



Ministry of Water and Environment
Joint Technical Review 2017

Feedback from the Group one

Mbale Field Visit

05.04.2017

Presentation Outline

- Group Composition
- What was seen
- What was learnt
- Sector Challenges
- Policy recommendations

Group composition.....

- Development partners (ADA)
- DWD
- DEA
- District Local Governments (Iganga, Mbale, Sironko)
- NGOs UWASNET, SNV, IUCN
- MWE Agencies (NEMA, NFA)
- MWE deconcentrated structures (TSU, WMZ, WSDF)





Meeting with Mbale district leadership

Namatale CFR



What was seen.....

CONDITIONAL GRANT

- Declining Conditional grant (ENR,DWSCG)
- ENR grant is meagre and only caters for wetlands
- Increasing investment costs for water infrastructure due to climate change

FORESTRY

- Conflicts over Forest boundaries
 - Gazette year 1948, Boundary opening 1993, and 2005)
- Encroachment on gazetted Forest land
- Illegal titles in forest reserves
- Speculation on degazettement of urban Forest reserves
- Grazing on Forest land undermining regeneration

**Namatala demarcated
wetland- Mbale Municipality**



What was seen.....

WETLANDS

- Efforts of Wetlands demarcation taking place- though vandalism of some pillars
- Encroachment within demarcated and other wetlands
- Waste dumping in the wetlands
- Reported issuance of Land titles in wetlands
- Wise use of wetlands through fish farming and mini irrigation schemes

WASTE COMPOSTING PLANT

- Sorted and Unsorted WASTE at the site-
 - Reported capacity received =70 tonnes/day (30-90 range)
- Accumulated 'KAVEERA' Polythene (plastic) bags at dumping site
- Insufficient equipment and manual sorting of waste
- Hazardous (e.g. clinical) waste

Waste Management



What was seen.....

CRUDE WARAGI DISTILLERY

- Unregulated discharge of crude waragi residues
- Over 700 distillers concentrated in one village with spill overs to neighbor villages
- Scattered Oxidation ponds for residue containment
- Sanitation and Hygiene levels extremely poor- STENCH in the air
- Residues directed into forested land and into streams
- Huge heaps of firewood
 - imported from Kapchorwa & karamoja region

Waragi Distillery



What was learnt

- Bulk storage systems promote multi purpose use of water
- Catchment degradation affects the water resource potential and water infrastructure functionality
- Unwillingness from the Community to contribute to O&M
- Stakeholder involvement in all stages is crucial for project success
- ENR is a much talked about sector but is the least funded
- Demarcation of wetlands and forests is not enough to deter encroachers-need for continued sensitization of stakeholders

What was learnt

- Enforcement is more effective if the institutions have forces under their command and control
- Wetlands can be put to use without degrading them using the wise use approach
- Collaborating with communities in natural resources management enhances protection.
- Resource recovery is possible under proper waste management
- Government intervention is required in solid waste management

Wise USE...



What was seen as the main challenges for the sector

- Inadequate financing to the sector which affects service delivery
- Inconsistencies in exercising due diligence in boundary demarcation and issuance of illegal titles in wetlands and forests
- Indecision by government to enforce laws and policies e.g. ban on kaveera, eviction of encroachers from forests & wetlands
- Limited appreciation of the ENR sub sector and its services
- Limited community livelihood options encourages higher dependence on natural resources leading to degradation/depletion
- Building a business case around solid waste management in municipalities

Policy recommendations

- **Conditional Grant**
 - Lobby for increased financing for the sector
 - Review the ENR Conditional Grant to cover the entire sub sector (ENV, FOR, CC)
- **Water Sub sector**
 - Explore possibilities of bulk water Storage upstream for multi purpose use
- **Forestry**
 - Re survey and mark all forest reserve boundaries
 - Protect and develop urban forests for increased green corridors/space
 - Cancel all illegal titles in the Forest reserves and restore the degraded sections

Policy recommendations

- Waste management
 - Encourage partnerships with private sector players for municipal solid waste management
 - Explore safe and useful disposal mechanisms of the waragi distillation effluent
 - Strengthen the enforcement of the law on Kaveera ban
 - Lobby for establishment of regional facilities for collection and management of hazardous wastes (electronic/clinical/heavy oils)
- Wetlands
 - Survey, map and gazette all critical wetlands
 - Cancel all illegal land titles in wetlands and restore degraded sections
 - Encourage existing service investments (like NWSC) to acquire wetland permits