

# THE **WATER** AND **ENVIRONMENT** MAGAZINE



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

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# UGANDA **WATER** AND **ENVIRONMENT** WEEK 2019



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Message from the Minister and interview with the Permanent Secretary -Ministry of Water and Environment

UWEWK2019, Water Resources Institute; SDGs and the Water and Environment Sector

Key achievements and opportunities within the Water and Environment Sector .

A profile of key water and environment sector players and the services they offer.





## The new MWE headquarter building in Luzira-Kampala

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## MESSAGE FROM MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

**Hon. Sam Cheptoris**

I would like to welcome you to the first edition of The Water and Environment Magazine which has been published within the context of the Uganda Water and Environment Week (UWEWK2019). The UWEWK2019 is part of activities of the Ministry of Water and Environment aimed at providing an opportunity to stakeholders and the general public to exchange views and experiences, dialogue and network, foster new thinking, and benchmark on best practices in the sector and develop solutions to the most pressing water and environment related challenges facing us today. This will ultimately contribute

to sustainable development and management of water and environment resources of Uganda. There is no better opportunity to mark such as a milestone than during the UWEWK2019 whose overall theme is “*Water and Environment a strategic driver in attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030*”

This magazine is thus intended to be a yearly publication dedicated to showcasing the vast services offered by the Ministry and its partners and stakeholders as well as key achievements over the past year and prospects and opportunities for the next years. In highlighting the achievements and available

opportunities, the intention is to demonstrate the strategic and central role of the sector in helping Uganda transform from a peasant to a modern and prosperous country by 2040; and achieve its targets and commitments under the SDGs and National Development Plan II and III.

I would therefore like to wish the sector and all participants of UWEWK2019 good reading of the magazine, a successful UWEWK2019 and happy stay at the Water Resources Institute-Entebbe.

For God and My Country

# Editorial

Thank you for picking up a copy of the first edition of the Water and Environment Magazine.

It is with great pleasure that we give you an overview of the Water and Environment sector through activities implemented by the different directorates and agencies of the Ministry of Water and Environment as well as key stakeholders and partners. This magazine highlights some of the key achievements realized until this March 2019 and presents available opportunities in the sector. It is surely an enormous task to capture all the great work being done by the sector in just a few pages of this magazine, more so in its first edition but nonetheless, the Water and Environment magazine is here and let us indulge in it.

This particular edition captures the Uganda Water and Environment Week 2019 (UWEWK2019) under its theme “Water and Environment-a strategic driver in attainment of Sustainable Development Goals 2030”.

Since its initiation in 2018, the UWEWK is growing in leaps and bounds and what a better way to start the magazine than to give you a message from the Minister of Water and Environment, and an interview with its Permanent

Secretary.

This issue starts off with the UWEWK2019, a platform that allows sector actors and other stakeholders to exchange knowledge and experiences. Since this year’s theme is on SDGs and the sector, we would like to broadly introduce the SDGs especially #6, #13 and #15 which are directly under the domain of the Water and Environment Sector.

Since the Water Resources Institute (WRI) is the host of UWEWK, we shall look deeper into what has been done so far and what is planned to be done by the institute in pursuit of its aims of being a center of excellence in providing cutting edge applied research and training, delivering continuous professional development at all levels of water resources management while serving as a neutral place for dialogue and outreach.

From the UWEWK19 event and activities around it, the Magazine will indulge in key achievements and future prospects under Water Supply and Sanitation, and Water for Production; Integrated Water Resources Management, Environment and Natural Resources Management, and

Cross Cutting issues of gender and equality, HIV/AIDS, Media and Capacity Development. The sector cannot achieve its objectives without the support of the various stakeholders and partners. Some of the key water and environment sector players and stakeholders and the services they offer are also profiled in this magazine.

For the interest of readers, we have included various pictures to tell the stories in 1000 words. It is therefore our pleasure to present to you the first issue of the magazine for the sector and hope that you will appreciate the various success stories and also get insight into those people whose efforts sometimes go unnoticed.

Let me extend our appreciation to all those who have contributed to this magazine especially the staff working within the Water and Environment Sector, the persons behind all the websites and social media accounts of all the institutions where some of the information and photos have been extracted.

**Enjoy!**



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# Interview with the Permanent Secretary, -MWE.



Good morning, Mr. Okidi and thank you for your time and having us.

**TWEM:** So you are organizing the Uganda Water and Environment Week (UWEWK) for the second year; why this event yet the sector already has other forums like the annual Joint Sector and Technical reviews?

**AOO:** The Joint Technical and Sector Reviews are more for evaluation of performance while the UWEWK is broader and involves dialogue and engagement with stakeholders, generates discussions, offers proposals and informs policy, laws and regulation; Not only is it interactive but it also has critical aspects to it.

**TWEM:** How is UWEWK funded and what are your expectations as a Ministry?

**AOO:** UWEWK is funded by the Ministry, partners and other stakeholders who have made contributions towards the event in general or to some specific aspects of the event; I would therefore like to use this opportunity to thank all our various stakeholders and partners for the generous contributions to the UWEWK2019.

**TWEM:** This year's theme for UWEWK is Water and Environment, a strategic driver in attainment of sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs) 2030, why this theme?

**AOO:** The country is committed to international instruments including the SDGs which have special focus on water and environment including other goals like to eliminate poverty, improve lives etc. Since water and environment are catalysts across board, it is only right that the water and environment sector integrate SDGs into the various planning and implementation processes.

**TWEM:** What actions has the Ministry taken to integrate Sustainable Development Goals related to water and environment in the sector policies and programs?

**AOO:** The SDGs do have specific targets within them and using these targets, the Ministry has managed to integrate them into our planning and implementation structures. Also, whenever the Ministry has to review certain instruments like policy, strategy or plans, we ensure that aspects of SDGs are considered. Specifically we have reviewed our sector performance measurement framework and integrated SDGs fully in this framework.

**TWEM:** At the policy level, what have been the major highlights (achievements) over the past year and what are the opportunities available within the Ministry and the sector in general over the 1-3 years?

**AOO:** Since last year when the first UWEWK was held and the Water Resources Institute (WRI) was launched many stakeholders such as the NGOs, academia, and private sector have shown interest in working with us to move the sector forward. They have shown great appreciation of the WRI and the insights it provides on water and environment. For example from the outcomes of UWEWK2018 the MWE has got some very useful information that will help refine/amend the certain Ministry policy and strategy documents to reflect the new insights.

**TWEM:** Any last words?

**AOO:** I would like to encourage the general public to participate at the event; it does have enough opportunities for discussions, dialogue and exhibitions. We would also like to receive feedback and experience from the participants to make the event better in the coming years.

**Thank You!**



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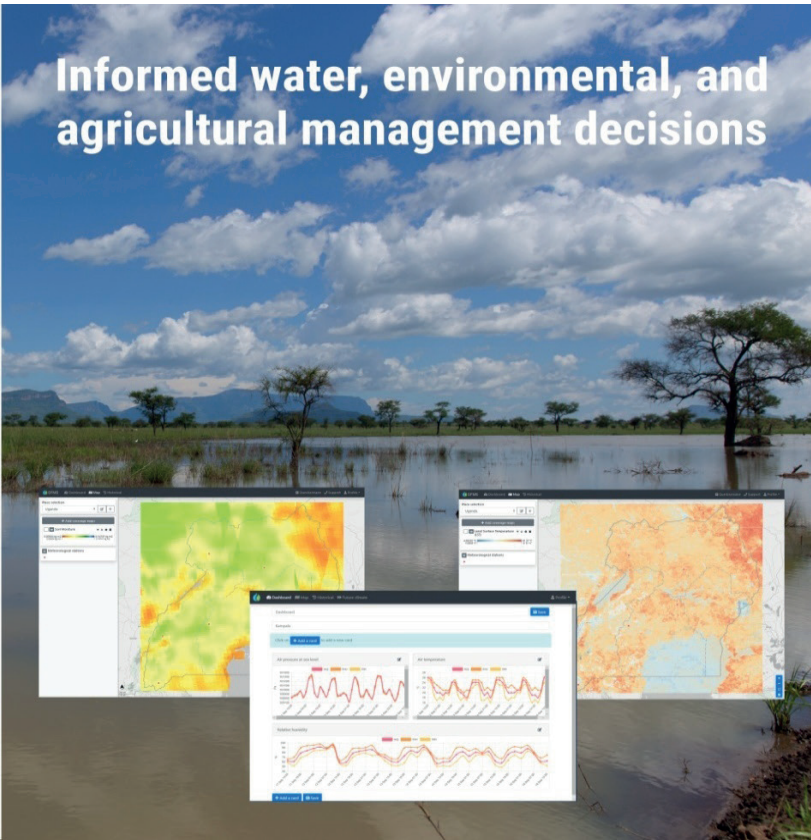


