

**THE SECOND NATIONAL REPORT TO THE CONFERENCE OF PARTIES ON THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT  
DESERTIFICATION (UNCCD) IN UGANDA**

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## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

<b>ADF</b>	African Development Fund
<b>CBD</b>	Convention on Biological Diversity
<b>CBO</b>	Community Based Organization
<b>CCA</b>	Common Country Assessment
<b>CCD</b>	Convention to Combat Desertification
<b>CIDA</b>	Canadian International Development Agency
<b>COP</b>	Conference of Parties
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organisations
<b>DANIDA</b>	Danish International Development Agency
<b>DDPs</b>	District Development Plans
<b>DEAP</b>	District Environment Action Plan
<b>DFID</b>	Department for International Development
<b>DSCD</b>	District Steering Committee on Desertification
<b>EIA</b>	Environment Impact Assessment
<b>EIS</b>	Environmental Information System
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility
<b>GM</b>	Global Mechanism
<b>GoU</b>	Government of Uganda
<b>GTZ</b>	German Technical Cooperation
<b>IDA</b>	International Development Agency
<b>IGAD</b>	Inter-Governmental Authority on Development
<b>INCD</b>	Inter-governmental Negotiating Committee on Desertification
<b>IRDI</b>	Integrated Rural Development Initiative
<b>IUCN</b>	The World Conservation Union
<b>JEPP</b>	Joint Energy and Environment Projects
<b>LGDP</b>	Local Government Development Plan
<b>LSSP</b>	Land Sector Strategic Plan
<b>LWF</b>	Lutheran World Federation
<b>MAAIF</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
<b>MFPEd</b>	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
<b>MISP</b>	Multi-stakeholder Integrative Sustainable Planning
<b>MoLG</b>	Ministry of Local Government
<b>MTEF</b>	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
<b>MTP</b>	Medium Term Plan
<b>MUK</b>	Makerere University, Kampala
<b>MWLE</b>	Ministry of Water Lands and Environment
<b>NAP</b>	National Action Programme
<b>NARO</b>	National Agricultural Research Organization
<b>NCB</b>	National Coordinating Body
<b>NCCD</b>	National NGO Coordinating Committee on Desertification
<b>NEAP</b>	National Environment Action Plan
<b>NEIC</b>	National Environment Information Centre
<b>NEMA</b>	National Environment Management Authority
<b>NEMP</b>	National Environmental Management Policy

<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>NSC</b>	National Steering Committee
<b>NUSAF</b>	Northern Uganda Social Action Fund
<b>PAF</b>	Poverty Action Fund
<b>PEAP</b>	Poverty Eradication Action Plan
<b>PMA</b>	Plan for Modernization of Agriculture
<b>REDC</b>	Renewable Energy Development Centre
<b>SIDA</b>	Swedish International Development Agency
<b>SNV</b>	Netherlands Development Cooperation
<b>SRAP</b>	Sub-Regional Action Plan
<b>SVI</b>	Voluntary Service International
<b>SWAP</b>	Sector Wide Action Plan
<b>ULAMP</b>	Uganda Land Management Project
<b>UNCCD</b>	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNEP</b>	United Nations Environmental Program
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change
<b>UNFCD</b>	Uganda National Fund to Combat Desertification
<b>UNSO</b>	United Nations Sahelian Office to Combat desertification
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>WSSAP</b>	Water Sector Strategic Action Plan
<b>WSSP</b>	Wetlands Sector Strategic Plan
<b>WSSP</b>	World Summit on Sustainable Development

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Introduction**

Uganda signed and ratified the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 1994 and 1997, respectively, and has in accordance with Article 10 of the convention, formulated a National Action Program (NAP) to combat desertification. The Uganda NAP is a framework that seeks to ensure that strategic planning takes into account sustainable development issues of dryland areas with a focus on poverty alleviation, food security and sustainable environmental management.

Poverty eradication is the key development objective of Government addressed through Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP). Under the PEAP, sector-wide plans have been developed. Agriculture being the lead sector for modernizing the economy, a Plan for the Modernization of Agriculture (PMA) has also been put in place. The NAP will re-enforce implementation of the PEAP and the PMA as it seeks to address land degradation and drought issues.

However, implementation of NAPs and the UNCCD in general is constrained by inadequate financial resources. In order to address this constraint, Parties are encouraged to prioritize and integrate NAPs into key national development frameworks and ensure budgetary allocation for NAP activities. Therefore, in addition to other actions, Uganda has focused its efforts on mainstreaming NAP priorities into national development strategies, promoting dialogue on resource mobilization, partnership building and development of synergies with other conventions and institutions.

### **Purpose of the National Report**

This report serves to inform Parties to the Convention about the situation in Uganda regarding measures taken to implement the CCD at the national level and to assess progress made towards achieving the objectives of the CCD. The report is also intended to contribute to strengthening of the institutional and human capacities of the National Focal Points and stimulate steps to integrate NAP into government's development strategies in context of sustainable development.

### **National plans and strategies available in other social and economic areas**

Government has instituted macro-economic and civil service reforms and adopted policies of liberalization, privatization and decentralization which have guided the planning and implementation of national plans and strategies. Uganda's main development framework is the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP). The PEAP, guided by the Vision 2025, has four fundamental pillars, namely: creating an enabling environment for sustainable economic growth; good Governance and Security; increasing the incomes of the poor; and improving the quality of life of the poor. Building on the pillars of the PEAP, Ministries prepare sector-wide plans (SWPs). These include, among others: The Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA); National Agricultural Research Organization's Medium Term Plan (MTP); Land Sector Strategic Plan (LSSP); Wetland Sector Strategy Plan (WSSP) 2001 - 2010; Rural Electrification Strategy and Plan (2001-2010); National Disaster Preparedness and Management Action Plan;

Health Sector Strategic Plan; and Education Sector Investment Plan. The PEAP and sectoral plans also set the framework for preparation of District Development Plans (DDPs) and District Environment Actions Plans (DEAPs).

Weak institutional collaboration and coordination is a key constraint in planning and implementation of the above plans. In addition, local governments are constrained by limited financial resources and unable to see immediate benefits of investing in long-term environmental concerns such as desertification. They, therefore, give priority to immediate and urgent concerns, such as health and education.

The above constraints can be addressed through institutional capacity building and continuous sensitization of sectoral and local government planners and implementers on their roles and the need for institutional collaboration. Application of the Multi-Stakeholder Integrative Sustainable Planning (MISP) methodology (NEMA, 2001) recently developed by NEMA would further facilitate closure of the gaps between policies.

### **Scientific and technical desertification control activities**

Some of the scientific and technical activities identified under the NAP include studies to establish extent of land degradation, economic costs of land degradation and drought, and land capability classification. Development and dissemination of energy saving and post-harvest handling technologies, technologies that reduce drudgery on women, and early warning systems for small-scale farmers has taken place. The NAP also stresses the need to incorporate indigenous technologies, knowledge and skill, use of client-oriented technology approaches and systems, utilization of on-the-shelf technologies at research institutes and establish a national committee for science and technology for combating desertification.

Some research activities relevant to the UNCCD Committee on Science and Technology proposed under the NARO medium term plan (2001 – 2010), include: development and promotion of appropriate crop varieties for drought prone areas; improved methods and technologies for restoration and maintenance of soil fertility, conservation, sustainable management and efficient utilization of forest resources; agro-forestry and technologies for sustainable land use; integrated management of livestock diseases; dry season feeding strategies for ruminant livestock; improvement of the genetic potential of indigenous livestock; farm power sources, tools and implements for land preparation, planting, weeding and agro-processing; water harvesting and utilization technologies for households, crops and livestock; Other research activities include: technologies for post-harvest handling and storage of agricultural produce and enhancement of the quality and shelf life of fruits, vegetables, roots and tubers; diagnostic studies of client needs and market analysis for different product systems; integrating environmental concerns NARO activities such as technology generation and dissemination; and policy research for improving productivity and sustainability of agricultural production systems.

## **Institutional measures taken to implement the convention**

A functional National Coordinating Body (NCB) was established in 1997. Details are highlighted in the first National report. However, restructuring of government departments and changes in the planning approach have affected the efficiency of the NCB. Hence, it has been recommended that the composition of the National Steering Committee (NSC) for NAP implementation be revisited to include representatives of those sectors having plans directly relating to implementation of the NAP; key working groups e.g. dealing with poverty, agriculture modernization and environmental issues; relevant donor sub-groups; and increase representation of civil society organizations.

Further to the institutional measures discussed in the First National Report, additional areas of capacity building being planned include: awareness raising and continuous dialogue to build a critical mass of well informed and well- placed individuals who can influence policy, budgets and legislation to integrate CCD and NAP issues; training sector planners, district technical staff and NGOs; sensitize national level policy makers and district councilors on the mainstreaming approach for NAP implementation; develop an information system for effective information exchange among stakeholders; and develop synergies with other conventions and institutions.

## **National Action Programmes as part of the National Economic and Social Development and Environment Protection Plans**

The NAP, derived through a consultative process, is linked with the major national development frameworks i.e. the PEAP and the PMA. The NAP priority programme areas include, among others: water development, management and conservation; afforestation and agro forestry; improvement of marketing systems and infrastructure; support to local community level initiatives; and participatory planning and co-ordination of these initiatives. These priority areas are no doubt very consistent and relevant to the PEAP strategies for improving the livelihood and incomes of the poor as well as good governance for efficient delivery of services for poverty eradication. Similarly, they are consistent with the intervention areas of the PMA. The on-going process to mainstream NAP priority issues into national development plans includes preparation of position papers to strengthen the NAP as a strategic framework for action in the achievement of the objectives of the above plans. The national planning process in Uganda integrates the CCD principles of participation, partnership and program approach which are reflected in the broad participation of various actors in the planning process (See Chart 1 in main report).

In the recent past, Uganda has instituted several legal and regulatory policies aimed at improving environmental management and to ensure sustainable development of the country. A number of these were highlighted in the First National Report. However, since then several other policies have been instituted. These include: National Soils Policy (2001), Forest Policy (2000) and the Energy Policy (2000).



