



# **TRAINING REPORT**

## **FOR DELIVERING A CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY CSO NETWORK (RECISO NETWORK) MEMBERS IN BUDGET TRACKING AND MONITORING AT BOTH LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL**



***29<sup>TH</sup> TO 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020 AT ESSELLA HOTEL, KAMPALA***

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## **1. Introduction and background**

### **1.1 About EA and the RECSO Network**

Environment Alert (EA) <sup>1</sup>is implementing a project titled ‘Increasing access to sustainable and renewable energy alternatives in the Albertine Graben’ that aims at communities adopting sustainable renewable energy alternatives to reduce dependency on biomass for their energy needs. The project is being implemented in collaboration with Worldwide Fund for Nature - Uganda Country Office (WWF-UCO) with financial support from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad). One of the project outcomes is ‘Project CSOs have capacity to engage government and private sector on adoption of policies, legislation and best practices for sustainable and renewable energy access. There are already initiatives that have been done to contribute to the achievement of the above project outcome as described below:

- a) EA has already developed a CSOs and Networks advocacy strategy which provides a framework for the project CSOs & Networks to undertake advocacy interventions. The interventions are aimed at increasing access to sustainable and renewable energy options in the Albertine Graben to reduce the demand for biomass there by contributing to conservation of high value forest ecosystems to benefit people and nature in Uganda.
- b) In addition, WWF developed a capacity needs assessment tool that was used to assess Project CSOs and Networks in terms of the level of internal capacity and the results achieved by the CSOs in relation to WWF and other donor support in becoming effective managers, advocates and agents of change for sustainable development.
- c) The RECSO members were trained in lobbying and advocacy and were equipped with knowledge and skills in conducting advocacy work in renewable energy
- d) The project CSOs and Networks were trained on Monitoring and Evaluation as applied to lobbying and advocacy to equip members with knowledge and skills in the aspects of M & E as applied to lobbying and advocacy with practical examples on renewable energy policy engagement at both national and local level.

It’s against that background that Environment Alert conducted a two days training on the 29<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at Esella Hotel aiming at training Renewable Energy CSO Network (RESCO Network) members in budget tracking and monitoring for application during planning & budgeting processes at both local and national level to influence allocation to the renewable energy sub-sector

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<sup>1</sup> Further information about Environmental Alert detailed in the profile available at: <http://envalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/EA-profile-Updated.pdf>

## **1.2 Opening Remarks by Executive Director Environmental Alert**

The Executive Director, Dr. Zake Joshua welcomed participants to the workshop and requested them to observe COVID 19 regulations. He said that the capacity building training on budget advocacy was a buildup of other capacity building interventions that the RECSO network had already undergone including capacity assessment and identification of capacity needs, capacity building training in advocacy and lobbying and the development of the RECSO Strategic Plan. He informed participants that they were carefully selected from the 120 RECSO network members. He recognized the presence of representatives from the Regional networks in the Albertine Region and said there was representation from other participants in other parts of the country as well. He emphasized the need for active participation and sharing of experiences and to tailor the training to the real subject. He was optimistic that the participants would acquire knowledge and skills in Budget advocacy, monitoring and tracking in relation to renewable energy which will further the aspirations of the network. He encouraged participants to work as coalitions and consortium in budget advocacy and appreciated WWF and NORAD for supporting previous engagements and this training.

With regards to the approved national budget, he informed participants that overall, there has been a decrease in allocations to the renewable energy sector and that with these reductions, the sector may not be able to deliver on the targets of the National Development Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals. He further informed participants that the main allocation to renewable energy under the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development was to Hydro-Electric Power which is also not affordable and therefore not accessed by most of the people. And yet there are other clean energy alternatives that could be cheaper to the local people and these cannot be implemented due to budget constraints. He further said that these limitations and barriers were both at the Local Government and National level with only few districts that have been able to allocate resources and put in strategies for Renewable Energy. In addition, the required technical capacity to implement renewable energy technologies is also still lacking at Local Government level.

## **1.3 About the WWF No plastics policy and environment and social safeguards**

Dr. Zake Joshua, the Executive Director of Environmental Alert, informed participants that WWF came up with new policies such as the environmental and social safeguards (ESSF) and No plastics polices. He asked participants to always be conscious on how various intervention impact on environment and social safeguards and how these can be mitigated to have minimum negative impacts. He informed participants that the No plastic policy is discouraging use of plastics as per government policy, but this is a gradual process that will culminate into a total burn of plastics. In line with the WWF No plastics policy, he informed participants that EA had influenced the hotel management not to provide the plastic mineral water bottles but rather to provide a water dispenser from which participants would draw water with re-usable non-plastic bottles or glasses. He urged participants to adhere to this policy by using metallic bottles during the workshop and to lead by example wherever they go. He informed participants that EA was already implementing this policy and was also engaging at higher level to discourage plastics.

## 1.4 Workshop Objectives

The overall objective of the training was to train and equip members of the network with knowledge and skills in budget tracking and monitoring for application during planning and budget processes at both local and national level to influence allocation to the renewable energy sub-sector.

