NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE, LAND AND WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Annual Monitoring Report

Financial Year 2024/25

September 2025

Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
P.O. Box 8147, Kampala
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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADCP	Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler
ALCs	Area Land Committees
AMCOMET	African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology
AMCOW	African Ministers' Council on Water
AWMZ	Albert Water Management Zone
BUR	Biennial Update Report
CBET	Community-Based Ecotourism
CCD	Climate Change Department
CCOs	Certificates of Customary Ownership
CFA	Cooperative Framework Agreement
CFR	Central Forest Reserve
CMPs	Catchment Management Plans
CORS	Continuously Operating Reference Stations
CRVA	Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment
DCCAPs	District Climate Change Action Plans
DCPs	District Contingency Plans
DECOCS	District Emergency Coordination Centres
DLB	District Land Board
DLG(s)	District Local Government(s)
DLOs	District Land Offices
DMC	Disaster Management Committee
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DRM	District Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EACOP	East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline
EIAs	Environmental Impact Assessments
ELMIS	Environmental Land Management Information System
ENR	Environment and Natural Resources
EPPU	Environmental Protection Police Unit
ESIAs	Environmental and Social Impact Assessments
FR	Forest Reserve
FSSD	Forestry Support Services Department
FY	Financial Year
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GFSs	Gravity Flow Schemes
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GPS	Global Positioning System
Ha	Hectares
HEP	Hydroelectric Power Plant
ICT	Information and Communication Technology

IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISO	International Standards Organization
KCCA	Kampala Capital City Authority
Km	Kilometres
LAVMIS	Land Valuation Management Information System
LIS	Land Information System
LMIS	Land Management Information System
LVBC	Lake Victoria Basin Commission
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MLHUD	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
MoFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
MoPs	Ministry of Public Service
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPP	Multi-Purpose Project
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
MZOs	Ministry Zonal Offices
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NBI	Nile Basin Initiative
NBRB	National Building Review Board
NBS	Nature-Based Solutions
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDP III	Third National Development Plan
NDP IV	Fourth National Development Plan
NDPM	National Disaster Preparedness and Management
NECOC	National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre
NELSAP	Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NFA	National Forestry Authority
NFTPA	National Forestry and Tree Planting Act
NLIC	National Land Information Centre
NLIS	National Land Information System
NRECCLWM	Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land, and Water Management
NSSF	National Social Security Fund
NTR	Non-Tax Revenue
NWIS	National Wetlands Information System
NWQRL	National Water Quality Monitoring Reference Laboratory
NWRP	National Wetland Resource Policy
NWSC	National Water and Sewerage Corporation
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister

PBs	Project Briefs
PDU	Procurement and Disposal Unit
PES	Payments for Ecotourism Services
PMAs	Plantation Management Areas
PSPs	Permanent Sample Plots
PWDs	People with Disabilities
RAPEX	Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure
RECP	Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
SADCAS	Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service
SC	Sub-county
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDMC	Sub-county Disaster Management Committees
SG	Solicitor General
SIGMETs	Significant Meteorological Information
SLAAC	Systematic Land Adjudication and Certification
SOLCA	Southeast Luzira Sub-Catchment Area
SRB	Surveyors Registration Board
TN	Total Nitrogen
TORs	Terms of Reference
TP	Total Phosphorus
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
TV	Television
UgNLIS	Uganda National Land Information System
UIA	Uganda Investment Authority
ULC	Uganda Land Commission
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
URA	Uganda Revenue Authority
URSB	Uganda Registration Services Bureau
USh	Uganda Shillings
UWA	Uganda Wildlife Authority
WED	World Environment Day
WIS II	Water Information System Phase II
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation
WMZ	Water Management Zone
WRM	Water Resources Management
WWD	Wetlands Management Department

FOREWORD

The Government of Uganda outlined strategies, for FY 2024/25, to restore the economy back to the medium-term growth path with the ultimate vision of a self-sustaining, integrated economy. The strategies emphasized accelerating commercial agriculture, fostering industrialization, and expanding both service sectors and digital transformation. Key areas of focus included enhancing market access and leveraging technological advancements to drive economic growth.

The strategic interventions that were prioritized under various programmes included: roads under Integrated Transport and Infrastructure Services; electricity under the Sustainable Energy Development; irrigation under Agro-Industrialization; Industrial parks under Manufacturing; support to medical schools and science-based research and development under Human Capital Development; as well as oil and gas among others.

The Annual programme assessments have been made, and it was established that performance was fairly good. This implies that programmes are on track, but with a lot of improvements required. The challenges noted, are not insurmountable. These monitoring findings form a very important building block upon which programmes can re-strategize for FY 2025/26.

The government has embarked on the 10-fold growth strategy that demands for enhanced efficiency and effectiveness within programmes. We cannot afford to have fair performance scores hence forth, as this will jeopardize the prospects of doubling the economic growth rates in the medium term.

Partick Ocailap
For Permanent Secretary/ Secretary to the Treasury

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land, and Water Management (NRECCLWM) Programme aims to conserve, restore, and sustainably use the environment and natural resources to support sustainable development. It plays a central role in advancing the national development priorities outlined under the Third National Development Plan (NDP III), as well as contributing to the attainment of key global commitments, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The implementation of the NRECCLWM Programme is organised around three interrelated sub-programmes: Water Resources Management, Environment and Natural Resources Management, and Land Management. Each sub-programme contributes to the overall goal of sustainable natural resource utilisation and climate-resilient development.

The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) is the lead implementing agency for the programme. Its coordination is strengthened through active partnerships with key institutions, including the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), the National Forestry Authority (NFA), Local Governments (LGs), the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD), the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), the Uganda Land Commission (ULC), and the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA). This multi-agency collaboration is essential for integrated planning, resource mobilisation, and effective service delivery across the programme's wide-ranging mandates.

A review of the programme's interventions was conducted for the period from July 1st to June 2025. The assessment relied on progress reports, interviews, and output verification to evaluate performance against the targets set for June 2025.

Overall Programme Performance

Financial Performance

The programme was allocated an approved budget of USh 398.18 billion for financial year (FY) 2024/25. By the end of the financial year, a total of USh 358.482 billion (90% of the approved budget) had been released. However, only USh 274.749 billion, which is 76.6% of the released funds, had been spent. The unspent balances resulted from delays in the procurement process and unpaid balances related to payments of National Social Security Fund (NSSF) contributions for newly recruited staff, among other reasons.

Performance Highlights

The NDP III targeted forest and wetland coverage to 15% and 12%, respectively. The wetlands and forests are to be restored by: i) having them demarcated and gazetted; ii) evicting all encroachers; and iii) replanting encroached areas.

Relatedly, in FY 2024/25, the Government aimed to prioritise climate change adaptation and mitigation measures. This includes increasing forest, tree, and wetland coverage; restoring and protecting hilly and mountainous areas and rangelands; strengthening land use and management; maintaining and restoring a clean, healthy, and productive environment; and promoting inclusive, climate-resilient, and low-emissions development at all levels. Thus, the programme is committed to increasing the forest cover to 12% and wetland cover to 9.3%.

Overall, performance was good (76.6%) at the end of the financial year. This was attributed to several factors, including off-budget support, particularly in wetland restoration under the Green Climate Fund Project (GCF), external funding for forest restoration activities under the Investing in Forest and Protected Areas for Climate Smart Development Project (IFPA-CD), and the supply of seedlings through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Irish Aid. Regular monitoring of water quality and quantity was also supplemented by the recently procured water quality monitoring vessel.

On the other hand, underperformance was mainly due to slow procurement caused by the World Bank No Objection requirements; intermittent failure to use the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMIS); late invoices received from suppliers and contractors; and inadequate planning in some cases, where activities implemented did not contribute to the PIAP output or intervention.

Nevertheless, the progress in forest and wetland cover was 12.2% and 9.3%, respectively. Titled land was at 30%, against a target of 35% under Lands Management (LM), while the turnaround time was 15 days, despite the targeted seven days. The programme achievements are illustrated below under the different sub-programmes.

Among the three sub-programmes, Water Resources Management (WRM) recorded the highest performance, at 89.8%, mainly due to progress in catchment-based planning, permit enforcement, and water quality monitoring. Environment and Natural Resources Management achieved an 83.1% success rate, attributed to the over-release of funds and effective expenditure. Land Management (LM) recorded the lowest performance, at 56.8%, primarily due to low absorption of externally funded resources and stakeholder engagement strategies that remain effective during political transitions.

Water Resources Management Sub-programme

The sub-programme registered notable progress across several core areas during FY 2024/25. Water quality and safety remained a priority. Over 18,000 water, wastewater, and environmental samples were analysed. Of these, over 3,500 samples were tested for compliance with drinking water standards, achieving a compliance rate of approximately 77% in urban areas and 65% in rural areas, ensuring water safety for all. The National Laboratory's accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 was completed, ensuring high standards in water testing.

A total of 600 permit holders were monitored for compliance with environmental standards. Additionally, 616 permit applications were received and assessed (324 new and 292 renewals). Out of these, 634 permits were issued (383 new and 251 renewals). As a result, USh 862,640,000 was generated from permit processing.

Catchment management measures were implemented in 88% of targeted areas in Lwakhakha, Aswa II, Kochi, and Middle/Lower Awoja. These measures included constructing soil and water conservation structures, restoring over 2,600 hectares of degraded land through afforestation, stabilising more than 546 km of riverbanks, and restoring over 1,200 hectares of wetlands.

Environment and Natural Resources Sub-programme

A total of 402 km of wetland boundaries were precisely marked in Eastern and Western Uganda, with an additional 437 km marked nationwide in areas such as Lubigi, Nabakazi, and Bimbye. Restoration efforts included rehabilitating 9,166 hectares across districts like Buhweju and Bushenyi. Under various wetland systems, including Awoja and Mpanga, 6,815.1 hectares of degraded wetlands were restored. Protective measures along critical riverbanks included creating approximately 33 km of buffer zones; for example, 13 km along the Wambabya River in Hoima District, and nearly 80 km of degraded riverbanks were demarcated and planted with protective pillars.

In efforts to combat deforestation and climate change, 720 hectares of commercial tree plantations were established, and nine million seedlings were distributed. Within the Central Forest Reserves, 176 km of forest boundaries were maintained, and 30,000 trees were planted in Gulu District as part of the Running Out Of Trees (ROOTS) Campaign. Across various forest reserves, 826,640 seedlings were raised. Additionally, 95 boundary pillars were installed on CFR boundaries, and 24,362.72 hectares of commercial tree plantations were established. Cumulatively, 23,662.46 hectares were established by the National Forest Authority (NFA), and private tree planters established 700.3 hectares. Furthermore, 67 hectares of wetlands were restored in districts such as Kamwenge and Kyenjojo.

Land Management Sub-programme

Key policies and guidelines, such as the draft Customary Land Tenure Guidelines and the National Land Acquisition Policy, have been developed, and efforts are underway to disseminate them. Capacity-building activities involved training and supporting land management institutions, with 33 District Land Boards (DLBs) reviewed and approved, 29 districts trained, and supervision extended to 48 District Land Officers and DLBs. In record management, 179 new files were opened, while land consolidation and titling efforts issued 123,665 titles and registered over 142,193 land searches. The Land Information System (LIS) was automated and integrated with various agencies, including URA, URSB, and the judiciary, thereby improving land governance. Over 550,000 titles were digitised, and numerous boundary maps were updated.

In Water and Environmental Management, 33 km of national boundaries were affirmed, and 426 geospatial stations were maintained. Wetlands covering 34 km² were conserved, and 2,102.6 hectares of land were acquired for lawful occupants, including vulnerable groups. Land valuation activities conducted nearly 70,000 valuations, supervised 170 government land acquisitions, and finalised the Land Valuation Databank.

Implementation Challenges

1) **Limited laboratory capacity**: Water quality surveillance was weak, particularly in rural areas, owing to outdated testing infrastructure, limited skilled personnel, and gaps in laboratory accreditation.
2) **Land encroachment and legal complexities**: Encroachment on wetlands and Central Forest Reserves persisted, often driven by irregular land titles and compounded by legal and political barriers that hinder enforcement.
3) **Poor waste and effluent management**: Urban centres faced growing challenges related to plastic and liquid waste, worsened by weak enforcement, insufficient infrastructure, and low public compliance.

4) **Gaps in the compensation framework**: The absence of a standardised compensation mechanism delayed several infrastructure projects and eroded community trust in land acquisition processes.
5) Chemical reagents used in laboratories are subjected to stringent measures by NEMA and URA, discouraging their importation in the face of restricted laws, for example, the need for certification first.

Recommendations

1) The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) should fast-track the review of the National Water Policy and finalise standard laboratory guidelines, while expanding rural water quality testing capacity through infrastructure upgrades.
2) The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) should intensify enforcement by cancelling irregular land titles in protected zones, operationalising the Environmental Protection Police Unit, and strengthening inter-agency collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and the Judiciary.
3) Urban authorities, in coordination with NEMA, should develop and implement a comprehensive National Plastic Waste Management Strategy, and promote investment in waste-to-energy technologies, recycling, and public-private partnerships (PPPs) in waste management.
4) The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD) should expedite the rollout of national land compensation guidelines, accelerate land registry digitisation, and strengthen district land offices through targeted technical and logistical support.

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The mission of the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) is: "To formulate sound economic policies, maximise revenue mobilisation, and ensure efficient allocation and accountability for public resources to achieve the most rapid and sustainable economic growth and development."

Through its Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit (BMAU), MoFPED tracks the implementation of programmes and projects by assessing changes in key financial and physical performance indicators over time, in relation to predefined goals, targets, and indicators. This monitoring process supports budget execution, enhances accountability, improves service delivery, and facilitates the implementation of the Domestic Revenue Mobilisation Strategy (DRMS).

Beginning in FY 2022/23, BMAU adopted a Programme-Based Monitoring approach to evaluate performance against the targets and outcomes outlined in the Programme Implementation Action Plans (PIAPs) and Ministerial Policy Statements (MPSs). Semi-annual and annual field monitoring is conducted to verify the receipt and utilisation of funds by implementing entities and beneficiaries, assess the outputs and intermediate outcomes achieved, and examine the level of gender and equity responsiveness in budget execution processes. The monitoring also evaluates the coherence in implementing PIAP interventions, the synergy among sub-programmes, and key implementation challenges.

The monitoring exercise covers the following programmes: Agro-Industrialisation; Community Mobilisation and Mindset Change; Digital Transformation; Human Capital Development; Innovation, Technology Development and Transfer; Integrated Transport Infrastructure and Services; Manufacturing; Mineral Development; Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land and Water Management; Public Sector Transformation; Regional Development; Sustainable Development of Petroleum Resources; and Sustainable Energy Development.

This report presents the findings from the annual monitoring of the Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land and Water Management (NRECCLWM) Programme for FY 2024/25.

1.2 Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land and Water Management Programme

The programme is a cornerstone initiative under Uganda's Third National Development Plan (NDP III), aligned with the strategic objective of *"Enhancing Value Addition in Key Growth Opportunities"*. The programme is designed to address critical environmental challenges by focusing on four core priorities: reversing the degradation of natural resources; ensuring the sustainable availability of water for development; strengthening resilience to climate change; and promoting efficient land management systems.

The implementation of the NRECCLWM Programme is organised around three interrelated sub-programmes: Water Resources Management; Environment and Natural Resources Management; and Land Management. Each sub-programme contributes to the overall goal of sustainable natural resource utilisation and climate-resilient development.

The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) is the lead implementing agency for the programme. Its coordination is strengthened through active partnerships with key institutions, including the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), the National Forestry Authority (NFA), Local Governments (LGs), the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD), the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), the Uganda Land Commission (ULC), and the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA). This multi-agency collaboration is essential for integrated planning, resource mobilisation, and effective service delivery across the programme's wide-ranging mandates.

1.3 Programme Goal

The programme goal is to reduce environmental degradation and the adverse effects of climate change, as well as improve the utilisation of natural resources for sustainable economic growth and livelihood security.

1.4 Programme Objectives

The programme objectives are to: (i) Ensure availability of adequate and reliable quality freshwater resources for all uses; (ii) Increase forest, tree and wetland coverage and restore and protect hilly and mountainous areas and rangelands; (iii) Strengthen land use and management; (iv) Maintain and/or restore a clean, healthy, and productive environment; (v) Promote inclusive climate-resilient and low-emission development at all levels; (vi) Reduce human and economic loss from natural hazards and disasters; and (vii) Increase incomes and employment through sustainable use and value addition to water, forests and other natural resources.

1.5 Programme Outcomes

The programme outcomes over the NDP III period are: increased compliance with all water permit conditions; enhanced water resources management; increased land area covered by forests and wetlands; high compliance with Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) conditions by developers; and improved air quality in cities.

Others include: a climate change-responsive development pathway established; reliable and accurate meteorological information provided; reduced human and economic losses from natural hazards and disasters; increased titled land; and a reduction in land conflicts.

CHAPTER 2: METHODOLOGY

2.1 Scope

This report presents an assessment of selected interventions under the Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land, and Water Management (NRECCLWM) Programme as of 30th September 2025. The review is structured around the three key sub-programmes: i) Water Resources Management; ii) Environment and Natural Resources Management; and iii) Land Management.

The monitoring exercise focused on interventions implemented during the FY 2024/25 (1st July 2024 to 30th September 2025). Details of the specific interventions monitored under each sub-programme, along with the respective implementing Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs)/Votes, are provided in Annex 1.

The analysis entailed tracking of inputs, activities, implementation processes, outputs, and, where applicable, intermediate outcomes. These were reviewed against targets outlined in the Programme Implementation Action Plans (PIAPs), as well as the MPSs, annual and quarterly work plans, performance reports from MDAs and Local Government, and submissions.

The following criteria guided the selection of interventions for monitoring:

i) Contribution to the programme objectives and alignment with national development priorities.
ii) Level of investment, with priority given to interventions that had significant budget allocations.
iii) Planned outputs whose implementation commenced during the year under review, including both directly funded and unfunded activities. In some cases, multi-year or rolled-over projects were also prioritised.
iv) Completed projects, which were assessed to determine beneficiary satisfaction, value for money, and achievement of intermediate outcomes.

2.2 Approach and Sampling Methods

Both qualitative and quantitative methods were employed during the monitoring exercise. The physical performance of interventions, planned outputs, and intermediate outcomes was assessed by tracking a range of indicators. Reported progress was systematically aligned with corresponding expenditure and physical performance data.

A combination of random and purposive sampling techniques was applied in selecting sub-interventions and outputs for review. These were drawn from the PIAPs, MPSs, and progress reports of the relevant MDAs.

To support the mapping of PIAP interventions against annual targets outlined in the Vote MPSs and quarterly work plans, a multi-stage sampling approach was used at three levels: (i) sub-programmes; (ii) interventions; and (iii) major outputs. The selection of districts and facilities also ensured regional representativeness to achieve balanced geographic coverage.

2.3 Data Collection and Analysis

Data Collection Approach

The monitoring exercise utilised both primary and secondary data collection methods to assess the performance of selected interventions.