## **Participatory process in support of preparation and implementation of action programmes**

The development of most policies and plans in Uganda usually consist of several broad consultative meetings and workshops involving wide representation of stakeholders, such as politicians, ministers, districts, donors, NGOs, private sector, civil society and the media. The planning processes at national, sectoral and district levels, including the budgeting process, have been designed with mechanisms to facilitate broad participation of stakeholders and take into consideration the views of local communities. Recent examples of this are the Participatory Poverty Assessment (2001), a basis for revision of the PEAP; the participatory processes to prepare the LSSP, Forestry Policy and Soils Policy; and the preparation of District Development Plans and District Environment Actions Plans. Other activities carried out with broad participation of stakeholders include: consultation to formulate a Strategy for mainstreaming gender into the NAP process; consultation meetings and workshops on the road map for NAP implementation; National forum on development of synergies between four environmental conventions; planning meetings and training to establish an Environment Information System (EIS) on the Internet; developing a Multi-stakeholder Integrative Sustainability Planning (MISP) methodology.

In addition, the on-going process to prepare a road map for NAP implementation supported by the UNCCD Secretariat and the Global Mechanism (GM) of the UNCCD has registered a high level of enthusiasm and participation of bilateral and multilateral partners, demonstrated by the high level representation in meetings and other related activities.

At the national level, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development launched a National Action Plan on Women in December 1999. The plan gives a framework upon which interventions at community, district, and national levels can be coordinated during the five-year period from 1999-2004. It particularly aims at achieving equal opportunities for women by empowering them to participate and benefit from economic and political development.

## **Consultative process in support of the preparation and implementation of NAPs and partnership agreements with developed country parties and other interested entities**

Government has requested all external partners to articulate their support around the PEAP. In the revised PEAP (May 2001), a list of **Partnership Principles (Chart II** in main text) that can help in attaining efficiency gains in the allocation and management of resources among competing demands has been drawn. A number of additional measures have been put in place to ensure participation of international partners in supporting national development efforts, including the NAP. Steps have also been taken to sensitize and involve more actively the lead institution (Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development) in donor negotiations while planning the way forward for NAP implementation and the resource mobilization efforts. Donor co-ordination mechanisms have been established with a view to avoiding duplication but direct resources to fill critical gaps such as those that may be identified under the NAP resource requirement. One of the benefits of such mechanisms is the Common Country Assessment; a collaborative effort of UN agencies pooling together their analytical capacities to carry out the assessment using a people centred approach. The mechanism is a better way of promoting

synergies among their various programmes and partnership with other actors. Existing sector Donors Sub-groups e.g. on Agriculture, Water, Environment and Energy provide an opportunity for dialogue with government and other stakeholders in planning and implementation of development programmes and projects e.g. the donor sub-group on agriculture has been consulted in the on-going preparation of a road map for NAP implementation. The other sub-groups will also be consulted in due course.

### **Measures taken or planned within the framework of national action programmes**

In addition to measures reported in the first national report, some of the established technical programmes and functional integrated projects to combat desertification that have been designed and/or implemented include: the Second Agricultural Research and Training Project; Technical Study for Livestock Water Points in Karamoja; Emergency Provision of Water for Livestock in the Karamoja Region; Sustainable Energy Use in Household and Industry Project; Assistance to Control of Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP); Income Generation and Sustainable Livelihood through District Development Centres; and Land Use Change Analysis as an Approach for Investigating Biodiversity Loss and Land Degradation.

Other measures include a study to prepare a road map for NAP implementation and resource mobilisation, develop synergies with other related environmental conventions, and prepare a Bill to establish a Uganda National Fund to Combat Desertification (UNFCD)

The NAP is also linked with the Sub-regional Action Program (SRAP) for Combating Desertification particularly with regard to trans-boundary and cross cutting issues. Some of the on going activities in this regard include: development of information networks; establishment of facilitation funds and National Desertification Funds; establishment of a Sub-regional Committee for Science and Technology for CCD implementation; review and harmonisation of legislation relevant to combating desertification; awareness raising on NAP and CCD for high level policy and decision-makers; and resource mobilization efforts for implementation of the NAPs and SRAP.

The Regional Action Programme (RAP) has identified key thematic programmes consistent with the capacity building needs outlined under NAP. Uganda has already benefited from the thematic programme on rangelands with information to enhance the on going preparation of a rangelands management policy.

NGOs and CBOs, through their umbrella association, the National NGO Coordinating Committee on Desertification (NCCD), have also carried out a number of initiatives with financing from CORDAID. The activities include establishment of a secretariat, carrying out awareness, consultation and planning meetings with local NGOs and CBOs in nine (9) dryland districts and dissemination of information about NGO/CBO activities through a bi-annual newsletter called "NCCD News". Under the energy sector, ACDI/VOCA, Integrated Rural Development Initiatives (IRDI), ACORD Renewable Energy Development Centre (REDC) are involved in improved biomass energy dissemination, capacity building among local communities, improved stoves through commercialization of efficient wood stoves. Voluntary Services International (SVI), Lutheran World Federation and Church of Uganda are

disseminating energy saving technologies and soil and water conservation practices in Karamoja region. At the Sub-regional level, NGOs in IGAD, through RIOD are developing a partnership with the GM, CIDA and several other donor agencies to start a Community Exchange and Training Programme.

### **Financial allocations from national budgets in support of implementation as well as financial assistance and technical cooperation received**

Uganda has demonstrated commitment to raising funds for environment and natural resource management. For example, the budget allocation for environment and natural resources increased 44-fold from 6.2 billion in 1997/98 to 253.3 billion in 2001/2002 fiscal year (MFPED, 2002). Uganda has further benefited from debt relief amounting to US \$ 2 billion and these resources have been channeled to the key poverty reducing areas as identified in the PEAP. Compared with 1997/98, the year prior to receipt of the debt relief, expenditure in poverty reduction areas has increased from Ug. Shs. 144 billion to Shs 609 billion in 2001/2002. This represents an increase of 353% and underlines the country's commitment to poverty reduction.

Originally, it was planned that a Uganda National Fund to Combat Desertification (UNFCD) would be set up to address land degradation and desertification issues. Indeed, steps had been taken to this effect, including drafting a Bill for the fund, which was awaiting cabinet and parliament's approval. However, due to a change in the planning process, it is now felt that financing desertification activities should first and foremost be integrated into the available sectoral financing mechanisms, such as the PEAP, PMA, NAADS, Road and Water Sectors etc Other funding opportunities that can be accessed include: Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF), Land Fund, Rural Electrification Fund, Global Environment Facility (GEF), African Land and Water Initiative, Soil Fertility Initiative for Africa, and Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund.

### **Review of benchmarks and indicators utilized to measure progress and assessment thereof**

A system is being put in place to monitor environmental degradation in Uganda. NEMA's National Environment Information Centre (NEIC) has a key component for regular monitoring and evaluation. An Environmental Information Network (EIN) has also been established under NEMA, with about 21 member institutions.

Some sectoral initiatives currently involved in monitoring land degradation and vegetation change include: the National Biomass Study Project in the Department of Forestry, the Department of Soil Science, Makerere University, and Uganda Wildlife Authority. These units are, however, still limited in manpower and equipment. These environmental monitoring units are also working in isolation, without any formal collaborative measures. A monitoring system for the NAP is also not yet formulated. However, a number of impact indicators have been developed according to NAP objectives.

## **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

Uganda occupies an area of 241,000 km<sup>2</sup> of which 14.0% is open water, 3.2% permanent swamp, 6.5% National parks, 6.3% forest reserves and 70% arable land. The human population is estimated to be 22 million people of whom 51.2% are female and 48.8% are males. About 88.7% of the people live in rural areas, depending primarily on the land resource for their livelihoods, while 11.3% are urban dwellers. An estimated 88% of the women live in rural areas and account for about 80% of the agricultural production.

The Government of Uganda (GoU) signed the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD) in 1994 and ratified it in 1997. In accordance with Article 10 of the CCD, steps were taken to consult with stakeholders and formulate a National Action Program (NAP) to combat desertification. The NAP is a framework, which seeks to ensure that strategic planning takes into account sustainable development issues of dryland areas with a focus on poverty alleviation, food security and sustainable environmental management.

Poverty eradication is the key Government development objective. Accordingly, a broad plan known as the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) was put in place. The PEAP has guided the formulation of government policy since its inception in 1997. Under the PEAP, sector-wide plans are developed. Agricultural sector, being the engine of economic growth, food security and improving incomes for the poor, takes the lead in modernising the economy. In this regard, a sector-wide Plan for the Modernisation of Agriculture (PMA) has been elaborated.

During the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CCD, Country Parties unanimously noted that resource mobilization for implementation of the CCD was still a major challenge. Parties were, therefore, encouraged to prioritize and integrate NAPs into key national development frameworks such as poverty reduction strategies and ensure budgetary allocation to NAP activities.

In addition to the on-going action to implement the CCD and the sectoral and district plans/programmes, Uganda has put special emphasis on mainstreaming NAP priorities into national development strategies. It is also promoting dialogue with all stakeholders (e.g. national level policy and decision makers, and bilateral and multilateral partners) on resource mobilization for NAP, and development of synergies with other related environment conventions.

### **1.2 Purpose of the National Report**

The purpose of the national report is to inform Parties to the Convention of the situation in Uganda regarding measures taken to implement the CCD at the national level. The report also gives an assessment of progress made towards achieving the objectives of the CCD. It also contributes to strengthening of the institutional and human capacities of the National Focal Point, thus improving his ability to coordinate the NAP to combat desertification. It would also stimulate further steps to integrate NAP into government's development strategies in context of sustainable development. The report has been prepared in accordance with guidelines from the CCD Secretariat in Bonn, Germany.

## **CHAPTER TWO: STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND/ OR POLICIES**

### **2.1 National plans and strategies available in other social and economic areas**

The GoU has over the years instituted macro-economic and civil service reforms, and adopted policies of liberalization, privatization and decentralization. These policies have given rise to a number of plans and strategies outlined below.

