



MABAMBA BAY WETLAND COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Mabamba Bay Wetland Eco-Tourism Association



Mabamba Bay Wetland Community Action Plan, Kasanje Sub-County, Wakiso District

Supported by:

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Table of Contents

LIST OF ACRONYMS	iv
1.0 BACKGROUND	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Justification	1
2.0 SITE AND COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT	2
2.1 Site description	2
2.1.1 Location and boundaries	2
2.1.2 Habitat description	2
2.1.3 Official protection and management status	2
2.1.4 Tenure/ ownership	3
2.1.5 Biodiversity importance	4
2.1.6 Physical features	4
2.1.7 Current land use	5
2.2 Natural resources and their use	5
2.2.1. Natural Resources	5
2.2.2 Location and distribution of resources	6
2.2.3 Access, Management and use of Natural Resources	6
2.2.4 Seasonal patterns of resource availability and use	7
2.2.5 Threat Assessment/Hazard Mapping	7
2.2.6 Livelihoods Vulnerability assessment	8
2.2.7 Conservation measures taken	9
2.3 The Community	10
2.3.1 Community Structure, Organisation and Processes	10
2.3.2 Name, location and resources	10
2.3.3. Objectives of the Community group	10
2.3.4 Current status of the community	10
2.4 External stakeholders and their relations	10
3.0 PLAN OF ACTION	12
3.1 Background	12
3.6 Methods and Participants	12
3.6.1 Methods	12
3.6.2 Tools	12
3.6.3 Participants	13
3.1 Vision	13
3.2 Goal	13
3.3 Objectives	13
3.4 Strategies and Actions	13
Appendix I: MABAMBA BAY PARTICIPANTS FOR WORKSHOP I	17
Appendix II: MABAMBA BAY PARTICIPANTS FOR WORKSHOP II	18
ANNEXES	20

LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.6.1: Mabamba Bay Community Site Action Plan Matrix 2014-2018	14
Table 3.6.2: Mabamba Bay Action Plan proposed implementation budget (in UGX)	16

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Map of Mabamba bay wetland system	3
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

BMU	Beach Management Unit
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
DFO	District Forest Officer
DWRM	Directorate of Water Resource Management
IBA	Important Bird and Biodiversity Area
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LC	Local Council
LG	Local Government
LEP	Local Empowerment Programme
MWETA	Mabamba Wetland Eco-tourism Association
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NARO	National Agricultural Research Organisation
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NU	NatureUganda
UWA	Uganda Wildlife Authority
WMD	Wetlands Management Department
VHT	Village Health Team
VAD	Voluntary Action for local development.

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

Wetlands and aquatic resources provide the country with much needed services for water treatment, water supply and other products. However, wetlands continue to be encroached upon and are being destroyed at an alarming rate. Recognizing, demonstrating, and capturing the values of ecosystem services related to water and wetlands can lead to better informed, more efficient, and fairer decision-making. We have often greatly undervalued the importance of both coastal and inland wetlands. It has been shown that wetlands deliver higher value per unit area than tropical forests mainly because of their water-related benefits, such as water purification and flood and storm mitigation.

“Everyone in the world depends on water for our life, livelihoods and business, and wetlands are the natural infrastructure that manage and provide our water for us” says Nick Davidson, Deputy Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention. “Our remaining wetlands are hugely valuable to us, yet we continue to damage and destroy them at our increasing peril. It is now time to take action”.

1.2 Justification

Mabamba bay is an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) and is recognized under the Ramsar convention. In addition to that, it is the nearest site from Entebbe international Airport and Kampala city where one has the highest chances of spotting the Shoebill (*Balaenicepsrex*), one of the major tourist attractions in the country. Despite these recognitions, the site is not protected and its future is determined by community members who are its custodians. This calls for urgent action to ensure the conservation of the site and its values.

NatureUganda (NU), together with BirdLife International are implementing a project on “*Empowering local communities for the conservation and sustainable development of the birds and biodiversity of the Lake Victoria Basin*” funded by the Aage V. Jensen Foundation. This three year project is being implemented through the NU Site Support Groups (SSGs) in Mabamba and Lutembe bays on Lake Victoria.

The main aim of the project is to empower the local communities around Lake Victoria to ably conserve the biodiversity on which they highly depend for their livelihoods. This therefore called for a series of initiatives to equip the communities with the required tools for biodiversity monitoring and conservation. In order to provide the right empowerment and guidance, a Community Capacity Assessment particularly for SSG members directly depending on the wetland resources was conducted in 2013. In addition to that, a Wetland Resource Assessment was conducted to gauge the status of the wetlands’ natural resources that can be sustainably utilized by the community. A site management planning process was also conducted to effectively manage and sustainably utilize the resources in the site for future generations. The tools and guidance for these processes were provided by BirdLife International.

2.0 SITE AND COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

2.1 Site description

2.1.1 Location and boundaries

Mabamba Bay Wetland System is located west of Entebbe International Airport along the Lake Victoria shores and south of central Uganda. It is part of Waiya Bay south west of Nakiwogo Bay. It is situated in Wakiso District in the sub-counties of Kasanje, Kamengo and Mpigi. Mabamba Bay is located 36 km south west of Kampala on the shores of Lake Victoria in the Wakiso district. Its proximity to the business district of Kampala; the capital of Uganda, presents it with bigger opportunities and high potential for eco-tourism development. It is located at 32°14' - 32°27' E and 00°02' - 00°12' N with an altitude of 1,150m above sea level.

2.1.2 Habitat description

Mabamba Bay Wetland System is an extensive marsh of over 17,000 ha stretching through a narrow and long bay fringed with papyrus opening into the northern side of the main body of Lake Victoria. The marsh is dominated by *Cyperus papyrus* and *Miscanthus sp* occasioned with *Loudetia phragmatoides*. It forms part of Waiya Bay, south-west of Nakiwogo bay. The wetland system is home to over 300 bird species and supports a lucrative fisheries activity, and thus provides a source of fish for home consumption and commercial use. It is also a source of raw material for local crafts, building materials, water for domestic and livestock use, as well as non-wood products such as medicinal plants, mushrooms e.t.c. The Bay is an extensive marsh with papyrus towards the open water body. The Bay sometimes has drifting papyrus Islands. The landscape and catchment too has remnants of forest cover and grassland.

