



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

Semi-Annual Monitoring Report

Financial Year 2024/25

May 2025

Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADCP	Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler
AMCOW	African Ministers' Council on Water
AWMZ	Albert Water Management Zone
BMAU	Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit
CCO	Certificate of Customary Ownership
CEDP	Competitiveness and Enterprise Development Project
CFRs	Central Forest Reserves
CLAs	Communal Land Associations
DLB	District Land Board
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DWRM	Directorate of Water Resources Management
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ENR	Environment and Natural Resources
EPF	Environmental Police Force
EPPU	Environmental Police Protection Unit
ESIA	Environment and Social Impact Assessments
FY	Financial Year
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GoU	Government of Uganda
Ha	Hectares
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IFMS	Integrated Financial Management System
IFPA-CD	Investing in Forest and Protected Areas for Climate-Smart Development
ISO	International Standards Organization
IWRDMP	Integrated Water Resources Development and Management Plan
Km	Kilometre
LAVMIS	Land Valuation Management Information System
LG	Local Government
LIS	Land Information System
LTS	Long-Term Climate Strategy
MDALGs	Ministries, Departments, Agencies and Local Government s
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MoFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development



MLHUD	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPS	Ministerial Policy Statement
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
MZO	Ministry Zonal Office
NaLISEP	National Land Information System Enhancement Project
NAP EXPO	National Action Plan Exposition
NBI	Nile Basin Initiative
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NDP III	Third National Development Plan
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NFA	National Forestry Authority
NIRA	National Identification and Registration Authority
NLIC	National Land Information Centre
NRECCLWM	Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land and Water Resources Management Programme
NSOER	National State of the Environment Report
NTR	Non-Tax Revenue
NWIS	National Wetlands Information System
NWQRL	National Water Quality Reference Laboratory
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PBS	Programme Budgeting System
PIAP	Programme Implementation Action Plan
PIP	Public Investment Plan
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
RECP	Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production
RIA	Regulatory Impact Assessment
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SMC	Sound Management of Chemicals
ToR	Terms of Reference
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
ULC	Uganda Land Commission
UNMA	Uganda National Meteorological Authority
UNWMZ	Upper Nile Water Management Zone
URA	Uganda Revenue Authority
UWEWK	Uganda Water and Environment Week
VWMZ	Victoria Water Management Zone
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WED	World Environment Day
WIS II	Water Information System Phase II
WMZ	Water Management Zone
WRM	Water Resources Management



FOREWORD

At the start of the Financial Year 2024/25, the Government of Uganda outlined strategies to restore the economy back to the medium-term growth path with the ultimate vision of a self-sustaining, integrated economy. The strategy 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.

Semi-Annual programme assessments were made, and it was established that performance was fairly good. This implies that programmes are on track, but with a lot of improvements required. These monitoring findings form a very important building block upon which programmes can commence the reflective exercises.

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.

Ramathan Ggoobi

Permanent Secretary/ Secretary to the Treasury



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land, and Water Management (NRECCLWM) Programme is a flagship Government initiative designed to ensure the sustainable management and utilisation of Uganda's natural resources. It plays a central role in advancing the national development priorities outlined under the Third National Development Plan (NDP III), while also 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 sub-interventions was undertaken for the period from 1st July to 31st December 2024. The assessment drew on progress reports, interviews, and output verification to evaluate performance against the targets set for December 2024.

Overall Programme Performance

The programme was allocated an approved budget of US\$ 360.614 billion for financial year 2024/25. By the end of the first half of the fiscal year (December 2024), a total of US\$ 165.57 billion had been released, representing 44.8% of the approved budget. However, only US\$ 77.48 billion, equivalent to 46.8% of the released funds, had been spent.

In terms of physical performance, the overall programme registered a fair achievement rate of 55.5% by mid-year. Among the three sub-programmes, Water Resources Management (WRM) recorded the highest performance, at 62.8%, largely due to progress in catchment-based planning, permit enforcement, and water quality monitoring. Land Management (LM) followed with an achievement rate of 52.5%, supported by ongoing land adjudication and titling activities, although performance was hindered by staffing gaps and delayed procurement. Environment and Natural Resources Management (ENRM) recorded the lowest performance, at 50.2%, primarily due to low absorption of externally funded resources, delayed implementation of tree planting and wetland restoration activities, and limited operational capacity at the local level.



Sub-Programme Performance Highlights

Water Resources Management Sub Programme: The sub-programme registered notable progress across several core areas during the first half of FY 2024/25. A total of 8,951 water, wastewater, and environmental samples were analysed through the National Water Quality Reference Laboratory (NWQRL) and four regional laboratories in Fort Portal, Lira, Mbale, and Mbarara. Urban drinking water sources recorded a compliance rate of 75.1%, while untreated rural sources showed a lower rate of 62.5%, highlighting the need for increased investment in rural water safety initiatives. Laboratory services generated US\$ 329.28 million in non-tax revenue (NTR), with an additional US\$ 283.09 million collected through permit processing.

Infrastructure development advanced steadily, with the NWQRL reaching 62% completion and its ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accreditation nearing finalisation at 90%. Monitoring capacity was enhanced through the construction of 12 new stations – comprising five for groundwater, five for surface water, and two for automatic weather observation – which were 75% complete by the end of quarter two (Q2). Ambient water quality was tracked at 72 strategic stations on Lakes Victoria, Edward, and George, with 321 samples analysed for pollution control and ecosystem health monitoring.

Regulatory oversight remained active, with 318 applications processed and 294 permits issued for water use and abstraction. Compliance monitoring was conducted for 356 permit holders, covering groundwater, surface water, wastewater discharge, and drilling activities. Progress was also made in catchment planning, with the Sezibwa and Okweng plans reaching 80% completion, while the Nyamugasani and Kafu catchment plans stood at 98%.

Overall, the sub-programme demonstrated strong technical implementation, particularly in laboratory performance and regulatory enforcement. However, gaps in rural water quality compliance and delays in full infrastructure completion highlight areas requiring sustained attention in the second half of the financial year.

Environment and Natural Resources Sub-Programme: Substantial progress was registered in sustainable natural resource management, environmental conservation, and climate change action during the reporting period. Notably, catchment management interventions in Lwakhakha, Aswa II, Kochi, and Middle/Lower Awoja sub-catchments achieved 86% completion. Restoration initiatives led to the planting of 2,673 hectares of degraded land with trees, establishment of 841.5 hectares of soil and water conservation structures, stabilisation of 546.3 kilometres of riverbanks, and restoration of 1,296.9 hectares of wetlands.