#### **2.1.1 The Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP)**

Uganda's development process is guided by the country's development aspiration known as Vision 2025, which aims at creating a **“Prosperous People, Harmonious Nation, Beautiful Country”** by the year 2025. This Vision is translated into a national development policy framework for poverty eradication known as the PEAP, with the objective of reducing mass poverty to 10% by the year 2017. The first PEAP was drawn and implemented from 1997-2000.

The PEAP is the government's development framework from which detailed sector plans are derived. Equally, Government has requested all external partners to articulate their support around the PEAP. Accordingly, the PEAP is the starting point for efforts to mainstream and mobilize resources for NAP's implementation. The PEAP undergoes revision every 3 years, starting with a situation analysis in the second year to identify emergency concerns. These are then prioritised in the review of the PEAP in the third year. The process is participatory, involving consultation of stakeholders on national priorities for the PEAP. The review provides an opportunity to incorporate new information. The latest revision of the PEAP was concluded in May 2000.

Fundamental to the PEAP strategy is the concept that the best way to address poverty among the local people is not to provide handouts, but to enable households earn decent incomes and to facilitate improvement in the quality of their lives. In this regard the revised PEAP is anchored on four fundamental pillars, namely:-

- a) Creating an enabling environment for sustainable economic growth. This focuses on:
  - improving the performance of the financial sector, including micro-finance institutions;
  - continued liberalization of the economy;
  - improved fiscal performance;
  - developing medium term framework for integrating strategic policy decision making with planning and budgeting in order to have comprehensive expenditure programmes driven by policy decisions and disciplined by hard budget constraints.
- b) Good Governance and Security is equally essential for confidence building and improved service delivery for poverty eradication. The focus of the PEAP in this regard is to improve transparency, accountability and popular participation in decision-making

under a decentralized administration as enshrined in the Local Government Act (1997). In this regard, institutional arrangements for service delivery are critical for effective implementation of the PEAP. These include delineation of the role of the state vis-à-vis those of the private sector and civil society, and the efficiency with which the public sector carries out its functions.

- c) Increasing the incomes of the poor through, among others, provision of infrastructure facilities (e.g. roads) to improve farmers access to markets, improved land laws (to guarantee security of tenure), support to modernization of agriculture (to improve total factor productivity in rural and farm areas), improved market infrastructure, telecommunications and rural electrification (to facilitate development of rural agro – processing and other non farm employment in rural areas).
- d) Improving the quality of life for the poor through improved primary health care, water and sanitation, primary education, and preserving and promoting sustainable use of natural resources and the environment. It is recognized under this pillar that provision of essential services is a basic requirement for poverty eradication, and the building of human capital will in turn enhance the potential of the poor to earn income.

### **2.1.2 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF)**

Existing medium-term plans cannot be effective if they are not translated into actual budgets. The MTEF is the overall mechanism for allocating resources to support priorities articulated in the PEAP, whereby the sector and district plans can be addressed and implemented. Generally, the sector and district budget framework papers are consolidated into the MTEF, and any changes to strengthen dryland issues in the PEAP are to be reflected in the MTEF to ensure corresponding resource allocation.

High priority areas for the MTEF are: roads, agricultural research/extension, primary education, primary health care, and water and sanitation. Other related areas are: good governance, environmental sustainability, increased access to justice by the poor, ensuring accountability, and economic development.

### **2.1.3 Sector-wide plans**

Building on the pillars of the PEAP, Ministries prepare sector-wide plans (SWAP). Each SWAP elaborates, among others, the priorities, expected outputs of the sector expenditures, and the activities funded to achieve the desired outputs.

#### **2.1.3.1 The Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA)**

The Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (2000) is a strategic framework, implemented through multi-sectoral interventions, aimed at achieving the broader objective of poverty eradication as enshrined in the PEAP. The target of the PMA is to transform subsistence agriculture to commercial or market oriented production. It contributes to the third pillar of the PEAP, namely: increasing incomes of the poor by rising farm productivity, promoting market-

oriented farming, and alternative off-farm livelihoods, particularly in rural communities such as those living in Uganda's drylands

Consistent with CCD principles, the PMA is implemented through a decentralized bottom-up planning process that identifies and addresses key constraints at the local level through public sector interventions involving policy adjustments, public sector investments, or new public service delivery mechanisms.

The PMA's seven intervention areas are closely linked to the NAP priority areas making PMA the most appropriate entry point for integration of NAP priorities. The intervention areas are: Research and technology development; Agricultural advisory services; Agricultural education; Access to rural financing; Agro-processing and marketing; Natural resources utilization and management; and Supportive infrastructure.

#### **2.1.3.2 National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS)**

One of the interventions developed under the PMA to improve delivery of advisory services to farmers in rural areas, such as those living in drylands is the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS). The NAADS, established in 2001 by Act of Parliament, aims at developing a demand-driven client-oriented and farmer-led agricultural service delivery system, particularly targeting the poor and women. The principal guidelines of NAADS program are:- empowerment of farmers in agricultural advisory processes and building the demand for both research and advisory services; deepening decentralization to bring control of the services, research and advisory services nearer to the farmers; managing natural resource productivity and harmonization of donor supported projects with PMA principles. NAADS, however, has not adequately targeted dryland districts in its initial phase of operation.

#### **2.1.3.3 National Agricultural Research Organization's Medium Term Plan (MTP)**

The National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO) has put in place the Medium Term Plan for the period 2001-2005 to guide its activities in the new millennium. The MTP draws upon the considerable experience gained in the past decade and defines ways in which NARO can further enhance its contribution to national development.

Under the MTP, NARO is addressing Government's sectoral goals of poverty eradication, environmental conservation and food security, which have a direct bearing on the drylands development. The four central themes of NARO's research portfolio namely: germplasm and natural resource management technologies; technology adaptation and farmer empowerment; policy research; and capacity building are expected to strengthen research in dryland issues and contribute to effective implementation of the NAP. In doing this, NARO is also reflecting Government processes relating to democratization, decentralization, liberalization, privatization and increased public participation.

#### **2.1.3.4 Water Sector Strategic Action Plan (WSSAP)**

Sustainable supply and use of water for human, livestock and irrigation purposes is particularly important in dryland where drought and water scarcity are a common occurrence. The WSSAP

is geared to sustainable management of water resources so as to have adequate quantity of good quality water for the present and future generations. The plan aims at achieving sustainable safe water supply and sanitation facilities, based on management responsibilities and ownership by the users, within easy reach of 65% of the rural population by the year 2005. Then eventually to serve 95% of rural population by the year 2015. The national focus in addressing water scarcity in the cattle corridor districts is to construct a medium sized dam in each parish.

#### **2.1.3.5 Land Sector Strategic Plan (LSSP)**

The Land Sector Strategic Plan (LSSP) is one of the planning instruments designed to provide operational, institutional and financial framework for implementation of the Land Act (1998). The plan will also contribute to the effective implementation of other frameworks, including the NAP, and give guidance to the management of common property resources such as lands managed under communal systems in the in the pastoral areas. The LSSP will be implemented in two phases. The initial phase (2001 – 2004) focuses on development of a national land use policy while the second phase (2004 – 2011) will facilitate development of district land use policies and bylaws. The plan, among other principles, emphasizes compliance of management of the land resource with broad social and economic objectives, environmental sustainability, cost effectiveness and participatory planning.

#### **2.1.3.6 Wetland Sector Strategy Plan (WSSP), 2001-2010**

The wetlands are a key resource whose conservation will lead to sustainable water supply, biodiversity conservation and alternative livelihoods for communities in drylands. The Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment (MWLE) launched the WSSP in February 2001. The WSSP aims at giving purpose and direction to wetland management and conservation activities in Uganda for the next ten years. Under the plan, a wetlands program was developed to manage wetlands using a decentralised community based approach where district wetland action plans are developed and integrated into district development plans.

#### **2.1.3.7 Rural Electrification Strategy and Plan (2001-2010)**

Some of the causative factors of desertification identified in the NAP include the increasing dependence on fuel wood, minimal electricity supply to the rural areas and absence of alternative energy sources. The Rural Electrification Strategy and Plan under the Energy Sector is a framework upon which the electrification process will develop within the broad national strategy for poverty eradication, the national energy policy, and the power sector strategic plan. The key goal of the strategy is to achieve a rural electrification coverage rate of 10% from the current 1% by 2010.

The Strategy and Plan are designed to overcome the main barriers to rural electrification by establishing the appropriate framework composed of a Rural Electrification Agency, a Rural Electrification Board, a Rural Electrification Fund allowing provision of grants and subsidies on investment costs, and a Rural Electrification Master Plan to provide information on investment opportunities. The Rural Electrification Agency is expected to be in place by mid 2002.



As a step towards the implementation of the strategy and plan, members of the Rural Electrification Board have been appointed chaired by the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development.

#### **2.1.3.8 National Disaster Preparedness and Management Action Plan**

The plan aims at ensuring that disaster preparedness and management concerns are addressed at national, district and local levels, and to promote the integration of disaster management into the national socio-economic development planning process. Government also uses the plan to coordinate all the stakeholders and raise resources for the planned activities. It is noteworthy that some of the major disasters occurring in Uganda are associated with famine resulting from prolonged drought mostly in the dryland areas. The plan is implemented through structures, which include: a National Disaster Preparedness and Management Commission under the Prime Minister's Office; an Inter-Ministerial Consultative Committee on Disaster Preparedness; Sector Disaster Response Committees; District Disaster Management Teams; and Local Disaster Management Committees.

#### **2.1.3.9 Health Sector Strategic Plan**

The plan, launched in 2000, aims at reducing morbidity and mortality from major causes of ill health in Uganda. Priority actions include the delivery of the minimum quality healthy care package nationwide, and strengthening the health care delivery system and the legal and regulatory framework. Implementation of this plan has greatly contributed to health improvement of populations living under poor socio-economic conditions, such as those prevailing in Uganda's dryland areas.