Mabamba Bay Wetland System is the only swamp close to Kampala where one can easily find the globally threatened Shoebill (*Balaeniceps rex*) anytime of the day. Mabamba Bay is part of the wetland system which supports approximately 38% of the global population of the threatened Blue Swallow (*Hirundo atrocaerulea*). The system also supports other globally threatened birds, such as the Papyrus Gonolek (*Laniarius mufumbiri*), the Papyrus Yellow Warbler (*Chloropeta gracillirostris*); and other birds of global conservation concern.

The site was designated as an IBA and Ramsar site because of its importance as part of the habitat that supports the Blue Swallow, as a stopover for migratory birds, the presence of globally threatened and Lake Victoria basin biome bird species, and because it supports a lucrative fisheries industry.

2.1.3 Official protection and management status

According to the 1995 Constitution of Uganda, the government holds wetlands in trust for the people, which puts Mabamba Bay wetland system in the hands of the Central Government. The 1997 Local Government Act devolved the wetland management to the District Local Governments. Therefore, the management authority and management of Mabamba Bay is under Wakiso District Local Government (Zziba sub-county). Although there are written policies like the Wetland Policy (1995), The National Environment Statute (1995), and other related policies and legislation, these are not well known to the local communities. As a consequence of this, the community members are not aware of their rights and mandate in the management of the wetland, which leads to improper use of resources and poor site management. Efforts are being made by the Wetlands Management Department and other partners to enlighten the communities on this but it has still remained a challenge.

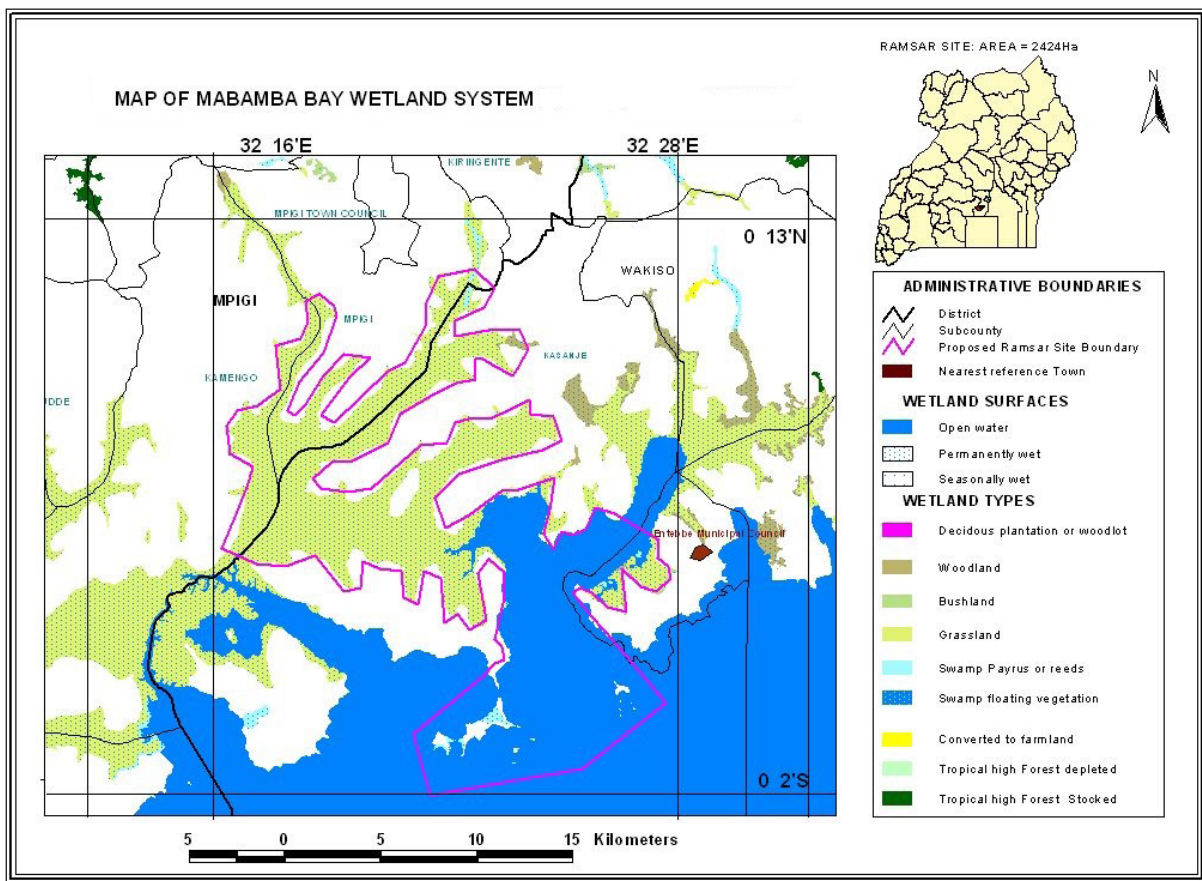


Figure 1: Map of Mabamba Bay wetland system

2.1.4 Tenure/ ownership

i. Within the Ramsar Site

As mentioned above, the government of Uganda holds wetlands in trust for the people. The Government therefore owns the Mabamba Bay Wetlands System within the Ramsar site. This limits the types and magnitude of the activities permitted in the wetland. Any activity planned has to be approved by the WMD before it is implemented.

ii. In the surrounding area

In the surrounding areas, the ownership is mainly by Mailo (a land tenure system where registered land is held in perpetuity) and customary by the Buganda government (a system of land tenure regulated by customary rules which are limited in their operation to a particular description or class of people) ownership. The land on which the Site Support Group (SSG) is hosted belongs to the Kasinga Catholic Parish. The community is expected to discuss any development plans with the Catholic Church to ensure that they are acceptable by the land owners. This has been working well and the landowners have been supportive.

2.1.5 Biodiversity importance

Flora

The major habitat types in Mabamba wetland are open water, papyrus swamp, marsh and *Miscanthus* swamp. Mabamba Bay Wetland System is adjacent a Medium-altitude moist semi-deciduous forest. It is a complex papyrus swamp connected to Makokobe, Kasa and Kasanga papyrus swamps. In the immediate surroundings one also finds Savannah mosaics of medium altitude, and Medium-altitude moist evergreen forests (*Piptadeniastrum - Albizia - Celtis*).