Community-based interventions supported 260 households in apiary enterprise development, constructed 6,316 energy-saving cookstoves, and established 11 fishponds – six of which were stocked with 18,000 fingerlings. In the Albertine and Rwenzori regions, 13 kilometres of soil and water management structures (including infiltration trenches and terraces) were constructed in Kamwenge, Kitagwenda, and Kasese, while demonstration infiltration pits were established across Pakwach, Nebbi, Kitagwenda, and Kasese. Additionally, 25,002 tree seedlings were supplied to Restore Ecosystem Company for reforestation efforts in Rwampara and Bishop Stuart zones.



Forest and wetland restoration covered 50 hectares of degraded forests (Ibanda, Kitagwenda, and Masindi) and 25 hectares of wetlands (Kamwenge, Kyenjojo, and Kakumiro). Compliance monitoring identified 99 illegal water abstractors and polluters, leading to sensitisation on water user permits. Three micro-catchment management committees – Matanda, Albert Nile, and Aswa II – were also operationalised.

In livelihood enhancement, 430 stakeholders benefitted from apiary support, and 1,050 tree seedlings were planted to protect water sources in Lotisan, Kokorio, and Kaloutom. The National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) extended 506.35 kilometres of water mains. Through the Running out of Trees (ROOTs) Campaign, 30,000 trees were planted in Gulu and Lira Cities, restoring 1,200 hectares of degraded urban land.

Forest management efforts included finalisation of five Forest Management Plans (Budongo, Bugoma, Maramagambo, Rukungiri-Kanungu, and Kagadi CFRs) and maintenance of 176 kilometres of Central Forest Reserve (CFR) boundaries – out of a 450 km target. A further 46.4 km of boundaries in Jubiya, Kisasa, and Towa CFRs were maintained, and 45 boundary pillars installed in Soroti's Gweri block. Law enforcement and patrols under EPP covered 94% of CFRs (1,194,096 hectares), though 6% (75,900 ha) remain encroached, particularly in Iziru, Budunda, and Bugaali. Six out of 40 illegal land titles were cancelled by December.

Fire management interventions included maintenance of 75 kilometres of fire lines (out of 100 km), weeding of 4,317 hectares of plantations, pruning of 894 hectares, and protection of 7,525 hectares of NFA plantations. Commercial tree plantations were established over 720 hectares, surpassing the annual target of 450 hectares. In the Kyoga Range, 90 hectares established by private actors had a survival rate exceeding 70%.

A total of 8,994,670 tree seedlings were distributed, including 430 seedlings for Mount Elgon and Namatale districts. However, 100 hectares in these districts remain to be covered. Enforcement efforts included 291 operations, though no GIS spatial database on ecological land status was generated.

On environmental regulation, only one out of four planned regulations (administrative penalties) was finalised and submitted to the Solicitor General. Out of 40 planned investigations, 25 led to prosecution; 23 court sessions were held, with four cases concluded. Additionally, 25 intelligence-led operations addressed EIA violations and waste mismanagement. Regional offices conducted only 22 audit verification inspections out of a planned 300.

Research and monitoring initiatives included pollution assessments on 65 water and food samples for lead and chromium along the Nakivubo Channel, with further monitoring of heavy metals in Mpanga wetland vegetables and solid waste in five municipalities. Thirteen out of 20 planned pharmaceutical/chemical monitoring inspections were conducted.

Environmental assessment outputs included 291 out of 1,000 planned ESIs (151 approvals and 140 ToRs), 1,056 environmental audit reviews (53% of target), 109 environmental monitoring inspections, and 291 compliance checks. Baseline inspections (163), compliance visits (32), and audit verifications (163) were completed. However, only 60 out of 240 enforcement operations



and 96 ESIA baseline verifications were undertaken, and no school-based environmental education activities were implemented.

A draft National State of the Environment Report (NSOER) was completed and awaits final review. Wetland and riverbank interventions included demarcation of 20 kilometres along Wambabya River (Hoima) and the Nile (Kamuli), with profiling along Lake Kwanja and the Nile. In Western Uganda, 2,851 hectares of wetlands were restored, with 56.1 kilometres demarcated. In Eastern Uganda, 150.82 kilometres were surveyed and demarcated, resulting in reclamation of 1,299 hectares of encroached wetlands by December 2024 (against the 8,000-hectare annual target).

Efforts to establish a national Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory and Monitoring, Reporting Verification (MRV) system advanced with capacity-building across sectors. Data was compiled and validated under the Second Biennial Update Report (BUR), while the adoption of precision agriculture in Jinja and Mbale was promoted as a GHG reduction strategy.

Land Management Sub-Programme: The sub-programme registered considerable progress in strengthening land governance and administration across Uganda during the reporting period. Key policy and regulatory advancements included the development of national guidelines for the registration of customary land – a critical step towards formalising land tenure systems. Additionally, the draft Land Acquisition, Resettlement, and Rehabilitation Policy was submitted to the Cabinet Secretariat for consideration, signifying a milestone in Uganda's efforts to streamline land acquisition and compensation processes.

Efforts to mainstream gender into land governance were evident in the dissemination of the National Gender Strategy for the National Land Policy across 17 District Local Governments (DLGs), ensuring that gender-sensitive principles are integrated into local land administration structures. Furthermore, stakeholder consultations on the review of land regulations under the National Land Policy framework were actively conducted, with four of the eight planned national-level consultations completed.

Progress was also made in institutional development and capacity support. Out of 88 planned District Land Board (DLB) appointments, 24 were reviewed and approved, contributing to improved governance and functionality of land institutions at the district level. Public sensitisation efforts remained a priority, with seven of the 10 planned awareness sessions conducted across five sub-regions. These outreach efforts were inclusive, with particular attention given to the participation of women and vulnerable groups.

Monitoring and technical backstopping activities were extended to 23 District Land Offices and 23 DLBs, as well as three Ministry Zonal Offices (MZOs), thereby reinforcing oversight and enhancing service delivery at decentralised levels. Traditional leadership structures were also strengthened through targeted capacity-building initiatives for chiefs in Kamuli and Luuka (Busoga sub-region), supporting community-level dispute resolution and land management functions.



In terms of revenue performance, the sub-programme generated US\$ 39.279 billion from land-related transactions, representing approximately 55.3% of the annual target of US\$ 70.99 billion. While this reflected a shortfall, the physical performance of land service delivery was commendable. A total of 190,000 land conveyances were processed, surpassing the annual target of 125,000 by over 50%. In addition, 45,113 land titles were issued to both men and women out of the planned 200,000, indicating progress, albeit below the set target.

Overall, the sub-programme demonstrated a strong commitment to reforming land governance, improving institutional functionality, and enhancing public access to land services. However, gaps remain in title issuance, revenue generation, and full policy implementation, which warrant targeted attention in the subsequent implementation period.

