

The Uganda Water and Environment Week, 2018.



A Report of ENR-CSOs Participation in the 1st Water and Environment Week, 17th – 23rd March 2018 – Key Reflections and Recommendations.

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On behalf of the **ENR-CSO Network Secretariat, C/o Environmental Alert**

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1.0 Introduction

This report highlights the key results based on the participation of the ENR-CSOs in the 1st Uganda Water and Environment Week (UWEWK), 2018 organized by the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) and Partners. It presents key emerging issues and recommendations (as detailed in **Table 1**) in this respect for consideration by the duty bearers.

2.0 Background

The week of 17th - 23rd March 2018 marked the first time the MWE held the UWEWK under the theme '**Water and Environment a Catalyst for Achieving Middle Income Status 2020**', (MWE, 2018). This event took place in Entebbe at the Water Resources Institute. The event was linked to the National Development Plan II (NDP II), which focuses on achieving structural transformation through increased industrial activity.

The week was geared towards documenting Water, Environment and Natural resources sector issues and evidence to inform policy processes. The event advanced stakeholders and public awareness about critical Environment and Natural resources issues in the ENR- sub sector. The week

also hosted the commemoration of 3 important internationally celebrated days, i.e. World: World Water Day 2018; International Day of Forests, 2018; and Meteorology Day, 2018 under the themes, Nature for Water” “Forests and sustainable cities”, and “Being weather ready” respectively. In **Box 1**, the specific objectives of UWEWK, 2018 are highlighted.

On the 19th March 2018 in Entebbe, **the Vice president of Uganda Hon. Edward Kiwanuka Ssekandi** officially opened the first ever Ministry of Water and Environment UWEWK celebrations. In his remarks, Hon. Ssekandi applauded the Ministry of Water and Environment and its partners for having organized the Uganda Water and Environment Week event. He also noted a challenge of access to safe water in the rural areas, *'the varying uses of water are interlinked and requires sustainable exploitation and management to ensure quality, quantity and availability for both production and domestic use even during the dry seasons.'*

Box 1: Specific objectives for the UWEWK:

- i) To increase public awareness on water and environment resources for growth and development;
- ii) To celebrate twenty five (25) years of adoption of Integrated Water Resources Management in Uganda;
- iii) To launch the Water Resources Institute in Entebbe;
- iv) To showcase recent innovations, technologies and developments in the Water and Environment sector for efficient Water and Environment services delivery;
- v) To explore business opportunities and trends in the Water and Environment sector;
- vi) To provide a forum for exchange of ideas for long term business partnerships in the water and environment sector; and
- vii) To identify potential partners to increase Water and Environment sector financing.



Photo 1: Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda and Hon Kibuule Ronald During the opening of the Water resources institute in Entebbe during UWEWK 2018.

The event brought together all key stakeholders ranging from *policy makers, technocrats, academicians, public and private sector institutions, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations and consumers* to dialogue on issues affecting the sector.

The UWEWK long events was also memorable because stakeholders saw and participated in the official opening of the Water Resources Institute at Entebbe by the Prime Minister of Uganda – Dr. Ruhakana

Rugunda. He noted that the Water Resource Institute will provide cutting edged applied research and training, deliver continuous professional skills development across all levels in water resources management and development.

This week also availed an opportunity for water and environment academics, researchers, practitioners, businesses and innovators to share knowledge through presentation of papers parallel sessions under the themes; Water and sanitation development, Integrated water resources management, Wastewater and pollution management, Environment and natural resources and Water energy-food-ecosystem nexus, Sustainable forest management, Stakeholder engagement and water sector financing, Sustainable forest management.

ENR-CSOs active participation in the events was sponsored by the **Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD)** and **Environmental Alert¹** under the auspices of the Environment and Natural Resources CSO (ENR-CSO) Network². These are appreciated for the technical and financial support rendered to enable this participation.

3.0 Why participation of the ENR-CSO Network?

As stipulated in the Uganda Constitution and several other relevant policies and laws on the Environment and natural Resources sub-sector, CSOs are mandated and obliged to add value to Government of Uganda's (GoU) policy & programs formulation and implementation through their lobbying and advocacy role. Furthermore, participation was through creating targeted awareness and capacity building, but also independent monitoring and evaluation of Government programs.

