

# The Lake Chad Basin and the integration of its fisheries communities in the national response to HIV/AIDS

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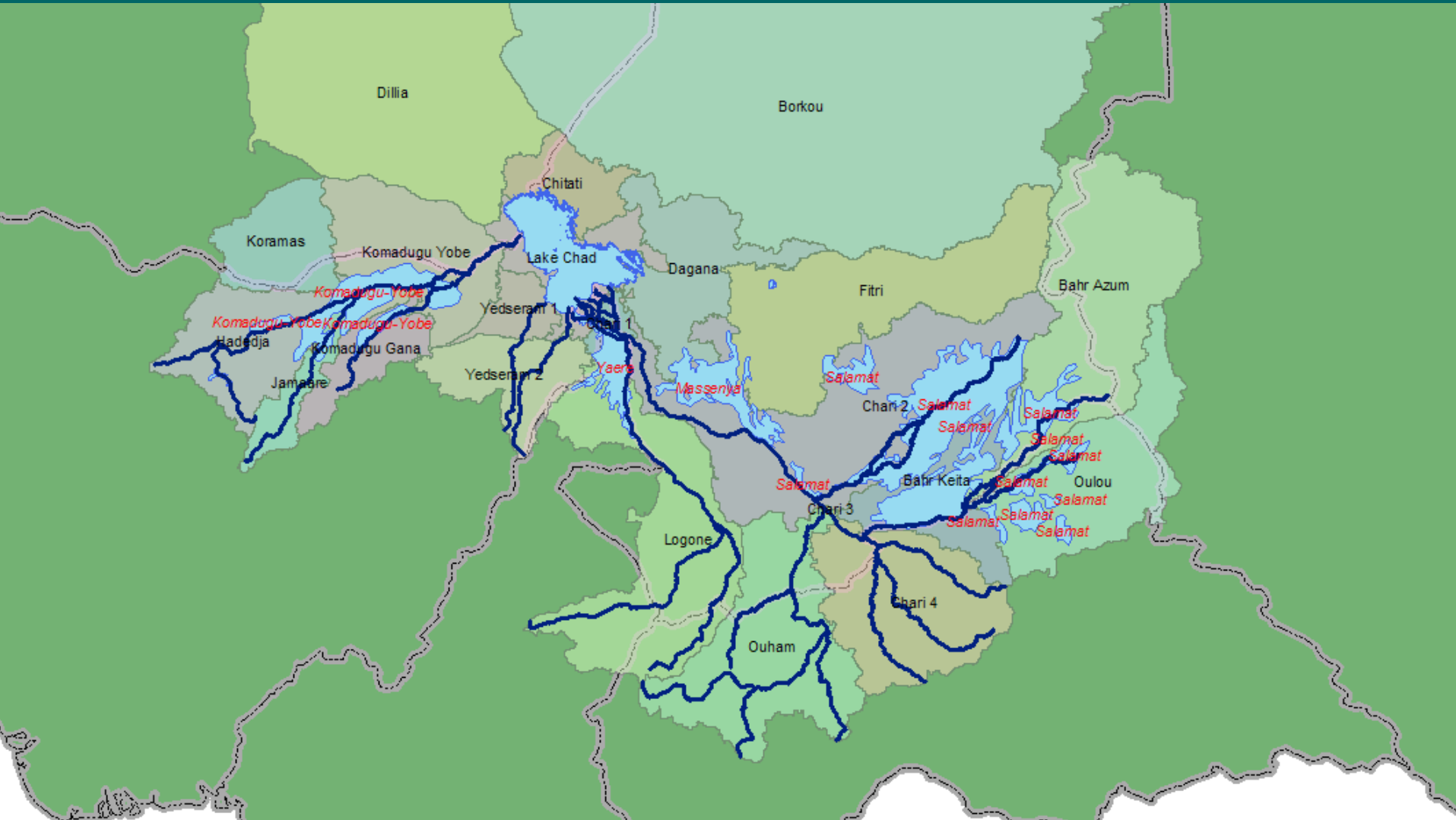
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## Some Facts about the lake Chad