## 2. Budget advocacy and analysis

### 2.1 Introduction to Budget Advocacy

According to participants Budget Advocacy means lobbying and negotiating for a budget that favors a sector especially in government. The facilitator further clarified that budgeting starts right from our homes where some of the budget items include security (e.g. for burglar proof, dogs at home); health (to cater for medical bills); energy (charcoal, firewood, solar, biogas, UMEME bills). He emphasized the phrase 'public budget' which implies these are budgets or funds for citizens and that is why citizens raise concerns when public funds are misused. He gave an example of the 10bn which MPs allocated themselves and the kind of advocacy that happened to force the MPs to return the money.

On the mandate for citizens, he flushed Articles 17 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda on Duties of the Citizen G) pay of taxes. He emphasized that every citizen pays taxes knowingly or unknowing. Some of the taxes are so small that they cannot be felt at individual level but cumulatively, they amount to big sums of money. He gave an example that if government extracts just UGX 100 from 20million people this is equivalent to 2bn. Thus, citizens need to advocate for the best use of their money.

### 2.2 Mandate of citizens to participate in budget advocacy

The facilitator referred the participants to the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda 1995 and the Public Finance Management Act 2015.

#### a) Constitution of the Republic of Uganda 1995

Article 38 Civic Rights and activities.

- 1) Every Uganda citizen has a right to participate in the affairs of government, individually or through his or her representatives in accordance with law.
- 2) Every Uganda has a right to participate in peaceful activities to influence the policies of government through civic organization

#### b) Public Finance Management Act 2015

This was put in place to manage the way government manages public funds especially the way government gets supplementary funds. The facilitator gave an example of the 2019/20 financial year where most supplementary budgets were classified meaning citizens have limited demand for accountability for such funds. Participants wanted to know whether citizens have no mandate to demand for accountability on classified supplementary budgets and expenditure. The facilitator said the Auditor General and Parliamentary Accounts Committee has mandate to know how these funds are used but they restricted to reveal to the public

## 2.3 The budget process in Uganda

### 2.3.1 National Budget Process in Uganda

There are three major stages, and these include

- 1) Budget preparation
- 2) Budget Approval
- 3) Budget execution, M&E and Audit

The facilitator projected the National Budget Cycle and explained to the participants each of the stages, the time when they take place, the key entry points for CSOs at each stage.

#### Key critical issues to consider about the budget process

- a) The facilitator cautioned participants of laws that come up around April every year with intention of government to access money in form of supplementary budgets for various sectors. Such laws require active participation of civil society, block parliament from passing them especially when they are intended to misuse public funds.
- b) He cautioned participants on laxity especially during the Christmas period and end of year festivities because during that time important budget meetings continue to take place. He said that 20 budget frame works papers are submitted to the MoFEPD around that time where a lot of mistakes and omissions are likely to occur and that is why Civil Society must actively engage around that time. He therefore asked participants to show commitment for their cause to budget advocacy for renewable energy or else they will always be behind schedule. He emphasized that the budget process is time bound and that there should be no deal darling.

#### Questions and answer session

After the session on the Budget cycle, participants asked the following questions and received responses from the facilitator

Questions	Facilitators response
How best do we prepare ourselves as CS to participate?	You need to work together in coalitions and also to working with thematic working groups at CSBAG
Do you have a clue on how to join the thematic working group?	Apply as member as coalitions, or individuals online and further visit the CSBAG for more advice
Are budget committee members not subject to compromise?	They are good at scrutiny, but the challenge is whether they have the backbone and stick to it. The budget committee work is undermined by the politics in parliament, but they have the capacity to deliver a good budget. The problem is that they are influenced a lot by their party coccus decisions
If Parliament acts contrary to	Yes, this can be taken to litigation/court. The rule of law is as strong as the

<b>what Budget Committee has recommended is there a legal way this can addressed?</b>	strength of its citizens. If the citizens are weak then if even if the law is strong, the strong people in government positions will take advantage of the weak masses/citizens. He gave an example how through the strong voice of the citizens MPs were forced to return 20m each which they had apportioned for themselves during the COVID 19 lockdown period
<b>At what point do we lobby for budget?</b>	Lobbying is ongoing but target individuals such committee chairperson to give you space or committee clerks who provide information when the committee is going to meet and happens within the bigger framework of budget advocacy

### 2.3.2 Local government budget process in Uganda

#### a) Local Government Budget Consultations at sub county and parish level (Sept – Oct)

These are conducted at sub county and parish levels to get views of the community or public on certain issues affecting various sectors including the health sector.

#### b) Regional budget Conferences (Oct – November)

- The Local Governments’ Budgets and Plans form an integral part of the National Budget.
- A series of local government consultative workshops are held to launch the preparation of the Local Government Budget Framework Papers (LGBFPs).
- These start at the regional level (that is several districts from the same region coming together) and then at the district level. The workshops which are facilitated by the Ministry together with representatives from relevant sectors are attended by political leaders and heads of departments from the local governments, CSO’s, FBO’s private sector etc. The purpose of the workshops are to:
  - Disseminate Government priorities for the next financial year
  - Disseminate the indicative planning figures for Central Government transfers to Local Governments
  - Identify and discuss policy issues which affect the operations of local governments.