Formed on the premise of mobilizing CSOs to effectively promote good governance, effective management and sustainable utilization of Uganda's natural resources, the Environment and Natural resources Network (ENR-CSO) Network hosted by EA was able to participate in the week long events through the following engagements:

- i) *Making a presentation through the conference parallel session arrangements;*
- ii) *Exhibition as well as a field visit to Mabira Central forest reserve, an event conducted by the Forest Sector Support Department (FSSD) and National Forestry Authority (NFA) to commemorate international day of Forests.*

Other stakeholders that participated were: *AROCHA Uganda, MAKIGA Appropriate Technologies Ltd, Adritex (U) Ltd, Fields of life, GIZ, Busitema University, NUCAFE, Ugandan Water Project, KATU Honey, ACORD, UWASNET, FSSD, Rashmi, Simavi, Eco-Trust, and Energy without borders*

In the process, CSOs they shared experiences and lessons but also suggested alternative policy and practice recommendations for consideration by the Government of Uganda. The planned engagements provided an opportunity for ENR-CSOs in Uganda to deliver on their role and mandate towards contributing and influencing of the decision making and outputs from the week-long UWEWK engagements implemented in collaboration with MWE (*i.e. through the Forest Sector Support Department, the Climate Change Department, Uganda National Meteorological Authority and Directorate of Water Resources Management*) through leadership and coordination by the Environmental Alert on behalf of the ENR-CSO Network Secretariat.

¹ See **Box 4** for further information about Environmental Alert.

² See **Box 3** for further information about the ENR-CSO Network.

In addition, the engagements advanced participation by ENR-CSO in the UWEWK planned engagements with a focus towards achievement of the UWEWK objectives and also particularly the aspirations under the *International Day of Forests, the World Water Day and World Metrological Day 2018*.

4.0 Key events in which the ENR CSOs participated

The ENR-CSOs participated in various week long events including: *specialized trainings, exhibitions, parallel technical sessions and field excursions*. These are further summarized in the subsequent sub-sections. Notable is that specialized trainings were facilitated and delivered by various organized enlisted as follows:

4.1 Specialised trainings

A) Water for People and directorate of water resources management - coordinated by Cate Nimanya.

This training focused on:

- i) *Promoting District Investment Planning to accelerate rural water supply and sanitation;*
- ii) *Piloting a mobile faecal sludge transfer tank in five divisions of Kampala;*
- iii) *Water assets management;*
- iv) *Promoting water security and safety planning.*

B) Rural sanitation – coordinated by SNV-Uganda

These hosted a debate in session on rural sanitation with a focus on, *'Households are content with their unimproved toilets, so forget about achieving the Sustainable Development Goals targets.'* Key result of this debate was that, it was clear for effective behaviour to occur, we have to sell sanitation in a manner that can convince a rural person who has many competing demands to appreciate the need to improve on their latrines or abandon open defecation.

C) Catchment based integrated Water Resource Management

This was coordinated Ms. Pamela Nyamutoka and Mr. Louis Mugisha of International Institute for Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) and the Directorate of Water Resources Management, respectively. The interaction was informed by a presentation on, *'promotion of catchment based integrated water resources management,'* which was presented by IIRR and Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE). This was based on a case of development of Catchment Management Plans (CMPs) for 3 catchments namely Awoja, Mpol-ogoma and Victoria Nile by IIRR in partnership with MWE.

D) Faecal sludge management - coordinated by Ashabrick Bamutaze.

In this presentation, it was noted that Faecal sludge management is a holistic approach that entails considering the entire sanitation chain from containment, collection, transportation and treatment to disposal or reuse. With Uganda's low technological status in faecal sludge treatment and disposal, high population growth, rapid expansion of the informal sector settlements, inadequate financing, landownership and space for infrastructure development, wide range of conflicting interests from

Box 2: Key findings from the presentation:

- i) **Only 24% of emptying** takes place in informal settlement; *pro-poor incentives should be considered.*
- ii) **61% of faecal sludge** is de-loaded at the Lubigi treatment plant, 39% at Bugolobi. *This is alarming since the latter is not designed to treat faecal sludge at all and suggests that additional treatment capacity for faecal sludge is urgently needed.*
- iii) **42% of all latrines emptied** by gulper entrepreneurs are located in formal areas, yet gulping is supposed to be *pro-poor service especially designed for densely populated informal urban settlements however this statistics suggest that the service is too expensive for the poorest segment of the population.*

various stakeholders, these have been the major contributors to poor sanitation and consequently have led to poor faecal sludge management. The key results from the presentation are enlisted in **Box 2**.