It is part of Waiya Bay south west of Nakiwogo Bay. The marsh is dominated by *Cyperus papyrus* and *Miscanthus* sp. occasioned with *Loudetia phragmatoides*. The bay has patches of *Nymphae anouchali*, *Cladium mariscus* and *Cyperus papyrus* which form the open water fringing vegetation and sometimes with drifting papyrus swamp islands. While *C. papyrus* dominates the swamp edges it gives way to *Miscanthidium violacea* interspersed occasionally with *Loudetia phragmatoides* in the deeper water towards the open water. Water hyacinth, *Eichornia crassipes*, is one of the common invasive plants to Lake Victoria.

Fauna

Mabamba Bay hosts a number of small rodents but the Tropical Vlei Rat (*Otomystropicalis*) has been recorded as being rare in the Bay. Among the shrews *Crocioduraselina* and *Mylomys dybowskii* have also been recorded as being uncommon. The collection of butterflies from Mabamba bay is enormous with over 200 species recorded. *Abisaraneavei*, *Acraea aganice*, *Acraea aurivilli*, *Acraea consanguinea*, and *Bicyclus sebetus* are some of the very rare butterfly species that have been only recorded in Mabamba Bay and nowhere else in Uganda. The system hosts globally threatened bird species such as the Shoebill (*Balaeniceps rex*), Papyrus Gonolek (*Laniarius mufumbiri*), Pallid Harrier (*Circus macrourus*), Blue Swallow (*Hirundo atrocaerulea*), Gull-billed terns (*Gelochelidon nilotica*), Whiskered terns (*Chlidonia hybridus*) and White winged Black terns (*Chlidonias leucopterus*). Over 190 different bird species are known from only the swamp, among which are wetland-dependent and Papyrus endemic species.

65% of the people in Mabamba thrive on fish protein value. Fishing activities in wetland and around Mabamba, is important as it employs about 506 people in various activities of fish mongering, fishing, boat building, and repairs, local fish processors and other artisanal fishery activities. Three Tilapiine species, *Oreochromis niloticus* (Nile Tilapia), *Oreochromis leucostictus* and *Tilapia zillii* (Zilli's Tilapia) were introduced in Lake Victoria in 1950s, and Nile perch, *Lates niloticus* during the 1960s. As Mabamba wetland system is one of the many wetlands north of Lake Victoria, it acts as a spawning ground for fish species. Later in adult stages, the fishes migrate to the open water body where they are easily trapped by fishermen operating.

2.1.6 Physical features

i. Climate

According to the State of Environment Report (2002), the climate system falls within the Lake Victoria climatic zone. The air currents such as the southeast and northeast monsoons passing over Lake Victoria influence the climate of Mabamba Bay Wetlands System. The system has distinct seasons: the rainy and dry season. The area receives bi-modal high rainfall ranging between 2000-2500mm (State of Environment Report, 2002). Mabamba Bay Wetland System experiences evapotranspiration ranging between 1,450 – 1,600 mm (State of Environment Report 2002). The mean minimum temperature is 17.4°C and the maximum mean temperature is 26.7°C.

ii. Hydrology

Mabamba Bay wetland borders the open waters of Lake Victoria. The outflow for Lake Victoria is the Victoria Nile River. The Katonga River flows into Lake Victoria from the western regions of the lake.

iii. Soil types

The Pre-Cambrian Cenozoic – Pleistocene to recent rocks, underlie Mabamba Bay Wetland System. The rocks give rise to ferrallitic soils, which have a dominant red color. The soils are mainly sandy loams and sandy clay loams. According to the Uganda Atlas (1967) the northern Lake Victoria shoreline is underlain by the Buganda-Toro system, which is the most extensive of the cover formations and occupies much of the south-central and westerly parts. Argillites predominate, but basal or near basal arsenites are important features. Locally, as in the Busoga area, one finds thick amphibolites, which are probably derived from basaltic material. Large tracts of the system are granitised; on the other hand low-grade phyllites also occur, particularly towards Lake Victoria in the Southeast.

2.1.7 Current land use

i. Land uses within the wetland

Mabamba Bay has about 6 landing sites, all having lucrative fisheries activities for both subsistence consumption and as a source of income. The Wetland is mainly used for fishing and eco-tourism activities. It also serves as a source of raw materials for local crafts, building materials, water for domestic and livestock use and fish. Part of the bay is forested and the forests are used for wood and non-wood products like herbs and mushrooms. Forestry related activities are also common in the swamp forests and one of the commercial activities in the forests is charcoal burning. Sand mining is a major activity in the area.

ii. Land uses within the surrounding / catchment areas

In the catchments around the wetland area, there is subsistence agricultural farming. Horticultural farming is flourishing along the shores of Lake Victoria, including areas neighboring Mabamba Bay and the location of Mabamba creates potential for horticultural farming.

2.2 Natural resources and their use

2.2.1. Natural Resources

Mabamba Bay has a range of natural resources on which the entire community highly depends for their livelihoods, and the condition of the major ones has been highlighted (Table 2.2.1.1) including what the community is doing about its conservation. The area has gone through encroachment as a result of uncontrolled human activities and an increase in natural resource degradation is likely unless addressed. There is evident destruction of the catchment and rapid transitions of the forest to residential areas. The awareness and commitment to conservation of local resources is an important process created through empowerment of local communities for better management of the wetland.

Table 2.2.1.1: The condition of the Natural Resources used by the Mabamba Bay Community and what the community is doing to manage these resources

Habitat	Resources used by Communities	Condition	Community intervention
Wetland	Fish Grass Water Sand Firewood Illegal hunting of animals especially the Sitatunga Clay Crafts material	Relatively intact	Training in proper fishing methods and sustainable utilization of resources Sensitization Eco-tourism development to create alternative income Bye-laws
Forest (in the catchment)	Firewood Herbs/medicine Timber/Building poles Charcoal Honey	Degraded	Tree planting Environment education Provision of alternative sources of income
Open water	Fish Water Transport	Contaminated	Eco-tourism development to create alternative or additional income
Grassland	Grass Herbs	Degraded	Replanting Controlling trespassing

2.2.2 Location and distribution of resources

The location and distribution of the Natural Resources and services in Mabamba Bay was determined through a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercise conducted with the Mabamba community using the resource mapping tool developed by BirdLife. The mapping process of the area was done by the groups from the two sub-counties covered by Mabamba Bay namely; Mabamba and Zziba. First, they listed the resources and services in their area. They later ranked them according to their importance to the community and mapped them basing on where these resources and services were located on the imaginary map sketched by the community members during the resource mapping PRA exercise (Annex 1). This provided the informed basis for the action planning process for this site.