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## Uganda Water and Environment Week-2019



^^^Participants attended training at the WRI during UWEWK2018

**T**he Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) is once again organizing the Uganda Water and Environment Week (UWEWK) to be hosted by the Water Resources Institute (WRI) in Entebbe from Monday 18 – Friday 22, March 2019 under the theme: “Water and Environment a strategic driver in attainment of Sustainable Development Goals 2030”. Since its initiation in 2018, the event seeks to provide an interface for sector actors and other stakeholders to exchange knowledge and experiences which should go a long way in...

*Continued on page 4*



^^^^Sanitation clean up exercise at Kagugube at Makerere Kivulu during the start of UWEWK2018



...improving Uganda’s water and environment resources; this should eventually contribute towards the attainment of sustainable socio-economic transformation of the Country.

Papers, applied training, dialogues, exhibitions and field visits will be organized under the 5 sub themes where the public and private sector, institutions, academia, partners, civil society organizations, leading sector professional, industrial experts and policy makers shall engage each other and the sector.

World Forest Day, World Water Day and World Meteorological Day shall also be commemorated; where outstanding personalities and contributors to the water and environment sector shall be recognized and awarded.

The participants and other stakeholders shall get involved by:

- Submission of abstracts and papers prepared in line with the theme and sub-themes of the conference and also emphasizing innovations and case studies.
- Registration to participate in the pre- event, event and post-event activities.
- Sponsorships or by convening sessions (including side events) which shall cover specific interest of the convener with the context of UWEWK2019.
- Viewing and engaging exhibitors



^^^UWEWK2019 did already start in vigor with a campaign: “Walk for Zoka” aimed at creating awareness about the issues concerning climate change and ways of protecting our environment resources. The Walkers Association was flagged off from the MWE headquarters in Luzira for a 460 km walk to Zoka forest in Adjumani district.

**Targeted Participants:**

700 local and international delegates

**Sub-theme 1:** Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystem nexus

**Sub-theme 2:** Water-Sanitation, environment and society

**Sub-theme 3:** Green growth

**Sub-theme 4:** Blue economy and SDGs

**Sub-theme 5:** Financing Sustainable Development Goals



^^Members of the National Organizing Committee and various sub-committees making final touches to the preparation of UWEWK2019 at the Water Resources Institute in Entebbe



^^^A scheme summarizing the activities for UWEWK2019



# SDGs and the Water and Environment Sector

The International community, Uganda included adopted the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aimed for a better and more sustainable future. The SDGs have been set to address global challenges related to: climate, environmental degradation, inequality, peace, justice, prosperity, poverty and through partnerships with a target by 2030. Uganda is among the first countries to localize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and remains committed to its implementation while recognizing that the remaining challenges require concerted efforts and partnerships to

facilitate attainment of the desired development goals and targets. The Ugandan Water and Environment sector is mainly covered under SDG#6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG#13 (Climate Action) and SDG#15 (Life on Earth) although these three remain an essential part of all the 17 goals. Water, sanitation and environment are absolute necessities for people, planet and prosperity, and are at the very core of sustainable development. Safe drinking water and adequate sanitation and hygiene are pillars of human health and well-being. The Water and Environment Sector has made significant progress in adopting the

SDGs at national level. A recent revision of the sector performance monitoring framework allowed the integration of the relevant indicators to assess sector performance annually in line with SDGs. The Strategic Sector Investment Plan as well as the Sector Performance Report 2018 attempted to establish baseline and progress figures for the various indicators. Data availability and analysis is now continuously improved with support from various stakeholders such as local governments, NGOs, Development Partners etc



Herein are the targets as provided for under each of the SDGs:  
SDG#6 (Clean Water and Sanitation)

Uganda was one of the 6 countries in the world to pilot test indicator methodologies for SDG6 in 2016 and has now embarked on collection of baseline data on all the indicators through 6 task teams for each target as indicated below. Thus, this year's theme for the UWEWK2019: "Water and Environment a strategic driver in attainment of Sustainable Development Goals 2030" will help to raise awareness and understanding of the scope of SDG6. The six targets of SDG6 are as follows:

6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all (Drinking Water)

6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations (Sanitation and Hygiene);

6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally (Waste water and Water quality)

6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity (Water Use and scarcity)

6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through trans-boundary cooperation as appropriate (Integrated Resources Management)

6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes (Water related Ecosystems).

SDG#13 (Climate Action). Climate Change Department coordinates Uganda's efforts to tackle climate change under SDG13. The targets under SDG13 are as follows:

13.1 Strengthen resilience and

adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

13.A Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalise the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible

13.B Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

SDG#15 (Life on Earth)

SDG15 deals with environment and natural resources issues. The targets under this goal are:

15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and dry lands, in line with obligations under international agreements

15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests,

halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land

degradation-neutral world

15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development

15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species

15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed

15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products

15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species

15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts

15.A Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems

15.B Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

15.C Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities





## The Water Resources Institute

The Water Resources Institute (WRI) which is situated in Entebbe was established to bridge the gap between theory and practice and help profile the country's water and environment resources as central and as basic foundation for national development. This was from the realization that water and

environment resources will continue to face challenges associated with pollution, climate variability, and reduction in water availability; and yet, there is the need to balance water and environment needs for agriculture, energy, industry and households in the country. To achieve its vision of being a Centre of excellence on water and

environment issues, the WRI conducts cutting edge applied research and training, delivers continuous professional skills development across all levels in water resources management and development, and also serves as a neutral place for dialogue and outreach. This work should eventually lead to Uganda's water and environment resources being utilized optimally for sustainable socio-economic development.

During its launch the institute attracted over 300 participants in activities including open exhibitions, 8 short trainings (1.5 hours each), 3 dialogues and 4 field visits conducted. Since March 2018 14 technical training and meetings have been held involving about 620 professionals in various areas in relation to water and



<<A sector group photo with the Prime Minister, Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda after the launch of the WRI on 21 March 2018



<<Hands-on training on implementation exercise of Water Source Protection Guidelines over lake Victoria

environment sector. The WRI has also provided meeting space for various stakeholder groups and partners such as the Kampala Pollution Task Force (PTF), Drought Flood Mitigation Service (DFMS) Prototype Technical Review and Upper Nile Water Management Zone (UNWMZ).

Besides the training on SDGs already mentioned above, herein is a short list of the trainings that have been conducted at the WRI:

1. Integrating Water Resources Management as a tool for Climate Change Adaptation,
2. Technical Workshop on Effective Adaptation, Climate Finance and Innovative Approaches to Achieve Long Term Ambitions,
3. Training on Hydro-Diplomacy:-The Nile Cooperation.
4. Training in Water Source Protection Planning and Implementation
5. Training during the UWEWK2018:
6. Groundwater geo-potential mapping for MWE hydro-geologists,

7. Project Proposal writing for relevant staff of MWE,
8. 3Di-Hydrological Modelling Training for relevant staff of MWE,
9. Formulating Lake Victoria Basin Commission ( LVBC) Project for participants from all Lake Victoria basin riparian countries,
10. Water Allocation Training for relevant staff of MWE
11. Water Source Protection Planning and Implementation for various stakeholders involved in implementation of water source protection guidelines,
12. Groundwater development and management for piped water supply systems for Project Engineers, and Hydro-geologists,

In 2018, the Water Resources Institute (WRI) was already engaged in conducting a training course and case study aimed at building capacity of different stakeholders in the water and other related sectors to understand the scope and meaning of the various SDG6 targets and indicators with the need collect and interpret the

baseline data. This training focused on:

- SDG framework and the linkage between SDG6 and other goals;
- Water and sanitation contribution to sustainable development
- Monitoring water and sanitation in the 2030 Agenda at global level.
- SDG 6 indicators, targets and monitoring methodologies and guides
- Required data per indicator, sources of the data, and how data is collected
- Data analysis and interpretation including disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts
- Reporting on progress of achievement of SDG6 targets
- Share lessons on SDG 6 indicator monitoring among the task team members.