Implementation Challenges

- i. Limited laboratory capacity:** Water quality surveillance remains weak, particularly in rural areas, due to outdated testing infrastructure, limited skilled personnel, and gaps in laboratory accreditation.
- ii. Land encroachment and legal complexities:** Encroachment on wetlands and Central Forest Reserves persists, often driven by irregular land titles and compounded by legal and political barriers that hinder enforcement.
- iii. Poor waste and effluent management:** Urban centres face growing challenges related to plastic and liquid waste, worsened by weak enforcement, insufficient infrastructure, and low public compliance.
- iv. Gaps in the compensation framework:** The absence of a standardised compensation mechanism has delayed several infrastructure projects and eroded community trust in land acquisition processes.

Recommendations

- i. 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.
- ii. 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.
- iii. 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.



iv. 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.

While the NRECCLWM Programme recorded notable mid-year progress in water quality monitoring, environmental restoration, and land administration, full realisation of its targets requires urgent attention to financial and operational bottlenecks. Strengthening institutional coordination, accelerating procurement, and ensuring adequate funding – especially for externally supported interventions – will be essential in improving performance in the second half of the financial year and sustaining gains towards the attainment of NDP III and SDG targets.



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 covered 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 semi-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 sustainable availability of water for development; strengthening climate change resilience; 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) condition by developers; and improved air quality in cities.

Others are: Climate change responsive development pathway established; Reliable and accurate meteorological information provided; Reduced human and economic loss from natural hazards and disaster; Increased titled land; and 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 December 2024. 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 first half of FY 2024/25 (1st July 2024 to 31st December 2024). Details of the specific interventions monitored under each sub-programme and 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), MPSs, as well as annual and quarterly work plans, performance reports from MDAs, and Local Government submissions.

The selection of interventions for monitoring was guided by the following criteria:

- 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 were 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 accounted for regional representativeness to ensure 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 Statements (MPSs) 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), 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 colour-coded 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	Green	Very Good (Achieved at least 90% of outputs and outcomes)
70%-89%	Yellow	Good (Achieved at least 70% of outputs and outcomes)
50%- 69%	Light Gold	Fair (Achieved at least 50% of outputs and outcomes)
49% and below	Red	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 exercises. 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 US\$ 360.614 billion. As of 31st December 2024, a total of US\$ 165.57 billion had been released, representing 44.8% of the approved budget. However, only US\$ 77.48 billion, equivalent to 46.8% of the released funds, had been spent by mid-year.

Although the overall release performance was relatively satisfactory, with the exception of the Water Resources Management Sub-programme which did not receive anticipated external funding, expenditure performance remained poor. This was primarily due to delayed fund releases and protracted procurement processes. Notably, the Environment and Natural Resources Sub-programme exhibited the weakest financial performance, especially in relation to the absorption of externally funded resources. Overall, the programme's mid-year expenditure performance stood at 46.8%.

Physical performance

At mid-year, the overall physical performance of the Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land and Water Management (NRECCLWM) Programme was rated as fair, scoring 55.5%. Among the three sub-programmes, Water Resources Management (WRM) achieved the highest performance at 62.8%, followed by Land Management (LM) at 52.5%, and Environment and Natural Resources Management (ENRM) at 50.2%. 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 issuance of land titles, implementation was hampered by several operational challenges. While outputs were aligned with the annual targets of NDP III, Vision 2040, and budget commitments, the pace of execution remained uneven.

Key impediments to performance included delayed procurements and late or inadequate financial disbursements, which significantly disrupted the timely implementation of planned activities. These challenges undermine the programme's ability to fully achieve its annual targets and pose a risk to the attainment of both the NDP III and the broader Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Table 3.1: The NRECCLWM Programme performance by 31st December 2024**

Sub-program	Performance Rating	Remark
Water Resources Management	62.8	Fair performance
Environment and Natural Resources Management	50.2	Fair performance
Land Management	52.5	Fair performance
Overall programme performance	55.5	Fair

Source: Authors' Compilation

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. The sub-programme's primary objective is to ensure the availability of adequate and reliable freshwater resources of acceptable quality to meet various sectoral demands.

During the reporting period, the sub-programme focused on one key intervention: *“Improving coordination, planning, regulation, and monitoring of water resources at the catchment level”*. This intervention is intended 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 targets improvements in regulatory compliance and water quality monitoring. Specific output-level targets for FY 2024/25 included increasing water permit holders complying with permit conditions at the time of spot checks for groundwater to 81%, surface water to 82% and wastewater discharge permit conditions to 68%. It also targets increasing water samples complying with national standards at the supplies/collection point to 80% by the end of the period in FY 2024/25. Several outputs were strategically planned and executed across various interventions to achieve the established targets. Below is the performance status for the first half of FY 2024/25 for the key outputs and their contribution to different interventions.

Sub-programme Performance

By December 2024, the performance of the sub-programme was assessed to be fair, standing at 62.8%. The construction of the National Water Quality Monitoring Reference Laboratory (NWQL) was progressing steadily, reaching 62% completion. Additionally, the accreditation process for the NWQL in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017 was notably advanced, at 90%, which is very good progress.

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 of this intervention, please refer to Table 3.2, with detailed performance metrics available in *Annex 2*.

Table 3.2: Overview of the WRM intervention performance by 31st December 2024

No	Intervention	Performance Rating (%)	Remarks
01	Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at the catchment level	On track	Fair performance, at 62.8%. The intervention made progress in upgrading infrastructure, strengthening cross-border water cooperation, and improving laboratory capacity. Key achievements included the rollout of the Water Information System Phase II, detailed designs for the Angololo Multipurpose Project, rehabilitation of seven water quality stations, and progress on the national and Mbarara water laboratories. Cross-border initiatives advanced with draft agreements for the Nyimur Project, joint projects with Kenya and Tanzania, and active participation in Nile Basin programmes. Laboratory operations expanded, with over 8,800 samples analysed and four regional labs supported.
	Overall performance	62.8	Fair performance

The detailed performance of the monitored interventions is discussed hereafter:

Intervention Performance

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

This intervention aims to ensure regulated and coordinated use of the water resource sustainably. The key implementer of this intervention is the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE). The 10 planned and monitored output were: i) Joint transboundary catchment investment projects prepared; ii) National water quality monitoring infrastructure and networks upgraded and functional; iii) Operational water information systems at the central level and in the 4 Water Management Zones; iv) Operational optimal surface water and groundwater monitoring network; v) Water samples from water bodies collected and analysed for quality; national water budget to inform equitable and efficient allocation for all water uses determined; vi) Analytical capacity of the National Water Quality Reference Laboratory upgraded and regional laboratories established to address issues related to drinking water, pollution and SDGs; vii) Degraded water catchments protected and restored through the implementation of catchment management measures; and viii) Water management measures implemented in priority sub-catchments.

