



Environment Alert's Profile

1.0 Introduction

Environmental Alert (EA) was founded in **1988** and this year (**2018**) marks **30 years** of contribution to improved livelihoods and development in Uganda through several interventions in sustainable agriculture, environment, natural resources management, water, sanitation and hygiene. EA is officially registered with the NGO Board as a Ugandan non-governmental organization, incorporated as a company limited by guarantee. EA is governed by an independent Board that is responsible for providing strategic oversight of the organization including ensuring its integrity as a voluntary service organization.

This profile presents more information about EA's competences, experiences, achievements and some of the key publications (**Section 4.0**) over last 30 years.

Vision- *'Resilient and dignified communities, managing their environment and natural resources sustainably.'*

Mission – *'Environmental Alert exists to advocate for an enabling environment, sustainable natural resources management and food security for targeted communities through empowerment and policy engagement.'*

To accomplish its mission, EA specializes in policy engagements for better policies and delivery of services to poor communities in both rural and urban environments. EA undertakes structured service delivery mobilizing communities and facilitating development of their skills, approaches and technologies for the sustainable management of their agricultural systems, natural resources and WASH facilities and services. Furthermore, this interaction generates experiences, lessons and facts which inform EA's issue based advocacy agenda at the community, local, national and international levels.

EA, as a host of the Secretariats of major national CSO Networks

EA has vast experiences in mobilizing stakeholders for civic expression on forestry concerns developing and nurturing stakeholder participatory structures like networks (both formal and informal) and foras in the Environment and Natural Resources sector with a deeper understanding of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation plus (REDD+) issues and the REDD+ processes, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, institutional arrangements, benefit sharing, facilitating collaborative forest management processes.

EA has played and continues to play a leading role in the following areas in the forestry sector:

- A)** EA Represents CSOs on the **Environment and Natural Resources Sector Working Group** for the Ministry of Water and Environment;
- B)** EA is a member of the **National Wetlands Advisory Group**;

C) EA is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and a Member of The IUCN National Committee for Uganda;

D) EA is a Member of the Project Steering Committee for the 8 years GoU/UNDP project titled, 'Building Resilient Communities and Ecosystems through restoration of Wetlands & associated catchments in Uganda.' The project is funded by the Green Climate Fund and implementation is 2017-2025 in 20 districts.

E) EA led and coordinated the participation of civil society in the national consultative processes that resulted into the forest sector policy and institutional reforms in Uganda. These reforms gave birth to the new Forestry Policy, the National Forest Plan, the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, and a new institutional structure for managing forestry in the country;

F) EA coordinates and hosts the secretariats of three major civil society networks;

- i) The **Environment and Natural Resource-CSO Network (ENR-CSO Network)**¹;
- ii) The **Uganda Forest Working Group (UFWG)**²;
- iii) The **Promoting Local Innovations for sustainable agriculture and sound Natural Resource Management (PROLINNOVA) Network – Uganda**³.

EA operations and outreach

In **2017** EA's scale of engagements involved stakeholders in over **23 districts** across the country to generate information and facts on selected issues in agriculture; water, sanitation and hygiene; and ENR to inform targeted National level policy engagements. Furthermore, area wide awareness engagements are conducted especially through print media, radio, websites and social media platforms. Some of these, especially the agroforestry 2 months campaign covered the **entire country**.

Contact information

Head office address: Plot 475/523 Sonko Lane, Kabalagala. P.O. Box 11259, Kampala, Uganda; **Email:** ed@envalert.org or joszake@gmail.com; **Tel:** +256(0) 414 510 547/+256(0) 414 510 215

EA Website: <http://envalert.org/>

Social media platforms:

Face book: Environmental Alert

Twitter: @Env_Alert

Websites for Networks:

UFWG:

¹ The ENR-CSO Network is another civil society network that brings together local and international NGOs that work in the broader environment and natural resources sector. The ENR-CSO Network has an elected leadership and a secretariat that coordinates its activities. The Network is active in mobilizing its members' engagement in sub-national and national level forest policy process, including the national and district annual budget cycles.

² UFWG is a platform with a broad spectrum of stakeholders who play different yet complementary roles in their individual, collective and institutional capacities. These include field technical support, small grants management, research and products development, awareness creation, piloting alternatives, media publicity of issues and policy processes, public debate, advocacy and legislative lobbying, budget analysis and advocacy as well as independently monitor the implementation of the Forest Policy commitments. Environmental Alert is the Secretariat of the UFWG.

³ PROLINNOVA Uganda is an NGO-led multistakeholder initiative to build a national learning network on promoting local innovation in ecologically oriented agriculture and natural resource management (NRM). PROLINNOVA-Uganda envisions, 'a world in which women and men farmers play decisive roles in agriculture and NRM innovation processes for sustainable livelihoods.'

Website: <http://ufwg.envalert.org/>

Twitter: @UFWG_UG; Face book: Uganda Forestry Working Group

ENR-CSO Network:

Website: <http://enr-cso.org/>

Twitter: @ENRCSO

Face book: ENR-CSO Network

2.0 Outstanding experiences of Environmental Alert in the Climate Smart Agriculture, Building Resilience, Youth Empowerment, Natural Resource Governance, Innovation and Gender Transformation⁴

A) Climate Smart Agriculture, Building Resilience

a) *Integrated Nutrient management to attain sustainable productivity increases in East Africa (INMASP) project.* The major objective of the project was to improve soil fertility, food security and household incomes for smallholder farmers using the Farmer Field School (FFS) approach. The project was implemented in Lukwanga Parish, Wakiso Sub County, Wakiso District for 4 years during the period, 2002-2006.