^^^Participants undergoing professional skills development at WRI

## Future prospects for the WRI

The WRI is developing strategy and business plan which will form a basis for its future work. The strategy and business plan are in the final stages of development and should be ready by end of April 2019



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# Key achievements under Water Supply and Sanitation; and Water for Production

## Key achievements over the last two years.

- Access to safe water was remained at 70% for Uganda's rural population.
- The functionality of rural water supplies was estimated to be 85%
- 982 new boreholes were constructed and 1,571 rehabilitated
- The total number of villages with at least a safe water source increased to 57,974 (i.e. 66% of all villages);
- 30 solar powered mini schemes under construction and the progress is now up to 65% completion.
- 70 piped water systems with 861 taps, and 167 protected springs were constructed.
- 751 rainwater harvesting systems (Ferro cement tanks, Plastic tanks and Communal) were installed;
- 89% of water points were made functional
- Safe water coverage in urban areas increased from 71% to 77%.
- Access to safely managed water (available on premises) currently stands at 20%.
- 515 villages at local council 1s in urban areas had an improved water source.
- Construction of 31 small towns' water supply systems with 236 public stand posts (PSP), 9,477 yard taps and 258 institutional connections was completed.
- 26 town water supply schemes were under construction while 66 designs were completed;
- Functionality of small towns and rural growth centers currently stands at 93%.



^^^ Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Department testing the water pressure during the technical commissioning of the Wadelai Water Supply and Sanitation system



## Key achievements over the last two years continued:

- Access to basic sanitation currently stands at 79%
- Coverage of hand washing facilities currently stands at 36.5%.
- Access to hand washing facilities in schools currently stands at 40% ;
- Rural populations that were practicing open defecation dropped from 9% to 8%



^^^The Lirima Treatment Plant in Manafwa District

## Key achievements over the last two years continued:

- CSOs constructed 1,603 new water supply facilities and rehabilitated 1,584
- CSOs also provided total of 688,229 household with sanitation facilities and 1,850 schools with latrine stances which were constructed;
- MWE gazetted six Umbrellas of Water and Sanitation Organisations as Water Authorities to manage 259 piped water supply and sanitation systems
- 18 small towns' water supply and sanitation schemes were handed over to NWSC for management;
- The sanitation regulation framework was developed;
- Nonrevenue water (NRW) is estimated to be 41% for small towns;
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, MWE has rehabilitated a number of large irrigation schemes with Water for production storage



^^^The newly constructed Pallisa Water Supply and sanitation system

- capacity increasing to 39.32 million m<sup>3</sup>;
- Functionality of WfP facilities increased to 86.7%



## Key achievements over the last two years continued:

- 84% of water for production r facilities we made functional.
- 16 Small scale Irrigation schemes were completed while Olweny irrigation scheme (one of the large irrigation schemes) reached 92% completion;
- Construction works for 14 Windmill powered water Supply Systems in Karamoja Sub-region are ongoing, meanwhile 9 Valley tanks and 4 communal valley tanks were completed;
- Most districts implemented Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) and Home Improvement Campaigns (HIC) to improve their sanitation and hygiene status;



^^^A 150 cubic meter cold pressed steel tank for the Kakumiro Water supply and sanitation system in Kibaale district.



^^^ Officials from MWE together with the MPs on the Natural Resources Committee visiting projects under in the South-Western, Northern and Eastern Region

### Future prospects/opportunities in the sub-sector over the next one year:

- Construction of 10 mini solar powered irrigation schemes
- Construction of 50 mini solar powered piped water systems
- Construction and operation of Bugolobi Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Construction of Nakivuubo and Kinawataka sewers project
- Construction of Kinawataka pre-treatment and pumping station
-





^^^ Officials from MWE together with the MPs on the Natural Resources Committee visiting projects under in the South-Western, Northern and Eastern Region

### Future prospects/opportunities in the sub-sector over the next one year:

- Construction and installation of 80 small scale Irrigation systems countrywide
- Preparation of the National Irrigation Master Plan
- Construction of 10 Valley tanks in Western, Eastern and Northern regions;
- Feasibility Studies and Detailed Design for Development of Water for Oil Refinery in the greater Albertine Graben Region;



^^^ Irrigation systems installed to support agriculture and alternative livelihoods

### Future prospects/opportunities in the sub-sector over the next one year:

- Construction and installation of 30 small scale irrigation systems in Eastern Uganda and Karamoja regions
- Installation of 14 windmill powered watering systems in Karamoja sub region.

## Key achievements over the last two years continued:

National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) is a public utility company that is 100% owned by the Government of Uganda and is mandated to reach everyone with clean safe water within a radius of 200 meters in all the towns and urban centers entrusted to them. So far, some of their key achievements include:

- Extended over 1400Kms of piped water,
- Annual water production has increased to 120 million cubic meters.
- A business turnover of UGX 388bn was realised.
- Non-revenue water reduced to 28%.
- Customer base increased to 588,000 accounts in 236 towns.
- 10hrs per day water supply reliability on average was achieved
- A total of 238 towns are under NWSC management.
- Customer Satisfaction Index was improved to 85% on average.



^^^ NWSC's Ggaba water works





NWSC is constructing the largest sewage treatment plant in East Africa and Central. The plant when completed will improve sanitation of over 850,000 city dwellers in Kampala.

### Future prospects/opportunities in the sub-sector over the next one year:

- NWSC target 100% service coverage and clean safe water within a radius of 200 meters in all the towns and urban centers entrusted to them;
- Improvement on water supply reliability from the current 10hrs of water supply per day to 18hrs per day;
- Construction of 2 sewerage systems for Arua town;
- Upgrade and rehabilitation of the Ggaba Water Treatment Complex
- Construction of new Water Treatment Plant East of Kampala
- Construction of the Katosi- Kampala Drinking Water Transmission Main and Extension of Water Supply in Informal Settlement;



^^^Catchment and water quality monitoring of the Inner Murchison Bay on Lake Victoria by NWSC team.

### Future prospects/opportunities in the sub-sector over the next one year

- Expand capacity of Ggaba water works to deliver an additional 50 million liters of water per day to the Kampala Water Supply Area;
- Completion of the largest sewerage treatment plant in East and Central Africa in Bugolobi with the capacity of 240 million liter capacity;
- Rehabilitation and expansion of the water treatment plant, water supply network, and sewerage network and wastewater treatment plant in Gulu;

# Partnering on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



By Water Aid-Uganda,

## Background

**W**aterAid's history in Uganda dates to 1983 when the Country Program was established. Our historical work was in different regions of Uganda which include South Western, Rwenzori, Mid – Western, Central, West Nile, Lango and Mid-Eastern. Our current programme focuses on Kampala Capital City (urban) and Luwero in central region. Kabale in South Western, Oyam in North Napak

and Nakapiripirit in North Eastern, Kumi and Budaka in Eastern region where majority of the population are living below poverty line compared to the national averages.

Water Aid Uganda's country Programme Strategy 2016 – 2021 aligns with Water Aid Global Strategy and builds on WaterAid's three decades' history of programming in Uganda. Our strategy focuses on supporting the

Government of Uganda to deliver on the Country's WASH priorities as articulated in Vision 2040 and the National Development Plan (NDPII). The country programs priorities are on (1); building an economic case for WASH (2) enhancing sector efficiency and effectiveness and (3) amplifying voices for accountability on WASH.