Secondary data collection methods: These involved comprehensive desk reviews and analysis of relevant policy, planning, and financial documents. Specifically:

i) ***Literature review***: Key documents reviewed included the Ministerial Policy Statement (MPS) for FY 2024/25, National and Programme Budget Framework Papers, the Handbook for Implementation of NDP III Gender and Equity Commitments, PIAPs, the Third National Development Plan (NDP III), Quarterly Progress Reports, and work plans of the respective implementing agencies. Additional documents included Quarterly Performance Reports, the Budget Speech, Public Investment Plans (PIPs), Approved Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, project and strategic plans, policy documents, aide-memoires, and evaluation reports for selected programmes and projects.

ii) ***Financial and performance systems review***: Data was also extracted and analysed from the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS), the Programme Budgeting System (PBS), the Budget portal, and various Quarterly Performance Reports to assess resource allocation, disbursement, and output delivery trends.

Primary data collection methods: These methods were employed to validate desk review findings and gather field-level insights:

a) **Key informant interviews (KIIs)**: Consultations were conducted with institutional heads, project or intervention managers, service providers (such as the National Water and Sewerage Corporation and Umbrella Organisations), and service beneficiaries across implementation levels.

b) **Focus group discussions (FGDs)**: These were held in locations with organised beneficiary groups to capture collective experiences and satisfaction with service delivery.

c) **Field visits**: On-site monitoring was conducted across selected districts to collect primary data, make direct observations, and document evidence through photography.

d) **Call-backs**: In some instances, follow-up phone interviews were made to triangulate and verify previously collected information.

This combined methodology ensured robust data triangulation, enhancing the credibility and comprehensiveness of the monitoring findings.

Data Analysis

The data was analysed using both qualitative and quantitative methods. Qualitative data was examined through interpretive analysis, where information was categorised according to constructs, themes, or patterns to explain events among beneficiaries. Reflective analysis was also employed, allowing monitoring teams to provide objective interpretations of field observations.

Quantitative data was analysed using advanced Excel tools to facilitate meaningful interpretation. Comparative analyses were conducted using percentages, averages, and cross-tabulations across outputs/interventions, intermediate outcome indicators, and overall performance scores. The performance of outputs and intermediate outcome indicators was expressed as a percentage, measured against their respective annual targets.

To determine sub-programme performance, a weighted aggregate score was calculated by assigning a 65% weight to output indicators and a 35% weight to intermediate outcome indicators. The overall programme performance was then derived as the average of the scores from individual sub-programmes.

Performance ratings for the programme and its sub-programmes followed the criteria outlined in Table 2.1. To guide policy and implementation decisions, a BMAU coloured rating system was used: Green signified very good performance or full achievement of targets; yellow indicated good performance; light gold represented fair performance; and red signalled poor performance or significant underachievement.

Table 2.1: Assessment guide to measure performance in FY 2024/25

Score	Performance Rating	Comment
90% and above		Very Good (Achieved at least 90% of outputs and outcomes)
70% – 89%		Good (Achieved at least 70% of outputs and outcomes)
50% – 69%		Fair (Achieved at least 50% of outputs and outcomes)
49% and below		Poor (Achieved below 50% of outputs and outcomes)

Source: Author's Compilation

Ethical Considerations

Entry meetings were conducted with Permanent Secretaries and Accounting Officers, or their designated representatives, at the commencement of the monitoring exercise. Informed consent was obtained from all respondents, including programme and project beneficiaries. All information gathered during the budget monitoring exercise was handled with strict confidentiality and used solely for policymaking purposes and to enhance service delivery.

2. 4 Limitations

1. There was a lack of reliable and real-time financial data on donor financing, which was not accessible through the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS).
2. Financial information was not disaggregated to the level of specific outputs, limiting the ability to conduct detailed analysis.
3. Repetitive outputs and activities across different interventions created challenges in accurately matching financial allocations and expenditures to specific interventions.

2.5 Structure of the Report

The report is structured into five chapters. These are: Introduction; Methodology; Programme Performance; Conclusion; and Recommendations.

CHAPTER 3: PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

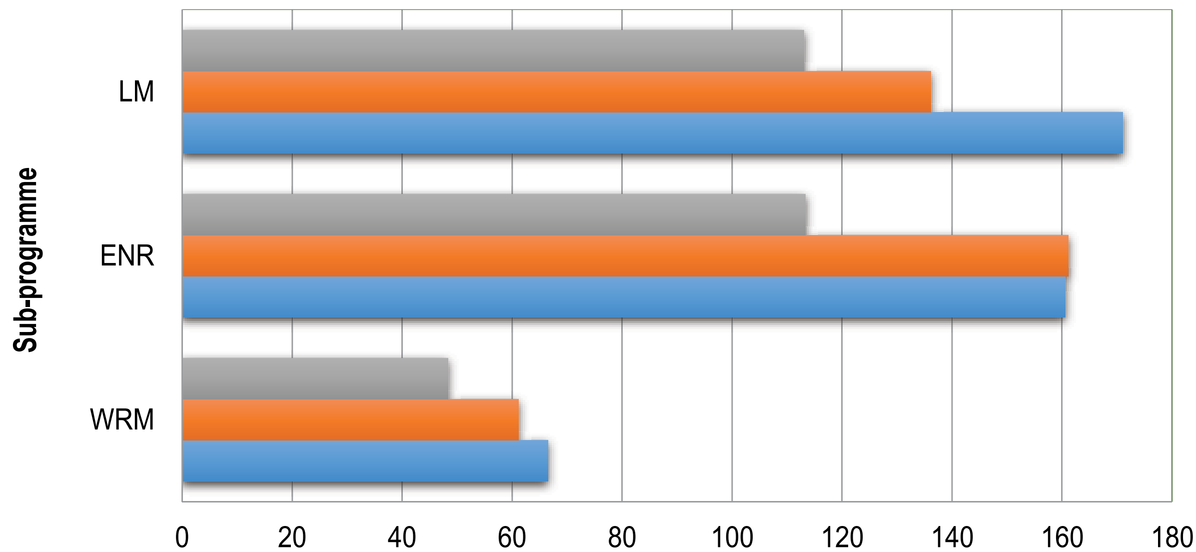
3.1 Overall Programme Performance

Financial Performance

The approved budget for the Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land and Water Management (NRECCLWM) Programme for FY 2024/25 was USh 398.18 billion. By the end of the financial year, USh 358.482 billion had been released, representing 90% of the approved budget. However, only USh 274.749 billion, equivalent to 76.6% of the released funds, was spent by the end of the financial year.

Overall, the release and expenditure performance was relatively satisfactory, except the Water Resources Management Sub-programme, which did not receive all anticipated external funding. Notably, the Environment and Natural Resources Sub-programme exhibited the weakest financial performance, particularly in terms of absorption of externally funded resources. This was primarily due to delayed fund releases and protracted procurement processes.

Figure 1: Annual financial performance of NRECCLWM for FY 2024/25



	WRM	ENR	LM
Expenditure	48.337	113.338	113.074
Release	61.203	161.105	136.174
Budget	66.516	160.575	171.089

Billion USh

Source: PBS FY 2024/25[1] and the Author's Analysis

[1] The PBS figures do not tally with the IFIMIS figures.

Physical Performance

By the end of the financial year, the overall physical performance of the Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land, and Water Management (NRECCLWM) Programme was rated as good, with a score of 76.6%. Among the three sub-programmes, Water Resources Management (WRM) recorded the highest performance, at 89.8%, mainly due to progress in catchment-based planning, permit enforcement, and water quality monitoring. Environment and Natural Resources Management achieved an 83.1% performance, with 100.33% of the funds released. Land Management (LM) recorded the lowest performance, at 56.8%, primarily due to the low absorption of externally funded resources and ineffective stakeholder engagement strategies in the current political environment. Detailed performance data is provided in Table 3.1.

Despite moderate progress across several areas, including water quality monitoring and analysis, environmental restoration initiatives, and land administration processes such as land transactions and the issuance of land titles, implementation was hampered by several factors. Key impediments included delayed procurement and low absorption rates, which disrupted the timely delivery of planned outputs. These challenges undermined the programme's ability to meet its annual targets and contributed less effectively to NDP III and the broader Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Table 3.1: The NRECCLWM Programme performance by 30th September 2025

Sub-program	Performance Rating	Remark
Water Resources Management	89.8	Good performance
Environment and Natural Resources Management	83.1	Good performance
Land Management	56.8	Fair performance
Overall Programme Performance	**76.6**	Good

Source: Authors' Compilation

Performance of Outcome Indicators

Overall programme performance in achieving intermediate outcomes varied significantly, with only 33% of indicators for outcomes with available data meeting their targets. Three indicators (Percentage of Land Area Covered by Wetlands, Percentage of Land Area Covered by Forests, and Percentage of Government Land Titled) met the NDP3 targets, but the remaining 77% did not. Several factors contributed to the failure to meet these targets, including inadequate planning, as evidenced by the duplication of activities that failed to yield the intended outputs and immediate outcomes.

Challenges such as weak collaboration and linkages among sub-programme implementers, inadequate planning, land encroachment, legal complexities, and illegally titled land also hindered the achievement of the outcome indicator targets. Additionally, the credibility of the secondary data supporting these indicators was questionable. The performance of the outcome indicators for the period under review is summarised in Table 3.2 below.

Table 3.2: Performance of annual planned outcome indicators by 30th September 2025

Outcomes	Indicators	Target FY 2024/25	Achieved FY 2024/25	Remarks
Water Resources Management Sub-programme				
Increased compliance with all water permit conditions.	Compliance with abstraction permit conditions (%) – groundwater	81%	79.8%	Not achieved
	Compliance with abstraction permit conditions (%) – surface water	82%	80.4%	Not achieved
	Compliance with wastewater discharge permit conditions (%)	68%	69.9%	Achieved
Environment and Natural Resources Sub-programme				
Increased land area covered by forests and wetlands	Percentage of land area covered by forests	2.2	12.7	Achieved
	Percentage of land area covered by wetlands	9.3	9.3	Achieved
High compliance with Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) condition by developers.	Percentage change in permit holders complying with ESIA conditions at the time of spot check	80	N/A	Not achieved
Climate change-responsive development pathway	Average annual change in Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions (MtCO2e)	1.2	2.4	Not achieved
Reliable and accurate meteorological information	Percentage change in the accuracy of meteorological information	87	80	Not achieved
	Percentage automation of weather and climate networks	71	71	Achieved
Land Management Sub-programme				
Increased titled land.	Percentage of government land titled	32.6	32.6	Achieved
	Percentage of titled land	32	30	Not achieved

Source: PBS Quarter Four Reports for FY 2024/25 and Owner's Analysis

3.2 Water Resources Management Sub-Programme

Introduction

The sub-programme, implemented under the Directorate of Water Resources Management, is mandated to promote the integrated and sustainable development of Uganda's water resources. Its primary objective is to ensure the availability of adequate, reliable freshwater resources of acceptable quality to meet various sectoral demands.

The sub-programme focuses on one key intervention: "Improving coordination, planning, regulation, and monitoring of water resources at the catchment level". This intervention aims to strengthen governance structures, enhance permit compliance, and improve data-driven management of national water resources.

Under the framework of NDP III, the sub-programme aimed to improve regulatory compliance and water quality monitoring. Specific output-level targets for FY 2024/25 included increasing the percentage of water permit holders complying with permit conditions during spot checks to 81% for groundwater, 82% for surface water, and 68% for wastewater discharge permits. Several outputs were strategically planned and implemented across various interventions to meet these targets. The following is the performance status for FY 2024/25 regarding key outputs and their contributions to different interventions.

Financial Performance

The sub-programme's total approved budget for FY 2024/25 was USh 66.516 billion, of which USh 61.203 billion (92%) was released, and USh 48.337 billion (79% of the release) was spent by the end of the financial year. While budget release performance was very good, absorption was fair. The under-expenditure was primarily due to delays in the Integrated Water Management and Development Project (IWMDP).

Sub-programme Performance

By September 2025, the sub-programme performance was good, at 89.8%. The construction

of the National Water Quality Monitoring Reference Laboratory (NWQRL) was progressing steadily, reaching 64% completion. Additionally, the accreditation process for the NWQRL in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017 was 100% complete, which was very good.

Furthermore, comprehensive water resources data, both in terms of quantity and quality, was collected and assessed at the NWQRL and across the four regions. Monitoring of potable water quality at the point of collection was carried out, alongside the issuance and oversight of wastewater permits. For a summarised overview of the performance, refer to Table 3.3, with detailed performance metrics available in Annex 2.

Table 3.3: Overview of the WRM intervention performance by 30th June 2025

No	Intervention	Performance Rating (%)	Remarks
01	Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at the catchment level.	On track	Good performance, at 89.8%. Angololo Multi-Purpose feasibility study completed; analysed 3,498 water samples with compliance rates of 76.6% (urban) and 65.3% (rural). Catchment management measures like soils stabilisation were undertaken.
	Overall performance	**89.8%**	**Good performance**

Source: Author's Compilation

The detailed performance of the monitored intervention is discussed hereafter:

Intervention Performance

3.2.1 Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at catchment level

This intervention aims to ensure the regulated and coordinated use of the water resource sustainably. The key implementer of this intervention is the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE). The planned outputs were 17, of which seven were assessed, namely: i) Joint transboundary catchment investment projects prepared; ii) National water quality monitoring infrastructure and networks upgraded and functional; iii) The water information systems at the central level and in the four (4) Water Management Zones operationalised; iv) Analytical capacity of the National Water Quality Reference Laboratory upgraded and regional laboratories established to address issues related to drinking water, pollution and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Other planned outputs were: v) Degraded water catchments protected and restored through the implementation of catchment management measures; VI) Water management measures implemented in priority sub-catchments; vii) and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for water-related projects reviewed.

The overall performance of the intervention was rated as fair, achieving 62.8% of the planned output targets. The status of implementation as of 30th September 2025 was as follows:

i) Joint transboundary catchment investment projects prepared

This output focuses on the sustainable management and utilisation of catchments and water resources shared by Uganda, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Tanzania. Many initiatives are collaboratively implemented by the countries involved in each shared water body. The output performance was rated as good, at 85.4%, with several activities progressing well. Particularly, the detailed designs and feasibility studies for the Angololo

Multi-Purpose Project (MPP) were completed, and the Project Bilateral Agreement was signed between Uganda and Kenya, paving the way for resource mobilisation for its implementation. The feasibility study for the Southeast Luzira Sub-Catchment Area (SOLCA) high-priority investment was also completed. Investment plans for fragile sections of transboundary rivers, including the Semliki, Kagera, and Sio systems, were under preparation, at approximately 40%.

Similarly, the project involves rehabilitating and monitoring 15 key transboundary stations along major rivers and lakes, including Lake Victoria, River Katonga, River Sio, and Lake Kyoga. All targeted infrastructure was rehabilitated and monitored as planned.

The coordination and hosting of the Nile Basin Heads of State Summit had progressed, with 10 preparatory meetings held in anticipation of the summit, scheduled to occur after consultations with non-ratifying member countries regarding the Cooperative Framework Agreement (CFA).

Groundwater projects concerning the Mt. Elgon and Kagera transboundary aquifers were effectively coordinated and supervised. Bilateral agreements, such as that for the Angololo Water Resources Development and Management Project, were negotiated and signed, while stakeholder engagements for the Nyimur Multi-Purpose Project (MPP) were underway.

Flood surveillance and mapping activities were conducted on three transboundary river systems (Unyama, Nyamugasani, and Nyamwamba) to facilitate early warning systems and flood management strategies. These efforts aim to cover more flood-prone areas. Meanwhile, partial payment for international subscriptions to organisations like the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) and the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) was made, as funds allocated were insufficient for full payment. Governance and technical participation in statutory forums managing transboundary water systems was maintained effectively, with eight forums, comprising NBI, AMCOW, the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP), and the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC), functioning as planned.

ii) National water quality monitoring infrastructure and networks upgraded and functional

The national water quality monitoring infrastructure and networks are essential systems designed to assess, manage, and protect water resources across the country. By the end of the financial year, significant efforts were made to enhance surface water monitoring infrastructure. Out of the planned 16 stations, seven surface water stations[2] and two

[2] Aswa II, Agago, Ayago, Rwizi, Manafwa, Entebbe stations, and Anyau

groundwater stations (Entebbe and Bugolobi) were successfully rehabilitated, improving their operational capacity for data collection.

Furthermore, surveys were conducted along key sections of the Nile, including Pakwach, Sio, Mbulamuti, and Laropi, facilitating the essential update of datums for accurate hydrological measurements. While quality control for hydro-meteorological data reached 50%, indicating progress, there is still room to improve the reliability and usability of the collected data.

Two of the 16 surface water and groundwater stations planned for rehabilitation and testing to improve climate impact monitoring and abstraction oversight had undergone pump testing. The procurement of four water-level dippers was at 60% progress, which limited the capacity to measure water levels in water bodies such as rivers, lakes, ponds, or reservoirs.

The characterisation of the Aswa and Manafwa catchments continued, providing valuable insights into these important hydrological areas. To ensure the continued functionality of monitoring equipment, the procurement of a service provider for essential supplies, including batteries, solar panels, data downloading cables, steel tapes, and water level divers for six surface water and two groundwater stations, was completed, ensuring their operational readiness.

Comprehensive water quality monitoring activities were undertaken across various water sources. A total of 3,498 water samples were collected from 2,317 water sources (boreholes, shallow wells, springs, open wells/dams, and rainwater harvesting tanks) across districts and analysed in compliance with potable water quality standards. These included 1,209 samples from treated piped water supplies (urban) and 2,289 from untreated water sources (rural).

Overall, the compliance levels were 76.6% for urban water sources (926/1,209) and 65.3% for rural sources (1,509/2,289). The major challenge remains untreated point sources in both urban and rural areas, which are susceptible to contamination. These findings highlight the varying water quality across regions and source types, underscoring the need for targeted interventions, especially in rural areas.

A total of 18,114 out of the planned 15,000 water, wastewater, and environmental samples were analysed across the NWQRL and regional laboratories. Specifically, the NWQRL processed 11,534 samples, while regional laboratories contributed as follows: Fort Portal with 2,140 samples; Lira with 2,040 samples; Mbale with 1,355 samples; and Mbarara with 1,045 samples.

Ambient water quality assessments were conducted at 124 monitoring stations around Lake Victoria, Lake Edward, and Lake George. This included the collection of 1,040 samples from these lakes, Entebbe Bay, Inner Murchison Bay, and Lake George, providing essential data on the health of these critical water bodies. Additionally, samples were taken from 111 stations along major rivers, small rivers, and streams within the Nile, Katonga, Mpologoma, and Aswa basins. Furthermore, 182 samples were collected from river monitoring stations and analysed to assess water quality. These comprehensive activities generated USh 851,062,800 in non-tax revenue (NTR).

Surface water stations along the Nile were surveyed at various sections, including Pakwach, Sio, Mbulamuti, and Laropi, directly enabling the updating of datums. This is an essential step for ensuring consistent and comparable long-term datasets. Quality control of hydro-meteorological data was actively carried out, achieving a 50% completion rate. However, higher levels of quality control are necessary for robust data analysis and decision-making.

Operational readiness of monitoring equipment was a key focus. The procurement of a service provider to supply essential equipment was completed, ensuring the availability of necessary tools for data collection. However, procurement for additional equipment, including data downloading cables, SIM cards, and dippers, was in progress. Completing these procurements is vital to fully equip field teams and maximise data collection efficiency.