Other planned outputs are: ix) Increased water storage capacity to meet water resources use requirements; and x) ESIA for water-related projects reviewed. The overall performance of the intervention was rated as fair, having achieved (62.8%) of the established output targets. This assessment was based on the evaluation of only 10 outputs, as the remaining outputs were either characterised by uncoordinated activities that did not contribute to the intended intervention or were not financially supported.

The status of implementation as of 31st December 2024 is as follows:

i) Joint transboundary catchment investment projects prepared

This output centres 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 waterbody. Notably, the detailed designs for the Angololo Multi-Purpose Project (MPP) were completed, and other transboundary activities effectively monitored. The output performance was rated as good at 74%, with several activities progressing well. The progress of key activities was as follows:

Groundwater projects were actively monitored and supervised, including securing sites for Managed Aquifer Recharge pilot projects in Ntungamo and Bulambuli Districts. Significant progress was also made on the Groundwater for Deep Resilience Project, with the project document subsequently signed by MoFPED, signifying a commitment to addressing critical water security issues related to groundwater resources. Furthermore, the coordination and supervision of the groundwater project for the Mt. Elgon and Kagera transboundary aquifers was undertaken, demonstrating ongoing management of these vital shared resources.

Laying the groundwork for future investments, ToRs for transboundary investment plans were prepared, outlining the scope and requirements for financial commitments to enhance water resource management in key river systems. Beyond planning, practical monitoring and assessment of existing infrastructure were conducted. Five strategic transboundary stations/infrastructure were monitored, and a report on the stations that require rehabilitation was compiled. This proactive assessment is crucial for maintaining essential infrastructure for data collection and management and informing future investment needs.

Significant strides were made in advancing key transboundary project development. Feasibility studies and detailed designs for the Angololo MPP were conducted and completed, marking a major step towards the implementation of this important multi-purpose project. Concurrently, the bilateral agreement between Uganda and Kenya for the Angololo MPP had been negotiated and was at the signing stage, indicating strong progress on securing the necessary legal frameworks for joint implementation. Similarly, the feasibility study for the transboundary development project was completed and approved by the Development Committee (DC), opening avenues for financing for another significant initiative.

Exploring new opportunities, preliminary work on new project initiatives was also advanced. A kick-off meeting for the pre-feasibility studies for the Sono Hydroelectric Power Project on River Lwakhakha was conducted, initiating the planning phase for a new potential transboundary energy project. As part of this initial phase, preliminary mapping of the existing information was conducted, as well as plans for the field visit developed, further advancing the early stages of this project.

Addressing the crucial aspect of transboundary agreements and cooperation, while the Angololo bilateral agreement progressed well, it is noted that the MoUs for the Nyimur and Angololo Projects bilateral agreement were not established. This highlights a need for continued focus on finalising these crucial agreements for the joint implementation of these specific projects. However, demonstrating efforts to establish frameworks for other shared river systems, one



meeting to negotiate a Sio-Malaba-Malakisi River Basin bilateral agreement and its joint implementation was held. Furthermore, demonstrating commitment to international legal frameworks, a Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) report for the United Nations Water Convention was reviewed and finalised.

Substantial effort was dedicated to coordinating regional high-level engagement. Eight National Organising Committee (NOC) meetings for the Nile Basin Heads of State Summit were coordinated as part of the preparatory activities, with hosting anticipated after the approval by H.E. the President. Further emphasising the importance placed on this event, 10 NOC preparatory meetings and other meetings for sub-committees for the Nile Basin Heads of State Summit were coordinated. Engagement in broader transboundary water management discussions was also evident through participation in two statutory governance and technical fora. Internal administrative support for these efforts was facilitated through holding two departmental meetings where issues were raised and considered for further follow-up, and the procurement of one vehicle for the office of commissioner.

Addressing a critical shared challenge, a preliminary floods assessment was carried out in the Unyama River catchment at the Elegu-Nimule border (Uganda and South Sudan) in collaboration with the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program Coordination Unit (NELSAP-CU). This assessment aims to inform the development of a transboundary integrated flood management plan, a proactive step towards mitigating the impacts of shared flooding risks. Finally, fulfilling financial obligations to key regional water bodies and supporting ongoing collaborative efforts, part payment of the annual subscription to international organisations such as the Nile Basin initiative (NBI) and AMCOW was effected.

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

In the financial year, some of the planned activities under this output were: i) Three surface water stations rehabilitated and two groundwater stations fished and pump tested for increased monitoring of climate-induced impacts and abstraction; ii) Hydrological decision support system for improved water resources management and early warning information piloted in two catchments; iii) Equipment (batteries, solar panels, data downloading cables, steel tapes and water level divers) supplied and installed at six surface water and two groundwater stations; iv) 6,000 boreholes, shallow wells, protected springs and piped water systems monitored, samples collected for analysis of compliance with drinking water standards; v) 55 stations on Lake Victoria, eight on Lake Kyoga, seven on Lake Albert, seven on Lake Edward and 10 on Lake George monitored for compliance with ambient water quality; vi) Water vessel operated and maintained; 25 industries supported to implement Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production (RECP) best practices; monitoring of project activities and outputs undertaken; vii) 20,000 data records processed; National Water Quality Status Report prepared; National Water Quality Network (NWQMN) reviewed and upgraded.

Other planned activities included: viii) 178 water resources monitoring stations operated and maintained and honoraria for gauge readers paid; six groundwater monitoring stations rehabilitated; Special Acoustic Doppler Current Profile (ADCP) measurements for review of rating curves (4 No. Sites) undertaken; ix) Six water resources assessments (baseline and monitoring data) undertaken; one gauge readers' refresher training course conducted; x) Four regional water quality laboratories operated and maintained; 1,050 water samples collected and



analysed; xi) 100 district staff trained in water quality testing; xiii) 1 Mobile Water Treatment Unit procured; water quality testing kits (four sets) procured. Progress on the planned activities is presented hereafter:

By 31 December 2024, significant efforts were made to enhance surface water monitoring infrastructure. Seven surface water stations (Aswa II, Agago, Ayago, Rwizi, and Anyau) underwent successful rehabilitation, improving their operational capacity for data collection. Furthermore, surveys along key sections of the Nile, including Pakwach, Sio, Mbulamuti, and Laropi, were conducted, facilitating the essential update of datums for accurate hydrological measurements. While quality control for hydro-meteorological data reached 45%, indicating progress, there is still room to improve the reliability and usability of the collected data.

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

Comprehensive water quality monitoring activities were undertaken across various water sources. A total of 1,351 water samples were collected and analysed from 32 districts to assess compliance with potable water standards. This included 599 samples from treated urban piped water supplies and 752 samples from untreated rural water sources. There were notable differences in compliance rates: 75.1% for urban water sources and 62.5% for rural sources. This disparity highlights the ongoing challenge in ensuring safe drinking water access in rural areas. Additionally, ambient water quality was assessed at 72 monitoring stations across Lake Victoria (55), Lake Edward (7), and Lake George (10), resulting in the collection and analysis of 321 water samples. This monitoring provides crucial data on the health of these significant water bodies.