#### c) District budget conferences (Oct- Nov)

- These are conducted at the district level immediately after the regional budget conferences have been conducted. They bring various stakeholders operating at the district and the lower local government level to discuss the budget indicative figures and key issues of concern for inclusion in the budget.

#### d) District Budget Framework Papers Nov – December)

- Each District and Municipal Local Government prepares a Local Government Budget Framework Paper (LGBFP).
- The LGBFPs are guided by the long-term Local Government Development Plans as well as any emerging issues and priorities of the communities within the Local Government. Different departments in each Local Government contribute to the LGBPF, just as they do contribute to the preparation of their budget estimates.

- The consultations enable the development of a report which summarizes the key issues that affect service delivery in the local governments. The consultations also are the basis for preparation of LGBFPs, which all Local Governments submit to the MoFEPD.
- Each District and Municipal Local Government prepares a Local Government Budget Framework Paper (LGBFP).

He informed participants that we are in NDP III and its now an opportunity to put issues of RE.

### **March**

- During this Draft Department Budget Estimates and Annual workplans submitted are to Budget Desk. This is also an entry and an opportunity to engage the District Planner to smuggle in issues RE issues.
- In March the budget is present before district council and this is another entry point where CSOs can engage councilors to ensure issues of RE are included. CS can participate from the gallery of council to watch what the councilors they engaged prior to the council seating are saying.

### **Key reflections from the participants**

- a) Participants expressed that sometimes many districts are not able to utilize the funds budgeted for certain activities.
- b) The concern of participants was that about the bureaucracies in procurement. They were informed that the PPDA was reviewed to ease the procurement process and the local content ACT.

The facilitator urged them to monitor and ensure that their your districts utilize or the money. On the delay of funds, he informed participants that its now government policy that every 1<sup>st</sup> 10 days of every quarter of the year funds should be released by Min of finance to districts.

### **2.4 Budget Analysis**

After presentations and discussions of the national and Local Government budget process, the facilitator introduced the topic on budget analysis which he said was about understanding the contents of the budget in terms of figures and what it is intended to achieve under different sectors. He introduced participants to the government website [www.budget.go.ug](http://www.budget.go.ug) where all information at national and local government levels could be obtained.

He also demonstrated how to find information on renewable energy, details of budget figures and items budgeted for using “control and find” command for both national and local government budgets. The demonstration included calculating the ration of energy budget to that national budget, ration of RE budget to overall energy budget, percentage reduction or increases of energy/RE budget allocations for different years and identifying the actual outputs budgeted for under RE. For the 2019/20 budget, it was found that while there was a budget for RE, the budgeted items mostly included, wages, meetings and works and travels. There were activities specific to developing renewable energy technologies to benefit citizens. Participants were introduced to intra-sector Budget Advocacy where they focus on advocating for some funds to be transferred from other forms of energy such as oil and gas to Renewable Energy.



### **Group Work on Budget Analysis**

Participants were divided into two sub-national and National groups. Sub-national level had two groups which analysed the Arua and Hoima District budgets respectively. The National level group comprised of CSOs operating at national level. All groups used a set of questions as given below and were guided to the [www.budget.go.ug](http://www.budget.go.ug) website to carry out the analysis.

#### **Guiding Questions for Group Work**

##### **National group**

1. Review the National Budget and identify where they speak about renewable energy
2. Carry out a trend analysis for the Energy Sector at the National Level for the last three financial years 2018/19 – 2020/21 and establish the nominal (actual money) and percentage changes across the years
3. Carry out an intersectoral analysis of the Energy Sector Budget versus the National Budget for 2020/21.
4. Carry out an intra-sectoral analysis of the Energy Sector to identify the different votes and the nominal as well as the percentage allocation for each vote

##### **District groups**

1. Review the District Budget and identify where they speak about renewable energy
2. Carry out a trend analysis for the Natural Resources allocation at the district level for the last three financial years 2018/19 – 2020/21 and establish the nominal and percentage changes across the years
3. Carry out an analysis of the district budget and compare the Natural Resources Budget versus the District Budget for 2020/21.
4. Carry out an intra-sectoral analysis of the District Natural Resources budget for 2021 to identify the different allocations of wage, non-wage, and development in both nominal as well as the percentage allocation for each budget line.

