



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (NEMA)
**ANNUAL CORPORATE
REPORT FOR 2018/19**





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Citation: **NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (NEMA)
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ISBN: 978 - 9970 - 881 - 45 - 1

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FOREWORD

The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) is the principal agency in Uganda responsible for the management of the environment by regulating, coordinating, monitoring and supervising all matters in the field of environment. The Authority is mandated to work in partnership with stakeholders most of whom include Lead Agencies, Local Governments, Ministries and strategic partners, to effectively manage Uganda's environment to ensure sustainable development.

The 2018/19 annual report describes the status of implementation of the Key Result Areas (KRAs) outputs and outcomes as stipulated in the Strategic Plan of NEMA that are based on its mandate, and statutory functions.

During the Financial Year 2018/19 Uganda witnessed a number of developments, notably, the completion phases of some major infrastructural development projects including the critical oil roads, the Karuma Hydro power project, Tilenga and Kingfisher Oil and Gas project, and the commissioning of the Isimba Hydro Power Project; approval and commencement of the preparation phase for the construction of the Uganda-Tanzania oil pipeline among others.

Captured herein are details of the role of NEMA in strengthening public education and awareness to improve on environmental literacy in schools and public tertiary institutions, creating knowledge among schools on use and dangers of polythelene bags, supporting energy efficiency activities in schools to improve sustainable consumption of energy sources and production of energy, restoration and protection of fragile ecosystems, conservation of endangered species such as Afezella, Tamarind and Shea Butter Trees and habitats.

The Authority also takes note of emerging environmental concerns including but not limited to the management of electronic waste, disposal and management of radio-active waste from hospitals etc; and global concerns about the reality of climate change. This Report illustrates the status of implementation and progress of interventions by NEMA in managing the environmental issues highlighted above, lessons learned and proposed plans for the future.

NEMA appreciates the support from the Government of Uganda, Ministry of Water and Environment, MDAS & LG's all UN agencies, stakeholders in the private sector, civil society and the media for their continued support to NEMA with the ultimate goal that Uganda achieves sustainable development.



Dr. Tom .O. Okurut
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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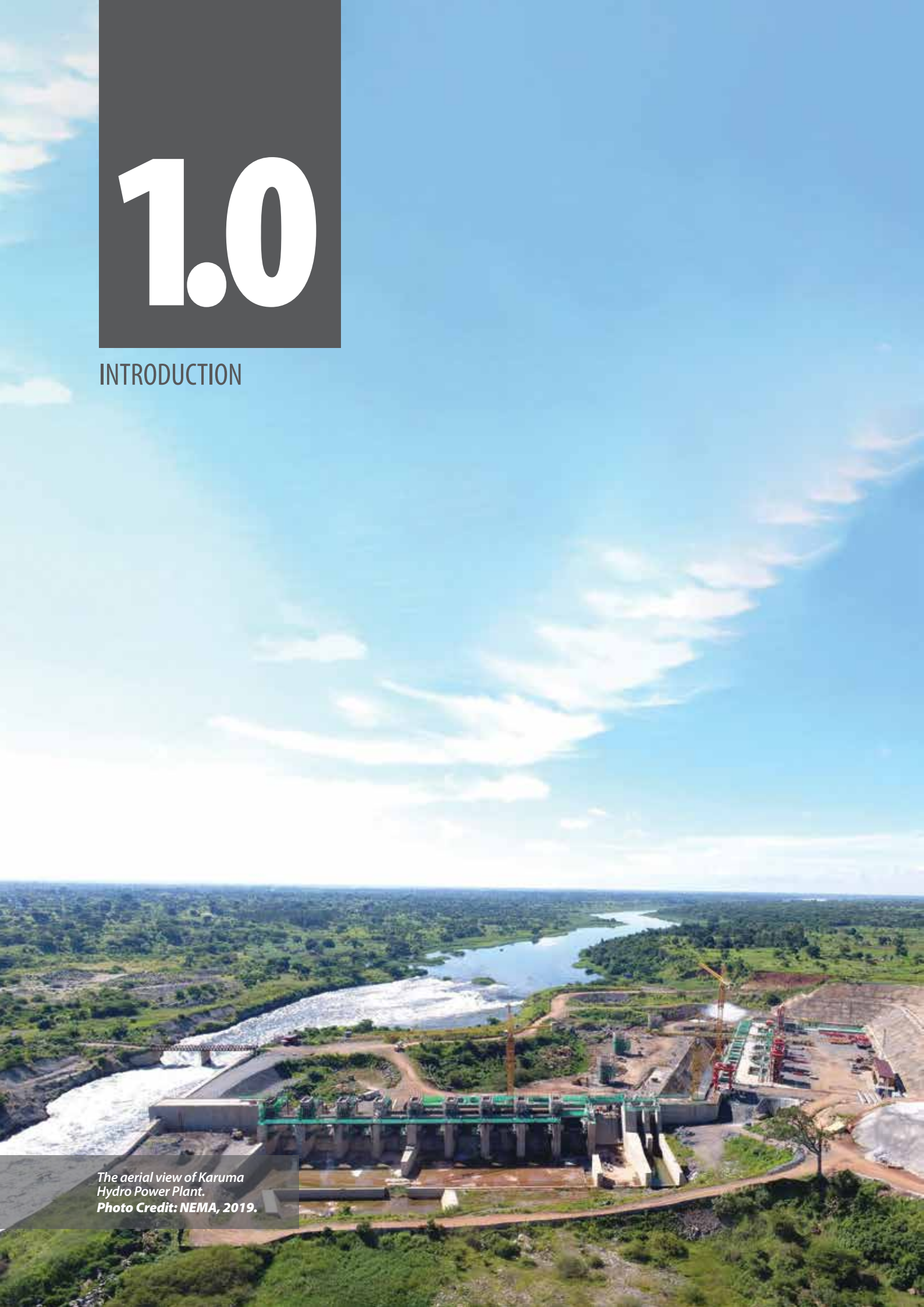
ACRONYMS

ABS	Access and Benefit Sharing
AMCEN	African Ministerial Conference of Environment
ASGM	Artisanal Small-Scale Gold Mining
AU	African Union
BER	Biodiversity Expenditure Review
BIOFIN	Biodiversity Finance Initiative
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBOs	Community Based Organisations
CDAP	Community Development Action Plan
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CERs	Certified Emission Reductions
CFCs	Chlorofluorocarbons
CFRs	Central Forest Reserves
COP	Conference of Parties
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
CSRs	Corporate Social Responsibility
DGAL	Directorate of Government Analytical Laboratory
DPP	Director of Public Prosecution
DRDIP	Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project
DWRM	Directorate of Water Resources and Management
EAC	East African Community
EACOP	East African Crude Oil Pipeline
ESIAs	Environmental Social Impact Assessments
EIN	Environment Information Network
ENR	Environment and Natural Resources
EPF	Environmental Protection Force
EPPU	Environmental Protection Police Unit
Eps	Environmental Practitioners
ESD	Education for Sustainable Development
ESIAs	Environmental and Social Impact Assessments
ETPs	Effluent Treatment Plants
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHGs	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
ICT	Information, Communication Technology
IEC	Information, Education Communication
IGGRP	Inclusive Green Growth For Poverty Reduction
KCCA	Kampala Capital City Authority
KCL	Kidepo Critical Landscape
KHPP	Karuma Hydro Power Plant
KMMC	Karuma Multisectoral Monitoring Committee
KPAs	Key Performance Areas
KRAs	Key Result Areas
LDCs	Least Developed Countries

LECs	Local Environment Committees
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MDAs	Ministries Departments and Agencies
MEAs	Multilateral Environment Agreements
MEMD	Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
MFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
MIA	Mercury Initial Assessment
MLHD	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan
NDP	National Development Plan
NEA	National Environment Act
NEF	National Environment Fund
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NFA	National Forestry Authority
NIPs	National Implementation Plan
NOSCP	National Oil Spill Contingency Plan
NPA	National Planning Authority
NSOER	National State of Environment Report
ODSs	Ozone Depleting Substances
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PAPs	Project Affected Persons
PAU	Petroleum Authority of Uganda
PBs	Project Briefs
PCE	Policy Committee on Environment
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PIR	Policy Institutional Review
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
RDCs	Resident District Commissioners
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEEP	School Environmental Education Programme
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
TORs	Terms of Reference
TOTs	Training of Trainers
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UIA	Uganda Investment Authority
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	UN Environment
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNRA	Uganda National Roads Authority
UWA	Uganda Wildlife Authority
WED	World Environment Day

1.0

INTRODUCTION

An aerial photograph of the Karuma Hydro Power Plant. The image shows a large concrete dam structure with multiple spillways. Water is cascading over the spillways, creating white rapids. The surrounding landscape is lush green with dense vegetation. In the background, a river flows through the landscape. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The overall scene depicts a large-scale hydroelectric power project in a natural setting.

*The aerial view of Karuma
Hydro Power Plant.
Photo Credit: NEMA, 2019.*

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA); referred to here as **the Authority**, is a semi-autonomous institution established in 1995 and has continued to exist within the provision of the National Environment Act (NEA) No.5 of 2019. The Authority is the principal Agency charged with the responsibility of regulating, monitoring, supervising and coordinating all activities related to the environment. In addition, the Authority also advises Government and spearheads the development of environmental policies, laws, regulations, standards and guidelines for sound environment management in Uganda. NEMA builds environment management capacity of Government Ministries, Agencies and Local Governments (MALGs), and other stakeholders.

1.1 Overview of the Strategic Position of NEMA

The NEA, No.5 of 2019 Section 9 (1) stipulates the mandate of NEMA as the Principal Agency in Uganda responsible for regulating, monitoring, supervising and coordinating activities related to the environment. This implies that the Authority is expected to work with other stakeholders to ensure environmental sustainability as a pathway to sustainable development in Uganda.

The Mandate is strengthened by the Vision, *“an efficient agency, with people in Uganda living in a clean, healthy, productive and sustainable environment”*; the mission is *“to promote and ensure sound environmental management practices for sustainable development”*; and the goal which is *“to promote sound environmental management and prudent use of environment and natural resources in Uganda”*.

The development objective of NEMA is to create, establish and maintain an efficient mechanism for sustainable environmental and natural resources management at the national, district and community levels.

Over the years NEMA has established a culture that pursues: client focus; integrity and transparency; professional motivation and commitment; innovation and creativity; open, cross-functional and all participatory decision making and problem solving; partnerships and collaboration; and, passion for sustainable environment management.

1.2 Statutory Functions

Section 9 (2) of the NEA No. 5 of 2019 empowers NEMA to:

- (a) advise on the formulation and implementation of environmental and climate change policies, plans and programmes;
- (b) advise the Minister responsible for environment on legislative proposals and standards relating/pertaining to the environment;
- (c) advise the Minister of Water and Environment (MWE) on the harmonization of policies of Government with respect to the environment and natural resources;
- (d) support the mainstreaming and integration of environmental concerns in the national and sectoral plans through coordination and collaboration with Lead Agencies;
- (e) require Lead Agencies to report and account for the execution of their mandate in relation to environment management as prescribed in the Act and any other applicable law;
- (f) issue environmental compliance certificates;
- (g) regulate, monitor and coordinate private sector, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, cultural; institutions, indigenous people and other local communities and religious institutions on issues related to the environment;
- (h) regulate environmental practitioners in the conduct of environmental and social impact assessment, and environmental audit processes;
- (i) review and make decisions on environmental and social impact assessments, environmental audits and other studies or reports submitted in accordance with the Act or any other applicable law;
- (j) issue permits and licenses in accordance with the Act and any other applicable law;
- (k) undertake and coordinate environmental monitoring, inspections and compliance audits;

- (l) undertake and support research in innovations, new technologies and emerging issues on environment;
- (m) prepare and disseminate the National State of the Environment Report;
- (n) support the preparation and dissemination of the National Environment Action Plan;
- (o) undertake public environmental awareness and literacy;
- (p) coordinate Lead Agencies in their preparedness and response to environmental emergencies or disasters;
- (q) support the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements for which the Authority is the focal point;
- (r) advise the Minister on legislative and other measures for the management of the environment or the implementation of relevant international conventions, treaties and agreements in the field of environment, as the case may be;
- (s) advise the Government on regional and international environmental conventions, treaties and agreements to which Uganda should be a party to and follow up the implementation of such agreements where Uganda is a party; and
- (t) enforce the provisions of the Act.

1.3 THE INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF NEMA

1.3.1 NEMA Governance and Management Structures

At the apex of governance and management structure is the Policy Committee on Environment (PCE), chaired by the Prime Minister. The PCE consists of the Ministers responsible for the following sectors:

- a) water and environment;
- b) agriculture, animal industry and fisheries; finance, planning and economic development; education, science, technology and sports;
- c) trade, industry and cooperatives;
- d) tourism, wildlife and antiquities;
- e) health;
- f) gender, labour and social development;
- g) local government; works and transport;
- h) energy and mineral development,
- i) internal affairs, defense and veterans affairs, and
- j) information, communications technology and national guidance.

The principal functions of the PCE include: policy guidance on environment and climate change, liaising with the Cabinet on the issues related to the environment, legislative proposals and standards on the environment, guidance on the harmonization of policies of government in respect to the environment, natural resources, water and climate change, and performing other functions that may be assigned to it by the Cabinet.

The Minister responsible for Water and Environment plays a supervision over the Authority and is also responsible for policy formulation and legislation, implementation of policy decisions by the PCE; policy and strategic guidance to the Authority; overseeing environmental planning and mainstreaming into other sectors; policies, plans and programmes, resource mobilization, ratification and coordinated implementation of the multi-lateral environmental agreements (MEAs); and facilitation of partnerships with other government institutions, agencies and other states, inter-governmental organizations and development partners on issues relating to environment management.

Below the PCE is the NEMA Board of Directors whose functions include; overseeing the implementation of the mandate and functions of the Authority, review and approval of policies and the strategic plans of the Authority; monitoring the performance of the Authority; review and approval of policies, plans, strategies, legislative proposals and standards for the management of the environment and natural resources initiated by the Authority; appointment, termination and overseeing of the technical committees, establishment and approval of rules and procedures for the appointment, disciplining, termination and terms of conditions of service of the staff of the Authority, selection of the Executive Director for appointment, monitoring and

evaluation of the Authority against the approved plans and budgets, overseeing reporting; disclosure and communication processes of the Authority; monitoring the effectiveness of corporate governance practices and risk management, and performance of other duties assigned to it under the NEA.

The Board has statutory technical committees that handle matters on its behalf pertaining to: soil conservation, pollution licensing; biodiversity conservation; and environment impact assessment. The technical committees report to the Board through the Executive Director. The NEMA Secretariat (internal structure of NEMA) comprises directorates which include Office of the Executive Director, Environment Monitoring and Compliance, District Support Coordination and Public Education, Policy, Planning and Information, and Finance and Administration.

1.3.1 Linkages with Line-Ministries, Agencies and Local Governments (MALGs)

The NEA, 2019, section 11, provides the functions of Lead Agencies (ministries, agencies and local governments which include but not limited to: environmental planning, regulation and management, carrying out strategic environment assessment, preparation of the state of environment reports, undertaking environmental inspections and review of environmental assessments and audits, to ensure that all development or human activities are compliant with the NEA, implementation of the decisions of the Authority in respect to the segment of the environment within their jurisdictions, progress reporting and accountability for their executions and roles, and enforcing the provisions of the NEA No. 5 of 2019. In addition, the Local Governments (Amended) Act 2010, stipulates that environment management activities/services such as forest conservation and waste management, as decentralized functions for which the local governments are obliged to plan and budget for in their development and annual plans.

NEMA works with the MALGs to promote effective environment management within their jurisdictions through integration of ENR values and concerns in the sector and local government plans and budgets, enforcement of the relevant provisions of the NEA, project monitoring, coordination, regulation, supervision/technical back-stopping, education, awareness and training programmes.

1.4 THE REVIEW OF NEMA'S PERFORMANCE IN FY2018/19

The performance review of NEMA for FY2018/9 focused on the said mandate and statutory functions while taking cognizance of the National Development Framework, Water and Environment sector goals, Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Performance Indicators, and the Key Result Areas (KRAs) in five (5) year Strategic Plan (2015/16-2019/20) of NEMA.

The five Key Results Areas are:

- (i) environmental compliance, integrity and productivity enhanced;
- (ii) green economy approach to ENR management developed and promoted;
- (iii) strategic environmental literacy, access to information and popular participation strengthened;
- (iv) human and financial capacity of NEMA strengthened to perform its mandate and statutory functions; and,
- (v) national, regional and international partnerships for sustainable development strengthened.

The above mentioned KRAs are implemented through Key Performance Areas (KPAs) according to annual work plans and budgets with funding from Government of Uganda, National Environment Fund (NEF), and off-budget support from development partners including the United Nations Organizations, agencies and programmes, bilateral partnerships, Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), among others.