^^^Leaving no one behind: WaterAid prioritizes the inclusion and accessibility to Water Sanitation and Hygiene to all people. WaterAid/James Kiyimba



## Our Niche

WaterAid Uganda, working with others, including government advocates for Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) rights for every Ugandan. Focusing on the poor and marginalized particularly women and girls. Water Aid's positioning and role is advocating for WASH in the development discourse and influencing for universal access to WASH in line with WaterAid's vision of everyone everywhere has safe Water Sanitation and Hygiene.

### Strategic goal

A healthy and productive Ugandan population enjoying universal and sustained access to WASH services by 2030.

## Our vision

Our Vision is a world where everyone everywhere has safe water, sanitation and hygiene. WAU has reached over 920,000 people with safe water, sanitation and hygiene in the last three years with a focus on changing lives through, equitable, quality and sustainable services.

## Technical Sector Capacity

WaterAid has many years of experience and technical capacity in the WASH sector. WAU 's strategy focuses on Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) through an integrated approach in to other sectors such as education, health and agriculture. Water Uganda Programmes are structured around three pillars:

1. Voices for Accountability (V4A) Programme: We provide a platform for accountability and meaningful participation of all stakeholders by engaging with both users and decision makers as the driver for achieving all our strategic pillars.
2. Efficient Institutions (EFFECTi) Programme: Building the capacity of our national and subnational institutions is key to efficient and effective use of resources within our sustainability framework.
3. WASH in Economic Development (WiDe) Programme: WASH is pivotal to the attainment of our national development aspirations and is an integral component of our commitments under the sustainable development goals.



^^^Integration of Water Sanitation and Hygiene in HealthCare Facilities is key for improved maternal, newborn and child health services. WaterAid/ James Kiyimba

## Key Programme Areas

WaterAid Uganda currently and over the years has combined both programming / practice and policy influencing in the following key areas:

## WASH and Health

WASH and health are fundamentally linked. The absence of safe water and sanitation services and safe hygiene behavior (WASH) undermines efforts by health

programmes to reduce infections such as pneumonia, diarrhoea and worm infections, contributing to global burden of disease.

## WASH in Health Facilities (HCFs)

Water Aid’s work on WASH in HCFs addresses this critical issue by working within the existing health system to build the capacity of the government to deliver accessible and sustainable WASH and promote infection prevention and control measures. We combine service delivery models and support, influence and build capacity of national, district and local governments (to transform the health sector). Water Aid in Uganda has in the past and currently planned various projects under the WASH in HCFs such as mapping of HCFs and addressing key systemic challenges affecting WASH service provision

and sustainability in Uganda. WAU has provided technical support to the Ministry of Health to strengthen the inclusion of WASH indicators within the National Health Management Information Systems (HMIS) in line with our support to the Joint Monitoring Programme for SDG6 led by the UNICEF/WHO globally.

## WASH in Schools

WaterAid Uganda and partners mapped school WASH facilities to better understand service coverage levels and to engage the Ministry of Education using data on WASH service gaps. WaterAid Uganda was able to leverage support from UNICEF to extend the mapping from two districts to 30 districts

to influence minimum service standards and service delivery ratios. The information was used to influence government on school WASH, whilst engaging other key stakeholders to jointly develop minimum standards for school WASH in Uganda. WAU is implementing a school WASH intervention in Kabale and Kampala Capital City Authority area to improve education outcomes for children especially girls by providing access to clean water, decent toilets and promoting positive hygiene practices including Menstrual Hygiene Management.

WASH in Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)



^^^WaterAid through a Human Rights Based Approach works to empower communities to demand for their rights to Water Sanitation and Hygiene. WaterAid/ James Kiyimba



WaterAid advocates for WASH access in endemic areas as a crucial step to prevent and treat many NTDs and improve the lives of some of the world's poorest people. WaterAid also collaborates with key actors to strengthen national health systems to tackle the effects of NTDs. In Uganda, WaterAid is partnering and collaborating with other NGOs and Ministry of Health to implement a Trachoma control programme. Through this programme WaterAid Uganda is contributing to trachoma elimination in the Karamoja region through the promotion of facial cleanliness and environmental improvements.

## Urban WASH

WaterAid builds the capacity of WASH institutions and private sector to better plan and deliver services based on an understanding of local capacities and constraints. Water Aid focuses on the inclusion of the urban poor and supporting partners to scale up appropriate delivery models for improving affordable,

accessible and sustainable services in these areas. In Uganda, WaterAid based on lessons learned from previous interventions is implementing a water utility support project to demonstrate effective management of the Public Water Utilities (PWUs) model in the East and Central regions through systems strengthening and capacity support to deliver universal access to water and sanitation.

## Sustainable Services

WaterAid Uganda's UPGro research project investigates the underlying causes of the rapid failure of rural groundwater sources. The field evidence was used to convince local and national government and donors to change their approaches to a more sustainable technology. The Sustainable WASH project aims at addressing key systemic challenges

affecting WASH service provision and sustainability in Kampala City. These include the limitation of user voice on quality and reliability of services linked to weak dialogue among the city leadership, lack of one WASH Plan to guide investments on WASH and inadequate coordination of actors to contribute towards one WASH plan. Additionally, our international Training Programme (ITP) aims at improving planning and implementation for more sustainable urban water and sanitation services where poor people's rights, needs and demands are taken in to account through enhanced knowledge and the support of change processes in collaborative organizations.

## Programming approaches

### i) Regional – wide approach

WaterAid Uganda promotes approaches that build the capacity of the government and position it to take lead in provision of district -wide, city -wide and /or town -wide WASH services. Therefore, capacity building is core to the programs, based on systematic gap analysis particularly at decentralized level of government. The decentralized government regional structures such as Technical Support Units (TSUs), Water and Sanitation Development Facilities (WSDFs) and Water Management Zones (WMZs) will be pivotal to launch, guide and coordinate long -term investment planning in their regions towards achievement of universal access to WASH. Selected districts and town authorities will be used as demonstration centers and experiences from such demonstrations will be applied as pathways to scale within the regions and across the regional network at country level through convening and learning.

### ii) Human Rights based approach (HRBA)

WAU employs a Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA), which recognizes access to water and sanitation as a

right and hence the obligation of the government to ensure this right is fulfilled; and the private sector approach, which is set out to uncover some of the opportunities and potential for initiating innovative and well-thought out service delivery models that will ensure sustainable WASH services to both the high- and low-income populations.

### iii) Knowledge Management and Learning

WAU plays a catalytic role of a facilitator and knowledge broker, Knowledge management and sector learning facilitate research, innovations and development of sector capacities at Government, Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and private sector levels. The learning agenda is in line with the program themes and used to translate knowledge generated in to sector capacity.

# Key achievements under Integrated Water Resources Management



## Key achievements over the last two years continued:

- Implementation of catchment based integrated water resources management activities is ongoing at the level in the 4 Water Management Zones (WMZs) of Albert, Kyoga, Upper Nile and Victoria;
- Phase 1 of the national Water Information System has been established and it is providing real time data on the state of water resources;
- 32 surface water and 17 groundwater monitoring stations were upgraded to transmit data in real time (telemetry);
- Water quality assessments on rural and urban water sources were conducted. Out of a total of 551 samples that were collected from improved water sources in the rural areas, 64% complied with the national standards for drinking water with respect to E. coli;
- A total of 356 water samples were taken from urban water supply systems and in the small towns, 60% complied with E. coli standards and in large towns managed by NWSC is 87%;
- Compliance to abstraction permit conditions was improved from 74% to 77%.
- Compliance to waste water discharge permit conditions was improved from 61% to 63%;
- 794 illegal water users were identified and stopped through enforcement efforts;
- 5 Catchment Management Plans of Albert Nile, Aswa, Awoja, Mpologoma and Victoria Nile/ Lumbuye were printed, launched and formally disseminated at national level and in the 5 catchments.
- Implementation of catchment management interventions is ongoing in 11 catchments (Rwizi, Mpanga, Semliki, Aswa, Albert Nile, Awoja, Maziba, Katonga, Lokok, Lokere and Mpologoma).
- 14 Catchment Management Organisations and 11 sub-catchment Management organisations are established and are fully operational.
- Trans-boundary organizations continued to be supported through financial contributions and providing technical guidance. These include the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI), Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC), Global Water Partnership (GWP) and Inter Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).