- One of the largest and most productive inland fisheries in Africa
- 220,000 mt was recorded in 1974; the highest production ever
- Shared mainly by Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria.
- Had an area of about 28,000 km<sup>2</sup> in the 60s but now only about 2,500 km<sup>2</sup> (presently referred to as the shrinking Lake Chad (drying period 1972-78))
- Provides wide range of benefits to riparian countries and wider society: income, employment, food/nutrition security

# Lake Tchad

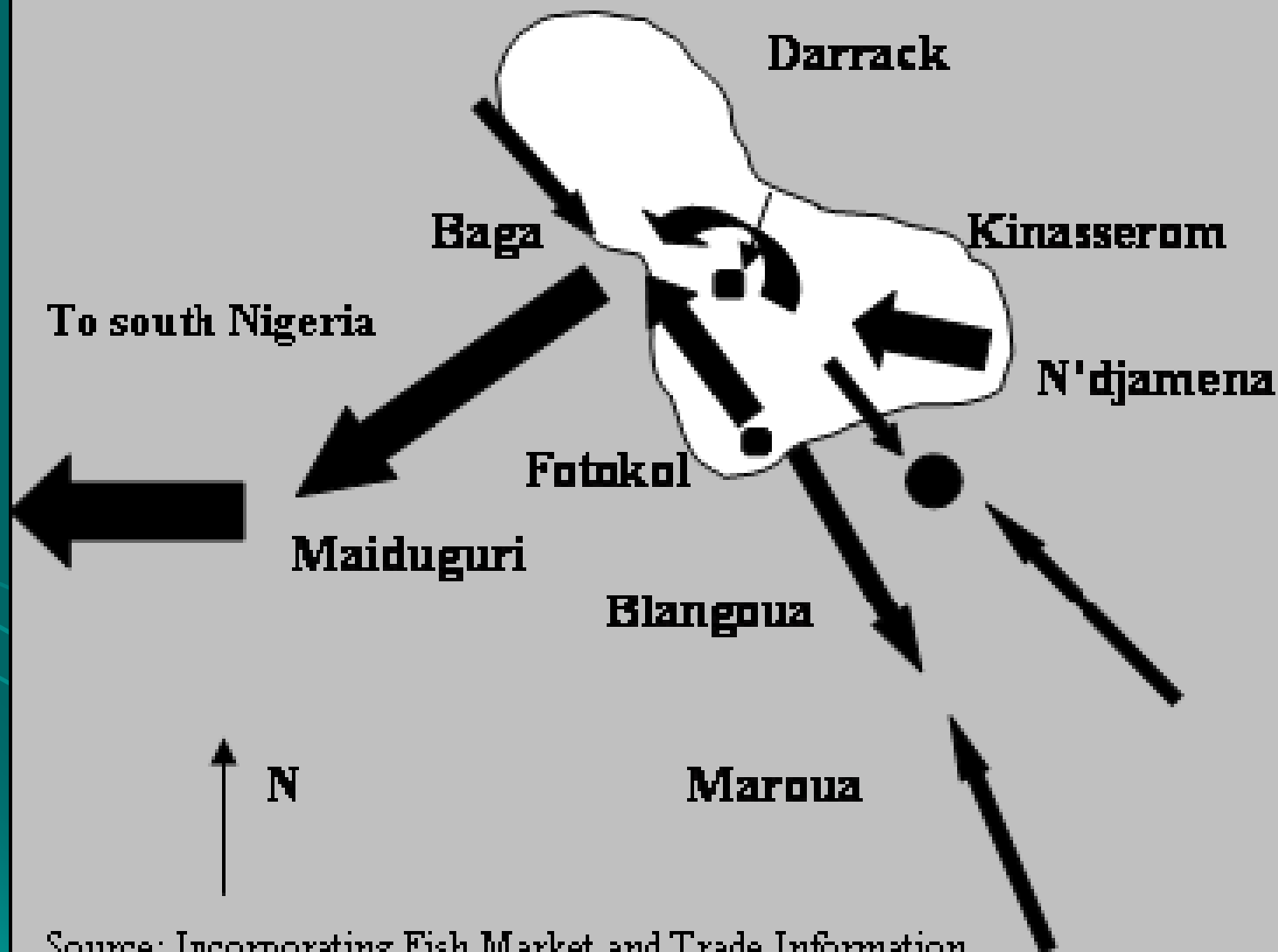


## Regional overview of fisheries production in the LCB (Based on results of EU and DFID/FAO- SFLP funded collaborative projects 1998-2004)

	Volume of fish traded (tonnes, wet weight) <sup>(1)</sup>	Value of fish traded (US\$ x000)	Main markets
<b>Cameroon</b>	24, 800 (17%)	8, 000 (15%)	Local, urban, Nigeria