2.2.3 Access, Management and use of Natural Resources

The Mabamba Bay community is organized in three smaller groups all under one umbrella Community-based Organisation, Mabamba bay Wetland Eco-Tourism Association (MWETA). These include the bird guides, the boat riders and fishermen, and the crafts and hunters group. All members of these groups including youths, women and men, use the wetland resources freely as long as their use is not detrimental to the resource. The hunters in the community are very few and are regulated by the group on how many times they are to hunt in a month. However, there are illegal hunters that come into the wetland from other landing sites and these usually burn the wetland to get their catch. An analysis of the degree of access and control of the wetland resources was conducted using the resource Access, control and use PRA tool provided by BirdLife and the general results (Annex II) indicate that men have more access and control over resources than women in this community. Management planning should therefore consider this.

2.2.4 Seasonal patterns of resource availability and use

As for other areas in the Lake Victoria basin, the seasonal patterns in Mabamba Bay area are not clear cut. The general trend is two rainy seasons in the year with peaks in April and November and two dry seasons with peaks in January and July. These are the determinants of the resource availability and use by the community. The other driver of resource use is the timing of the holidays and festive seasons. The rate of resource use during holidays when children are not at school is usually higher than when they are at school. Similarly, the rate is higher towards festive seasons like Christmas and Easter than at other times of the year. However, these seasonal trends differ in men and women's groups and this was considered in the seasonal analysis exercise conducted with the community (Annex III).

2.2.5 Threat Assessment/Hazard Mapping

Threats refer to pressures either internal or external to the IBA. The IBA monitoring framework designed for Uganda has been used for over five years and the threat status of the Mabamba IBA has been captured following the same monitoring. Information on scope and severity are very vital. This was achieved using the developed systematic approach of capturing indices of threats.

The dry season incursion into the swamp by fishermen, some of whom build huts in the swamp and stay there, even keeping animals such as pigs in the interior of the swamp, needs to be regulated, as should the hunting of the Sitatunga by local people. The other major conservation issue affecting the site is the proliferation of the Water Hyacinth although this has declined in much of the Lake Victoria area. Studies elsewhere on Lake Victoria show that certain macrophytes and macro-invertebrates may be adversely affected by this weed. This may, in turn, have an impact on birds and other biodiversity in the system. The proliferation of flower farms along the shores of Lake Victoria and the use of agrochemicals is likely to have an impact on the ecology of Mabamba Bay and its associated wetlands and waters. The information on threats and hazards was gathered from a range of sources including community reports and PRA exercises conducted (Annex IV) as well as other visits to the site and during community consultations (Table 2.2.5.1).

Table 2.2.5.1: Threats/hazards highly affecting the Mabamba Wetland Resources & services of value to the community

Major Root causes of the threats to Mabamba Bay and What has been done about them

Threat	Possible cause	Severity/scope	Community intervention
Agricultural intensification	Increased subsistence farming in catchment Uncontrolled Wetland edge farming Lack of alternatives Increase in human population	Agriculture covers small area and less detrimental	Awareness Controlled wetland edge farming
Burning of vegetation	Hunting of Sitatunga Bush clearing and wild fires Fires from neighbouring farms	Burning occurs during dry seasons in patches with less effect to wetland	Report wild fires Help in putting off fires
Alien species	Increase in water hyacinth Algal boom Increase in silt load Increase in boat traffic on the bay	Small area covered and little effect	Hand removal

Threat	Possible cause	Severity/scope	Community intervention
Habitat change	Increase in nutrients from landscape More papyrus species spreading Uncontrolled alien species	Habitat used to be more marshy but now with lots of vegetation	
Deforestation	Establishment of plantations Increased demand for building materials Fuel wood scarcity	Almost what used to be forested are all changed to plantations and crop farming	Plant trees in some allocated areas
Bird disturbance	Increase in tourism flow Disturbance by fishing community	Less effect is on biodiversity	Promote tourism
Resource harvesting	Increase in demand of wetland resources Increase in population	Increased resource harvesting but less destructive	Promote crafts Sustainable use
Bird persecution	Bird trapping Bird trade Accidental killings	Target species are IUCN listed species	Report culprits to authorities Arrest culprits
Over fishing	Subsistence fishing Increased demand for fish Increased population of fishermen Poor fishing gears	No major negative effects noticed	Subsistence fishing
Water abstraction	Domestic water use	No major impacts noticed	Sustainable use
Fuel wood	Increase in firewood demand Increased population Use of less efficient cook stoves	Decreased vegetation cover in the landscape	Plant trees

2.2.6 Livelihoods Vulnerability assessment

The threats/hazards were analysed against the livelihoods in the Mabamba community through a PRA exercise. During the analysis, it was realized that as in the seasonal analysis, males had different views from females and so two matrices were developed, one for each group. From the resulting matrix, we realize that the hazards that have the most impacts on the livelihoods of the community are drought, human-animal conflict especially with Hippos, fires and floods (Table 2.2.6.1). In the same manner, the most vulnerable livelihood resources in the community are the birds and animals, swamp, land and the forest. Given this vulnerability in this wake of climate change, adaptation measures should be sought for the management and conservation of these resources and the other ecosystem services provided by the wetland system.