*The team of MWE and Development Partner officials visits a potential site for wetland / river bank restoration for improving Water resource availability and Management within the settlement and surrounding Communities*

## Key achievements over the last two years continued:

- The revised Water Policy and amendments to the Water Act were submitted to Cabinet for approval.
- Implementation of Lakes Edward and Albert Integrated Fisheries and Water Resources Management Project (LEAF)
- continued,
- Coordination of implementation of 5 transboundary water resources projects (Nyimur Multipurpose Water Resources Management and Development Project, Sio-Malaba-Malakisi (SMM) River Basin Management
- Project, the Kagera Trans-boundary Integrated Water Resources Management and Development Project, and Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project II (LVEMPII)



*^^^Ensuring that the water quality consumed by the public is up to the required standards*

- Construction of a model waste recycling plant for Kampala Capital City Authority and rehabilitation of Kirinya waste water treatment plant completed
- Implementation of catchment management investments (river bank restoration, check dams, micro irrigation, tree planting etc) in Sipi sub catchment completed and 3 micro catchment committees to manage and sustain the interventions established and are operational



*The Mobile Lab Van is equipped with sampling kits used for in-situ analysis and sample collection, storage and preservation.*

**Continued from page 23**

- 1 State of Water Resources Report prepared and disseminated widely;
- 1 Hydrological Yearbook updated on water resources statistics of Uganda;
- Feasibility studies and designs for 7 priority multipurpose water resources investments projects from 7 CMPs undertaken and ready for implementation;
- 500 small scale water harvesting and flood management structures constructed
- 3 tree nurseries established under Public Private Partnership (PPP) in 3 catchments.
- 40 hectares of degraded river banks and protect buffer zones restored in 3 catchments
- 30,000 seedlings distributed and 100 hectares of land planted with trees
- 60 hectares of degraded wetlands rehabilitated in 5 catchments

**Future prospects/opportunities over the next one year:**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 surface and 3 groundwater water assessments to be undertaken to support hydropower development,</li> <li>• The impact of refugee settlements and oil exploitation on GW and other development projects shall be assessed.</li> <li>• Develop 5 new Catchment Management Plans</li> <li>• Prepare Lakes Edward and Albert Integrated Basin Management Plan,</li> <li>• Implement priority catchment management measures/investments in 9 catchments and put 1200 hectares of land under soil and water conservation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake a national groundwater management study to support groundwater development in the country</li> <li>• Set up the Water Information System (WIS) in the 4 Water Management Zones and link the zones to the central WIS system</li> <li>• Development an integrated water resources development and management plan for the Albertine Graben and embark on implementation of key priority measures</li> <li>• Construct a building for the national Water Quality Laboratory in Entebbe</li> <li>• Construct 500 small scale water harvesting and flood management structures</li> <li>• Rehabilitate 80 hectares of</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>degraded wetlands in 3 catchments</li> <li>• Support 3 tree nurseries established under Public Private Partnership (PPP) in 3 catchments.</li> <li>• Restore 80 hectares of degraded river banks and buffer zones in 3 catchments</li> <li>• Distribute 50,000 seedlings distributed and plant 800 hectares of land with trees</li> </ul> |
|--|---|--|



## Key Achievements under the Environment and Natural Resources; and Climate Change

- The Coding of wetlands for Albert Nile, Aswa and Victoria Nile was completed and it now puts Wetlands coverage at 8.9% intact;
- 283.7km of critical wetlands were demarcated
- 487 hectares (ha) of degraded wetlands restored during the
- 446km of boundary were demarcated with concrete pillars;
- 2160ha of degraded forests restored through planting trees;
- 2,748.5ha plantations were established by tree Farmers on Central Forest Reserves (CFRs);
- The National Environment Management Policy, the Regulatory Impact Assessment were drafted and National Environment Act approved by Parliament and ascended to by H.E. President Museveni.
- Environment Staff were posted to 4 de-concentration regional offices to enhance service delivery efficiency.
- 13,400ha were freed from forest encroachment;
- 1,167 ha of new tree plantations were established
- 30,862,965 assorted seedlings were produced and supplied.
- Environment and National Resources (ENR) CSOs supported the establishment of 7 tree nurseries; participated in planting and distribution of 1,804,752 of assorted tree seedlings covering an estimated 1,624ha.



^^^Minister of State for Environment Hon. Gorreti Mary Kitutu launched a tree planting partnership to restore 200 hectares of Gangu Central Forest Reserve in Butambala district

- 68km of river banks and 10ha of wetlands in districts were demarcated by communities
- The National Wetlands Information System (NWIS) was developed to support information
- A tool for Wetland Assessment in Uganda was developed and published including the training of 19 Government Officials on Earth Observations- GIS system for monitoring wetlands.
- In order to protect the wetlands, WMD with stakeholders have demarcated over 315,7Kms of wetland boundary country wide to show the limits where developments are obliged to end.
- Regaining the integrity of wetlands has been achieved through community wetland restoration actions conducted country wide where over 2,287.4ha has been registered.
- Guidelines on Charcoal trade in Uganda printed and disseminated;
- 42.7 Km of the Extended Kalagala Falls Shoreline



Wetland management Department demarcating the boundary of Ssezibwa

were Surveyed and demarcated;

- Carried out monitoring to assess the impacts of Oil and Gas activities in Murchison Falls, Albert Delta Sites;
- 10 awareness meetings at community level were conducted to popularize the Building Resilient

Communities for Wetlands ecosystems project including trained district persons in skills for irrigation of catchment

**Key achievements over the last two years on Climate Change:**

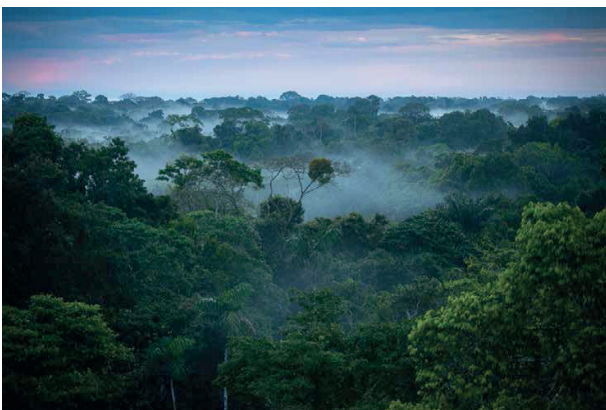
- The Climate Change Bill was

drafted and submitted to Cabinet Secretariat for review.

- 9 staff members were trained on specialized critical skills (GIS, Climate Change Negotiation, Drought and Flood Hazard Mapping)



^^^H.E President Yoweri Museveni cautions the population against degrading the environment while on tour of the region around Mt. Elgon



^^^A well maintained Echuya Central Forest Reserve

drafted and submitted to Cabinet Secretariat for review.

- 9 staff members were trained on specialized critical skills (GIS, Climate Change Negotiation, Drought and Flood Hazard Mapping)

Key achievements over the last two years continued:

- NEMA approved a total of 807 Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) reports for development projects in order to take care of environmental and social safeguards;
- 1,518 inspections were carried out with compliance level of 75- 80%, the Oil/gas sector was the best performing.

- NEMA supported the restoration 100ha of Mpologoma-Limoto system and 900 ha of Rwizi catchment.
- NEMA carried compliance audits and found out that out 75- 80% of the EIAs met the permit conditions.

