



Ministry of Water and Environment

**11th Joint Sector Review, 24-26th September 2019,
held at Mestil Hotel, Kampala.**

**ENR-CSO Network to the sector Performance,
2018/19.**



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Outline of the Presentation

1.0 Water and Environment Sector Performance: Key Highlights;

2.0 Contribution by ENR-CSOs

3.0 Key achievements by the ENR-CSOs

4.0 Key emerging issues in the Water and Environment Sector;

5.0 Key Recommendations;

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1.0 Water and Environment Sector Performance: Some Key Highlights;

- a) Accreditation of **MWE** by the **Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund**, thus a great opportunity for accessing global climate financing;
- b) **Enactment of the National Environment Act, (2019) and its related endorsement by the President.** It provides for the management of the environment for sustainable development.
- c) Conducting stakeholder consultations on **Environment and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) for Tilenga and Kingfisher petroleum development projects** as well as the ESIA for the related East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP).
- d) **Restoring 39,433.4 hectares of wetlands, river bank, streams and forest reserves** under Local Governments, Global Climate Fund, Wetlands Management Department, Forest Sector Support Department (FSSD), Sawlog Production Grant Schemes (SPGS), National Forestry Authority (NFA), Farm Income Enhancement for Forestry Conservation (FIEFOC) and Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) project.
- e) **Raising 49,609,797 tree seedlings that have been plant (translating into over 40,000 hectares)** by various stakeholders across the country and certified over 150 commercial nurseries to provide planting materials that meet professional standards.
- f) **Holding the 2nd Water and Environment Week in 2019**, which was used to showcase innovations in the sector, share experiences and jointly discuss key challenges in the sector.

a.

2.0 Contribution by ENR-CSOs

- This FY2018/19, **46 ENR-CSOs (i.e. 80% of the membership)** submitted their individual reports and these are the basis for the consolidated annual *ENR-CSOs annual performance report, 2018/19*;
- This FY, there is a **slight increase in financial resources from CSOs from USD 2,755,750 in FY 2017/2018 to USD 4,317,560 in FY 2018/2019**, which is a **57% increase compared to last FY.**
- Whereas the increase can be attributed to the number of CSOs reporting, it is clear, too, that there **were more resources for climate change, forestry and advocacy work around petroleum development in the Albertine Graben.**

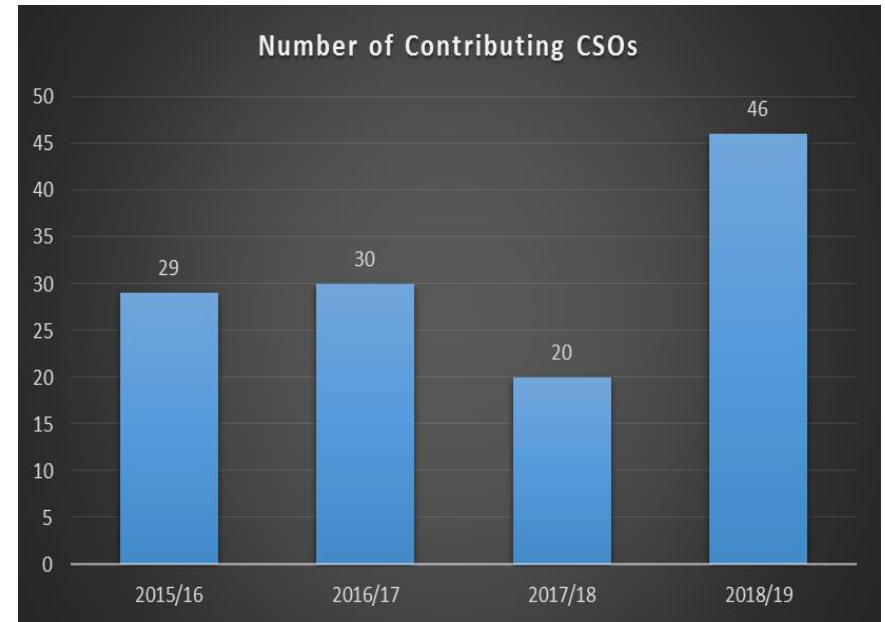


Figure 1: Number of ENR-CSOs that contributed to the ENR-CSOs Annual consolidated report, FY2018/19.

Source: Consolidated ENR-CSO annual performance report, 2018/19.

2.0 Contribution by ENR-CSOs

- Much as the resources invested by the ENR-CSOs in the **Environment Forestry and climate sectors in the FY2018/19 are comparable**, the investment is higher under **Environment sector**.
- **Wetlands management** received the lowest, followed by **Governance**.