A comprehensive monitoring exercise was conducted across 221 out of the planned 100 industries and municipal wastewater establishments, including NWSC lagoons and key industrial sites. A total of 90 samples were collected from pollution impact sites and wastewater discharge points nationwide to assess compliance with established standards. The findings indicated that approximately 45.4% of sampled sites met permissible limits for critical parameters such as chemical oxygen demand (COD), biological oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids (TSS), total nitrogen (TN), and total phosphorus (TP). This highlights the significant environmental risks posed by non-compliant wastewater discharges.

The Lake Victoria water quality research vessel was successfully operated and maintained, providing a functional platform for collecting lake data. However, only five out of the planned 25 industries were supported in implementing Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production (RECP) best practices. This approach encourages reducing waste, emissions, and pollution, thereby enhancing environmental sustainability and lowering operational costs.

The plan was to process 20,000 data records; however, only 3,532 water quality data records were processed and entered into the database owing to limited time. Based on this data, a comprehensive National Water Quality Status Report was produced, providing an overview of the current state of water resources nationwide.

A total of 175 out of the planned 200 water resources monitoring stations were operated and maintained across four water management zones: 63 in the Albert Zone; 59 in the Kyoga Zone; 29 in the Upper Nile Zone; and 24 in the Victoria Zone. Additionally, 11 groundwater monitoring stations at Kabambiro, Galilaya, Rwebisengo, Kyegegwa, Mubende, Semukiki, Ishasha, Sebwe, Nyamugasani, and Nyabyayi were rehabilitated. A new groundwater monitoring station and three new surface water stations were established in Mpanga, Kitagwenda District.

L-R: The River gauges and surface monitoring station at River Mpanga in Kitagwenda District

Furthermore, 23 Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) measurements were carried out on 11 large water bodies, including rivers and lakes, at various strategic points, a key activity for reviewing and improving the accuracy of river rating curves. The rehabilitation of the five groundwater monitoring stations in Kabambiro (Kamwenge), Galilaya (Kayunga), Rwebisengo (Ntoroko), Kyegegwa, and Mubende enhanced the functionality of groundwater level and quality monitoring. The establishment of a new groundwater monitoring station at the Mpanga outlet demonstrates a commitment to expand the network to critical areas.

The five groundwater monitoring stations at Kabambiro, Galilaya, Rwebisengo, Kyegegwa, and Mubende were successfully rehabilitated, directly improving their ability to provide reliable groundwater data. The establishment of one new groundwater monitoring station at the Mpanga outlet in Kitagwenda signifies a strategic expansion of the groundwater monitoring network to a new location, which is crucial for understanding local groundwater dynamics.

All four regional water quality laboratories, located in Mbale, Lira, Kabarole and Mbarara, operated and maintained their systems successfully. These laboratories analysed a total of 3,417 drinking and wastewater samples, providing vital data for regulatory compliance and public health. The analysis also generated NTR of USh 65,214,000 from client testing services, demonstrating a level of financial sustainability for these facilities.

The procurement of the Mobile Water Treatment Unit and four Water Quality Testing Kits was not completed, which potentially hampers rapid response capabilities and field testing capacity. Delayed payments to service providers and contractors led to higher costs due to penalties and the non-supply of laboratory supplies and consumables. Insufficient funding and budget cuts have affected data collection and laboratory analysis programmes, resulting in data and information gaps.

iii) The water information systems at the central level and in the four Water Management Zones operationalised

The primary aim of the output is to enhance the existing water information system, ensuring customer/stakeholder satisfaction and operationalising the National Water Management Information System (WEMIS). The plan was to develop and fully roll out the Water Information System Phase II (WIS II). The WIS II is designed to provide centralised and systematic access to water and environmental data, information, and knowledge products in MWE.

Significant success was reported in the development and operationalisation of the Water Information System Phase II (WIS II). The system was fully developed and, notably, operationalised across five regions of Uganda: Kyoga Water Management Zone (WMZ), Albert WMZ, Victoria WMZ, Upper Nile WMZ, and the Centre/Entebbe region. This rollout served as a critical data management platform, representing a major achievement in decentralising water resources data and enhancing accessibility. It was fundamental for improving water resources management and facilitating informed decision-making across the country.

By the end of the financial year, 15 out of the planned 60 percolation and infiltration pits had been established. These pits are essential for water management and soil conservation, and were established across demonstration plots in the districts of Pakwach, Nebbi, Kitagwenda, and Kasese. A total of 60 hectares of degraded forests were restored. This included 40 hectares in Ibanda District (Mpanga catchment) and 20 hectares in Kasese District (Nyamugasani catchment).

Overall, 43.2 km of soil and water management structures (soil bunds, tree lines, grasses and percolation pits/infiltration trenches, contours and terraces) were constructed in Kamwenge, Kitagwenda, Kasese, Ntungamo, Buhweju, Kasese and Katakwi Districts. It was noted that 79.68 km were planted with teak tree seedlings and pillars in various districts. These include 11 km along Ayila Abongo River in Nebbi District, 10 km in Kagadi District, 5 km in Kamwenge District, and 53.68 km on River Sironko in Sironko District.

A total of 175 water resources monitoring stations were operated and maintained across various zones. These include 63 stations in the Albert WMZ , 59 in the Kyoga WMZ, 29 in the Upper Nile WMZ, and 24 in the Victoria WMZ. Additionally, 11 groundwater monitoring stations located at Kabambiro, Galilaya, Rwebisengo, Kyegegwa, Mubende, Semukiki, Ishasha, Sebwe, Nyamugasani, and Nyabyayi were rehabilitated. A new groundwater monitoring station at the Mpanga outlet in Kitagwenda was constructed.

A total of 597 permit holders for groundwater, surface water, wastewater, and drilling permits were monitored for compliance with permit conditions. Inspections were made on 64 dams for safety.

The establishment of three new surface water monitoring stations at the Mpanga outlet in Kitagwenda was undertaken. Furthermore, 23 ADCP measurements were conducted for 11 large water bodies, including lakes such as Lake Kwania at the NWSC abstraction point and various rivers.

A total of 11 water resources assessments, including baseline and monitoring data, were undertaken on Lake Albert at Butiaba, River Kafu on Hoima Road, Bukora River in Kyotera District, River Mpanga in Fort Portal City, as well as in Ntungamo, Buhweju, and Mbarara Districts within the Rwizi catchment. Assessments were also conducted on River Semliki and River Rwizi in Rwampara District. The purpose of these assessments is to understand the status of the water resources, identify potential issues, support decision-making, and develop management strategies for sustainable use and conservation.

All four regional water quality laboratories (Albert WMZ, Kyoga WMZ, Upper WMZ, and Victoria WMZ) were operated and maintained, and 3,417 drinking water and wastewater samples were collected and analysed.

Efforts to improve equipment management and data infrastructure were also underway. The development of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for a framework contract was ongoing. The identification of a suitable service provider was in the vetting process. Furthermore, an inventory and maintenance assessment of hydrological equipment was conducted, to provide valuable information on the current state of the monitoring network and identify areas requiring attention.

Practical steps towards enhancing data collection infrastructure were undertaken. The supplier commenced the installation of hydrometric equipment for 12 stations, starting with the solar systems and server for the modelling centre at the Water Resources Institute in Entebbe. This installation is a critical step in automating data collection and improving access to real-time information.

iv) Analytical capacity of the National Water Quality Reference Laboratory (NWQRL) upgraded and regional laboratories established to address issues related to drinking water, pollution and SDGs

This output focuses on enhancing Uganda's national and regional water quality monitoring infrastructure to support pollution assessment in drinking water, wastewater, and broader environmental matrices in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

By the end of the financial year, significant progress was made across several components. The construction of the NWQRL slightly exceeded the annual target of 60%, reaching 64%

completion, with 23% of payments disbursed. The new contract was scheduled to conclude in May 2026. However, project implementation experienced significant setbacks, primarily due to financial delays. As of the monitoring visit in July 2025, certified works valued at USh 2.480 billion remained pending payment, leading to interest claims by the contractor. This situation is expected to increase project costs and potentially cause further delays to the project timelines.

Regarding quality assurance, the accreditation process of the NWQRL to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 was fully completed. The accreditation certificate from the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) was also awarded. The planned construction of the water jetty for the water quality vessel was at 5% achievement. The designs were completed, but no resources were allocated to construction works. Reagents were procured, and regional laboratories in Mbale, Lira, Fort Portal, and Mbarara continued supporting environmental and drinking water quality surveillance across the various regions.

While several key milestones are on track, the ongoing financial delays pose significant risks to the timely completion and full operationalisation of the NWQRL. To mitigate these risks and maintain project momentum, it is recommended to expedite payment processing, thereby ensuring the achievement of the desired monitoring capacity and overall project objectives.


L-R: Samples for water quality testing and the new National Water Quality Testing Reference Laboratory under construction

v) Degraded water catchments protected and restored through the implementation of catchment management measure

Catchment management measures form a vital framework for the sustainable management of water resources and land use practices, facilitating decision-making among dependent stakeholders.

Substantial progress was achieved in establishing monitoring stations and implementing soil and water management structures. Twelve monitoring stations were constructed to 100% completion level. These included five for groundwater, five for surface water, and two automatic weather stations, providing crucial data for understanding hydrological patterns.

Furthermore, 13 km of vital soil and water management structures, including infiltration trenches, contours, and terraces, were successfully constructed across the districts of Kamwenge, Kitagwenda, Kasese, Ntungamo-Rubare, and Buhweju (upstream of the Rwizi River). These structures play a key role in reducing soil erosion and improving water infiltration.

The construction of five surface water stations (Nchwera in Rubirizi District, Aswa 1 in Lira District, Pager at Naam Okora in Kitgum District, and Aswa DS in Amuru District) was completed as planned. In addition, the construction of five groundwater stations in Arua District, the Fisheries Office in Butiaba, Bullisa District, Kajoji Health Centre in Mityana District, Kaliro Town Council in Kaliro District, and Lira Town in Lira District was successfully finalised. Moreover, two climate stations were established in Moroto Prison in Moroto District and Mutukula in Rakai District. Equipment installation and user training to ensure the smooth operation and sustainability of these facilities were ongoing by the end of the financial year.

A total of 15 percolation and infiltration pits were established on demonstration plots in Nebbi, Kitagwenda, and Kasese Districts. Additionally, 60 hectares of degraded forests were restored – 40 hectares in Ibanda District (Mpanga catchment) and 20 hectares in Kasese District (Nyamugasani catchment). Soil and water management structures were constructed, including a total of 43.2 km of features such as soil bunds, tree lines, grasses, percolation pits/infiltration trenches, contours, and terraces. These structures were implemented across Kamwenge, Kitagwenda, Kasese, Ntungamo, Buhweju, and Katakwi Districts to enhance land conservation and water management. This restoration effort aims to improve wetland ecosystems, enhance biodiversity, and support sustainable land and water management in the affected areas.

A 1 km stretch of degraded riverbank in Ruharo along the Rwizi River was revitalised through bamboo planting. Furthermore, 4.9 hectares of riverbank buffer zones have been protected to support gradual natural regeneration along downstream sections of the Kiko River in the Victoria Nile catchment. In Kamwenge District, 5 km of land were planted with teak tree seedlings, and pillars were installed to support sustainable land use practices.

Furthermore, four private tree nurseries supported through the purchase of tree seedlings have been established to generate income and promote ongoing reforestation activities. These nurseries are operated by Restore Ecosystem Company, located in Mbarara and Rwanyapamzi in Rwampara District. A total of 25,002 tree seedlings, including bamboo, grevillea, Melicia, fruit trees (oranges, mangoes, guavas, and jackfruits), *Calliandra*, Napier grass, and *Prunus africana* were supplied and planted. The seedlings were distributed in areas around Rwampara District, Bishop Stuart University in Mbarara District, and other localities, contributing to forest regeneration and livelihood enhancement.

A total of 650 water abstraction and wastewater discharge permit holders were monitored for compliance with permit conditions in 36 districts. The process aims to ensure sustainable water resource management. Assessments were made of 89 applications from nine districts and were recommended for issuance of new permits, while 165 illegal abstractors were identified in 17 districts. Reviews and comments were made on 25 Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for Nyamugasani (1 and 2) Hydroelectric Power (HEP), Frontier Energy, Bugoye HEP, and Mpanga HEP, and forwarded to NEMA.

In order to operationalise the Catchment Management Plans (CMPs), the Sub-Catchment Management Plan for Rwimi sub-catchment and the Micro-Catchment Management Plan for Tangi-Ajai were not prepared; only assessments and data collection were undertaken for the Rwimi sub-catchment. The Mpologoma Catchment Management Committee was reconstituted, and four other Micro-Catchment Management Committees of the Matanda, Albert Nile, Nkusi, and Aswa II catchments were established.

A total of 920 stakeholders across 14 districts were identified and supported to benefit from income-generating and livelihood opportunities. These were trained in apiary enterprise establishment and other related skills. Trainees were subsequently provided with 160 beehives and essential beekeeping equipment to support their livelihoods.

vi) Water management measures implemented in priority sub-catchments

The water management measures comprised actions and strategies related to managing water resources that had been implemented within specific sub-catchment areas identified as high priority. The comprehensive groundwater study, aimed at assessing available resources and demand, reached 70% completion. This involved the successful completion of the inception report, along with thorough data gap and baseline assessments. This laid a strong foundation for informed decision-making regarding water resource management in the region.

Implementation of catchment management measures in the Lwakhakha, Aswa II, Kochi, and Middle/Lower Awoja sub-catchments reached an 88% completion level. Typically, 20 water sources were rehabilitated and protected, with 35 more pending planting of live markers and construction of soil and water conservation structures. Additionally, 2,673 hectares of degraded land underwent restoration through tree planting, 841.5 hectares of soil and water conservation structures were constructed, and 546.3 km of riverbanks were stabilised.

Restoration efforts included 1,296.9 hectares of degraded wetlands, support to 260 households for apiary establishment with KTB beehives and equipment, construction of 6,316 energy-saving cookstoves, and the creation of 11 fishponds, six of which were stocked with 18,000 fingerlings. Furthermore, 2.7 km of gullies were constructed using gabions, and fruit trees were planted to enhance ecosystem resilience.

In a bid to reduce river siltation, 841.5 hectares of soil and water conservation measures were established, along with stabilisation of 546.3 km of riverbanks. Additionally, 1,296.9 hectares of degraded wetlands received restoration efforts. For example, in Kassanda District, the degraded wetlands of Bimbye (L. Wamara) had been occupied by settlers engaged in farming, eucalyptus planting, and other agricultural activities. Community members and local leaders received sensitisation, and tools were provided to support restoration. The process involved concrete pillars and live markers, covering over a 40 km stretch. The restored wetland was subsequently handed over to district and political leaders. Specifically, 3 hectares in Ruharo were restored with support from World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the Ankole Diocese (bamboo), and bamboo planting also took place in Nyamitanga.

Degraded wetlands covering 24 hectares within the Awoja catchment underwent restoration to improve wetland health and water quality by delaying water flow. Demarcation of riverbanks extended over 79.68 km, with 26 km along the Kiko River marked with pillars for 13 km on each side in the Victoria Nile catchment. In the Mpologoma catchment, 53.68 km of riverbanks along the Sironko River received marking with live markers. Additionally, 18 hectares of degraded riverbank buffer zones were restored within the Victoria Nile-Lumbuye catchments. To support natural regeneration, 4.9 hectares of riverbank buffer zones along the downstream sections of the Kiko River received protection.

Over 6 km of soil and water conservation structures, including infiltration trenches, diversion channels, contours, and terraces, were constructed. Specifically, in the Kiko sub-catchment of the Victoria Nile catchment, 5.2 km of soil and water conservation structures, such as soil bunds, tree lines, grasses, and percolation pits, were implemented. Similarly, conservation measures in Kelim I Village, Katakwi District, addressed the Awoja catchment.

Six small water harvesting structures, including retention ponds and percolation pits, were constructed to improve water management. An additional rock water harvesting structure, consisting of two tanks, was built in Lokopo, Napak. In Kelim I Village, Katakwi District, three large retention ponds were established within the Awoja catchment to enhance water storage capacity.


L-R: Pine trees planted and trenches in Kole District; Aswa II sub-catchment

Support was extended to 920 stakeholders, providing income-generating and livelihood opportunities through training in apiary enterprise establishment and other activities. These training sessions took place in districts such as Kamwenge, Kyenjojo, Ibanda, Kakumiro, Kasese, Rukungiri, Isingiro, Buhweju, and Mbarara. Trainees received 160 beehives along with essential bee equipment. Additionally, the project facilitated the construction of 6,316 improved energy-saving cookstoves. The initiative also involved establishing 11 fishponds, aiming to empower communities and enhance livelihoods through sustainable economic activities.

In the Kagera catchment, field assessments included mapping interventions and engaging communities in catchment management activities. As a result, efforts focused on identifying and planning soil and water conservation measures, mapping riverbanks, and exploring alternative income-generating activities. The sub-catchments of Chezo, Mishumba, and Kyabaganda promoted localised resource management and sustainable land use practices, contributing to overall catchment resilience and community empowerment.

vii) ESIA for water-related projects reviewed

The intervention aimed to ensure rigorous environmental oversight for water-related infrastructure by reviewing Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and submitting recommendations to the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA).

During the reporting period, a total of 25 EIAs underwent review, significantly surpassing the initial expectation of four. These assessments included projects such as Nyamugasani I and II HEP, Frontier Energy, Bugoye HEP, and Mpanga HEP. Detailed technical comments were submitted to NEMA as part of the enhanced environmental review process, helping to mitigate potential environmental impacts within the water sector.

Sub-Programme Challenges

1) **Inadequate testing capacity**: The country faces a shortage of essential equipment and skilled personnel required for comprehensive water quality testing across all piped systems, especially in Gravity Flow Schemes (GFSs). This gap heightens the risk of supplying substandard water to communities, potentially compromising public health and safety.

2) **Human resource constraints in WRM**: The Water Resources Management (WRM) Department operates at only 40% of its required staffing levels, with 60% of personnel on temporary or contractual arrangements. Owing to budget limitations, promotions and recruitment are restricted, resulting in an overstretched workforce that hampers effective service delivery and institutional capacity.

3) **Regulatory loopholes in private testing**: Some private laboratories exploit weak enforcement of water testing regulations to operate with minimal oversight. This undermines the quality and credibility of test results, posing risks to public health and eroding trust in water quality assessments.

4) **Delayed payments impacting laboratory operations**: Payment delays to the contractor of the National Water Quality Reference Laboratory (NWQRL) in Entebbe and its suppliers disrupt the procurement of vital laboratory reagents and consumables. This leads to equipment downtime, reduced testing capacity, and limited ability to provide timely water quality data.

5) **Industrial wastewater pollution**: Numerous industries discharge untreated or inadequately treated wastewater directly into rivers and lakes, causing significant pollution. This contamination threatens aquatic ecosystems and public health, indicating gaps in the enforcement of effluent discharge standards and industrial compliance.

6) **Limited access to essential reagents:** Hach reagents, critical for precise water quality testing, are costly and difficult to source locally. Their scarcity hampers comprehensive testing, particularly in remote areas, thereby weakening overall monitoring efforts and reducing the capacity for early detection of pollution issues.

Conclusion

The Water Resources Management (WRM) Sub-programme demonstrated good performance, achieving an overall rating of 89.8%. Key accomplishments include the construction of the National Water Quality Monitoring Reference Laboratory (NWQRL), which reached 64%

completion, and the successful accreditation of the NWQRL, now fully certified. The programme operationalised Water Information System Phase II across five regions, monitored and analysed over 3,417 water and wastewater samples, and implemented extensive catchment protection measures, such as soil and water conservation structures. A total of 634 permits were issued and 650 permit holders monitored to ensure compliance, demonstrating a strong commitment to water governance. However, challenges such as limited testing capacity and staff shortages continue to impact the sub-programme's effectiveness, and must be addressed promptly to sustain progress and ensure long-term sustainability.