- 36-40% of municipal solid waste was safely disposed of in 12 urban authorities.
- The NFA produced a comprehensive National land cover mapping of the total area in Uganda

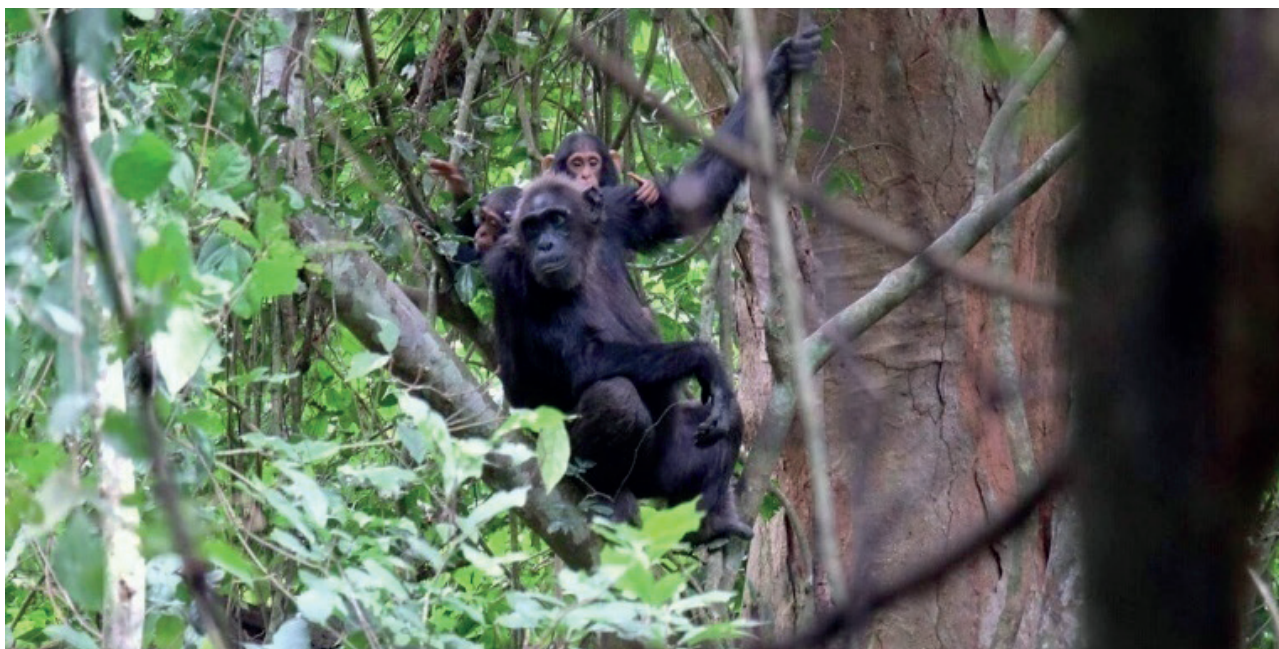


**Key achievements over the last two years continued:**

- The Tree Seed Centre was created and it now manages over 100 indigenous and exotic species.
- A tree nursery management system was developed and it now has the capacity to increase from 70,000 to two million seedlings per year,

- A Training and advisory service in seed & tree nursery management and plantation forestry was started and done to target private seed suppliers, nursery owners and operators, NGOs, local governments, schools, and investors in plantation forestry.
- Forest-based Tourism & improving NFA's public image

has been done and this is through: forest walks, mountain biking, bird watching, environmental education and Research, camping and picnics, primate Watching, Butterfly Identification and general Forest Exploration etc.



^^^A twin mother and twin Chimpanzees in Bundongo Central Forest Reserve

**Future prospects/targets or opportunities**

- 80ha of degraded areas in Central forest Reserve (CFRs) under Mabira ecosystem to be restored.
- 100Km of the protection zone of the River Nile Bank to be demarcated
- 100 Km of River bank boundaries to be planted with live markers.

**Key achievements over the last two years continued:**

- 320 ha of degraded sections of critical wetlands in 121 Local Governments restored.
- Held 4 regional workshops and seminars and other outreach activities conducted to promote knowledge and create awareness on Climate Change and REDD+ in Uganda

- 1000 households accessed revolving fund,
- 200 hectares of deforested and degraded land restored re-afforested.
- 7,500 farmers trained in agribusiness/entrepreneurial skills, and general accounting skills in the irrigation catchment districts
- 750 improved cooking stoves were produced in the 3

- catchments to reduce levels of forest degradation.
- 1000 Hectares of woodlot and avenue trees planted were disseminated during the national tree planting days.
- 1,200,000 seedlings of various tree species were procured and distributed to farmers in targeted

landscape or ecosystem to offset REDD+ project carbon foot prints

**Key achievements over the last two years continued:**

- The Uganda national Metrological Authority (UNMA) produced and shared early warning information and adversaries such as the MAM rainfall Season.
- Automated weather observation stations established in 36 out of 122 Districts; representing 29%.
- 20,723 terminal Aerodrome forecasts and flight folders were issued.
- A report on the Impacts of Climate change on Lake Victoria basin and Status of climate of Uganda 2016-17 was published;
- 29 major weather stations of different categories (Synoptic, Agro met and Hydro met) were well maintained and thus functioning.



^^^Seedlings at the National Tree Seed Centre



One of UNMA weather station out in the field sending weather information to headquarters (source: [www.unma.go.ug](http://www.unma.go.ug))

**Targets/ Opportunities:**

- Supply and installation of weather radar after its contact was signed.
- 23 non-functional weather stations that lack both instruments shall be restored and made functional again.



^^^The latest seasonal forecast from UNMA. The March-April-May (MAM2019) Rainfall Outlook.



# Uganda National REDD+ Programme

By the National Focal Point REDD+ Secretariat

REDD+ (Reducing of Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation and promote the role of forest conservation, sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks) is an effort intended to contribute to the mitigation of climate change and improve livelihoods of communities.

**Uganda is currently implementing the REDD+ Readiness Phase (2013-2019) of the REDD+ process and has prepared its four key elements:**

1. A Socially and Environmentally viable National Strategy and Action Plan,
2. A National Forest Monitoring System,
3. A Forest Reference Emission Level
4. A Safeguards Information System



## Support to the Uganda's National REDD+ Readiness Process



*The Publication: Proposed Forest Reference Emissions Level for Uganda Forest Investment Programme (FIP)*

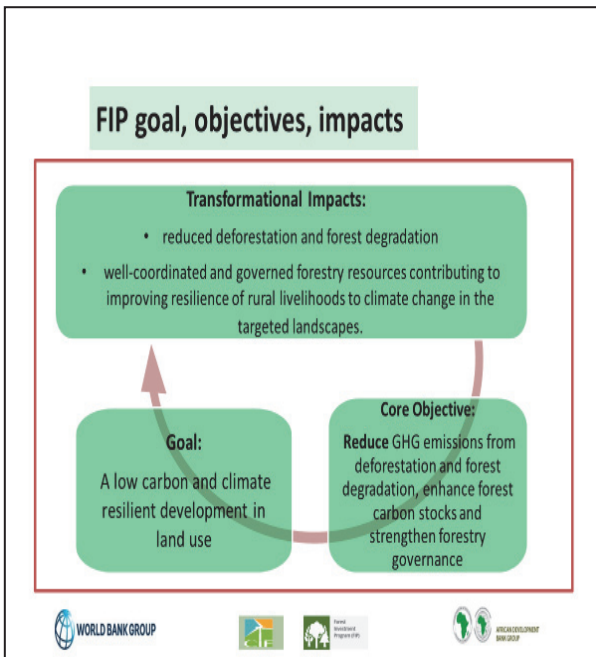
A Benefit Sharing Arrangements and a Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism to support the Strategy and action plan are in place.

REDD+ was acknowledged as a fundamental element of the global climate agenda in Paris during COP21 in December 2015 in the Annex of the PARIS AGREEMENT, with a dedicated article, "Article 5".

Uganda's FIP was endorsed by the Climate Investment Fund (CIF) during the 23rd PC in Washington DC on June 9, 2017. CIF commended Uganda's FIP document as a high-quality document. The main purpose of the FIP is to support developing countries' REDD+ efforts by providing up-front bridge financing for readiness reforms, and public and private investments identified through national REDD+ readiness strategy building efforts, while taking into account opportunities to help them adapt to the impact of climate change

...Continued from page 34

on forests and to contribute to multiple benefits such as biodiversity conservation, protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, poverty reduction and rural livelihoods enhancement.