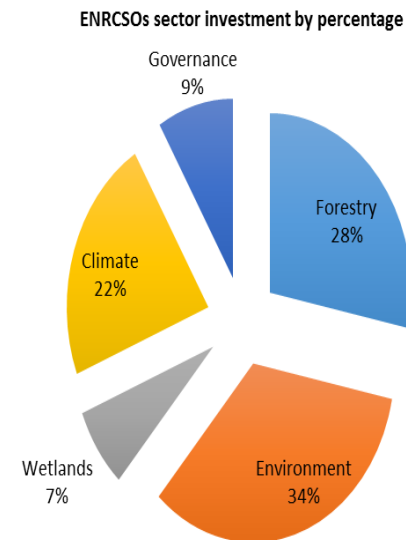


Figure 2: Percentage investment in each of the thematic area.

2.0 Contribution by ENR-CSOs

Performance Indicators under forestry

- % Uganda's land area covered by forest
 - % natural forest under strict nature reserve
 - % survival of tree seedlings past year 3
 - % rural households that travel more than 1 km to collect firewood
 - % forest reserves under management
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a) During the FY2018/19, **ENR CSOs** supported the establishment and maintenance of **10 tree nurseries** compared to 7 in the previous year. These produced **2,637,071 various seedlings** (compared to **1,804,752 last FY**) species (i.e. both indigenous & exotic) were distributed and planted, translating into **2,373 hectares** (compared to **1,624 hectares last FY**) – across various parts of the country and targeted *forest dependent communities, Collaborative Forest Management groups, Private Forest Owners, farmer associations/ organizations, women groups, small holder farmers (model farmers), refugee settlements and local communities.*

b) During the FY2018/19, CSOs have maintained approximately **165 hectares of grasslands/woodlands, grazing lands among pastoral communities under FMNR.** These available in parts of *Karamoja, Arua, Mpigi, Kiruhura, Kiboga, Otuke and Alebtong* districts. The approach is internationally appreciated as a low cost approach for restoration.

2.0 Contribution by ENR-CSOs

Performance Indicators under wetlands

- % of Uganda's land area covered by wetlands
 - % of Uganda's wetlands used under management plans
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a) In collaboration with the **MWE, CSOs**, with funding from the **Adaptation Fund**, are participating in the **development of management plans for wetlands** in the **catchments of Aswa, Kyoga, and Maziba** under the '*Enhancing Resilience of Communities to Climate Change through Catchment Based Integrated management of Water and Related Resources in Uganda (EURECCCA) Project*;

b) **ENR CSOs** conducted **6 trainings, (for six farmer groups, each with 20 members)** on alternative livelihood options for the wetland adjacent communities in the districts of **Mitooma, Sheema and Bushenyi districts through financing from GoU, UNDP & Green Climate Funds**. The farmers were supported with start-up kits that included fingerlings, equipment and tools, beehives, and piglets among others.

c) **ENR-CSOs engaged communities to restore Rufuka wetland in Ntungamo district** by filling the dug up channels that had dried the wetland. Approximately **6 hectares** are now restored.

d) In collaboration with the Wetlands Management Department, CSOs are supporting the **review of Tochi Wetland Management Plan** by way of supporting stakeholder engagements and consultations.

3.0 Some Key achievements by ENR CSOs

- a) Development of a new **Network Strategic Plan 2019-2029**, that is aligned to the SDGs, new development priorities of the country, new emerging sector issues and strategically positions the network to contribute meaningfully to development of the sector..
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- b) The **Uganda Timber Growers Association**, a member of the **ENR-CSO network** was awarded with a **group certificate under the National Forest Stewardship Standard awarded by the Forest Stewardship Council** and this demonstrates the existing capability and potential for responsible forest management in the country.
- c) The **ENR-CSOs actively participated in the 2nd Water and Environmental week** through collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Environment.
- d) **Structured engagement with the Parliamentary of Uganda** – with issues & recommendations based on CSO Position paper - thereby contributing to the establishment of the **Parliamentary Committee on Climate Change**.
- e) ENR-CSO participated/contributed in the **development of the Uganda Comprehensive Refugee Response Plan**.
- f) CSOs have established the **Uganda Green Economy Network**, which is a **platform for CSOs to engage government on the transition path from brown economy to green/blue economy**. Members of the network are drawn from various sectors of the economy including Operation Wealth Creation.