<b>CAR</b>	530 (0.37%)	254 (<1%)	Local, urban, Chad
<b>Chad</b>	10, 873 (7.76%)	6, 400 (10%)	Local urban, Nigeria
<b>Niger</b>	37, 840 (26.7%)	14, 800 (27%)	Local, Nigeria
<b>Nigeria</b>	67, 864 (47.8%) (about 35% of inland water production)	26, 000 or <b>N3b</b> (48%)	Local, urban, south Nigeria
<b>Total</b>	<b>141, 907</b>	<b>53, 854</b>	

Source: modified from Neiland and Bene (eds) (2004); Ovie et al. (2004): Note: <sup>(1)</sup> measured dry weight converted to wet weight using x 4 conversion factor; auto-consumption added to Nigeria's value

**Box: Sketch map of fish markets & trade routes in the Lake Chad Basin, centred on Lake Chad (2002-2003)**



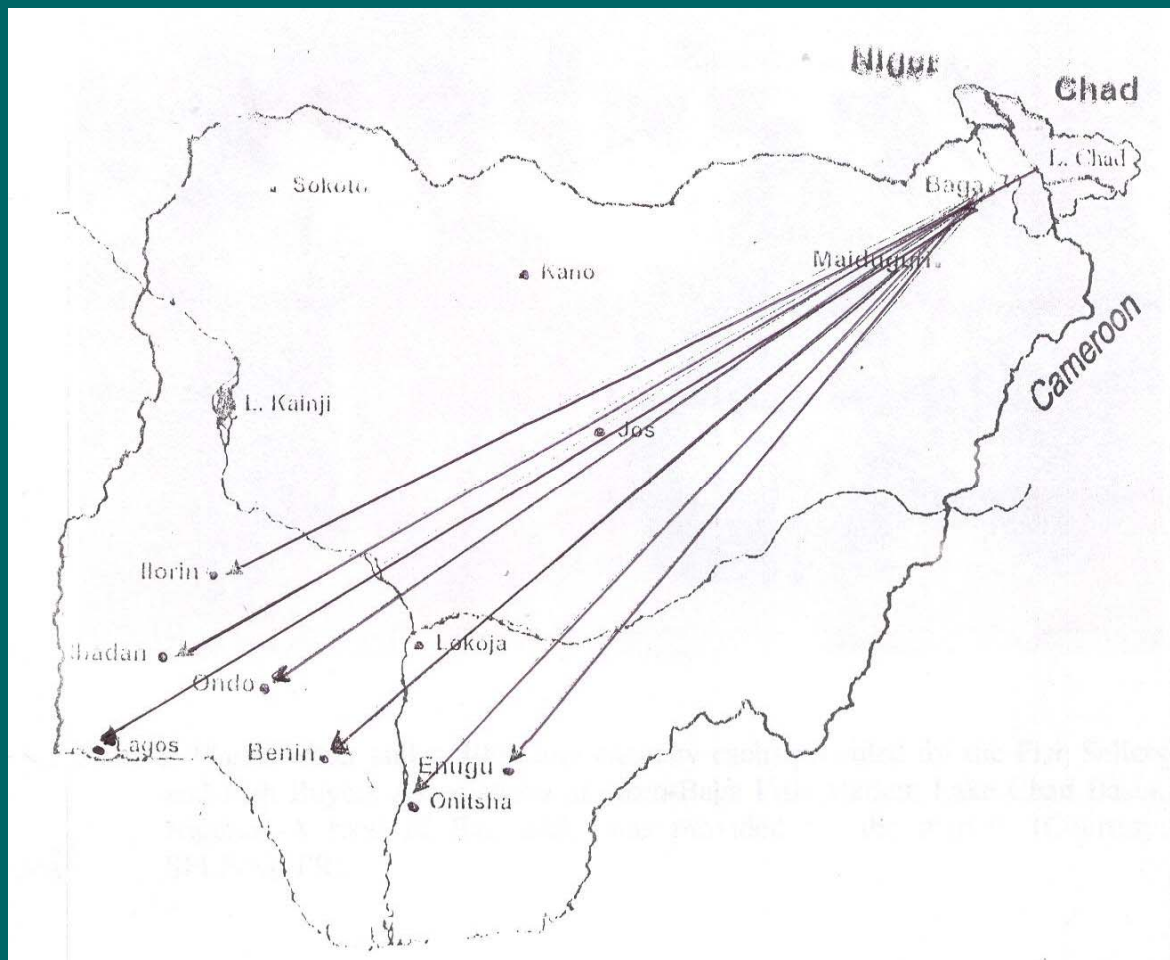
Source: Incorporating Fish Market and Trade Information into Policy-Making for Sustainable Livelihoods and Poverty Reduction.