#### **2.1.3.10 Education Sector Investment Plan**

The Education Sector Investment Plan aims at ensuring equity of access to all levels of education with specific emphasis on regional and gender imbalances, and special education needs of children. Implementation of this plan has resulted in a number of achievements, which include increased access to primary education, especially by the poor. This has led to an increase in primary school enrolment from 2.6 million in 1997 to 6.0 million in 2000 (UNDP, 2000). Under the plan, a revision of the school curriculum was undertaken with support of DANIDA under the Agricultural Sector Programme Support Project. The revised curriculum now incorporates key issues of sustainable land use, agriculture and environment. In addition, the plan has promoted the Alternative Basic Education for Karamoja (ABEK), a project that encourages mobile schooling for nomadic children in Karamoja region.

### **2.1.4 District Plans**

#### **2.1.4.1 District Development Plans**

The PEAP and sector plans set the framework for preparation of district plans. Under Uganda's decentralized system of governance, the local governments are responsible for implementation of sectoral plans and programmes based on local priorities. District Development Plans (DDPs)

and Sub-county Development Plans (SDPs) prepared in a participatory and bottom up approach have integrated and implemented some of the NAP priority areas.

#### **2.1.4.2 District Environment Action Plans (DEAPs)**

The District Environment Action Planning process initiated in 1998 has made it possible for environmental issues to be planned and budgeted for as part of the district and local development plans. The DEAP process starts from the parish level with preparation of Parish Environment Action Plans leading to preparation of Sub-county Environment Action Plans (SEAP) and finally District Environment Action Plans. At all levels the process involves participatory meetings with local production and environment committees and other key actors and stakeholder representatives in identifying key environmental issues to be addressed. The DEAPs and SEAPs are then integrated into District and Sub-county Development Plans and budgets respectively.

#### **2.1.5 Major setbacks in national strategies/ plans and how they are addressed**

Weak institutional collaboration and coordination is a key constraint in planning and implementation of the above plans. In addition, local governments constrained by limited financial resources and unable to see immediate benefits out of investing in long-term environmental concerns such as desertification, give priority to immediate concerns such as health and education.

The above constraints can be addressed through institutional capacity building and continuous sensitization of sector and local government planners and implementers on their roles and the need for institutional collaboration. Application of the Multi-Stakeholder Integrative Sustainable Planning (MISP) methodology (NEMA, 2001) would further facilitate closure of the gaps between policies.

### **2.2 National plans or strategies in the field of combating desertification developed prior to the UNCCD**

National plans and strategies in the field of combating desertification developed prior to the UNCCD are well discussed in Chapter 2 of the First National Report, Section 2.2, page 4.

### **2.3 Scientific and technical desertification control activities**

Some of the scientific and technical activities identified under the NAP include studies to establish extent of land degradation, economic costs of land degradation and drought, and land capability classification. Development and dissemination of energy saving and post-harvest handling technologies, technologies that reduce drudgery on women, and early warning systems for small-scale farmers has also taken place. The NAP also stresses the need to incorporate indigenous technologies, knowledge and skill, use of client-oriented technology approaches and systems, utilization of on-the-shelf technologies at research institutes and establishment of a national committee for science and technology for combating desertification.

One of the significant steps taken to promote scientific and technical know-how has been the introduction a Bachelor of Land Use and Management Degree course in the Department of Soil Science, Makerere University starting 2001/2002 academic year. In addition, a review of curricular of schools and training institutions, including universities, to re-orientate them to the current national development objectives and priorities is underway. The reviews have significantly increased in the curricular elements of land use agriculture and environment. A project on Integration of soil and water conservation practices in farming systems in Katakwi District implemented by the Department of Soil Science, Makerere University has carried out studies on nutrient balances and will soon be embarking on studies of water balances in the district. With funding from the Netherlands Government, the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a pilot project on Promoting Farmer Innovations (PFI) in water harvesting and soil conservation that has made significant achievements in promoting use of traditional knowledge, know-how and practices in three districts of Uganda's drylands. The Meteorology Department undertakes research activities, especially in the area of climate variability and climate change, with the overall aim of improving the ability to assess, project, and/ or forecast potential climate-related impacts in the country.

Some research activities relevant to the UNCCD Committee on Science and Technology being implemented under the NARO medium term plan include: development and promotion of appropriate crop varieties for drought prone areas; improved methods and technologies for restoration and maintenance of soil fertility, conservation, sustainable management and efficient utilization of forest resources; agro-forestry and technologies for sustainable land use; integrated management of livestock diseases; dry season feeding strategies for ruminant livestock; improvement of the genetic potential of indigenous livestock; farm power sources, tools and implements for land preparation, planting, weeding and agro-processing equipment; water harvesting and utilization technologies for households, crops and livestock; technologies for post-harvest handling and storage of agricultural produce and enhancement of the quality and shelf life of fruits, vegetables, roots and tubers; diagnostic studies of client needs and market analysis for different product systems; integrating environmental concerns in technology generation and dissemination and in other NARO activities; and policy research for improving productivity and sustainability of agricultural production systems.

## **CHAPTER THREE: INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE CONVENTION**

### **3.1 Established and functional National Coordinating Body (NCB)**

The status, role and function of the National Coordinating Body (NCB) are adequately reported in the First report (chapter 3, pages 5-8).

However, restructuring of government departments and changes in the planning approach have over time affected the efficiency and effectiveness of the NCB. Consequently, the composition and functioning of the NCB will be reviewed as proposed under the on-going process to prepare a road map for NAP implementation. This review is aimed at improving effectiveness of the NCB in coordination with key decision making centres, dissemination of information, periodic reporting on implementation as well as monitoring implementation of NAP. To achieve this, the composition of the National Steering Committee (NSC) for NAP is to be revisited to include representatives from: (i) those sectors having plans that directly relate to implementation of NAP; (ii) representatives of key working groups dealing with poverty, agriculture modernization and environmental issues; (iii) representatives of relevant donor informal groups; and (iv) increase representation of civil society organizations

### **3.2 Implementation framework for coherent functional desertification control**

The strengthening of institutional framework is well discussed in the First National Report, Chapter 3, page 8.

The following additional areas of capacity building are proposed to improve effectiveness of the CCD implementation framework:

- a) Create a critical mass of well-placed and informed individuals on CCD and NAP capable of influencing policy matters, budgets and legislation with a view to effectively mainstream NAP priorities into them.
- b) Train sector planners, district technical staff, NGOs, as well as sensitizing national level policy makers and district councilors on NAP and CCD implementation approach.
- c) Develop an information system for effective information exchange among stakeholders at national and local levels, which should include a proper system to carry out a needs assessment, database development, information collection, processing and dissemination.
- d) Develop synergies with other conventions and institutions through joint work programmes, coordination meetings, awareness campaigns, monitoring and evaluation exercises and environmental impact assessments.

### **3.3 National Action Programmes as part of the National Economic and Social Development and Environment Protection Plans**

The national planning process in Uganda embraces the CCD principles of participation, partnership and program approach as indicated in **Chart I**, which outlines the overview of planning and information flow in Uganda

The NAP, derived through a consultative process, is linked with the PEAP and the PMA. The NAP priority programme areas include, among others: water development, management and conservation; afforestation and agro-forestry; improvement of marketing systems and infrastructure; support to local level community initiatives; and participatory planning and co-ordination of these initiatives. These programme areas are no doubt very consistent with and relevant to the PEAP strategies for improving the livelihood and incomes of the poor, as well as good governance for efficient delivery of services for poverty eradication. Similarly, they are consistent with the intervention areas of the PMA.

The Uganda NAP is a framework that seeks to ensure that strategic planning takes into account sustainable development issues of drylands with a focus on poverty alleviation, food security and natural resources management. On-going effort to mainstream priority issues identified under the NAP into existing national development plans will strengthen the NAP as a strategic framework of action in achieving the objectives of the above plans.

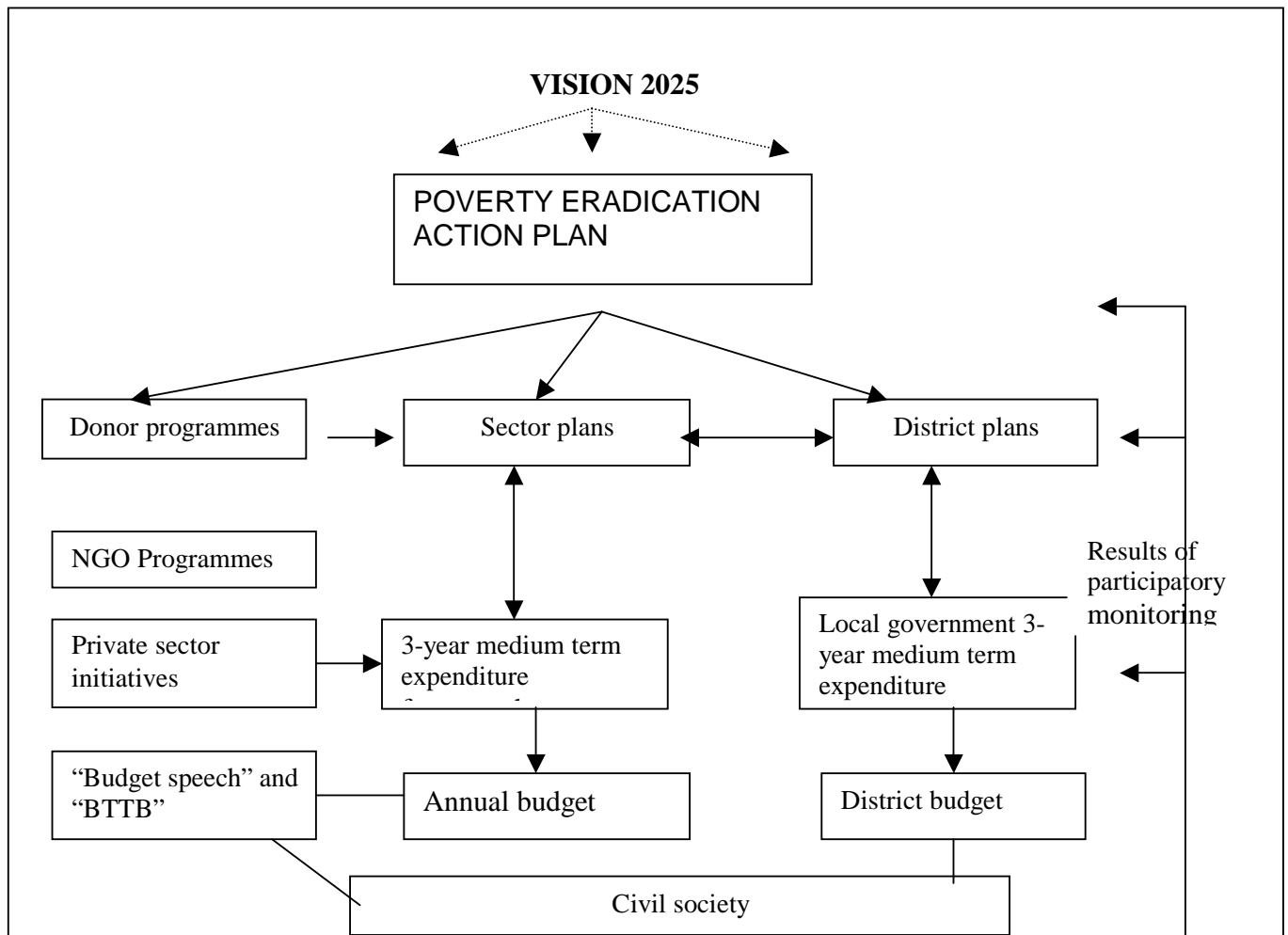
The ongoing process to prepare a road map for resource mobilization for NAP implementation has registered a high level of enthusiasm and participation by bilateral and multilateral partners which has been demonstrated by the high level participation in meetings and activities of the process.

