




NBD Information sheet

Kenya

The Nile Basin in Kenya

The Nile Basin in Kenya principally refers to the Lake Victoria basin. The Kenya National Discourse Forum (KNDF) is seeking to address environmental and developmental challenges in the basin through engagement with regional environmental management programmes, including the NBI. These challenges include scarcity of potable water, flooding, soil erosion and water hyacinth infestation. The KNDF is a network of over 400 civil society groups concerned with making sure these challenges are addressed to the benefit of communities in Kenya. It is organised around six focal points covering the entire basin.

Engagement with Environmental Management Programmes



The KNDF has successfully engaged with the NBI's Nile Transboundary Environmental Action Micro Grants Program, which supports small-scale environmental projects. A joint monitoring system will be developed to follow up these projects and to discuss scaling up success stories. Currently the projects are small, but scaling up would begin to address the serious environmental challenges in this region. KNDF also collaborates with the NBI Confidence Building and Stakeholder Involvement (CBSI) Program to host water workshops on key issues including water harvesting. These workshops discuss water management options and build the capacity of participants to promote such options in their communities.

KNDF has also participated in the Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project – a major intergovernmental project to address environmental and development challenges in the equatorial lakes region. KNDF successfully lobbied for CSOs to be involved in the project at sub-national levels, and the NBD will be a key player in future implementation of the project.

Raising awareness

The KNDF has held debates across the region between politicians and CSO members—widely covered in the media—that highlight community concerns and generate ideas for action. Radio talk shows have focused on key environmental concerns such as management options for Lake Victoria fisheries, presented by the KNDF. The KNDF has organised events on Nile Day, World Water Day and Lake Victoria day, particularly focusing on community water management. It also houses a resource centre on diverse topics relating to water resources management, environment and development in the Nile Basin.

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