Further details on surface water monitoring activities reinforce the focus on data accuracy and infrastructure maintenance. Surface water stations along the Nile were specifically surveyed at various sections, including Pakwach, Sio, Mbulamuti, and Laropi, which directly enabled the updating of datums. This targeted effort is critical for consistent and comparable long-term datasets. Quality control of hydro-meteorological data was actively conducted, achieving a completion rate of 45%. While this represents progress, reaching higher levels of quality control is essential for robust data analysis and decision-making. The ongoing characterisation of the Aswa and Manafwa catchments signifies a continued commitment to understanding the hydrological dynamics of these areas.

Operational readiness of monitoring equipment was a key focus. The procurement of a service provider to supply essential equipment was successfully completed, ensuring the availability of necessary tools for data collection. While this significant step was achieved, the procurement process for additional equipment, including data downloading cables, SIM cards, and dippers, was still in progress. Completing these procurements is vital for fully equipping field teams and maximising data collection efficiency.



Detailed analysis of drinking water source compliance provides valuable insights into water safety across different source types. A total of 1,019 water sources, encompassing boreholes, shallow wells, springs, open wells (dams), and rainwater harvesting tanks, were tested for compliance with drinking water standards. Furthermore, the analysis of the 1,351 collected water samples from drinking water sources (599 urban, 752 rural) provided specific compliance figures: 75.1% for urban and 62.5% for rural. These figures underscore the need for targeted interventions to improve water quality in rural areas.

Ambient water quality monitoring on major lakes was a significant undertaking. A total of 72 monitoring stations were assessed for compliance with ambient water quality standards across Lake Victoria (55 stations), Lake Edward (7 stations), and Lake George (10 stations). This extensive monitoring effort resulted in the collection and analysis of 321 water samples. The breakdown of samples (157 from open Lake Victoria, 40 from Entebbe Bay, 91 from Inner Murchison Bay, and sediment samples from Lake Edward and George) indicates a targeted approach to assessing different zones within these lakes, providing a more nuanced understanding of water quality conditions.

Operational aspects of water quality monitoring and related initiatives show mixed results. The Lake Victoria water quality research vessel was successfully operated and maintained, indicating a functional platform for data collection on the lake. However, the planned support for 25 industries to implement Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production (RECP) best practices was not undertaken. This is a missed opportunity to promote sustainable industrial water use. While a substantial number of water quality data records (2,857) were processed and entered into the database, this figure is significantly lower than the planned 20,000 records. This discrepancy highlights a potential bottleneck in data management and processing that needs to be addressed to fully utilise the collected data.

Maintenance and expansion of the water resources monitoring network were actively pursued. Out of 180 water resources monitoring stations (178 surface water, five groundwater), all were successfully operated and maintained, indicating a high level of operational efficiency for the existing network. The rehabilitation of the five groundwater monitoring stations located in Kabambiro, Galilaya, Rwebisengo, Kyegegwa, and Mubende specifically enhanced their functionality for groundwater level and quality monitoring. Furthermore, the progress on the establishment of a new groundwater monitoring station at the Mpanga outlet indicates a commitment to expanding the network to cover critical areas.

Specific details on groundwater monitoring station rehabilitation and expansion highlight targeted efforts in this area. 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 ongoing 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 will be crucial for understanding local groundwater dynamics.



Efforts to improve hydrological data collection and capacity-building were also evident. A total of 14 Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) measurements were conducted, a key activity for reviewing and improving the accuracy of river rating curves. This contributes to more reliable flow data. Additionally, seven water resource assessments were carried out, encompassing both baseline and monitoring data, providing updated information on water availability and usage. Capacity-building efforts were demonstrated through two gauge reader training sessions held for 15 participants in the Upper Nile Water Management Zone (UNWMZ) and Victoria Water Management Zone (VWMZ)s, ensuring a skilled workforce for manual data collection.

The operational capacity of regional water quality laboratories contributed significantly to water quality analysis. Four regional water quality laboratories, located in Mbale, Lira, Kabarole, and Mbarara, successfully operated and maintained their systems. These laboratories analysed a total of 2,036 drinking and wastewater samples, providing essential data for regulatory compliance and public health. The analysis also generated non-tax revenue (NTR) of US\$ 65,214,000 from client testing services, demonstrating a degree of financial sustainability for these facilities. However, the planned procurement of one Mobile Water Treatment Unit and four Water Quality Testing Kits was not completed, which could potentially hinder rapid response capabilities and field testing capacity.

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

The output aim is to improve the existing water information system to meet customer/stakeholder satisfaction and operationalise the national water management information system. The plan was for the Water Information System Phase II (WIS II) developed and fully rolled out. WIS II is meant to provide centralised and systematic access to water and environment data, information and knowledge products in MWE.

MWE planned the following activities in the FY: State of water resources report prepared; Hydrological decision support system for improved water resources management and early warning information piloted in two catchments; Hydrological Equipment Management and Maintenance System (HEMMS) developed and operated and Water Information System Phase II (WIS II) fully developed and operationalised in four regions of Uganda.

By the end of the second quarter (Q2), tangible progress was reported on several of these planned activities. The preparation of the State of Water Resources report had reached 60%. This encompasses a comprehensive overview of Uganda's water resources. Essential fieldwork for hydrological monitoring was conducted too, with surveys of surface water stations along the Nile at Pakwach, Sio, Mbulamuti, and Laropi. These surveys were crucial for updating datums, fundamental for accurate hydrological measurements. Alongside this, quality control for hydro-meteorological data was undertaken, achieving 45% completion. While this shows progress in data validation, reaching a higher percentage will be important for ensuring the reliability and usability of the data for decision-making.

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, which is a



necessary step for procuring services related to equipment maintenance and management. 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.

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 WMZ, Albert WMZ, Victoria WMZ, Upper Nile WMZ, and the Centre/Entebbe region. This rollout is a critical data management platform. It represents a major achievement in centralising and making water resources data accessible, which is fundamental for improved management and informed decision-making.

iv) Operational optimal surface water and groundwater monitoring network

The intervention to establish an operational and optimal surface and groundwater monitoring network was intended to enhance Uganda's capacity to effectively monitor water resource availability and quality, particularly in the context of increasing climate-induced impacts and rising abstraction pressures.

During the reporting period, MWE planned to implement the following activities: (i) Rehabilitation of 16 surface water monitoring stations to restore functionality for hydrological data collection. (ii) Pump testing and sampling of 16 groundwater stations to improve assessment of aquifer yield and water quality. (iii) Procurement of water level dippers to support routine monitoring of groundwater levels. (iv) Construction and full installation of 12 new monitoring stations, comprising five groundwater stations, five surface water stations, and two automatic weather stations.

