

FROM FISHING RIGHTS TO HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS OF WOMEN FISHERS IN THE LAKE VICTORIA FISHERY



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The Changing Waterscape- *the preamble.....*

- ❖ The waterscape is changing and changing very fast.
- ❖ where is the woman's voice?
- ❖ In fishing, women remain ***lizards*** in the family of ***crocodiles!!!***

Contents of Presentation

- ❖ Objective of the paper
- ❖ What are the issues?
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Study Objectives

To demonstrate the fact that women need a human rights approach (as opposed to fishing rights) that will protect their fishing rights, security and dignity and hold accountable people who violate them

Issues 1- General

- ❖ The changing small-scale fisheries
- ❖ the changing Roles, spaces and places
- ❖ Place and space negotiation
- ❖ A confrontation with traditional barriers

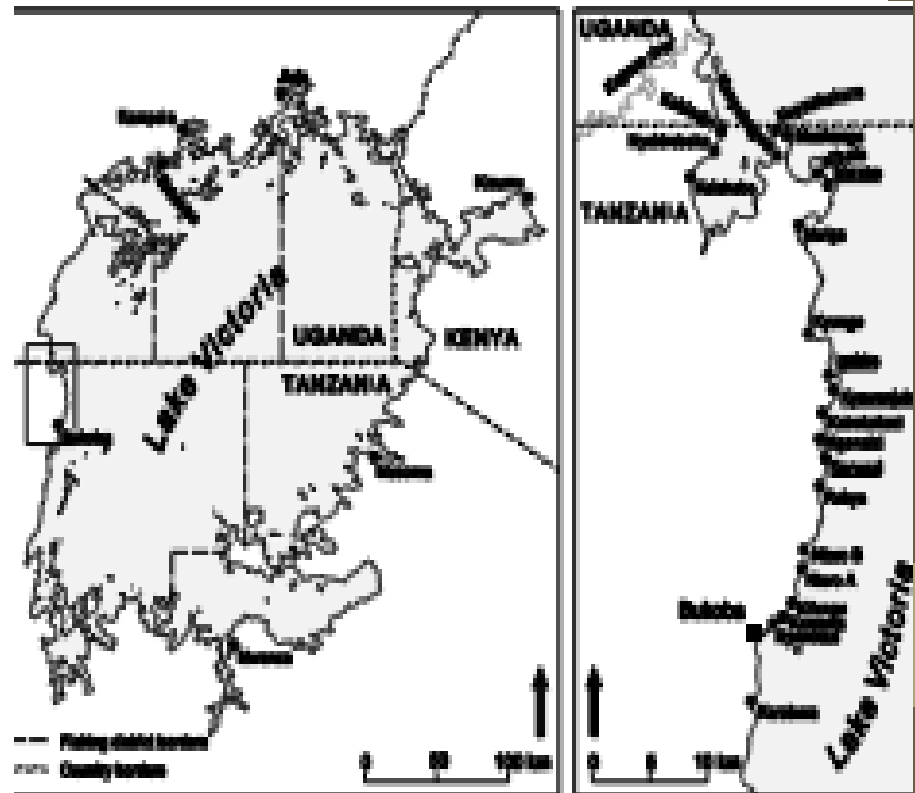
Issues 2. The SSF Guidelines

- ❖ Recognize Gender Equality and Equity
- ❖ Recognize the vulnerability of women fishers
- ❖ They uphold international human rights standards, among others
- ❖ No State can claim to uphold these principles if the *human rights of women fishers* are violated

Methodology

Theory-Methods-Analytical -Tools

- Study area, sample size
- Multiple-site approach-
- Rational choice theory
- Theory of power



Major Findings

- Policy making in the fisheries is a male domain.
- Women are rational actors and not victims of their circumstances
- Their circumstances are patterned and conditioned by both formal and informal institutions
- Economic value of women fishers is overlooked or vastly underestimated
- Resilience of small-scale fishing communities depends on women fishers

Conclusion

- Women have a fundamental human right to equality and equity
- The Guidelines are voluntary and non-binding as opposed to human rights.
- It is for this reason that it is important to shift attention from fishing rights and focus on human rights in small-scale fishing

Way Forward

- ❖ Policy makers must be seen to recognize the vital role of women in small-scale fisheries and promote equal rights and opportunities
- ❖ Eliminate gender inequalities through a human rights approach
- ❖ Design mechanisms for implementing and enforcing a human rights based approach

Thank you very much
Asante Sana