The key outstanding achievements were as follows:

- (i) Enhanced the knowledge and skills of over 100 smallholder farmers regarding sustainable land use and integrated soil fertility management through training. This resulted in increased food security and incomes at household levels;
- (ii) Conducted a baseline studies for determining nutrient flows, balances and socioeconomic indicators for smallholder farms;
- (iii) Establishment of on-farm trials for development of plausible technologies and practices for integrated nutrient management targeting increased productivity through participatory approaches such as the Farmer Field School;
- (iv) Facilitated farmer's institutional development which resulted in establishment of 2 farmer's community based organizations that are farmer owned, self-sustaining and still operational to-date;
- (v) The project's work in Lukwanga, Wakiso district emerged winner (First prize) in the Earth category of the World Energy Globe Awards for Environmental Sustainability for the year 2005. More details can be obtained at: <http://www.energyglobe.info/en/energyglobe-award/press-room/press-photos/2005/internationale-verleihung/>

b) *Ensuring food security through increased goat productivity, marketing and community empowerment in Sironko district.* This was implemented by EA during the period, 2003-2005 with financial support from FARM AFRICA. By and large the project interventions resulted in introduction of improved goat breeds for milk and meat production. Furthermore, the farmers were better organized into a farmer's association called Sironko goat breeders association. This assumed a role of policy engagement with duty bearers to address several farmers' concerns even after the project end. Among others, this resulted into increased household incomes and improved household nutrition through the distribution of fruit trees and improved seed.

⁴ Some of the key publications with experiences, lessons and recommendations based on the implemented interventions are enlisted in Section 4.0. Besides, any further information about the implemented interventions can be provided upon request.

c) *Increased Household food security and nutrition for vulnerable families in Tororo district.* The project was implemented by EA in collaboration with Plan Uganda with financial support to the tune of 400,000 USD from Plan International over a period of 3 years, 2007-2009.

d) *Building community climate change resilience through improved incomes and wise use of Mabamba wetland system Project.* In 2013, Environmental Alert implemented this project as described in the sub-title above. It was implemented in collaboration with the Wetlands Management Department, Ministry of Water and Environment with financial support (worth CHF 40000) from the Ramsar Secretariat. The specific objectives of the project were as follows:

Specific Objective 1: To increase community climate change awareness and design appropriate climate change adaptation actions among 200 households and 60 policy and decision makers by end of 2013.

Specific Objective 2: To support community based incentive mechanisms as alternatives for livelihood improvement and income generation for inclusive participation and sustainable wetland management by end of 2013.

The key results and outputs from the project are enlisted as follows:

i) *Enhanced knowledge and understanding among the wetland adjacent communities and key stakeholders about sustainable land use and planning; wetland wise use and management; local government participatory planning process and practical adaptation actions/strategies that contribute towards community resilience to climate change impacts.* Thus, 200 households in Mabamba bay ramsar site wetland system were trained on climate change impacts and adaptation. They received alternative livelihood enterprises (e.g. clonal coffee; grafted fruit trees i.e. mangoes & oranges; and eco-tourisms), which boosted their incomes and food security there reducing over dependence on the wetland resources during climate change impacts and shocks such as prolong droughts;

ii) *Documentation of the climate change impacts on the community livelihoods and on the wetland resources; a case of Mabamba bay ramsar site wetland system was documented in form of a 15 minutes short video.* Furthermore, an issues paper with recommendations to advance sustainable utilization and management of the Mabamba bay ramsar site wetland system with developed through consultations with key stakeholders in the landscape.

e) *Responding to impacts of climate change in Uganda; Influencing the global discussion for a fair and just deal on climate change for the world's vulnerable poor.* This was implemented by EA in 2009 in partnership with Oxfam GB. The key outputs from this engagement included: Targeted documentation and dissemination of climate change impacts on livelihood and economic development at community level in Adjumani, Kabaale and Kasese districts

f) *Provision of capacity building services for Local government, Non-Governmental Organizations and private sector towards strengthening stakeholder coordination, and mainstream Climate Change into the Sub county Development Plans – as part of the Global Climate Change Alliance-Uganda Agriculture Adaptation to Climate Change (GCCA).* The assignment was financed by UNFAO to a tune of UGX 360,707,200 over a period of 12 months. Notable is that among the outputs for this assignment involved documentation of Good practices, best practices and lessons learnt on climate change adaptation among the 336 FFS groups across the 6 cattle corridor districts of Luweero, Nakasongola, Nakaseke, Ssembabule, Mubende and Kiboga.

g) Strengthening Participatory Structures and Conducting Capacity Building Training to Enhance Stakeholder Engagement for Uganda's National REDD+ Program in Central, Mid-Eastern and Southern Uganda project

This project was implemented in 2016-2017 by EA in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Environment with financial support to the tune of 118,000 USD from the World Bank. The purpose of the project was to implement the Consultation and Participation Plan of Uganda's REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) in order to achieve an inclusive and informed consultation and meaningful participation in the process of preparing the National REDD+ Strategy by all relevant stakeholders in Central, mid-Eastern and Southern Uganda. As stipulated in the contract, EA implemented the following key interventions:

- i. Set up the Consultation and Participation structures and processes at sub-national level in Central, mid-Eastern and southern Uganda;
- ii. Establish and operationalizing a Consultation and Participation structures and processes for REDD+ in central, mid-eastern and southern Uganda;
- iii. Enhancing awareness of various stakeholders on REDD+ issues central, mid-eastern and southern Uganda. Working with Tree Talk and other NGOs;
- iv. Facilitate stakeholder input into the design, consolidation and validation of the National REDD+ Strategy through.

h) Community Empowerment for improved food security and sustainable natural resources management in Adjumani, Yumbe and Moyo districts in West Nile region. This was implemented by Environmental Alert during the period, 2002-2005 in collaboration with local governments and with financial to the tune of 80,000 USD from EED.

i) The Environmental Alert 3-years program titled, '*Harnessing the Environment for Inclusive and Sustained Development,*' implemented in 2009-2011 in West Nile (i.e. Yumbe, Moyo and Adjumani districts) with financial support from NOVIB. The program focused on addressing escalating natural resource degradation and action on climate change impacts through supporting community based adaptation and mitigation actions; Enhancing Food and malnutrition security; and Promotion environmentally sound community environment and natural resource based enterprises.

j) Community Empowerment for Improved Food Security and Income project in the West Nile.

EA worked with communities and stakeholders in West Nile (Moyo, Yumbe, and Adjumani Districts) to implement three year project funded by Bread for the World (BfdW) i.e., '*Community Empowerment for Improved Food Security and Income in West Nile.*' The implementation period of the project is from October 2013 – June 2017. The project was implemented with funding from (BfdW) and the specific objectives are:

- a) The organizational capacity of 40 community organizations in the Albertine Nile region developed to become people centered organizations by June 2017;
- b) Enabling policies and programs for sustainable livelihoods of the natural resource dependent communities in the Albertine Nile region by June 2017;
- c) Food security of 900 natural resource dependent households in the Albertine Nile region improved by 20% by June 2017.

l) In 2010-2011, Environmental Alert *facilitated targeted training and mentoring of other civil society organizations to enhance their knowledge and understanding with respect to climate change issues.* They

include: Trocaire and the Uganda forestry Working Group. These were implemented with financial support from *NOVIB and TROCAIRE*.

m) Lukwanga community awareness creation on climate change adaptation using multimedia approaches. The project was implemented in Wakiso district with financial support from *AfricaAdapt*. An illustrative poster depicting climate change impacts and possible adaptation actions is attached for verification as one of the publications from the project.

B) Youth Empowerment

a) *Sustainable Neighborhood in Focus* implemented in Kasubi-Kawaala Kampala District. It was funded by IDCR and implemented by EA for a period of 3.5 years (in 2006-2009) in collaboration with Makerere University, KCCA, MAAIF, CIAT, ILRI, and International Potato Centre/Urban Harvest. The project interventions involved testing waste based enterprises for generation of incomes for improved livelihoods and a clean and health environment for the urban poor. Furthermore, it engaged policy and decision makers in policy dialogues to influence decision making and policy implementation to advance sustainable waste management along the waste generation chain.

b) Descent Living project

This project was implemented by EA in partnership with Kampala Capital City Authority with financial support from Water Aid Uganda during the period, 2015-2017 in Makindye and Lubaga divisions of Kampala City. The project had the following objectives:

Objective 1: Strengthened partnerships and coalitions engaging and influencing housing and WASH related policies programs and practices

Objective 2: Strengthened organizational and management capacity of participating institutions and target community groups

Objective 3: Equitable and sustainable access to shelter, safe Water, adequate sanitation and hygiene increased to at least 59,080 men and women by 2016

Objective 4: Enhanced civic engagement of Government and urban private sector in coordination, integration, financing, and good governance

One of the key outstanding results from the project interventions is the proven model of market based approaches to water and sanitation among slum communities in the urban areas.

c) Kampala Slum Transformation Initiative (KASTI)-2014-2017

EA in partnership with Water Aid Uganda, African Evangelistic Enterprise, Uganda Water and Sanitation Network and Kampala Capital Council Authority, implemented a 36-month project Water Sanitation and Hygiene project titled Kampala Slum Transformation Initiative (KASTI) in the informal settlements/slums of Kampala three urban divisions of Kawempe, Central and Nakawa Divisions. The COMIC RELIEF Funded project covers 13 Parishes of the named divisions. The project is intended to increase hygiene understanding amongst slum dwellers, promote the construction and use of public latrines, and support communities to advocate form improved living conditions as well as build capacity of urban authorities in the targeted divisions to enable them respond to the communities' needs.

C) Natural Resource Governance

i) Forests, Trees and People program.