**Investment Projects (1 and 2 joint w PPCR)**

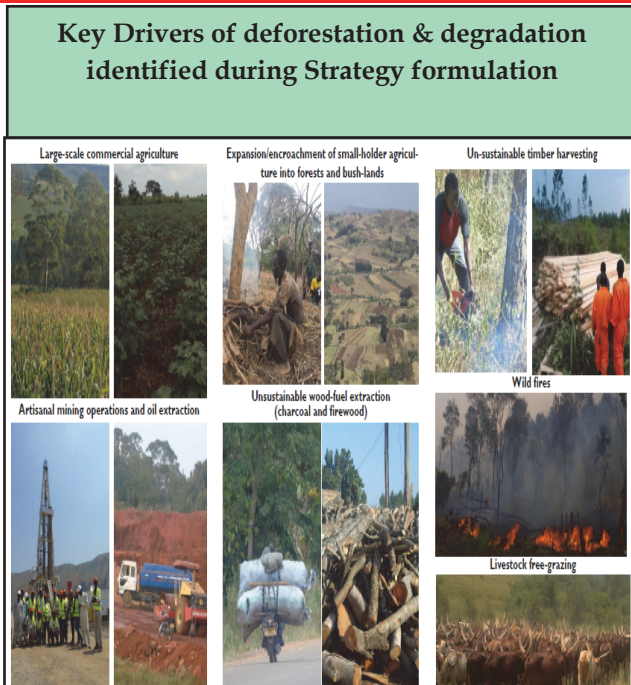
**Project 1.** Climate Resilient Landscapes, Integrated Catchment Management and Nature-Based Tourism in Uganda's Albertine Rift (US\$129 million, \$18 from FIP, WB Lead)

**Project 2.** Climate Resilient Landscapes, Integrated Catchment Management and Nature-Based Tourism in Uganda's Lake Kyoga and Upper Nile WMZ (US\$83 million, \$12 from FIP, AfDB Lead)

**Project 3.** Strengthening capacity for forestry governance and policy implementation (US\$22 million, Lead TBD)

Logos: WORLD BANK GROUP, Forest Resilient Programme, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

REDD+ PICTORIALS



^^^Some of key drivers of deforestation and degradation has identified by participants during the strategy formulation

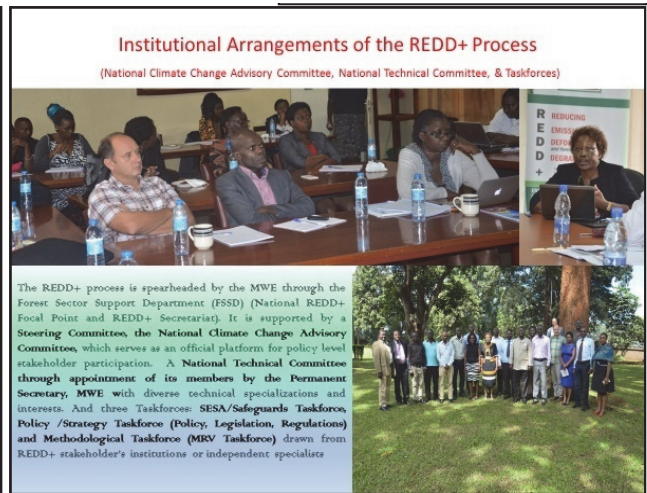


^^^MWE officials launching the REDD+ communication materials





^^Sharing information and dialoguing with key stakeholders earlier on within the REDD+ Process



^^Stakeholder engagements between the National Climate Change Advisory Committee, national Technical Committee and taskforce



With School Children

REDD+ Engagements



With the Youth

## Key Achievements under Cross Cutting activities



*Ensuring that Catchment Management Committees have women representation.*

i) Gender and Equity; HIV/AIDS and Media

**Key achievements over the last two years**

- The Water and Sanitation Gender Strategy (2010) was revised and launched;
- There has been an increase to 85% of women holding key positions of Water Source Committees (WSC);
- This same increase was noted with Catchment Management Committees (CMCs) with women holding key positions up to with 53%;
- HIV/AIDS mainstreaming trainer's Manual and a participant's handbook were developed.
- Gender segregated toilets and other appropriate sanitation approaches were constructed and promoted among the youth and women
- 4 Women groups (41 women) and masons (14 ) men trained on construction and O&M of

reinforcement tanks;

- Cross cutting issues of environmental awareness and catchment protection, gender and HIVAIDS incorporated in all activities related to development of piped water supply system;
- National Sanitation and Hygiene Campaigns in all the regions (Eastern, Western, Northern and Central) conducted;
- Sanitation and Hygiene improvement campaigns conducted around the 6 Gravity Flow Scheme (GFSS) covering Households, markets and health centers;
- 3 no. TV interviews and 7 no. radio interviews conducted to increase visibility of MWE activities and programs countrywide.
- 02 newspaper adverts on Water Resources Regulation issued;
- Promotional news print and forestry materials produced and published.

- 12 Radio talk shows on community sensitization about project activities undertaken on wetlands and natural resources protection
- Continued implementation of the MWE Sector Capacity Development Strategy to provide the framework for monitoring capacity development at sectoral level;
- Engagement of the NGOs by the WME through their network Uganda Water and Sanitation Network (UWASNET) to carry out capacity development;
- The WRI has conducted several elements of capacity development for MWE on current and emerging water resources related issues in the country and globally;

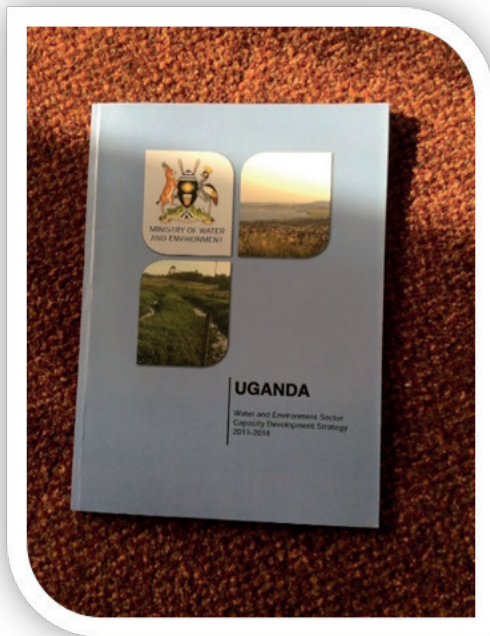


## Targets and opportunities under Sector Capacity

### Development

- The review of the Water and Environment Sector Capacity Development Strategy (2013/18)
- MWE departments to implement the capacity development plans which have now been costed

**Photos:** Water and Environment Sector Capacity Development Strategy (2013/18)-Above; vocational training (bottom left) and onsite and in field training (bottom right).





THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**DIRECTORATE OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**  
**REGULATING USE OF WATER RESOURCES IN UGANDA**

*Did you know that anybody abstracting water from a lake, river or underground using a motorized pump; discharging wastewater into the environment; involved in drilling for water; or construction of dams and other structures on water bodies is required to apply for a water permit according to the Water Act? If not then read on.*

**Background**

Depletion, wastage and pollution of water resources of Uganda is on the increase and is attributed mainly to rapid population growth, poor land use/ management, growing urbanization, growing industrialization, poor environmental sanitation, and poor solid and liquid waste management. Emerging economic activities such as floriculture, horticulture, fish farming and oil exploration are exerting extra strain on the country's water resources. While activities in the catchments are depleting and degrading the water resources thereby reducing the amount of water available for use, there is a growing demand for water of adequate quantity and suitable quality for social-economic activities such as drinking, agriculture, industry, recreation and ecotourism. This comes against the backdrop of climate change that is leading to disasters in form of droughts and floods. The frequency of these extreme weather events is increasingly becoming more regular.