The review of the performance of NEMA in FY2018/19 is premised on the following:

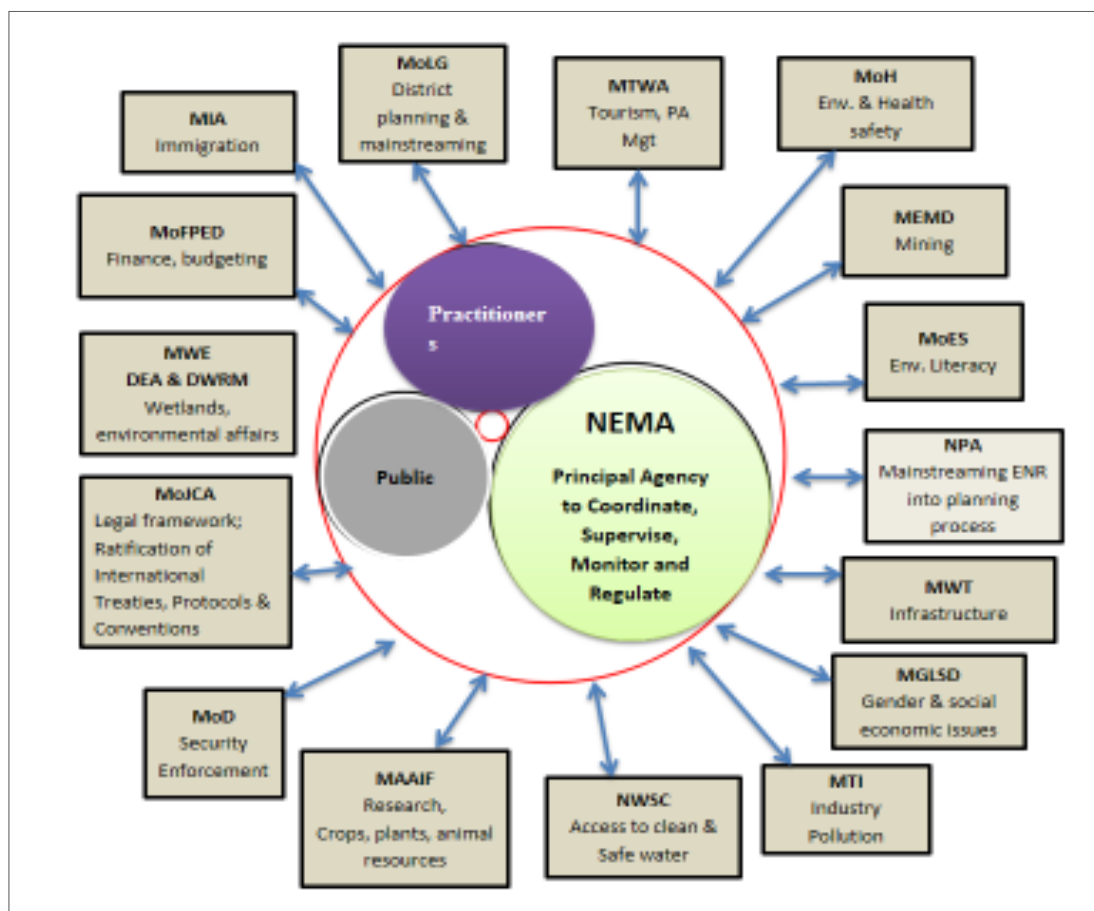
- (i) The relevance of NEMA;
 - (ii) The planned and actual outputs;
 - (iii) The actual or expected outcomes;
 - (iv) Sustainability;
 - (v) Challenges; and
 - (vi) Conclusions and recommendations.
-

1.5 THE RELEVANCE OF NEMA

The statutory mandate of NEMA as the Principal Agency in Uganda responsible for the regulating, monitoring, supervising and coordinating activities related to the environment means that the Authority, is expected to work with all the MDAs within the economy/Government and other stakeholders to ensure environmental sustainability as a pathway to sustainable development in Uganda using the National Development Framework (NDF), and other development initiatives and investments in Uganda. This has been done through the Integration of environment and natural resources (ENR) management in the National Development Framework where NEMA provided technical support during the formulation of the first and second National Development Plans (NDPs) (2009/10-2014/15 and 2015/16-2020/21) to ensure that environmental values and concerns (ENR) are integrated and mainstreamed in the NDPs, the key sectors and all District Local Governments plans.

This will strengthen the linkages with all sectors as seen in figure 1 where sectors relating to Local Governments Agriculture and Fisheries, Mining and Energy, Works and Transport, Health, Finance and Planning, Lands, Housing and Urban Development for which environment and natural resources management has been mainstreamed into their development plans and budgets or sector investment plans/strategies.

Figure 1: NEMA and institutional linkages



Source: NEMA, 2019

Through linkages with other sectors as illustrated in figure 1, technical support on ENR management in refugee settlement areas such as high level environmental inspections and monitoring, participation in technical meetings (technical back-stopping), project proposal development and support to tree planting in the refugee settlement areas, the hosting District Local Governments have initiated a number of environment conservation interventions through the Development Responses Displacement Impacts project (DRDIP) that include tree planting and energy conservation initiatives, waste management, environmental audit of the refugee settlement

areas (Yumbe and Moyo), physical planning (Adjumani), strategic environment assessment-SEA (Moyo), joint environmental monitoring programmes and monthly meetings with UNHCR, Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Implementing Partners (IPs) and the District Authorities.

Enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in the review and decision making on ESIAs, issuance of permits and licenses to promote investments, industrialization and infrastructure development, NEMA will support the achievement of the NDP, the National Vision 2040 as well as supporting the implementation of the NRM Manifesto 2016/2021 and the Presidential Directives on ENR.

Coordination of implementation of the Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Basel Convention on the Control of Trans boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (a protocol to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer), and the Minamata Convention on Mercury have contributed to environment management in Uganda. In particular biodiversity conservation and chemical management through resource mobilization (projects), have mobilized approximately USD 16,677,037 million to support ENR management in Uganda.

Support to the private sector to ensure environmental compliance and sustainability through compliance assistance and enforcement has led to establishment of effective systems and mechanisms for environmental compliance and sustainability. To this effect, industries including sugar processing Sugar Corporation of Uganda Limited (SCOUL) and Kakira Sugar Works (KSW), cement (Tororo and Hima), Nile and Uganda breweries, food processing (Britannia and Harris International), oil and gas, and Uganda Battery Limited, among others, have developed internal regulatory policies and systems, and acquired new technologies, for example effluent treatment plants (ETPs) to ensure environmental compliance.

Partnership with the development partners like United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) such as Environmental Management for Livelihood Improvement Bwaise Facility (EMLI), Luuka plastics, and Bukoola chemical industries limited has led to promotion of environmental conservation and prudent use of natural resources have led to; strengthening cooperation on environmental management, and dialogue on chemicals which raised awareness among non-state actors on chemicals and hazardous waste legislation, and rallied advocacy on the need for formulation of guidelines on chemical safety; and revitalization of private sector engagement in environment management. In addition, the National Strategy for the Advancement of Rural Women in Uganda (NSARWU) CSO have restored the bare hills in Nyamukana Town Council, Ntungamo District where the CSO through planting 52,000 tree seedlings on 46.8 hectares for environment conservation, energy and household income generation.

The education and research outreach at NEMA is coordinated through the implementation of the Sustainable Development (ESD) strategy and the School Environmental Education Program (SEEP) in higher institutions of learning (universities and tertiary institutions) and schools respectively. The ESD has supported the introduction of academic and non-academic programmes on environment conservation in higher institutions of learning, while SEEP has facilitated the introduction of Environment as a subject in the formal education/school syllabus and other environment conservation initiatives in schools such as water and energy conservation, tree planting and greening of school compounds. To build the capacity of Lead Agencies especially local governments through scientific or science-based training on the new and emerging technical challenges related to Oil and gas, Climate Change, Biodiversity Conservation, Waste Management and Sound Chemical Management, among others have been undertaken.

Through partnership with the media a number of media engagements to promote public environmental education, awareness, literacy and corporate image building focused on building the capacity of the media houses and their associates in order to promote environmental publicity and reporting as part of news broadcasts and publications in Uganda.

PLANNED TARGETS,
ACTUAL OUTPUTS,
ACTUAL/EXPECTED
OUTCOMES AND
SUSTAINABILITY

**KRA 1: ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPLIANCE AND
ENFORCEMENT
STRENGTHENED**



NEMA Officers; Ms. Patience
Nsereko and Ms. Jennifer
Kutesakwe inspecting SCOUL
Company; March, 2019.
Photo Credit: Tony Achidria.

PLANNED TARGETS, ACTUAL OUTPUTS, ACTUAL/EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND SUSTAINABILITY

KRA 1: ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT STRENGTHENED

1.1 Effective enforcement and compliance with policy, legal and regulations on environment

1.1.1 Litigation function

The litigation function involves handling and management litigation cases of both civil and criminal nature. The activities included: court attendance for ongoing cases, preparation, commissioning and filing pleadings in court for new cases, evidence gathering and preparation of witnesses and prosecution of environmental offenders in both ongoing and new criminal cases. A case inventory is maintained and updated regularly for effective management.

During the FY 2018/19, the Authority targeted 40 litigation cases, but 112 cases were handled and managed under litigation function as follows; 14 new civil cases were filed against the Authority, 74 court attendances for both ongoing and new cases were made, and 24 new prosecution cases were supported. The Authority also received 3 Notice(s) of intention to sue and 67 petitions for action by the Authority that were handled under litigation function.

Similar to earlier reports, the litigation cases arose from claims of a right to a clean and healthy environment; right to property in activities involving the restoration and eviction of people occupying wetlands and forest reserves illegally; loss of business in the enforcement against kaveera ban; noise pollution; illegal stone quarrying activities; alleged negligence and breach of statutory duties of the Authority; issuance of ESIA Certificates; and irregularities in public hearings, among others.



EPF operations officer Xavious Sekanabo destroying piled logs of a shea nut tree that had been cut for charcoal. Photo Credit: Tony Achidria

1.1.2 Support to EPF for case management

The Authority facilitated the Environment Protection Force (EPF) to manage cases related to environmental crimes. The annual target was 120 cases. Management of cases by EPF include investigation of crimes, persecution of the criminals/suspects, serving of restoration notices and orders. 148 cases (123%) were handled by EPF in FY2018/19 which include; 24 cases that were prosecuted, 49 cases were subjected to further inquiry and 75 were declined due to lack of evidence to support prosecution.

1.1.3 Development of Ordinances and bye-laws

To reduce the increasing court cases, formulation of Ordinances and Bye-Laws were undertaken in 6 districts of Moyo, Gulu, Mbale, Pallisa, Ntungamo and Buyende to enhance environmental compliance and enforcement under the decentralized environment management arrangements.

1.1.4 Development of regulatory instruments, standards and guidelines

FY 2018/19 marked the finalisation of the environmental legal framework review process and adoption of the environment management reforms into law. It should be noted that the process started in FY2012/13 to address gaps and incorporate emerging issues. On 15th November, 2018, Parliament passed the National Environment Bill 2017, it was assented to by the President on 24th February, 2019 and published on 7th March, 2019, hence the National Environment Act No.5 of 2019.

The National Environment Act No.5 of 2019 which came into force on 27th June, 2019 repealed, replaced and reformed the law relating to environmental management in Uganda. The Act permits continued existence of National Environment Management Authority as the principal agency for coordinating, monitoring, regulating and supervising all activities relating to environment. It also provided for emerging environmental issues and measures including climate change, the management of hazardous chemicals and biodiversity offsets;

strategic environmental assessment, addressed environmental concerns arising out of petroleum activities and midstream operations, the management of plastics and plastic products, established the Environmental Protection Force, provided for enhanced penalties for offences under the Act, procedural and administrative matters, and related matters.

Furthermore, in line with the provisions state above, the Authority also reviewed several regulations and developed guidelines and standards to ensure that the regulations are harmonized to embrace the legal reforms. The revised regulations include: draft National Environment (Audit) Regulations, 2019; draft National Environment (Environmental and Social Assessment) Regulations, 2019; draft National Environment (Management of Ozone Depleting Substances and Products) Regulations, 2019; and draft National Environment (Waste Management) Regulations, 2019.

The developed regulations include: The Petroleum (Waste Management) Regulations 2019; draft National Environment (Oil Spill Prevention, Preparedness and Response) Regulations, 2019; and draft National Environment (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations, 2019. Guidelines have also been developed including: Guidelines for Strategic Environmental Assessment in Uganda; draft Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) Guidelines; draft Access to Environmental Information Regulations; and, Sand Mining Guidelines and Landfill guidelines.

The Authority in collaboration with Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), together with other Lead Agencies, produced the guidelines for mainstreaming environment and natural resource management into sectoral plans. These guidelines and tools will enhance the coordination effort by NEMA to monitor compliance and integration of ENR in plans and budgets of Lead Agencies.

1.2 Environment Protection Force (EPF) in environment management

The EPF under NEMA has continued to support environment management across the country through monitoring activities such as noise pollution, wetland/lakeshore degradation, community policing, enforcement of restorations orders, violations of EIA conditions of approval and regulating of activities that are a nuisance including playing loud music during different functions and events, among others.

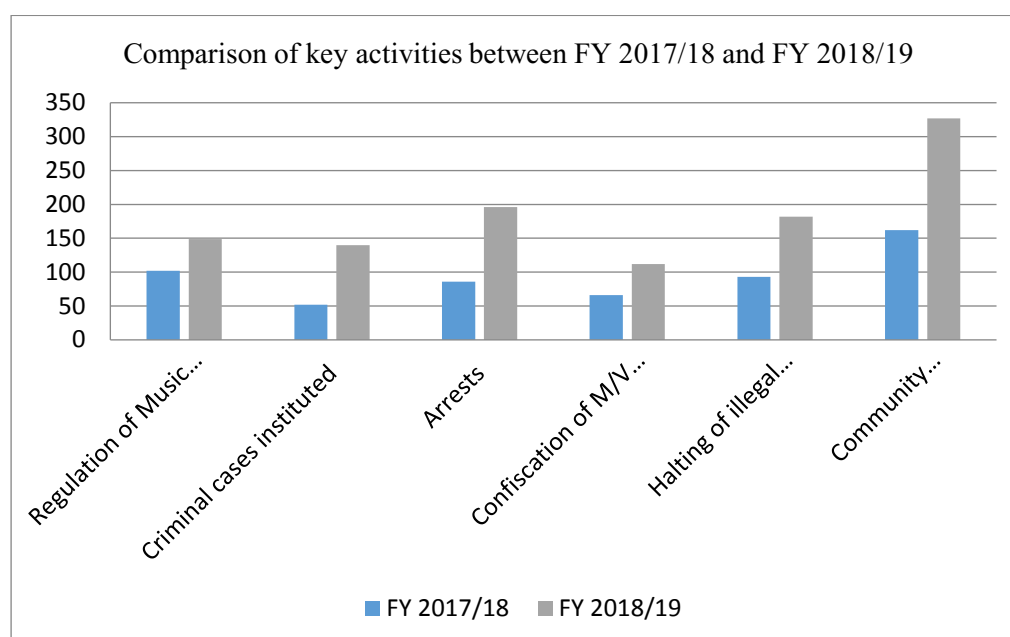
During FY 2018/19, EPF handled 1,106 cases of which 182 (13.6%) accounts for halting of illegal environmental activities, 196 arrests made (17.7%), while 140 criminal cases constituted 12.7% of cases handled. As a result, the Authority held the highest number of community policing/sensitization meeting totaling 327 in FY - 2018/19, compared to 162 in FY 2017/18 as shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: EPF key activities/operations undertaken in FY 2018/19

No.	Activity	FY 2017/18	%	FY 2018/19	%
1	Regulation of Noise (Music Concerts/Events)	102	18.2	149	13.5
2	Criminal cases instituted	52	9.3	140	12.7
3	Arrests	86	15.3	196	17.7
4	Confiscation of M/V number plates	66	0.0	112	10.1
5	Halting of illegal environmental activities	93	16.6	182	16.5
6	Community policing/sensitizations	162	28.9	327	29.6
Total		561	88.2	1,106	100

Source: EPF- NEMA, 2019

Table 1 shows the leading activities highlighted increased encroachment and degradation of fragile ecosystems happening across the country. This implies that such illegal activities will be high arrests and criminal cases instituted by the Authority. Key areas that have the highest cases of illegal environmental activities are in Kampala, Wakiso and Mukono Districts. This is partly due to the high population pressure concentrated in the greater Kampala as well as the high investment and infrastructural developments around the central business district of Kampala.

Figure 2: Comparison of EPF key activities between FY2017/18 and FY2018/19

Source: EPF- NEMA, 2019

1.3 Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA)

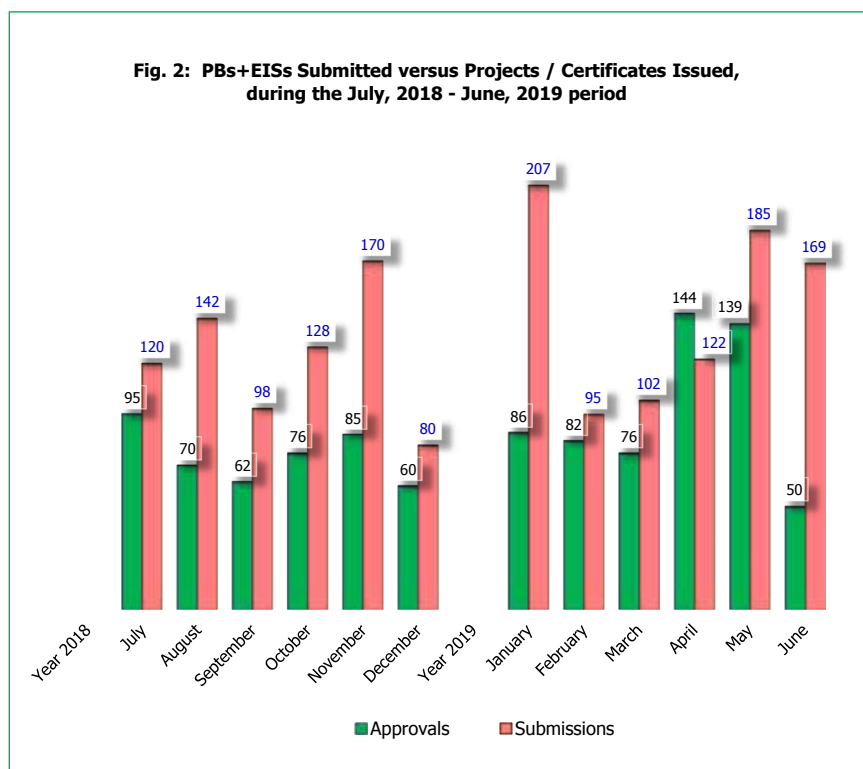
The total number of project briefs (PBs) and environmental impact statements (EISs) submitted to NEMA in the FY2018/19 period for consideration was **1,618** (see **Table 2**), compared to the FY2017/18 in which a total of 1,688 PBs/EISs were submitted. Thus, there was no significant difference between the two FYs.

Table 2: Total number documents submitted to NEMA for consideration during FY2018/19, by month.

