



ENR DISTRICT REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE
Presentation at
the Joint GOU- Development Partners
Technical Review (JTR) of the Ministry of
Water and Environment Sector District-
2018
Hotel Brovad.

Presented by;

Rose Nakyejjwe DNRO Masaka District

CONTENT

- **Overview**
- **ENR Good Practices**
- **Issues of Coordination**
- **Aspects Of Staffing**
- **Challenges**
- **Recommendations**

Overview

- This paper represents the highlights from the Central Region Districts of Masaka, Kalungu, Lwengo, Kyotera and Rakai, Kalangala, Bukomansimbi, Sembabule and Gomba
- The paper is anchored on the mandates and responsibilities of the Natural Resources Management Department across the four main functional areas of Forestry, Environment, Wetlands, Soils, Climate change , Lands management.
- ENR mainstreaming into other sector development activities to reduce degradation which may result from projects under implementation

ENR GOOD PRACTICES

ENVIRONMENT AND WETLAND SECTION



STONE LINES
FOR SLOPE
MGT

1. Promotion of the planting of multipurpose trees, shrubs and SLM-Kyotera

2. Promotion of Soil and water conservation structures in community



3. Promoting alternative energy sources e.g.

- Making charcoal briquetting from bio-gradable waste targeting both rural and urban and 5 groups are active in Masaka. They produce charcoal for their home use and for sale in Masaka District



4. Provision of alternative • livelihoods to reduce pressure on Natural resources

▪Such as Apiary, fish farming, Piggery
by the CBOs of Kirinda-Bulayi tulibumu,
Kaganda agaliawamu, Kisuna wokulira
and Buteberere in Masaka District



5. Household cooking energy saving stoves Promotion

▪ A total of 247 households have benefited so far in Masaka District,



6. Formulation and Implementation of the ordinances e.g Musambwa ordinance



7. Promotion of Eco-tourism:the Musambwa islands

Biodiversity and Ostrich farm



- One of the developed areas in Uganda
- One of the few ostrich farms in Uganda- Ostrich watching and riding
- Agritourism: fish farming, oranges farm, piggery, poultry
- Accommodation in Bandas (single, double, group, tented)
- Crafts shop
- Horse riding
- Bird watching
- Community walks
- Study centre
- Soft drinks and meals

8. Community tourism: *Crafts and Souvenir Industry in Rakai district*



FORESTRY SECTION-Good Practices

1. Community tree nurseries establishment and tree planting.



2. Promotion of Forest Reserve Visibility



Installation of Sign Post indicating location of local forest reserve has been instrumental in creating more public awareness and restraining unscrupulous people from grabbing and acquiring forest reserve land

3. Forest Reserve Boundary opening & Marking

▪Has helped Masaka District in protecting the integrity of the Manwa North LFR and stopping encroachment as well.



5. Bark Cloth Making



7. Identification of Natural Forests for Gazzeting & Protection

- Deliberate effort by the District authorities to identify natural forests for gazzeting and protection. In masaka District, Gwamba forest in Buwunga sub-county has been identified for gazzetment as a Local Forest Reserve for biodiversity conservation and protection of Lakeshores

COORDINATION ASPECTS

- .

Limited sharing of information and poor working relations

by stakeholders in ENR management:

- No periodic reports submitted by NFA, UNRA and NWSC to the District Authorities. A case in point the update on the operationalisation of Payment of Ecosystem Services has remained in vain; water extraction points are degraded, polluted and require restoration & protection; current deforestation & Challenges;
- **Ministry of Energy and mineral developments** continuing issuing prospecting and exploration licenses when there no Sand mining Guidelines
- **Inter District Collaboration in handling trans-boundary ENR management concerns is inadequate**

Information flow from the central government ministries, departments and Agencies is not prompt and sometimes non-existing:

- Policy oversight role and Technical backstopping to Local governments especially by MWE and MEMD is not adequately offered and sometimes takes long to be handled.
- Central Government reports on issuance of operational and extraction permits are never shared with the respective local governments, and no follow-ups;
- Centrally implemented projects are handed over to the communities with no district involvement yet communities have no technical capacity to undertake necessary follow-ups and make reports.
- Sector undertaking never disseminated to local governments, a need to involve the local governments

Staffing Situation in the ENR Department

- ENR department is currently understaffed amidst the growing demand of forestry and other natural resources services;
- Recruitment of staff positions in the ENR department especially has not been given a priority making it difficult for the department to effectively deliver on its mandates;
- Continued failure to have adequate natural resources staff at local planning level has resulted into a declining natural resource bases over time, perhaps even to complete loss