Recommendations

1) The MWE should invest in the procurement of essential equipment and provide specialised training to increase the number of skilled personnel, ensuring comprehensive water quality testing across all systems.
2) In collaboration with the Ministry of Public Service (MoPS), the MWE should fast-track the recruitment of qualified technical staff to fill critical vacancies within the Department of Water Resources Management (DWRM).
3) The MWE should expedite the review of the National Water Policy to establish comprehensive standards and legal requirements for private laboratories conducting water quality testing.
4) The MWE must prioritise clearing outstanding payments to suppliers and contractors of laboratory reagents to prevent disruptions in water quality testing.
5) The MWE should ensure all industries obtain wastewater discharge permits, subject to regular inspections and compliance monitoring.
6) The MWE should establish Framework Contracts with multiple suppliers for essential reagents to ensure consistent availability of Hach reagents and other critical supplies.

3.3 Environment and Natural Resources Management Sub-programme

Introduction

The Environment and Natural Resources Sub-programme plays a pivotal role in advancing the overarching goal of the Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land, and Water Management (NRECCLWM) Programme, namely, to reduce environmental degradation and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change while promoting the sustainable use of natural resources. These efforts aim to foster inclusive, climate-resilient economic growth and enhance livelihood security across Uganda.

The sub-programme is anchored on five strategic objectives: (i) To maintain and restore a clean, healthy, and productive environment; (ii) To increase forest, tree, and wetland cover, and protect and restore hilly, mountainous, and rangeland ecosystems; (iii) To promote inclusive climate-resilient and low-emission development across all governance levels; (iv) To reduce the human and economic toll of natural disasters and hazards; and (v) To increase household incomes and employment through sustainable use and value addition to natural resources such as forests, water bodies, and rangelands.

Of the 15 planned interventions under this sub-programme for FY 2024/25, only nine (60%) were sampled for monitoring. The remaining interventions were either underfunded or lacked clearly measurable outputs aligned to their intended objectives, limiting their suitability for performance assessment.

Several key institutions jointly undertake implementation of the sub-programme. These include the National Forestry Authority (NFA), the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), and relevant departments under the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), specifically the Water Resources Management Department, Wetlands Management Department, Forestry Support Services Department (FSSD), Environmental Affairs Department, and the Climate Change Department (CCD). This collaborative framework ensures a holistic, cross-sectoral approach to environmental governance and climate action

Financial Performance

The sub-programme's total approved budget for FY 2024/25 was USh160.56 billion, of which USh 161.11 billion (100.33%) had been released and USh 113.34billion (70.4% of the release) spent by the end of the financial year. This was a very good release, while the absorption was fair.

Physical Performance

The overall performance of the sub-programme received a good rating of 83.1%. Notable achievements included the protection of 1,198,551 hectares, equivalent to 95% of the total Central Forest Reserve (CFR) area of 1,265,000 hectares, from illegal activities and encroachment through forest law enforcement patrols supported by the Environmental Protection Police across 16 management areas nationwide. An additional 1,927 hectares of CFR were freed from encroachment and restored. Furthermore, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) supported 41,481 households with relief food and non-food items nationwide.

Table 3.3: Overview of the ENR interventions performance by 30th June 2025

No	Intervention	Performance Rating	Remarks
1	Strengthen conservation, restoration of forests, wetlands and water catchments and hilly and mountainous areas	Achieved	The intervention performed well in terms of coordination and wetland, forest protection, and demarcation/restoration activities.
2	Increase investment in value addition to environment and natural resources products and services	On track	The intervention achieved 65%. Progress was made in wetland restoration, climate change policy, and public awareness, afforestation and enforcement. 20,480,357 seedlings were planted across the country.
3	Mainstream climate change resilience into programmes and budgets with clear budgets lines and performance indicators	On track	The intervention achieved 71.4% of its targets. Progress was made in climate risk assessments, environmental monitoring, and completing 2,660 ESIAs and 798 baseline verification inspections.
4	Increase awareness of sustainable use and management of environment and natural resources	Off track	The intervention made only significant achievement of implementing the NFA public relations plan and achieved 30.2% of the planned activities.
5	Develop and implement a framework that reduces adverse per capita environmental impact of cities (air quality and waste management practices)	Achieved	The intervention achieved 98% of its targets. Key successes included the training of environmental practitioners, undertaking 678 audit verification inspections, completion of 1,180 environment enforcement and surveillance operations, and 931Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs).
6	Integrate education for sustainable development in national curricula at all levels for an environmentally literate citizenry	On track	The intervention achieved 66.7% of its targets, making significant progress in developing and translating environmental materials, running media campaigns, improving infrastructure and distribution, and planting 1,800 fruit tree seedlings.

No	Intervention	Performance Rating	Remarks
	Undertake applied research and innovation on sustainable consumption and production to ensure resource use efficiency to reduce domestic material consumption per capita	Achieved	The intervention achieved all of its targets. Research on heavy metal contamination in vegetables and solid waste management practices was completed, providing valuable data to inform policy and promote sustainable practices. Additionally, two policy briefs were drafted on pesticide contamination and plastics management.
8	Increase funding for promoting non-consumptive uses of natural resources	On track	The intervention achieved 69% of its set targets. A total 13,000 ha of tree plantations were protected from fires, contributing to environmental restoration and sustainable livelihoods; and 378 ha of mature forest plantations inventoried.
9	Support local community-based ecotourism activities for areas that are rich in biodiversity or have attractive cultural heritage sites	Achieved	Achieved 100% of its intervention plan, surpassing its target by maintaining 85 km of ecotourism trails; and two new concessions were issued.
10	Install new and adequately equip and maintain existing automatic weather stations to ensure maximum functionality	On track	Achieved 67%, and 5,096 Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts (TAFs) for Entebbe, Soroti, Jinja, Gulu, Arua and Kasese were generated and disseminated. 18,000 flight folders for Entebbe International Airport were generated and issued.
11	Strengthen the policy, legal and institutional framework for effective disaster risk governance, management and response	Achieved	Achieved 100% of its target to enhance government capacity for disaster response. Key activities included conducting monitoring visits, hazard awareness campaigns, and providing relief to disaster survivors.
12	Institutionalize disaster risk planning in Programme	Achieved	Achieved 100%. Conducted 39 assessments (preparedness and needs, including food security) in Local Governments.

Source: Authors' Compilation

The performance of the interventions monitored under the Environment and Natural Resources Sub-programme:

3.3.1 Strengthen conservation, and restoration of forests, wetlands, water catchments and hilly and mountainous areas

This intervention aims to restore and conserve the environment and natural resources through demarcation, planting, restoring, and maintaining CFRs, wetlands, water catchments, and hilly and mountainous areas. This intervention is mainly contributed to by NFA, NEMA, the Wetlands Department, the Forest Support Services Department, and the Department of Environmental Affairs. The intervention's performance was very good, at 100%, with detailed performance of the planned outputs given hereafter:

i) **Improved coordination, regulation, and monitoring of environment management at both central and local government levels**

The output aims to enhance environmental management at all levels. The output performance under different activities was as follows:

The Uganda Forestry Policy was submitted to Cabinet for approval. Monitoring of climate projects took place in districts such as Kibaale, Kyenjojo, Tororo, Gomba, and Sembabule, with reports submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The local governments of Adjumani and Koboko received training on risk screening, monitoring, and reporting. Additionally, 20 participants from the water, environment, finance, and energy sectors were trained on the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) online tool. However, the development of a National Climate Change Information Management System was not completed.

Communities in Kibuga, Koboko, Moroto, Kotido, Oyam, and West Nile received sensitisation on climate adaptation, fostering community empowerment. Attendance at international conferences such as the 29th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 29) and other UNFCCC events facilitated dialogue, negotiation, and consensus-building among countries, organisations, and stakeholders on climate actions and commitments.

A Greenhouse Gas (GHG) mitigation working group was established, focusing on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidelines and Biennial Update Report (BUR2) methodologies. Five training sessions were conducted, resulting in reports that detail greenhouse gas emissions and other climate-related data. Technical support reached 20 districts across regions, assisting with environmental planning and irrigation project screening for farmers in Ankole, Kigezi, Tooro, and South Buganda.

Compliance monitoring covered 11 national projects and oversight of oil and gas activities in Hoima, Buliisa, Nwoya, and Kikuube Districts, ensuring adherence to environmental laws and standards. Trainings on charcoal processing using wood and bamboo, geo-enabling data collection, nature-based solutions, and finance for nature further strengthened compliance efforts.

Dissemination of the National Climate Act, Policy, and NDC occurred effectively in districts such as Bududa, Napak, Luweero, and Nakasongola, ensuring local stakeholders remain informed and engaged in climate initiatives. A capacity-building workshop for youth was organised, focusing on developing an action plan to implement the Kampala Declaration, thus empowering young people to participate actively in climate resilience and policy implementation at the district level.

A total of 44 district wetland maps were produced, with 35 maps covering the Muzizi, Lumbuye, and Awoja systems. These maps underwent ground-truthing to validate spatial data and improve accuracy. An additional nine district wetland maps supported regulatory compliance and enhanced field-level monitoring and enforcement of wetland protection measures. These maps are instrumental in operationalising the National Wetlands Information System (NWIS), strengthening overall wetland management and conservation efforts.

ii) Restoration of critical wetlands; demarcation, gazetting and restoration of 900 km of wetlands; gazetting six critical wetlands realised

During the financial year, grassroots-level capacity-building efforts targeted environmental and climate change clubs in 11 seed schools across Central and Eastern Uganda. These clubs were empowered to implement sustainable greening strategies, promoting awareness and action among young people. National awareness and community mobilisation were also strengthened through the coordination of World Environment Day and International Day of Biodiversity activities. These included clean-ups, the Save River Rwizi marathon, sensitisation campaigns, and tree planting initiatives in Eastern and Western Uganda.

A total of 44 hectares of degraded mountain ecosystems and 112 hectares of degraded riverbanks and lakeshores were restored. Furthermore, over 9,165.92 hectares of degraded wetlands were reinstated in various districts, particularly in Eastern and Western Uganda. Restoration efforts targeted priority wetlands such as Kanunka, Kandekye, Nyombe, Mpologoma-Naigombwa, and Lumbuye-Nabikoli, alongside post-restoration surveillance in Limoto, Lake Lemwa, Okoboi-Galilaya, and others, to ensure ecological recovery and boundary integrity.

L-R: the restored Kandekye wetland; beneficiary with the goat in Ryamasa village in Kyangyenyi SC Bushenyi district

In terms of boundary demarcation, 437 km of wetlands were surveyed and marked, against a higher planned target of 900 km, covering areas like the Lubigi, Nabakazi, Mpanga, Ishasha, Awoja, and Makanaga wetlands. To support this, concrete pillars were procured, while ground-truthing, mapping, and sensitisation meetings were conducted in several districts, including Mpigi, Wakiso, and Kagadi, to strengthen wetland protection and community involvement. Additionally, site suitability assessments were carried out in the Muzizi and Lumbuye wetlands to prepare for community livelihood projects, ensuring conservation is integrated with local socio-economic development.

Policy and planning interventions were prioritised. Wetland management plans were developed for five restored wetlands and implemented in the Sezibwa and Lumbuye systems. Specific updates were made to the Mabamba Wetland Management Plan through sensitisation and stakeholder engagement. Moreover, the designation of Lake Wamala and Kaku-Kiyanja as Ramsar sites was finalised, reflecting Uganda's commitment to global wetland conservation standards. However, some activities, such as the wetland inventory for Bunyanga, Pader, and Agago Districts, were not completed, revealing gaps that need to be addressed in future implementation.

iii) Wetland Management Plans prepared/revised

The output aimed to promote two wetland-based enterprises to enhance community livelihoods under the National Wetland Resource Policy (NWRP). The plan was to promote two wetland-based enterprises for improved community livelihoods under the NWRP.

By the end of the financial year, three wetland-based enterprises had been supported to enhance community livelihoods, with one in Ngora District along the Bisina Ramsar site and two in Kaliro and Namutumba Districts. In total, 721 people received heifers, goats, and poultry, including 27 turkeys, out of 877 targeted beneficiaries in the Lumbuye wetland (Kaliro). For example, in Mazuba Sub-county (SC), Irimbi B Village, Namutumba District, beneficiaries received a heifer, and some have already benefitted from the offspring by selling milk.

L-R: The demarcated and restored Nakakoge inlet stream; and heifers supplied in Mazuba SC, Irimbi B Village in Namutumba District

iv) 2,000 hectares of degraded riverbanks and lakeshores restored and maintained

Restoring and maintaining degraded riverbanks and lakeshores is critically important for preventing soil erosion, protecting water quality, and preserving biodiversity, which ultimately supports sustainable community livelihoods and environmental health.

In Nambieso and Chawente Sub-counties in Kwania, a total of 19 km of River Nile protection buffer zones were demarcated. Pre-demarcation activities were carried out in 11 sub-counties across Kwania, Dokolo, Buikwe, and Kayunga Districts. Additionally, three River Bank and Lakeshore Integrated Gender-Responsive Management Plans were prepared for Kamuli, Kayunga, and Kwania Districts. Compliance monitoring was conducted on a 55 km demarcated river bank protection buffer zone in Jinja, as well as on a 200-hectare restored River Nile protection buffer zone within Jinja District.

v) 23,000 hectares of forest established (3,000 hectares under NFA and 20,000 hectares under licensees on CFRs)

By the end of FY 2024/25, a total of 24,362.72 hectares of commercial tree plantations had been established. Of this, 23,662.46 hectares were established by the National Forestry Authority (NFA), and private tree planters established 700.3 hectares. For example, at the Mbarara Plantation, 150 hectares were planted in the Bugamba and Rwoho Forest Reserves, with a survival rate of 85%. Under the Muzizi Range, restoration planting of 1,200 hectares was undertaken across different reserves. These include Kitechuru, with 400 hectares, Ibambiro with 400 hectares, Matiri with 300 hectares, Kibego with 300 hectares, and Muhangi with 100 hectares.


L-R: Enriched thick part of the forest and boundary opening by pillar demarcation in Buranga, Kitega SC, Ibambaro FR, Kyenjojo District

vi) 12,200 km of CFRs boundary resurveyed, marked and maintained

Resurveying ensures precise boundary demarcation, which helps prevent encroachment, illegal logging, and land disputes, thereby safeguarding the protected areas and promoting sustainable forest management. To date, a total of 432 km out of 450 km of Forest Reserve boundaries across nine ranges have been maintained, achieving approximately 96% of the annual target.

No new forest roads were constructed during the year, falling short of the annual target of 61 km, primarily owing to the delayed release of funds. Additionally, a total of 85 boundary engagement sessions were conducted with stakeholders at various levels, out of the planned 10 sessions for the year. Boundary opening activities were ongoing in Iziru in July 2025, with 32 km completed in Iziru, 6 km in Oduduli, and 7 km in Kimaka, which were delayed owing to the late receipt of funds. In Rwhoho and Bugamba Community Forest Reserves (CFRs), 56 km out of the 60 km annual target were marked with boundary pillars, while approximately 45 km of boundaries in the Kyoga Range were opened.

vii) 55 Forest Management Plans prepared and revised

Forest Management Plans are essential as they offer a structured framework for the sustainable utilisation and conservation of forest resources. During the fiscal year, two new Forest Management Plans were prepared for the Sango Bay and Karamoja Ranges. Additionally, five existing Forest Management Plans for Budongo CFR, Bugoma CFR, South Maramagambo CFR, Kagadi CFR, and Rukungiri-Kanungu CFR were reviewed and updated by the end of the fiscal year.

viii) 1.265 million hectares of CFRs protected and freed from illegal activities/encroachment

The annual plan aimed to safeguard 1.265 million hectares of CFRs from illegal activities and encroachment by deploying 480 patrol teams. During the financial year, a total of 1,198,551 hectares of CFRs across nine ranges and Plantation Management Areas (PMAs) were protected from illegal activities and encroachment. While six land titles were cancelled, 137 illegal land titles verified within CFRs remain pending cancellation.

For example, in the Kyoga Range, 45 km of boundaries were opened, and boundary pillar planting is ongoing in Iziru FR, Odudui FR, and Kimaka FR. Additionally, boundary reopening was completed in 10 other forest reserves. Major challenges include illegal titling of forest land and hostility from some local communities.

ix) 365,000 hectares of non-degraded and restored natural forests

The planned activities for the financial year included maintaining 100 km of fire lines, i.e., 70 km in the West Nile Range and 30 km in the Budongo system, along with conducting fire awareness campaigns across nine ranges. Additionally, the objectives encompassed assessing 50 Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs), establishing 500 inventory and biomass plots, and evaluating 2,000 hectares, alongside collecting national biomass data.

By the end of the financial year, a total of 90.2 km of fire lines had been maintained, and 32 PSPs were assessed in Lendu plantations. The 2023 National Land Cover Report for Uganda, which includes national biomass data, was not yet available for publication. However, a total of 21,509.2 hectares of Community Forest Reserves (CFR) had been assessed by the end of the financial year.

x) Percentage increase in forest cover

A total of 378 hectares of mature forest plantations had been inventoried out of the annual target of 5,000 hectares set for the end of the period. Cumulatively, 253,840 seedlings were raised out of a 6,048,620 seedlings annual target. A higher number was raised owing to off-budget support; for example, under the Mbarara Plantation, 1,021,090 seedlings were raised. In the Kyoga Range, in Mbale, 100,000 seedlings were raised with a 79% survival rate, and with support from the Global Environment Facility, 430,000 seedlings were raised, with 92 participants trained to manage the nurseries in nine districts.

xi) Dedicated fuel wood plantations established

The intervention targets specific land areas cultivated solely for growing trees intended for fuel wood. These plantations aim to provide wood for cooking, heating, and other energy needs, thereby alleviating pressure on natural forests and encouraging sustainable resource use.

The planned activities for the year included weeding 1,500 hectares across all seven plantation sites (Mafuga, Mbarara, Mwenge, Katuugo, Lendu South, Busoga, and Opit) and marking and pruning 1,000 hectares of tree plantations. By the end of FY 2024/25, a total of 6,235 hectares of tree plantations had been slashed and weeded, and 1,404 hectares had been marked and pruned, with notable efforts in Rwoho and Bugamba CFRs. However, there were cases of fire outbreaks. Additionally, 2,489 hectares were maintained through slash weeding and spot weeding, both conducted twice, exceeding the annual target of 306 hectares.

Under the Kyoga Range, maintenance activities included pruning of Namafuma Forest Reserve (FR) covering 20 hectares, Mbingire FR covering 87 hectares, and Kumi FR covering 15 hectares. These pruning operations were carried out twice during the fiscal year.

L-R: Maintainance works at Rwoho CFR in Isingiro District; new forest establishment and boundary opening in Rwampara County, Rwoho CFR in Rwampara District

xii) Integrated Forest Information Management System developed; forest databases updated

The intervention aims to ensure the availability of up-to-date and accurate forest data to support effective management. The overarching goal is to enhance forest management through improved data collection and monitoring.