By the end of the second quarter of FY 2024/25, implementation of these planned outputs had only progressed partially. While the construction and installation of the 12 planned monitoring stations had not commenced, some key achievements were registered. Specifically, three surface water stations – Rwizi, Nakivubo I and II, and Pakwach – were successfully rehabilitated. This effort contributed to improved flow monitoring and data collection in critical catchments. In addition, the procurement process for water level dippers was initiated. These instruments are essential for enhancing the functionality and accuracy of groundwater monitoring stations across the country.

Although some groundwork was laid, the overall level of achievement remained below target. The delayed initiation of construction activities and slow procurement processes significantly constrained the establishment of a fully functional and integrated monitoring network. There is a need for accelerated implementation in the subsequent quarters to meet the intended targets and strengthen water resource decision-making based on reliable data.



Water samples from water bodies collected and analysed for quality

The planned activities under this output included the analysis of 15,000 water, wastewater, and environmental samples at the National Water Quality Reference Laboratory (NWQRL) and four regional laboratories. Other planned activities included the procurement of essential chemicals and reagents, consistent operation and maintenance of the NWQRL, and the generation of US\$ 500 million in NTR from laboratory services.

By the end of the second quarter, a total of 8,951 samples had been analysed, representing approximately 59.7% of the annual target. The NWQRL handled the highest number of samples, with 5,858 analysed, followed by Fort Portal Regional Laboratory with 1,124 samples, Lira with 827, Mbale with 717, and Mbarara with 425 samples. To support this analytical work, the required chemicals and reagents were procured in a timely manner, enabling uninterrupted laboratory operations.

Additionally, the analysis services provided by these laboratories generated US\$ 329.28 million in NTR, translating to 65.9% of the annual revenue target. Throughout the period, the NWQRL remained fully operational and maintained, ensuring that sample testing was carried out reliably and that the country's water quality surveillance systems remained effective.

v) National Water Quality Reference Laboratory analytical capacity upgraded and regional laboratories established to address issues related 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).

The planned outputs for FY 2024/25 were as follows: i) Construction of the National Water Quality Reference Laboratory (NWQRL) to 60% completion to facilitate pollution assessments; ii) Supervision of the NWQRL construction to ensure quality and technical compliance; iii) Construction of a jetty for the Water Quality Monitoring Vessel in Entebbe to 100% completion; iv) Attainment of full (100%) ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accreditation for the NWQRL; v) Construction of the Mbarara Regional Laboratory to 10% completion; and vi) Operation and maintenance of Regional Water Quality Laboratories in Mbale, Lira, Mbarara, and Fort Portal.

By the end of the second quarter (Q2), notable progress was achieved on several components. The construction of the NWQRL slightly exceeded the annual target, reaching 62% completion. Supervision of the ongoing works was actively undertaken, with progress reports submitted to MWE. However, project implementation faced a significant setback due to financial delays. As of the monitoring visit conducted in February 2025, certified works worth US\$ 2.480 billion had not been paid, prompting the contractor to consider claiming interest on delayed payments – a situation that could escalate costs and further delay project timelines.

Regarding quality assurance, the process for ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accreditation advanced to 90% completion. Although this represents substantial progress, the accreditation process has

been notably slow, constrained by technical and documentation gaps. Meanwhile, operations at the regional laboratories – Mbale, Lira, Fort Portal, and Mbarara – continued, contributing to environmental and drinking water quality surveillance across various regions. However, the construction of the Mbarara Regional Laboratory only progressed marginally, aligning with the planned 10% target.

While some key milestones are on track, the financial delays and slow pace of accreditation present risks to the timely and full operationalisation of the NWQRL. Accelerated payment processing and technical support for accreditation are recommended to safeguard momentum and achieve the intended national monitoring capacity.



National Water Quality Reference Laboratory, Entebbe.

vii) Degraded water catchments protected and restored through 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. The annual planned outputs included: i) 12 monitoring stations (5 groundwater, 5 surface water, 2 automatic weather stations) construction and installation completed to 100%; ii) 135 km of soil and water management structures constructed (33 km in Central, 34 km in Western, 33 km in Eastern, and 35 km in Northern Uganda); iii) 62 small water harvesting and flood control structures, such as check dams and gully plugs, constructed (15 each in Northern and Eastern, 15 in Western, and 17 in Central); iv) support for three private tree nurseries in the Western Region to produce seedlings provided; v) Restoration of 22 ha of degraded forest (5 ha in each region except for 7 ha in Central); and vi) Restoration of 29 ha of wetlands (10 ha in Northern, 5 ha in Eastern, 9 ha in Western, and 5 ha in Central).

Additionally, the outputs included: vii) Demarcation and planting of 63 km of degraded riverbanks with pillars (15 km in Northern, Eastern, and Western, and 13 km in Central); viii) Restoration of 75 ha of riverbank buffer zones (20 ha in Northern and Eastern, 15 ha in Western, and 25 ha in Central); ix) Supply of 300,000 tree seedlings for improving groundwater recharge and distribution of 20 tons of drought-resistant crop varieties to 300 farmers; x) Organisation of four joint quarterly national and catchment stakeholder meetings on early warning information



utilisation and promotion of three soil and water conservation measures in two micro-catchments; xi) Establishment of 10 silage storage banks, 10 hay units, and 10 hydroponic units for pastoralists; and xiii) Establishment of eight zero grazing housing units for demonstration purposes.

Substantial progress was achieved in establishing monitoring stations and implementing soil and water management structures. Twelve monitoring stations were under construction, reaching 75% completion. These included five for groundwater, five for surface water, and two automatic weather stations, providing crucial data for understanding hydrological patterns. Furthermore, 13 kilometres of vital soil and water management structures, such as infiltration trenches, contours, and terraces, were successfully constructed across the districts of Kamwenge, Kitagwenda, Kasese, Ntungamo-Rubare, and Buhweju (Rwizi upstream). These structures play a key role in reducing soil erosion and improving water infiltration.

In addition to larger-scale structures, 10 percolation/infiltration pits were established on demonstration plots in Pakwach, Nebbi, Kitagwenda, and Kasese Districts. These pits showcase effective techniques for groundwater recharge and improved water availability at the local level.

Supporting community-based initiatives, three private tree nurseries were bolstered through the purchase of 25,002 diverse tree seedlings. These seedlings, including bamboo, grevillea, Melicia, oranges, mangoes, avocado, *Calliandra*, and Napier grass, were distributed to raise income and ensure the continued operation of nurseries like Restore Ecosystem Company in Neemakigani (Rwampara district) and Bishop Stuart (Mbarara District).