### **3.4 Coherent and functional legal and regulatory framework**

In the recent past, Uganda has instituted several legal and regulatory policies aimed at improving environmental management in the country (see First National Report to the UNCCD, page. 12-15).

There is also in place a comprehensive National Environment Management Policy (NEMP) that promotes the use of economic instruments, public participation, and environmental information and education. The NEMP also set an agenda for decentralised environment governance in Uganda. At least seven districts (Busia, Tororo, Mbale, Arua, Kasese, Mbarara and Kabale) have already formulated their own District Environment Management Policies, all in line with the NEMP but focusing on specific district concerns. In these policies a number of actions addressing desertification have been prioritized.

**Flow Chart 1: An Overview of Planning and Information Flow in Uganda.**



**Quick guide to planning documents**

- Vision 2025:** gives an overview of long-term goals and aspirations for the country by the year 2025.
- The PEAP:** the national planning framework for developing detailed sector strategies.
- Sector plans:** technical specifications of sector priorities, disciplined by hard budget constraints.
- District plans:** implementation plans for sector strategies based on local priorities / needs.
- MTEF:** annual, rolling 3-year expenditure planning that sets out the medium term expenditure priorities and hard budget constraints against which sector plans can be developed and refined.
- District MTEF:** sets out the medium-term expenditure priorities and hard budget constraints against which district plans can be developed and refined.
- National & District Budgets:** annual implementation of the three year planning framework.
- Donor, NGO, & Private sector:** participation & sharing information / ideas when developing sector plans & budgets.
- Participatory processes:** bottom up participation of districts in the planning and monitoring process, as well as participatory poverty assessments, which provides essential feedback on progress towards the poverty eradication goals.

Additionally, several other policies have been instituted after 1999. These include:

**i) National Soils Policy, 2000**

This was instituted in response to lack of effective laws regarding land-use in Uganda. The National Soils Policy seeks to:

- promote awareness of the current state of the country's soils, and the need for their rehabilitation and sustainable utilization.
- transform existing mechanisms to establish a national framework with the mandate to ensure wise use and conservation of the soils for the present and future generations.
- promote optimal land use without necessarily compromising the environment through the use of soils.
- establish a structure for continuous monitoring and assessment of Uganda's potential in terms of its soil properties, weather, and soil degradation, and undertaking technical measures to control it.
- promote a coordinated institutional approach to soils management and policy implementation.
- promote a participatory approach in resource conservation and policy implementation.

Noting the estimated cost of soil erosion in Uganda at US \$ 132-396 million (Slade and Weitz, 1991), the draft policy has recommended a number of priority actions, namely:

- a) create a national soils research institute.
- b) develop district soil profiles.
- c) revise and update related and relevant policies.
- d) develop a land use policy.
- e) establish monitoring mechanisms to assess policy impact and attitudinal change towards sustainable utilization of the soil resource.

The Department of Physical Planning in the Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment is spearheading development of the land use policy recommended above.

**ii) Forest Policy 2000**

The draft forest policy emphasizes forest conservation, research, agro forestry, and extension services with a focus on community involvement in forestry management. The emerging policy and legislation will stimulate private sector investment in growing industrial forest plantations. Establishment of a National Forest Authority as a semi-autonomous institution is proposed to take over the functions of the current Forestry Department in the line ministry.

**iii) Water policy, 1999**

A National Water Policy was formulated in 1999 with the objective of managing and developing water resources in Uganda in an integrated and sustainable manner. It is aimed at securing and providing water of adequate quantity and quality for all social and economic needs

for present and future generation with full participation of all stakeholders. In relation to crop production, the water policy aims at developing water supply for agricultural production in order to modernize agriculture and mitigate effects of climatic variations in rain fed agriculture.

**iv) Energy Policy, 2000**

The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development prepared a holistic Energy Policy, which will guide the development of the sector. The process of policy and legislation formulation was prepared in a consultative and participatory manner, involving consultations with Members of Parliament, District Council chairpersons, representatives of Government departments, representatives of international organizations, NGOs, the private sector and the general public.

The policy was formulated at a time when Government's vision focused highly on poverty alleviation, modernization of agriculture and energy sector reforms. Therefore, the main policy goal was stated as "To meet the energy needs of the Ugandan population for social and economic development in an environmentally sustainable way". The policy also focuses on exploration and increased use of indigenous energy resources, making modern energy services affordable to the larger part of the population, improving energy governance and administration to gain investor confidence, and promoting energy trade in the region.

**Other policies** in place include animal breeding policy, food and nutrition policy, and national fisheries policy, meat policy, improved delivery of veterinary services policy.



## **CHAPTER FOUR: PARTICIPATORY PROCESS IN SUPPORT OF PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION PROGRAMMES**

### **4.1 Effective participation of actors in defining national priorities**

Participation of various actors in defining national priorities is well discussed in the First National Report, Chapter 4, page 16 - 19.

The development of most policies and plans in Uganda usually consist of several broad consultative meetings and workshops involving wide representation of stakeholders, such as politicians, ministers, districts, donors, NGOs, private sector, civil society and the media. Some activities carried out using participatory processes since the first national reporting include:

- a) The participatory poverty assessment exercise. This is carried out every two years to obtain primary data using household surveys, consultations and contributions of sectoral and cross-sectoral institutions, which is a useful tool in the periodic revision of the PEAP.
- b) The process to develop sector policies and plans e.g. PMA, Energy policy, Forest Policy, Land Sector Strategic Plan. For example in the energy sector, the Energy Policy and the Rural Electrification Strategy and Plan were developed through extensive consultations which involved energy suppliers and consumers, researchers, academicians, environmentalists, policy makers, development partners, contractors, product developers and manufacturers.
- c) The Development of District Development Plans and District Environment Action Plans.
- d) Formulation of a strategy for Mainstreaming Gender into the NAP process;
- e) Preparation of a road map for implementation of the NAP and resource mobilisation;
- f) National forum on development of synergies between four environmental conventions;
- g) Establishment of an Environment Information System on the Internet.
- h) Development of a Multi-stakeholder Integrative Sustainability Planning Methodology for integrating environmental conventions into national planning processes.

### **4.2 Gender Issues**

At the national level, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development launched a National Action Plan on Women in December 1999. The plan gives a framework upon which interventions at community, district, and national levels can be coordinated during the five-year period from 1999-2004. It particularly aims at achieving equal opportunities for women by empowering them to participate and benefit from economic and political development. Four priority action areas were identified:

- Poverty, income generation and economic empowerment;
- Reproductive health and rights;
- Legal framework and decision making;
- The girl-child and education.

The plan has put in place the following strategies to address existing gender gaps to economically empower women:

- Up-lift their economic status;
- Assist women improve household nutrition, achieve food security and improved household incomes;
- Improve women's access to financial services;
- Develop the entrepreneurial capacity of women;
- Reduce women's workload;
- Create regulatory mechanisms to promote gender equity and women's economic empowerment.

The strategy to mainstream gender in the NAP recommended the need to:

- Sensitize the NSC on gender issues so that the committee guides implementation of the NAP projects and programmes with sufficient gender responsiveness;
- Sensitize the relevant district staff and the communities on gender mainstreaming in the NAP;
- Conduct research to identify and design interventions addressing gender concerns relevant to NAP implementation.

## **CHAPTER FIVE: CONSULTATIVE PROCESS IN SUPPORT OF THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NAPs AND PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS WITH DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTIES AND OTHER INTERESTED ENTITIES**

### **5.1 Effective support from international partners for cooperation**

A detailed account of the participation and support of international partners to the preparation and implementation of the NAP is outlined in the first National Report, Chapter 5, pages 20-22.

A number of additional measures have been taken to ensure participation of international partners in supporting national development efforts, including the NAP. One way has been the establishment of donor co-ordination mechanisms as an instrument for avoiding duplication and directing resources to fill critical gaps, such as those identified under the NAP resource requirement. One of the benefits of such coordination mechanisms is the Common Country Assessment (CCA), a collaborative effort of UN Agencies to implement the UN Reform Agenda by pooling together their analytical capacities to carry out a common analysis of the situation in a country using a people centred approach. The CCA enables the UN Country Team to better promote synergies among its various programmes supported. The first CCA report for Uganda was prepared with the active participation of government institutions and several NGOs in both the steering committees and the theme groups reflecting a growing partnership.

