

THE EU PROVIDES SUBSTANTIAL FUNDING TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE IN UGANDA AND AFRICA

By Gerald Tenywa

Rose Arot still remembers the floods that swept through parts of Teso and does not want a repeat of that bitter experience.

"Shortly afterwards, there was drought. We did not have enough food to eat and the water dried up. It was a difficult situation. My children lost weight. I thought they were going to die," Arot says.

"It was not like this growing up," Sam Opolot, a resident of Kumi, says. "When I was young, the drought happened once in the lifetime but now it comes more often."

The head of the climate change department in Uganda, Maikut Chebet, says floods and droughts are becoming more frequent in recent years.

He notes that the world is currently trying to address impact of climate change.

"We are currently undertaking adaptation and mitigation and the Government is in the process of coming up with a law on climate change in Uganda," Chebet says.

Climate Change is caused by emissions such as carbon dioxide from production processes which trap heat escaping to the atmosphere, thereby causing global warming.

The warming of the earth disrupts rainfall patterns and also melts the ice on mountain tops like the Rwenzori Mountain.

Two years ago, Uganda signed the 2015 Climate Change Paris

EU offers support to restore environment



Residents of Bukedea cross a flooded road caused by heavy rains

The EU is part of the new global climate agreement signed in 2015 and due to be implemented from 2020. The EU has committed to a second phase of the Kyoto Protocol running from 2013 to 2020.

As the world's leading donor of development aid, the EU also provides substantial funding to tackle climate change, according to the EU Climate Action.

Rwenzori conservation

According to the World Wide Fund (WWF), the project aims to promote community based tourism and development of new tourism products to increase revenue for the rural poor living close to Rwenzori Mountain National Park.

The project is co-funded by EU and French Facility for Global Environment and implemented by WWF. The EU has also been funding conservation programmes under the National Forestry Authority and the Sawlog Production Grant that promotes commercial tree planting in Uganda.

: Agreement. This was agreed
: after protracted negotiations with
: the United Nations Framework
: Convention on Climate Change.

: Uganda is among the 200
: countries that have so far signed
: the climate change deal that is
: seeking to end the fossil fuel era.

: **EU support to the Paris deal**
: The deal was overwhelmingly
: supported by the EU, but the US
: pulled out last year.