Overall, the analysis showed very low budgets for natural resources and energy sector both national and local levels. The energy budget for renewable energy is predominantly for Hydro Electric Power which is not accessible to the citizens. At district level the focus is on the natural resources but is still very low in Hoima and Arua districts with renewable energy not featuring as an independent sector with a budget line or a vote. Below are the findings of the three groups that conducted the budget analysis for Arua, Hoima and National level budgets.;

### **Presentation of Arua District Budget analysis**

#### **a) Does the budget speak about natural resources**

- Natural Resources B1: Overview of Work plan Revenues and Expenditures by Source
- 0983 Natural Resources Management
- Total cost of Natural Resources Management
- Workplan: Natural Resources

**b) trend analysis for three financial years**

YEARS	2018/2019	2010/2020	2020/2021
Estimates	359,792	1,653,533	2,202,817
Nominal		1,293,741	549,284
%		<b>360</b>	<b>33</b>

The nominal/actual budget increased by 36% in financial 2010/2020 compared to 2018/2019 while it increased by 33% in 2020/2021 indicating a reduction in finance to ENR sector by 3%. The discussions indicated that funds invested in the sector by NGOs in Arua were not included in the budget 2020/21 financial year and this is responsible for the low nominal budget in 2020/21.

**c) Comparison of the natural resources Vs District budget**

	2020/2021
Natural resources	2,202,817
District budget	98,694,168
% natural resources	2

This represents a very low budget being given to Natural resources.

**d) Intra - sectoral analysis of the district natural resources budget for 2021 to identify the different allocations of wage, non-wage and development in both nominal as well as %**

	Nominal	Percentage (%)
Wage	86,174	4
Non-wage	73,683	3
Development	2,024,000	93
TOTAL	2,183,857	



*Figure 1: Representatives of the national level CSOs analyzing the National budget in respect to renewable energy allocations*

## Presentation of Hoima District budget analysis

1. Review the District Budget and identify where they speak about Natural Resources
  - Wetland planning, regulation and promotion
  - Tourism Development
  - Tree Planting and Afforestation
  - Training in Forestry Management
  - Forestry Regulation and Inspection
  - Community training in wetland Management
  - Riverbank and wetland restoration
  - Stakeholder Environmental Training and sensitization
  - M&E for environmental compliance
  - Land Management services

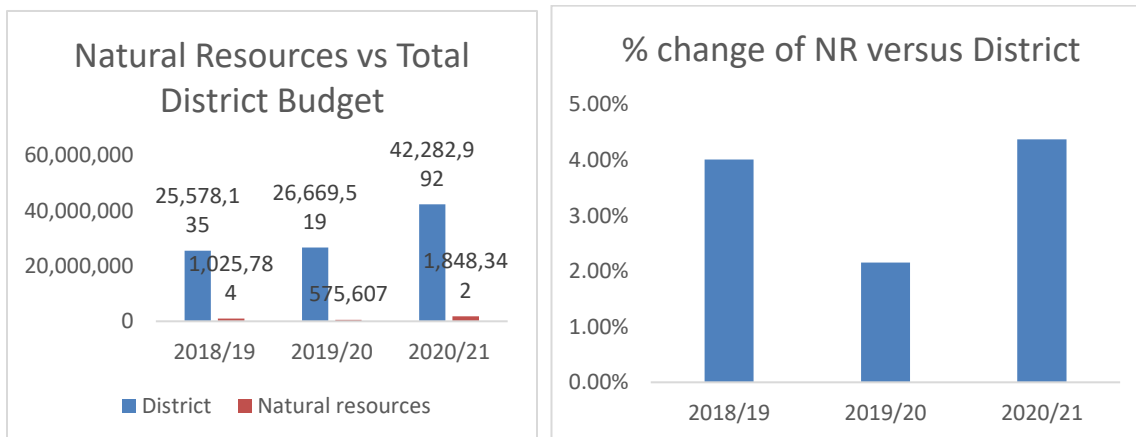


*Figure 2: A group discussing renewable energy budget trends for Hoima district.*

2. Carry out a trend analysis for the Natural Resources allocation at the district level for the last three financial years 2018/19 – 2020/21 and establish the nominal and percentage changes across the years

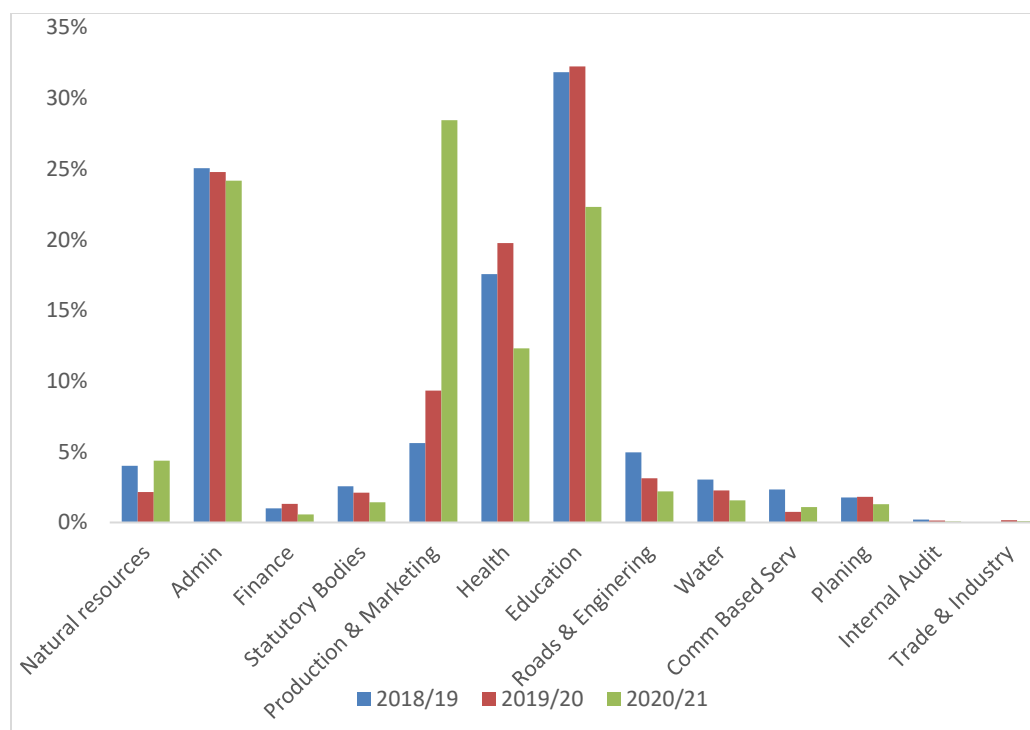
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Natural Resources	1,025,784	575,607	1,848,342
% change	-44%	221%	