Table 2.2.6.1: Male and Female Livelihoods Vulnerability Analysis results

Women	Drought	Floods	Strong wind	Cloudy weather	Fires	Pests & diseases	Human-Animal conflict	Total
Forest	40		50		60	20		170
Lake	50	80	20			30	10	190
Swamp	70				90	50	20	230
Sch/chur/Mar	90	30	40			90		250
Land	90	20	10				20	140
Birds & animals	70	30	10		60	80	30	280
Landing site	60	50	10		20	70	10	220
Roads	50	80	10			20	60	220
Total	520	290	150	0	230	360	150	
Men	Drought	Floods	Strong wind	Cloudy weather	Fires	Pests & diseases	Human-Animal conflict	Total
Forest	40	30	30		20	20	100	240
Lake	60						100	160
Swamp	70		20		100		60	250
Sch/chur/Mar		20	20	30			100	170
Land	100	80	20		10		100	310
Birds & animals	60	10	30	30	100	40	60	330
Landing site		30	30		60			120
Roads		40	20				70	130
Total	230	130	150	60	280	60	490	

2.2.7 Conservation measures taken

Like most of the wetlands in Uganda, Mabamba Bay enjoys the support and protection of the National Wetlands Policy (1995) and other national legislation with wetland related provisions. Such legislation includes the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda 1995, the Local Government Act 1997, the Water Statute 1995, the Land Act 1998, and the National Environment Statute 1995. Mabamba Bay is one of Uganda’s 34 Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) and a Ramsar site, due to the presence of migratory, congregatory and globally threatened bird species in the area. NatureUganda spearheaded the development of a National Important Bird Areas Conservation Strategy (NIBACS) that highlights measures and strategies for the conservation of the Bay. The vision for the NIBACS is a harmonious relationship between people and birds. It aims at conserving biodiversity for sustainable livelihoods. The strategy focuses on strengthening mechanisms for institutional collaboration, establishing mechanisms for effective conservation actions at IBAs, increased knowledge and awareness about Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas, and promoting sustainable utilization of IBA resources for development and other objectives.

NatureUganda together with the SSG monitor biodiversity especially birds bi annually at the site. This has been going on for more than twenty years and is still ongoing. The community and the SSG members are involved in active monitoring of any activities that are going on at anytime in the wetland IBA and Ramsar site. Any issues realized are reported to NU and then forwarded to the WMD who are the policy makers and enforcers in wetlands

2.3 The Community

2.3.1 Community Structure, Organisation and Processes

NatureUganda initiated a conservation group, the Mabamba Bird Guides and Conservation Association in 1995. This was in form of a Site Support Group (SSG) to promote conservation through community involvement. This group later joined together with Mabamba Wetland Crafts Association (MAWECA) and Zziba Wetland Management Association (ZIWEMA) to form the Mabamba Wetland Eco-Tourism Association (MWETA) in 2007. MWETA is now the Site Support Group for Mabamba bay Important Bird Area (IBA) aimed at conserving Mabamba wetland for sustainable utilisation of natural resources and, at the same time, improving livelihoods of the community through income generating activities. The group currently made up of 30 active members is involved in a wide range of conservation activities including tourism, crafts, transport facilities, education and awareness plus habitat protection. It is group is voluntarily run by its members and registered with the District Local Government since 2008. The operations and daily running of the association's activities are governed by an elected executive committee, which is guided by the constitution of MWETA.

2.3.2 Name, location and resources

The Mabamba Wetland Eco-Tourism Association (MWETA) is located in Mabamba, Kasanje Sub County in Mpigi, Wakiso District. The Association mobilizes and lobbies for resources and support from NGOs, donors, Government or any other well wishers. The local communities in the area through the SSG have taken great strides to promote income generation from tourism, soap making, crafts, boat rides and associated activities and any other appropriate sources.

2.3.3. Objectives of the Community group

The objective of this group is: *Conserving Mabamba wetland for sustainable utilisation of natural resources and at the same time, improving livelihoods of the community through income generating activities.* This group has a very big role in influencing the management of natural resources in the wetland. The site has gained popularity for eco-tourism especially due to the presence of the Shoebill in the area and other interesting birds such as the papyrus endemic species added to the fact that it is just a few kilometres from Kampala.

2.3.4 Current status of the community

Generally the habitat in Mabamba Bay area remains in a fair state as seen and discussed by the community members. The group is still working on bringing all the members together since there are some members still acting outside the umbrella body MWETA. The number of tourist visiting the site seems to be improving but this requires proper records to assess the trends. From the community assessment the community group has all the required structures in place but just require training to boost their knowledge of some issues as in Annex VI. However, with support for better organisation and efficiency there are opportunities to achieve better returns for the members.

2.4 External stakeholders and their relations

A number of NGOs have been conducting conservation education activities around Mabamba Bay wetland system. NatureUganda has carried out mobilization and sensitization activities right from grass root levels around Mabamba. One of the significant wildlife education centres in Uganda, the Uganda Wildlife Education Centre Entebbe, is only within 20 kilometres from Mabamba. Environmental Alert, Nature Palace and other NGOs have put in much effort in promoting awareness on conservation as well as promoting alternative income generating activities within the community. A list of stakeholders, given in table 2.4.1 below, was developed during the PRA stakeholder analysis exercise conducted with the community in addition to discussions with other partners.

Table 2.4.1: Current and potential stakeholders for the Mabamba bay wetland

Stakeholder	What they have done	Community involvement	Remark
Kampala Archdiocese, Lands Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site land lords since they are the owners of the land on which the MWETA SSG office sits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSG landing site is owned by the Catholic Church 	The church is ready to Cooperatate with the SSG
Nature Place Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information centre construction Mentoring of community leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage information centre at site 	Some activities are still on going
ADRA-Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural Development Tree planting promotion Alternative income generating activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Nursery management Training Crafts making Soap making 	Ended in 2012
Environmental Alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eco-tourism development Camp-site construction Agricultural Development Alternative income generating activities Tree planting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training Nursery management 	Some activities are still on going
BUKADEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bore hole construction Subsistence agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training 	Ended in 20010
HOPE LVB (Ecological Christian Organisation &Pathfinder International)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural resource conservation Promotion of Family planning practices Improving reproductive health services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training Livelihood options 	Currently in Zziba landing site
Voluntary Action for Local Development (VALD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving sanitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training 	Ended in 2011
Uganda Bird Guides Club (UBCG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tour guide training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bird guiding 	On going
Cultural institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tour guide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural sites 	On going
NatureUganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural Resource conservation Community empowerment Biodiversity Monitoring Poverty reduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity development trainings Biodiversity Monitoring Livelihood activities 	On going
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community guidelines to all activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All community activities 	On going
Natural Resources Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community guidelines to all activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All community activities 	On going
Environment Officer, Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community guidelines to all fisheries activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All community activities 	On going
Beach Management Units (BMUs) on Mabamba Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water related activity guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries Water transport Beach activities 	On going
Ministry of Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism promotion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism activities 	On going
Sub-County Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community guidelines to all activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All community activities 	On going
Shoebill Stork Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shoebill Conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring Training 	In Makanaga
WMD - Wetlands management Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetland Conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring & Reporting 	On going

3.0 PLAN OF ACTION

3.1 Background

The main aim of the LEP project is to empower the local communities around L. Victoria to ably conserve the biodiversity on which they highly depend for their livelihoods. This therefore called for a series of initiatives to equip the communities with the required tools for biodiversity monitoring and conservation. In order to provide the right empowerment and guidance, a Community Capacity assessment particularly for SSG members directly depending on the wetland resources was conducted. In addition to that, a Wetland resource assessment was conducted to gauge the status of the wetlands' natural resources that can be sustainably utilized by the community. This led to the formulation of a site action plan to effectively manage and sustainably utilize the resources in the site.