A total of eight quarterly and annual programme performance assessments of NFA were conducted cumulatively by the end of the financial year. These assessments included the annual programme performance review, half-year performance evaluations, and monitoring and evaluation activities for the fiscal year. By the end of FY 2024/25, an area of 13,975.7 hectares of commercial tree plantations was assessed in Achwa Range and Bukaleba CFR. Additionally, the NFA Strategic Plan for FY 2025/26 to 2029/30, aligned with NDP IV, was developed and finalised during the same period.

Cumulatively, 13,975.7 hectares of commercial tree plantations were assessed in the Achwa Range and Bukaleba CFR, surpassing the initial target of 10,000 hectares. This total includes 5,000 hectares of commercial plantations established by licensed tree planters and stakeholders through Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), as well as 100 hectares of private tree plantations on NFA land in Koga, which generated revenue of USh 1.269 billion.

Additionally, the NFA Strategic Plan for FY 2025/26 to 2029/30, aligned with NDP IV, was successfully developed and finalised. Support for conservation efforts was further strengthened through the issuance of 10 Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES).

3.3.2 Increase investment in value addition to environment and natural resources products and services

The intervention focuses on environmental protection and sustainable land use practices. The planned outputs under this intervention were: protection and restoration of strategic fragile ecosystems undertaken; effective engagement and participation in Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and Protocols; and targeted stakeholders sensitised in sustainable natural resource management.

i) Protection and restoration of strategic fragile ecosystems undertaken


L-R: the demarcated and restored Kakindo-wetland; apiary enterprise in Kakindo Subcounty in Kamwenge district

In a bid to protect and restore the strategically fragile ecosystems, 33 km of river bank protection buffer zones on Wambabya River banks in Hoima District (13 km) and 20 km of Kibaale River, and the Rwizi tributary in Ndaija in Rwampara District were demarcated. The National Forestry and Tree Planting Act (NFTPA), Cap. 160 was submitted to Cabinet for discussion and approval.

Additionally, eight tree nurseries were certified in the districts of Adjumani, Yumbe, Arua, and Terego to ensure the production of quality seedlings with high survival rates. Furthermore, 40 nursery operators in Northern and Eastern Uganda received training in preparation for certification. The national stakeholder workshop on REDD+ safeguards application and reporting, along with three capacity-building workshops on REDD+ results-based finance, application, and safeguards reporting, were conducted. A training session was also carried out on monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) aspects related to activity data production.

The plan was to plant 40 million tree seedlings covering approximately 30,000 hectares; however, 20,480,357 seedlings were planted across the country through mobilisation of partners under the ongoing ROOTS (Running Out Of Trees) Campaign. For example, 10,000 trees were planted on a 350-hectare area with a 91% survival rate in the Nyabuziga catchment, and 10 km of demarcation with pillars was completed. Additionally, 450 hectares were restored, drainage channels blocked, and wetland vegetation replanted in the Kandikye wetland, covering Kyeizoba, Kyabigimbi, and Rwentuha Town Councils in Bushenyi. Livelihood support was provided to 381 households (167 female and 214 male) through various enterprises, such as goats and cows; however, funding limitations affected woodlot and agroforestry activities.

During the reporting period, the Wetlands Management Department, together with the Environmental Protection Police Unit (EPPU), conducted 40 field inspections, resulting in 27 registered wetland degradation cases, and enforcement was intensified across multiple districts. Legal actions included the removal of 35 evictees from the Lubigi wetland. Operations in Wakiso, Kampala, and Jinja led to 29 arrests, 20 signed compliance agreements, three improvement notices, seven police summonses, and four court submissions. Community policing engagements totalled 62 to raise awareness, and 30 wetland restoration activities were successfully implemented to rehabilitate degraded areas. These efforts reflect strengthened enforcement and community outreach to protect Uganda's wetland ecosystems.

The Ramsar Centre for Eastern Africa supported patrols (routine and post-restoration) and compliance monitoring. Bona fide occupants in designated wetlands were mobilised and sensitised in preparation for compensation. Wetland Day (WWD) 2025 was commemorated in Rubirizi District with an estimated 3,000 physical participants and 600 online participants, and the relevant report was produced. Terms of Reference (ToRs) for GPS procurement were prepared and submitted to the Procurement Officer. The annual plan to sensitise 30% of wetland resource users and other stakeholders in project areas was undertaken, along with four pilot primary schools (Mpologoma, Rwizi wetland systems) participating in awareness programmes.

A total of 67 staff – 37 from the Wetlands Management Department (WMD) and 30 from District Local Governments – were trained in the application and utilisation of the National Wetlands Information System (NWIS) across Eastern and Mbarara regional centres. Training covered NWIS navigation, data management, analysis, interpretation, wetlands mapping, spatial planning, reporting, and documentation. The revised Wetland Atlas for the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area (GKMA) (Kampala, Mukono, Wakiso, and Mpigi) was not produced or disseminated.

A total of 2,900 households were registered, prepared, and ready for tree growing and maintenance activities (agroforestry) in Season B 2025 in the Albertine and West Nile Regions. Contracts were signed with five wood fuel suppliers and five distributors, with call-off orders issued. On average, 7,563 cubic metres of fuelwood were supplied to 30,200 persons with specific needs in refugee settlements across the Albertine Rift and West Nile. The plan to support farmers in districts and refugee-hosting communities to establish commercial woodlots was under procurement; a draft contract was submitted to the Solicitor General (SG).

During the financial year, the plan was to procure 2,000,000 assorted tree seedlings for distribution to farmers in target districts and refugee communities in the Albertine and West Nile Regions. However, this target was not achieved; instead, 15 natural forests on community and private land were mapped, and investment plans for their management were developed. Specifications for a wetland plant guide were prepared and submitted to the Procurement and Disposal Unit (PDU).

A total of 6,815.1 hectares of degraded wetlands were successfully restored, exceeding the target of 6,300 hectares across several districts. Activities included 30 post-restoration monitoring exercises and stakeholder engagement involving over 500 participants in districts such as Kole, Lira, Wakiso, Pader, and Kampala. Community outreach in religious settings was also conducted to raise awareness and promote wetland conservation.

Furthermore, wetlands like Kakindo in Kamwenge District were demarcated over 18 km with support from CONRAD and the Hilton Foundation. The project supported income-generating activities such as apiary development, providing 24 beehives, tools, and training on their management to promote sustainable livelihoods.

Wetland inspection and enforcement activities intensified across multiple districts to address widespread degradation and promote compliance. Significant threats from rice cultivation and soil backfilling were identified, resulting in nine restoration orders and support from EPPU, including field operations in Budaka and compliance assistance in Mbale. Targeted enforcement took place in Kole, Lira, Wakiso, and Mukono to address illegal sand mining, vegetation burning, manure dumping, and unauthorised construction.

Effective engagement and participation in Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and Protocol

Protocols serve as supplementary instruments to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), offering specific commitments, operational procedures, or implementation mechanisms. These instruments are critical for guiding international environmental action and ensuring coordinated responses to global environmental challenges. Uganda participated in pre-COP technical working groups for the Basel, Stockholm, Rotterdam, and Minamata Conventions at both the international and African regional levels. Furthermore, MWE staff attended three International Mountain Partnership meetings and commemorated the International Day of Mountains.

3.4.3 Mainstream climate change resilience into programmes and budgets with clear budgets lines and performance indicators

Mainstreaming climate change resilience into programmes and budgets with clear lines and indicators is essential for effective planning, resource allocation, and measuring progress toward sustainable development.

During the financial, the key achievements included submission of two field reports from climate change surveys conducted in the Northern and Western Regions, conducting a community-level Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) for Kitgum District, and training for Kitgum District in Northern Uganda.

Data was collected for climate change and disaster risk assessments across various districts. Specifically, Community Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) data was gathered from Nakapiripirit, Nabilatuk, and Kitgum Districts. In the River Tokwe sub-catchment in

Bundibugyo District, data was collected on climate hazards. Additionally, two districts of Nebbi and Kasese were supported to develop District Climate Change Adaptation Plans (DCCAPs).

Out of the planned 750 baseline verification inspections, 798 were undertaken, surpassing the target by 6.4% (an increase from the original target). A total of 2,660 Environment and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) were finalized, out of an annual target of 1,500. Furthermore, 89 compliance assistance inspections were conducted, exceeding the target of 40 by 122.5%. These activities aimed to support the regulated community in complying with national regulatory requirements and improving resource productivity.

Additionally, 2,095 environmental audit verification inspections and 249 environment enforcement operations were carried out. A total of 1,060 environmental audit reports, out of a planned 600, were reviewed, and 4,677 environment compliance audits were conducted out of an annual target of 2,000.

Field inspections were conducted in partnership with NEMA and UIA, during which four facilities (Tembo Aluminium Limited, M-power Oil Company Limited, Avolio Industries Limited, and Feilong Investments Limited) were assessed. These engagements aimed to promote compliance with environmental standards within the private sector. Additionally, 17 District Natural Resource Officers received training to enhance their capacity in Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) management. The training was specifically designed to prepare them to develop Environmental Action Plans aligned with the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan III (NBSAP III) for 2025–2030. Participants were drawn from various regions to ensure broad regional representation.

Under the Mbale Regional Office, the target for baseline verification inspections was 200. Of these, 125 inspections were reviewed and finalised, representing a 62.5% completion rate. Regarding the ESIA TORs, 117 new submissions were received, against a target of 250. Consequently, 112 TORs were reviewed and concluded, representing 44.8% of the target, while five TORs remained under review. The lower achievement was mainly due to a reduced number of submissions compared to the initial target.

For ESIA reports and Project Briefs (PBs), 196 new submissions were recorded, with 163 reviewed and finalised, achieving 65.2% of the target of 250. A significant number of projects (99 in total) remained under review, largely because many submissions were made late in May and June 2025.

Regarding ESIA extension applications, eight new submissions were received, against a target of 50. A total of 28 applications were reviewed and concluded, reaching 56% of the target. Three applications remained under review, with delays attributed to the absence of supporting environmental approval records and the fact that the set target was higher than the number of available extensions. The major challenges in ESIA extensions are inadequate environment assessment records for ESIA extensions, and reluctance to pay the required fines.

During the financial year, five modules were integrated into the ELMIS (Environmental Legal Management Information System): Audits, Permits, Licenses, and Incident Reporting. The Audit module addresses petitions, enforcement actions, and compliance audits. The Permits module includes riverbank applications, air pollution control permits, noise emission permits, and processes for renewals or cancellations. The Licenses module manages waste and petroleum licences, as well as licence variations, revocations, suspensions, renewals, and transfers. To support the system's functionality, four servers were procured to host and ensure the stability of ELMIS.

3.3.4 Increase awareness of sustainable use and management of the environment and natural resources

The intervention aims to promote sustainable natural resource management. Overall, the intervention's performance was rated as fair, at 50%. Notable completed activities include the implementation of the NFA Public Relations Plan throughout the fiscal year. During the reporting period, three key conservation days were commemorated to significantly enhance public awareness and stakeholder engagement.

The World Wetlands Day 2025 event in Rubirizi District attracted a total of 3,600 participants, comprising 3,000 in-person attendees and 600 online participants. The event featured exhibitions, restoration demonstrations, and stakeholder speeches, all aimed at promoting community-led wetland conservation efforts.

Additionally, the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) organised Uganda Water and Environment Week (UWEK) 2025, with active participation from regional offices. The Victoria WMZ set up exhibition booths and organised two side events focused on wetland conservation and water resource management, thereby increasing visibility among government agencies, civil society, and private sector actors.

The World Environment Day celebrations were held in Kabale District at Kigezi High School Playground, further raising awareness on environmental issues and fostering community involvement in sustainable practices.

3.3.5 Develop and implement a framework that reduces adverse per capita environmental impact of cities (air quality and waste management practices)

The intervention's performance was very good, at 98%. The performance by output included the following activities:

NEMA, in collaboration with other government agencies, undertook significant restoration initiatives targeting degraded wetlands, rivers and forests. By the end of the financial year, a total of 253.7 hectares of degraded ecosystems had been restored across various districts. The aim was to revive ecological balance, protecting water sources and rehabilitating areas under severe environmental pressure.

Key restoration efforts included the rehabilitation of 4 hectares in the Nakalere wetland, 3 hectares in the Kasanga wetland, 3 hectares in the Ensawoyo-Etoba wetland, 1.5 hectares in the Nambuhgirwa wetland, 4.5 hectares in the Kalidubi wetland, and 1 hectare in the Kajjansi wetland. A major milestone was the restoration of 107.5 hectares of the degraded Khamitsaru River system in Bugobero Sub-county, Manafwa District. Additionally, interventions encompassed 37.5 hectares of degraded Kaptokwi River in Kapchorwa, 10 hectares of degraded forest, and 25 hectares of Passa River and Wetland in Bududa District.

Furthermore, 33.7 hectares of the Lirima-Laaso River and Wetland System in Bukikho Sub-county, Namisindwa District, were restored. Additionally, and four hectares along the degraded riverbanks of Sasa in Bugimwera Parish, Bumasobo Sub-county, Bulambuli District, were rehabilitated. These efforts demonstrate a strong commitment to restore natural habitats, enhance climate resilience, and reduce adverse environmental impacts in vulnerable areas.

NEMA successfully undertook 351 compliance monitoring and enforcement operations out of the planned 250 during the fiscal year, significantly exceeding expectations. These efforts are instrumental in ensuring climate change resilience and enhancing adaptation to climate change impacts. This achievement reflects a strong commitment to environmental protection and climate action in the financial year.
Cumulatively, a total of 1,180 environmental enforcement and surveillance operations were conducted, surpassing the annual target of 800. The overachievement in enforcement activities included monitoring and inspections, which were primarily conducted through impromptu visits, environmental compliance checks, and incident investigations related to environmental pollution and degradation. Additionally, 376 Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) baseline verification inspections were carried out in regional offices, compared to the annual target of 500, and four monitoring inspections of wetland user projects and sites were completed.

NEMA was actively represented in courts of law in both civil and criminal matters. A total of 230 court attendances were conducted, comprising 200 criminal cases and 30 civil litigation cases. Additionally, out of the planned 50 criminal prosecutions, 200 were carried out. Furthermore, 456 investigation-led prosecutions were undertaken, significantly exceeding the planned 40. These efforts demonstrate NEMA's strong commitment to environmental law enforcement and justice.

Additionally, nine monitoring inspections of various industry players involved in the use of chemicals were undertaken. A total of 10 stakeholders from different government bodies, educational institutions, and industry associations were trained on new technologies related to ozone-depleting substances. Furthermore, 21 staff members received training in the sound management of chemicals, radiation, and pollution control.

NEMA developed and reviewed a comprehensive suite of regulations and guidelines to enhance the effective operationalisation of the NEA Cap 181. The reviewed regulations and guidelines include: (i) Service of Restoration Orders; (ii) Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) Guidelines; (iii) Noise and Vibration Regulations; (iv)Wetland and Lakeshore Regulations; (v) National Environment Fund Regulations; (vi) Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations; and (vii) Restoration Action Plans (RAPs); as well as associated guidelines for degraded wetlands, riverbanks, water catchments, forests, and hilltops. These initiatives aim to strengthen environmental governance and promote sustainable management practices.

The 2024 National State of Environment (SoE) Report was launched. This is usually produced after every two years. The report is a vital tool for assessing the overall condition of the environment within a country. It provides comprehensive information on key environmental parameters, highlights trends, identifies challenges, and informs policymakers, stakeholders, and the public about the state of natural resources and ecosystems.

A total of 678 audit verification inspections were conducted across regional offices, exceeding the annual target of 300 inspections. Additionally, a significant number of environmental assessments and inspections were carried out to ensure compliance and effectively manage environmental impacts. This included over 1,300 environmental monitoring inspections and the finalisation of 931 ESIAs, demonstrating a strong commitment to environmental oversight and sustainable management.

During the reporting period under the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), veterinary services achieved notable milestones. A total of 2,480 animals were neutered and 1,680 were sprayed, surpassing the initial targets thanks to strong partner support for rabies control efforts. Additionally, 1,769 pets received vaccinations, and 671,013 slaughtered animals and carcasses were inspected to ensure food safety. These interventions significantly enhanced public health and contributed to the prevention of zoonotic diseases across the divisions.

In solid waste management, KCCA made remarkable progress. A total of 1,883.1 tons of recyclables were collected and transported to designated facilities, while 1,028.1 tons of organic waste were diverted from landfills, exceeding the target of 600 tons. Regular clean-up campaigns, community dialogues, and sensitisation meetings reached 47,815 households, well above the planned 36,000 practices for raising awareness and promoting waste management. Road cleaning activities covered 448 roads, with 415 roads swept daily, and 22 public toilets were maintained to improve sanitation standards.

Sanitation facilities experienced high completion rates, with construction efforts carried out by KCCA and partner organisations. Progress on markets, transport hubs, and community points reached 60%, while school sanitation facilities were 85% complete, with 17 facilities fully finished, and another at 70%. A total of 42 toilets were constructed, achieving an average completion rate of 96%, complemented by 2,532 emptying trips to maintain hygiene in public installations.

Environmental health and regulatory inspections were also actively conducted. A total of 583 amusement premises and 15 industries were inspected, alongside visits to1,618 premises of domestic and public health importance to ensure compliance. Tree planting and wetland restoration initiatives advanced, with 300 trees planted along wetland belts, contributing to environmental conservation.

3.3.6 Integrate education for sustainable development in national curricula at all levels for an environmentally literate citizenry

The intervention targeted three key outputs: education for sustainable development integrated into education curricula; information, education, and communication (IEC) materials on the environment developed and translated into local languages; and public education programs and campaigns on the environment enhanced. The performance of the intervention was fair, at 66.7%, and the status of the only two planned outputs was as follows:

Information, education and communication (IEC) materials on environment developed and translated into local languages

During FY 2024/25, a major nationwide public awareness campaign was successfully executed to promote environmental initiatives. This effort utilised multiple media channels, including radio and television talk shows, as well as a 30-day campaign of spot messages. The focus of these engagements was on greening initiatives and the critical importance of wetland restoration efforts across the country.

Educational programmes form a core part of the outreach strategy, specifically targeting younger generations. Support was provided to 15 schools for World Environment Day participation, and awareness was raised about the Montreal Protocol in high schools. A hands-on approach was taken by distributing and planting 1,800 fruit tree seedlings. These efforts were bolstered by the procurement of informational materials like T-shirts, caps, and banners.

Substantial progress was made in institutional capacity building and data management. A key achievement was the training of 35 officers from various major ministries in Natural Capital Accounting, building crucial expertise for valuing environmental resources. To support evidence-based decision-making, a quarterly statistics report was submitted, and a draft environment statistical abstract was developed, laying the groundwork for comprehensive national environmental data.

Public education programmes and campaigns on environment enhanced

By the end of September 2025, a key highlight was the successful planning and preparation for the national commemoration of World Environment Day (WED), conducted on 25th June 2025, in Kabale District. This prominent event was organised under the unifying theme "United against Plastic Pollution" and featured a comprehensive public education campaign. A dedicated community dialogue within the Kigezi Region was also conducted to engage local stakeholders on critical environmental issues, fostering greater awareness and participation.

Simultaneously, significant efforts were made to strengthen internal technological infrastructure and support systems. This included essential maintenance and configuration of ICT services across regional offices, with specific networking tasks undertaken at the NEMA office to ensure optimal connectivity. Preventive maintenance was carried out on all ICT equipment to enhance system reliability and mitigate potential operational disruptions.