# Major actors & stakeholder on the Nigerian shores of the Lake Chad

Major Stakeholder group	Monthly income (US\$ in bracket)	
Fishers	60-80,000	(500-600)
Fish processors	Could not estimate	
Fish sellers	80-100,000	(600-750)
Fish buyers	150-180,000	(1000-1300)
Fish transporters	100-150,000	(750-1000)
Retailers	40-50,000	(300-370)
Consumers		
Fuel wood sellers	24-40,000	(180-300)
Boat builders	20-35,000	(150-260)
Commission agents	10-15,000	(70-100)
Fishing gear makers/dealers		
<b>Ancillary actors</b>		
Carton fabricators		
Rope makers		
Carton loaders		

## Destination of LCN fish product

Markets	% Vol. traded
<u>Southern Markets</u>	
Enugu	20
Onisha	25
Lagos	12
Ibadan	12
Ilorin	6
Benin	12
Ondo	3
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>90</b>
<u>N. and C. Nigeria</u>	
Kano	3
Maiduguri	2
Jos	4
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>GRAND-TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>





**Fishermen off-loading daily catch of fresh fish from a boat for processing in Dumba, Lake Chad Basin**



**A woman fish processor about to off-load fresh fish for processing in the Lake Chad Basin.**





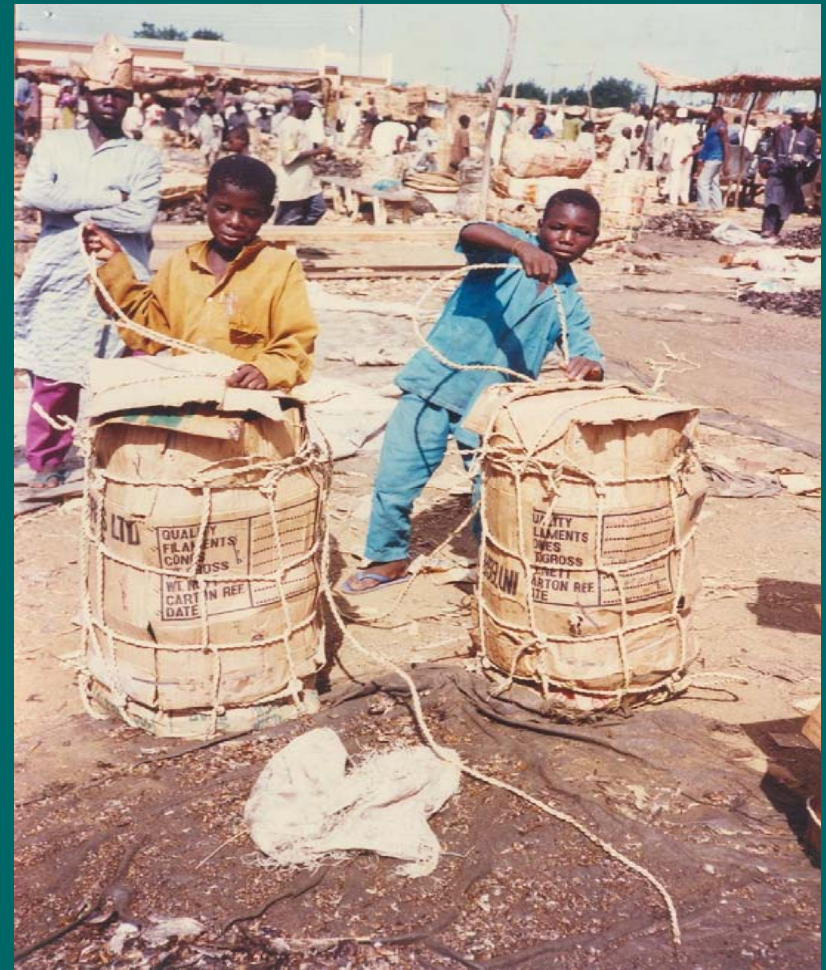
**Scarcity of fuel wood leads to obnoxious processing method of charring of less choiced fish such as the Tilapias.**