EA Mobilisation and sensitization of stakeholders on forestry issues through the Forests, Trees and People program. This was through radio programs and information dissemination; 1997-1999. This resulted in various stakeholders to appreciate the importance of trees and forests to livelihood and economic development. Furthermore, they got involved in the forestry formulation policy processes.

ii) *The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UNFAO) National Forest Program Facility* supported UFWG members to undertake district forest services. This was implemented in 2010/2011 by UFWG members through coordination by EA and with financial support from UNFAO to the tune of 80,000 USD over a period of 12 months.

iii) Enhancing Forest Tenure and Governance in Uganda in selected districts of Bushenyi, Masindi, Rubirizi, Lamwo

The project was implemented during the period 2014-2015 by the UFWG members (i.e. Environmental Alert, Tree Talk Plus, Community Development and Conservation Agency and Community Volunteer Initiative for Development) in collaboration with the Forest Sector Support Department, Ministry of Water and Environment and with financial support from the UNFAO. The project supported the development of forest management plans for private and community forests and as well supported the owners to register the private forest and declaration of community forest by the Minister. It also enhanced stakeholder's awareness about forest tenure security and the related Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security.

iv) Towards pro-poor REDD+: Promoting rights-based approaches to strengthening the conservation, governance and sustainable management of landscapes in Cameroon, Ghana, Guatemala, Papua Province of Indonesia and Uganda. ‘

The Ugandan component of the project was implemented in partnership with International Union for Conservation of Nature – Uganda Country Office and ECOTRUST in the Agoro Agu and Mt Elgon Landscapes. The project works towards contributing to the incorporation of principles of pro-poor approaches (PPAs) and human rights based approaches (HRBAs) in national climate change mitigation initiatives to deliver policies and programs that reduce deforestation and forest degradation whilst simultaneously contributing to the improvement of local livelihoods and long term security of forest carbon stocks in key forest-rich regions. The project built on HRBAs to enhance contributions to sustainable forest management by targeting policy design through advocacy work and by strengthening the capacities of key champions of change within REDD+ stakeholder groups. in Mt Elgon region, the project is working towards demonstrating how livelihood enhancing community forest and land use measures, supported by improved security of farmers' and households' rights on regenerated forests and restored lands, as well as secured access to multiple benefits accruing from the management of the Mt Elgon Forest National Park, can catalyze long term community engagement in sustainable land use practices and restoration and climate change mitigation actions. While in the Agoro Agu Central Forest Reserve area, the project is test models that clarify, reclaims and protects the land and natural resource rights of returning and resettling community groups that have been displaced due to war, as a means to secure and enhance their livelihood opportunities. In all, the project will determine the optimal operational conditions required to reduce

deforestation and forest degradations while protecting rights and delivering multiple benefits to the poor and enhancing forest-dependent livelihoods.

v) The development of the National Forest Stewardship Standards (NFSS) for Uganda

Environmental Alert hosts the Secretariat for the Standards Development Group that is responsible for development of the NFSS. The process involved active participation of forestry stakeholders at national and local level through consultations. The final draft was submitted to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) in 2016 for final review and decision. The process was financed by several partners including and not limited to WWF-UCO, FSC, Care International in Uganda and the IUCN. Environmental Alert, mobilized and coordinated stakeholder participation and consultation throughout the process.

vi) *Mainstreaming responsible timber trade and other forest products in Uganda*

This is implemented in collaboration with WWF-UCO within the framework of the UFWG. The specific objectives of the project are:

Specific objective #1: To undertake institutional analysis on regulation of timber trade and other Forestry products

Specific objective#2: To advocate for inclusion of legal timber trade in public procurement systems and Local Governments scoring cards

vii) *Forest Resources Sector Transparency in Uganda (FOREST) Program, 2014-2017*

In 2014, selected members of the network i.e. Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), Joint Efforts to Save the Environment, Environmental Alert, Anti-Corruption Coalition for Uganda worked with Care International in Uganda to develop the Forest Resources Sector Transparency in Uganda (FOREST) Program, which was funded by Danish International Development Assistance (DANIDA) for the period 2014-2017. The program directly bridged the key weaknesses of the network in respect to technical and institutional capacity building, but also addressed critical issues in forestry sub-sector emanating from the weak governance in the sub sector at national and local levels. Thus, the FOREST program's goal was, '*Civil society coordination, networking and multi stakeholder collaboration strengthened leading to a more inclusive management of forest resources in the Albertine Rift.*'

The specific objectives of the forestry program were:

- (a) Enhanced level of involvement by ENR-CSO Network members in forestry sector networks, alliances and stakeholder forums at sub-national and national levels;
- (b) Functioning public, private and participatory forest management systems;
- (c) Advocacy initiatives linking local issues to regional and international level policy/practice;
- (d) ENR-CSO Network monitoring and advocating for appropriate forestry laws and regulations at sub-national and national levels;
- (e) ENR-CSO Network strengthened as an effective and accountable coalition that organizes and coordinates lobbying and advocacy initiatives in forestry.

The support (both financial and technical backstopping) through the FOREST program enabled the network to expand its operations and engagements at the local level through establishment of 5 *district coalitions* on environment and natural resources management in *Kiryandongo, Kabalore, Hoima, Masindi and Buliisa* districts.

vii) *Enhancing evidence based forestry advocacy project* – implemented by EA in 2007/8 with financial support from the Rain Forest Foundation. The project was implemented by EA and it contributed towards supporting various engagements in respect to the UFWG campaign to save the Mabira forest from the proposed give away for sugarcane production.

viii) *Agro-forestry campaign*. In 2017 Environmental Alert in collaboration with the Trac FM Foundation implemented a data driven campaign on agroforestry to improve and reinforce the REDD+ Strategy and the Annual Joint Sector Review which in turn benefited Ugandan farmers by using agroforestry to address deforestation and forest degradation in various forest landscapes across the country. Over the course of two months, Trac FM broadcasted three poll questions on 8 radio stations across Uganda to gather the public's perception on trees, barriers of agroforestry and the restoration of forests.

ix) *Increasing access to sustainable and renewable energy alternatives in the Albertine Graben to conserve high value forest ecosystems to benefit people and nature in Uganda*.

