

MSc projects at Environmental Sciences/ Environmental Systems Analysis Group

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ANALYSING AND VALUING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN THE KILOMBERO WETLAND

Keywords: wetlands, ecosystem services, land use changes, valuation

Summary

Introduction

Growing population and increased demand for food in Sub-Saharan Africa has led to pressure and drastic changes on wetland ecosystems as many are converted to agricultural areas (Rebello, 2010). Although there are direct benefits obtained from agriculture, there has been a loss of other ecosystem services which most people depend on from the wetlands as a natural resource. To contribute to this area of study, **the aim of this research is to analyze and value the ecosystem services in Kilombero Wetland and assess the impacts on the ecosystem services due to land use changes. This will provide guidelines to support the efficient management of the wetland ecosystem.**

Objective and methodology of the Study

I will conduct a research in Kilombero Wetland to 1. value different ecosystem services which include crop production, livestock grazing, firewood harvest, grass for construction and bush vegetables. The research will help 2. determine the impacts of agricultural practices such as livestock keeping on the forest and wetland resources. Further, 3. the research will determine the economic valuation of the ecosystem services supplied by the wetland thus ascertain the sustainable management option for the wetland

The data will be obtained through a household survey which will involve use of an elaborate questionnaire and secondary data from literature re-



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Work Package	
Countries of work	Tanzania
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Subject	
Faculty	Environmental Sciences
University	Wageningen UR
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