meant to influence long-term change, along with socio-economic opportunities, and their compatibility with local environmental perceptions and local environmental knowledge must be reassessed and redirected. Consequently, the Lake Basin Development Authority and Western Kenya universities have formed alliances with all relevant actors both within and outside the region by organizing a conference in Kisumu, Kenya. The conference is expected to address issues of how to best organize integrated science and management that will draw on new approaches, contribute to resource integrity, achieve new gains in providing services to find acceptance among the local population and propose concrete measures for addressing various development challenges with a special focus on the Nzoia River Basin in the Lake Victoria basin.

The broad goal of the conference is to develop new partnerships, information exchange and cooperative initiatives that contribute to education, problem solving and resource management in the Lake Basin region. In particular, the meeting will foster a strong cooperation among Maseno University, Moi University and the Lake Basin Development Authority and with international input from the Consortium for Research in East African Tropical Ecosystems (CREATE). The CREATE platform is open to all researchers interested in advancing human well-being in the East African region (see <http://www.bayceer.uni-bayreuth.de/CREATE/>). The conference should lead to key analysis and demonstration project research for linking science to environmental preservation, Land use Systems, Social Justice and Economic Efficiency.

THEMATIC AREAS

1. Ecosystem Services Research and Management,
2. Ecosystem Restoration Studies,
3. Water Dynamics and Soil Integrity
4. Reforestation and Tree Planting,
5. Nutrient Management Technologies,
6. Valuation, Maintenance and Productive Use of Wetland Ecosystems and Services
7. Information and Outreach Material Aimed at Communities
8. Governance, Management Insights and Analysis of Institutional Designs
9. Bio-economic Research and Development
10. Biodiversity and Key Species
11. Water Quality Issues
12. Diversification in Small Holder Farms
13. Social Motivation and the Response to Global Change

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

A one (1) page abstract of 200 to 300 words comprising: Title, author(s), affiliation(s), the body and 4 key words should be submitted electronically (e-mail attachment) to the secretariat through the contacts listed below;

Prof. J. Tenhunen: john.tenhunen@uni-bayreuth.de and Prof. J. C. Onyango: jconyango@yahoo.com

LANGUAGE : The official language of the conference shall be English

PRESENTATION DETAILS

Each oral presenter shall be entitled to no more than 15 minutes for a presentation plus a maximum of 5 minutes for questions. Oral presentations should be in Power Point. Poster (approx. A0) presentations will be displayed Poster Session.

IMPORTANT DATES

Activity	Date
Submission of abstract	15 th December 2014
Confirmation of attendance	05 th January 2015
Confirmation of accommodation	05 th January 2015

TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATION

The Kisumu Hotel of Maseno University Kisumu Town campus is about 5 Km from Kisumu international Airport. There are taxis from the airport to the hotel at affordable cost of max. 20 USD per trip. Participants may request the organizers to help in making reservations .

WHY COME FOR THE CONFERENCE

Apart from sharing of scientific knowledge and experiences among the participants and experts in these thematic areas from across the world, Western Kenya is full of diverse ecosystems that range from rain forest to Savanna grass lands with beautiful landscape sceneries and fauna and flora of great diversity. The mountains, the rivers, the swamps, the ox-bow lake, the Webuye and Ndano Water Falls are some of the habitats worthy of scientific curiosity. In addition, Lake Victoria-the 2nd largest fresh water lake is a beautiful habitat under stress. The area which strides over the Equator at Maseno has diverse social and cultural touristic resources for scientists and lovers of nature.

CONTACT PERSONS

Prof. John Tenhunen: john.tenhunen@uni-bayreuth.de and Prof. J. C. Onyango: jconyango@yahoo.com