To initiate this process, the site was made followed by a meeting with community leaders. This meeting provided a basis on what to expect for each of the communities and a rough idea of what activities are done at the sites and also the governance status for each site. This laid a background for the site action planning workshop.

Following that, workshops were therefore organized to conduct the action planning process for the sites which included the participatory rural appraisal exercises using tools/guidance provided by the BirdLife Africa partnership. This resulted into the formulation of the Community action/ management plan. This plan is based on the vision and the objectives developed by the community group.

3.2 Methods and Participants

Basing on the state and location of the resources and services in the sites, a participatory community action plan for each of the sites was developed using the participatory rural approach.

3.2.1 Methods

The methods employed included the community meetings with community leaders and community members. These were coordinated under the umbrella body MWETA. Care was taken to ensure that all members of the group, including men and women, youths and old people, participated equally. The district leaders were also among the participants in these meetings as they had to advise on the governance and eligibility of the community decisions.

3.2.2 Tools

A number of tools for participatory approaches were used during the process and these included:

- i. Resource Mapping Tool
- ii. Resource Access and Control analysis tool
- iii. Stakeholder Mapping
- iv. Community Assessment tool
- v. Hazard Mapping Tool
- vi. Seasonal Calendar Tool
- vii. Livelihood and Vulnerability Analysis

3.2.3 Participants

Participants included community members, district representatives and *NatureUganda* staff as facilitators. These are listed in tables 3.6.3.1 & 3.6.3.2 below.

3.3 Vision

A community benefiting from the available natural resources and mindful of its ability to provide for future generations

3.4 Goal

“To conserve the biodiversity of Mabamba Bay through enhanced, sustainable income generation raised community awareness and improved biodiversity monitoring”

3.5 Objectives

- i. To create more awareness about conservation of Mabamba Bay
- ii. To promote more capacity building within the community
- iii. To promote sustainable utilization of wetland resources in improving community livelihoods
- iv. To promote MWETA as the leading community tourism group in Uganda

3.6 Strategies and Actions

Based on the state and location of the resources and services at the site as recorded during the resource mapping, a participatory Community Action Plan for the site was developed using the participatory approach. The 5-year Community Action Plan developed is in table 3.6.1 and the implementation budget is in table 3.6.2 below.

Table 3.6.1: Mabamba Bay Community Site Action Plan Matrix 2014-2018

Outcomes/ Outputs	Activities	Who takes the lead in Guiding the Community	Other Partners	Verifiable Indicators	What to monitor	Resources we need	Baseline	Timeline
1. Tourism developed and Promoted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversify ecotourism products Publicity Materials Improve Ecotourism services Equipment Capacity Building Awareness campaigns Exchange Visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wakiso District, MWETA, Environmental Alert Nature Palace, Private Sector National Forestry Authority (NFA), ADRA, HOPE, MoWE S Sub-County (Buusi and Kasanjje), Kampala Archdiocese 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new tourism products Number of publicity materials Number of exchange visits Number of tourists Number of equipment Number of trainings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in tourists recorded Number of eco-tourism products Exchange visits conducted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment Investors Certification of guides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bird Guiding done Two boats in use No restaurant/bar/café 	2014
2. Burning of wetland stopped	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and report Awareness Law enforcement Alternative livelihood Sources (ALSs) Capacity building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bussi, Kasanjje CSOs, Environmental Police Mabamba Wetland Eco-tourism Association (MWETA) Nature Palace Wakiso District ECO Cultural institutions WMD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency of fires Attitude change (Number of testimonies) Materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency of fires Attitude change (Number of testimonies) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear communication channels Funds Core team (facilitators) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twice a year 	2015
3. Mabamba catchment forested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of tree nurseries / tree seedlings Sensitization Training of Efficient cook stoves Use of hydraform made bricks Tree planting Capacity building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Local Government (Forestry Officer) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MWETA Environmental Alert Nature Palace, Nature Uganda National Forestry Authority ADRA-Uganda, HOPE Fisheries District local government Sub-county WMD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of Nursery beds No. of trees in Homes No. of woodlots in homes Number of stoves in homes Number of bricks made Number of people trained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of Nursery beds established No. of trees in Homes No. of woodlots in homes Size of forested area in the catchment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeds/seedlings Potting bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A very small patch of forest still stands 	2014

Table 3.6.2: Mabamba Bay Action Plan proposed implementation budget (in UGX)

OUTCOMES	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
1. Tourism development and Promotion	40,000,000	44,000,000	48,400,000	53,240,000	58,564,000	244,204,000
2. Burning of wetland stopped		22,000,000	24,200,000	26,620,000	29,282,000	102,102,000
3. Mabamba catchment forested	20,000,000	22,000,000	24,200,000	26,620,000	29,282,000	122,102,000
4. Illegal Fishing Controlled		16,500,000	18,150,000	19,965,000	21,961,500	76,576,500
5. Regulated Resource harvesting	40,000,000	44,000,000	48,400,000	53,240,000	58,564,000	244,204,000
6. Sand mining & Pollution of the wetland Controlled			24,200,000	26,620,000	29,282,000	80,102,000
Annual Total	100,000,000	148,500,000	187,550,000	206,305,000	226,935,500	869,290,500