Environmental Alert is implementing the project in collaboration with the WWF-UCO with financial support from Norad. The project is being implemented for a period of 4 years since September 2017 and will target beneficiaries in 20 districts of the Albertine Graben.

The project goal is, '*Communities living in the Albertine Graben have adopted sustainable and renewable energy alternatives to reduce dependency on biomass for their energy needs.*' This will be achieved by addressing two major energy-related drivers of forest degradation and loss (production of charcoal and felling of trees for firewood towards sustainable and renewable energy access for rural communities in the Albertine Graben.

The project focuses on strengthening the capacity of civil society organisations and networks operating in the renewable energy sub sector to advocate and drive change towards sustainable and renewable energy access. Proposed interventions will be implemented at national and subregional levels involving civil society organizations and networks that are involved in the promotion of sustainable and renewable energy as well as in issues that are interlinked with or rooted in lack of access to sustainable, clean and affordable energy. Vertical and horizontal linkages and synergies between the CSOs and networks at both the national and sub-regional levels will be pursued for more structured and value adding policy engagements through targeted multi-stakeholder dialogues.

The project has three outcomes as follows:

- a) Civil society in partnership with other agents of change is transforming government & private sector decisions & practices towards sustainable & RE development;
- b) Government , private sector, civil society actors & local communities have adopted effective strategies & practices that support sustainable & RE access;
- c) Government & private sector have put in place an enabling environment that supports increased financing/investment for sustainable & RE development.

x) *Sustainable management of forests on private land project*.

The project was implemented by Environmental Alert in collaboration with Mubende and Kyenjojo district Local Governments during the period, 2006-2009. It was financed by the Ford Foundation. Through the project interventions, the knowledge and skills of stakeholders particularly the private forest owners (in Mubende and Kyenjojo district) and local environment committees to sustainably manage their forests

through building on already existing indigenous knowledge and practices. The training focused on specific aspects of sustainable forest management, fruit tree nursery establishment and management; appreciation of poverty and environment linkages and enterprise development among others. The trainings were highly participatory and involved exposure visits, mentoring and farmer to farmer extension. One of the key results from the project is the test model of promoting economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally friendly community based enterprises as incentives for sustainable management of the forest resources on private land. These include beekeeping and fruit trees (Mangos, Oranges and Avocado) which were selected in a participatory manner by private forest owners in Mubende and Kyenjojo districts.

xi) Coordination of ENR-CSOs for effective participation in the annual joint sector review for Environment and Natural Resources sector

EA as the host for the secretariat of the ENR-CSO Network mobilizes and coordinates effective participation of the of the members of the network and other ENR-CSOs in the annual joint sector review (JSR) for Environment and Natural Resources sector since 2008/9 to date. The JSR process includes an annual meeting convened by Government/Ministry of Water and Environment for the Sector players (Government, Development partners and other Stakeholders). The overall aim is to assess performance of Sector commitments and targets during the concluding financial year and set new commitments and targets for the coming financial year. Thus, every year since 2008/9, EA coordinates the processes that resulted in the development of the ENR-CSOs mini-performance reports and Positions that present ENR-CSOs contributions to sector performance and appraisal of Government performance against set annual undertakings and associated alternative recommendations to inform decisions for the subsequent undertakings. For instance, currently Environmental Alert is mobilizing members of the Network to contribute to National Environment Bill 2017 (by giving their views, comments and recommendations). The views and recommendations generated will be compiled by the secretariat (EA) for submission to the Parliamentary committee on natural resources as a position of CSOs in the ENR sub-sector.

xii) Consultations with CSOs on priority investments for Uganda's Forest Investment Plan (FIP) programme. EA mobilized and facilitated ENR-CSOs consultations and recommendations on the FIP, which was documented into a report and submitted to the Ministry of Water and Environment for consideration into the final FIP document. It was implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Environment and with financial support to the tune of UGX 24,551,000 from the UNFAO.

D) Innovation and gender transformation processes

i) Farmers Access to Innovation Resources (FAIR 1&2) project

The project was implemented within the frame work of Prolinnova Uganda in eight districts, i.e. Wakiso, Nakasongola, Mukono, Mityana, Masaka, Mubende, Rakai and Kayunga during the period 2007-2011. It involved a collaboration between Environmental Alert and other organizations including: EA, Africa 2000 Network, Kulika-Uganda, Centre for Integrated Development (CIDEV) and DENIVA, The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries and National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO)/Mukono Zonal Agricultural Research Development Institute (MUZARDI). It was funding by the Dutch Ministry of Development Cooperation through ETC Foundation, the Netherlands, the DURAS project supported by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Rockefeller Foundation.

The project piloted the farmer's access to innovation resources through local innovation support funds in Uganda, that are farmer managed to promote their innovations in sustainable agriculture and natural resources management.

ii) Community Resilience to Change: Combining Local Innovative Capacity with Scientific Research (CLIC-SR) Project.

