

**THE CHANGING ROLE OF
NAFIRRI LIBRARY AND WHAT
IT HAS DONE TO STAY
VIABLE**

BY

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Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Function of the Library
- Stakeholders
- Sections of the Library
- Activities the Library is involved in

INTRODUCTION

- NaFIRRI Information Centre established in 1948 to provide information to Research Scientist in East African Region. The centre has evolved from a small Library to a modern Information and Data Centre.

Function

NaFIRRI Information and Data Centre (Library) is charged with processing of information, documenting, repackaging and dissemination research information to stakeholders while ensuring that all fisheries and aquaculture related research information in Uganda is preserved and conserved for further use.

The Library is referred to as the heart of the institutes because it contains all the institute's reports from the time of its establishment to the present date. It also contains reports of the first surveys done in 1920's on Lake Victoria, Albert and Kyoga.

The role of the Library is changing partly because the library must continue to meet the needs of the various categories of stakeholders they serve in order to stay viable. The stakeholders include:

Stakeholders

NAFIRRI Scientist and support staff

Fisher communities

Fish farmers

Students

Primary children

Policy Makers

Visiting scientist

SECTIONS

- NaFIRRI Information and Data Centre is divided into 5 sections namely:
- The processing and reference
- Journals section
- General Books section
- Africana section
- Archive section

INFORMATION RESOURCES

- The centre contains the following information:
- Fish biology
- Ecology
- Invertebrates
- Fisheries management
- Environment

- Socio-economics
- Fishes
- Water quality
- Aquaculture
- Agriculture (crops, soils)
- Research information on lakes like Victoria, Albert, Edward, George, Kyoga, Nabugabo, Tanganyika, Chad, Malawi, River Nile, River Zambezi and many other satellite lake existing in Uganda

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To stay viable the Library is
engaged in several activities

1. Repackaging of information

- The library is involved in repackaging of Research Information through brochures, factsheets, booklets, calendars, fisheries in press were fisheries related articles published in press are extracted and repackaged into booklets for scientists.

2. Information Retrieval for Scientists

The library carries out selective dissemination of information and Information Retrieval for scientists from the online databases. During the period 2011 July to June 2012 the Library downloaded 74 articles for scientists.

3. School outreach program

The Library is involved in the school outreach program together with scientist, research information is repackaged for school children

Students reading in the Library



4. Community Baraza

The library carries out outreach for the fisher communities, together with scientists it organises fisher communities and disseminates research information to them through baraza's.

This is carried out in areas where scientists have worked, the research findings are repackaged in form of baraza's for the fisher communities

Community Baraza's

- We link up with the community through district fisheries officers and community leaders
- Community is organised basing on the time they are out of the lake
- A talk on fisheries research information is disseminated in the local languages to the community.

Fishers attending a baraza



5 . RMIS

The Library is responsible for updating the institutes Research Management Information System (RMIS) database which is a management tool. In the RMIS database quarterly progress reports and project proposals that scientists prepare are sent to the Library

The librarian in turn feeds the information from the reports in to the RMIS system. The system generates reports which are useful for decision making process. This keeps the Library viable as the administration often refer to the Library for reports.

6. Shows and Exhibitions

Every year during the month of July the library participates in a week long Annual Agricultural Show, Exhibition and World Food Day celebrations where it disseminates research information to stakeholder.

The Library participating in disseminating information to stakeholders during the Annual Agricultural



7. NATIONAL ASFA PARTNER

The Library is a National ASFA Partner, as a partner it is involved in preparing inputs and participates in ASFA activities

8. DIGITIZATION

The Library is involved in digitization of historical research information. With support from ASFA secretariat the Library received a scanner which has enabled it to digitize to date of 1450 copies of historical information have been digitized.

9. Information Needs Assessment Studies

The Library carries out information needs assessment surveys where information needs of stakeholders are identified. During the surveys researchable areas for scientists are identified

10. Data Librarianship

The Library also serves as the Data centre meaning that the librarian also works as a data librarian. The library acts as a store house for all the institute data in that all the data in its raw form dating back the 1920's when the first surveys were carried out in Lake Victoria and Albert in Uganda. The data sets have been organised in files

Conclusion

The need to meet the ever demanding Information need of the stakeholders forced NaFIRRI library to adopt new methods of delivering information. It's this change that has enable NaFIRRI library to stay viable.



I THANK YOU