

INCENTIVES TO BIOMASS
PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION
“AN EXPERIENCE FROM
MUBENDE LOCAL
GOVERNMENT”



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Introduction

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- o The high population increase has led to deforestation thus reduction in biomass
- o There is thus encroachment on both forest reserves and forests outside protected areas ;
- o Trees are cut down for firewood, timber, and charcoal as more land is opened up for farming and settlement
- o Charcoal production is more common in forests around urban centres of Mubende to meet the local energy demand.
- o However, commercial charcoal burning has spread to other government, public, and private forests especially those of savannah woodland areas

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Uganda



- o The charcoal from savannah woodland tree species such as *combretum* has a higher demand because they produce better charcoal.
- o A lot of charcoal from these forests is sold along the Mityana-Mubende highway.
- o The increase in the population especially in the urban areas has encouraged charcoal production since it is the cheapest and more reliable source of cooking energy.
- o The reduction in biomass is more escalated by the demand for industrial and furniture, timber
- o The building for new industries, residential, commercial and institutional buildings such as school, hospitals, churches and civic centres to grow in both urban and rural areas.

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Uganda



- Forestry is crucial to the lives of people of Mubende, especially the poorest sections of society.
- Studies shows that nearly 15% of the total population in Mubende depend on these resources for livelihood
- About 76% of villages in Mubende were involved in selling some tree products, mainly poles, timber, firewood and charcoal and mainly marketed on-farm and in town markets.
- Thus the biomass forms part of the livelihood of the great majority of population, mainly in the informal economy.

incentives to advance private sector investment in biomass production and utilization



- o Public investment in forestry as a means of poverty eradication is strong in most areas of the district.
- o Many people depend on forestry for all or part of their livelihoods and energy needs
- o The district through its funds and donors placed emphasis on promoting sustainable utilization of the natural resources especially forests

Incentives cont



- o Form financial year 2008/2009 the district instituted the tree fund from local revenue
- o Assorted seedlings worth 10,008,000 were supplied to tree farmers.
- o In collaboration with NFA we have distributed hitherto assorted tree seedlings as well
- o With Support SCC Vi Agroforestry communities were given tree seedlings for energy production and also taught and built energy saving stoves
- o The district still budgets and implements this as a major output area
- o Under the LVEMP II energy saving stoves were constructed institutions and trainings held

Incentives cont

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- Under the green charcoal project the district distributed about 1,4 million seedlings for biomass production
- Through the GCP we Provided 84 units of casamance kilns
- We also gave one retort Kiln on of the biomass farmer



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- o We trained and provided full briquerring machines to 3 community groups
- o The District has further put in place mechanisms for associations in through which they benefit. (Charcoal Producers, tree planters)
- o We support private nurseries materials and technical support
- o Next financial year we shall procure Casamance kilns
- o We are identifying biomass planters to support with planting materials
- o Under DDEG, the district established a tree nursery to raise assorted tree seedlings for distribution
- o We also procured surplus seedlings for institutions (Churches schools,HC)

Bottlenecks to advancement of the incentives



- o The land tenure system: Under the Mailo land tenure system, which is most widespread in Mubende, it is rather hard to control the high rate of deforestation.
- o The land owners do not allow tenants to plant trees once planted are considered to be land lords
- o Women who are most affected by depleted biomass do not own land
- o Most land owners perceive indigenous trees best for biomass as of low economic value and the very existence of the trees, a denial to the economic survival of the owners.
- o Furthermore, Mubende District is largely an agricultural district with over 78.2% of the population engaged in peasant farming

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- o Insufficient funds:- as noted most the funds were donor funds.
- o The budget to natural resources department is very meager
- o Demand driven initiatives are usually hard to influence. Tree planters prefer what the market demands and provides quick returns
- o Politically motivated planning and budgeting influences the investment options
- o Insufficient planting material seedlings to cater for all categories

Recommendations to enhance access available incentives by the private sector



- o Increase funding to local governments inform of conditional grants
- o Budget prioritization toward support of biomass production
- o Including biomass indicators in the PBS
- o Mainstream biomass initiatives in government programs such as Youth livelihood program (YLP), Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Program (UWEP)

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- o Ensuring land security especially those on Mailo land the provision of certificates of occupancy to tenants
- o Registration of private forests as required by the National forestry and tree planting Act and regulation 63 of the NFTP 2016
- o PPP i.e CFM



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