The practice observes the following principles:

- i) *Strengthening of the legal and institutional framework conditions with clear roles and responsibilities for sector players.*
- ii) *Private sector engagement to support the operators in the reform process*
- iii) *Awareness of demand creation among user groups.*

The recommendations from the presentation are that:

Development of streamlined behavioural change communication material in close collaboration with the relevant stakeholders that focuses on three key behaviours, *i.e. construction of emptyable toilets, the use of safe emptying services and understanding basic toilet hygiene practices to promote health and minimise spread of diseases in the communities.*

F) Promoting Forest Landscape Restoration

This session was coordinated by the Forest Sector Support Department and the National Forestry Authority (NFA). It drew participation of key stakeholders in the forestry sub-sector. The highly interactive training session was informed by a presentation by Mr. Julius Mafumbo of the Directorate of Environment Affairs. He shared the concepts and principles of forest landscape restoration. Furthermore, he shared the experiences and lessons of the application of these principles and concepts in the restoration of Mabira Central Forest Reserves., which had yielded positive results over the years.

Alongside this presentation, NFA demystified public fears that a large portion of the forest was encroached and highly degraded based on the media reports by NTV Uganda. They observed the video footage published by NTV was of loggers who were within the forest enclave but not the forest reserve. They encouraged participants to join the field visit to Mabira so that they can confirm that the forest is still intact and hence should appreciate Government's efforts towards its sustainable management and conservation.

Despite all this, it was noted with concern that forest and trees country wide are lost at a very high rate *i.e.* 120,000 per annum (MWE, 2016). Therefore, there is need to step up forest restoration and sustainable forest management countrywide to avert the implications associated with deforestation and forest degradation. Overall it was concluded that forest landscape restoration is one of the plausible approaches for advancing forest restoration and sustainable forest management. It's timely and hence should be promoted because the country is already categorized into 7 Forest landscape zones. Alongside this, the Forest and Land Restoration Mechanism was developed by the MWE in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization. It clearly identified specific type of trees species for growing in the respective landscapes. Besides, this approach provides for participation and contributions by all stakeholders within the landscape.



Photo 2: Mr. Kizito Charles displays his awards for his outstanding performance during UWEWK

4.2 Parallel conference sessions

One of the engagements during the week were the conferences in which various stakeholders and partners presented their research papers and success stories in as far as managing Water resources, promotion of

sanitation, and exposed opportunities in the sectors unrealised/ yet to be extracted to ensure sustainable development of the sector. The presentations made during the parallel sessions are summarized as follows:

Integration of the market approaches to sanitation and hygiene for improved livelihoods, a clean and healthy environment

This is based on a case study of slum communities in Makindye and Lubaga Divisions conducted with the framework of the Descent Living Project, implemented by Environmental Alert in collaboration with Water Aid Uganda and Kampala City Council Authority, during the period 2014-2016. The project was financed by Water Aid-UK.

The presentation was made by Mr. Kizito Charles from Environmental Alert. The presenter observed that the operation and maintenance of public sanitation facilities remains a challenge. And some of the facilities are out-modeled and lack facilities for incineration yet the disposal of sanitary towels and diapers remain a challenge in these slum communities.

He also noted that communities had no appropriate technologies to manage their solid waste profitably; however the slum communities have undertaken initiatives to manage their waste materials by transforming them into useful raw-materials for their craft, briquette making enterprises but operating at a constraint of financial resources.

Kizito recommended that actors should recognize and support such initiatives to ensure proper waste management with improved livelihood in perspective. That also the CSOs should try to upscale such initiative to other areas with the same community setting. Furthermore, he was recognized and presented with an Award i.e. a certificate and Gift for his outstanding performance.

Equitable allocations of surface water resources in Nyakang catchment for the wellbeing of the people and the environment

This presentation was made by Mr. David Katarambi, Senior water officer in charge of water resources and regulations at the Directorate of water Resources Management. In his presentation Mr. Katarambi called for a constant monitoring of quantity and quality of water resources to be able to assess how much water can be allocated for different purposes. He argued that the drying up of boreholes all because there no monitoring mechanisms to determine the volume of water in the underground aquifers. He called upon the harmonization in the water management to wipe out conflicts in the management of the resource.