Month	Scoping Reports/TOR	PBs	EISs	Total PBs and EISs Submitted
Year 2018				
July	78	60	60	120
August	83	47	95	142
September	57	43	55	98
October	101	43	85	128
November	76	59	111	170
December	55	23	57	80
Sub-total	450	275	463	738
Year 2019				
January	65	38	169	207
February	75	34	61	95
March	73	37	65	102
April	99	43	79	122
May	84	73	112	185
June	81	30	139	169
Sub-total	477	255	625	880
Grant Total	927	530	1088	1618

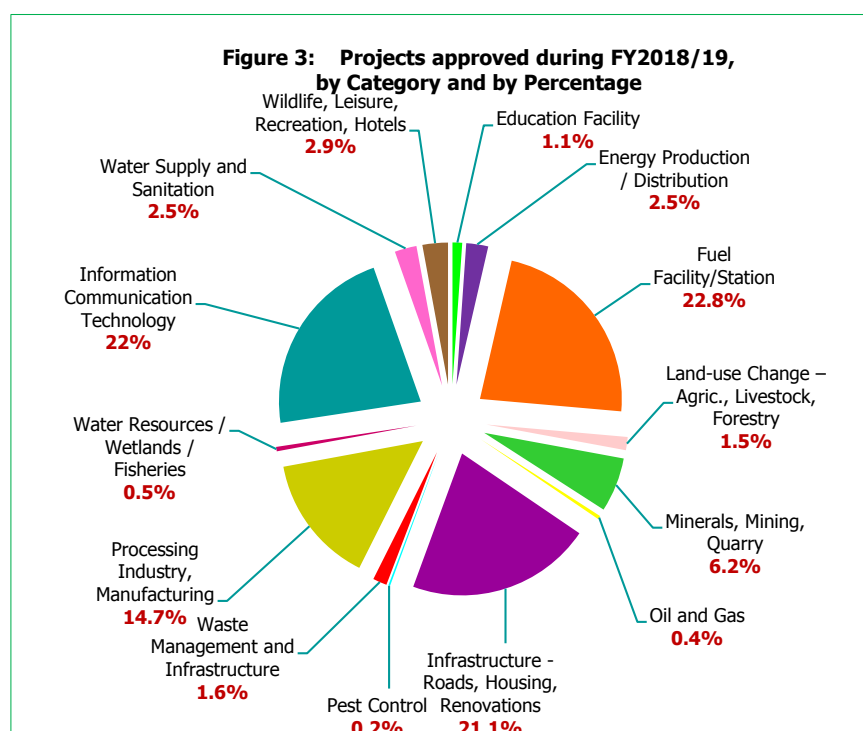
Source: Environment Monitoring and Compliance Directorate NEMA, 2019

The total number of Certificates of Approval prepared for issuance to the developers during **FY2018/19**, was **1,125** compared to a total of 807 certificates of approval issued during the FY2017/18, hence an increase (of **about 39.4%**) in the total number of certificates prepared/issued to developers in FY2018/19.

Figure 3: Total number of projects approved/certificates issued by July 2018 and June 2019

Source: Environment Monitoring and Compliance Directorate, NEMA 2019

The support to investment in the country by NEMA has steadily increased with high level investment opportunities in the telecommunication, processing industries and infrastructure. The contribution to other sectors of the economy is illustrated in the pie chart below figure 4.

Figure 4: Projects approved during FY2018/19, by category and by percentage.

Source: Environment Monitoring and Compliance Directorate, 2019

Table 3: Number of projects approved by category and by percentage, during FY2018 /19

Category of Project	Jul-Sep 2018	Oct-Dec 2018	Jan-Mar 2019	Apr-Jun 2019	Total Number	Percent
Education Facility	03	02	05	03	13	1.1
Energy Production / Distribution	06	04	12	06	28	2.5
Fuel Facility/Station	42	63	81	71	257	22.8
Information Communication Technology	44	36	70	97	247	22.0
Infrastructure - Roads, Housing, Renovations	52	47	70	68	237	21.1
Land - use Change - Agric., Livestock, Forestry	02	05	04	06	17	1.5
Minerals, Mining, Quarry	17	15	19	19	70	6.2
Oil and Gas	00	02	03	00	05	0.4
Pest Control	-	-	01	01	02	0.2
Processing Industry, Manufacturing	41	31	54	39	165	14.7
Waste Management and Infrastructure	02	03	08	05	18	1.6
Water Resources / Wetlands / Fisheries	03	00	01	02	06	0.5
Water Supply and Sanitation	09	07	04	08	28	2.5
Wildlife, Leisure, Recreation, Hotels	06	06	12	08	32	2.9
Total	227	221	344	333	1,125	100.0

Source: Environment Monitoring and Compliance Directorate, NEMA, 2019

The table above illustrates that the five leading categories of projects approved by NEMA fall under **Fuel Stations (22.8%), Information Communication Technology (22.0%), Infrastructure (21.1%), Industry (14.7%), and Mining (6.2%)**. Thus, these **five categories of projects constitute 86.8%** of the total projects approved by NEMA during the July, 2018 – June, 2019 period. Despite the increasing development trends in the sectors mentioned above, it is evident that infrastructure projects (e.g., roads, housing estates, commercial buildings, shopping malls) and industries (manufacturing and processing facilities) create a high demand for construction materials as well as fuel.

Some of the notable negative environmental impacts associated with the said categories of projects include: increase in atmospheric pollution caused by emission of different kinds of noxious (harmful) gases, fumes, and particulate matter into the atmosphere; while mining projects create residual impacts which include scarred landscape, degradation of the affected landscape including soil erosion and in some cases disruption of the local hydrology (which may affect the water catchment system), and un-restored mines and murrum/gravel borrow-pits. In addition, these sectors encourage migration of labour to mining areas, and construction sites, and the migrants and surrounding resident communities also engage in petty trade; and, inevitably pressure is exerted on the available / limited social services (water supply, sanitary facilities, and medical services) in the affected localities, and in some cases social-ills including crime may emerge.

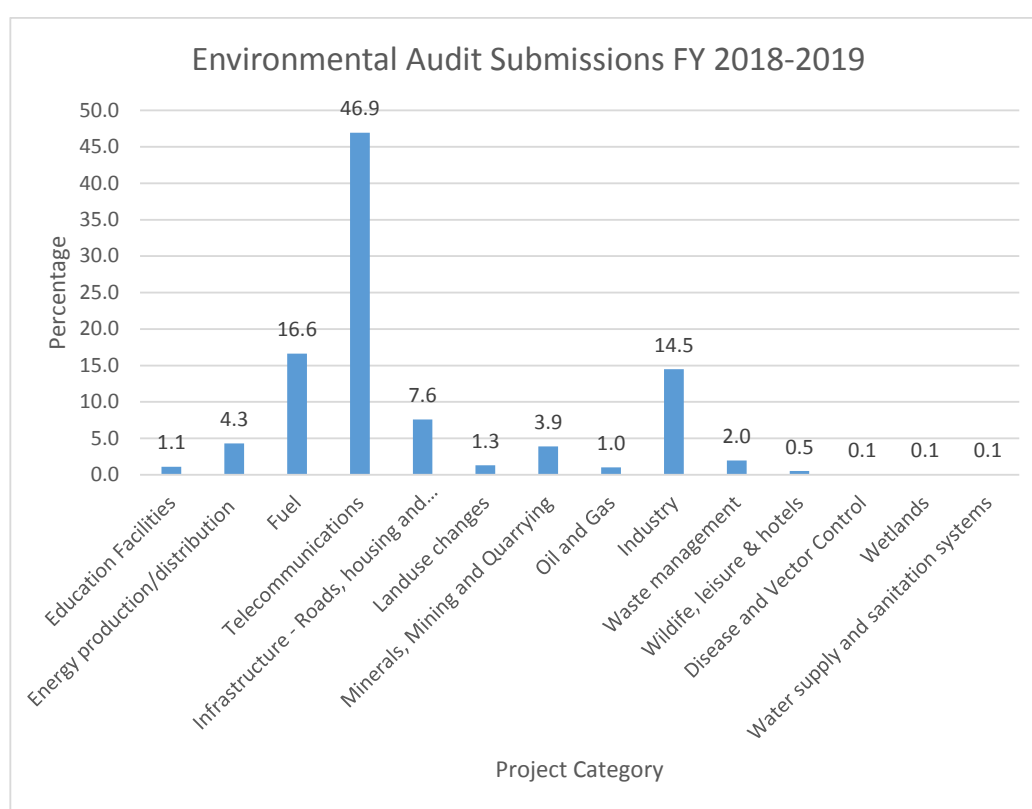
1.4 Inspections and Audits

During FY 2018/19, the Authority undertook compliance monitoring inspections to monitor compliance of activities to approvals particularly from NEMA, permits and regulatory requirements, and to follow-up complaints lodged with NEMA. 1,395 out of 1,400 targeted inspections and audits were undertaken during FY 2018/19. 1,000 inspections of key facilities were undertaken to check compliance and provide support due to previous reports, while 395 Environmental Audits (EA) and Environmental Audit reports were handled by the Authority. Inspection findings indicate that inadequate waste management practices, emissions to air, construction/ expansion and operation of facilities without approvals from NEMA, inadequate housekeeping, illegal discharges and discharges that do not meet the standards, limited use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and noise among others are the major areas of non-compliance.

The majority of EA reports handled were from the Telecom and industrial sectors which further show the increasing service delivery demand on NEMA as already noted within the ESIA review process. A few facilities were issued with Environment Improvement notices where a number of issues of non-compliance were observed; while a majority of facilities were issued with Administrative letters instructing the facility management to implement the corrective actions in the Environmental Audit (EA) reports. A number of Environmental Improvement notices were issued to facilities particularly in industry and natural resource use (wetland, forestry) sectors. These required the respective developers to undertake actions to correct non compliances identified in the Environmental Audit reports and arising from inspections undertaken by Environmental Inspectors.

The largest number of EA submissions in FY 2018/19, were received from the Telecommunications sector (46%), Fuel (16.6%) and industry (14.5%) as shown in Figure 4.

Figure 5: Environmental Audit submissions in FY 2018/19



Source: Environment Monitoring Compliance Directorate, NEMA, 2019

In addition to ensuring compliance is achieved, a total of 774 persons from various Government ministries, departments, and agencies were gazetted as Environmental Inspectors by gazette notice, dated 21st June 2019. The training for inspectors, will be undertaken in a phased manner over the next financial years.

1.4.1 Pollution regulation

In accordance with section 6 and 13 of the National Environment (Waste Management) Regulations, S.I No.153-2, and the Authority received 47 applications from various companies for consideration for issuance of licenses for waste management as seen in table 4.

Table 4: Number of licenses submitted to NEMA in FY 2018/19

No.	Licenses	No. of licenses Received	No of Licenses Approved	No of Licenses Deferred
1	Domestic waste transportation	18	14	04
2	Hazardous waste transportation	32	24	08
3	Own/operate	31	08	04
4	Storage license	09	14	01
5	Transboundary movement of wastes	0	13	0
Total No. of applications received		90	73	17

Source: Environment Monitoring and Compliance Directorate, NEMA, 2019

1.4.2 Air quality monitoring

Regular air quality monitoring during compliance inspections is undertaken by NEMA to check on the emission from the industrial facilities as well as have ambient air quality across the country. Air quality monitoring was undertaken for a number of facilities, and the results still indicate that emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10) is the biggest contributor to air pollution. This is mainly due to emissions from boilers, furnaces and incinerators in industrial facilities. To address the emissions as indicated above, NEMA is collaborating with Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) and other stakeholders to establish monitoring stations across the city and its metropolitan areas. The Authority is in the process of acquiring stationary monitoring equipment so as to monitor the air quality within the country.

1.5 Management of Electronic Waste (E-waste) in Uganda

The set-up of the electronic waste (e-waste) collection and management centre is on-going in partnership with Luweero Industries, a subsidiary of National Enterprise Cooperation. The establishment of the Electric and Electronic Waste Collection and Management Centre in Kampala will ensure that Uganda takes custody of its e-waste and manages its safe disposal in an environmentally friendly manner. The collection centre will not only address the aspect of collection estimated at over 19 metric tonnes (MT) of e-waste scattered across the country majorly in public institutions including universities but rather pave way for future projects that will include dismantling units and refreshments centers.

1.6 High Impact projects – Hydropower, Critical Oil Roads and Port works

a) Isimba Hydro power plant

Inspections of continuing project related activities to the hydro power construction such as the road works of the 3.5 Kilometres of Wampologoma/Kasaana to the facility gate from the Isimba gate across to Kamuli are ongoing, with site clearance and concrete placement. These were being undertaken without an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Certificate from this Authority nor a design to guide the construction, contrary to the National Environment (Environment Impact Assessment) Regulations, S.I. No. 153-1 and the National Environment Act, No. 5 of 2019.

Implementation of activities in health, education, sanitation, agriculture and, water sectors among others, are some of the on-going project activities. These project activities are being implemented across the different villages in the four Districts of Kamuli, Kayunga, Jinja and Buikwe which the project traverses; however there are still outstanding issues of community concerns under The Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and these are being addressed through the Community Development Action Plan (CDAP).

183MW Isimba HPP, was launched/commissioned by His Excellency Yoweri K. Museveni on the 21st March, 2019 and since its launch the project has continued to contribute 183 MW to the national power grid via the Isimba – Bujagali Transmission line and the Bujagali switchyard. Isimba HPP addition into the generation system shall continue to improve on one important energy market principle; availability of power supply in Uganda. It was noted that, due to the reduced activities ongoing at the facility, the number of workers employed have equally reduced to 100 and 300 Chinese workers and Ugandan workers respectively.

It should be noted that the ongoing preliminary activities of the road construction were greatly infringing and causing impairment/degradation on the Koova Island. This Island was protected as a habitat for the flora and fauna (which found refuge at that point due to impacts of construction works of the dam) and there are ongoing discussions with Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) regarding the problematic road construction.

i) The Kalagala offset

One of the major impacts of the Isimba project was the conservation of the Kalagala offset area. Mitigation were sought through the EIA process including public hearings and it was concluded that the offset area should be increased by 15.7 KM upstream of the Isimba dam and 100m buffer zone on either sides of the River Nile; that is between Bujagali HPP and Isimba HPP. In addition, several activities to ensure the area remains intact but with consideration of the communities at the fringes as mentioned in Kalagala – Itanda Falls Sustainable Management Plan, provides for the management of fishery, eco-tourism, protection of animals and plants, prohibited activities, livelihood activities, protection of the forest reserves among others. To further protect the new offset herein referred to as the Extended Kalagala- Itanda Offset Area, the World Bank has requested government of Uganda to declare the area as a special Conservation Area by or before December, 2019.

b) Karuma Hydro Power Plant

The total environmental compliance status of the Karuma Hydropower Project (KHPP) has been progressively improving in terms of compliance with the regulatory conditions and also ensures the identification of measures to mitigate any risks or potentially negative impacts that may emerge from the implementation of the project. The Karuma Multi-sectoral Monitoring Committee (KMMC) has undertaken various monitoring visits to the



Turbine end at the Karuma HPP, June 2019. Photo Credit: Leila Akello Gonasa.

KHPP to inspect the site but also hold meetings that add value to the regulatory efforts by NEMA. Monitoring activities by the Committee in June, 2019 identified a plethora of concerns and a myriad of recommendations were made for corrective actions to be undertaken by the contractor (Sinohydro). Emerging issues at the dam site which included construction of the switch yard, plugging of the adits in preparation for decommissioning process, continuation of the installation of Turbine units, river diversion, construction of the coffer dam and preparation of the reservoir were also inspected.

As the construction phase of this project is coming to an end and is due to be commissioned in a few months' time, operations at the Project have continued to be undertaken in compliance with the set requirements, including incorporation (integration) of the interconnection project. The Committee made recommendations under the different inspection sub-groups relating to the engineering and physical environment, ecological issues, social and community issues and the labour, health and safety issues. The key recommendations include these below:

- i. Collaborate with Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), to seek approval for all temporary facilities including the access road to the out fall and ventilation shaft.
- ii. MEMD should pay UWA for the outstanding Biodiversity offsets as required in the conditions of the ESIA approval.

iii. Submit the Reservoir Operation plan for review and it should include the sequencing of gate opening and address the upper and lower water levels.

iv. Remove the rock outcrops in the reservoir area to facilitate smooth flow of water in the river or incorporate the possible effects of the presence of the rock out crop in the reservoir considering minimum and maximum reservoir levels in the reservoir filling plan that is yet to be submitted.

v. Strengthen the use of personal protective gear especially at the power house and coffer dam sites at the intake since there was a lot of noise and poor quality as a result of welding activities.

vi. Ensure implementation of emergency preparedness at the dam site and tailrace outlet, address with immediate effect the issue of workers' welfare at the power house, especially on areas of drinking water, and adequate sanitary facilities.



Soil erosion on the road shoulder along Mubende-Kakumiro-Kagadi Road, June 2019.

Photo Credit:
Leila Akello
Gonasa.

c) Critical Oil roads

The ongoing road works in the Albertine region have led to the need for upgrading 11 roads categorized into seven projects comprising of Upgrade of the Kyotera -Rakai Road (20km), Masindi-Biiso Road, Upgrade of Lot 4 Critical Oil Road R4 (Kabaale-Kiziranfumbi), R5 (Kaseeta Lwera Via Bugoma Forest) and R7 (Hohwa-Kyarushesha-Karokarungi), Buhimba-Nalweyo-Kakindo-Kakumiro Road (Lot 5&6) traversing six (6) districts of Buliisa, Nwoya, Ntoroko, Masindi, Hoima and Kakumiro (93km). These roads will create an enabling road network that will facilitate first oil production activities due to commence in Uganda by 2020. During the various inspections and site visits by NEMA team and designated person drawn from key Lead Agencies. The recommendations below were spelt out that need to be implemented to ensure oil and gas developments are achieved sustainably for economic prosperity.

- i. Maintain the hydrology and water flow across wetlands and swamps throughout the proposed route including Buhimba Swamp, Kabale Swamp, Masaigi Swamp, Buruko Swamp, Nyate Swamp, Karobe Swamp and Kakumiro swamp.
- ii. Preserve the natural water flows through transversal drainage structures. Nature drainage patterns along the project area should be conserved to ensure that storm water run-off does not create an environment hazard by erosion of base materials. Erosion and sedimentation control systems should be installed during construction.
- iii. Ensure social and cultural amenities such as Buhimba cemetery are not affected by the road works.
- iv. There should be a maintenance plan for pavements, line marking, batter slopes, debris removal from drainage inlets and outlets, bridges and surface drainage features.
- v. Ensure that construction works are limited to the carriage way, shoulders and drainage channels as much as possible in Nakuyazo and Kihaimire forest reserves. There will not be a right of way provided in these forest reserves.
- vi. Adequate sensitization of all stakeholders should be undertaken during all phases of the project lifecycle.
- vii. Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) should ensure there is re-forestation to compensate for deforestation during the construction phase. Planting of trees in the right of way is highly recommended.