The CCA report entitled “Uganda: Promise, Performance and Future Challenges”, reflects on the performance of the country in the last two decades, the goals set by government in the PEAP and the challenges that must be addressed in pursuit of the set out goals. The CCA report underscores the impact of drought and land degradation on the country. It also takes into account the strong linkage between the environment and poverty in a situation where the majority of the population are subsistence farmers depending on the country's natural resources. In context of the CCA, the formulation of the first UN Development Assistance Framework is expected to contribute to the responses to those challenges, and to the government's equivocal appeal for better co-coordinated support from the development assistance programme of the UN Agenda in Uganda.

Government has requested all external partners to articulate their support around the PEAP. In the revised PEAP (MFPED, 2000), a list of **Partnership Principles (Chart II)** that can help in attaining efficiency gains in the allocation and management of resources among competing demands has been drawn. These principles were elaborated the Stockholm Conference on “Making partnerships Work on the Ground”, held August 1999. The conference, at which Uganda participated, was organised by donors. The GoU is mindful of these principles as it reflects on resource mobilisation for the UNCCD.

The existing Donor Sub-groups e.g. on Agriculture, Water and Environment is yet another opportunity for government to have dialogue with donors and other stakeholders on specific development themes. These are also targeted as entry points to initiate donor consultation and negotiation for resources mobilisation to implement the NAP.

## **Chart II. Proposed Poverty Eradication Action Plan Partnership Principles**

### **Shared commitment:**

Donor support will only be sought/provided for programmes that are in the Poverty Eradication Action Plan

### **In addition Government will ...**

1. Continue with increased focus on poverty eradication [at minimum PAF funded programmes as a share of total budget will remain constant].
2. Continue with increased tax revenue effort.
3. Assume full leadership in donor co-ordination process (at central; sectoral and district level).
4. Decline any offers of stand-alone donor projects.
5. Strengthen monitoring and accountability (including value for money evaluations).
6. Continue to improve transparency and combat corruption.
7. Continue to strengthen district capacity.
8. Develop comprehensive, costed and prioritised sector wide programmes eventually covering the whole Budget.
9. Further develop participation and co-ordination of all stakeholders (including Parliamentarians).
10. Strengthen capacity to co-ordinate across Government (so that it speaks with one voice).

### **In addition donors will ....**

1. Jointly undertake all analytical work, appraisals and reviews.
2. Jointly set output/outcome indicators.
3. Develop uniform disbursement rules.
4. Develop uniform and stronger accountability rules.
5. Ensure all support is fully integrated into sector wide programmes and is fully consistent with each sector programme's priority.
6. Continue to increase level of untied sector budget support.
7. Increase level of delegation to country offices.
8. Abolish topping up of individual project staff salaries.
9. End individual, parallel country programmes and stand-alone projects.
10. Progressively reduce tying of procurement.

*Original set of principles identified at Stockholm Conference "Making Partnership Work on the ground" August 1999.*

Special effort has been made to more actively involve the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (through its Departments of Planning and Aid Liaison) in planning the way forward for NAP implementation and resource mobilization. This is done through meetings and continuous dialogue with MFPEd, aimed at enhancing their awareness and prioritization of the NAP, so as to adequately reflect it during negotiations of cooperation agreements with external partners.

One of the aims of the on going process to prepare a road map for resource mobilization is to initiate dialogue and partnership building with donors (bilateral and multilateral), CSOs and the private sector with the view of reaching partnership agreements to mobilize additional resources for NAP implementation. Consultation meetings with the 15 top donors to Uganda's ODA as well as a number of international NGOs were held. A meeting with the informal donor group on Agriculture was also held to get a consensus on the way forward.

## **CHAPTER SIX: MEASURES TAKEN OR PLANNED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES**

### **6.1 Adequate diagnosis of past experiences**

Diagnosis of past experiences is adequately covered in the First Report on NAP to the COP, Chapter 6, page 23.

### **6.2 Established technical programmes and functional integrated projects to combat desertification**

A number of on-going technical programmes and projects relevant to combating desertification are given in Table I below, in addition to the list presented in the First National Report to the COP, Chapter 6, pages 24 and 25.

### **6.3 Measures planned within framework of National Action Programmes**

The main focus is on mainstreaming the NAP into sectoral programmes, resource mobilisation, and partnership and synergies building. In this context, a number of activities indicated below have been planned and initiated.

#### **6.3.1 A road map for NAP implementation and resource mobilisation**

A study to prepare a road map for NAP implementation and resource mobilisation was conducted with funding from the UNCCD Secretariat and technical input of the GM and UNDP. The study aimed at:

- ascertaining consistency of the NAP process with other relevant sector plans;
- establishing the extent to which some of the NAP objectives could be met through funds provided in pursuit of the objectives of the PEAP, PMA and other sector plans;
- identifying critical resource gaps that need to be filled by additional contributions from donors, NGOs and the private sector;
- clearly demonstrating the linkages between poverty and land degradation from a variety of perspectives including both macro-economic and socio-cultural ones; and
- developing project profiles for priority programme areas to address the identified gaps.

The study identified three important gaps requiring additional resources. They include:

- (i) institutional capacity development for NAP implementation;
- (ii) provision of long term incentives for the poor to address dryland issues; and
- (iii) addressing these incentives in the use of common property resources.

The study also recommended a number of immediate measures required to facilitate NAP implementation. They include, among others:

**Table 6.1. On-going Technical Programmes and Projects Relevant to Combating Desertification**

No.	Project Title	Project Description	Total Budget and Duration	Donor	Government Contribution
1.	Special programme for food security	Focuses on water harvesting, irrigation, agricultural intensification, diversification, continuous constraint analysis, training farmers in financial management, studies on irrigation agronomy, marketing and agro economic analysis.	US \$ 244,000 (2000-2002)	FAO	Yes
2.	Second Agricultural Research and Training Project	Aims at increasing efficiency and productivity of crop, livestock, fisheries and forestry farming systems in order to increase household incomes, improve family welfare and enhance management of natural resources. The project also improves dissemination of technologies and indigenous knowledge to farmers.	US \$ 72 million.	World Bank and other donors	Yes
3.	Northwest Smallholder Agricultural Development Project	Aims at enhancing food security and increasing household incomes of smallholder farmers, expanding marketing and income generating opportunities, improve sustainable agriculture productivity, support conservation and environmental management, alleviate gender constraints	US \$ 28.89 millions (2001-2006)	African Development Bank	Yes
4.	Integrated Pastoral Development Project	Aims at developing the social organisation of the Sanga pastoral settler communities by encouraging massive de-stocking in order to sustain the natural resource base, improve efficiency and accessibility of veterinary services and provide permanent water for the settlers	DM 9.5 million (1995-2003)	GTZ	Yes
5.	Emergency Provision of water for livestock in the Karamoja region	Aims at construction of 16 strategic dams in Karamoja	US \$ 1.8 million		Yes (PAF)
6.	Technical study for livestock water points in Karamoja	Aims at determining the required investment to put in place adequate water points to facilitate water for livestock production in Uganda particularly in the cattle Corridor.	US \$ 0.30 million (6 months ending June 2002).	BADEA	
7.	Livestock Development Programme	Aims at reducing rural poverty by increasing the commercial orientation of subsistence agriculture through sustainable increases in livestock productivity and meat out put	US \$ 28.15 million	ADB	Yes
8.	Small ruminants and Rabbits Development Programme	Increase incomes from small ruminants and rabbits through caring and trade as well as improving nutritional status of resource poor households, while ensuring sustainable use of the environment	US \$ 17.791 million (5 years)	BADEA	Yes
9.	Pan-African Programme for Control of Epizootics (PACE)	Focuses on eradication of rinderpest foci in East Africa, intensify surveillance of the major epizootics such as CBPP, foot and mouth disease, CCPP and LSD and rabies	2,658,630 Euro	European Union	Yes
10.	Assistance to control of contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP)	Control of contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP) in high-risk areas through surveillance and containment by vaccination and capacity building.	US \$ 0.28 million (18 months)	FAO	

11.	Energy for Rural Transformation Programme	Improve the rural quality of life and facilitate significant rural non-farm income by accelerating rural electrification, including solar PV systems, with a tentative target of increasing rural electricity access from about 1% at present to about 10% in ten years. Develop Uganda's indigenous renewable energy resources on a cost-effective basis	US \$ 450 million	IDA loan, GEF, Private sector and Bilateral Donors	Yes
12.	Sustainable energy use in household and industry project	Aims at increasing efficiency in energy provision and usage in sectors which depend heavily on biomass as their source of energy. Targets rural household wood stoves, lime production and improvement of charcoal production methods		Royal Netherlands government	
13.	Land Use Change Analysis as an Approach for Investigating Biodiversity Loss and Land Degradation	aims to contribute to conservation of biodiversity and prevention of land degradation by providing instruments to identify and monitor changes in landscape associated with biodiversity loss and land degradation, and identify root causes of these changes	US \$ 1.447 million (three years)	GEF	Yes
14.	Income generation and sustainable livelihood through District Development Centres	Covers microfinance and training to empower the poor in 11 districts. Also builds partnership and capacity of the private sector, NGOs and district administration		UNDP	
15.	Improving density of weather monitoring network	Aimed at improving density of weather monitoring network to a minimum of at least one rain gauge per Sub County.			
16.	Dryland Development Project				



- preparation of key position papers justifying linkage of NAP with national development frameworks, the need for resource mobilisation and partnership building;
- developing an information system for effective information exchange among stakeholders;
- training of sector and district technical planning officers on mainstreaming approach for NAP implementation; and
- supporting coordination efforts of the NAP secretariat.

