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MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

Water and Sanitation Development Facility – East

WORLD WATER DAY CELEBRATIONS 2018

Theme: "Nature for Water"

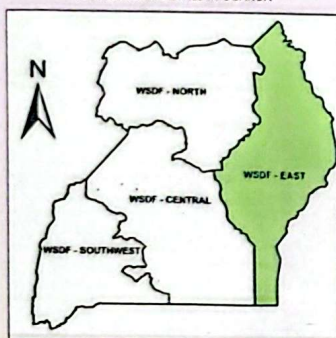


H E Y. K. Museveni commissions Buyende Town Water Supply

Uganda joins the world to commemorate the World Water Day on 22nd March every year with an aim of focusing attention on the importance of Water. This year, the commemoration will be held at the Ministry of Water and Environment's (MWE) Directorate of Water Resource Management (DWRM) offices in Entebbe, under the theme: "Nature for Water". This year's theme explores how we can use nature to overcome the water challenges of the 21st century because Nature-based solutions have the potential to solve many of our water challenges.

Environmental damage, together with climate change, is driving the water-related crises we see around the world. Floods, drought and water pollution are all made worse by degraded environment ecosystems such as: wetlands, vegetation, soil, rivers and lakes. When we neglect our ecosystems, we make it harder to provide everyone with the water we need to survive and thrive. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 6.3 requires us to "improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe re-use globally" by 2030. Climate change, population growth and economic development demand for sustainable solutions to make the world future-proof. As a natural resource, water related issues must be synonymously handled with the environment because environment natural resources such as swamps and forests are perceived as valuable resources in the water cycle. Sustainable management and utilization of environment natural resources is an important investment in the health of humans and ecosystems.

MAP SHOWING REGIONAL BRANCHES OF WATER AND SANITATION FACILITIES IN UGANDA



Improving water and environment natural resource management means improvement on all 6 targets of the Sustainable Development Goal on Water. The Ministry of Water and Environment received funding from the European Union (EU) through the Austria Development Cooperation (ADC) and the German government through the KfW to a tune of € 8.2m and 8.5m respectively and additional € 4.5m from KfW for phase II to implement activities under the Water and Sanitation Development Facility East (WSDF-E). An estimated population of more than 560,000 persons has already benefited from the WSDF-E interventions in the region in the selected rural growth centres (RGCs) and small towns (STs) from development of piped water supply systems and improved sanitation services.

The Government of Uganda (GoU) is committed to the provision of safe water within easy reach and to improve sanitation. The WSDF-E is a funding mechanism with the objective of improving the socio-economic situation and the opportunities of people living in the small towns (STs) and Rural Growth Centres (RGCs) in 41 districts of eastern and north eastern Uganda namely: Amuria, Kotido, Kaabong, Abim, Moroto, Katakwi, Soroti,

Kween Namisindwa and Butebo.

WSDF-E joins the entire world to commemorate World Water Day on 22nd March 2018, by participating in the MWE 1st ever Uganda Water and Environment Week (UWEWK) from 19th – 23rd March 2018 under the theme: "Water and Environment a Catalyst for Achieving Middle Income Status 2020". Eight sub-themes were elaborated, including: Integrated water resources management; Water and sanitation development; Wastewater and pollution management; Environment and natural resources; Sustainable forest management; Weather and Climate Change; Water – Energy – Food – ecosystem nexus; Stakeholder engagement and Water & environment sector financing. The UWEWK event preceded the commemoration of three important International Days: World Forest Day, World Water Day and World Meteorological Day annually stated for 21st, 22nd and 23rd March with an overall goal of contributing to the national development goals through effective management of Water and Environment resources and distribution for sustainable socio-economic development of Uganda.

Implementation of WSDF-E activities

The WSDF-E implementation follows modalities that emphasize a demand responsive approach; where communities express their demand for water through written application for services and commit to fulfilling their obligations. Environmental enhancement measures are also promoted through protecting water source catchment areas and training communities in safe environment practices. WSDF-E employs a private sector approach in its operations through the use of consultants, contractors and other service providers.

WSDF-E is focusing on developing water and sanitation infrastructure with the purpose of increasing access to safe water coverage, sanitation and hygiene levels in rural and urban areas; increasing functionality of water supply systems; integration of gender in water development; implementing and promoting catchment based integrated water resource management.

To achieve the sector goals, WSDF-E is implementing its Sector Development Plan (SDP) that is aligned to the second National Development Plan (NDP2) covering the period between 2015/16 – 2019/20. The SDP outlines key strategies, interventions and targets to be achieved in the five years' period in support of the NDP2.

WSDF-E progress to-date (Nature for Water)

Nature-based solutions have the potential to solve many of our water challenges. We need to do so much more with 'green' infrastructure and harmonize it with 'grey' infrastructure wherever possible. Planting new forests, reconnecting rivers to floodplains, and restoring wetlands will rebalance the water cycle and improve human health and livelihoods. WSDF-E has contributed by reducing the pressure on fresh, surface and ground water systems by developing mechanisms to bring water closer to the people through access to piped water systems, protection of water catchment areas and sanitation improvement among others.