- viii. The proposed project should adopt technology/technologies that protects wildlife, reduces waste and the overall environment footprint. Construction equipment should be designed for minimum noise and air emissions.
- ix. Landscaping after construction should take into account the growth habit of trees and shrubs such as size of trees and shrubs at maturity and the location of these with respect to the clear zone. In addition, the impact of root growth should be evaluated. These may intrude into drainage lines and cause heaving of pavements and footpaths.

d) Bukasa Port

The Authority has assessed the Bukasa Port project and currently the process of land acquisition and environmental resettlement studies are ongoing to assess the effect of the development on the land and its environment. The proposed site is to house the port, infrastructure facilities and the ship located in Bukasa Village, Kirinya Parish, Bweyogerere Sub-county Wakiso District and is part of the central corridor development programme which will secure an alternative way of providing efficient transport system between Uganda and neighboring countries and beyond to convey merchandise from world markets among others.

Developing the Port will reduce high transport costs of goods, cost of fixing dilapidated road infrastructure; promote regional railway and transport competitiveness, provide inter modal transport and seamless connectivity of East African Community (EAC) and opening up of the central corridor route to the sea.

1.7 Supporting restoration and protection of fragile Ecosystems

NEMA in collaboration with the District Local Governments (DLGs) initiated restoration programmes using a combination of approaches to enhance sustainability of fragile ecosystems but with major focus on community engagement and other people centred approaches (use of more “carrot than a stick”). This is because the fragile ecosystems in the country have been severely degraded through human activities such as crop cultivation, deforestation and over grazing resulting into soil erosion, loss of tree cover and siltation of the water bodies and drying up of the wetland ecosystems thereby changing their ecological, social and economic functions.

The degradation of fragile ecosystems has had a direct negative impact on the livelihoods of the local communities by affecting the agricultural productivity in areas affected due to prolonged drought, reduced soil fertility and crop yields as well as reducing the fishing potential of the water bodies.

Restoration has been noted to be an important undertaking required to retard land degradation and loss of biodiversity (Aradottir and Hagen 2013), and so it is high on the agenda of both CBD (refer to Targets 14 and 15 of the Aichi Targets) and UNCCD (refer to COP13’s specific pronouncements in the strategic framework of the Convention).

In order to restore degraded ecosystems, NEMA implemented various interventions such as; community engagement and sensitisation meetings, signing of partnership instruments delegating powers to sub county Chiefs, inventory and mapping of hotspots and physical restoration through removal of illegal structures and eviction of encroachers who could not comply voluntarily.

BOX 1: NEMA’s best practice approach to halting wetland encroachment and degradation

- ✓ Multiple approaches are used to restore degraded ecosystems and these involve use of a “carrot and a stick”. The use of a carrot and a win-win approach is always the first option and this guides in sustaining the interventions.
- ✓ Community or resource user engagement and dialogue is an important tool for sustained ecosystems restoration and protection.
- ✓ Full participation of the resource users through consultations create ownership of decisions taken and minimizes litigation costs associated with enforcement.
- ✓ Community meetings and consensus building is also important in providing unchallenged evidence of prior community engagement, should legal actions be necessary.
- ✓ Action plans developed in consultation with community leaders and stakeholders will mean implementation of efforts that are local based which will also stand the test of time.

“A healthy ecosystem service is vital to support economic transformation and livelihood”

1.7.1 Key sites under restoration and protection

To date, over 10 ecosystems have been restored successfully to nearly their original state and their ecosystem functions re-instated. Some of the systems include: Lake Victoria shorelines (critical sections); Lake Kyoga (Limoto_Mpologoma_Oladot wetland system); River Rwizi catchment, River Muzizi Catchment; Lake Kachera Shoreline and Lake Nakivale catchment; Lake Victoria shore lines in South Busoga, and Upper Kafu.

a) **Lake Victoria shoreline in South Busoga**

The physical demarcation of the 200m Lake Shores Protection Zone of Lake Victoria along the South Busoga and Bukaleba Central Forest Reserve (CFR) began in FY 2018/19 was undertaken in Mayuge District. The Presidential Directive to allocate part of South Busoga and Bakaleba Central Forest Reserves (CFR) to Local Communities in Mayuge District was given to NEMA to implement the demarcation of the lake shores protection zone of Lake Victoria.

It is planned that the 200m lake shores protection zone shall not be given away to the communities but conserved for the protection of Lake Victoria. This directive is in line with the legal provisions for the conservation of the shores of Lake Victoria.

The first phase of the exercise involved mobilization, consultations of District Council, Sub County Council, technical personnel, and Community. The second phase of physical boundary demarcation covered 58km of Lake Victoria shoreline from Buwanga to Bunage villages in Malongo Sub county Mayuge District respectively.

b) **Upper Kafu catchment system**

In FY 2018/19, the Authority began initial restoration activities in the upper catchment of Kafu, particularly focusing on the wetlands and riverine systems in the upper part of the catchment, in the districts of Kyankwanzi, Kiboga, Kakumiro and Hoima. The Upper catchment of Kafu is characterized by a network of permanent and seasonal wetlands which are often targeted for cultivation and animal grazing. As a result, significant wetland cover has been lost and transformed into gardens of rice, maize, and millet gardens as well as grazing land, this being highest in Kiboga District and lowest in Kakumiro District.



Landing site in Bwondha; which is the best commercial centre located on shore lines of Lake Victoria in Mayuge District, March 2018. Photo Credit: Julius Muyizzi

In compliance with good restoration planning, process began with a meeting with the political leadership and technical teams of the four districts, followed by field inspections of degradation hotspots and mapping, based on field data and additional data off Google Earth. The community meetings/barazas, including resolutions agreed upon by community members during the meetings provide guidance for the next steps.



NEMA installed mark stones in the area to demarcate the boundaries of the Lake Victoria catchment area in south Busoga. Photo Credit: Julius Muyizzi

1.7.2 Restoration Coverage and specific locations

Over 4000Ha of degraded ecosystems have been effectively restored. The restored ecosystems are indicated in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Restored sites by location

Catchment	Restored Ecosystem	Ecosystem Location	Restored Acreage	Implementation Period and status
Lake Victoria along the South Busoga and Bukalebo Central Forest Reserve (CFR)	The physical demarcation of the 200m Lakeshores protection zone of Lake Victoria.	Busoga Sub region – Mayuge district	200m - 58km	Recovery is being monitored by NEMA and Lead Agencies. On-going works in FY 2019/20.
River Rwizi and Its catchment	400 Ha of Rucece, Kafunjo, Kanyabukanja_Katara systems, Rufuha wetland system in Ntungamo, Mbarara, Buhweju were restored.	Mbarara, Ntungamo and Buhweju	400Ha	2017-2019 Restored areas are now on course to full recovery and ecological and socio-economic functions and services are being seen.
Lake Kachera	Lake Kakyera Shoreline	Kiruhura	200Ha	2017-2019
River Muzizi	Bufunjo and Nyankwanzi systems.	Kyenjojo	200Ha	2017-2018 Slight improvement in the restored areas. Monitoring is ongoing.
Upper Kafu System	River Kafu ecosystem	Kyankwanzi, Kiboga, Kakumiro and Hoima	Community sensitizations carried out	Field work, community meetings and selection of hotspots have been undertaken.
Total Area			4000Ha	

Source: NEMA, 2019

Various ecosystems which were degraded through human activities such as cultivation, fencing, creation of drainage channels and introduction of alien species such as eucalyptus have been effectively restored through community engagement, compliance enforcement and physical restoration. The progress made using multiple restoration approaches so far is good and on average **4000Ha** of degraded ecosystems have been restored with most of the areas now on course to full recovery and re-generation and others fully recovered and now proving their ecological functions and services.

1.8 Support to District Local Government on decentralized Environment Management

The Authority has continued to support the District Local Governments (DLGs) in line with its mandate and During the FY2018/19; 27 (twenty seven) District Local Governments; namely: Amuria, Kaberamaido , Ngora, Namisindwa under Mbale Regional Office, Kamuli, Buikwe, Mukono, Kassanda and 15 Lower Local Governments (Sub counties) under Central Region, Buliisa, Kibaale and Kabarole under Masindi Regional Office, Mbarara, Bushenyi, Ntungamo, Ibanda and Kamwenge under Mbarara Regional Office, Alebtong, Otuke, Lamwo, Agago, Abim, Nabilatuk, Pakwach, Apac, Adjumani, Kwanja, Nebbi, Districts and Kotido Municipal Council in Northern Uganda were supervised and mentored to ensure environmental sustainability concerns or issues are integrated in the Local Governments policies, plans, programmes and budgets. In addition to the mentoring, capacity building meetings were held to support the 80 Environment Officers of which 30 female and 50 male participated.

1.9 Enforcement and Protection of Rangelands in Uganda

1.9.1 Enforcement on critical rangelands in Uganda

The enforcement targeted protection of rangelands ecosystems under threat from destructive human activities mainly charcoal production and illegal logging in the fragile rangelands landscape. 12 districts carried out protection of rangelands ecosystems, and these included Nwoya, Otuke, Pader, Amuria, Nakapiripirit, Napak and Amudat Districts to enhance natural regeneration/restoration. Enforcement activities were carried out targeting illegal cutting of trees in the landscape as a result the illegal activities reduced and thus natural regeneration of trees in the landscape started taking place. The long-term outcome of this intervention is restoration ecosystems and ecosystem services. Implementation of this activity is contributing to the notably achievements below:

- a) The National Target of Uganda's Vision 2040 indicates restoring the forest cover to 24%.
- b) The Presidential Directive of 30 October 2006 that indicates need for the protection of shea butter tree.
- c) National Development Plan (NDP) Objective 1 on restoration and maintaining the integrity and functionality of degraded fragile ecosystems, Three National Targets in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) namely: National Target 3.3: By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species plants and animals inside and outside protected areas has been prevented and their conservation status improved, National Target 3.2: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems and National Target 3.5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero to reduce degradation.

Through creating ownership of the above efforts by NEMA, District leaders, district technical staff, National Forestry Authority and local communities participate in the restoration activities.

Achievement of the above targets was critical for promoting ecosystem based adaptation to climate change in order to increase the resilience of ecosystems and communities to the impacts of climate change. At the global level these activities contribute to Government's efforts in implementing Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) Goal 13 on combating climate change and its impacts and Goal 15 on protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combating desertification, and halting and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Uganda's efforts in implementing global biodiversity target under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) links them to the global Aichi biodiversity targets 12 on the preventing extinction of known threatened species, Aichi Target 14 on restoration and safeguarding of ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, taking into account the needs of women,



EPF destroying a Kiln that had been set for producing charcoal, December 2018. Photo Credit: Tony Achidria.

indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable, Aichi Target 15 on enhancing ecosystem resilience and Aichi Target 7 on ensuring that areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably to promote conservation of biodiversity respectively.

1.9.2 Restoration and protection of Oliduru Central Forest Reserve

The ongoing restoration of 222 ha. of Oliduru Central Forest Reserve in Otuke District will contribute to the achievement of the National Target in Vision 2040 of restoring the forest cover to 24% and also in implementation of NDP objective 1 on restoration and maintaining the integrity and functionality of degraded fragile ecosystems and three National Targets in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) namely: National Target 3.1: By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial and inland water ecosystems in Uganda are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas for socio-economic benefit of the population; National Target 3.2: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems; National Target 3.3: By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species plants and animals inside and outside protected areas has been prevented and their conservation status improved, and National Target 3.5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero to reduce degradation.



Shea butter tree fruiting in Oliduru CFR. Photo Credit: Tony Achidria.

This activity is well aligned to the intervention on afforestation and re-forestation in NDP that aims at promote implementation of sustainable management of forests through restoration of natural forests on protected and private land.

At the global level this activity contributes to Government effort in implementing SDGs Goal 13 on combating climate change and its impacts and Goal 15 on protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combating desertification, and halting and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Regarding Uganda's efforts in implementing global biodiversity target under the Convention on Biological Diversity, this activity is linked to global Aichi biodiversity targets as follows: Aichi Target 11 on protected areas including ecological connectivity of PAS and other effective area-based conservation measures; Aichi Target 12 on the preventing extinction of known threatened species; Aichi Target 14 on restoration of ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable; Aichi Target 15 on enhancing ecosystem resilience; and, Aichi Target 7 on ensuring that areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably to promote conservation of biodiversity.

1.9.3 Restoration of Mt. Moroto Central Forest Reserve

The restoration of degraded section of Mt Moroto Central Forest Reserve, targeted 15 ha of Lia stream. Moroto CFR has a total area of 48,210 ha of which 100 ha is degraded (mainly along Lia stream). Restoring this catchments will contribute achievement of the National Target in Vision 2040 of restoring the forest cover to 24% and also in implementation of NDP objective 1 on restoration and maintaining the integrity and functionality of degraded fragile Ecosystems as well as and following National Targets in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP): National Target: 3.1 By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial and inland water ecosystems in Uganda are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas for socio-economic benefit of the population; National Target 3.2: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems; National Target 3.5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero to reduce degradation; National Target 5.1 By 2020 people are aware of the meaning and values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to use it sustainably and National Target 2.3 By 2019; traditional knowledge and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities integrated into biodiversity conservation and sustainable use at all levels.

Restoring Mt. Moroto CFR is aligned to the intervention on afforestation and re-forestation in NDP that aims at promote implementation of sustainable management of forests through restoration of natural forests on protected and private land. District leaders, district technical staff, National Forestry Authority, the local communities including the Tepeth (the indigenous peoples of Mount Moroto) effectively participated in the restoration and this has created ownership.

Expected outcomes of restoration of degraded fragile ecosystems (forests, wetlands, riverbanks, lakeshores, hilly/mountain areas and rangelands)

Restoration activities contribute to the National Vision 2040 and the national biodiversity targets in the NBSAP: Target 3.2: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems; and; National Target 3.5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero to reduce degradation.

At the global level environmental restoration initiatives contribute to Government's efforts in implementing SDGs Goal 13 on combating climate change and its impacts and Goal 15 on protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combating desertification, and halting and reversing land degradation and halt biodiversity loss. Besides, environmental restoration activities are linked to global Aichi biodiversity targets. For examples, Aichi Target 1 is creating awareness on the values of biodiversity; Aichi Target 7 focuses on sustainable forestry management to promote conservation of biodiversity, Aichi Target 14 is on restoration and safeguarding of ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, taking into account the needs of women,



NEMA together with the communities undertook a restoration exercise of Oliduru Central Forest Reserve where over 1000 indigenous trees mostly the shea butter tree were planted. Photo Credit: Tony Achidria

indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable, and Aichi Target 18 is on the integration of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Moreover, in terms of local environmental integrity and functionality, restoration activities regain the ecological values and functions of the environment (ecosystem services like clean air, micro climate modification, hydrological cycle, flood control) and livelihood assets such water for production and household consumption, food and nutrition such as fishing and fruit trees, livestock grazing, materials for crafts and housing, among other socio-economic benefits.

1.10 Support to community initiatives on value addition and conservation

To promote value addition to ENR goods and services in the national development plan as well as protection of threatened species from extinction. NEMA supported communities on value addition and environmental conservation in the districts of Katakwi, Napak and Nakapiripirit. This intervention supports value addition on ENR while at the same time improving the livelihoods of local communities mainly undertaken by women groups.

This intervention is expected to improve on household income and thus contributing to Government of Uganda target of increasing the per capita income of Ugandans from USD 506 to USD 9,500 by 2040, besides, the National Biodiversity Target 3.3: By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species plants and animals inside and outside protected areas has been prevented and their conservation status improved, National Target 4.1: By 2020, appropriate incentives for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use are in place and applied, National Target 4.2: By 2020 at least 2 partnerships established to ensure that wild harvested plant-based products are sourced sustainably and National Target 5.1: By 2020 people are aware of the meaning and values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to use it sustainably.

Furthermore, this intervention is expected to contribute to the global Aichi biodiversity targets. For examples: Aichi Target 12: By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained; Aichi Target 3: By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socioeconomic conditions;

Aichi Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity; and, Aichi Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

This intervention will also contribute SDGs for example: Goal 1: end poverty in all forms; Goal 5: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; Goal 8: promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; Goal 12: ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns; Goal 13: climate actions and solutions; Goal: 15 protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Box 2: Lessons from community centered approach to restoration

Community engagement to effectively participate in ecosystem management has been proved as an important tool for sustained ecosystems restoration and protection. This has been evidenced by the high rate of recovery and regeneration of ecosystem sites restored using community centered approaches.

Full participation of these resource users through consultations has helped to create ownership of decisions taken and minimizes litigation costs associated with enforcement. However, compliance enforcement and use of a "stick" may not be avoided in specific circumstances where a win-win has not effectively worked.

Community/resource user engagement and consensus building is also important in providing unchallenged evidence of prior community involvement, should legal actions be necessary. This provides a strong ground for successful litigation. Restoration undertaken in consultation with community leaders and stakeholders will mean implementation of efforts that are local based which will also stand a test of time.

1.11 Support to Oil and Gas development in Uganda

NEMA has been a key player in the oil and gas sector by providing critically needed oversight towards the environmental regulatory aspects of the oil & gas industry. There are unprecedented changes that can be triggered by the ongoing activities. There will be economic transformation but environmental changes as well due to the discoveries within or neighboring sensitive ecosystems. Therefore these developments need to be monitored and hence the coordination function as prescribed by the National Environment Act, has led to several entities including the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), National Forestry Authority (NFA), Directorate of Water Resources Management (DWRM), Petroleum Authority of Uganda (PAU), Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry of Fisheries (MAAIF), Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD), Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA), Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), and the Albertine Districts (DLGs) to form a multi-sectoral team that will ensure all oil and gas development are compliant to the law.

The legal and regulatory framework has been updated under the National Environment Act, No. 5 of 2019 sufficiently covering the aspects of the oil & gas sector that were initially missing not adequately provided for in the previous NEA Cap. 153. There are ongoing works to have critical Regulations under this Act accordingly updated, and to further enhance compliance monitoring of the construction activities of the International Airport being constructed at Kabaale in Hoima district – includes attendant activities like quarrying and sand mining. A National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) has been produced for Uganda under the auspice of OPM, in collaboration with NEMA. The Plan was presented to the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) senior management and OPM.

The ESIA's for the critical development phase projects have been reviewed as follows:

- a) Tilenga Project whose environment and social statement (ESIS) approval was issued on 15th April 2019 – after a rigorous review process that included public hearings in Nwoya and Buliisa Districts.
- b) Kingfisher Project ESIA report that is in advanced stages of review with the completion of the public hearings that were held in Kikuube and Hoima Districts, respectively.
- c) The East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) ESIA report that is under review with the completion of a joint review by all Lead Agencies; and awaits public disclosure before public hearings on the same can be held.