The project was implemented in Uganda for 3 years, 2012-2015 – with financial support from the Ford Foundation. Project implementation was led by Environmental Alert for engagements in Moyo district and the National level. Were as Kulika Uganda led implementation in Nakasongola district The Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) provided international coordination and technical backstopping to implementing partners in Uganda. It also involved collaboration with the National Agriculture Research Organization/Mukono Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (NARO/MUZARDI) / Abi Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (ABIZARDI), Participatory Ecological Land use and Management Association – Uganda (PELUM-Uganda), National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) and District Local Governments of the project areas.

The specific objectives of the project were:

- a. Strengthen the resilience to change of smallholder communities, especially the women, by improving their innovative capacity and thus their livelihood security through participatory innovation development (PID);
- b. Build the capacity of organizations working on agriculture and Natural Resource Management (NRM) so that they can effectively work with and support smallholders and communities in their efforts to adapt;
- c. Increase insights and awareness on relevance and effectiveness of PID through sharing and learning;
- d. Mainstream PID as an approach within targeted national and international policies and programs related to agricultural development, NRM and Climate Change Adaptation.

3.0 Key achievements from EA's policy and advocacy engagements in the agriculture, environment and natural resources sector over the last 30 years

A) EA is a 1st prize winner of the Energy globe award for environmental sustainability-2005 under the category, earth. Their committed effort on addressing natural resources and livelihood concerns has enabled us to work cautiously with forestry, land, wetlands, sanitation and livelihood challenges in a mix of participatory modeling, promoting technological and social eco-innovations in sustainable Water, hygiene and sanitation services, agriculture, natural resources management that have made a difference in the livelihoods of poor communities as well as been a basis for improvements in policies and laws in Uganda. **Further information and details** are available on the EA youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqWPDJ1pPk>

B) EA's contribution to forestry policy and legislative change

EA has vast experiences in mobilizing stakeholders for civic expression on forestry concerns developing and nurturing stakeholder participatory structures like networks (both formal and informal) and foras in the Environment and Natural Resources sector with a deeper understanding of REDD+ issues and the REDD+ processes, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, institutional arrangements, benefit sharing, promoting collaborative forest management processes in *Agoro Agu, Lalak and Zoka Central Forest reserves*. EA has played and continues to play a leading role in the following areas in the forestry sector:

- i. EA led and coordinated the participation of civil society (through the UFWG) in the national consultative processes that provided input/contributions into **the forest sector policy and institutional reforms in Uganda in 2000/2001**. These reforms gave birth to the new Forestry

- Policy, the National Forest Plan, the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, and a new institutional structure for managing forestry in the country;
- ii. EA in Partnership with WWF-UCO working through the framework of Uganda Forestry Working Group established the **Uganda Standards Development Group in 2012** that embarked on the development of the **National Stewardship standard for forest certification in Uganda**. This was recently submitted to the Forest Stewardship Council in 2016 for final review and consideration;
 - iii. EA conducted targeted issue based lobbying and advocacy on forestry issues through the UFWG. The UFWG effectively engaged in the forestry policy and legislation policy processes. In addition, the network implemented the FAO National Forest Program (2002-2006) in collaboration with Government of Uganda. This particular program **sensitised communities in Mubende, Masindi and Mokono on sustainable forestry and influenced NAADS Program for inclusion of forestry extension as part of the overall agricultural extension**. These were implemented through the UFWG membership;
 - iv. EA mobilised UFWG membership and generally Ugandan Citizens in **save Mabira forest give away campaign** against the Uganda cabinet decision to convert part of the forest into a sugarcane plantation. This was done through mass awareness through radio, television and print media with effective use of documented tools i.e. facts sheets, policy briefs, stickers, posters clarifying and communicating facts on the importance of the forest and anticipated implications when converted into a sugarcane plantation.
 - v. In 2016, EA through the framework of UFWG and in collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the Ministry of Water and Environment participated and facilitated engagements, which contributed towards **clarification of tree and forest tenure through development of the national guidelines for registration of private and community forests in Uganda**;
 - vi. EA coordinated the **CSOs expanded consultations across selected regions in that country to generate their concerns and recommendation for consideration in the development of the REDD+ Preparedness Proposal in 2011/12**. The engagement was implemented in collaboration with the national Forestry Authority in Collaboration with financial support from the World Bank.

B) Capacity building

EA strengthened the knowledge and skills of stakeholders particularly the private forest owners (in Luweero, Mubende and Kyenjojo district) and local environment committees to sustainably manage their forests through building on already existing indigenous knowledge and practices. The training focused on specific aspects of sustainable forest management, fruit tree nursery establishment and management; appreciation of poverty and environment linkages and enterprise development among others. The trainings were highly participatory and involved exposure visits, mentoring and farmer to farmer extension. Furthermore in the year 2006-2009, EA Promoted and piloted in collaboration with the Ford Foundation the concept of economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally friendly community based enterprises as incentives for sustainable management of the forest resources on private land. These include beekeeping and fruit trees (Mangos, Oranges and Avocado) which were selected in a participatory manner by private forest owners in Mubende and Kyenjojo districts.