To maximise the impact of these technological investments, a capacity-building initiative was launched targeting regional NEMA staff. The training focused on improving their proficiency with various ICT platforms, software, and systems, empowering the team to utilise technology more effectively in their environmental management and regulatory responsibilities.

3.3.7 Undertake applied research and innovation on sustainable consumption and production to ensure resource use efficiency to reduce domestic material consumption per capita

The planned output was to conduct impactful research and promote environmental innovations.

By the end of FY 2024/25, significant progress had been made in environmental research and stakeholder engagement. Two major studies were successfully completed: one involving on-site analysis of heavy metal pollution in Kampala's Nakivubo Channel ecosystem, and another assessing pesticide levels in vegetables collected from various city markets. These studies provided critical data on pollution and food safety risks within the urban environment. Additionally, a comprehensive resource mobilisation strategy was developed to secure future funding for similar initiatives.

Substantial efforts were also undertaken to foster collaboration and promote sustainable practices within the industrial sector. A key engagement event brought together 20 participants from diverse backgrounds, including representatives from nine different industries, a staff member of the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), and eight officials from NEMA. The focus of this engagement was on initiatives to encourage green development, circular economy practices, and pollution-free production.

The achievements were further complemented by successful academic contributions and project development. Two bankable project proposals were developed and submitted for potential investment. Moreover, research findings were disseminated to the wider scientific community through the publication of two peer-reviewed journal articles, examining the environmental impacts of cage fish farming and the effects of sand mining on fish breeding, thereby adding valuable knowledge to these fields.

3.3.8 Increase funding for promoting non-consumptive uses of the natural resources

In FY 2024/25, the Government prioritised increasing funding to promote non-consumptive uses of Uganda's natural resources, particularly through interventions such as eco-tourism, environmental education, and nature-based recreation. The planned output was the supply of 200 million seedlings (5 million bamboo, 50 million indigenous, and 145 million exotic species). The overall performance of this intervention was rated at 69%.

By the end of the 2024/25 fiscal year, the organisation had successfully protected all 13,000 hectares of its tree plantations from fires and completed the inventory of 378 hectares out of a targeted 5,000 hectares of mature forest plantations.

3.3.9 Support local community-based ecotourism activities for areas that are rich in biodiversity or have attractive cultural heritage sites

In FY 2024/25, the Government prioritised the promotion of Community-Based Ecotourism (CBET) as a dual strategy to conserve biodiversity and enhance community livelihoods in ecologically and culturally significant areas. This intervention is aligned with the broader goals of sustainable natural resource management and inclusive economic development.

Under this intervention, the National Forestry Authority (NFA) planned to maintain 30 km of ecotourism trails and six ecotourism site compliances, and issue two new ecotourism concessions to private investors. By the end of the financial year, maintenance of 85 km of ecotourism trails had been completed, and two new ecotourism concessions issued to private investors.

Enhance access and uptake of meteorological information

The intervention performance was as follows:

Significant progress was made in core meteorological operations and financial obligations. Key achievements included the successful completion of four seasonal rainfall performance summaries and the critical planning and execution of national and sub-national climate outlook forums for the 2025 seasons. Furthermore, the agency ensured the translation and countrywide dissemination of seasonal forecasts, conducted field research in multiple regions, and met essential financial commitments by covering mandatory contracts for security, cleaning, and internet services across its facilities.

However, there were several unmet targets and delays. A standby generator was not procured, and necessary safety equipment was not provided. Planned activities, such as parish weather clinics and both internal and external surveillance audits, were not conducted. An annual subscription for the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) was also listed as undertaken, indicating a gap in this specific international engagement.

3.3.10 Install new and adequately equip and maintain existing automatic weather stations to ensure maximum functionality

The intervention performance was approximately 67%, reflecting efforts made despite numerous challenges. The team achieved significant success in delivering key aviation and meteorological services, despite facing considerable equipment and maintenance constraints. Notably, they generated and disseminated 320 Significant Meteorological Information (SIGMETs) for the Entebbe Flight Information Region, produced 5,096 Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts (TAFs) for Entebbe, Soroti, Jinja, Gulu, Arua, and Kasese stations, and managed the distribution of 18,000 flight folders for Entebbe International Airport.

However, these accomplishments were hindered by widespread technical and resource limitations. A substantial number of critical instruments were non-operational; for example, several radars were not functional and 20 barometers and 20 thermometers were uncalibrated, significantly affecting their reliability. Maintenance issues were prominent, with 40 automatic weather stations (AWS) being partially or fully non-functional owing to inaccessible data, and 38 manual stations operating only intermittently owing to a lack of spare parts (RAPEX). While 90 rain gauges were maintained, the integrity of the overall observation network was severely compromised, impacting data collection, accessibility, and the accuracy of meteorological information. On the other hand, the installation of a crucial Low-Level Wind Shear Alert System (LLWAS) at Entebbe International Airport was completed, enhancing aviation safety.

Server cabin (left) and wind shear cabin (right) at the National Meteorological Centre in Entebbe

3.3.11 Strengthen the policy, legal and institutional framework for effective disaster risk governance, management and response

The intervention is crucial for ensuring coordinated, effective, and sustainable disaster risk governance, management, and response. In FY 2024/25, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) focused on enhancing government capacity for rapid emergency and disaster response, achieving a 100% performance rate by the end of the financial year. The planned output was to enhance the government's capacity for rapid emergency and disaster response, and progress was registered across several areas, as shown below:

Monitoring and supervision of refugee and disaster activities were intensified, with five sessions conducted against the planned four. This included five coordination meetings that focused on addressing challenges brought about by reduced donor funding for refugee response programmes. Key discussions in these meetings included the retrenchment of staff, which resulted in the termination of 124 contracts.

Emergency and disaster response was enhanced through the preparation of three monthly disaster situation reports, with special attention given to the needs of women, children, and persons with disabilities (PWDs). Furthermore, eight community hazard awareness campaigns were conducted in vulnerable areas such as Wakiso (Kiteezi landfill), Bududa, Kasese, and Ntoroko to strengthen community preparedness and resilience.

Awareness and risk reduction efforts were also prioritised through the commemoration of International Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Day, which included school-based activities in Mbale and Bulambuli. Consultative meetings were held to update and develop the National Risk Atlas, while risk assessments were carried out on cracks along Mount Muhavura in Kisoro

District. Additionally, a food security assessment was conducted across nine districts in Karamoja to inform planning and response strategies.

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) enhanced rapid emergency and disaster response activities through several key initiatives. These included camp management for survivors of the Kiteezi landfill collapse, coordination of the Bulambuli landslide response with search and rescue operations, and relief food distribution. Specialised training was conducted on digital reporting, communication, early warning, and risk insurance mechanisms, alongside the training of first responders in emergency assessment in the Elgon sub-region. Early warning messages on the March–June weather forecast were widely disseminated through radio, TV, and print media across three sub-regions. The team also participated in the East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) stakeholder engagements, highlighting preparedness roles in case of oil spills.

The department co-produced the March–April–May 2025 seasonal weather forecast and conducted signal strength testing for the National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC) command vehicle. A total of 13 instead of the 12 planned monthly disaster monitoring and early warning reports were produced, covering seasonal forecasts and response activities. Community sensitisation targeted landslide-prone districts such as Bududa and Manafwa, while early warning messages were disseminated in Elgon sub-region districts, including Bulambuli, Sironko, Namisindwa, Kalaki, and Bukedea. National-level early warning campaigns were also carried out through print, radio, and television platforms to strengthen public awareness.

Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) trainings were expanded, with 38 sessions conducted against a target of 36. Sub-county Disaster Management Committees (SDMCs) were also trained in Ntungamo. The office further engaged in oil spill preparedness through tabletop exercises, development of District Contingency Plans (DCPs) for Mbale City, Kitgum, Pader, Agago, and Oyam, and updated plans for Karenga District. Coordination with EACOP continued in preparation for Tier 2 oil spill contingency plans in pipeline districts.

Community-based awareness and preparedness were reinforced through 66 hazard awareness campaigns across the country. Forecast dissemination in Karamoja was coupled with evacuation sensitisation in Bulambuli and Sironko. The office also facilitated the celebration of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, completed field data collection for the 2023 and 2024 Annual State of Disaster Report across 53 districts, and presented the draft National Disaster Preparedness and Management (NDPM) Bill principles to Cabinet for the second reading.

A total of 1,021 households were resettled in Bunambutye, Bulambuli District, surpassing the planned target of 1,000. Key resettlement engagements in the Elgon sub-region included sensitisation of communities in Manafwa on the government's ten million cash transfer programme, validation and relocation of beneficiaries to Bunambutye, and registration of landslide-prone households in Bulambuli, Sironko, Bududa, and Manafwa. Additionally, 741 households in Bududa and Manafwa were evacuated to safer areas in Bunambutye, and parliamentarians were facilitated to visit Panyadoli Camp in Kiryandongo District.

Efforts were also made to resolve resettlement challenges in Kasese and Kayunga Districts, where 200 acres of land had been acquired in each district. To support resettlement in Bulambuli, the District Local Government (DLG) was assisted in opening a 7-km access road and in demarcating 572 plots of land for landslide-affected households. These initiatives aimed to provide both immediate and long-term solutions to displacement and vulnerability caused by natural disasters.

In line with disaster preparedness, the Government supported the development of the National Integrated Early Warning and Disaster Response Systems project in partnership with G-Safety. Relief assistance was also a major focus, reaching 50,020 households (207,404 people) across at least 25 districts, surpassing the annual target of 50,000. The support included both food and non-food items to improve the welfare of displaced and disaster-affected communities.

Specifically, relief food distributed comprised 1,451,825 kg of maize flour, 713,675 kg of beans, 1,015 kg of rice, 399 packets of salt, and 50 kg of sugar. Non-food support included 2,960 tarpaulins, 5,995 iron sheets, 4,955 buckets, 95 plastic latrine slabs, 600 spades, 1,400 bars of soap, and other essential household items. Additionally, infrastructure improvements included the completion of a security and retaining wall around the four-acre Namanve relief stores land, pending installation of a gate and razor wire to enhance security.

3.3.12 Institutionalise disaster risk planning in programmes

The intervention had a single planned output: the development of a comprehensive national disaster risk management plan. The planned activities to achieve this output included the development of mainstreaming guidelines and checklists for Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in all institutions and the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG), as well as the implementation of the comprehensive National Disaster Risk Management Plan (NDRMP). The DRM mainstreaming checklist was validated thereby strengthening disaster risk management integration across sectors.

A total of 39 assessments were conducted, covering preparedness and needs, including food security, in multiple districts. These assessments included pre- and post-disaster responses. In addition, community sensitisation and activation of District Emergency Coordination Centres (DECOCs) were carried out in Moroto, Bududa, Butaleja, and Namayingo. Ten risk assessments were conducted on cracks along Mount Muhavura in Kisoro District, alongside food security assessments in the nine districts of Karamoja, enhancing both local preparedness and disaster response planning.

Sub-programme Challenges

1) Limited resource allocation for the timely payment of the Environmental Protection Force (EPF) hampers strategic planning for key initiatives, such as seedling production for community reforestation efforts. Currently, seedlings are primarily produced for sale, restricting large-scale community-based reforestation programmes.
2) The volatile political environment during the election period impeded enforcement efforts, particularly in addressing wetland degradation and conservation activities.
3) Illegal titles issued within wetlands and forest reserves, compounded by court injunctions, continue to undermine ecosystem protection and conservation efforts.
4) Inadequate transportation facilities, including insufficient vehicles and motorcycles, along with limited fuel supplies, have constrained field operations and environmental inspections.
5) Staff shortages and limited transportation in districts like Bushenyi hinder regular wetland monitoring, increasing the risk of encroachment and delayed enforcement actions.

Conclusion

The ENR Sub-programme achieved an overall performance of 83.1%, with notable successes including the establishment of 24,362.72 hectares of tree plantations, the resurvey of 432.1 km of NFA boundaries, and the restoration of 9,165.92 hectares of wetlands. It effectively strengthened conservation, improved policy frameworks, and promoted public awareness and disaster management. However, outcome targets such as compliance with groundwater abstraction permit conditions and compliance with wastewater discharge permit conditions were not achieved, while compliance with surface water was successfully met. Despite systemic challenges like resource constraints and enforcement issues, the programme made significant progress towards environmental sustainability and resilience.

Sub-programme Recommendations

1) The NFA should prioritise resource mobilisation to support community seedling production, ensuring reforestation efforts are prioritised alongside commercial activities.
2) The MWE should establish protected enforcement mechanisms and stakeholder engagement strategies that are workable during political transitions.

3) The MLHUD should expedite the revocation of illegal titles, thereby protecting critical ecosystems.
4) The MoLG should prioritise the procurement of motorcycles to improve field mobility and inspection frequency instead of waiting Government's decision on the procurement of vehicles.
5) The MWE should prioritise recruitment of staff to fill the gaps within the existing structure as they negotiate for restructuring with MoPS, especially on staffing in the Natural Resources Department.

3.4 Land Management Sub-programme

Introduction

The sub-programme under Uganda's NDP III is mandated to enhance land governance and administration as a foundation for equitable socio-economic development. The sub-programme prioritised the modernisation and digitisation of land services, expansion of land registration coverage, and operationalisation of land institutions at national and sub-national levels.

Key outputs targeted during the NDP III period included increasing the proportion of titled land from 21% to 40% and reducing land-related conflicts by 30%. Core interventions to achieve these results include the systematic demarcation and registration of land, issuance of Certificates of Customary Ownership (CCOs) and freehold titles, digitisation and rollout of the Land Information System (LIS), and implementation of the National Land Policy (NLP). These efforts are intended to promote tenure security, improve land service delivery, and facilitate inclusive access to land for sustainable development and investment.

The implementation of this sub-programme is led by the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD), in collaboration with the Uganda Land Commission (ULC), Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), and the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM). The interventions prioritised promoting tenure security, particularly for women and vulnerable groups, and strengthening institutional frameworks and systems for efficient land administration.

The sub-programme comprises nine key interventions, whose performance was reviewed. The interventions included: (i) fast-tracking the formulation, review, harmonisation, and implementation of land-related laws, policies, regulations, and standards; (ii) strengthening the capacity of land management institutions to secure land rights; (iii) promoting land consolidation, titling, and land banking; (iv) completing the rollout and integration of the Land

Management Information System (LMIS) with other relevant systems; and (v) promoting tenure security, including women's access to land.

Other interventions are the development of the Land Valuation Management Information System (LAVMIS); undertaking an inventory of government land; capitalisation of the Land Fund to support lawful and bona fide occupants; and improved coordination and monitoring of water resources at catchment level. The subsequent section presents a summary of performance across these areas, highlighting progress, gaps, and areas requiring strategic focus.

Financial Performance

The sub-programme budget for FY 2024/25 was USh 171.089 billion, of which USh 136.174 billion (80%) was released and USh 113.074 billion (83% of the release) spent. The release performance was good as well as the absorption rate. The variance was because the funds for the Competitiveness and Enterprise Development Project (CEDP) were not released to cover planned activities.

Physical Performance

The performance of the Land Management Sub-programme was rated as fair, at 56.8%. In the first half of the fiscal year, a total of 123,665 land titles were issued; however, 780 titles issued in fragile ecosystems were subsequently cancelled. All enhancements to the National Land Information System (NLIS) were developed and rolled out, and a final report was produced. Capacity building was successfully implemented for one traditional institution (specifically, the Busoga chiefs in Kamuli and Luuka) in land administration and management.

Additionally, District Land Offices (DLOs) and Area Land Committees (ALCs) received training in land management. A total of 2,102.6 hectares of land were acquired through compensation to absentee landlords for securing lawful and bona fide occupants in Buganda, Bunyoro, Ankole, and Toro (including women, men, PWDs, youths, and companies). A summary of the performance of the Lands Management interventions is provided in the table below.

Table 3.5: Overview of the intervention's performance by 30th June2025

No	Intervention	Performance Rating	Remarks
1	Fast-track the formulation, review, harmonisation, and implementation of land laws, policies regulations, standards and guidelines.	On track	Achieved 84%. Draft Guidelines for registration of customary land were developed, and a draft of land acquisition, resettlement and rehabilitation was carried out.
2	Strengthen the capacity of land management institutions in executing their mandate geared towards securing land rights.	On track	Fair performance, at 68.2%. Mapped and allocated 877 new house numbers to clients to facilitate building permit applications. The capacity of one traditional institution (Busoga,

No	Intervention	Performance Rating	Remarks
			i.e., chiefs in Kamuli and Luuka) was strengthened in land administration and management.
3	Promote land consolidation, titling and banking.	Achieved	Very good performance at 92.6%, with a total of 123,665 titles processed, and UGX 78.833 bn revenue was generated.
4	Complete the rollout and integration of the Land Management Information System with other systems.	On track	82.3% achieved 91,490 parcels for men and women adjudicated and demarcated. 132,652 SLAAC titles printed and updated 4,966 properties on the CAM/CAMV System.
5	Promote tenure security, including women's access to land.	Achieved	95.5% achieved, with very good performance, with 5.417bn NTR generated, and 764 lease transactions processed from across the country for male, female PWDs and companies' lessees.
6	Develop and implement a Land Valuation Management Information System (LAVMIS).	On track	Good performance at 83% as the land values collection software was developed, and 69,948 property valuations were carried out and supervised.
7	Undertake a comprehensive inventory of government land.	On track	Good performance at 87.5% as 50 land titles for KCCA were secured and applied for 27 conversions from leasehold to freehold, and 545 certificates of title were processed for Ministries, Departments and Agencies.
8	Capitalise the Land Fund to ensure access to land by lawful and bona fide occupants.	On track	Good performance, with 88% achieved, as 2,102.6 hectares of land acquired through compensation to absentee landlords for securing lawful and bona fide occupants in Buganda, Bunyoro, Ankole, and Toro (females, males, PWDs, youths and companies).
9	Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at catchment level	Achieved	100% achieved as 30.93 square km of wetlands and other ecologically sensitive areas were subdivided and titled for protection, while 34 wetlands were conserved and restored.

Source: Authors' Compilation

The performance of the Lands Management interventions is summarised hereafter:

3.4.1 Fast-track the formulation, review, harmonisation, and implementation of land laws, policies regulations, standards and guidelines

The intervention made significant progress in strengthening Uganda's legal and policy framework for land management. Key achievements included the development of the draft Customary Land Tenure Guidelines and the completion of the draft National Land Acquisition Policy, which was pending cabinet approval. Additionally, the land regulations underwent review; however, their dissemination was not yet carried out, representing a critical area for urgent follow-up to facilitate effective implementation.

The National Gender Strategy in Land Management was successfully rolled out across 31 districts spanning the Northern, Eastern, Western, and Central Regions, fostering gender-responsive governance. Furthermore, the developed National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy was awaiting review by the Cabinet Secretariat. The guidelines for the registration of customary land were finalised as well, marking an important milestone.

Despite these positive developments, the delayed dissemination of key regulations remained a significant challenge to be addressed promptly to ensure the full realisation and impact of these policies and frameworks.