APPENDICES

Appendix I: MABAMBA BAY PARTICIPANTS FOR WORKSHOP I

No.	Name	Gender	Group	Position	Contact
1	Katumba Isma	M	Mabamba Guide	Member	0772866814
2	Ssalongo Musoke Billy	M	MWETA	Secretary	0782890533
3	Nakamate Milly	F	Parish Chief/ ZIWEMA	Member	0781142324
4	Luzzi Francis	M	MWETA	Treasurer	0772338599
5	Nanyondo M	F	Mabamba Guide	Member	0774297164
6	Namubiru Juliet	F	MWETA	Member	0773682964
7	Kiyingi David L	M	ADRA Uganda	M & E / CSO	0782380951
8	Mwanje Aloysius	M	Mabamba Guide	Member	0782186416
9	Buule Eliakim	M	Mabamba Guide	Member	0774141363
10	Yolanimu Kamy	M	MWETA	Member	
11	FLorence Nakyenzi	F			
12	Kabega John	M	MWETA	Member	0782369599
13	Ssenyondo Dominico	M	MWETA	Member /Councillor	0772854157
14	Birasa Teresitoli	M	Mabamba Guide	Member	0774395214
15	Mukasa Dirisa	M	Chairman Lubya		0772891003
16	Kaweesa A	M	ZIWEMA		0777877153
17	Kasasa Hannington	M	MABamba Guide	Member	0702945185
18	Katende Aidah	F	MWETA	Member	0782518406
19	Mayombwe Godfrey	M	ZIWEMA	Chairperson	0752830443
20	Ssekamate Drake	M	MWETA	Member	0774038183
21	Muyambi Vincent	M	MWETA	Member	0757603035
22	Kalumba David	M	Mabamba Guide	Member	0783911643
23	Kayongo Jamil	M	MWETA	Vice Chairperson	0772378847
24	David K Nkwanga	M	Nature Palace	Executive Director	0772605963
25	Nalumansi Stella	F	Wakiso District Local Government	District Wetland Officer	0782692364
26	Barugahare Vincent	M	Wetland Management Department	Senior Wetland Officer	0774434969
27	Nalwanga Dianah	F	NatureUganda	Research and Monitoring Officer	0772929626
28	Opige Michael	M	NatureUganda	Program Officer	0712126126
29	Keneth Sseguya	M	NatureUganda	Accounts/Admin Assistant	0777716990

Appendix II: MABAMBA BAY PARTICIPANTS FOR WORKSHOP II

No.	Name	Gender M/F	Organisation/ Group	Contact
1	Nanyondo Maria	F	Bird Guide	0774297164
2	Muyambi Vincent	M	Bird Guide	0779373531
3	Kimeze James	M	Bird Guide	0772034180
4	Kawaafu Yusufu	M	BOMT TRANSPORT	0781887814
5	Mwanje Aloysius	M	Bird Guide	0782186416
6	Ssenyondo Dominico	M	MWETA	0772854157
7	Namubiru Juliet	F	MWETA	0773682926
8	Birasa Teresifoli	M	-	
9	Kasasa Hannington	M	Bird Guide	0782945185
10	Kayongo Jamil	M	MWETA	0772378847
11	Bugimbi Willy	M	MWETA	0782996047
12	Mulochi Joseph	M	Bird Guide	0778230695
13	Ssenazzi Patrick	M	Bird Guide	0756529613
14	Galiwango Vincent	M	GUIDE ZIWEMA	0774111455
15	Nantongo Getrude	F	MWETA	0752959969
16	Katende Aidah	F	MWETA	0782518406
17	Namubiru Irene	F	C.P MWETA	0777818057
18	Babirye Christine	F	-	
19	Nabukenya Mercy	F	-	
20	Namukuye Christine	F	MWETA	
21	Namugelwa M G	F	-	0775048909
22	Ssalongo Musoke Billy	M	SEC.MWETA	0782890533
23	Kabega John	M	MWETA	0782369599
24	Nakamatte Milly	F	P/CHIEF	0781142324
25	Menya Robert	M	P/CHIEF-ZIBA	0712804241
26	Dagano Margret	F	WAKISO-DLG	0782932111
27	Ujeo Mary Consolate	F	DDEO-WAKISO	0777219122
28	Busulwa Felix	M	DLG	0732404192
29	Luswata Jolly Joe	M		0772041908
30	Namugenyi Zuria	F		
31	Dianah Nalwanga	F	NU	0772929626
32	Phionah Mwesige	F	NU	0789702576
33	Joel Wako	M	NU	0759059695
34	Keneth Sseguya	M	NU	0777716990

Appendix III: MABAMBA BAY PARTICIPANTS FOR THE STAKEHOLDER'S WORKSHOP.

No.	Name	Gender M/F	Organisation	Contact
1	Kasasa Hannington	M	MWETA	Mabamba_shoe_bill@yahoo.com
2	Ssalongo Musoke Billy	M	MWETA	0782890533
3	Nantongo Getrude	F	MWETA	0752959969
4	Nakabuyemba Joyce	F	MWETA	
5	Ssenyondo Dominico	M	MWETA	0772854157
6	Namubiru Juliet	F	MWETA	0773682926
7	Ndagire Christine	F	MWETA	0755184795
8	Saabwe Charles	M	MWETA	0752242953
9	Mulochi Joseph	M	Guide	0778230695
10	Mwanje Alosius	M	Guide	0782186416
11	Bugimbi Willy	M	MWETA	0782996047
12	Katumba David	M	Guide	0783911643
13	Kayongo Samuel	M	MWETA	0772378847
14	Namukuye Christine	F	MWETA	
15	Luzzi Francis	M	MWETA	0772338599
16	Babirye Christine	F	MWETA	0751522864
17	Bizasa T	M	MWETA	0774395214
18	Sseruyange Edwards	M	MWETA	0787254295
19	Katende Aidah	F	MWETA	0782518406
20	Ssenkatuka Wilber	M	BMU	0777667768
21	Namubiru Irene	F	MWETA	0777818057
22	Lisa Schmid	F	NPF	
23	David K. Nkwanga	M	NFP	0772625963
24	Kabira Loure	M	MWETA	0782357304
25	Namulima Getrude	F	C/P	0775850757
26	Kayanja Mpande David	M	ECO	0753558931
27	Keneth Sseguya	M	NU	0777716990
28	Joel M. Wako	M	NU	0759059695
29	Mwesige Phionah	F	NU	0714107994
30	Rebecca Ssabaganzi	F	DNRO-Wakiso	0772465657
31	Mpoza Esau	M	SEO-Wakiso	0782688709
32	Nakamatte Milly	F	Parish Chief	0781142324
33	Dianah Nalwanga	F	NU	0772929626