Enabling activities for the newly licensed operators in the Albertine Graben have been regulated and facilitated to take place. For example, the Oranto Petroleum Ltd, which was granted the Ngassa Deep and Shallow play licenses, prepared an ESIS that was approved by NEMA for the acquisition of seismic data in the Lake Albert region of Kaiso Tonya; and Hoima District and the Amour Petroleum Ltd has conducted environmental studies in the Kanywataba area, following issuance of a Licence by the Government of Uganda for petroleum exploration in the Ntoroko area.



NEMA Board and Technical Staff visit a restored oil rig site in the Murchison Falls National Park. January 2019. Photo Credit: Tony Achidria.

Expected outcomes from the KRA 1 interventions

- a) Improved case management and litigation service delivery as well as improved compliance to environmental laws and standards by investors/businesses and the community due to surveillances, arrests, prosecutions, and community policing by EPF. Through the support in the development of the ordinances, the capability and capacity of local governments in the enforcement of environmental legislation has been enhanced.
- b) The development of the compliance tools to support implementation of the guideline for mainstreaming ENR into sectoral plans, will enhance coordination by NEMA and also increase funding for ENR management across all sectors.
- c) The new NEA No 5 of, 2019 and regulations therein will provide an enabling legislative regime for environmental enforcement and commencement and while the review of EIAs is expected to promote environmental sustainability within industrial, business and infrastructure development; approval of ESIA has contributed immensely to economic development in terms of infrastructure, industrialization, trade and employment. Improved efficiency in ESIA, permit and licensing review processes have led to improve on their environmental compliance through introduction of internal regulatory systems, new technologies, recycling of wastes and best practices in some industrial facilities such as Hima and Tororo cement industries, Kakira and Lugazi Sugar processing, food processing like Britania and Harris, chemical industries such as Uganda Battery Limited, oil and gas exploration and production infrastructure.
- d) The multi-sectoral monitoring and inspections have contributed to the effective environmental compliance by the hydropower projects and hence leading the commissioning of the Isimba HPP. NEMA further supports the achievements of the investment plan of Government and ensure compliance to environmental standard and laws. Joint oil and gas ESIA reviews provided adequate technical inputs and required information from other sectors/MALGs and thus contributing to timely decision making on the projects through the public hearing sessions that provided more information and recommendations in the ESIA review processes and thus facilitated timely decision making on the projects.
- e) The restored fragile ecosystems have started re-gaining their ecological functions, services and products (livelihood assets) like water, fishing, grass for livestock and housing, flood control and improvement in micro-climate to combat droughts. The gazetted environment inspectors are expected to complement the efforts of NEMA in environmental monitoring, inspections, audit and enforcement.
- f) Studies undertaken are expected to improve on decision making for both environment (ecosystem) management and community livelihood within the areas affected by climate change impacts. Species for value addition in the districts of Katakwi, Napak and Nakapiripirit. This intervention supports environmental conservation while at the same time improving the livelihoods of local communities. Value addition on ENR is mainly undertaken by women groups.

Women groups in Otuke district displaying products from the shea butter tree, a community livelihood enhancement through value addition, June 2018.

Photo Credit:
Francis Ogwai



A young child with dark skin, wearing a yellow short-sleeved shirt and brown shorts, stands barefoot on dry, dusty ground. The child is looking slightly to the right. In the background, there is a traditional structure made of thick wooden poles and a thatched roof. The scene is set in a rural, arid environment with some sparse vegetation and a few scattered items on the ground.

2.0

GREEN ECONOMY
APPROACH TO ENR
MANAGEMENT DEVELOPED
AND PROMOTED

A Homestead
Photo Credit: NEMA.

KRA 2: GREEN ECONOMY APPROACH TO ENR MANAGEMENT DEVELOPED AND PROMOTED

2.1 Support to district local governments

To improve performance in environment and natural resource management, 27 (twenty seven) District Local Governments, namely: Amuria, Kaberamaido, Ngora, Namisindwa under Mbale Regional Office, Kamuli, Buikwe, Mukono, Kassanda and 15 Lower Local Governments (Sub counties) under Central region, Buliisa, Kibaale and Kabarole under Masindi Regional Office, Mbarara, Bushenyi, Ntungamo, Ibanda and Kamwenge under Mbarara Regional Office, Alebtong, Otuke, Lamwo, Agago, Abim, Nabilatuk, Pakwach, Apac, Adjumani, Kwanja, Nebbi, Districts and Kotido Municipal Council in Northern Uganda, were supervised and mentored to address the new and emerging issues under the green economy approach and ensure that they are integrated in the district plans and budgets.

Capacity building of 80 District Natural Resources officers and Environment Officer (30 females and 50 males) was undertaken. The training centered on how to handle environment issues, promote partnerships and networks in Environment management, enhance decentralized environment management functions of the Local Governments, and consequently promote sound environment management.

2.2 Promoting energy efficiency in schools

Training in use of energy efficiency systems was undertaken in Soroti Municipal Council and Nebbi District. The purpose of the trainings was to enable the participants appreciate the use of energy efficient systems. It was also aimed at promoting good practices and behaviour change in terms of utilisation of energy in all its forms. The training mainly targeted members of the senior management committees, school administrators and teachers in charge of an environment related club at school and teacher representatives on the school management committee.

These categories of participants were particularly chosen due to their positions influence in their respective schools. They were urged to ensure that their respective schools integrated energy efficient systems in their budgets particularly on energy saving stoves. A total of 30 participants (23 males and 7 female), were trained in Nebbi District and 74 (46 males and 28 females) participants were trained in Soroti Municipal council. Following the training 2 (two) institutional energy saving stoves were constructed in each of the 7 (seven) primary schools of Amen, Kichinjaji, Madera Boys, and Nakatunya Primary schools in Soroti Municipal council; Agwok, Goli and Parombo primary schools in Nebbi District.

School administrators of the respective schools reported a reduction in the consumption of wood fuel by 50% on average which also reduced the financial expenditure on purchase of wood fuel by approximately 50%. The cooks reported that they experience clean cooking with a reduction in the smoke emitted from the stoves. This is a clear indicator that the sustainable production and consumption principles are being achieved. The schools have adopted the green initiatives, reinstated the environmental clubs.

Furthermore, the stove pavement do not emit heat hence making the surfaces cold and reducing the risk of burns to the persons using them. As a result, many parents have enrolled their children for the school feeding program which has also improved on school attendance, improved nutrition as well as the teaching and learning process.

The long term sustainable plan of the Authority has led to the development of signed commitments by the school administrators (equivalent of MOU) and continued compliance with good environment management practices in the schools. This contributes to government commitment in the NDPIL.



Energy stoves in use by Nakatunya Primary school, March 2019.

Photo Credit: Judith Naluyiima



Senior Education officer (Left) and the Principal Environment Education Coordinator (right) PEEC hands over stoves to Head teacher, DEO - Nebbi District - Mr. Innocent Openyho Nakatunya P/s in Soroti and Chairman PTA hand over the (ESSs) to Mr. Obamba Head teacher of Goli March, 2019. Photo Credit: Judith Naluyiima

Expected outcomes from the KRA 2 interventions

- a) Through the coordination during formulation of policies, guidelines and other environmental laws, progressively, environmental sustainability has been integrated in the policies, plans, programmes and budgets of Local Governments. It was observed that ENR management issues and solutions have been identified for integration during the planning and budgeting cycle. The development of the guidelines for mainstreaming ENR into sector policies and programmes will ensure that ENR issues are integrated into plans and budgets. Thus, the regional budget meetings have also contributed to ensuring that ENR concerns and values are integrated into the national/sector budgeting process.
- b) Continuous support to the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) sites in the 12 municipalities across the country has led to improved solid waste management by the project beneficiary municipal councils. This contributed to the adoption of sustainable consumption and production principles where school administrators testified that there is now remarkable reduction in consumption of wood fuel and which translates into reduced financial expenditure and, clean cooking (no smoke emitted from the stoves). The stove pavements do not emit heat making the surfaces cold and therefore reducing the risk of burns to the persons using them. Many parents have enrolled their children for the school feeding program which has also improved on nutrition as well as the teaching and learning process.
- c) Promoting energy efficiency in schools reduces the use of fuel wood and charcoal and contributes to the National Target in Vision 2040 (restoring the forest cover to 24% and implementation of NDP II objective 1 on restoration and maintaining the integrity and functionality of degraded fragile Ecosystems) This will enhance ecosystem resilience by 2020 and contribute to improved biodiversity to carbon stocks. Through conservation and restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems under NBSAPII under the National Target 3.2 there will be an improvement in the conservation status of the known threatened species plants and animals inside and outside PAs by 2020 leading to a reduction in the loss of all natural habitat and forests to zero by 2020.
- d) At the global level this activity under the CDM contributes to Government effort on implementing SDGs Goal 13 - combating climate change and its impacts and Goal 15 on protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combating desertification, and halting and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss. This activity is also linked to global Aichi biodiversity targets 12 on preventing the extinction of known threatened species, Aichi Target 14 on restoration and safeguarding of ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.

3.0

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT
LITERACY, ACCESS TO
INFORMATION AND
POPULAR PARTICIPATION
ENHANCED

Strong Rock formation.
Photo Credit: Monique Akullo.

KRA 3: STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT LITERACY, ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND POPULAR PARTICIPATION ENHANCED

3.1. Undertake environmental literacy and public education programmes

NEMA has a statutory function of promoting awareness informal, formal and non-formal education sub sector about environment issues. Environmental literacy and public awareness programmes have been conducted in print and digital media programmes, sensitization meetings, and information clinics among others. The target populations have also been varied including educational institutions, local communities especially as part of wetland restoration activities as well as the general public. In FY18/19, awareness creation focused on combating plastic pollution by stopping the use of single use plastics, and air pollution, as well as tackling emerging critical environment issues such as wetland degradation and general environment management.

3.1.1. Enhancing environmental literacy and Public education in educational institutions

The institutions that were targeted for these programmes included these highlighted below.

Merryland High School; the school expressed need for support in environment management planning and implementation in a secondary school setting. It was also a good opportunity to engage the school community in an awareness-raising activity and support the Environment Club of the school to mobilize the rest of the school community to engage in sustainable environment management practices. The activity was conducted in two phases, that is, meeting with the teachers and then the students respectively.

For Kampala International University-Jinja Campus, the students visited NEMA Office and were sensitized on roles of NEMA, its activities as well as issues concerning Kaveera management and other environmental matters. The students under the Uganda Students Union in Kuwait (USUK) also visited NEMA offices. The students comprised both Ugandan University and secondary school students. They were sensitized on the Mandate and role of NEMA with regard to general environment management practices. They were urged to recognize their role in Society and step up their responsibility to change the minds and hearts of the population to exhibit positive action on environment management.

3.1.2. Awareness raising and training of journalists in West Nile region;

The aim of the training was to increase journalists' knowledge and awareness of the importance of environment concepts, topics and problems, and to provide them with long term support in their continuous work on these subjects. This was necessary because the media plays the pivotal role in the public sphere. Media are the one stop center for information and communication. Therefore, issues that are made prominent by journalists and other practitioners in different media influence opinion and discourse in the public sphere. Since the process includes selecting, writing, editing, placing, scheduling and disseminating information, it was imperative that the gatekeeper is abreast and conversant with topical and thematic features of the communication.

Environmental illiteracy among the roles is one of the factors shaping production, dissemination and interpretation of environmental news in the public sphere. majority of **journalists lack knowledge and capacity to report effectively on** environmental issues, many distinct issues and challenges are conflated and confused, thereby skewing public understanding of the environment, environmental management and environmental responsibility in Uganda.

This training activity targeted all media houses from the districts of Adjumani, Arua, Koboko, Maracha, Moyo, Nebbi, Yumbe, and Zombo District. Each media house was represented by a journalist/reporter and a News Editor/Talkshow Host. The training also included bureau chiefs of mainstream media in the region.

3.1.3 Environmental campaign on Kaveera ban

The "**Tuve ku Kaveera**" campaign has been ongoing since FY 2017/18 and is still ongoing. Pilot survey was undertaken by NEMA in schools around Kampala, Mukono and Wakiso, to understand the public perception towards the use, knowledge about the dangers of Kaveera and other aspects about the ban and why it was important to effect it. The findings from the survey in the following schools (Lubiri Senior Secondary School,



*NEMA staff makes a presentation during the sensitization meeting with teachers of Merryland High School October, 2018. **Photo Credit: Judith Naluyiima***

Mengo Senior Secondary School, Naalya Senior Secondary School, Namugongo Senior Secondary School, Kyandondo Senior Secondary School, Vienna College and Namilyango College) indicated that 75% of the respondents were aware about the campaign and were in support of the ban. This was attributed to the awareness done through the media channel of NBSTV and partnership support with Vivo Energy Limited.

The findings further indicated that, disposal of waste in the dust bin and open burning accounts for 73% of common practices which are the least preferred in the principles and practices of sustainable consumption and production (SCP); and the most preferred and desired practices are recycling, re-use, reduction and rejection as seen in Table 6.

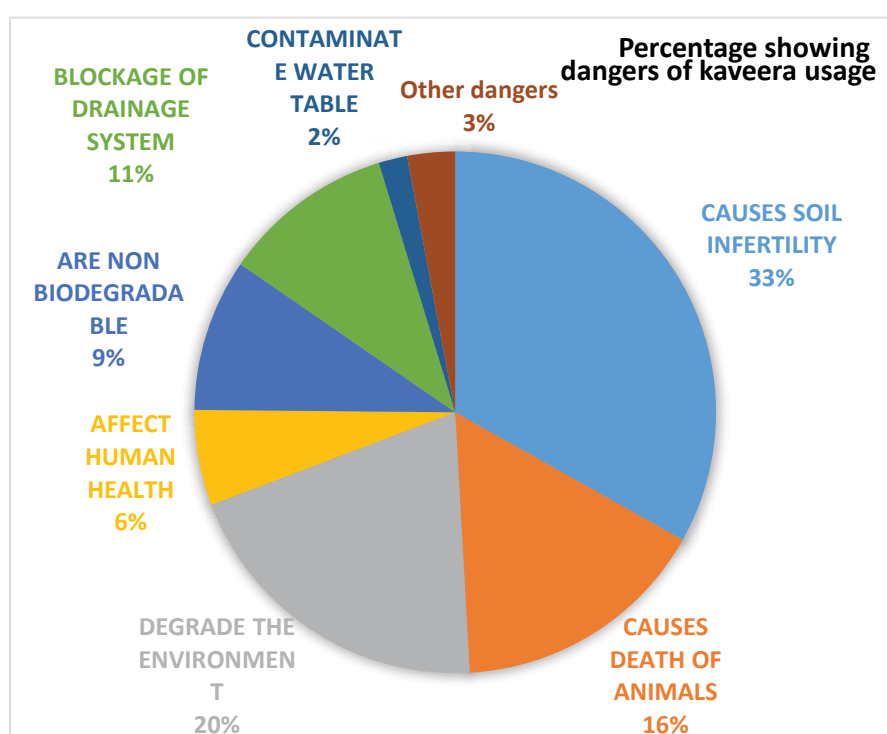
Table 6: Common practices used to manage Kaveera before the campaign

No.	Common practices	Percentage (%)
1	Disposing off in the dustbin	38.2
2	Burning kaveera after use	34.8
3	Keeping kaveera for reuse/recycle	10.8
4	Sensitizing on the dangers of kaveera	1.5
5	Using kaveera alternatives	10.8
6	Setting laws on use of kaveera	2.0
7	Ban use of kaveera at school	2.0
Total		100

Source: NEMA, 2019

62.2% of the respondents had knowledge on the dangers of using Kaveera. This calls for continuous education and awareness programmes on such dangers (environmental and health) in order to cause attitudinal change within the population on the use of Kaveera.

The dangers of the prolonged use of Kaveera to the health of the ecosystems, human beings, aquatic life and the soils as well as below ground biodiversity is very worrying. The pie chart below indicates that soil fertility is affected by Kaveera rated at 33% followed by 20% degradation of the environments. The Government of Uganda should consider total ban of use of Kaveera in support of the agricultural sector development and improve livelihoods.

Figure 6: Danger of Kaveera usage in Uganda

Source: NEMA, 2019

The survey indicated 84% of the schools surveyed had not received the circular sent by Ministry of Education and Sports to ban use of the kaveera in schools. NEMA will make a follow up on this matter. Many schools mostly practice the least preferred methods of burning and dumping waste to recycling, using of alternatives preferred methods of managing kaveera as seen in the Table 7 below. The existing best practices in most schools are good entry points for mass education and awareness programmes on the use of kaveera.

Table 7: Common practices used before the environmental campaign and Ministry of Education and Sports' Circular on ban of Kaveera use

No.	Common practices before the campaign and circular	Percentage (%)
1	Burning after use	21.5
2	Dumping in the dustbin	19.8
3	Use of alternatives	18.0
4	Cleaning the compound	7.0
5	Sorting the rubbish	5.2
6	Sensitizing on proper use	5.2
7	Recycling of kaveera	23.2
Total		100

Source: NEMA, 2019

It is noted that the few schools that had received the circular had taken positive actions on combating the use of Kaveera. 19% of the schools were disposing off the kaveera properly, while 47.6% minimized its usage, 9.5% used alternatives and banned it completely while 14.3% sensitized the school community on its dangers.

The disposal of kaveera is still poor and the least preferred methods like dumping and burning are still in practice. This poses a potential danger to the environment, human health and food production. There need to popularize recycling, re-use, reduction and rejection which are the principles and practices of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)

The "*Tuve ku Kaveera*" campaign has become popular and this has resulted into actions by entities including Ministry of Education and Sport (MoES) and churches that are now promoting recycling and re-using of kaveera. Comments from the public indicate that there is need for continuation of the ban kaveera campaign to promote environment protection. This further supports the implementation for the total ban of the kaveera.