He also asked for the strengthening of the water policies and regulations to address population demand

Establishment of flood warning systems for Uganda

This presentation was made by Mr. Tom Kanyike of the Ministry of Water and Environment. He noted that, over the last years, Uganda has continually registered a high incidence of floods that resulted into loss of lives, animals, and crops. The Ministry of Water and Environment has therefore, developed a flood warning systems to enable early response to the natural disasters. According to Kanyike the Ministry acquiring this, 'state of technology,' it will be in position to develop the early warning systems from the country wide data transmitted to the central database in Entebbe in real time over the satellite.

The Ministry is also modernizing to automatic monitoring network, moving from the error-prone manual recording the have been depending on since the 90's. The Ministry has also signed the memorandum of understanding with the Uganda National Meteorological Authority to share data and improve services.

4.3 Exhibition

Environmental Alert with support from UCSD enabled the participation of the ENR-CSO network to showcase and share experiences, best practices, lessons and recommendations for sustainable environment and natural resources management through information, education and communication materials (IECS). These were shared with stakeholders at the exhibition stall for Environmental Alert and ENR-CSO Network. The IECS shared included but not limited to ENR-CSO performance reports, REDD+ Materials, ENR-CSO Position papers, Published reports of ENRCSO interventions, among others.

Additional Environmental Alert published by information and messages based on the themes for the 3 celebrated days (World: World Water Day 2018; International Day of Forests, 2018; and Meteorology Day, 2018) during the UWEWK. For instance, for the International Day of Forests was published in the print media. For instance, an article on, 'Sustainable Cities must have well managed forests and greenbelts,' (Zake, 2018).

4.4 Mabira central forest reserve visit

To mark World Forest Day, the ENR-CSO Team represented by EA and UCSD was led by the Ministry of Water and Environment alongside the Forest Sector Support department participated in a field visit to Mabira Central forest reserve which had been a key talking point for encroachment and illegalities in the weeks leading to the UWEWK.

The key among the reasons for the field visit was to:

- a. To re-assure the stakeholders on the intentions of MWE to save the forest and to dispel rumors of degradation and illegalities in it;
- b. Share experiences of sustainable management of forests through collaborative forestry management as exhibited by NFA and Communities adjacent to CFR's;
- c. Showcase the Ecotourism development initiatives in the CFR.



Photo 3: Hon Kibuule Ronald visits EA/ENR-CSO Network exhibition stall during UWEWK



Photo 4: Dr. Joshua Zake (PhD), the ED, Environmental Alert planting a tree to mark World forest day 2018 in Mabira CFR.



Photo 5: A field visit to Mabira Central forest reserve.

The visit was also to commemorate the international day of forests under the theme: *Forest and Sustainable Cities.* During the visit, the participants held discussions with the key duty bearers and right holders managing the central forest reserve (CFR) among which included community leaders in the major enclaves, NFA, and forest rangers who indeed affirmed to the participants the determination and willingness to protect the forest reserve that was seen to be rejuvenated. As a mark of commitment, participants were also requested to plant a tree in some of the degraded parts of the compartment 174.

5.0 Key results from the UWEWK 2018 event

The water resources institute was officially opened on Wednesday 21st March, 2018 by the prime minister of Uganda Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda. It is from this platform that he mentioned the need for the discussion of water and environment issues involve all stakeholders such as students, private sector, media, development partners and the general public.



Photo 6: Zip line (Ecotourism) site in Mabira CFR visited during the UWEWK 2018.

Since water affects us all. He mentioned that “Against growing threats of climate change and associated negative impacts to the Uganda economy, climate-resilient irrigation schemes are seen as the only way to provide reliable and sustainable water solution for Ugandan farmers.’

Other results from the UWEWK week long engagements

- a. *A guided tour of Mabira Central Forest Reserve sites such as bee farming community site, and ecotourism spots such as mabira forest canopy zipline allowed participants to appreciate the conservation interventions in Mabira CFR and how intact the CFR was contrarily to media reports of degradation.*
- b. *Increased public awareness on water and environment resources for growth and development was raised;*
- c. *Twenty five (25) years of adoption of Integrated Water Resources Management in Uganda were celebrated;*
- d. *Recent innovations, technologies and developments in the Water and Environment sector for efficient Water and Environment services delivery were showcased;*
- e. *Different stakeholders were able to explore business opportunities and trends in the Water and Environment sector;*
- f. *Ideas for long term business partnerships among stakeholders in the Water and Environment sector were exchanged. .*

6.0 Key emerging issues and recommendations

The key issues and related recommendations are derived out of the experiences and lessons through participation in the UWEWK week long activities. These are detailed in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Key emerging issues and recommendations from the UWEWK, 2018.

