

assessments will be conducted in respect to various interventions recommended to advance wetlands restoration, improvement of community livelihoods through promotion of alternative livelihood options for implementation within the wetlands catchment.

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.

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.

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:

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.

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)³ Network – Uganda.

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.'

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Building Resilient Communities, Wetland Ecosystems and Associated Catchments in Uganda

Assignment: 001043372

Undertaking a market study/livelihoods analysis in at least 3 of the project districts (Bushenyi, Mitooma & Sheema) to identify gaps, employment needs and income streams that are resilient to climate change, map on going initiatives and supporting implementation of identified pilot activities.

This study is contributing to the project-Building Resilient Communities, Wetland Ecosystems and Associated Catchments in Uganda- particularly on Output 2.2 of the project, that is to say; "Economically viable and sustainable agri-based livelihood and income generating interventions introduced, promoted and supported in the wetland and immediate catchment".



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A) Background

In order to contribute towards addressing the impact of the climate change, in September, 2017, activities for the project: **Building Resilient Communities, Wetland Ecosystems and Associated Catchments in Uganda were initiated**. The project is funded by the Global Climate Fund, the accredited agency is UNDP and the responsible partner is the Ministry of Water and Environment. It will run for 8 years from 2017 until 2025.

To achieve this, the project will employ a three pronged approach including; restoration of wetlands and associated forests, improved agricultural practices and alternative livelihood options in the wetland catchment areas and strengthening access to climate and early warning information to farmers. It is anticipated that the restored wetlands will also enhance communities' climate change adaptation and resilience, by reducing risk to flooding and drought associated with changing climatic conditions.

About 4million people are estimated to be living adjacent to wetland areas in Uganda and rely on these areas to feed their families and make a living. Wetlands are also an important ecosystem that captures carbon and their conservation will contribute to lowered greenhouse gas emissions.

The project will also diversify economic activities for the vulnerable communities living in the South western and Eastern regions of Uganda through the introduction of improved fishing and agricultural practices among other activities.

These efforts will be key for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals particularly Goal 11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities, Goal 13 on Climate Action, Goal 14 on Life below water as well as Goal 15 - life on land.

The project will be implemented by the Ministries of Water and Environment, Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries together with the Uganda National Meteorology Authority. It will also engage various civil society (**Environmental Alert-EA**) and the private sector groups.

Assignment

Environmental Alert was commissioned to undertake a market study/livelihoods analysis in at least 3 of the project districts (Bushenyi, Mitooma & Sheema) to identify gaps, employment needs and income streams that are resilient to climate change, map on going initiatives and supporting

implementation of identified pilot activities.

This study undertaken by EA is contributing particularly to the project Output 2.0 Activity 2.2 of the project, that is to say; "Economically viable and sustainable agri-based livelihood and income generating interventions introduced, promoted and supported in the wetland and immediate catchment".- This activity aims at scaling up successful livelihood activities in the COB-WEB project such as eco-tourism, aquaculture and dairy products (GCF)and implement the recommendations from the COB-WEB terminal evaluation on engaging the private sector for increased eco tourism (GCF)

B) Specific Objectives of the assignment

- i. Undertake a market study to identify gaps, employment needs and income streams that are resilient to climate change and map on-going initiatives;
- ii. Undertake a livelihoods analysis to identify gaps, employment needs and income streams that are resilient to climate change and map on-going initiatives;
- iii. Undertake a gender study to identify gaps, employment needs and income streams that are resilient to climate change and map on-going initiatives;
- iv. To support implementation of pilot interventions in selected districts i.e. Bushenyi, Mitooma, Shema, in South-western Uganda.

C) Expected outputs from the assignment

- i. Current and potential economically viable and sustainable agri-based and other off-farm livelihood and income generating interventions that are resilient to climate change. The focus will be on interventions or enterprises that reduce wetland degradation such as papyrus harvesting, apiary, mushroom production, fishing;
- ii. Assessment of community training needs along the enterprise value chains and recommend the best implementation mechanism for the trainings;
- iii. Current and potential private sector engagement in the enterprise value chains and recommended best mechanisms to engage the private sector in wetland restoration;
- iv. Identified market linkages to market, financial and business development services/institutions;
- v. List and profiles of existing local groups and cooperatives in sustainable agri-based and other off-farm livelihood and

income generating interventions, recommended opportunities for value addition across three value chains;

D) Scope of the Assignment

a) Geographical scope

The project study shall be carried out in **3 South western** districts of Uganda (**Bushenyi, Mitooma & Sheema**) –in which Environmental Alert (EA) will be a responsible partner in this project

b) Technical scope

I Gender: The current use of the wetlands by gender shall be discussed including gender roles and benefits analysis done during the early stage of the assignment. Wetland users shall be categorized into women, men, girls, boys, youth, and elderly

II Livelihoods at local and national level: Surrounding communities are largely dependent on wetlands as the main source of income and food security, although in varying degrees in the direct and indirect values to these communities. Thus the project will seek to understand how communities benefit from the wetlands given the increasing population around these wetlands.

c) Markets:

Wetland resources in Uganda provide many substantial benefits not only to local society, but also to the people who live far away from them. Some of the benefits are marketed and can be allocated for monetary values, while others are used at subsistence level and do not have a direct reflection of their monetary values. A detailed analysis shall be done on the economic benefits in monetary terms for selected key wetland goods and services.

d) Environmental and Social assessment:

The Building Resilient Communities and Ecosystems through Restoration of Wetlands and Associated Catchments in Uganda, project requires that an Environmental and Social Management Plan will be developed and implemented as one of the mechanisms for addressing environment and social impacts from project interventions

Noteworthy: The referred Environmental and Social Management Plan will be developed based of information and data generated through conducting Environment and social assessments. In this context therefore, environment and social