3. Carry out an analysis of the district budget and compare the Natural Resources Budget versus the District Budget for 2020/21.



4. Carry out an intra-sectoral analysis of the District Natural Resources budget for 2021 to identify the different allocations of wage, non-wage and development in both nominal as well as the percentage allocation for each budget line.

	Natural Resources Vs other sectors								
	2018/19	%	RANK	2019/20	%	RANK	2020/21	%	RANK
<b>District</b>	<b>25,578,135</b>			<b>26,669,519</b>			<b>42,282,992</b>		
Natural resources	1,025,784	4%	6	575,607	2%	6	1,848,342	4%	5
Admin	6,412,208	25%	2	6,609,455	25%	2	10,219,098	24%	2
Finance	257,977	1%	11	351,647	1%	10	240,077	1%	8
Statutory Bodies	653,208	3%	7	562,621	2%	6	607,584	1%	8
Production & Marketing	1,438,695	6%	4	2,487,526	9%	4	12,030,748	28%	1
Health	4,493,716	18%	3	5,272,989	20%	3	5,212,187	12%	4
Education	8,146,675	32%	1	8,604,555	32%	1	9,440,614	22%	3
Roads & Engineering	1,271,125	5%	5	834,494	3%	5	931,457	2%	6
Water	778,660	3%	7	602,305	2%	6	665,109	2%	6
Comm Based Services	594,835	2%	9	201,025	1%	10	462,460	1%	8
Planning	452,262	2%	9	486,609	2%	6	548,571	1%	8
Internal Audit	52,991	0%	12	38,326	0%	13	34,361	0%	13
Trade & Industry	0	0%	13	42,360	0%	12	42,385	0%	12



## Group presentation of Budget analysis for the national level

### 1) Trend analysis for the Energy Sector at the National Level for the last three financial years 2018/19 – 2020/21

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
	1,756,702,257	1,865,250,470	1,878,561,376
Percentage change		6%	1 %
Change (Nominal Value)		108,548,213	13,310,906

### 2) Comparison of energy sector with other sectors for 3 financial years 2018/19 – 2020/21

Sector Comparison	2018/19	2019/20	
Defense	4,402,048,427	2,523,487,051	134
Public service	30,247,819	1,848,313,557	98

### 3) Intra- sectoral Analysis of the energy budget at national level

Sectors	Wage	Non-Wage	Total	Percentage
Energy resources directorate	0			1.216346

		504,000	504,000	
Renewable energy dept	0	1,010,841	1,010,841	2.299434
Energy efficiency -dept	0	1,010,000	1,010,000	2.297521
Electrical power dept	0	41,435,578	41,435,578	94

### Recap of Day one

The recap of day one focused on the key learning's from previous day and areas that would require emphasis if given an opportunity for another training as described below;

Key learning areas from Day One	Suggested areas for more emphasis in another training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Legal framework/mandate to participate in budget advocacy (Article 17 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda which spells out powers and obligations of citizens)</li> <li>b) Finding budget documents online using <a href="http://www.budget.go.ug">www.budget.go.ug</a> as a resource center</li> <li>c) Budgeting process/budget cycle</li> <li>d) Identification of budget gaps related to renewable energy</li> <li>e) Entry points for CSO participation in the budget cycle</li> <li>f) Budget analysis/tracking including intra and inter sector budget analysis</li> <li>g) How the budget is broken down and percentage allocations for different sectors or departments</li> <li>h) It is not enough to look at the figures but the figure is intended to achieve “the devil of the details”</li> <li>i) Importance of budget advocacy</li> <li>j) Budget Advocacy and lobbying at local government level and the LG budget process</li> <li>k) Power and voice to influence through networks and coalitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Use of tracking systems to engage different stakeholders</li> <li>b) Need more practice on analysis of budget</li> <li>c) Steps to follow in involving grassroots communities in budget advocacy</li> <li>d) Legal and institutional frameworks for Budget advocacy</li> <li>e) Skills for financial sustainability for the renewable energy sector</li> <li>f) Key aspects to consider when conducting budget advocacy</li> <li>g) Identification of renewable budget issues from approved budgets</li> <li>h) Tools to be used during budget monitoring and tracking</li> <li>i) Raising public interest and awareness in budget advocacy</li> <li>j) Steps to consider in case renewable energy is not included in district budgets</li> </ul>

From the discussions it was clear that participants had attained relevant knowledge and skills from the sessions of the first day to engage in Budget advocacy at local and national levels in line with the budget cycle. It was however noted that some of the areas suggested as areas that need more emphasis were to be covered on the second day.