Issues	Recommendations
A) The UWEWK registered a low turn up from the public as well as the Environment and Natural Resources Civil Society Organisations, thus future events ought to be publicized more by all stakeholders participating.	i) The UWEWK is a good initiative, which involves participation of all stakeholders and the general public. Mobilization for stakeholders and public participation in the event should be

	stepped up. Mechanisms for reaching out to others in the public who are not able to attend should be explored.
B) NFA is greatly challenged by the under staffing (i.e. has only 300 staffs) yet they are mandated to protect and manage 506 CFRs with a total area of 1,200,000 hectares. Thus, with the current staffing, on average each staff manages more than 5,000 hectares.	<p>i) Government of Uganda should provide additional financial investments to NFA to enable recruitment of adequate staff to effectively manage and protect the central forest reserves;</p> <p>ii) NFA should pursue strategic partnerships and collaboration for co-management of the central forest reserves.</p>
<p>C) The commemoration of all the 3 internationally celebrated days during this week is applauded because with good planning it's possible to implement engagements for each day while targeting the same partners and stakeholders during the same week. Hence, it's cost effective.</p> <p>However, some days especially the World Meteorological Day was marginalized as depicted by very few engagements implemented in its commemoration based on the year's theme. Subsequently, the key partners, stakeholders and the general public missed on the reflection on the key issues, best practices and lessons learnt in the weather and climate change sub-sector.</p>	<p>i) MWE and partners should organize engagements for commemoration of each of the 3 celebrated days during the week based on the year's theme for each day. This would avoid situations where focus is placed on 1 or 2 celebrated days leaving out the other days.</p>
D) Mabira Central Forest Reserve is intact and conservation initiatives are on-going as opposed to the recent media reports on TV and newspapers in respect to encroachment and illegal tree felling & degradation. Despite, this information and opportunities presented by the forest resource are not known to the public. A case in point is the ecotourism initiative such as the ZIP-lines in the forest, little is known about this.	<p>i) NFA and FSSD is undertaking the promotion of private tree planting and community tree planting which is intended to reduce pressure on the forest reserves.</p> <p>ii) NFA should step-up public awareness for advancing investments to tap into the great potential of Mabira Central Forest reserve for tourism activities. Besides, the general public should be mobilized to participate in the current available tourism activities and facilities at the reserve. This way they will appreciate more the value and importance of the forest.</p>
E) Were as the Forest landscape Restoration is a plausible approach to advance forest conservation and sustainable management in the respective forest landscapes, the existing forestry policy and institutional program frameworks are still hinged on district based	<p>i) MWE should consider strengthening institutional capacities at regional and within each forest landscape to advance effective implementation, coordination and monitoring of restoration activities. Synergies should be built</p>

³ Zip lining is a recreation activity in which a pulley suspended on a cable, usually made of stainless steel, mounted on a slope. It is designed to enable a user propelled by gravity to travel from the top to the bottom of the inclined cable by holding on to, or attaching to, the freely moving pulley

management and governance. This means that there is weak capacity at a sub-regional level and within the landscape to implement, coordinate and monitor restoration activities within the forest landscapes effectively.	with the existing Technical Units already established within the 4 Water Management Zones.
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7.0 Conclusions

The ENR-CSO Network thus extends its appreciation towards the Ministry of Water and Environment for the consideration to participate in the first ever UWEWK 2018. This provided an avenue for CSOs to share learnings, experiences and lessons for the water and environment sector. The lessons learnt and key recommendations enlisted in **Table 1**, should be reflected upon by the organizers, partners and stakeholders of UWEWK for consideration during the planning and implementation of the 2nd UWEWK in 2019. Besides, other recommendations are of a policy and practice nature and therefore all duty bearers in the sector are encouraged to advance the implementation necessary actions. Sincere appreciation goes to UCSD for the support rendered to EA towards participation in the first ever UWEWK 2018. Additionally, Environmental Alert, the ENR-CSO Network Secretariat is applauded for the tireless efforts that made the participation successful.