3.4.2 Strengthen the capacity of land management institutions in executing their mandate geared towards securing land rights

The intervention aims to enhance the capabilities of land management institutions to effectively fulfil their mandate of securing land rights. The planned annual outputs included review and approval of 88 District Land Board (DLB) appointments; the conduct of 10 public sensitisation drives on land matters across 13 sub-regions of Acholi, Ankole, Buganda, Bugisu, Bukedi, Bunyoro, Busoga, Elgon, Karamoja, Kigezi, Lango, Rwenzori, and Sebei, ensuring the inclusion of women and other vulnerable groups; and the training of 40 DLBs, 40 District Land Offices (DLOs), and 120 Area Land Committees (ALCs) in land management.

Additional planned outputs included the supervision, monitoring, and provision of technical support to 48 DLOs, 48 DLBs, and 22 Ministry Zonal Offices (MZOs) across four regions; capacity building for four traditional institutions of Lango, Bunyoro, Busoga, and Teso in land administration and management; staff training in procurement, budgeting, land management, and the use of ICT; adherence to COVID-19 guidelines; the opening of 600 new land files; and the closure of 20 land files.

By the end of September 2025, the overall progress of the planned activities reached 68.2%. Specifically, 33 District Land Boards (DLBs) were reviewed and approved, representing a portion of the annual target of 88. All 10 public sensitisation sessions on land matters were successfully conducted across the five sub-regions of Buganda, Busoga, West Nile, Teso, and Ankole, with active participation from women and other vulnerable groups.

Training sessions were held in 29 districts for DLBs, District Land Officers (DLOs), and 66 Area Land Committees (ALCs). Although this is significantly below the annual targets of 40 DLBs, 40 DLOs, and 120 ALCs, supervision and technical support were successfully extended to all planned 48 DLOs, 48 DLBs, and three MZOs in Lira, Mbarara, and Arua, which constitutes a substantial achievement of the set targets.

The capacity of one traditional institution (Busoga), specifically the chiefs in Kamuli and Luuka, was strengthened in land administration nd management. Further engagement with the remaining three traditional institutions of Lango, Bunyoro, and Teso is needed to expand capacity-building efforts.

In land records management, 179 new land files were opened, against a target of 600, with no files reported closed by the end of the reporting period. The low achievement across most output areas underscores the need for improved coordination, resource mobilisation, and stakeholder engagement to better meet the interventions' annual targets.

3.4.3 Promote land consolidation, titling and banking

The intervention aims to improve land tenure security, facilitate access to credit, and promote optimal land utilisation for agricultural productivity and economic development. While several key outputs were planned, including the generation of USh 70.99 billion in revenue, execution of 30,000 stamp duty assessments, processing of 200,000 land titles, and training of 48 land registration staff, implementation performance varied considerably.

By the end of September 2025, revenue collection amounted to USh 78.833 billion, representing 55.3% of the annual target. However, stamp duty assessments and inspections were not conducted as planned, undermining revenue mobilisation and compliance enforcement. Land title processing was significantly below expectations, with 123,665 titles issued to both men and women, which is 61% of the target. However, 121 trustees were registered, compared to the targeted 20 during the period, ensuring a reduction of future disputes in land ownership. The procurement of title paper and covers was 292,000 pieces instead of the targeted 200,000 pieces.

In contrast, some outputs surpassed expectations. A total of 142,193 search letters were issued through the portals and MZOs, exceeding the planned 10,000. Likewise, 64 blue pages were converted against a target of 20, and 780 land titles issued in fragile ecosystems (wetlands and forest reserves) were cancelled, far exceeding the target of 80. These achievements reflect a strong commitment to the restoration of ecological integrity and the protection of biodiversity.

For institutional capacity building, two stakeholder engagements and training sessions were conducted, involving 50 Registrars of Titles from both MZOs and headquarters, undertaken for refresher training, including basic principles of survey and related competencies.

Overall, while progress was commendable in environmental enforcement and land information services, the intervention faced critical implementation gaps in title issuance. These shortfalls must be urgently addressed to realise the strategic goals of land tenure security, improved governance, and economic transformation through land use optimisation.

3.4.4 Complete the rollout and integration of the Land Management Information System with other systems

The intervention aimed to automate the Land Information System (LIS) and integrate it with other national systems to improve land governance and service delivery. Overall performance stood at 82.3%, reflecting notable progress in LIS maintenance and mapping, though key gaps remain. The details of the different outputs are given hereafter:

The Land Information System is automated and integrated with other systems

The intervention to automate the Land Information System (LIS) and integrate it with other government systems aimed at enhancing land administration, service efficiency, and data interoperability was successfully completed. Notable among these integrations are the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB), Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), and the National Building Review Board (NBRB). These efforts have resulted in significant progress for the Uganda National Land Information System (UgNLIS), greatly improving land administration and service delivery across the country.

To support these developments, a comprehensive training programme was conducted, with a total of 320 staff members from the National Land Information Centre (NLIC) and other users of the LIS trained, surpassing the initial target of 204. This expanded capacity-building initiative strengthened operational efficiency and ensured better management of land information across relevant agencies. Additionally, all 22 MZOs were closely monitored and supervised to guarantee optimal utilisation and performance, further enhancing decentralisation and accessibility of land services.

A key milestone in this integration journey is the linkage between UgNLIS and URA. This connection facilitates the seamless payment of land-related fees and stamp duties through the UgHUB platform, a national systems integration platform that enables efficient data sharing across government agencies. This integration reduces manual processes, streamlines transactions, and makes land dealings more convenient for users, ultimately contributing to a more transparent and efficient land administration system. Additionally, the system has incorporated a digital payment gateway that allows for online transactions, further streamlining land dealings and providing a more accessible and efficient service to the public.

Furthermore, UgNLIS has established collaborations with the Judiciary to share digital land records, which helps to streamline land-related legal cases and improve decision-making processes. The decentralisation of land services is also being addressed through the establishment of 22 MZOs across Uganda, bringing land services closer to communities and enhancing accessibility. The digitisation of over 550,000 land titles, including freehold, leasehold, and *mailo* titles, has played a crucial role in reducing land disputes and corruption by providing a secure, transparent, and easily accessible record system. To ensure the integrity and security of land data, the system has incorporated advanced security features that prevent tampering and unauthorised access.

Overall, the integration and digitalisation efforts of UgNLIS have resulted in numerous benefits for Uganda's land governance. Service delivery has improved markedly, with reduced processing times and increased efficiency in land transactions. The system has also contributed to increased revenue generation. For example, USh 78 billion was generated in the period under review. This has simultaneously minimised opportunities for corruption through streamlined processes and enhanced security. Most importantly, UgNLIS has strengthened land tenure security by providing a reliable, transparent, and secure platform for land record management, thereby reducing disputes and fostering confidence among landholders. These advancements are efforts towards modernisation of land administration and promotion of sustainable land governance.

Revised topographic maps, large-scale maps and a national atlas

By the end of FY 2024/25, 10 parish boundary maps, specifically for Tororo District, aligning with local administrative planning needs, were developed. In total, 20 km of international borders, including Uganda-Kenya, Uganda-Rwanda, Uganda-DRC, and Uganda-Tanzania, were surveyed. To improve border demarcation and reduce disputes, 33 km of national (inter-district/city) boundaries were affirmed, in areas such as Luweero, Bukasa, Nakasongola, and Kikuube.

In terms of land and administrative boundary management, out of the planned 16 separated blocks in two MZOs, i.e., Wakiso Busiro and Wakiso Kyadondo, only 13 blocks for Busiro (Wakiso) were separated. The plot numbers for ranches were automatically captured to ease land administration and planning.

On the mapping and cartography front, four large-scale town and city maps for Gulu, Fort Portal, Mbarara, and Lira were revised to reflect current geographical realities. Additionally, two regional tourist maps were updated, and 47 map sheets at a 1:50,000 scale for Murchison Falls National Park, along with five sheets for Lake Mburo National Park, were digitised and revised. The National Atlas was also updated, with 85% of maps digitised and 90% of old literature compiled, ensuring that the atlas remains a reliable and current geographical resource.

Maintenance of geospatial infrastructure was also prioritised, with 426 passive stations and two Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) out of the planned 12 maintained across the districts of Arua, Gulu, Lira, Soroti, Moroto, Mbale, Masaka, Fort Portal, and Masindi. This supports mapping, analysis, and management of spatial data.

Capacity building was strengthened through the payment of subscriptions to the Institute of Surveyors of Uganda (ISU) and Surveyors Registration Board (SRB) for 22 surveyors and cartographers initially, with a subsequent upgrade to 27 personnel, ensuring continued access to essential geospatial data services. Lastly, thematic and topographic mapping activities saw substantial progress, with 54 topographic thematic maps revised and updated for the districts of Maracha, Koboko, Moyo, and Adjumani.

Overall, the project has made significant strides in boundary demarcation, mapping, station maintenance, and capacity building, although some activities, such as further survey rectifications and digitization, remain ongoing to fully achieve planned objectives.

3.4.5 Promote tenure security, including women's access to land

In an effort to formalise land tenure and improve land access, 2102.6 hectares of land were acquired through compensation of absentee landlords. This was undertaken in Buganda, Bunyoro, Ankole and Toro (15 female, 67 male, and 16 companies). Under lease management, 764 lease transactions across the country for male, female, people with disabilities (PWDs) and companies' lessees were processed (88.7% approved, 5.8% deferred, and 5.5% rejected).

The initial plan was to conduct 100 public hearings to resolve land disputes; however, a total of 420 hearings were actually conducted. Additionally, the target was to facilitate and mediate 200 land conflict cases, with 30% of these cases reported by women. By the end of September 2025, a total of 1,495 land conflict cases had been facilitated and mediated, of which 30% were reported by women.

The Commission generated USh 5.417 billion in revenue, against the targeted 7 billion in land-related fees and transactions. This fell short of the target partly owing to the presidential directive on waivers on some pieces of land. The Uganda Land Commission (ULC) handled and managed 338 land court cases from across the country, out of which six were successfully concluded.

3.4.6 Develop and implement a Land Valuation Management Information System

The intervention aims to improve transparency, efficiency, and fairness in land valuation by developing and operationalising the Land Valuation Management Information System (LAVMIS). For FY 2024/25, the key planned outputs included conducting 30,000 property valuations, monitoring valuation activities in all 22 MZOs, finalising the Land Valuation Databank, reviewing and approving compensation rates for 135 districts, disseminating National Valuation Standards and Guidelines to all DLGs, developing a Property Index for taxation and valuation purposes, and supervising 100 land acquisitions for government infrastructure projects.

By the end of FY 2024/25, the intervention had achieved notable progress. The plan was to carry out 30,000 property valuations; however, a total of 69,948 property valuations were carried out and supervised. This extensive effort included market valuations for 335 properties, rental premises, custody board surveys, probate cases, asset valuations, rating cases, capital gains tax assessments, general compensation cases, mortgage valuations, and stamp duty transactions, demonstrating a significant increase in the scope and volume of work accomplished.

The valuation activities across the 22 MZOs were effectively monitored, and the development of the Land Valuation Databank was successfully finalised, providing a comprehensive resource for land valuation data. Compensation rates for 16 out of the planned 135 districts were reviewed and approved. The draft National Valuation Standards and Guidelines were disseminated to 102 District Local Governments (DLGs); however, the finalised standards had not yet been disseminated, pending the enactment of the valuation law. A Property Index for taxation and valuation purposes was developed and published, with data compiled in collaboration with the Uganda Bureau of Standards (UBOS) to support taxation and valuation activities.

In terms of land acquisitions for government infrastructure projects, a total of 170 land acquisitions were supervised, covering various sectors, including water and environment (16 cases), energy and mineral development (21 cases), works and transport (13 cases), Uganda Electricity Transmission Company Limited projects (44 cases), National Water and Sewerage Corporation (12 cases), hydro-power (10 cases), Uganda Investment Authority (4 cases), Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities (2 cases), Uganda Electricity Generation Company Limited (2 cases), Uganda National Revenue Authority (44 cases), Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (1 case), and an oil pipeline project (1 case). These efforts reflect a comprehensive approach to land valuation and acquisition activities supporting national development initiatives.

3.4.7 Undertake a comprehensive inventory of government land

The planned outputs were: i) The ULC Bill 2017 gazetted and printed for implementation; ii) 50 certificates of title processed for Ministries, Departments, and Agencies; iii) 100 surveys conducted for processing of certificates of title for land under Ministries, Departments, and Agencies; iv) 4 land inspection and sensitisation session reports; and v) 120 court cases managed.

The Uganda Land Commission Bill 2017 was officially gazetted and widely disseminated among stakeholders to promote transparency and stakeholder engagement in land governance. Consultations on land laws and policies were conducted with various stakeholders, fostering a participatory approach to land reforms and legal frameworks.

The Commission processed and managed a variety of land transactions, including certificates of government land. A total of 545 certificates of land titles were issued to Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), formalising land ownership and rights. Extensive survey activities included 15,818 subdivision surveys covering thousands of land parcels, facilitating land development, allocation as well as title processing for lawful and bona fide occupants in Buganda, Bunyoro, Ankole and Toro.

Overall, 30 land inspection and sensitisation session reports were undertaken and 292 cases were managed. Furthermore, the Commission was involved in 163 land court cases, demonstrating its engagement in resolving land disputes, and successfully concluded six of these cases during the quarter.

3.4.8 Land fund capitalised and accessed by bona fide and lawful occupants

A total of 2,102.6 hectares of land were acquired through compensation to absentee landlords to secure lawful and bona fide occupants in the regions of Buganda, Bunyoro, Ankole, and Toro, including women, men, PWDs, youths, and companies. Additionally, 17 field sensitisation and consultation meetings were conducted to engage female and male occupants, PWDs, youths, and companies. To facilitate land titling processes, 15,818 subdivision surveys were carried out for parcels of land designated for lawful and bona fide occupants in Buganda, Bunyoro, Ankole, and Toro.

3.4.9 Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at catchment level

A total of 30.93 square km of wetlands and other ecologically sensitive regions were subdivided and officially titled to ensure their protection. However, the crude oil pipeline land did not require subdivisions prior to titling. In total, 34 wetlands were conserved and restored to preserve biodiversity and ecological health.

Sub-programme Challenges

1) **Understaffing in key land administration offices**: The Ministry, Survey Department, and Ministry Zonal Offices are critically understaffed, resulting in significant delays and a growing backlog in land title processing. This undermines efficient service delivery and contributes to public dissatisfaction.
2) **Inadequate funding for District Land Boards (DLBs)**: District Land Boards face persistent financial constraints that hinder their ability to carry out core functions such as land allocation and documentation. This exposes clients to delays and increases the risk of corruption within the land administration system.
3) **Absence of land compensation guidelines**: The lack of clear, standardised guidelines for land compensation has led to inconsistencies and disputes, undermining transparency, fairness, and public confidence in the compensation process.

4) **Delayed funding to the Uganda Land Commission (ULC)**: Operational performance at ULC was negatively affected by late disbursement of funds in the second quarter, causing delays in payments and implementation of approved activities.
5) **Illegal acquisition and fraudulent titles on government land**: There is a growing challenge of illegal ownership and issuance of fraudulent titles on government land, particularly in urban areas. This undermines public land management and complicates recovery efforts owing to weak enforcement and systemic irregularities.

6) Sub-programme Conclusion

The overall performance of the sub-programme was at 56.8%. It made notable progress in strengthening land management, legal frameworks, and service delivery through various reforms, capacity building, and technological advancements. Significant achievements include land acquisition, digitisation of land records, and enhanced land governance systems. Overall, titled land was at 30%, in comparison to the outcome target of 32%. However, persistent challenges such as understaffing, inadequate funding, lack of standardised compensation guidelines, and issues of illegal land ownership continue to hinder the full realisation of objectives. Addressing these gaps through increased resource allocation, streamlined policies, and strengthened enforcement is essential to ensure sustainable land administration and secure land rights for all stakeholders.

Sub-programme Recommendations

1) The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD), in consultation with the Ministry of Public Service (MoPS) and the Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoFPED, should address the persistent understaffing within the Ministry, the Survey Department, and MZOs by recruiting qualified personnel and enhancing human resource deployment. This will reduce the current backlog in processing land titles and improve efficiency in service delivery.
2) The MLHUD should engage with MoFPED and other government stakeholders to advocate for increased funding to District Land Boards. Strengthening the financial capacity of these Boards will enhance their operational effectiveness and protect land clients from exploitation within the land value chain.
3) The MLHUD should develop and implement clear, standardised guidelines for processing land compensation claims. These guidelines should promote fairness, transparency, and consistency, while incorporating inputs from affected communities and key stakeholders to minimise disputes and improve public trust in the system.
4) MoFPED should ensure the timely release of funds to the Uganda Land Commission. Prompt disbursement is essential for enabling the Commission to implement its planned activities effectively and avoid operational delays caused by funding shortfalls.

5) The MLHUD should undertake a detailed audit and verification exercise to identify and address cases of illegal land ownership, particularly in urban areas. This will enhance land tenure security, reduce fraudulent transactions, and support orderly urban development.

CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Programme Conclusion

The Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, and Land Management Programme achieved a performance score of 76.6% in FY 2024/25, indicating generally effective execution across key areas. The programme's three sub-components performed as follows: Water Resources Management excelled at 89.8%, Environment and Natural Resources at 83.1%, and Land Management at 56.8%. The annual programme release was rated very good, at 90%, while overall expenditure performance was good, at 76.6%, although some delays in procurement and staff emolument remittances affected spending.

Key activities included water quality testing at the NWQRL and the RWQRLs, the successful accreditation of the NWQRL, and the operation of weather stations providing timely updates. Procurement and installation of wind shear equipment in Entebbe, compliance with wastewater permits, and water management measures enhanced environmental monitoring. The Land Valuation Management Information System (LVMIS) was fully operational and integrated with URA, URSB, and NIRA, streamlining land titling processes.

By the end of FY 2024/25, forest cover increased marginally by 0.5 percentage points to 12.7% from 12.2%, while wetlands remained at 9.3%. Land titling reached 30%, just below the 32% target, with the average turnaround time for land titles improving from 15 to 14 days, though still above the 7-day goal. Weather forecast accuracy stood at 75%, slightly below the 80% target. The annual reduction in greenhouse gas emissions was 2.4%, short of the expected goal. Overall, 33% of NDP III targets were achieved, highlighting the need for focused interventions to improve future performance.

4.2 Programme Challenges

1) **Inadequate funding and delayed disbursements**: Persistent delays in releasing funds and limited financial resources hinder the timely implementation of interventions, especially in environmental restoration, laboratory infrastructure, and land administration.
2) **Weak institutional capacity and understaffing**: Critical shortages of qualified personnel constrain effective enforcement, monitoring, and service delivery across sectors.
3) **Legal and policy gaps**: Incomplete enforcement of laws, illegal land titles, encroachments, and absence of standardised compensation guidelines undermine ecosystem protection and land rights.

4) **Operational and infrastructure limitations**: Inadequate transportation, outdated equipment, and limited operational infrastructure hamper field activities and data collection.
5) **Systemic fragmentation and poor coordination:** Overlapping mandates and weak stakeholder engagement lead to duplication and slow progress, affecting the achievement of programme targets.

4.3 Recommendations

1) **Enhance funding and financial management**: Accelerate fund disbursements, improve oversight, and establish contingency mechanisms to ensure uninterrupted project implementation.
2) **Strengthen institutional capacity and human resources**: Recruit qualified staff, provide targeted training, and upgrade operational infrastructure to improve enforcement and monitoring.
3) **Address legal and policy gaps**: Finalise and disseminate key regulations, develop standardised land compensation guidelines, and reinforce legal enforcement.
4) **Upgrade operational infrastructure and equipment:** Invest in modern laboratories, monitoring tools, transportation, and ICT systems to improve data accuracy and operational efficiency.
5) **Promote inter-agency coordination and stakeholder engagement**: Establish integrated frameworks for planning, data sharing, and community participation to optimise resources and accelerate progress towards sustainable development goals.