Following the study, a number of proposed follow up activities to be implemented with support of the GM, the UNCCD Secretariat and UNDP include: district and national level technical and stakeholders workshops to discuss and adopt the study report, preliminary meetings with potential donors and other stakeholders, a donor consultation forum, and follow-up meetings on the development of an investment package for the NAP.

### **6.3.2 Synergies with other conventions**

Government, through MAAIF, obtained financial support from UNCCD Secretariat to hold a multi-stakeholder national forum to elaborate synergies among the four environmental conventions on the (CCD, CBD, UNFCCC and Ramsar). This formed a basis for effective implementation of the conventions at national and local levels. The outcomes of the forum, held in Kampala on 24 and 25 September 2001, were:

- (a) A review of the progress made at national level in implementation of the conventions;
- (b) Identification of areas of synergy and linkages in the implementation of the conventions at national level;
- (c) Additional views of a wide cross section of actors on the proposed approach for integrating issues of the 4 conventions into national planning processes;
- (d) Concepts for future field projects and activities reflecting on synergies between the conventions.

Potential areas of synergy among conventions identified at the forum include, among others:

- Exchange of information and data;
- Public awareness and participation;
- Capacity building and training;
- Legislation and policy framework;
- Integration with national programmes, including funding mechanisms; and
- Traditional and local technology.

A National Capacity Self Assessment Project is being developed to jointly address capacity needs under the environmental conventions.

### **6.3.3 Establishment of a Uganda National Fund to Combat Desertification (UNFCD)**

A draft bill to establish a Uganda National Fund to Combat Desertification was prepared and awaits cabinet and parliament's approval. As part of the process to establish the fund, the

following draft documents to guide the operations of the Fund were also prepared pending approval of the Bill. They include:

- ❑ Operational manual for the UNFCD;
- ❑ Strategies and Avenues of Resource mobilization for the UNFCD;
- ❑ Guidelines for Procurement of Goods and Services for UNFCD;
- ❑ Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines for UNFCD;
- ❑ By-laws and procedures to guide the Board of Trustees and lower communities;
- ❑ Guidelines for appointing UNFCD Secretariat and other staff; and
- ❑ Sample contract letters of agreement between UNFCD and community projects.

#### **6.4 Linkage with sub-regional and regional action programmes (SRAP and RAP)**

The NAP is also linked to the Sub-Regional Action Plan (SRAP) for Combating Desertification, particularly with regard to trans-boundary and cross cutting issues. Some of the on going activities in this regard include:

- development of information networks;
- establishment of facilitation funds and National Desertification Funds;
- establishment of a Sub-regional Committee for Science and Technology for CCD implementation;
- review and harmonisation of legislation relevant to combating desertification;
- awareness raising on NAP and CCD for high level policy and decision-makers; and
- resource mobilization efforts for implementation of the NAPs and SRAP.

The Regional Action programme (RAP) has identified key thematic programmes consistent with the capacity building needs outlined under NAP. Uganda has already benefited from the thematic programme on rangelands with information to enhance the on going preparation of a rangelands management policy.

#### **6.5 Effectiveness of measures in local capacity building**

Local capacity building continues to be carried out through training workshops, support to local initiatives, demonstrations, and exchange visits by various Government agencies and NGOs. Some examples include training of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development technical staff and local artisans in biogas digester construction skills, with financial and technical assistance from the Chinese Government.

With financial assistance from UNEP, UNITAR, OSS and UNDP, the National Environment Management Authority trained operators of key nodes in fifteen (15) institutions participating in the EIS on the Internet in developing and managing web pages and the information network.

##### **6.5.1 NGO/ CBO initiatives in local capacity building**

Non Governmental Organizations and Community Based Organizations, through their umbrella association, the National NGO Coordinating Committee on Desertification (NCCD), have also carried out a number of initiatives in local capacity building for combating desertification. The

NCCD received financing from CORDAID to build capacity of their secretariat and carry out awareness, consultation and planning meetings with local NGOs and CBOs in the dryland districts. The NCCD also disseminates information about NGO/CBO activities through a bi-annual newsletter called "NCCD News". Additionally, the NCCD collaborates with a number of institutions, such as the NAP Secretariat in MAAIF, the Department of Soil Science of Makerere University, NEMA, Uganda Land Management Project (ULAMP), and several others.

With funding from DANIDA, Joint Energy and Environment Projects (JEEP) is spearheading preparatory activities for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) to be held in South Africa later in the year. During the consultation process among NGOs, sustainable agriculture, biodiversity and forestry, integrated fresh water management, climate, and energy and sustainable economic and social development emerged as issues of critical importance for the national assessment process.

Under the energy sector, the USAID funded ACDI/VOCA – EPED project is establishing a Sustainable Charcoal Production and Licensing System in Masindi / Nakasongola. The project aims at reducing poverty among charcoal dealers/burners, and reducing environmental degradation. Integrated Rural Development Initiatives (IRDI) and ACORD are involved in improved biomass energy dissemination and capacity building among local communities. Renewable Energy Development Centre (REDC), with funding from DFID through IGAD, is implementing a project aimed at reducing poverty among the producers / users of improved stoves through commercialization of efficient wood stoves. Shell Foundation's Sustainable Energy project and the 'Intermediate Technology Development Group' (ITDG – UK) are promoting awareness among NGOs and institutions dealing in energy issues in the country through provision of books on energy and poverty.

The following NGOs are involved in implementing sustainable development projects in the driest part of the country (Karamoja region): **Voluntary Services International (SVI)** - has been involved in implementing development activities in Karamoja, which include tree nursery establishment by local communities, improved agriculture for household income and food security, control of bush burning and formation of forest management committees, in partnership with forestry department. **Lutheran World Federation** - is constructing fuel saving stoves, tree planting, soil conservation and forest conservation, among others. **Church of Uganda** – is implementing activities, including fuel saving stoves, tree nursery establishment, tree planting and establishment of live fences.

At the Sub-regional level, NGOs in IGAD, through the International NGO Network on Desertification (RIOD) are developing a partnership with the GM, CIDA and several other donor agencies to start the Community Exchange and Training Program (CETP). This program will involve capacity building of NGOs and local communities to access information and resources to combat desertification at the community level. Community exchange visits will also be supported to enable communities learn from others the best practices in natural resource management.

## **CHAPTER SEVEN: FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FROM NATIONAL BUDGETS IN SUPPORT OF IMPLEMENTATION AS WELL AS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION RECEIVED**

### **7.1 Adopted financial mechanisms**

Originally, it was planned that a Uganda National Fund to Combat Desertification would be set up to address land degradation and desertification issues. Indeed, steps were taken to this effect, including drafting a Bill for the fund, which was awaiting cabinet and parliament's approval. However due to a change in the planning process, it was felt that financing desertification activities should be integrated into the available sectoral financing mechanisms, such as the PEAP, PMA and NAADS.

Uganda has demonstrated commitment to raising funds for environment and natural resource management. For example, the budget allocation for environment and natural resources increased 44-fold from 6.2 billion in 1997/98 to 253.3 billion in 2001/2002 fiscal year (MFPED, 2002). Uganda has further benefited from debt relief amounting to US \$ 2 billion and these resources have been channeled to the key poverty reducing areas identified in the PEAP. Compared with 1997/98, the year prior to receipt of the debt relief, expenditure in poverty reduction areas has increased from Ug. Shs. 144 billion to Shs 609 billion in 2001/2002. This represents an increase of 353% and underlines the country's commitment to poverty reduction.

#### **7.1.1 Poverty Action Fund (PAF)**

The Poverty Action Fund (PAF), set up under the MTEF, is a mechanism to ensure that specific resources from debt relief and donors are allocated towards key programmes within the PEAP. Government ensures that allocations of funds to the PAF programmes are protected from budget cuts. The PAF has attracted additional funding for reallocation to public services that directly reduce poverty, for example, primary education, primary health care (including control of HIV/AIDS), agricultural extension, feeder roads, water and sanitation, and law and order. The criteria used for accessing the PAF funds are hinged on whether the planned activities/programmes are mentioned in the PEAP; directly reduce poverty; offer service to the poor; are well developed; and have a budget for a specific financial year.

#### **7.1.2 The Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA)**

The Government is currently implementing the PMA within a decentralized framework. The Government introduced a Non-Sectoral Conditional Grant in the fiscal year 2000/2001 aimed at empowering local communities to identify, prioritize, implement and monitor investment programmes that will remove constraints to agricultural production at community level.

The funds are directly channeled to districts and sub-counties, and communities that develop three-year rolling development plans make use of these funds. So far, sub-counties and communities in 24 districts have benefited from shs. 2.6 billion disbursed during the FY 2000/2001. The allocation for the FY 2001/2002 is shs. 5.0 billion.

### 7.1.3 National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS)

In support to PMA implementation, the GoU reoriented agricultural extension by establishing a National Agricultural Advisory Services. The vision of NAADS is to create a decentralized, farmer-owned and private sector serviced extension system contributing to realization of the agricultural sector objectives. The development objective of NAADS is to improve rural livelihoods by increasing agricultural productivity and profitability. The NAADS intends to:

- improve the availability of appropriate advice and information to all farmers.
- avail appropriate technologies to meet farmer needs.
- assure the quality of advice and information provided to farmers by the service providers.
- enhance the capacity of private sector service providers.
- develop appropriate farmer controlled institutional structures and processes.