Significant restoration and conservation efforts were also undertaken across various ecosystems. Fifty hectares of degraded forests were successfully restored in Ibanda, Kitagwenda, and Masindi Districts, contributing to biodiversity recovery and ecosystem health. In Kamwenge, Kyenjojo, and Kakumiro Districts, 25 hectares of degraded wetlands were rehabilitated, revitalising these critical habitats. Afforestation efforts focused on degraded areas, with 21 kilometres planted with teak tree seedlings: 11 kilometres along the Ayila Abongo River in Jupageta Upper and Madi Upper (Nebbi District), and 10 kilometres in Kagadi District. Furthermore, 1 kilometre of degraded riverbank along the Rwizi River in Ruharo was restored through the strategic planting of bamboo.

To enhance water source protection, 1,050 seedlings were supplied and planted in Lotisan, Kokorio, and Kaloutom, directly contributing to safeguarding vital water resources. Four sites in Lorengedwat, Ngolereit, Lotisan, and Kokorio were identified for the expansion of tree planting initiatives. This strategic approach aims to improve groundwater recharge for existing boreholes, bolstering local water supply and fostering environmental resilience.

In Napak District, community engagement was prioritised in selecting sites for establishing soil and water conservation structures through inclusive meetings, ensuring local ownership and support. A successful meeting was also convened in Moroto to disseminate September to December (SOND) Seasonal Climate Forecast predictions at the sub-national level, empowering communities to prepare for climatic variations and build resilience.



Advancing agricultural practices, designs for hydroponic and silage units were completed, and procurement commenced for constructing a community-scale hydroponic unit (500 trays) and a silage tank in Moroto, Tapac Sub-county. Additionally, nine beneficiary groups across Moroto, Napak, and Nabilatuk were selected to receive drought-tolerant goats, enhancing livestock sustainability and food security in the region.

viii) Water management measures implemented in priority sub-catchments

The annual plan was: i) 80% of the national groundwater management study to assess available resources and demand undertaken; ii) 100% of catchment management measures in Awoja, Lwakhakha, Kochi and Aswa sub-catchments completed; iii) one sub-catchment management plan prepared (Rwiimi sub-catchment); iii) one micro-catchment management plan prepared (Tangi Ajai); iv) Nine catchment management committees operationalised; three training sessions for stakeholders in catchment management conducted; vii) 1,300 stakeholders identified and supported to benefit from income-generating and livelihood opportunities; viii) three measures of soil and water conservation promoted in two micro-catchments; 10 silage storage banks and 20 hay units established for pastoralists; ix) One mini-irrigation system constructed; x) 180 water purification units supplied; and xi) Four compound water harvesting structures constructed; degraded transboundary catchments rehabilitated, protected and productive.

The comprehensive groundwater study, aimed at assessing available resources and demand, reached 60% completion. This involved the successful completion of the inception report, along with thorough data gap and baseline assessments. These crucial initial steps have provided valuable insights into the status of groundwater resources and the demands placed upon them, laying a strong foundation for informed decision-making regarding water resource management in the region.

The implementation of catchment management measures in the Lwakhakha, Aswa II, Kochi, and Middle/Lower Awoja sub-catchments demonstrated impressive progress, reaching 86%. Key initiatives included the restoration of a substantial 2,673 hectares of degraded land through tree planting and the establishment of 841.5 hectares of essential soil and water conservation structures. Furthermore, 546.3 kilometres of riverbanks were successfully stabilised, significantly reducing erosion. Rehabilitation efforts also extended to 1,296.9 hectares of degraded wetlands, restoring these vital ecosystems.

Beyond ecological restoration, community livelihoods were supported, with 260 households receiving assistance to establish apiaries, including the provision of Kenyan Top Bar (KTB) beehives and necessary equipment. Energy efficiency was promoted through the construction of 6,316 improved energy-saving cookstoves. In terms of agricultural support, 11 fishponds were built, with 6 already stocked with 18,000 fingerlings. Additionally, 2.7 kilometres of gullies were reinforced with gabions, complemented by the planting of fruit trees, demonstrating an integrated approach to land management.

In the Tangi Ajai micro-catchment, a service provider was procured to develop a comprehensive management plan. This project was in its early stages, with a progress status of 10%. This initial phase is critical for the service provider to conduct a thorough assessment of the micro-catchment area, gather relevant data, and engage with local stakeholders. This engagement is vital to ensure the plan effectively addresses the specific needs and challenges of the community,



paving the way for formulating sustainable management and conservation strategies for the future.

Operationalisation of three micro-catchment management committees in Amanda, Albert Nile, and Aswa II was successfully completed. Alongside this, 11 training sessions were conducted for stakeholders from Kamwenge, Kyenjojo, Ibanda, Kitagwenda, and Kakumiro. These sessions included representatives from key organisations such as ACCORD, the Crane Foundation, Abahumuza, and WWF, fostering knowledge sharing and building capacity in effective catchment management practices.

To further enhance income-generating opportunities, 430 stakeholders received support for establishing apiary enterprises. This included the provision of 160 KTB beehives and essential bee equipment, coupled with training on successful beekeeping practices. This initiative aims to empower communities and improve livelihoods through sustainable economic activities.

Community engagement remained a key focus. In Napak, community meetings were held to select sites for soil and water conservation efforts, ensuring local ownership and participation. Furthermore, a draft design for the Naoi mini-irrigation system in Lorengedwat, Nabilatuk, was prepared and reviewed by local leadership, demonstrating responsiveness to community needs. Designs for four water harvesting structures were also completed, and contracts for material procurement were signed for installations in Moroto (Lotisan, Tapac) and Napak (Lopeei, Lokopo).

A stakeholder assessment and needs verification process was also conducted for the River Semliki catchment in Ntoroko District to determine the scope of necessary restoration efforts, highlighting a proactive approach to addressing environmental degradation.

ix) Increased water storage capacity to meet water resources use requirements

Efforts are underway to enhance water availability and ensure sustainable water resource management, addressing various demands and mitigating potential issues like illegal abstraction and flooding. This improvement is intended to ensure that there is enough water available to satisfy various demands, such as for agriculture, domestic use, industrial processes, and environmental needs. To increase water storage capacity, MWE planned several key activities for the fiscal year.

These planned activities included: i) The finalisation and printing of the draft National Water Resources Strategy (NWRS); ii) The implementation of three priority actions outlined in the Integrated Water Resources Development and Management Plan (IWRDMP) for the Albertine Graben; and iii) The assessment and recommendation for issuance of 100 water abstraction permit applications. Furthermore, plans were in place to identify and sensitise 240 illegal water abstractors and waste water dischargers to acquire permits, construct flood management infrastructure and onsite sanitation facilities, and procure and install water resources compliance monitoring equipment.

By the end of Q2, significant progress had been made on some of these fronts. The final draft of the National State of Water Resources was completed, providing a comprehensive overview of the current water situation. Although no priority actions had yet been identified in the Integrated Water Resources Development (IWRD) at this stage, the final drafts for both the National State of Water Resources Strategy and the IWRDMP for the Albertine Graben were successfully finalised.



