

## Country perspectives: implementation of OIE standards in UGANDA - challenges”

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### Overview

- Introduction
- Challenges
- Suggested interventions

### UGANDA Location



- Land-locked
- Area - 241,038km<sup>2</sup>
- nearly 20% area covered with water
- 5 major lakes
- 160 small lakes
- Many streams and swamps

### Introduction

Fisheries Sector contributes over 12% of the National Agricultural GDP and is second to coffee in export earnings bringing an estimated USD 200 million of exports annually, and another nearly USD 300 million of fish products consumed locally and in trade with neighbouring countries in the Africa region.

### Declining fish catch and the community



### Capture vs Aquaculture

Fish largely comes from capture fisheries with aquaculture contributing 10% but showing rising trend over the last 10 years. The aquaculture sector has begun to attract new entrants including the middle and working class and the businessmen that target specific and established markets including export to both regional and premium markets.

## Earthen pond based production



Dominant production systems are earthen pond based which are characterized by low yields, marginal returns and often losses



More efficient production systems have been adopted



## Management and Development of Fisheries Sector

- Management of the fisheries sector is the public mandate of Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries specifically the Department of Fisheries Resources. This includes policymaking, implementation, planning, coordination and regulation

## Trade and national border controls

- Uganda is a member to the World Animal Health Organization and of the World Trade Organization. The Directorate of Animal Resources (Director) is the competent authority of the OIE . There are a number of legislations that regulate import and export, and movement within of animals in the country

## Trade ctd

- International: EU, Asia, Japan, US
- Regional: the DRC, Kenya, Rwanda, CAR, Angola, the Sudan,
- Processed scales, bladder sacs, skin: China, Italy, South Africa
- Trade in live fish for bait, fingerlings and broodstocks
  - Bait to Nile perch long line fishery in the three L. Victoria riparian countries
  - Grow out fry and fingerlings to farmers in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, the DRC
  - Improved broodstock for hatchery operators to: The DRC, Tanzania and Kenya

## CHALLENGES

- **General lack of awareness and appreciation of the importance of Aquatic Animal Health:** the public perception that fish do not have disease or if they had it is of no consequence to human health
- **Policy and Regulation:** largely remain on paper for most capture fisheries and aquaculture activities.
- The existing policy cannot therefore adequately prevent entry and spread of exotic aquatic animal pathogens
- No specific policy of aquatic Biosecurity
- **Inadequate Infrastructure and human capacity**

## CHALLENGES

### Surveillance and Monitoring

- Lack of capacity for effectively handling of aquatic animal health issues. There is no Aquatic Animal Health Service.
- No risk analysis and management plan.

## Suggested interventions

- Create national awareness on aquatic animal diseases.
- Stream policy and regulatory framework for aquatic animal diseases
- Empower the Competent Authority by creation of a specialised animal health unit
- Train and create a critical mass of aquatic animal epidemiologists
- Establish a national aquatic animal health surveillance and reporting system
- Orient the existing laboratory facilities and build the capacity for diagnosis of aquatic animal diseases.

