

2003 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT AND COMPLIANCE OF FISHERMEN IN LAKE
VICTORIA, IGOMBE FISHING VILLAGE TANZANIA

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study was to investigate the 2003 Fisheries' Management Act and compliance of Fishermen in Lake Victoria, Igombe Fishing Village Tanzania. A comparison was done between various factors to establish reasons for the prevalent trend. Relevant literature was reviewed based on the study objectives. The study was based on descriptive survey method. A total of 150 respondents from the Igombe fishing community gave responses to Questionnaires that had close and open ended questions. The study followed a paradigm of non experimental descriptive research which was a correlation study research design. Data was analyzed using frequencies and spearman's correlation coefficient to determine the level of compliance. The major findings study revealed were low levels of education, fishing illegalities, the fish act has lived out its objectives, political interference and high costs of recommended fishing equipment contributed to a negative correlation to the compliance of the fishermen in Tanzania and hindered the implementation and enforcement of the fish act in Igombe fishing community. The study recommended that there should be; All Laws including the Fish Act are dynamic depending on emerging issues. The Fish Act is outdated. As such, there is need to review the Law periodically to address the going concerns that emerge from time to time. There is urgent need for increased staff levels for implementation and enforcement of the fisheries law, and to develop human resources capacity in fisheries management, monitoring, controlling and surveillance, and that of other stakeholders to support government efforts. There is need to increase the capacity of the Department of Fisheries Resources in enforcement and prosecution of illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing and illicit trade in immature fish coupled with acquisition of equipment like patrol vehicles and communication gadgets needed for efficient enforcement of regulations in the Fish Act.