

## Project Update: March 2018

Analysis of the collected data show that there are several land use practices in the project area. Community members admitted that their modes of earning a living are generally not conservation friendly. In particular, the practice of cutting the littoral zone vegetation was highlighted. It was observed that, the major motivating factor for this practice is that, it is in the littoral zone vegetation of the lake where fish hide and spawn. The littoral zone also used for rice cultivation. So far, a presentation on the preliminary findings of the study was made at a Rufford Conference in Namibia. Further, as part of project dissemination, an abstract has been submitted to the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation (ATBC) Conference in Malaysia scheduled for July 1-5, 2018. The title of the paper is "The Impact of Land Use Variations on Wetland Ecosystem Conservation in a Subsistence Economy".



This picture shows a rice farm created after clearing littoral zone vegetation. This practice results in the depletion of fish spawning grounds.



This picture illustrates a littoral zone whose Typha vegetation has been cleared in order to catch fish which hides and spawns therein.