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Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections

2014 SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL: KENYA AUDIO LOG SHEETS

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7) Group of 35 people - Zingara = Swahili for environment - focus on using water hyacinths for basketmaking & recycled materials for gift items

8) Women living along the lake harvest the plant, weave it into ropes & sell it to their basketmakers

9) Challenges in harvesting - 1) snakes and 2) the plant is mobile. An area may be overgrown one day & empty the next.

10) Zingara also makes necklaces from paper, toys from recycled bottles and other gift items. 35 people currently in the group w/ most focusing on using water hyacinths to craft baskets, bags, lamps, magazine racks.

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