C) Targeted awareness on WASH issues

EA Mobilisation and sensitization of stakeholders on WASH issues through evidence generation using **Citizen's Report Card (CRC)** tool used to collect feedback from consumers of public services. This has provided clear platform for advocating on service and policy related propositions to the respective duty bearers based on consumer's satisfaction towards WASH services they access. Findings have been

disseminated through radio programs and dissemination of printed copies of the CRC. This resulted in various stakeholders to appreciate the importance of WASH to livelihood and economic development. Furthermore, they got involved in the implementation of WASH related policies and bye-law formulation processes.

D) EA's contribution to WASH policy and legislative change

EA has vast experiences in mobilizing stakeholders for civic expression on WASH concerns developing and nurturing stakeholder participatory structures like community based advocacy groups, partners and foras in the WASH sector with a deeper understanding of WASH issues and promotion of best of practice including WASH Based enterprise development among different stakeholder, institutional arrangements, benefit sharing, promoting collaborative WASH enhancement processes through facilitation of various dialogues and foras at district and national levels. EA has played and continues to play a leading role in the following areas in the WASH sector:

- i. EA has facilitated the **promotion of WASH Based enterprises** at community level involving waste recycling and reuse initiatives which have facilitated improvements in waste management, increased household incomes and employment opportunities for women and youth. Equipment support rendered to the groups has equally boosted production and enhanced quality of products that meet the market requirements. All this has been coupled with tailored business development skills, exposure visits, mentoring and linkages provided to the women and youth groups and construction of business based public sanitary facilities.
- ii. EA has conducted **targeted issue based lobbying and advocacy on WASH issues involving slum communities in Kampala** to identify, profile and present their concerns and issues in respect to WASH among duty bearers within the framework of Kampala Capital City Authority. Created targeted aware-ness for better practices in water, sanitation and hygiene. Strengthened institutional framework at community level to advance WASH in the slum communities through facilitation of advocacy groups to engage in division, district and national level fora.
- iii. EA mobilised and supported the adoption of **improved hygiene behaviour in local communities spearheaded by Village Health Teams** conducting household visits to deliver hygiene education amongst communities in the target divisions of Kampala. Continued organization and participation in community meetings and Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector events have been used to deliver key messages.

E) EA's contribution to food security policy and legislative change

*i) EA facilitated policy dialogues at the National level, which influenced process and content that resulted into the **approval of the Kampala City Urban Agriculture Ordinance**. Thus, Kampala City became the 1st City in Africa to pass legislation to guide urban farming.*

*ii) Modelled/piloted appropriate land use and soil management techniques, practices that ensure high crop and soil productivity without compromising the integrity of the land and soils. These generated key information and facts that EA used in policy engagements and dialogues that informed processes and content in the **National Land use policy for Uganda; and the National food and nutrition policy and law; and the Draft National Soils Policy for Uganda**.*

This was done through interaction with land users particularly farmers through participatory approaches such as the Farmer Field School (FFS)⁵ among others. The FFS is a holistic framework through which farmers can identify, prioritise livelihood constraints and together with a facilitator test, develop and evaluate various technologies/practices for sustainable land use and soil management through season long observations at a central demonstration and learning plot. They up-scaled the proven technologies on farm and train other farmers in the community. This interaction, also involves capacity enhancement on selected topics relating to agricultural production, land and sustainable soil management among others based on a needs assessment. These models were piloted in Wakiso District and up scaled to other areas (*i.e. Mubende, Kyenjojo, Yumbe, Moyo and Adjumani Tororo, Sironko and Kampala districts*) in the country.

F) Action Research

Action research is among the strategies EA uses in her engagements. Particularly under the forestry sector, EA has commissioned various studies to bridge information gaps and establish baseline survey to inform her interventions at community level and also her policy advocacy work in the forestry sector. Some of the studies earlier conducted include the following:

- a. Economic valuation of forest patches in Mubende and Kyenjojo districts, 2004
- b. Market research on potential forest-based enterprises in Mubende and Kyenjojo districts, 2006
- c. Tracking environment & natural resources (ENR) and Agriculture investment trends and decisions in public expenditure, 2006
- d. Inventory of critical issues in the forestry sector that require urgent attention for sustainable forestry in Uganda, 2008

Currently in collaboration with the WWF-UCO, EA is conducting studies on the evaluation of forestry institutions in respect to promotion of legal timber trade in Uganda.

4.0 Some of the publications with EA's experiences and lessons from initiatives towards climate smart agriculture and building community resilience include the following:

- a) Climate change; the time to act is now, (2007). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/EA-CLIMATE-CHANGE-CV2009.pdf>
- b) Insights into EA's Climate change platform, (2009). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/EA-CLIMATE-CHANGE-CV2009.pdf>
- c) Climate change in Uganda. Insights for long term adaptation and building community resilience. An Issues Paper, (2010). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Climate-Change-Issues-paper.pdf>
- d) Sustainable environmental management; a key remedy for addressing climate change impacts in Uganda (2010). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Environment-WED-supplement-REDD.pdf>
- e) Economic utilization of water in a tree nursery bed: the case of a farmer innovator in Nakasongola district (2017). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://www.prolinnova.net/sites/default/files/documents/Uganda/2016/tree-nursury--approved-print-based-on-signed--lpo--8may2017.pdf>

⁵ FFS is a 'school' without walls located at the farmers' field under a tree shed. It comprises of 25-30 farmers who come together to solve a common problem (FAO, 2000).