4.0 Key challenges

i) Most of the National Development Plan (NDP) II targets under the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) not achieved due to limited funding; Observed unlikable decreasing trends of status of ENR (i.e. forest and wetlands at 9 and 8% of the total land cover by 2018 & 2016, respectively); **Stagnated inadequate funding to the Sector (currently at 4.3% of the National budget)**; Required funding to address the issues in the sector is projected at 9 times the current funding investment (SSIP, 2018). Thus, Business As Usual will not deliver NDP III, Nationally Determined Contributions, Sustainable Development Goals targets targets for the sector!

ii) Inter-institutional collaboration remains a challenge especially with the high impact sectors of energy, mineral development, land, petroleum development, agriculture and how these interface with wetlands, forestry, lands, petroleum infrastructure and wildlife among others.

iii) Use of mercury in gold mining and crude methods of mining that exposes the miners to hazardous working environment and environmental degradation (Gold mining in Bugiri, Mubende, Buhwezu, Karamoja).

iv) Court rulings in favour of illegal land titling in Bugoma and Buto-Buvuma defying the mandate of responsible bodies (such as Parliament,..) that protect forest reserves.

v) The Uganda Comprehensive Refugee Response Plan developed, but requires **adequate resources allocation for implementation i.e. 668,299,472 USD.**

4.0 Key challenges

vi) Very high demand for biomass energy and associated weak regulation of its utilization across the country

vii) Increased investments in agro-commodities that target forested landscapes with inadequate compliance on environment management requirements. For instance, *Hoima Sugar Works encroaching on Bugoma Central Forest Reserve and oil palm, targeting forests outside protected areas in Kalangala and Buvuma.*

viii) Delays in finalizing of the National **Climate Change Bill** as a modality for implementation/enforcement to address climate & ENR issues and impacts of climate change on community and national development.



Figure 3: Torching of illegally produced and marketed charcoal in Abim district.

Source: Friends of Zoka, (2019)..

5.0 Key Recommendations

A). The **Cabinet, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development; the National Planning Authority and Development Partners** reflect and re-think the model/formulae applied for financial allocation to the **Water and Environment sector**, among other priority sectors.

Otherwise, the **NDP III, NDC, SDG targets, Will NOT BE ACHIEVED!** Thus, **additional resources should be allocated to the Water and Environment Sector.**

B) Parliament should expedite the approval of the climate change bill as a framework/tool for supporting enforcement of the policy aspirations to advance climate resilience (adaptation & mitigation);

C). The **Government and Development Partners** should provide **adequate resources for fast-tracking effective implementation of the Water and Environment Sector Plan for Refugees and Host Communities in Uganda;**

D). **MEMD and NEMA** commission research to establish the practices in gold mining industry to generate recommendations to address the environmental concerns. This should be extended to other areas such as Oil and Gas exploration and production;

5.0 Key Recommendations

E) MWE, FSSD, NEMA should strengthen enforcement for compliance to ENR laws in respect to investments in agro-commodities (e.g. sugarcane, palm oil,) This would be achieved through enhancing coordination with MAAIF and other agriculture sector stakeholders. The **ENR-CSOs** should advance their lobbying, advocacy and independent monitoring role to influence decision making in respect to investments in these agro-commodities to reduce/avoid negative environment and social impacts;

F) MWE, NFA & MEMD should fast-track development and implementation of strategies for enhancing regulation of sustainable biomass production and utilization for energy consumption.

G) Ministry of Defence re-assesses their involvement in environment and natural resources and bring to book officers and men that indulge themselves in environmental crime.

H) MAAIF addresses concerns over increased use of chemicals (herbicides and pesticides) that not only present environmental hazard but also affect the production chain.

6.0 About the ENR-CSO Network

- Founded in **2009**, the **ENR-CSO Network** is a **semi-formal network** whose **Vision** is, *'Uganda's natural environment providing goods and services, on sustainable basis, for national socio-economic development.'*
- **Mission:** *'To Mobilize CSOs to effectively promote good governance, effective management and sustainable utilization of Uganda's natural resources.'*

Objectives of the ENR-CSO Network

- The ENR-CSO Network has three major objectives:*
 - Proactively influence conservation and development policies and programmes for good governance, effective management and sustainable utilization of Uganda's environmental resources.*
 - Build a credible and recognized Network within the Environment and Natural Resources Sector.*
 - Strengthen ENR-CSO Network and members' capacity to implement the Mission of the ENR-CSO Network.*
- **The ENR-CSO Network Secretariat is hosted at Environmental Alert.**
 - Further information is available at: <http://enr-cso.org/>