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Box 3: About the ENR-CSO Network

The ENR-CSO Network was established in 2010. The driving force behind its formation was the need for the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to get organized and formalize their participation in the annual Joint Sector Review process (JSR) under the Ministry of Water and Environment. Since then, it is increasingly becoming evident that the existing critical Environment and Natural Resource (ENR) issues supersede advocacy targets via the annual joint sector review platform but rather a more holistic mechanism of engagement and better internal coordination within the network is paramount.

The ENR-CSO Secretariat *is hosted by Environment Alert (EA)* at its office in Kampala. The Network operations are supported by in-kind contributions from members, institutional support from EA and, presently, by financial support from CARE International in Uganda.

Vision, mission and goal of the ENR-CSO Network

Vision: The Vision of ENR-CSO Network is *“Uganda’s natural environment providing goods and services, on sustainable basis, for national socio-economic development.”*

Mission: The Mission of ENR-CSO Networks is to *“Mobilize CSOs to effectively promote good governance, effective management and sustainable utilization of Uganda’s natural resources”.*

Goal: The Goal of ENR-CSO is *“Ensuring that ENR-CSO network members effectively contribute to achieving good governance for effective service delivery in the ENR sector.”*

Objectives of the ENR-CSO Network

As derived from the ENR-CSO Network strategic plan, 2013-2018, the strategic objectives of the ENR-CSO Network include:

- a) *Proactively influence conservation and development policies and programmes for good governance, effective management and sustainable utilization of Uganda’s environmental resources.*
- b) *Build a credible and recognized Network within the Environment and Natural Resources Sector.*
- c) *Strengthen ENR-CSO Network and members’ capacity to implement the Mission of the ENR-CSO Network.*

Governance of the ENR-CSO Network

The network has an operational memorandum of principles which provide guidance on the governance and management of the network in order to achieve its aspirations in respect to the network’ vision, mission and objectives as stipulated in the strategic plan for the network. The governance of the network is through the Annual General Assembly as the overarching body, the Steering committee and the Thematic Working Groups.

Membership of the ENR-CSO Network

The ENR-CSO network has diverse membership of CSOs and private sector associations in environment and natural resources operating at sub-national (local/district), national and international levels and by January 2013, the network composition was at 65 members. By end of 2014, membership stood at 151 organizations. However, recently in December 2015, the network organized an annual general meeting (AGM) during which outputs from various process targeting to improve governance and leadership of the network for efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of its roles and mandates, were approved. Thus, the outputs from the AGM based on the resolutions made were:

- a) *Approval of the consolidated memorandum of principals for the ENR-CSO Network¹;*
- b) *Election and approval of the ENR-CSO Steering Committee¹;*
- c) *Approval of the Chairs and co-Chairs of the ENR-CSO Network Thematic Groups¹;*
- d) *Approval of the official members of the ENR-CSO Network, thus currently the official membership is at 45. See web page for further details: <http://enr-cso.org/signed-up-members/>*

Further information about the ENR-CSO Network is available at: <http://enr-cso.org/>

Box 4. About Environmental Alert

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.

EA is a **1st prize winner of the Energy globe award for environmental sustainability-2005 under the category, earth.**

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

EA envisions, *'Resilient and dignified communities, managing their environment and natural resources sustainably.'*

EA's mission is to, *'Contribute to improved livelihoods of vulnerable communities by enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainable natural resources management'*

Program and institutional Components:

1. *Environment and Natural resources management;*
2. *Food security and Nutrition;*
3. *Water, Sanitation and Hygiene;*
4. *Finance and Administration;*
5. *Resource mobilization and Investment.*

Scale of Implementation:

EA operates in selected districts for generation of evidence to inform policy engagements on agriculture, environment and natural resources at National and International levels. Currently EA's operations are in 20 districts across the Country. EA undertakes area wide targeted awareness on selected issues in agriculture, environment and natural resources engagements

EA is a host for Secretariat for following networks:

- a) *The Network for Civil Society Organizations in Environment & Natural Resources Sector (ENR-CSO Network) - <http://enr-cso.org/>;*
- b) *Uganda Forestry Working Group - <http://ufwg.entalert.org/>;*
- c) *The Standards Development Group (for promotion of Sustainable Forest Management in Uganda); and*
- d) *Promoting Local Innovation in ecologically oriented agriculture and natural resources management (PROLINNOVA-Uganda Network) - <http://www.prolinnova.net/uganda>;*
- e) *National CSO Network on Renewable Energy in Uganda.*

Further information about Environmental Alert is available at: <http://entalert.org/>