The facilitator urged participants to take the training beyond the classroom and practice what they had learnt in order to gain more skills. He also clarified that the knowledge gained on the rights of citizens to participate in budget advocacy should be used to as a basis for raising public interest and awareness in budget advocacy. He also encouraged participants to read in detail literature related to budgeting and the legal frameworks that give mandate to citizens to participate in budget advocacy. Most of the areas suggested for more emphasis in another training were addressed on the second day of the training while others needed participants' commitment and interest to practice budget advocacy after the training.

### 3. Budget monitoring and tracking

#### **Participants' understanding of Budget monitoring**

Participants described budget monitoring in the following ways

- Budget monitoring considers process and final allocations
- It's about follow up on the advocacy process across the cycle
- It's about following up on budget allocations per financial

#### **Participants understanding of Budget tracking**

- Following on the budget progress
- Following on the budget trends
- Monitoring and tracking are similar and complementary

#### **Group work**

After an elaborate discussion on budget monitoring, its importance and the tools and approaches used for budget monitoring and tracking by the facilitator, participants embarked on a group exercise to develop monitoring indicators for budget monitoring. Participants were asked to reconvene in their groups at national and sub-nationals for the previous day. The groups were asked to review their budget analysis for the previous day to identify budget advocacy issues and thereafter develop M&E indicators for at least one of two issues. The groups work focused on Arua and Hoima district budgets and National level budgets and below are some of the outputs from the exercise.

## Group presentation on Arua budget

### Key budget advocacy issues under natural resource sector for Arua district

- a) Inadequate distribution of funds allocated for natural resources at Higher Local Government (99%) and Lower Local Government (1%).

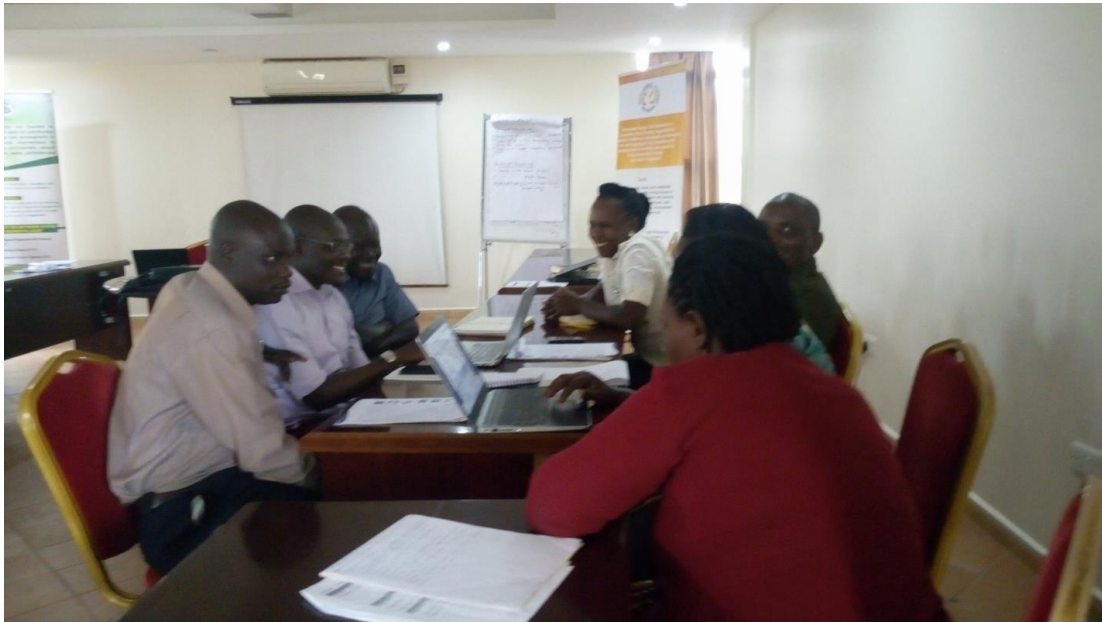
Lower Local Government	18,960,000	1	
Higher Local Government	2,183,857,000	99	
	2,202,817,000	100	

- b) Inadequate budget allocation for Biomass renewable energy e.g. tree planting Agricultural Supplies - 1,480,000; Forestry Regulation and Inspection, 2,000,000