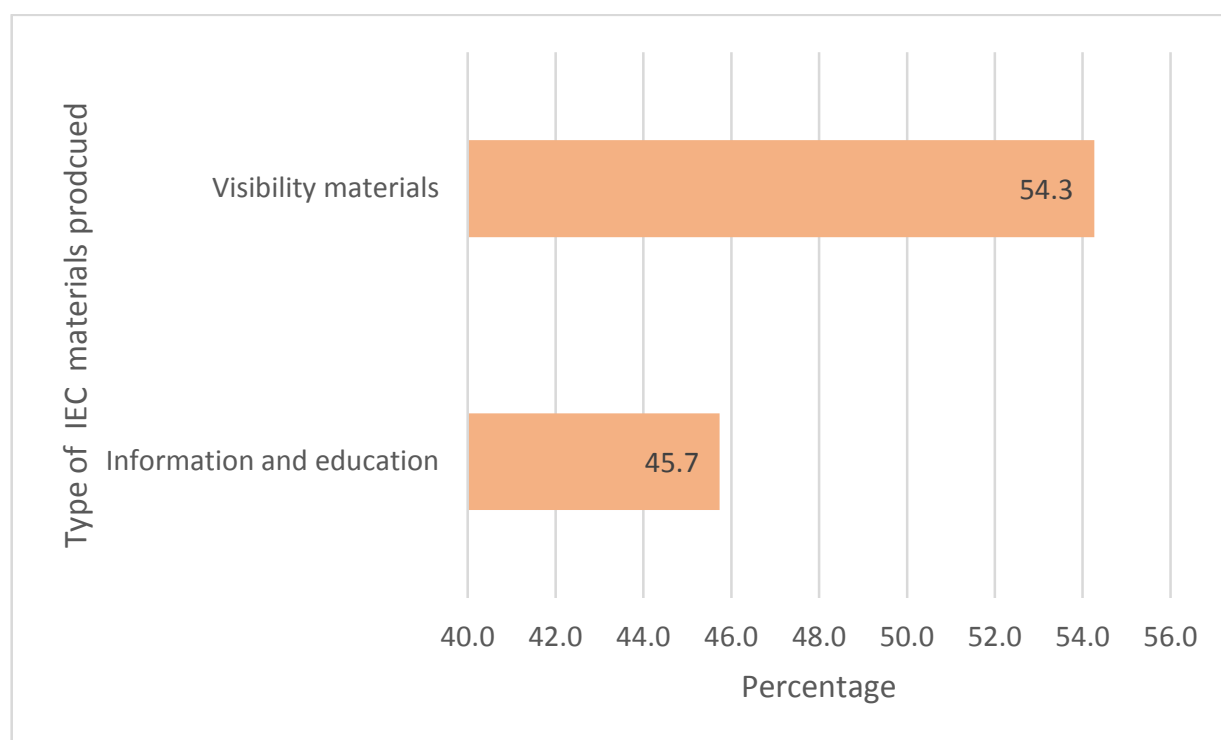


Kaveera contributes to blockage of drainage channels, April 2019. Photo Credit: Tony Achidria

3.1.4 Awareness and publicity

NEMA has continued to create awareness about environment and natural resources management as well as increase its visibility with the public. During FY 2018/19, various information and education materials were produced not only to create awareness but also to mark very important days such as the World Environment Day (WED) celebrations about 500 copies of Information jackets produced, and distributed to target stakeholders. Various IEC materials such as posters, thematic fact sheets, maps, quarterly newsletters, information jackets among others were produced during FY 2018/19 which showed that NEMA focused both on visibility at 54.3% and awareness at 45.7% created as indicated in the figure 7 below.

Figure 7: Information and Environmental Communication (IEC) materials produced in FY 2018/19



Source: NEMA 2019

3.2 Undertake Training of Trainers (TOTs) on integration of ESD into academic and non-academic programmes at all levels of learning.

A total of 5 (five) Training of Trainers (ToTs) were conducted in various institutions, three for primary school teachers and two in Universities.

In Nebbi District 2 (two) ToTs were conducted for primary school teachers where 218 (39 female and 179 male) participated. Prior to this, a baseline survey was conducted in 10 Primary Schools in the same District to establish the state of environment management practices. Another training was conducted in Moroto District, where 41 teachers (22 males and 19 females) participated.

In tertiary institutions, 2 (two) ToTs were conducted in Soroti University and Muteesa I Royal University. In Soroti University 34 (thirty four (24 males and 10 females) participants attended. In Muteesa I Royal University 24 participants (16 males and 8 females) attended.

The main output of the training was the commitment to development environment management policy for the institutions. This would guide environment management activities in the higher institutions of learning.



TOT in Moroto District - June, 2019



TOT at Soroti University - January, 2019



TOT in Nebbi District - November, 2018

Photo Credit: Aidan Asekenye

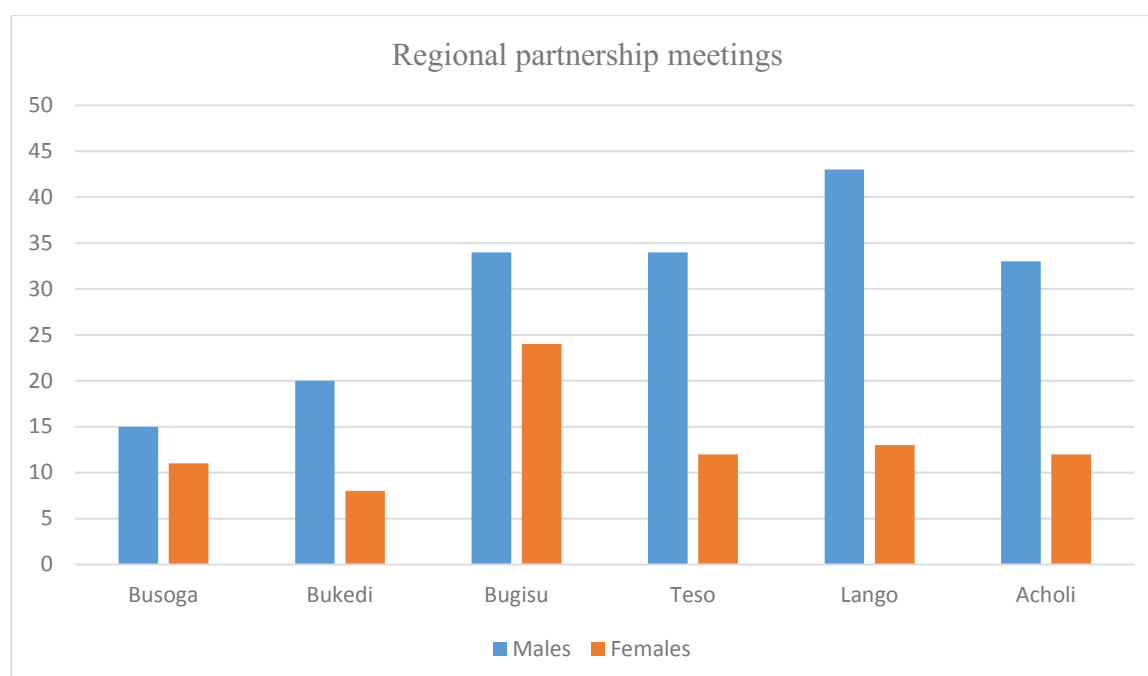
Follow-up visits and sensitization meetings were conducted at Ndejje University and Islamic University of Uganda in Mbale District respectively. The purpose of these engagements was to strengthen partnerships and enhance environment management activities/projects.

3.3 Implement the ESD strategy in schools and other learning institutions.

Partnership meetings were held in the districts and municipalities of 5 (five) sub-regions with education managers in Districts and these included District Education Officers, District Inspectors of schools and Centre Coordinating Tutors (CCTs) and Environment officers. These categories of managers were targeted because they oversee both administrative and academic aspects of institutions and influence policy in education institutions. The Environment Officers of the districts/municipalities in the respective regions also formed part of the team. This was meant to link them up and to support education managers to enhance environmental management in their institutions.

Table 8: Partnership meetings held with District Education managers and environment officers in selected region across Uganda

Sub-Region	District /Municipalities	Total number of participants	Male	Female
Busoga	Jinja, Jinja Municipal council, Namutumba, Namayingo Mayuge Kamuli, Iganga, and Iganga municipal council	26	15	11
Bukedi	Butaleja, Tororo, Tororo Municipality, Busia and Busia Municipality	28	20	8
Bugisu	Mbale, Mbale Municipality, Kapchorwa, Budadiri, Bududa Kween, Manafa, Sironko, Budaka, Pallisa, Kibuku, Bukwo),	58	34	24
Teso	Soroti, Soroti Municipality, Katakwi, Kumi, Kumi Municipality Ngora, Kapelebyong, Bukedea Serere, Katakwi, Amuria and Kaberamaido.	46	34	12
Lango	Lira,Lira municipality, Alebtong, Otuke, Oyam, Apac, Apac municipality, Dokolo, Amolatar, Kole, kwanja and Agago).	56	43	13
Acholi	Gulu, Gulu Municipality, Omoro, Amuru, Kitgum, Pader, Lamwo and Nwoya).	45	33	12
Total		259	179	80

*Source: DSCPE, 2019***Figure 8: Male and Female participation in Sub – Regional partnership meetings***Source. DSCPE, 2019*

The engagements of the education managers in these partnership meetings have resulted in rejuvenation of environment clubs in schools, undertaking of greening initiatives, commitment to integrate environmental aspects into the inspection tools of education managers as well as the performance appraisal forms of the head teachers. As shown in figure 8, there was inclusive participation of both males and females, however, the number of men participating in partnership meeting were more by 69.1% than women which was 30.9%. This calls for more gender analysis to understand why few women are engaging in partnership meeting.



Partnership meetings in Lango – sub region, June, 2019. Photo Credit: Judith Naluyiima.

3.4 Produce Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials

Development of/planning for, production and dissemination of IEC materials and publications aims at enhancing access to environmental information, education and public participation among the target stakeholders at national, local government and community levels; as well as enhancing the image and visibility of NEMA through publishing of its interventions and results; and to consolidate the source of information for educational institutions, libraries and resources centres, among others.

Various materials were produced and distributed periodically to NEMA staff and target stakeholders at different for a, and on request by interested parties. A wide range of the materials produced were based on different thematic areas; The outcome of the section therefore was increased access to and use of NEMA information materials, enhanced knowledge and understanding of Environment issues, enhanced partnerships and increased public participation; among others; Details of the information materials are highlighted below:

3.4.1 NEMA Corporate materials

At least 2000 copies of NEMA Calendar for the year 2018, portraying key institutional achievements throughout 2018, were produced and distributed to target stakeholders, 350 copies of NEMA Customized Diary (2018), and 500 copies of the NEMA Christmas card (2018) were produced and distributed to target stakeholders.

3.4.2 NEMA Information, Education, Promotional and Publicity Materials

Various types of Promotional materials were produced and distributed to stakeholders especially during World Environment Day (WED). These included 1445 Rounded-neck T-shirts, and 200 Bandanas/cloth caps for school children.

In addition, 500 copies of booklets were produced and distributed to target stakeholders during the WED 2019 National celebrations, and the booklet highlighted the WED proceedings, the speeches, UN Secretary General's message, and Moroto District State of Environment Report (DSOER), among others. 4 Sticker-on, Forex boards were produced as exhibition materials highlighting "**Fight Air Pollution to Protect Human Health and The Environment**". Also 6 pieces of banners highlighting the WED theme and venue produced and hosted in Kampala and Moroto during the WED 2019 National celebrations 6 tear drops, 5 pop-up stands, 2300 stickers; and 2000 fact sheets highlighting the WED 2019 theme were produced, Additional information education materials on different thematic areas produced and distributed to target stakeholders and included 4000 brochures; 500 copies of information jackets; 1500 posters on air pollution; 300 invitation cards for target stakeholders; 2 Corporate Banners and 1 Corporate Back-drop.

3.4.3 NEMA Quarterly Newsletter

A total of 5000 copies of the NEMA Quarterly Newsletter (containing different topics/ issues) were produced and distributed to target stakeholders highlighting different quarterly institutional achievements realized in the specified quarter of FY 2018/19 for example the WED 2019; partners' highlights, opinions and related activities.



BOX 3: World Environment Day (WED) in Uganda

The Objectives of these celebrations

- 1) To raise awareness of environment and specific environmental issues.
- 2) To Network with different stakeholders and device strategies of enhancing best practices in environment management.
- 3) To develop, produce Information and Communication materials for distribution to the public.

Expected Output

- a) Collaborating and empowering DLGs to enhance environmental management practices.
- b) Creating Visibility of NEMA and communicating the achievements of the Organisation to the general public.
- c) Awareness campaigns through mobilisation of the community to participate in Pre-WED activities such as tree planting and Cleaning exercise.
- d) Strengthening the Networks in Environment Management with different Stakeholders.

3.5 World Environment Day (WED) Celebrations for 2019

The National celebrations of the World environment day is one of the biggest awareness events for NEMA. On June 5th, Uganda joined the rest of the international community to celebrate World Environment Day. World Environment Day (WED) is the United Nations' principal vehicle for enhancing worldwide awareness and action for the environment management through the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

WED celebrations is a platform used by NEMA to raise national awareness of the need to take positive action towards conserving the environment. It also serves as an opportunity for the general public to exhibit individual responsibility of managing the environment properly to ensure sustainable development while tapping on the scarce natural resources.

The International WED celebrations took place in China under the Global theme of "Air Pollution". However in Uganda the theme was locally tailored to "Fight Air pollution to protect Human Health and Environment". Globally, World Environment Day 2019 urged governments, industry, communities, and individuals to come together to explore renewable energy and green technologies, and improve air quality in cities and regions across the world.

WED 2019 Celebrations in Uganda were hosted by Moroto District part of Karamoja sub regions which is located at the foot of Mountain Moroto in North Eastern Uganda.

In Moroto District, the activities that marked WED celebrations included; Public education: Press conferences; TV/Radio Talk shows, adverts, spot environmental messages, programmes, discussions particularly in Moroto District; Newspaper supplements published and related sensitization activities. Production of different IEC materials including a newsletter, posters, fact sheets, booklets, and stickers, tree planting and restoration activities. Exhibitions of environmentally friendly activities and products, National Environment Awards, a clean-up activities were undertaken in Moroto Municipality. World Environment Day celebrations also included speeches, music and drama performances on environment matters, a march-past, and as detailed in pictorials.



Pictorials of World Environment Day (WED) activities - held on June 2019



*The match past
date 5th June 2019
in Moroto District*



*French ambassador plants
a tree on 5th June, 2019*



Executive Director NEMA plants a tree on 5th June, 2019



*Entertainment
caravan
marching*

3.6 Environmental Information

Capacity building of local government officials and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) on the use of EIN developed tools for monitoring potential impacts of oil and gas activities on the environment was undertaken to share knowledge and experience on the activities carried out by the Environment Information Network (EIN) and to equip the Local Government Officials and CSOs with technical skills in using the developed monitoring and data collection tools intended to help measure the degree and quality of change and track the impact of oil and gas related developments to the environment. 35 government entities (20 male and 15 female) were trained on how on the development and management of core datasets such as data on wetlands, forests, protected areas and many more, to facilitate open access to environmental information /data and sharing of information at National level and how to develop information management tools, collate data and other data products from existing data sources.

The production of the 13th National State of Environment Report (NSOER) was commenced in FY 2018/19 with inception, stakeholder review and thematic working group meetings held to collect, collate, review and update information that will provide the Authority will information to inform future decision making. The report will be completed in FY 2019/20.

This will enable that government achieve its planned targets in the NDP II as well as achieve the global targets of the SDGs. In the process, Uganda hopes to have resource user co-operation enhanced, assisting the community in identifying untapped resources and promoting their sustainable utilization, strengthening indigenous, administrative and political skills relevant to ENR Management, influencing behavioral and attitude change for better ENR Management and enhancing sustainability of ENR Management projects.

3.7 Access to the NEMA library

The NEMA library is the only environment library in Uganda and has steadily seen an increase in the number of students and the public increase to 377 persons (271 males (71.9%) and 106 females (28.1%). The majority of the clients are students from the Universities, environment Practitioners, Members of Parliament, students from secondary and primary schools as well as teachers from institutions and colleges.

The most consulted subject area was Environmental Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) which had a total of 50 queries during the financial year 2018/19. During the third (3rd) quarter of the FY (January – June) the Library started a new system of capturing more information about its clients, this included level of education, gender, and other categories. Quick and improved information retrieval has also enhanced the use of the Library leading to more readers coming to the Library to do research. The library has seen more male users as compared to the female users.

3.8 Support to district environment information resource centres

Restocking of the district environment information resource centers has been ongoing for the FY 2018/19 and a total of 72 districts have been supported with various information materials such as EIA reports, NEMA publications, shelves, chairs, cabinets, notice boards among others.