To date, with support from European Union (EU) through ADC, German Government through KfW and Government of Uganda (GoU), the WSDF-E has completed construction and expansion of water systems in 33 towns out of 48 towns serving a population of over 561,086 people. This has helped improve access to safe clean water and sanitation facilities from 2009 to 2018 in the STs/RGCs of Amuria, Tirimu, Kibuku, Abim, Kaabong, Karama, Katakwi, Bukedea, Kasilo/Kamod, Kapchorwa, Busulu, Namutumba, Mbulamuti, Kachumbala, Ochero, Irundu, Matany, Namula, Suam, Buwuni, Kaliro TC, Luuka, Bukwo, Kagoma, Ocapa, Kyere, Nakapiripit, Iziru, Busedde-Bugobya, Buyende, Bubwaya, Kasilo-Kamod, Bukwo, Irundu.

the STs/RGCs of Bulegezi, Namagera and Namiwa at different levels of implementation progress. Construction of the faecal sludge treatment plant in Kamuli is also underway. WSDF-E has also completed construction of 149 ecological (Urine Diversion Dry Toilets) sanitation toilets and 30 public and institutional toilets most of which are UDDTs, line pit latrines and water borne toilets.

A total of 23 engineering designs for STs/RGCs under WSDF-E were completed and are ready for implementation. Mobilisation and scheme designing is still on-going for four (4) regional systems in selected areas. With further financing, the Facility has a long term forecast to design and construct more faecal sludge treatment plants with in the regions to ensure more clean waste water. WSDF-E has been able to successfully deliver this number of projects using a mix of contractors, consultants and in-house expertise.

In Uganda today, delivery of water supply and sanitation is not just a challenge of service provision, but it is intrinsically linked with climate change and environment natural resources management. Access to safe water and adequate sanitation is a basic human right and underpins success in development areas such as agriculture, energy, disaster resilience, human health, the environment, and ultimately economic growth.

In many countries, economic and population growth, as well as urbanization, have increased water demand while supply has remained unchanged or even decreased due to climate change. To sustain economic growth, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, and better manage water scarcity there is need to manage water and environment resources more sustainably and effectively.

Challenges:

- The demand for safe, adequate and equitable piped water and improved sanitation services rises each day due rural-urban migration and increased population. Moreover, the demand is higher than the resource envelop needed to serve every individual.
- Massive environmental degradation including rampant deforestation, reclamation of wetlands, uncontrolled waste water disposal and bush burning pose a big threat to sustainability of both ground water and fresh water resources for the current and future generation.
- Dwindling financial support to the water and environment sector both locally and internationally



Public stand post in Kagoma RGC, Jinja District



Modern Office block for O&M in Nakapiripit



Reservoir Tank for Nakapiripit TC

Conclusion:

Progress towards target SDGs will help achieve the SDGs on health and well-being (SDG 3), safe water and sanitation (SDG 6), affordable and clean energy (SDG 7), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), life below water (SDG 14), and life on land (SDG 15), among others. Water has to be carefully managed during every part of the water cycle: from fresh water abstraction, pre-treatment, distribution, use, collection and post-treatment, to the use of treated wastewater and its ultimate return to the environment, ready to be abstracted to start the cycle again. Therefore, with increased and continued funding from the EU through the Austria Development Cooperation, the German Government through the KfW, Government of Uganda and other development partners, larger populations can benefit from sustainable utilization and management of water schemes and piped water services implemented by WSDF-E. As it is for other countries around the world, sustainable water and environment natural resource utilization and management is essential for Uganda's long-term development. It saves Uganda from many health risks, safeguards future access to safe clean water and reduces on the effects of climate change. As we celebrate World Water Day, the WSDF-E re-commits to improving water supply and sanitation to realise the theme: "Nature for Water" with the Development Partners. The Government of Uganda through MWE is committed to providing Ugandans with access to safe clean water and sanitation facilities.



H E Y. K. Museveni hands over Buyende Water Supply



Fecal sludge treatment plant in Kamuli, construction ongoing



Pumphouse in Kaliro TC

Table showing O&M arrangements for completed systems under WSDF-E

Completed Piped Water and Sanitation Schemes	No	Management and Sustainability
Amuria, Bukedea, Busu, Kachumbala, Kapchorwa, Matany, Mbulamuti, Buwuni, Luuka, Kaliro, Kagoma,	11	Transferred to National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) for O&M
Tirimu, Kibuku, Katakwi, Ochero, Suam, Kapelebyong, Ocapa, Kyere, Iziru, Busedde-Bugobya, Buyende, Bubwaya, Kasilo-Kamod, Bukwo, Irundu	15	Gazetted to Eastern Umbrella of Water and Sanitation (EUWS) for O&M
Kaabong, Abim, Karama, Namula, Nakapiripit	5	Gazetted to Karamoja Umbrella of Water and Sanitation (KUWS) for O&M
Namutumba, Kasambira	2	Under Private Operator (PO)/ Scheme Operator (SO)
Total	33	