The NAADS is a suitable avenue for NAP implementation since it operates on principles cherished by the CCD. These include farmer empowerment, poverty focus, gender mainstreaming, deepening decentralization, participation, management of natural resources and improving access to markets. The NAADS has a long-term perspective (25 years), and with careful planning, benefits of addressing land degradation and could start to be felt. The NAADS is a critical partner since several donors have already committed financial resources to its implementation. The program is financed through basket funding, where donors pool resources to be disbursed as a single transfer. The following donors have already earmarked funds to support NAADS implementation:

**Table 7.1 Earmarked funds for NAADS**

<i>Funding source/ Donor</i>	<i>Amount (millions \$)</i>	<i>Duration in years</i>
World Bank	45.0	7
IFAD	17.5	7
Ireland Aid	2.225	3
DANIDA	0.35	1
Netherlands International Assistance	1.0	1
DFID	5.2	3
European Union	12.0	4

*Source: PMA NSCG*

Presently, NAADS has five components, namely:

- i) Advisory and information services to farmers (\$ 69.8m)
- ii) Technology development and linkage to markets (\$ 6.3m)
- iii) Sector institutional development (\$ 3.4m)
- iv) Program management and monitoring (\$ 16.5m)
- v) Quality assurance services (\$1.3m)

During the first phase (2001 - 2008) an estimated US \$ 108 millions would be channeled to different levels of government, with the vast majority (77%) going to sub-counties, while district and national levels received 11% and 12%, respectively. The first phase will take seven

years, commencing with two-years of trailblazing (piloting) in Arua, Kibale, Kumi, Mukono, Soroti and Tororo districts.

#### **7.1.4 Road Sector**

Roads, particularly feeder roads, are essential for improving access to markets. The Government is implementing a long-term program for the road sector with substantial funding. Some illustrative examples of financing the road sector are:

**Table 7.2 Financing the road sector**

<i>Road</i>	<i>Funding</i>
Busunju-Kiboga-Hoima	Shs. 61 billion
Pakwach-Nebbi-Arua	Shs. 63 billion
Karuma-Pakwach	Shs. 34 billion
Kagamba-Rukungiri	\$ 30 million
Norhtern corridor	\$ 64 million
Atiak-Moyo	\$10 million

#### **7.1.5 Water Sector**

The Directorate of Water Development (DWD) was allocated Shs. 2 billion to construct small valley tanks to combat land degradation through alleviating water scarcity. The programme targets Luwero, Nakasongola, Masindi, Rakai, Sembabule and Mbarara districts. The government will construct 1,400 such tanks by 2010 at a cost of Shs. 56 billion. The DWD has also commissioned a study on water for production, supported by DANIDA. The donor is expected to contribute to the investment program arising from the study. Furthermore, BADEA is sponsoring a feasibility study on water supply to pastoral areas in northwestern Uganda.

Although the DWD has been able to establish water infrastructure, it has been weak at community mobilization and local institutional development, yet these factors are important for long-term sustainability of the infrastructure.

#### **7.1.6 Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF)**

The NUSAF is part of the Second Northern Uganda Reconstruction Program (NURP II) to assist the North "catch up" with the rest of the country regarding development. The NUSAF design is guided by the PEAP goals. The fund will benefit Moroto, Kotido, Nakapiripirit, Soroti, Katakwi, Kaberamaido, Pallisa, Lira, Apac, Kitgum, Gulu, Paida, Arua, Nebbi, Moyo, Adjumani and Yumbe districts.

The fund is a new model that finances community demand driven and managed projects through empowering the poor and vulnerable to manage their own development. Under NUSAF, the needs identified by communities include: conflict resolution of cattle rustling, access to water and markets for produce, all of which are relevant to CCD implementation. However, there is still a need to sensitize the communities on the dangers of land degradation and how it

exacerbates poverty among communities. It is only then that the affected communities will articulate issues of land degradation and desertification in their planning and financial resource allocation meetings. The World Bank has earmarked USD 100m over a five-year period.

### **7.1.7 Other funding opportunities**

- ***Global Environment Facility (GEF)***

Uganda is a beneficiary of GEF funding, which targets focal areas of biodiversity, climate change, international waters and ozone layer. Land degradation, which has been funded as a cross-cutting issue has been brought on board as a focal area of its own. This then offers Uganda an opportunity to access GEF funding to address land degradation issues.

- ***Land Fund***

This will be established under auspices of the Land Act (1998) to assist local people acquire land tenancy. It would also support drafting of participatory land use plans at national, district, sub-county, parish and village levels, as provided for in the National Environment Statute, 1995. The fund will also catalyze implementation of the current government policies e.g. poverty eradication, agricultural modernization and gender equity.

- ***Rural Electrification Fund***

The CCD emphasizes sustainable use of renewable energy resources. The NAP also identified management and conservation of energy resources as one of the priority program areas. The GoU, in partnership with the World Bank's African Rural Renewable Energy Initiative, initiated the Energy for Rural Transformation Program to operationalize the Rural Electrification Fund through provision of economic incentives e.g. subsidies to new connections.

- ***African Land and Water Initiative***

The World Bank, UNDP, UNEP and GEF support efforts to reverse land and water degradation in Africa, and also build on existing programmes and best practices. The initiative is coordinated by the World Bank.

- ***Soil Fertility Initiative for Africa***

The program is spearheaded by the World Bank and FAO since mid 1990s. Under the initiative, the African Region of the World Bank recently introduced a competitive fund to finance national and local programmes.

- ***Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund***

This fund was launched by the World Bank, in partnership with Conservation International, to better safe guard the world's threatened biological hot spots in developing countries, particularly dryland ecosystems.

### 7.1.8 Direct funding received from external partners to support the NAP and CCD process in Uganda

Table 7.3 shows the funds that have been contributed by external partners to support NAP and CCD process in Uganda.

**Table 7.3 Direct Funding received for CCD/NAP Process in Uganda**

<b>Programmes/ Activities</b>	<b>Coverage</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Participating Partners</b>	<b>Resources availed (US \$)</b>
Case study on Desertification	3 Districts	1993	INCD	100,000
NDF formulation Process	National	1997	UNDP/UNSO Denmark	60,000
Strengthening National CCD/NAP Focal Point	National	1998	UNCCD Secretariat Denmark	20,000
NAP formulation Process	National	1998	UNDP/UNSO Denmark,	120,000
PFI in Dryland Agriculture	3 Districts	1998	UNDP/UNSO Netherlands	200,000
Support to LLCIs NGOs/CBOs	6 Districts	1998	UNDP/UNSO Denmark Australia	50,000
Preparation of First National report	National	1999	UNCCD/IGAD	1,500
Engendering the NAP Process	National	2000	UNDP/UNSO Denmark	10,000
National Forum on synergies with other Conventions	National	2001	UNCCD/ Netherlands	21,320
Road Map for Resource Mobilisation for NAP	National	2001	UNCCD	10,000
Second National Report on CCD implementation	National	2002	UNCCD	5,000
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>597,820</b>

The NAP has also made effort to involve participation of international partners in mobilizing resource for NAP implementation. These are outlined in Table 7.4 below:



**Table 7.4 Degree of participation of international partners in resource mobilisation effort for NAP**

<b>Types of Donors</b>	<b>Participated in consultations on Road Map for Resource Mobilisation for NAP</b>	<b>Provided technical support to NAP Process</b>	<b>Provided support towards Capacity Building</b>	<b>Provided funds</b>
<b>Bilateral donor</b>				
-GTZ	✓			
-DANIDA	✓		✓	✓
-DIFD	✓			
-EU	✓			
-Netherlands	✓		✓	
-Italy	✓			
-Belgium	✓			
<b>Multilateral donors</b>				
-UNDP/DDC	✓	✓	✓	✓
-World Bank	✓			
-W FP	✓			
-ADB	✓			
BADEA	✓		✓	
-CCD Secretariat	✓	✓	✓	✓
-Global Mechanism	✓	✓	✓	
<b>International NGOs</b>				
-LWF	✓		✓	
-World Vision	✓			
-Econews Africa	✓		✓	
-SNV	✓		✓	
-CARE	✓			
<b>Private Foundations</b>				
Rockefeller Foundation			✓	

## **CHAPTER EIGHT: REVIEW OF BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS UTILISED TO MEASURE PROGRESS AND ASSESSMENT THEREOF**

### **8.1 Operational mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation**

A system is being put in place to monitor environmental degradation in Uganda. The NEMP (1994) aimed at developing an environmental management system. NEMA, through the National Environment Statute (1995), has set up a National Environment Information Centre (NEIC) as a key component for regular monitoring. An Environmental Information Network has also been established under NEMA, with about 21 member institutions.

An EIS is being set up with support from UNEP. The UNDP also supported capacity building for environmental reporting at district level. The World Bank, through the Environmental Management Capacity Building Project, is supporting capacity building for environmental reporting. The project is improving collection, management and dissemination of environmental information and monitoring systems, and facilitating their use in monitoring quality of environment and capacity building of the NEIC.

Some sectoral initiatives, such as the National Biomass Study Project in the Department of Forestry, utilize Geographic Information Systems (GIS) based data-set on land use and vegetation cover. The Department of Soil Science, Makerere University, is also developing a GIS system to monitor land degradation and vegetation changes. The unit is, however, still limited by manpower and equipment. Another GIS-based system for monitoring management activities in wildlife protected areas and MONIS for monitoring carbon sequestration capacities in two national parks were also set up by Uganda Wildlife Authority.

Presently, these environmental monitoring units are working in isolation, without any formal collaborative measures. It is, however, noted that there is a need to harmonize activities of these institutions for their effective functioning. A monitoring system for the NAP is also not yet formulated. However, a number of impact indicators have been developed according to NAP objectives.

## CONCLUSION

The GoU identified poverty eradication as the main development objective. It has also streamlined its planning process and put in place enabling legal, policy and regulatory frameworks for effective participation of all stakeholders in CCD implementation. A number of on-going initiatives and projects are contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the UNCCD. However, more is needed in terms of resource mobilization to address NAP priorities more effectively and more specifically target dryland areas. Effort is also needed to support the integration and co-ordination of existing plans and strategies with the NAP process, integrate more effectively the scientific and technical aspects of combating desertification, build capacity of key actors, particularly local communities, for effective action in addressing desertification.

The GoU and its development partners have agreed to use the PEAP as the main framework through which to channel support for development efforts. The way forward for the CCD implementation in Uganda, therefore, stands more on how effectively dryland issues are mainstreamed into the PEAP and other related plans. The on going process to prepare a road map for NAP implementation will lead to increased prioritisation and integration of the NAP in national development planning, budgeting, and partnership building.

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