



## Environment Alert's Profile

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Environmental Alert (EA) was founded in **1988** and in **2018 marked 30 years** of contribution to improved livelihoods and development in Uganda through several interventions in sustainable agriculture, environment and natural resources management. EA is officially registered with the NGO Bureau 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 and achievements over the last 30 plus years.

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

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

Further information about EA's 10 year strategic plan is available at: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Summary-of-EA-strategic-plan-for-2016-to-2025.pdf>

To accomplish its mission, EA specializes in policy engagement 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 Water, sanitation and hygiene (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 is establishing an **Agribusiness and Incubation Center** on a **10 acres piece of land at Kyevunze village in Wobulenzi in Luweero district off Bombo road**. Currently the center has various crop enterprises including: *eucalyptus, bananas, and coffee*. The objective is develop it as a self-sustaining entity for income generation, demonstrating appropriate environment and natural resources management technologies, innovations and practices to the community and the wider public; and contributing to climate change mitigation through sustainable management of a eucalyptus forest by offsetting the carbon foot prints associated with EA's development activities across the country.

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

EA has vast experiences in mobilizing and coordinating stakeholders for issue based joint engagements in the agriculture, environment, natural resources, water, sanitation and renewable energy sub-sectors.

EA has played and continues to play a representation and leadership role in structured CSO lobbying and advocacy engagements at the national, sub-regional and local levels. The following are some of them:

**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 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;**

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

- i) **The *Environment and Natural Resource-CSO Network* (ENR-CSO Network)<sup>1</sup>;**
- ii) **The *Uganda Forest Working Group* (UFWG)<sup>2</sup>;**
- iii) **The *Standards Development Group*;**
- iv) **The *Promoting Local Innovations for sustainable agriculture and sound Natural Resource Management (PROLINNOVA) Network – Uganda*<sup>3</sup>**
- v) ***Renewable Energy CSO Network in Uganda*.**

EA is a member to several **CSO networks at national and local levels** for effective issue-based policy engagements to deliver common interests and goals through collaboration for tapping into synergies and pooling resources. These CSO networks include:

- i) *International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)* - <https://www.britannica.com/topic/International-Union-for-Conservation-of-Nature> ;
- ii) *The Uganda National Committee for the IUCN*;
- iii) *The Global Environment Facility CSO Network* - <http://www.gefcsso.org/www.gefcsso.org/index.html>;

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<sup>1</sup> 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. Further information about the ENR-CSO network is available at: <http://enr-cso.org/>

<sup>2</sup> 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. Further information about UFWG is available at: <http://ufwg.entalert.org/>

<sup>3</sup> 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. Further information about Prolinnova Uganda is available at: <https://www.prolinnova.net/uganda>

- iv) The *Civil Society Coalition on Oil and Gas (CSCO)* - <http://oilinuganda.org/civil-society-coalition-for-oil/> ;
- v) The *National NGO Forum* - <http://www.ngoforum.or.ug/> ;
- vi) *Participatory Ecological Land use Management (PELUM) Uganda* - <https://www.pelumuganda.org/>
- vii) *The Land Actors Platform hosted at PELUM Uganda*;
- viii) *The Uganda NGO Network on Water and Sanitation* - <http://www.uwasnet.org/Elgg/address> ;
- ix) *The Southern Voices on Climate Change Adaptation* - <http://www.southernvoices.net/en/> ;

### **EA operations and outreach**

EA scale of engagements currently involve stakeholders in **40 districts across the country** (i.e. 20 in the Albertine graben --*Arua, Nebbi, Koboko, Moyo, Adjumani, Maracha, Masindi, Hoima, Buliisa, Kagadi, Kyenjojo, Kibaale, Kasese, Bushenyi, Rubirizi, Mitooma, Rukungiri, Kabarole, Kisoro and Bundibugyo, Rakai*); Kampala, Arua, Kyegegwa, Kyenjojo, Wakiso, Mukono, Jinja, Buikwe, Luweero, Isingiro, Rakai, Kyegegwa, Gulu, Masindi, Kabalore, Kyenjojo, ...

EA as a host for Secretariat of various CSO networks mobilized and coordinated **over 250 CSOs/CBOs** for joint action engagement at national and local levels through CSO Networks such as **Uganda Forest Working Group** - <http://ufwg.ervalert.org/>; **Standards Development Group; Environment and Natural Resources -CSO Network** - <http://enr-cso.org/> ; **PROLINNOVA-Uganda Network** - <http://www.prolinnova.net/uganda> ; and **Renewable Energy CSO Network in Uganda**.

EA's area wide awareness engagements in 2019 especially through print media and radio – reached about **500000 people** (i.e. **270,000** through radio campaigns and **120,000** through print media & **110000** through social media).

**Notable** is that the detailed profile of Environmental Alert is available at: <http://ervalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/EA-profile-Updated.pdf>

### **EA Strategic and development partners**

The current strategic partners and donors supporting Environmental Alert's program are:

- i. *Care International in Uganda*;
- ii. *The World Wide Fund-Uganda Country Office*;
- iii. *Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)*;
- iv. *Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)*;
- v. *The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization*;
- vi. *The International Union for Conservation of Nature*;
- vii. *Water Aid Uganda*;
- viii. *Ministry of Water and Environment*;
- ix. *The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (UNFAO)*;
- x. *The United Nations Development Program (UNDP)*;
- xi. *GIZ-Uganda*;
- xii. *The Ministry of Water and Environment*;
- xiii. *The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development*;
- xiv. *The National Agricultural Research Organization*;
- xv. *The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)*;

- xvi. *The National Forestry Authority (NFA)*
- xvii. *Makerere University;*
- xviii. *Bukalasa Agricultural College;*
- xix. *Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG);*
- xx. *Trac FM;*
- xxi. *Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD);*
- xxii. *The Climate Action Network – Uganda.*

EA will pursue and engage strategic partners for implementation of her Strategic plan.

**Contact information**

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

**Social media platforms:**

*Face book:* Environmental Alert

*Twitter:* @Env\_Alert

**Websites for Networks:**

**UFWG:**

*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