ANNEXES

Annex I: Resources Mapping Results

The process

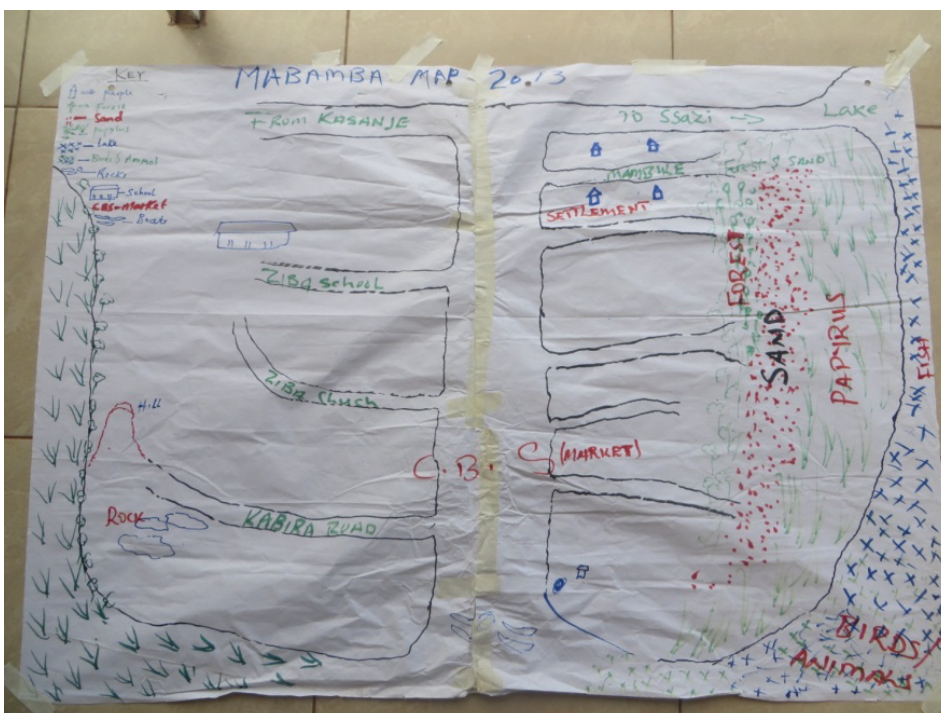
- The process of resource mapping was conducted basing on the two sub-counties in the study area;
- An imaginary boundary was created by the community members as the area limit.
- A secretary was selected from among the members to draw the map
- Members then participated and came up with a map for their sites

Priority Resources and services in Mabamba were ranked according availability and importance as below;

Resources below(;) & service
1. Forest
2. Lake
3. Swamp
4. School/Church /Market
5. Land
6. Birds & Animals
7. Landing Site
8. Roads
9. Bore holes
10. People

A Resource map was then drawn by the community members.

Resource Map for Mabamba bay



Annex II: Resource Access and Control Results

The process

- For the 8 top resources identified, the community members were tasked to rate the powers of access and control for each gender group.
- They were to give a grade of 1-10 for each resource.
- This exercise was done in one group with NU facilitating/guiding the discussion as the community gives their views and agree on the grades that were recorded.

Resource Access and Control Analysis results

The degree of access and control of resources by the community is summarized in the table below.

Resource	Access		Control	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
1. Forest	8	2	8	2
2. Lake	9	1	8	2
3. Swamp	6	4	8	2
4. School/Church /Market	2	8	2	8
5. Land	7	3	5	5
6. Birds & Animals	4	6	3	7
7. Landing Site	6	4	6	4
8. Roads	4	6	7	3
Total	46	34	47	33

From the results it's indicated that men have more access and control over the available resources in the community and so planning should take this into account.

Annex III: Seasonal Calendar Results

The process

- Participants were divided into two groups; one for Males another for Females.
- They were then requested to plot their calendar of seasons as they occur in their community.
- They were also requested to allow all group members to participate fully in the discussions.
- Results from the two groups were later combined to get the seasonal calendar of the site.

Seasonal calendar for Mabamba Bay

Activity	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Sun												
Rain												
Preparing gardens												
Poverty												
Planting												
Weeding												
Harvesting												
Selling												
Money												
Floods												
Malaria												
Cold/Cough												
Coffee												
Fishing(Peak)												
Strong winds												
Crafts												
Manpower												
Mining(Peak)												
Births												
Many Birds												

Annex IV: Hazard Mapping Results

The Process

- They were requested to first list the resources/livelihoods that they have based on their map produced earlier
- They were then taken through identifying the hazards/ threats/risks likely to affect the resources guided by the participatory hazard mapping tool.
- Participants were then requested to rank the livelihoods & then identify the hazards that are likely to affect these major ones.
- These were then adopted for use in the Livelihood vulnerability analysis.

Hazard mapping results

Basing on the resources, on the map produced by the community, the threats /hazards to those resources were identified. These are ranked according to the intensity of their effect combined with the likeliness of their happening at the site.

Results from threats/hazard Mapping in Mabamba Bay

Threats/ Hazards	
1.	Drought
2.	Floods
3.	Strong winds/ Kibuyaga
4.	Cloudy Weather/ Kikome
5.	Bush fires
6.	Pests & Diseases
7.	Human-Animal Conflicts

Annex VI: Community Training needs Results

The training needs for the community were developed during the community Capacity assessment PRA exercise and later revised and agreed upon by the community. The resulting training areas are listed below in order of their relevance.

Training needs as agreed upon by community members

1. Basic Management (including governance)
2. Environmental Education and awareness, Advocacy and networking
3. Fundraising, project planning & monitoring
4. Improve and strengthen the comparative advantage for Alternative Livelihoods over other sites
5. Monitoring & Surveys
6. Sustainable use



NatureUganda
Secretariat: Bwindi Trust House
Plot 1, Katalima Crescent, Lower Naguru
P.O. Box 27034, Kampala, Uganda
Email: nature@natureuganda.org
Tel: +256 414-540719
+256 414-533528

www.natureuganda.org