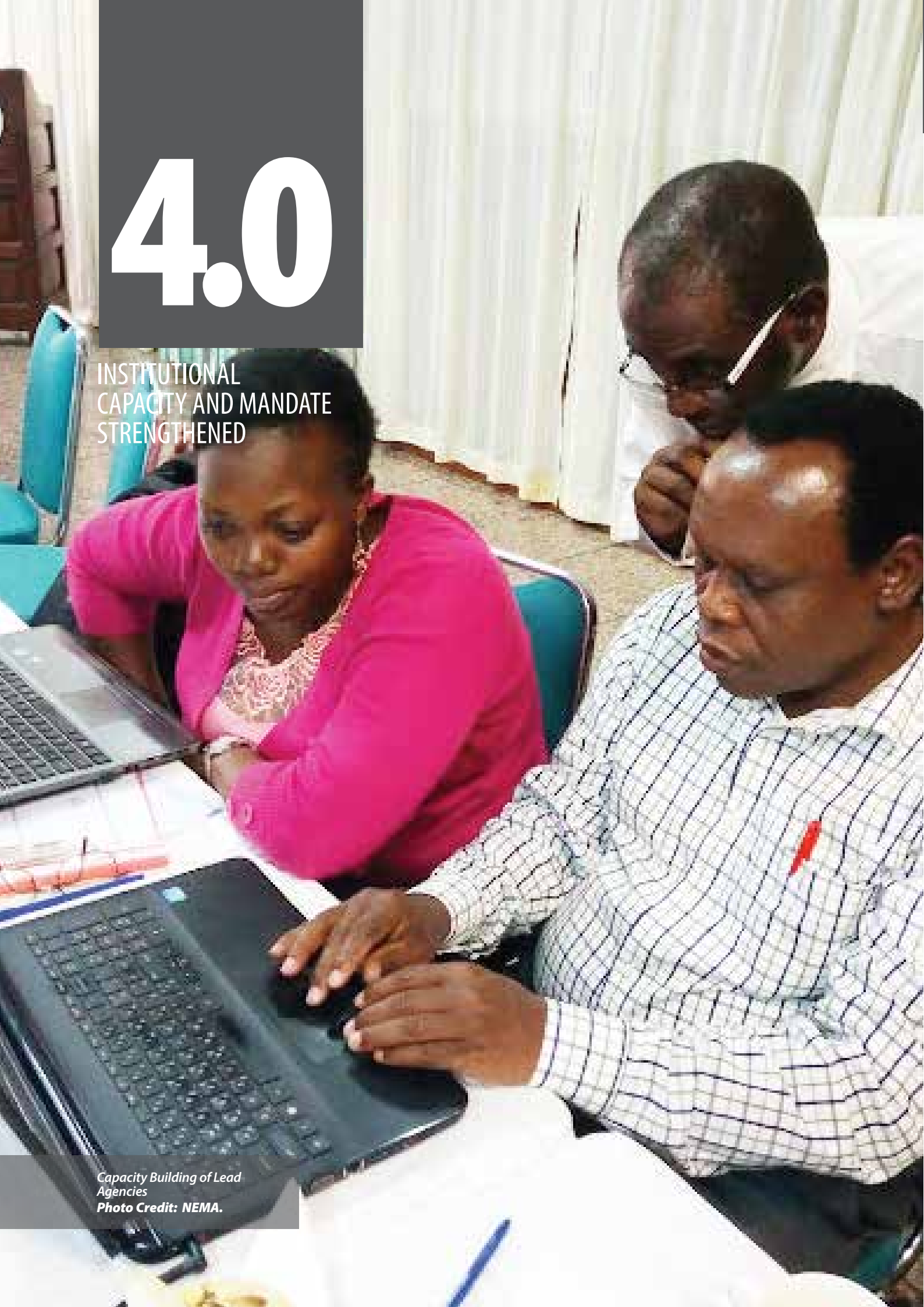
Expected outcomes from the KRA 3 interventions

- a) Increased access to environmental information for public education and awareness progressively achieved after schools have undertaking greening initiatives, reinstated/ rejuvenated environment clubs integration of environmental aspects in the inspection tools of education managers and environmental aspects included in the performance appraisal forms of the head teachers.
- b) The celebrations of the World Environment Day in June 2019, promotes partnership with MALGs, CSOs, the private sector, schools/academic institutions, the development partners, community and the media. This contributes to biodiversity conservation through the restoration of the degraded fragile ecosystems like tree planting, as well as improving information sharing. All this is envisaged to support the long term vision in achieving the NRM 2016-2021 manifesto.

- c) The Authority biannually produces the National State of Environment report (NSOER) so as to increase access to environmental information, education and awareness in all sectors. In addition the environmental campaign to ban usage of the polythene bags has provided information on the dangers of kaveera and the existing alternatives. It has also contributed to further actions by Ministry of Education and Sports to impose a ban on the use of kaveera in schools, the Anglican and Catholic churches too banned kaveera during Martyrs' day at Namugongo shrines.
 - d) These Executive outreach programmes are expected to promote good relationships among institutions and stakeholders for better environmental stewardship, increased access to environmental information, education and awareness.
 - e) Finally the baseline information collected by the Environment Information Network (EIN); produced two bulletins that have been disseminated through the EIN news bulletins. This will improve access to environmental information in local governments and the wider public.
-

4.0

INSTITUTIONAL
CAPACITY AND MANDATE
STRENGTHENED



*Capacity Building of Lead
Agencies*
Photo Credit: NEMA.

KRA 4: INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY AND MANDATE STRENGTHENED

4.1 Staffing at NEMA

To effectively carry out NEMA's institutional mandate, the Human Resource and Management office advertised vacant positions and successful candidates were given appointment letters. 10 short-term contract staff were given long-term 5 year contracts. Currently the total number of staff including donor funded project staff at the Authority is at 173 (98 male and 67 female) with 8 vacant positions yet to be filled. The staffing level have increased from the previous financial year 2017/18. The Board approved additional personnel under the oil and gas department to enable the Authority undertake effective management of increasing oil and gas developments in the country.

During the FY2018/19, new individual staff performance tools were developed to improve staff performance management system. This enhances the process of measuring and reviewing the performance of each individual staff; and support monitoring and reviewing staff performance throughout the year. In addition, reforms regarding Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS) and Integrated Personnel and Payroll System (IPPS) were embraced by Top Management.

4.2 Office space

The increase in the staff numbers has led to improved performance of the Authority where the key national indicator matrix performance indicators have steadily improved from 1200ha in FY2017/18 to 4000ha in FY 2018/19.

Currently NEMA House has undergone repairs and replacements to enable the staff work. However, office space has become a challenge and as the result, there is need to rent more space in the interim, expand the NEMA House by altering the available designs or acquire land within the Kampala metropolitan area and build new office block complex.

4.3 Fleet management

The vehicle fleet unit at the Authority has a total of 34 vehicles in good mechanical condition and 2 additional vehicles were procured. These include a 14 seater minibus and one cabin pickup. All the vehicles are comprehensively insured with the National Insurance Corporation Limited. In the event of accidents, repairs and compensation have been done in a timely manner, however, there is need to digitize vehicle management system in order to track their movements and to enhance accurate reporting as well as have driver undertake refresher courses for the drivers to enhance their performance and handling of the vehicle fleet.

4.4 Budget performance in FY2018/19

NEMA received **Ugx 26,175,965,942** in FY2018/19 and spent **Ugx 25,911,037,334 (98%)** as seen in table 9 below.

Table 9: Finance performance of NEMA in FY 2018/19

Annual Budget (Ug shs)		Cumulative Releases (Ug shs)	Cumulative Expenditure (Ug shs)
GoU	14,604,598,264	14,366,979,606	14,119,050,998
Donor/Development	915,352,994	677,734,336	660,734,336
NTR/AIA	11,731,157,000	11,131,252,000	11,131,252,000
Total	27,251,108,258	26,175,965,942	25,911,037,334

Source: Finance and Administration Dept. 2019

4.5 Monitoring and Evaluation of projects and activities

The monitoring and evaluation section in NEMA undertook routine/ and quarterly internal monitoring in 36 districts where interventions are being undertaken by NEMA during FY 2018/19. Monitoring was also done in

facilities for projects approved by NEMA, restored sites, municipal waste management (under CDM) sites, assessed implementation of ordinance at local government level, decentralization of environment management, and development/donor funded projects under implementation by Lead Agencies in collaboration with NEMA. The districts monitored in table 10 below were.

Table 10: District monitored in FY 2018/19

Districts	Focus of performance monitoring and review	Projects - Restored sites, CDM and Conservation projects	Approved ESIA and inspection	Refugees, review decentralized environment management and oil and gas
Districts	i. Projects - Restored sites, CDM and Conservation projects ii. Approved ESIA and inspection iii. Refugees, review decentralized environment management and oil and gas	Kabarole, Kasese, Ntungamo, Mbarara, Mitooma, Buhweju, Kabarole, Fort Portal, Wakiso, Mukono, Jinja, Mbale, Soroti, Ruhama site, Kachera site, Kotido, Kaabong, Kitgum, Otukey, Agago, Masindi and Hoima.	Mbale, Wakiso, Mukono, Buikwe, Lira, and Jinja.	Lira, Pader, Amuru, Adjumani, Moyo, Koboko, Yumbe, Nebbi, Pachwach, Arua, Zombo, Maracha, Masindi, Hoima, Buliisa, and Moroto.

Source: Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, 2019

Expected outcomes from the KRA 4 interventions

- Internal audit and monitoring reports submitted to the Board, and actions taken by Top Management indicate that there is optimal allocation of resources due to accountable and transparent planning and statutory performance reporting systems at NEMA; and, this has enhanced access to financial management reports, improved staff performance and organizational efficiency.
- The dissemination of and sensitization on the Human Resource Manual (HRM) are expected to create awareness on the duties responsibilities/obligations and privileges of staff. This has reduced staffing gaps and has further motivated staff, and enhanced performance. The office has been able to identify weakness/needs and opportunities for action planning.
- Project proposal development is expected to improve on resource mobilization and financing mechanisms for NEMA as well as the mobility of staff to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in NEMA operations. The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) procured will provide assurance with regard to occupational health and safety (OHS) for staff while in the field for project and environmental monitoring, inspections, audit and enforcement. In addition, the new office furniture and equipment will provide enabling environment staff functionality and for service delivery.
- During the field visits the Board led to the identification some environmental issues which were incorporated into actions to be performed by NEMA and the respective Lead Agencies.

5.0

NATIONAL, REGIONAL
AND INTERNATIONAL
PARTNERSHIPS
STRENGTHENED



Regional Meeting with District
Photo Credit: NEMA.

KRA 5: NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS STRENGTHENED**5.1 Implementation of the Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs)**

The Authority coordinates a number of Multilateral Environment Agreement (MEAs) for which Uganda is party to. Among them include; the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Stockholm Convention, Basel Convention, Minamata Convention, Basel Convention, and the Vienna Convention/Montreal Protocol. The MEAs are mainstreamed/integrated into the annual works of the Authority and are implemented through Key Performance Areas (KPAs) according to annual work plans and budgeted within funding from Government of Uganda.

Annex 1 Shows the summary of outputs achieved between FY 2017/18 and FY2018/19.

5.2 Support Resource Mobilization

Uganda completed the project proposal for a Global Environment Facility (GEF6) project on Institutional Capacity Strengthening for Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing. The Project approval GEF Council is expected in Oct/November and implementation is expected to start in early 2020.

Two (2) fundable projects have been initiated and are to be developed into project concepts. Below are:

- i. Reducing environmental degradation in the Mt Elgon Ecosystems through ecosystem restoration and sustainable land management (to be funded by GEF by GEF7 Replenishment window). It is a multi-focal area project on biodiversity, climate change and sustainable land management.
- ii. Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between NEMA (Uganda) and the Department of Environmental Affairs (Malawi). A national taskforce has been instituted. The two countries will develop a joint project proposal with support from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity under the Bio-Bridge Initiative. Uganda has prioritized valuation of wetlands.

A project on Integrating Natural Capital into Sustainable Development Decision Making in Uganda was completed and approved by the Darwin Initiative, the donor supporting the project. The output will assist Government in achieving cooperation with international institutions in Environmental management in the National Vision 2040.

In addition realization of the following national biodiversity targets: National Target **7.2:** By 2017, finance resources for effectively implementing NBSAPII is increased by 10% from the current level, **National Target:** By 2018, new financing mechanisms are operational and new funding mobilized for biodiversity conservation, the Global Aichi biodiversity **20:** By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization should increase substantially from the current levels and the SDG Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

5.3 Private sector engagement

Eighty (80) participants from the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) were trained out of which 25 percent constituted female participation in the Kigezi sub-region, on the most practical ways of ensuring that environmental concerns are integrated; in their development plans to foster sustainable environment management practices.

The participants included of district environmental officials, private sector and persons from civil society organizations concerned with ecosystems and catchment areas in the Kigezi region (Kabale, Rukungiri, Kisoro, Rubanda and Rukiga Districts). Key points to note were that conservation initiatives coupled incentives and awarded the recognition they deserve. NEMA, local governments and CSO/NGOs should make follow-ups on presidential directive on restoration of eviction of abusers, operationalize the environmental tribunals that can handle environment/people who commit environmental crimes/abusers. CSOs/NGOs NEMA engagements should interact biannually to monitor effectiveness, NEMA should also coordinate the funding mechanism of CSOs/NGOs and line ministries and agencies and should develop an advocacy mechanism of bringing national and district leaders on board in management of environment.



*Capacity building
of CSO in Kigezi
sub-region
June 2019.
Photo Credit:
**Godwin
Kamugisha***

5.4 Global Partnerships

NEMA participated in Technical Meeting and Conference of Parties (COPs) particularly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Minamata, Montreal protocol, CBD, Stockholm, and United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) among others. Uganda (and Canada) designated co-chair of the Open-Ended Working Group for the development of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. **Annex 1** shows the summary of outputs achieved between FY 2017/18 and FY2018/19.

Expected outcomes from the KRA 5 interventions

- a) Partnership for sustainable development involving CSOs has been strengthened and there are commendable improvements made at regional level partnership for ENR management especially in regard to cross-border environmental resources including water bodies, wetlands, forests and other ecosystems. This has led to improved resource mobilization through MEAs especially for biodiversity conservation and sound chemical management.
- b) The remarkable achievements have attained visibility of the country and the Authority at the global regional, and national engagements and more development projects are being developed in collaboration with Uganda, NEMA and other Lead Agencies.
- c) Uganda (and Canada) have been designated co-chair of the open-ended working group for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Uganda was chosen to show case Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in addressing climate change through restoration of the degraded fragile ecosystems. NEMA has been chosen to spear-head and steer blue economy initiatives in Uganda.
- d) All the above activities will enhance skills of the participants in day to day management/decision making and international negotiations. This will also improve network and partnership for the implementation of SDGs.

6.0

GENDER, ENVIRONMENT
AND NATURAL RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT



*Tea growing providing
employment to both male
and female.
Photo Credit: NEMA.*

6. GENDER, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

NEMA has continued to engender its activities through having inclusive participation of men, women, boys, girls, as well as youth and the elderly categories. In FY 2018/19, schools were engaged in improving their awareness in ENR management through supporting their energy efficiency. Capacity building, technical meetings, community/baraza meetings are among the various activities NEMA undertook and it has observed that there has been a balanced and fair participation of men and women in technical/decision making meeting as seen in Table 11 below. The gender disparities during this FY2018/19 is particularly seen in regional partnership meeting held, where 69.1% and 30.9% of men and women were engaged respectively as seen in Table 8. There is equal access to NEMA facilities by both men and women including the NEMA library however, women are accessing environmental information more than men as seen below.

Table 11: Inclusive participation of men and women in ENR by NEMA in FY2018/19

NEMA activities in FY 2018/19	Male - %	Female- %
Training/capacity building in ENR Mgt.	37.0	38.4
Board room discussions/Technical meetings	32.9	37.8
Community meeting/barazas	25.4	18.2
Access to NEMA library facilities/services	3.4	3.4
Access to environmental information	1.3	2.2
Total	100.0	100.0

Source: NEMA, 2019

7. KEY CHALLENGES

- a) Failure by LGs to undertake enforcement and restoration follow up after NEMA intervention especially the restored fragile ecosystems. This is due to limited and adequate funding of the DLGs.
- b) Limited logistical support to extend to regional offices to undertake ENR work within the regions. This include staff, EPF, vehicles among others.

8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- i. The Government of Uganda should enhance the capacity of local governments and other Lead Agencies in environment and natural resources management by providing adequate conditional grant for project support especially restoration of fragile ecosystems, enforcement, public education programmes, staffing, skilling/training and equipment.
- ii. The new National Environment Management Policy and the National Environment Act, 2019 are expected to improve on institutional synergies and coordination especially in regard to enforcement.
- iii. Continuous public education, awareness and literacy programmes to break-through the existing apathy and ensure that the people of Uganda and other stakeholders acknowledge and appreciate their roles and responsibilities to protect and conserve the environment for the current and future generations.

ANNEX 1

SUMMARY REPORTS ON MULTI - LATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS (MEAs)/CONVENTIONS AND KEY INTERNATIONAL/GLOBAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES IN FY 2017/18 - FY2018/19



Conferences of Parties (COPS) To the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, April 2018. Photo Credits: Enid Turyakihayo.

ANNEX 1: SUMMARY REPORTS ON MULTI - LATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS (MEAs)/ CONVENTIONS AND KEY INTERNATIONAL/GLOBAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES IN FY 2017/18 - FY2018/19

Name of MEA/ Convention and dates of commencement and ratification	Focus interventions/ Projects	Key outcomes (achieved/expected)	Policy actions or recommendations required from Government of Uganda
<p>Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Nagoya Protocol Genetic Resources for Access and Benefit Sharing</p> <p>Commencement date: 29th December 1993.</p> <p>Uganda signed the CBD on 12th June 1992</p> <p>Ratification Date: 8th September 1993</p> <p>Focus area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity) ii. The Sustainable use of biodiversity components iii. The fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Carried out policy and legal reforms. ii. Built institutional capacity through training, experience sharing and lesson learning. iii. Integrated biodiversity into the National Development Framework like the National Development Plan, Sector and Local government Development Plans. iv. Produced and disseminated information on biodiversity. v. Established networks and partnership for biodiversity conservation among stakeholders. vi. Carried out research on biodiversity conservation. vii. Reviewed, and updated the National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (NBSAPII) viii. Financial resource mobilization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Contribution to policy and legal reforms for biodiversity conservation in Uganda as indicated in the current National Environment Management Policy and the National Environment Act 2019; and other relevant sector policies and laws like the National Genetic Engineering Act, 2019. ii. Improved institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation through training and meeting where a number of Ministries, Agencies and Local Governments, as well as non-state actors have benefited. These include MDAs like MWE, MFPED, MTWA, MAAIF, MOLG, MGSLD, NFA, UWA, UBOS, NPA, UWCEC, Academia such Makerere University among others and selected local governments. iii. Biodiversity conservation integrated into the NDPII. iv. Enhance access to biodiversity information through the clearing house mechanism, IEC material, projects and reports v. Strengthened stakeholder's coordination and synergies especially among the MALGs, Academia, private sector, civil society, Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) development partners and media through partnerships and projects. Besides partnerships have developed at both regional and international levels through the COPs, other fora and projects. vi. Research on biodiversity like framework on sharing biodiversity information, taxonomy capacity needs for Uganda, conservation of medicinal plants in Uganda, policy and institutional review, biodiversity expenditure, finance needs assessments, biodiversity finance plan, guidelines for financing biodiversity in Uganda among others. vii. The review of NBSAPII led to the development and implementation of the following projects; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIOFIN – USD 530,000 • CONNECT project – 5 million USD • RIO Conventions project – 900,000 USD • Upcoming ABS project – 3.3 million USD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The need to prioritize biodiversity conservation in terms of financial support for environment integrity, ecosystem services and economic development. ii. This therefore call for effective integration and mainstreaming of biodiversity at both national and local government levels during development planning and budgeting processes.

Building Transformative Policy and Financing Frameworks to	The project has been implemented successfully.	i.	A framework for mainstreaming biodiversity into national development and sectoral planning developed.	i. Address the root cause (drivers) of forest and wetland degradation.
Increase Investment in Biodiversity Management (BIOFIN) (2015–2019)		ii.	A methodology for assessing a country's biodiversity financing needs, a biodiversity expenditure review (BER) report and a finance needs assessment (FNA) generated.	ii. Monitor the performance of biodiversity investment, and ensure that the investments are scored in line with the NBSAPII, and NDF and sector plans.
The goal of the project is to “assist countries in transforming national biodiversity financing and thereby enabling them implement the NBSAP and achieve the Aichi Targets” while its objective is to “assist developing countries in identifying, accessing, combining and sequencing sources of biodiversity funding to meet their specific needs hence closing the global financing gaps for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity”.		iii.	8 financing solutions developed as the National Biodiversity Finance Plan (NBFP) to enable NBSAPII implementation.	