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ANNEXES

Annex 1: Monitored Interventions under the NRECCLWM Programme FY2024–25

1.	Strengthen conservation, and restoration of forests, wetlands, water catchments and hilly and mountainous areas
2.	Increase investment in value addition to environment and natural resources products and services
3.	Mainstream climate change resilience in programmes and budgets with clear budgets lines and performance indicators
4.	Develop and implement a framework that reduces adverse per capita environmental impact of cities (air quality and waste management practices)
5.	Integrate education for sustainable development in national curricula at all levels for an environmentally literate citizenry
6.	Increase awareness of sustainable use and management of environment and natural resources
7.	Undertake applied research and innovation on sustainable consumption and production to ensure resource use efficiency to reduce domestic material consumption per capita
8.	Increase funding for promoting non-consumptive uses of the natural resources
9.	Support local community-based eco-tourism activities for areas that are rich in biodiversity or have attractive cultural heritage sites
10.	Install new and adequately equip and maintain existing automatic weather stations to ensure maximum functionality
11.	Strengthen the policy, legal and institutional framework for effective disaster risk governance, management and response
12.	Institutionalise disaster risk planning in the Programme
13.	Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources attachment level
14.	Fast-track the formulation, review, harmonisation, and implementation of land laws, policies regulations, standards and guidelines
15.	Strengthen the capacity of land management institutions in executing their mandate geared towards securing land rights
16.	Promote land consolidation, titling and banking
17.	Complete the rollout and integration of the Land Management Information System with other systems
18.	Promote tenure security, including women's access to land
19.	Develop and implement a Land Valuation Management Information System (LAVMIS)
20.	Capitalise the Land Fund to ensure access to land by lawful and bona fide occupants
21.	Undertake a comprehensive inventory of government land
22.	Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at catchment level

Source: Owner's Compilation

Annex 2: Performance of the Water Resources Management Sub-Programme by 30th September 2025

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at the catchment level	Joint transboundary catchment investment projects prepared	974.423	89.2	100	100	85.4	96	Good performance at 85%
	Water resources data (quantity and quality) collected and assessed	5,895.529	93.3	70	100	94.6	100	Very good performance as Department was well managed and coordinated
	1. Improved water use efficiency for increased productivity in water-consumptive programmes (agro-industrialisation, manufacturing, mineral development). 2. National water budget to inform equitable and efficient allocation for all water uses determined	5,912.705	99.8	48	100	92.1	92.3	Very good performance as permanent staff were supervised, and appraised
	National water quality monitoring infrastructure & networks upgraded and functional	1,915.705	83.5	96	100	106	100	A very good performance as nine surface water stations were rehabilitated

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
	Operational water information systems at the central level and in the 4 Water Management Zones	6,912.705	89.4	100	100	82.00	91.77	Construction of five surface water stations completed
	Availability of adequate quantity and quality of water resources for all consumptive water use assured	3,912.905	66.5	58	100	0.00	0.00	Activity was not carried out
	Operationalise, optimal surface water and groundwater monitoring network	7,192.422	97.4	83	100	93	95.46	Construction of five surface water stations was completed
	Water samples from water bodies collected and analysed for quality	1,912.705	83.7	100	100	100	100	A total of 18,114 water, wastewater and environmental samples were analysed in four NWQRL
	National Water Quality Reference Laboratory analytical capacity upgraded and regional laboratories established to address issues related drinking water, pollution & SDGs	4,918.705	99.6	98	100	82	82.31	Good performance with National Water Quality Reference Laboratory constructed
	Degraded water catchments protected and restored through implementation of catchment management measures	1,912.706	100.0	96	100	84	84	A total of 43.2 km of soil and water management structures were constructed

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
	Demonstration centres for innovative catchment management measures established; degraded water catchments protected and restored through implementation of catchment management measures	6,812.706	89.5	82	100	87	97.16	Restored 60 Ha of degraded forests and 79.68 km were planted with teak tree seedlings and pillars
	Water management measures implemented in priority sub-catchments	5,912.706	98.1	51	100	72	73.40	A total of 207 persons were sensitised on catchment management
	Water Resources Institute and appropriate Technology Centre strengthened to coordinate sector training, research, dialogues and outreach	4,150.352	86.7	79	100	84	96.84	Good performance as six mini-regional UWEKs were held.
	Increased water storage capacity to meet water resources use requirements	985,805.882	100	82	100	52	52	Total of 89 applications for water abstraction permits were assessed and recommended for issuance. In addition, 165 illegal water abstractors and wastewater discharges were identified
	ESIA for water related projects reviewed	1,363.937	90.7	92	100	100	100	Achieved as 25 ESIAs were reviewed and comments sent to NEMA surpassing the target

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	**Output**	**Financial Performance**			**Physical Performance**			
		Annual Budget (USh)	**% of Budget Received**	**% of Budget Spent**	**Annual Target**	**Cum. Achieved Quantity**	**Physical Performance Score (%)**	
	Catchment Management Plans in the Water Management Zones	4,917.706	91.5	85	100.00	89.00	97.26	Good performance. Six behavioral change trainings for WASH were undertaken at sub-catchment level
	Functional gender-sensitive water catchment management committees established	912.906	100	100	100	95	95	Meetings were held, and reports produced
Average Outputs Performance							84.89	**Overall output performance**
Outcomes Performance								
Outcome Indicator				**Annual Target**	**Achieved**		**Score (%)**	**Remark**
Compliance with abstraction permit conditions - Ground water				0.81	0.798		99	
Compliance with abstraction permit conditions - Surface water				0.82	0.804		98	
Compliance with wastewater discharge permit conditions				0.68	0.699		100	
No. of permit holders complying to permit conditions.				460	956		100	
No. of user permits issued				200	1,247		100	
No. of water user permit holders monitored				670	650		97	
Average indicator performance				0	0		99	
Average outcomes performance							98.9	
Overall sub-programme performance							**89.8**	**Overall performance of sub-programme**

Annex 3: Performance of the Environment and Natural Resources Sub-Programme by 30th September 2025

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
Strengthen conservation, and restoration of forests, wetlands, water catchments and hilly and mountainous areas	Improve coordination, regulation and monitoring of environment management at both central and local government levels	9,961.028	63.0	85	100	82	100	Adaptation and mitigation projects in selected districts in Western, Eastern and Central Uganda were conducted
	Protection and restoration of strategic fragile ecosystems undertaken	2,261.028	98.5	33	100	62	63	Undertook 40 Intelligence led operations to support enforcement and information
	Restoration of critical wetlands; Demarcate, gazette and restore 900 Km of wetlands; Gazette 6 critical wetlands	19,229.668	42.9	64	100	122	100	A total of 9,165.92 hectares of degraded wetlands were restored and 437 km of wetland boundaries were demarcated across Uganda
	Mobilise stakeholders, develop and implement costed management plans	601.028	10.2	1,195	100	100	100	A total of 100 tree nursery operators in the 3 catchment schemes were trained on good nursery practices
	Wetland Management Plans prepared/revised	6,229.668	99.7	86	100	150	100	Three wetland-based enterprises aimed at enhancing community livelihoods were identified and supported in Ngora, while two additional enterprises were promoted in Kaliro and Namutumba Districts
	Conserved and degraded wetlands demarcated and gazetted	6,013.459	83.7	-	100	33	39	Developed one bankable project proposal for replacer project was developed

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
	2,000 ha of degraded riverbanks and lakeshores restored and maintained	6,229.668	99.7	86	100	116	100	A total of 402.72 km of wetland boundaries were demarcated across GCF supported districts, 19 km of River Nile protection buffer zone were demarcated in Kisozi Sub-county, Kamuli District
	23,000 ha of forest established (3,000ha under NFA and 20,000ha under licensees on CFRs)	7,229.668	85.8	86	100	117	100	Cumulatively 4,682 ha freed from encroachment and protected under natural forest regeneration and enrichment-restoration planting
	12,200 km of CFRs boundary resurveyed, marked and maintained	8,229.364	87.6	74	100	150	100	A total of 253,840 seedlings were raised and 432 km of boundary was maintained by the end of FY 2024/25
	55 Forest Management Plans prepared and revised	1,000.668	998	53	100	158	15.83	Five Forest Management Plans were reviewed and updated
	1.265 mha of CFRs protected and freed from illegal activities/encroachment	4,277.139	10	1,245	100	155	100	A total of 1,198,551 ha of CFRs protected from illegal activities and encroachment in the nine ranges
	365,000 ha of non-degraded and restored natural forests (ha)	702.400	100	757	100	146	100	Cumulatively 90.2 km of fire lines maintained
	Percentage increase in forest cover	90.200	100	809	100	8	8	Planted a total 20,480,357 tree seedlings

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
	Dedicated fuel wood plantations established	6,200.551	69	124	100	278	100	Cumulatively 6,235 ha of tree plantations were weeded, 1,404 ha of tree plantations were marked and pruned
	Integrated Forest Information Management System developed; Forest databases updated	5,983.788	98.1	12	100	135	100	
Increase investment in value addition to environment and natural resources products and services	Protection and restoration of strategic fragile ecosystems undertaken	6,319.028	151.2	52	100.00	65	43	A total of 6,815.1 ha of degraded wetlands was restored
	Effective engagement and participation in Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and Protocol	1,261.028	101.3	0	100	0.00	0.00	Activity not carried out
Mainstream climate change resilience in programmes and budgets with clear budgets lines and performance indicators	National monitoring frameworks and LG performance assessment revised to include climate change indicators	561.028	762.4	69	100	98	13	Conducted community-level Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment for Kitgum District and supported two districts of Nebbi and Kasese to develop DCCAPs
	Local capacity built in climate change response	800.028	0.1	61	100	0.00	0.00	Activity not carried out
	A robust environmental assessment, monitoring and surveillance plan operational in cities/municipalities and countrywide	4,261.028	100.4	23	100	92	92	Very good performance as most of the targets were achieved. Four Environment Impact Assessments (EIAs) and audits for wetland projects undertaken

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
	Capacity of cities and urban councils in sustainable urban development (greening, pollution and waste management) enhanced	4,261.027	100.4	69	100	100	99.62	Stakeholder engagements with field inspection visits were undertaken, trained 17 leaders for improved and effective ENR management and to prepare Environment Action Plans
	Increased funding to non-consumptive uses of the natural resources	261.027	1638.6	69	100	67	4.09	Procurement of contracts was finalised and 378 ha of mature forest plantations inventoried
Develop and implement a framework that reduces adverse per capita environmental impact of cities (air quality and waste management practices)	25 cities/ municipalities with functional solid waste/e-waste management facilities	526.108	813.0	50	100	100	12.30	Environment enforcement operations and baseline verifications were undertaken
	An environmental enforcement strategy developed and operationalised	4,261.028	100.4	69	100.00	100	99.62	A very good performance. A total of 1,180 environment enforcement and surveillance operations were conducted and 376 ESIA baseline verification inspections were undertaken
	A legal framework for environment management strengthened	861.028	496.7	69	100	100	20.13	Reviewed and developed seven regulations and guidelines for effective operationalisation of NEA, Cap. 181.
	A robust environmental assessment, monitoring and surveillance plan operational in cities/municipalities and country	4,220.028	101.4	69	100	100.00	98.7	Good performance

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
	Capacity of relevant stakeholders on environmental laws and standards enhanced	4,265.028	200.6	34	100	100	50	Fair performance. A total of 678 audit verification inspections were undertaken in the regional offices
	The national state of environment report prepared	4,261.028	100.4	69	100	86	85.7	Good performance
Integrate education for sustainable development in national curricula at all levels for an environmentally literate citizenry	Education for Sustainable Development integrated in education curricular	2,600.000	0.0	-	100	0.00	0.00	Activity was not undertaken in the financial year
	Information, education and communication (IEC) materials on environment developed and translated into local languages	4,861.027	87.6	69	100	100	100	Very good performance. IEC categories, assorted ICT supplies procured
	Public education programmes and campaigns on environment enhanced	4,661.028	91.8	69	100	100	100	Very good performance. The national commemoration of WED was undertaken
Increase awareness of sustainable use and management of environment and natural resources	Sustainable natural resource management communication strategy developed	1,247.569	9.3	778	100	33.3	100.00	One NFA Public Relations Plan implemented throughout the period to Q4 FY 2024/25
	Targeted stakeholders sensitised in sustainable natural resource management	1,245.879	156.4	41	100	27	17.3	A total of 67 staff, comprising 37 from the Wetlands Management Department (WMD) and 30 from District Local Governments, were trained in the application and utilisation of the NWIS
Undertake applied research and innovation on sustainable consumption and	Research and innovations conducted	4,280.028	99.9	48	100	100	100	Very good performance. Published two articles

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
production to ensure resource use efficiency to reduce domestic material consumption per capita								
Increase funding for promoting non-consumptive uses of the natural resources	200 million seedlings supplied (5 million bamboo, 50 million indigenous, and 145 million exotic species)	4,298.027	99.5	69	100	69.00	67.5	Planted. 20,480,357 seedlings have been planted across the country.
Install new and adequately equip and maintain existing automatic weather stations to ensure maximum functionality	Weather and air pollution monitoring station network expanded and functional	7,178.000	7,128.000	100	100	67	100	Very good performance
Support local community-based eco-tourism activities for areas that are rich in biodiversity or have attractive cultural heritage sites	10 new eco-tourism concessions developed in partnership with the private sector and communities	2,502.107	69.7	60	100	100	100	Very good performance. 85 km of eco-tourism trails maintained
Strengthen the policy, legal and institutional framework for effective disaster risk governance,	Government's capacity for rapid emergency and disaster response enhanced	5,461.027	78.3	69	100	100	100	Supported 50,020) households (207,404 people) with relief food

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	**Output**	**Financial Performance**			**Physical Performance**			
		Annual Budget (USh)	**% of Budget Received**	**% of Budget Spent**	**Annual Target**	**Cum. Achieved Quantity**	**Physical Performance Score (%)**	
management and response								
Institutionalise disaster risk planning in the Programme	A comprehensive National Disaster Risk Management Plan	1,883.000	100	100	100	100	100	Engaged nine (09) Programme Working Groups to validate the DRM mainstreaming checklist
Average Outputs Performance							64.2	**Overall Output Performance**
Outcomes Performance								
Outcome Indicator					Annual target	Achieved	Score (%)	Remark
% of land area covered by forests					0.122	0.127	104.09	
% of land area covered by wetlands					0.093	0.093	100	
o/w – natural forests					0.096	0.105	109.4	
o/w – plantations					0.038	0.022	57.9	
% of municipal solid waste disposed of safely					0.7	0	0	
% of permit holders complying with ESIA conditions at the time of spot check					0.75	0	0	
Air Quality Index PM2.5					143	0	0	
% of automation of weather and climate network					0.71	0.71	100	
Accuracy of meteorological information (%)					0.87	0.8	91.9	
Average annual change in a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions(MtCO2e)					0.012	0.024	200	
No of deaths and missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population					0.055	0	0	
Percentage automation of weather and climate network					70	0.71	1.01	
Number of municipalities/ cities with sustainable waste management facilities					0.2	0	0	
A functional GHG monitoring, reporting and verification system.					1	1	100	

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
Average Indicator Performance					0	0	0	
Average Outcomes Performance							57.6	
Overall Sub-programme Performance							82.1	**Overall Performance of Sub-programme**

Annex 4: Performance of the Land Management Sub-Programme by 30th September 2025

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
Fast-track the formulation, review, harmonisation, and implementation of land laws, policies regulations, standards and guidelines	Land laws, policies, regulations, standards and guidelines formulated and reviewed	802.005	99.7	100	100.	84	84.2	Achieved; Draft guidelines for registration of customary land developed, Draft Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy submitted to Cabinet Secretariat; National Gender Strategy for the National Land Policy disseminated in 17 DLGs; Land regulations reviewed
Strengthen the capacity of land management institutions in executing their mandate geared towards securing land rights	Capacity of land management institutions (state and non-state actors) strengthened	220.981	45	41	100	68.20	1.5	24 District Land Board appointments reviewed and approved; 7 public sensitisation sessions on land matters undertaken in 5 sub-regions, trainings

Outputs Performance									Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance				
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)		
Promote land consolidation, titling and banking	Land demarcated, surveyed, registered and certified	9,307.216	108.0	37	100	92.60	85.72		Achieved with 24,566 titles processed for men and women, USh 39.279 bn revenue generated, 190,322 land conveyances carried out,124,455 pieces of title paper and title covers procured, 112,285 search letters issued, 452 land titles issued in fragile ecosystems
Complete the rollout and integration of the Land Management Information System with other systems	Data Processing Centre established	9,942.560	101.1	97	100	87	86.03		Achieved with 2 motor vehicles for NLIC serviced and maintained
	Land Information System automated and integrated with other systems	129,016.980	28.4	79	100	85	100		Very good performance. The land information system is operational.86,890 titles were produced and issued
	Revised topographic maps, large scale maps and National Atlas	472.437	2,128.3	97	100	75	3.52		Poor performance
Promote tenure security, including	Land conflict mechanisms reviewed	102.580	9,801.8	97	100	100	1.02		

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Budget Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
women's access to land	Tenure security for all stakeholders, including women, enhanced	281,547,853	248.3	39	100	91	36.65	764 lease transactions processed
Develop and implement a Land Valuation Management Information System (LAVMIS)	National Valuation Standards and Guidelines developed and disseminated	865.741	166.5	33	100	83	49.85	32,324 property valuations were carried out and supervised
Capitalise the Land Fund to ensure access to land by lawful and bona fide occupants	Land Fund capitalised and accessed by bona fide and lawful occupants	743.375	2,237.4	100	100	88	3.93	2,102.6 ha of land acquired through compensation to absentee landlords
Undertake a comprehensive inventory of government land	Land laws, policies, regulations, standards and guidelines formulated and reviewed	18,159.874	57.7	99	100	100	00	Activity not done

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	**Output**	**Financial Performance**			**Physical Performance**			
		Annual Budget (USh)	**% of Budget Received**	**% of Budget Spent**	**Annual Target**	**Cum. Achieved Quantity**	**Physical Performance Score (%)**	
	Comprehensive and up-to-date government land inventory undertaken	1,108.700	784.5	100	100.00	75.00	9.56	Processed 545 certificates of title for MDAs
Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at catchment level	Conserved and degraded wetlands demarcated and gazetted	65.000	16,115.3	93	100	100	0.62	No major works done
Average Outputs Performance							**49.83**	**Overall Output Performance**
Outcomes Performance								
Outcome Indicator				**Annual Target**		**Achieved**	**Score (%)**	**Remark**
Percentage of government land titled				32.60%		32.60%	100	
Percentage of titled land				32.00%		30.00%	94	
No. of titles processed for bona fide occupants				500.000		276.600.	55	
Percentage of land conflicts/ disputes mediated				60.00%		0.00%	0	
Average days taken to register land				1400		1500	100	
Average Indicator Performance				0.00%		0.00%	70	
Average Outcomes Performance							**69.8**	
Overall Sub-programme Performance							**56.8**	**Overall Performance of Sub-programme**

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