**Charred and sun-dried Tilapia product ready for the market**



**Youth participation in the fisheries of the Lake Chad Basin, Sorting and packaging of fish products.**



**Tying of packaged fish in Doro market – a source of subsistence income for youths in the area.**



**Trucks Loading Lake Chad Basin smoked fish products for transportation to Southern Nigeria retail fish markets**



**Fully loaded truck of Lake Chad Basin fish products destined for Southern Nigeria retail fish markets**

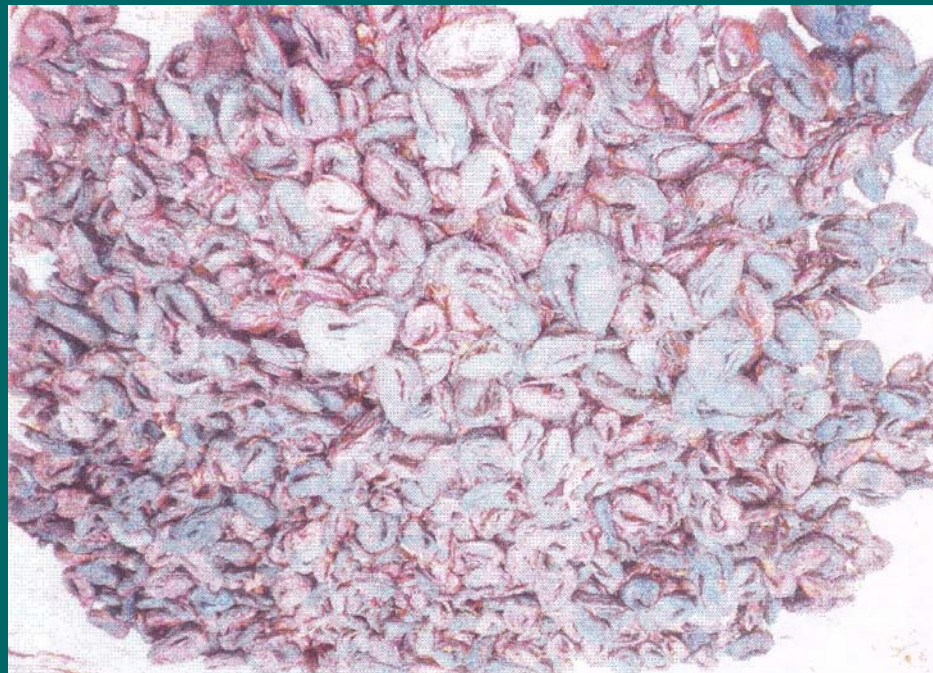


**Retail fish market for Lake Chad Basin fish products in S. Nigeria. Women dominate the retail fish trade**

**Retail of Lake Chad Basin fish products in Southern Nigeria fish market**



***Citharinus* is another common fish species in the lake Chad basin aside from *Clarias* and Tilapia**



**One of the commonest commercial species of fish (*Clarias*) awaiting packaging**

# Huge fisheries underpinning livelihoods and food security of millions

Chad basin fishing communities are throughout the year difficult to reach

& most of the time they have very poor access to basic services such as water , electricity, health, education, micro finance, etc... local government and projects (health, agric, education) don't reach and actors are poorly organised

Sustainable fisheries = not only natural resources but well being and Human capital: Health, nutrition, social cohesion, participation in decision making

## The LCB fisheries and HIV/AIDS

Initial baseline project studies revealed several predisposing HIV/AIDS risk factors in the fisheries communities:

- ❖ Little knowledge about mode of transmission and prevention
- ❖ Low or no risk perception
- ❖ Low or no condom use-**for CSW, men who decline condom use pay more for services**
- ❖ Multiple sex partners
- ❖ Early and inter generation marriages
- ❖ Frequent divorces and remarriages
- ❖ Commercial sex work
- ❖ Transactional sex- **sex for fish or fish for sex**
- ❖ Daily cash income- **may not be enough to invest but sufficient to entice those who need petty cash for petty needs**