**NB.** Also consider other issues like release, utilization

**Some of the indicators developed in relation to Budget advocacy issues identified above included the following;**

- % of funds allocated for natural resources at Higher and Lower Local Government
- % of funds allocated for renewable energy related activities
- Number of Ha of trees planted and surviving



*Figure 3: Arua group discussing renewable energy budget advocacy issues and indicators for monitoring*



### Group presentation on Hoima budget

The group identified lack of clear and budget allocation for renewable energy as the main budget advocacy issue to follow up. The matrix below shows the framework of indicators that the group thought would be used to monitor advocacy related interventions

Issue	Objective(s)	Indicators	Means of Verification
No clear mention & budget allocated for Renewable energy issues	To integrate, plan and budget for renewable energy issues at various levels	# of LGs recommending Renewable energy issues in their planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting minutes</li> </ul>
		# of specific engagement meetings with relevant stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting minutes</li> <li>Lists of attendance</li> <li>Audio-visual evidence</li> </ul>
		# of local governments (Higher and lower) that have renewable energy issues in their budget framework papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget framework papers</li> </ul>
		% of renewable energy commitments in the budgeted amounts at different levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft budget statements</li> </ul>
		% of RE budget compared to the total approved budget (different levels)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approved budgets</li> <li>Minutes of council for approval</li> </ul>

Participants noted that the group had gone step further to define their advocacy objective to guide the development of indicators. That although the group did not explicitly indicate at what stage of the budget process, they would track their indicators, they included some process indicators. The group still needed to further refine the advocacy objective especially to be clear with how much budget they were advocating for and for what period or financial years.

### Group presentation on the national budget

#### Renewable Budget advocacy issues at National level

- a) Budget Size-No Budget allocation for the Energy Sector (Ministry Vote)
- b) Budget priority (sector allocation) not aligned to the Renewable Energy requirements (administrative expenditure and not to output)
- c) Stakeholder engagement to access renewable energy technologies at HH level (increase energy consumption)

## Indicators for selected issues

Issue	Indicators
Budget Size-No Budget allocation for the Energy Sector (Ministry Vote)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % increase towards the energy sector of the national budget</li> <li>• No. of engagement meetings at with policy makers at parliament (energy committees)</li> <li>• No. of engagement meetings with stakeholders</li> <li>• No. of Policy briefs</li> <li>• No. of Position papers (studies)</li> </ul>
key renewable energy budget issues prioritized in the budget (allocated)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % increase allocation at Ministry level towards renewable energy</li> <li>• Tangible investment in the energy sector towards energy efficiency (quality and Quantity) of energy products at for domestic markets</li> </ul>

## Participants reflections from the national level group presentation

- a) Following the presentation by the national level group, participants observed that the indicators especially on budget the percentage of budget allocation did not have to focus of increase percentage but rather to be left open so that the increase or decrease will come as a result of the advocacy efforts.
- b) It was observed that the indicators especially on number of meetings were not a good measure for measuring the need for bigger budget for Renewable Energy but rather what was important was the commitments coming from such meetings.
- c) It was agreed that the number of meetings were would be documented as process activities. Equally members said that indicators on policy briefs and position papers would not be valid as the focus is not to document many of those but rather what outcomes from one position or policy brief.
- d) For all groups it was noted that they had not explicitly included process indicators.
- e) It was therefore emphasized that for a budget advocacy issue that involves going through the budget cycle, its import to have indicators at each of the stages of the budget cycle i.e. from budget preparation to implementation.

### Participants opinions on the Challenges of budget advocacy

- i. Lack and limited knowledge about the facts related to budget information
- ii. Resistance from duty bearers
- iii. Misconception about advocacy i.e. equitation to investigation
- iv. Timing within the budget cycle for engagement
- v. Knowledge levels of the decision makers to read/interpret the budgets
- vi. Threats/attacks to budget advocates
- vii. Limited resources (financial and HR) to engage in BA
- viii. Selfishness from the concerned parties
- ix. Arrogance and lack of respect

## 4. Action planning

Below are the generated action plans by the participants for four networks that is RECSO, SASEN, NASEN and MASEN for the period August to December 2020;

### 4.1 Action plan for national level CSO's August-October 2020

Overall, National level CSOs have planned to:

- a) To input into the 2021/2022 budget cycle
- b) Review and follow up on the ongoing 2020/2021 budget

Below are detailed activities the national CSOs have planned to implement during the period August-December 2020

Organizations	Planned Activities
i. Vi-Agroforestry	Unpacking the activities under the renewable energy sector in the 2020/2021 budget a) Monitoring and tracking b) Participate in the joint sector Review meetings c) Develop a position Paper d) a stakeholders meeting to develop the position paper e) EA should Request for a draft statement from the ministry and the network inputs into it.
ii. Tree Talk Plus	
iii. Ages Considered	
iv. Association of Uganda Professional women in Agriculture and Environment	
v. Action for Rural Women Empowerment	
vi. Water and Environment Media Network	
vii. Arocha Uganda	Lobby the upcoming contesting politicians to include renewable energy into their manifestos
viii. Uganda Coalition for Sustainable development	Mapping out our target lobby groups
ix. TEENS Uganda	Tapping into the CSBAG- Thematic working group on energy
x. Living Earth	participate in the Renewable energy committee under the Ministry
xi. Albertine Rift Conservation Society	Global Green Growth Institute in the ministry of Finance but hosed in the ministry of energy as a platform for engagement.

