

270 hectares of wetlands restored in 2018/19FY

The Ministry of Water and Environment has restored 270 hectares of wetlands in the Financial Year 2018/2019, according to the 2019 Water and Environment Sector Performance Report.

Part of the reclaimed areas includes 41 hectares of Orapaka wetland in Kumi district, 40 hectares of Mpologoma wetland in Kibuku district, 40 hectares of Pece and Okele wetland in Lira and 32 of Mpanga in Kamwenge district.

Other restored wetlands are Atirir in Amuria, Agu-Kyere in Ngora, Adoka in Pallisa, Rusango in Ibanda, Omukagyegye in Rubirizi, Rwizi in Mbarara and Muzizi in Kibale.

Additionally, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), also restored degraded wetlands in critical shoreline areas of Lake Victoria, Kyoga, Kachera and Nakivale.

Speaking at the 11th Water and Environment Joint Sector review, Dr. Callist Tindimugaya, the Commissioner Water Resources Management, revealed that to address the emerging threats on wetlands, the Ministry has undertaken several interventions that have been implemented with support from government and other development partners.

“This trend shows steady progress in wetland recovery, an achievement largely attributed to the supportive political environment, presidential

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of Mpanga in Kamwenge district.



Dr. Callist Tindimugaya, the Commissioner Water Resources Management

directives on wetlands, good collaboration and networking relationships with other agencies.

Wetlands are vital for human survival and among Uganda's most productive eco systems. In 1994, wetland coverage on the surface area of Uganda was 15.6%.

However, overtime this has been gradually reducing and by 2008, it had reduced to 10.9% and currently coverage is at 8.9% according to the NFA mapping, 2015. The changes are attributed to high population growth, expansion of land for agriculture, industrial and urban expansion targeting wetlands.

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