- ❖ Heavy alcohol consumption and use of psycho active drugs-**all these reduce sense of inhibition**
- ❖ Migration (>3mt) and mobility(<3mt)- **IOM definition**
- ❖ Poverty
- ❖ Unequal power relations-**inability to negotiate safe sex increases the vulnerability of women**

- **What HIV/AIDS services are available in the region?**
  - **Testing, treatment, care and counselling centres are generally lacking**
  - **GHAIN provides the only existing testing and treatment Centre**
  - **Location of this facility outside the epicentre of fisheries activities in the region constrains use by most community members**
  
- **What has the project done based on baseline information?**
  - **Village Chapters for HIV/AIDS prevention and control set up and functional in 10 fisheries communities in the LCB. Each chapter has Executive members**
  - **Two Umbrella organisations (one each for men and women) with Executive members drawn from the village chapters have been formed and functional**
  - **Both umbrella organisations are headquartered in Doro-Baga, the epicentre of fish trade in the region**
  - **Both have received management and peer education training**





## ❑ Strategic roles of the organisations

- The village chapters are to coordinate HIV/AIDS sensitisation/ awareness campaign and peer education in their various communities
- The Umbrella organisations are to do same in Doro Baga market
- Umbrella organisations are planned to anchor future HIV/AIDS activities in the region.

## ❑ Ongoing and planned Efforts

- Effort is being made to link HIV/AIDS donor Agencies operating in the region (eg GHAIN, GTZ, IFAD, SFH, LCB-A/DB HIV/AIDS Initiative) and NACA/BOSACAM with these organisations for the purpose of making their services more available to the rural communities
- Plans are on to provide funds to strengthen the umbrella organisations and to initiate micro projects that would generate sustainable benefit to the communities

● **THANK YOU FOR LISTENING**