### 4.2 Action plan for MASEN members

Organisation	Planned Activities
MASEN	Mobilize the community to participate in the budget process at the different levels
	Develop capacity of community members to advocate for Renewable energy issues in their community
	Hub members to convene and do Budget Analysis for renewable issues in the various districts
	MASEN members participate in budget conferences and Technical Planning Committee meetings (Sub-county and District) to have renewable energy issues integrated

#### 4.3 Action plan for SASEN August-October 2020

Time	Activity	Responsibility	Output
August	CSO's meeting/training on Budget Advocacy	KIIMA Foods hub	CSO's trained in budget Advocacy
September	CSO's tracking and analyzing the advocacy issues in their district budgets	SASEN Members	Issues identified from the district budget on RE
September	Submission of budget advocacy issues for discussion and packaging	SASEN Members and KIIMA Foods	Advocacy issues prepared for presentation to stakeholders at respective districts
October	Engagement meetings with stakeholders on RE budget issues in their district budgets	SASEN	RE issues incorporated in the district budget framework papers
On-going	Follow up and monitoring	SASEN Members	RE issues incorporated in district budgets
Dec	Reporting	KIIMA Foods	

#### 4.4 Action plan for NASEN August -October 2020

Organisation	Planned Activities
<b>NASEN</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Member organizations in the Northern Hub joining CSBAG</li> <li>2. Conduct analysis of the LG budgets for the past three years in districts and generate key budget advocacy issues</li> <li>3. Participate in the Budgeting process for 2021/2022 especially the LG Budget Consultations and the Budget Conferences.</li> </ol>

### 5. Closing remarks

The Programme Assistant Renewable Energy from Environmental Alert made the closing remarks by thanking participants for having spared their time amidst COVID-19 challenges and restrictions for having made it to this training. He also appreciated the facilitators for their insightful knowledge and experience that they have shared during the two-day training with the participants. He reminded the participants to develop and share articles with EA for renewable energy as early as possible so that they could be considered for the write shop scheduled for the following week.

## ANNEXES

Proposed programme for the two days training on budget tracking and monitoring in renewable energy for members of RECSO scheduled for 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Time	Session	Responsibility
<b>Day One: Wednesday 29th /July/2020</b>		
9.00am-9.30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcoming remarks</li> <li>• Objectives of the workshop</li> <li>• Introductions</li> </ul>	Environmental Alert
9.30am-9.50am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of Project</li> <li>• Brief about WWF policy of no plastics and environment and social safe guards</li> </ul>	Environmental Alert
9.50am-10.30am	<b>Overview of Budget advocacy in Uganda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition</li> <li>• Legal and institutional framework</li> <li>• Why Civil Society Participation in Budget advocacy</li> <li>• Key aspects to consider when conducting budget advocacy</li> </ul>	Facilitator
<b>10.30 am-11.00am</b>	<b>BREAK TEA</b>	<b>EA</b>
11.00am-12.10am	<b>The budget cycle at National and District Level</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The National budget cycle and CS entry points</li> <li>• The Local Government budget cycle CS entry points</li> </ul>	Facilitator
12.10am-1.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Budget analysis</li> </ul>	Facilitator
<b>1.00pm-2.00pm</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>EA</b>
2.00pm-3.00pm	Group work on budget analysis	Facilitator
3.00pm-4.00pm	Group presentations and discussions	Facilitator

4.00pm- 4.20pm	Challenges in Budget advocacy and mitigation measures	
4.20pm-4.30pm	Closing remarks and logistics	EA
4.30pm-4.50pm	Evening Tea and departure	EA
<b>Day Two: Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> /July /2020</b>		
9.00am-9.10am	Recap of Day One	Participants
9.10am -10.30am	<p>Budget monitoring and tracking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definitions</li> <li>• Importance of monitoring and tracking national and local government budgets</li> <li>• Approaches for budget monitoring, tracking and engagement/tools for CS engagement in budget processes</li> </ul>	Facilitator
<b>10.30am-11.00am</b>	<b>BREAK TEA</b>	<b>EA</b>
11.00am-11.30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key things to consider while monitoring and tracking budget planning and implementation</li> </ul>	Facilitator
11.30am-12.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of M &amp; E indicators for budget advocacy</li> </ul>	Facilitator
12.00pm-1.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group work on M &amp; E indicators for budget advocacy</li> </ul>	
<b>1.00pm-2.00pm</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>EA</b>
2.00pm-2.40pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and discussion of group work</li> </ul>	
2.40pm-3.00pm	Action planning	Facilitator
3.00pm-3.15pm	Closing Remarks	Country Director WWF- Co Uganda
3.15pm.....	Evening Tea and departure	EA