<p>Conservation and sustainable use of the threatened savannah woodlands in the Kidepo Critical Landscape project (KCL) (2015- 2019)</p> <p>Focus: Strengthening management effectiveness of the Kidepo Critical Landscape (KCL) protected area system (comprising of Kidepo Valley National Park, Karenga Community Wildlife Area and Central forest reserves of Timu, Morungole, Lwala, Orom, Nyangea Napore and Zulia) and integrating protected area management in a wider landscape. This was achieved through conservation of biodiversity inside and outside protected areas in KCL.</p>	<p>The project has been implemented as planned.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. A security and enforcement system with a platform for information sharing and intelligence gathering among parks and other institutions; with databases was established. ii. A business and finance plan was developed, approved and is being implemented. iii. 120 UWA and NFA rangers, including 30 NFA staff and UWA administration staff (90 men and 60 women) were trained in planning, administration, conflict resolution, policing and enforcement. iv. Operational updated data on shea tree resources and wildlife was generated including identification and implementation of sustainable use options for Shea tree resources and wildlife. v. A mechanism for enhancing sustainable management of Kidepo critical landscape (a landscape level coordination and institutional governance system) was put in place. vi. Competence and staff skills of Local Governments to monitor and enforce laws on sustainable hunting and sustainable use of Shea tree resources in project districts was enhanced. vii. Employment and income generation among rural women in project districts was increased through training on diversification and standardization of shea products and putting in place measures for improving market access for Shea products. viii. A District coordination mechanism in the project districts was put in place to ensure that biodiversity management in National Parks, Central forest reserves and wildlife migration corridors and dispersal areas is factored into integrated decision-making governing land-use management. ix. A management plan and regulations on biodiversity-friendly management in blocks identified as critical for wildlife dispersal was developed and is being implemented by local governments. x. District ordinances and community by-laws on the harvest of Shea trees and wildlife hunting in project districts were developed. xi. Market promotion of shea butter products through district market information and value addition initiatives. xii. Research and studies on value addition to the shea butter and gender analysis. 	<p>The need to support local government to maintain and sustain the results of the project through planning and budgeting for up scaling of the project activities. Besides provision of operational and maintenance of the facilities supported by the project.</p>
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<p>Strengthening Institutional Capacity for Effective Implementation of Rio Conventions in Uganda. (2017 – 2021)</p> <p>Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Strengthen Institutional Capacity for effective implementation of Rio Conventions in Uganda ii. Improve on institutional coordination through strengthening linkages and synergies among the MEAs in Uganda iii. Develop individual capacities and institutional frameworks in the NEMA, MAAIF, and MWE for improved implementation of environmental impacts and trends for the elaboration of collaborative natural resources management. iv. Enhance national capacities to deliver and sustain global environmental outcomes within the framework of sustainable development priorities. 	<p>Project implementation is ongoing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Strengthened and elaborated national institutional framework for managing the environment and natural resources. ii) Technical and management staff sufficiently trained in monitoring and data analysis, and linkage to decision-making processes. iii) An improved national system to manage (i.e. collect, store and access) data and information-that supports monitoring and implementations of Rio Conventions. 	<p>Need for capacity building, public education and awareness about the RIO conventions to promote inclusiveness and support from government.</p>
<p>CONNECT Project 'Mainstreaming Biodiversity Information into the heart of government decision-making'.</p> <p>Focus:</p> <p>To help achieve sustainable development by bringing biodiversity information into the Heart of Government decision making, using actionable biodiversity information. The objective of the project is to ensure biodiversity is taken into account in decision making across Government sectors by improving end-users' access to and use of biodiversity information and embedding biodiversity information within national development decision making processes.</p>	<p>NEMA is coordinating the project implementation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Production of a National Biodiversity Information Landscape report produced to showcase biodiversity data and information being collected and generated by various key players in the biodiversity and environment fields. ii. Production of a Political Economy Analysis (PEA) to identify the political and governance context that influences the success of efforts for better use of biodiversity information in development decisions. 	<p>Need for government is integrate the biodiversity decision into the NDF.</p>

<p>UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP14) in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt from 17 – 29 November 2018</p> <p>Focus: The prime objective of the High-level Segment is to provide a platform for discussions on ways and means to mainstream biodiversity into the sectors of energy and mining, infrastructure, manufacturing and processing, and health, within the broader context of sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.</p>	<p>NEMA coordinated the participation of Uganda in CBD COP14 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt from 17 – 29 November 2018.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Resource mobilization adopted as an integral part of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and to be adopted by COP15 in 2020. ii. Global Environment Facility to continue its support for national implementation activities under the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 in an efficient manner, with a view to enabling Parties to enhance progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets by 2020. iii. Parties are required to address the issue of liability and redress of LMOs, including restoration and compensation for damage to biological diversity. iv. The voluntary guidance for a sustainable wild meat sector was adopted. v. The voluntary guidance on integration of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures into the wider land- and seascapes was adopted. vi. Subject to availability of funds, the CBD Secretariat is to promote cooperation on areas such as remote sensing, scenario analyses and modelling, values of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, and training in DNA technologies, such as DNA barcoding for rapid species identification. vii. The joint modalities of operation for the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House were adopted. viii. COP14 14 adopted a comprehensive process for the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Mr. Francis Ogwal (Uganda) and Mr Basile van Harve (Canada) were designated by COP14 co-chairs to guide the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. 	<p>The need for respective MALGs to plan and budget for the participation in COPs and other CBD fora as means of capacity building, partnership and resource mobilization for biodiversity conservation in Uganda.</p> <p>There is need to focus on programme interventions to balance the three objectives of the Convention i.e. conservation, sustainable use, and access to genetic resources and benefit sharing.</p>
<p>Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)</p> <p>Commencement (effective) date: 17th May 2004</p> <p>Ratification date: 20th July, 2004</p> <p>Focus area: It aims to eliminate or restrict the production and use of POPs.</p>	<p>Stockholm convention domesticated through policy/legal reforms, national implementation plans and projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. It has contributed to the identification and elimination of POPs in Uganda. So far 28 POPs have banned and eliminated. ii. Improved planning for sound chemical management in Uganda through the national implementation plans (NIPs) iii. Increased access to information on POPs in Uganda through awareness programmes and training of local government, ministries and Agencies, and school science teachers. iv. Contribution to legal reforms for sound chemical management in Uganda during the review of the National Environment Act Cap. 153. 	<p>The need to support for sectors to plan and budget for sound chemical management in Uganda though the entire lifecycle of the chemicals.</p>

<p>Basel Convention on the control of transboundary movement of hazardous waste and their disposal</p> <p>Commencement (effective) date: 5th May, 1992</p> <p>Focus area: To reduce the movements of hazardous waste between nations, and specifically to prevent transfer of hazardous wastes from developed to less developed countries.</p>	<p>Basel convention domesticated.</p>	<p>i. The convention has contributed to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazardous waste management regulations in Uganda through the existing laws • E-waste management 	<p>The need to strengthen policy implementation and enforcement on the laws on hazardous waste, including plastic and electronic waste.</p>
<p>Convention (COP-14), the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (COP-9) and the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (COP-9) held from 28 April-10 May, 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland under the theme "Clean Planet, Healthy People: Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste."</p> <p>Focus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Focus was on the three Conventions. Listing of chemicals to restrict their use under the Rotterdam and the Listing of chemicals for phase out and elimination under Stockholm Conventions. Review of the Annexes to incorporate controls for management of plastic waste under the Basel Convention. 	<p>COP thematic meetings/sessions</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Global regulations on chemical management discussed and being domesticated. Global guidelines on E-waste management discussed and being domesticated. Guidelines on extended producers' responsibilities discussed. Uganda has become part of the global scientific team (Expert working group) on DDT. Mr. Stephen Tibejuka Byantwale from Ministry of Agriculture was therefore elected to represent the African group on the DDT expert group from September 2019 for a period of four years. The COP has led to a project on E-waste management in Uganda. 	<p>The need to incorporate the COP outcomes in sector plans and budgets for implementation.</p>

Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol on Ozone depleting substances and products.

Commencement (effective) date: 22nd September 1988, Montreal Protocol became effective on 16th September 1989

Ratification date: 24th June, 1988 for the Convention and September, 1998 for the Montreal Protocol

Focus Area:

It aims at providing a framework necessary to create regulatory measure in the form of the Montreal Protocol.

Uganda has domesticated the Convention/Protocol through policy/legal reforms, national implementation plans and projects.

- i. It has phased out the importation and use of Ozone Depleting substances in Uganda. Such include HCFCs, HFCs, HCs, Ammonia, Propane, Iso-butane, water as a blowing agent in manufacture of foam, among others.
- ii. Enhanced institutional capacity through Trainings MALGs such as Customs Department/Uganda Revenue Authority, Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry, and UNBS on control and monitoring of trade including illegal trade in controlled substances and related equipment. Besides, 4 (four) Vocational Training Schools (Uganda Technical Colleges- Lira; Kichwamba, Elgon and, Bushenyi) and Kyambogo University trained on good refrigeration practices and handling of refrigeration equipment, and imparting knowledge on protection of the ozone layer.
- iii. The enforcement of these Regulations has resulted in successful phase-out of ODSs and a gradual increase importation of alternatives to controlled substances.
- iv. The Project for CFC Phase-Out was implemented from 2002 – 2007; and Uganda again achieved earlier phase-out of CFCs by the year 2007 (three years ahead of the 2010 global target year/date). There are at least 36 authorised dealers in and importers of refrigerants and related equipment, and 9 (nine) (motor vehicle) mobile air-conditioning servicing (MAC) companies
- v. Government of Uganda (the Cabinet) banned the use of second-hand equipment by 2006, as this kind of equipment are sources of emission of ozone-depleting substances into the atmosphere due to their old age, among other factors.
- vi. Enhanced collaboration with the media house (electronic and print), and out of which Uganda's journalist has already won two awards, in 2008 and 2010 from UNEP, on his role in publicizing issues on ozone layer protection and efforts of Government of Uganda to implement the Montreal Protocol, respectively.
- vii. A local (Ugandan) entrepreneur and owner of Gayaza Electronics and TV Services (GETS) Company located in Ndeeba, Kampala has since 2012 been making and selling Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) equipment that is dependent on refrigerants (hydrocarbons) that are both Ozone-friendly and climate-friendly with technical support from the national RAC equipment expert from UNARA and UNBS.

There is need to;

- a) Support the private sector in innovation and investments in ozone friendly RAC substances and equipment.
- b) Support capacity enhancement. Tooling and equipping of regulatory institutions.

<p>Minamata Convention</p> <p>Commencement (effective) date: 10th October 2013</p> <p>Ratification date: February 2018</p> <p>Focus Area: Designed to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury compounds.</p>	<p>Uganda has domesticated the Convention through ratification, and projects.</p>	<p>i. Uganda ratified the Convention in February 2018.</p> <p>ii. The Convention has attracted projects that have enhanced;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • national stakeholder collaboration in implementing the obligations of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Uganda; • knowledge on the extent of mercury use, emissions, source categories, supply, trade routes mercury, disposal of mercury containing products and wastes; impact of in Uganda; • knowledge on gender dimensions, gender vulnerability to mercury pollution, vulnerability of minority groups in the Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) sector in Uganda; • regional and global information exchange in regard to the obligations of the Minamata Convention on Mercury; and • Knowledge on the effect of mercury pollution in environment and human beings through documentaries and other IEC materials. 	<p>i. Ensure that sector laws are updated to incorporate the provisions of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.</p> <p>ii. Provide guidance to sectors to facilitate the formalization of the ASGM sector and implement the actions in National Action Plans (NAP) for the Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Uganda.</p> <p>iii. Undertake resource mobilisation to implement the provisions of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and National Action Plans (NAP) for the Artisanal And Small Scale Gold Mining in Uganda;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide guidance to sectors to put in place mechanisms to phase down and eventually phase out Mercury Added Products including dental amalgam for which mercury free alternatives exist • Collaborate with regional and international organizations to harmonise • Custom Codes to identify and distinguish non-mercury-added and mercury-added products listed in annex A to the Convention, including approaches for their possible harmonization.
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African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN)

The AMCEN meeting took place from 17th – 21st September, 2018 in Nairobi.

Focus:

The conference provides an overview of the status and trends of biodiversity and land degradation in Africa based on the recent Inter-governmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) global land degradation assessment and the regional assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for Africa.

NEMA coordinated and participated in the AMCEN meetings and sessions.

- i. According to the second edition of The State of Biodiversity in Africa, prepared by UNEP-WCMC in 2016 as part of the mid-term review of progress towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Target and the recent Inter-governmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) regional assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for Africa, the rates of ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss in Africa are increasing.
 - ii. Under business-as-usual scenarios, it is predicted that a further 11% of biodiversity would be lost.
 - iii. Africa, together with South America, experienced the biggest forest area loss from 1990 to 2015 compared to the rest of the world.
 - iv. The savannas represent the largest area in Southern Africa occupying 54% of its territory. Savannah and grasslands in many parts of Africa are vulnerable to drought and under pressures from anthropogenic activities such as expansion of agriculture and plantation forestry, spread of invasive alien species, human settlements, mining activities, and other commercial or subsistence activities.
 - v. The main cause of biodiversity loss in Africa is the destruction or degradation natural ecosystems due to their conversion into agricultural lands and urban settlements. Other causes include unregulated development of infrastructure and human settlements; overharvesting of biological resources; introduction of invasive alien species; as well as air, water and soil pollution.
 - vi. Land degradation is considered to be one of Africa's biggest problem and a major threat to biodiversity and all aspects of life and development.
- i. There is an urgent need for policymakers and other actors to quickly identify and adopt practical measures to combat land degradation and enhance ecosystem restoration in Uganda.
 - ii. Concerted effort is also needed to build the capacity of researchers, policymakers and field practitioners to make informed decisions and take impactful interventions at various levels.
 - iii. Planning and investment decisions for physical infrastructure need to be guided by greater transparency, inclusiveness and futures thinking so that physical infrastructure developments enhance ecological resilience and the wellbeing of the African people.
 - iv. Investment opportunities in ecological and other types of green infrastructure in the Uganda should be scoped out and assessed for bankability or securing alternative sources of funding from unconventional sources.

UNEA

The 4th UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) held from 14th -15th March, 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya.

Agreed during UNEA-4 in December, 2017 (UNEP/EA.3/L.2)

Focus:

Uganda is required to integrate these principles into the national frameworks;

- i. Sound chemical and waste management.
- ii. Sustainable Consumption and Production.
- iii. Sustainable management of natural capital for sustainable development and poverty eradication.
- iv. Illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products
- v. Maintaining biodiversity for well-being.

NEMA coordinated and participated in the UNEA-4 meetings and sessions.

- i. Draft regulation on sound chemicals management developed.
- ii. Sustainable consumption and production adopted in SWITCH African Green Project and being considered in NDP III.
- iii. Biodiversity conservation being mainstreamed in NDP III.

The UNEA-4 outcomes need to be considered for mainstreaming into the NDF and sector plans.

Sustainable Blue Economy conference in Nairobi from 26th – 28th November, 2018

Conference objectives:

- i. Identification of opportunities for harnessing the potential of Blue economy to create jobs, and combat poverty and hunger.
- ii. Demonstrating the nexus between economic development and health waters.
- iii. Securing commitments and vertical actions that can be taken to promote sustainable blue economy.
- iv. Bringing together the players needed to transition blue economy.

Focus:

Sustainability, climate change and pollution control; and production, accelerated economic growth, jobs and poverty alleviation.

NEMA coordinated and participated in the Blue Economy conference.

The key outcomes focus on the following;

- i. Marine protection
- ii. Plastic and waste management
- iii. Marine safety and security
- iv. Fisheries and development
- v. Financing mechanisms
- vi. Infrastructure development – port development, ship building and urban development etc.
- vii. Biodiversity conservation and climate change action
- viii. Private sector support
- ix. Partnerships – NEMA selected to champion Blue Economy in Uganda.

- i. The need for a national dialogue to embrace the Blue economy in Uganda.
- ii. The need to engage sectors to plan and budget for the conference outcomes.

<p>Regional conference on African towards circular economy held from 24th -26th April, 2019 in Hotel African, Kampala, Uganda.</p> <p>Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Promotion of the concept on circular economy among key stakeholders. ii. Establishment of networks for the promotion of integration of circular economy into environment management and assessment iii. Knowledge sharing current implementation of the concept of circular economy within African region. iv. Exploration of current policy, practice and challenges and getting towards circular economy. 	<p>NEMA coordinated the conference in partnership with Uganda Association of Impact Assessment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Knowledge shared and lesson learnt among participants especially in regard to policy implementation, legal reforms and best practices in countries like Rwanda, Kenya and Zimbabwe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Promotion of circular economy best practices across all sectors. ii. Need for private sector collaboration with government in the implementation of circular economy. iii. Transforming plastic waste management to provide employment opportunities.
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<p>The Global Environment Outlook (GEO) - 6 meeting held at the United Nations Office Nairobi, Kenya from 21st to 24th January 2019.</p> <p>Meeting Objectives: To prepare an independent assessment of the state of the environment, the effectiveness of the policy response to address these environmental challenges and the possible pathways to be achieve various internationally agreed environmental goals.</p> <p>To build capacity for conducting integrated environmental assessments and reporting on the state, trends and outlooks of the environment.</p>	<p>NEMA coordinated and participated in the Global Environment Outlook-6 Meeting.</p>	<p>Knowledge shared and lesson learnt among participants especially in regard to unsustainable production and consumption trends as well as inequality, greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution, biodiversity loss from land-use change and habitat fragmentation, overexploitation and overhunting, invasive species, pollution and climate change and marine plastic litter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Need to have cross-sectoral policy actions by governments and stakeholders to address systemic challenges and promote balance between the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. ii. Promote new models of governance for sustainable development to balance economic, environmental and social considerations, and promote gender equality and education for sustainable production and consumption. iii. Develop and replicate many urban and rural innovative projects that could collectively help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, Multilateral Environmental Agreements and related Internationally Agreed Environmental Goals.
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