In order to control water depletion and pollution as well as mitigation of climate change impacts, government put in place an enabling legal framework in form of The Water Act, Cap 152, and the accompanying regulations: Water Resources Regulations (1998), Waste Discharge Regulations (1998). In addition the Environment Act, with its accompanying Regulations: Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 1998; The National Environment (Standards for Discharge of Effluent into Water or on Land) Regulations 1999, and the National Environment (Waste Management) Regulations of 1999 were put in place to ensure sustainable use of environment and natural resources across the country. The Water Act has been under implementation by the Ministry of Water and Environment since 1998 when the various laws and regulations were operationalised.

The Directorate of Water Resources Management of the Ministry of Water and

Environment is responsible for implementing the provisions of the Water Act related to regulating water abstraction and discharge of waste water into the environment. It does this through water use allocation (abstraction and waste water discharge), water service regulation (drilling, construction, dam safety, easement), compliance monitoring and enforcement of water laws, review of Environmental Impacts Assessment reports related to water and awareness raising and information dissemination. The directorate processes permits to regulate abstraction of water using motorized pumps and canals; discharging wastewater in the environment; drilling for water; construction of dams and also reviews EIAs reports related to water resources. Before a permit for any use is issued the applicant must provide some specific information on their planned operations. This ensures sustainable allocation of the available water resources for the different uses; and collection and storage of knowledge on the available water resources for



the present and future use. The permits are issued for periods not exceeding 5 years with standard and site specific conditions and these must be strictly adhered to by the permit holder.

Annual fees for use of water resources and discharge of wastewater have to be paid and these are documented in schedules to the Water Resources Regulations 1998 and Wastewater discharge Regulations 1998 published in the Uganda gazette.

### Permits issued

The following are the water permits to apply for:

#### a) Groundwater

**Abstraction Permit:** Issued to those abstracting groundwater using a motorised pump

#### b) Surface water

**Abstraction Permit:** Issued to those abstracting surface water

using a motorised pump or those diverting surface water from a lake, natural reservoir, or river

#### c) Waste Water

**Discharge Permit:** Issued to those discharging wastewater onto land or into the environment

#### d) Borehole Drilling

**Permit:** Issued to companies or organisations involved in the business of drilling for water supply

#### e) Hydraulic Works

**Construction Permit:** Issued to those involved in construction of structures such as dams and bridges on water bodies

### About the department of Water Resources Planning and Regulation

The Department of Water Resources Planning and Regulation (WRPR) plans, monitors and coordinates activities for planning and allocation of water resources use between sectors; regulates and maintains water reservoirs and lakes; administers and issues water permits; controls environmental impacts related to water resources projects; formulates and reviews water policies and laws; resolves conflicts over water use and monitors and enforces compliance to the Water Act and permit conditions.

For any further clarifications and inquiries, please contact the Commissioner, Water Resources Planning and Regulation on Tel No 0414 699486 or by e-mail: [callist\\_tindimugaya@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:callist_tindimugaya@yahoo.co.uk)

### SUBMITTING A PERMIT APPLICATION

1. Applicant requests for application forms. Application forms can be obtained from DWRM, Luzira, the 4 Water Management Zones Offices (Mbarara, Fort Portal, Mbale and Lira) and MWE Website
2. The permit application form is completed in triplicate
3. The applicant is issued with a Bank Payment Advice Form (BPAF) from DWRM, Entebbe after presenting to DWRM with Tax Identification Number (TIN).
4. The applicant then submits two Sets of completed permit application forms to the Director, DWRM offices in Entebbe with a copy of the payment receipt for purposes of obtaining a water permit.
  - a. Note the 3rd Set of application forms belong to the applicant and should be stamped with "received by DWRM"

### THE PERMIT PROCESSING FEES

<b>Surface water abstraction permit</b>	<b>UGX 450,000</b>
<b>Groundwater Abstraction Permit</b>	<b>UGX 450,000</b>
<b>Drilling Permit</b>	<b>UGX 500,000</b>
<b>Construction Permit</b>	<b>UGX 500,000</b>
<b>Wastewater Discharge Permit</b>	<b>UGX 650,000</b>
<b>Easement Certificate</b>	<b>UGX 100,000</b>

## WASH SYSTEMS THAT TRANSFORM LIVES

### Who we are

IRC - International Water and Sanitation Centre is a think-and-do tank that works with governments, NGOs, entrepreneurs and people around the world to find long-term solutions to the global crisis in water, sanitation and hygiene services. At the heart of IRC's mission is the aim to move from short-term interventions to sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services.

IRC has operated in Uganda since 2006 and has implemented a diverse portfolio of projects and activities mainly in West Nile, Rwenzori region, Northern Uganda and at national level with the Ministry of Water and Environment and other key WASH stakeholders.

### Our manifesto

At IRC, we believe that turning on a working tap should not be a surprise or cause for celebration. We believe in a world where water, sanitation and hygiene services are fundamental utilities that everyone can take for granted; for good. Every year, thousands of projects within and beyond the WASH sector fail – the result of short-term targets and interventions, at the cost of long-term service solutions. This leaves around a third of the world's poorest people without access to the most basic of human rights, and leads directly to economic, social and health problems on a global scale.

IRC exists to continually challenge and shape the established practices of the WASH sector. Through collaboration and the active application of our expertise, we work with governments, service providers and international

organisations to deliver systems and services that are truly built to last.

### Our work in Uganda

We are working to support the national government drive systems development. Our priority is understanding and strengthening WASH systems at national and district levels. From our office in Kabarole district we are supporting district leaders to deliver a WASH master plan that aims to achieve universal access to sustainable services by 2030. We have committed to building strong WASH systems to achieve universal access in Kabarole district by 2030. At the national level, we're sharing the lessons learned and advocating for increased government and political leadership, public finance and the proper management and use of WASH services.

### Our donors

The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS), The Conrad Hilton Foundation, Osprey Foundation, USAID Sustainable WASH Systems (USAID SWS), World Health Organisation (WHO) TrackFin, Waterloo Foundation, and Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)

### Our partners

Ministry of Water and Environment, Kabarole and Bunyangabu District Local Governments, Uganda Water and Sanitation NGO Network (UWASNET), WASH Agenda For Change Partnership (Water Aid and Water for People), Kabarole and Bunyangabu Hand Pump Mechanics Associations.

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# AQUATECH ENTERPRISES UGANDA LIMITED

## Water Resources Development and Management

Aquatech enterprises (U) Ltd is one of the oldest groundwater consultant firms in Uganda. Established in 1995, Aquatech is one of the most established and experienced local water resources development and management private organizations in Uganda. We have a team of interdisciplinary and dedicated professionals, skilled in up to date water resources planning, development and management technologies backed by a wealth of experience working in government, private sector and non-governmental organizations. It is housed at plot 2220 portbell road, at Aqua complex building. The company offers services in the following areas:

**Hydrogeological investigations,** borehole siting, well design and drilling supervision- we carry out hydrogeological investigations for both rural and urban water supplies using various techniques. We supervise groundwater development contracts to ensure value for money, and sustainable use of groundwater resources.

**Test pumping and groundwater monitoring,** Water quality surveillance and testing; we are among the very few companies in Uganda which have special



Measurements during test pumping the borehole



Geophysical surveys

expertise in undertaking test pumping activities, data interpretation, water quality testing and surveillance. We interpret test pumping data for sustainable groundwater usage.

**Water resources assessments and Environmental impact assessments;** Aquatech enterprises (U) Ltd carries out water resources data evaluation as part of water resources activities undertaken by the company. Environmental impact assessments, and scoping are carried out for urban water supply, water resources planning, and related developments to ensure that all the developments are environmentally sustainable.

**Technical support,** capacity building and design of water supply and sanitation schemes for urban centres; we provide technical support to Local governments in the country on behalf of Uganda government. Capacity building is an integral part of all the projects we implement for NGOs, districts, central government and private organizations. In addition, the company offers services in topographic surveys, designs of water supply schemes and contract management supervision for water supply schemes constructed.

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