f) The transitional bee hive improves colonization by bees in Moyo district, Uganda; a case of climate change adaptation innovation by smallholder farmers (2017). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from http://www.prolinnova.net/sites/default/files/documents/Uganda/2016/bee_keeping_all--aproved-print-based-on-signed-lpo--8may2017.pdf

g) A booklet of innovations on climate change adaptation and mitigation in Uganda (2017). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://www.prolinnova.net/sites/default/files/documents/Uganda/2016/kulika--aproved--print-based-on-signed-lpo---9may2017.pdf>

h) Innovations and climate change adaptation and mitigation; Policy and practice recommendations (2017). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: http://www.prolinnova.net/sites/default/files/documents/Uganda/2016/prolinnova_5--aproved-print-based-on-signed-lpo---10may2017.pdf

i) EA mobilized and coordinated the compilation and publication of the following ENR-CSOs annual performance reports and position papers:

ENR-CSOs annual performance reports

ENR-CSO sector annual performance report, FY 2016/17. ENR-CSO Network Secretariat, C/o Environmental Alert. <http://enr-cso.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/ENR-CSOs-Report-2016-FWD-submitted-for-Printing-19Sept2017.pdf>

Environment and Natural Resources Sub-Sector: Civil Society Organizations Performance Report FYR 2013/2014 and Positions for FYR 2014/2015. ENR-CSO Network Secretariat, C/o Environmental Alert, Kampala. <http://enr-cso.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/ENR-CSO-Performance-Report-FY-2013-2014.pdf>

ENR-CSOs Performance Report 2012/2013. ENR-CSO Network Secretariat, Environmental Alert, Kampala. <http://enr-cso.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/ENR-CSOs-FY-2012-2013.pdf>

ENR-CSOs Performance Report 2011/2012. ENR-CSO Network Secretariat, C/o Environmental Alert, Kampala. <http://enr-cso.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/ENR%20CSO%20Network%20Performance%20Report%202011-2012.pdf>

ENR-CSO position papers:

ENR CSOs Position on the Performance of Environment and Natural Resources sub-Sector in Financial Year 2016/17. ENR-CSO Network Secretariat, C/o Environmental Alert, Kampala. <http://enr-cso.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/ENRO-CSO-Insert-2017.pdf>

ENR CSOs Position on the Performance of Environment and Natural Resources sub-Sector in Financial Year 2013/14. ENR-CSO Network Secretariat, C/o Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://enr-cso.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/ENR-CSO-Position-leaflet-20132014.pdf>

l) Application of People Own Process (PoP) methodology in West Nile; Experiences and options for future adoption and adaptation (2017). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/PoP-CASE-STUDY-REPORT-FWD-6Oct2017.pdf>

- j) Integrating local and scientific knowledge: an opportunity for addressing production constraints for improved community livelihoods in Uganda. Environmental Alert, Kampala, Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Policy-brief-integrating-local-with-scientific-knowledge.pdf>
- k) Climate change impacts on the community livelihoods and on the wetland resources; a case of Mabamba bay ramsar site wetland system was documented in form of a 15 minutes short video. Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZR5zTsq07E>
- l) Sustainable utilization and management of the Mabamba bay ramsar site wetland system; an Issues paper with policy and practice recommendations. Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Mabamba-wetland-Issues-paper-2014.pdf>
- m) Innovations and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in Uganda; Policy and Practice Recommendations, (2016). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: http://www.prolinnova.net/sites/default/files/documents/Uganda/2016/prolinnova_5--aproved-print-based-on-signed-lpo---10may2017.pdf
- n) Integrating Pro-Poor and Human Rights-Based Approaches in Collaborative Forest Management Processes; a Case study of Agoro-Agu Forest Landscape CFM Process, November (2017). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://ufwg.envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/EA-CFM-Casestudy-28Nov2017.pdf>
- o) Local Innovation Support Fund (LISF) an Implementers' guide, Uganda, (2013). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: http://www.prolinnova.net/sites/default/files/documents/LISF/lisf_implementers_guide_uganda.pdf
- p) Waste is wealth; depending on how it's managed and utilized. Waste management in Uganda; Issues for policy and practice change, (2008). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <https://www.slideshare.net/JoshuaZake1/waste-is-wealth>
- r) Illustrative Posters:
- i) Appropriate adaptation responses will reduce community vulnerability to climate change impacts in Adropi sub-county, Adjumani district. Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B6xTCZbcKk1xOGFla2RQTIRyQWc/view>
 - ii) Impacts of climate change and proposed adaptation responses by affected communities in Kabaale district, Western Uganda. Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Impacts-of-Climate-Change-Adapatation-Responses-for-Communities.pdf>
 - iii) People Own Process (PoP) methodology, (2016). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/PoP-illustrative-poster-English.jpg>
 - iv) Collective marketing for cassava (2017). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Final-Cassava-Products-FWD-Oct-2017.pdf>
 - v) Goop post-harvest handling and processing practices for cassava. Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Final-Cassava-Handling-FWD-Oct-2017.pdf>
 - vi) Principles of apiary management. Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Final-APIary-Principles-FWD-Oct-2017.pdf>
 - vii) Uncontrolled bush burning is harmful to our environment (2017). Environmental Alert, Kampala. Available from: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Final-Bush-Burning-FWD-Oct2017.pdf>