Natural Resources Department Staffing Level in the Central Region Districts

JOB TITLE	Masaka		Kalungu		Lwengo		Kyotera		Rakai	
	Status	No. Required								
District Natural Resources Officer	vacant	1	Filled	1	vacant	1	Filled	1	vacant	1
Senior Land Management Officer	vacant	1	Filled	1	Filled	1	vacant	1	Filled	1
Senior Environment Officer	Filled	1	vacant	1	Filled	1	vacant	1	vacant	1
Senior Forestry Officer	vacant	1	N/A	0	vacant	1	N/A	0	N/A	0
Environment Officer	Filled	1	Filled	1	vacant	1	vacant	1	Filled	1
Forestry Officer	Filled	1	vacant	1	vacant	1	N/A	0	Filled	1
Physical Planner	Filled	1	vacant	1	vacant	1	Filled	1	vacant	1
Staff Surveyor	Filled	1	vacant	1	vacant	1	vacant	1	vacant	1
Registrar of Titles	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	vacant	1	vacant	1
Cartographer	Filled	1	N/A	0	N/A	0	vacant	1	vacant	1
Assistant Forestry Officer	N/A	0	vacant	1	N/A	0	N/A	0	vacant	1
Forest Ranger	vacant	3	vacant	2	1Filled	2	1Filled	2	N/A	0
Forest Gaurd	N/A	0	vacant	1	N/A	0	1Filled	2	N/A	0
	6	12	3	11	3	10	4	12	3	10

CHALLENGES IN ENR

- Continued deforestation and illegal logging in government Forests



Challenges cont'd

- **Increasing loss** of wetlands and natural forest on private land mainly to crop production
 - ❖ Changing weather pattern (frequent dry spells),
 - ❖ Loss of soil fertility on up-land cultivation areas and
 - ❖ Lack of natural resources conservation incentives like carbon credit fund. Some individuals have expressed interest to conserve natural forest on private land
- **Increasing soil fertility** depletion and erosion
- **Limited commitment** by MWE and Local Authorities to support Natural Resource Management, in terms of capacity building
- Un-regulated pollution from factories especially leather tanneries.
- Un-regulated Sand mining especially in Lukaya and Bukakata for both commercial and domestic.

Challenges cont'd

- **Inadequate facilitation** to natural resource management, with higher priority given to water sector; on Average every district get 1.2M per quarter almost for the last 4 years
- **Under staffing** making it hard to implement, monitor and regulate forestry and other natural resources management activities in the entire District;
- **Untimely release** of metrological/hydrological information necessary for planning and development;
- Peasants continuously returning to restored wetlands and forestry
- Political intervention: restoration activities have been frustrated by politicians telling peasants not to vacate the wetlands. E.g. In Gomba, politicians call directly to the President to stop the wetlands evictions.
- Court cases are not properly handled due to inadequate knowledge by magistrate, even the police failure to get culprits

RECOMMENDATION

- Support the demarcation of wetlands and Forests, erecting Sign Posts to minimize encroachment and forests/wetlands land grabbing.
- Support Local Governments to gazette natural forests of national significance for biodiversity conservation or protection of watersheds, riverbanks, and lakeshores.
- Provision of facilitation; operation funds, tools and transport facilities to the ENR department.
- Mainstream Climate change adaptation and mitigation activities in all LG departments and support their implementation of the strategies.
- Benefit sharing guidelines for water & sanitation grant, need to be re-designed to cater for all main functional areas/sections in the ENR department.

Recommendation cont'd

- Ministry should consider negotiating for an increase for ENR sector grants to local governments like Forestry, Lands and Environment. The current funding is very small and specific for wetland conservation.
- The Ministry of water and environment should identify for potential funders for Local governments for natural resources conservation. Especially under climate change funds and other partners
- Develop a coordination strategy for stakeholder in ENR mgt. Inter District Multi-Stake Holder ENR Forum to enhance partnership, participation and sharing best practices in ENR
- Extend Ecosystem service financing incentives (carbon money) to private natural forest owners to conserve & reduce the rampant deforestation and forest degradation on private forest.

Recommendation cont'd

- Dissemination of policy and strategies to local governments for proper coordination and implementation. Also coordination between agencies at local level should be strengthened
- Regulations for sand mining should be completed and implemented; coordination between concerned parties should be ensured
- The sector wage bill for the ENR at districts should cater for sub county level; to align well with the ever increasing challenges in service delivery, **MWE needs to benchmark from MAAIF's Wage Extension Grant.**

Thank you for

Listening