

ABSTRACT

This study aimed to examine the contribution of fishery sector in reduction of poverty in Mwanza region, specifically it intended; to find out the contribution of small-scale fishing activities to the household income, to determine the role played by the fishing industries in social services delivery and to determine the challenges facing fishing industries in Mwanza region. A descriptive cross-sectional study involving 99 fishers and 16 key informants was conducted in Nyamagana municipal in Mwanza. Questionnaire and key informant interview were used in data collection and descriptive statistics aided by SPSS version 20 was used in analyzing data collected through questionnaire. Thematic analysis was used in analyzing data collected through key informant interviews. The findings revealed that 58.3% of the respondents are directly involved in fishing activities as the main source of income, 13.5% of the respondents involved in fish businesses as agents from fishermen to the industries and 28.2% of the respondents are employed in fishing industries in the study area. The researcher concludes that in the study area fishing sector and its industries contribute much in poverty reduction which helps young generation to engage in fishing activities rather than social crimes that can threaten the security of Mwanza region. The researcher recommended that local taxes should be cut off by ward executive officer on fishing sites to reduce production costs; restrictions on financial support for local fishermen should be reduced by fishing industries and establishment of fish farming technology should be enhanced and emphasized by fisheries officers.

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