In terms of permit management, a total of 56 permit applications were assessed and recommended for issuance, demonstrating progress towards regulating water use. In tandem, 99 illegal water abstractors and wastewater dischargers were identified across several districts, including Kabale, Kisoro, Soroti, Kaliro, Iganga, Nwoya, Pakwach, Zombo, Gulu, and Mayuge.

Crucially, sensitisation efforts were implemented to encourage these individuals to obtain the necessary water user permits, aiming to bring illegal activities into compliance. Regarding flood management, within the Semliki River catchment in Ntoroko District, stakeholder identification and site verification were conducted. This crucial step will help determine the scope for required flood management infrastructure in the area.

Additionally, preliminary designs for flood management infrastructure in the Nyamwamba River in Kasese District have commenced, indicating proactive planning for flood mitigation. A needs assessment for specialised river maintenance equipment was also completed, highlighting a focus on ensuring the necessary tools are available for effective river management.

x) **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 twelve EIAs were reviewed – well above the initial expectations. These included assessments for the Nyamugasani I and II Hydroelectric Power (HEP) projects, Frontier Energy, Bugoye HEP, and Mpanga HEP. Detailed technical comments were submitted to NEMA for each project, demonstrating a proactive and enhanced environmental review process. This achievement reflects improved institutional capacity to assess and mitigate potential environmental impacts in the water sector.

Sub-Programme Challenges

- i. **Inadequate testing capacity:** The country lacks sufficient equipment and skilled personnel to conduct comprehensive water quality testing across all piped systems, particularly in Gravity Flow Schemes (GFSs). This gap increases the risk of distributing substandard water to communities.
- ii. **Human resource constraints in WRM:** The Water Resources Management (WRM) Department is operating at only 40% of its required staffing. Due to a constrained wage bill, staff promotions and recruitment are limited, leaving the existing workforce overstretched and affecting service delivery.
- iii. **Regulatory loopholes in private testing:** Some private laboratories exploit weak enforcement of water testing guidelines to operate with limited oversight. This compromises the quality and reliability of test results, undermining public health safeguards.
- iv. **Delayed payments affecting laboratory operations:** Delays in paying the contractor for the National Water Quality Reference Laboratory (NWQRL) in Entebbe and suppliers have disrupted the supply of critical laboratory reagents and consumables. Equipment downtime and lack of materials reduce client service and limit NTR collection.
- v. **Industrial wastewater pollution:** Many industries discharge untreated or poorly treated wastewater directly into rivers and lakes. This significantly pollutes water sources,



- endangering aquatic life and public health, and indicates weak enforcement of effluent discharge standards.
- vi. **Inadequate monitoring networks and data gaps:** The current network of water quality monitoring stations is sparse and sampling practices are inconsistent. This results in incomplete data, making it difficult to assess pollution trends or guide evidence-based water management decisions.
 - vii. **Limited access to essential reagents:** HACH reagents, essential for accurate water quality analysis, are expensive and hard to procure locally. Their limited availability restricts the scope of testing, especially for remote field samples, weakening overall monitoring effectiveness.

Conclusion

While the Water Resources Management Sub-programme achieved fair progress during the first half of FY 2024/25 – demonstrated by the advancement of key infrastructure such as the National Water Quality Reference Laboratory (62% completion) –several systemic challenges remain. These include inadequate monitoring capacity, fragmented and insufficient water quality data, untreated industrial effluents, and persistent resource and staffing constraints. Going forward, it is essential to prioritise enhanced monitoring and data management, enforce stricter regulation of industrial wastewater discharge, and address existing capacity and resource gaps. These efforts will be critical in building on the initial progress and ensuring sustainable, effective management of Uganda’s freshwater resources.

Recommendations

- i. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) should fast-track the review of the National Water Policy to establish clear standards and legal requirements for private laboratories conducting water quality testing. This reform will address prevailing regulatory gaps that permit substandard testing and ensure that all service providers meet national quality and safety standards through a formal system of licensing, inspection, and certification.
- ii. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), in consultation with Ministry of Public Service (MoPS), should prioritise the recruitment of technical staff into approved but vacant positions, particularly within the Department of Water Resources Management. The department is critically understaffed, and filling these vacancies will enhance regulatory enforcement, improve the efficiency of laboratory operations, and boost the overall institutional capacity for water resource governance.
- iii. There is an urgent need for the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) to procure portable and automated water testing equipment to improve the monitoring of piped water systems, particularly for Gravity Flow Schemes (GFS). Strengthening diagnostic capabilities will enhance compliance with water quality regulations and reduce the risks associated with the distribution of unsafe water.
- iv. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) should intensify public awareness campaigns to encourage the adoption of climate change adaptation and mitigation



- practices. Key focus areas should include water conservation, the protection of catchment areas, and sustainable land use practices aimed at building community resilience to environmental shocks.
- v. Delays in settling payments to suppliers of laboratory reagents have significantly disrupted water quality testing and reduced the generation of NTR. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) should prioritise the prompt clearance of outstanding debts to maintain a steady supply of reagents and ensure continuity in water testing operations.
 - vi. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) should establish and enforce a national regulatory framework requiring all industries to treat wastewater prior to discharge. Industries should be mandated to obtain wastewater discharge permits, which specify pollutant limits and are subject to regular compliance inspections. This measure will significantly reduce direct pollution into water bodies and strengthen environmental compliance.
 - vii. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) should develop a modern, technology-enabled water monitoring programme based on standardised testing protocols and supported by a centralised and accessible data management platform. This system will enhance real-time tracking of water quality and quantity, facilitating evidence-based decision-making and timely regulatory interventions.
 - viii. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) should engage multiple suppliers under framework contracts to ensure the continuous availability of HACH reagents. This strategy will minimise the risk of stockouts, stabilise laboratory testing operations, and improve the affordability and accessibility of water quality testing services across the country.

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 are aimed at fostering inclusive, climate-resilient economic growth and enhancing 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.

Implementation of the sub-programme is jointly undertaken by several key institutions. 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 US\$ 106.44 billion, of which US\$ 55.20 billion (52%) had been released and US\$ 24.17 billion (44% of the release) spent by 31st December 2024. While the release performance was commendable for the half-year period, the expenditure performance was notably poor.

Key reasons for the under-expenditure included delays in procurement processes, unpaid NSSF contributions for newly recruited staff, and inadequate funds to cover capital works. The most significant underperformance occurred under the retooling project and within the Applied Meteorology, Data, and Climate Services Department of the Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA), which was adversely affected by the Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure (RAPEX) initiative.

Sub-programme performance: The overall performance of the sub-programme, scored only 50.2%. This underperformance was largely due to the limited or non-implementation of several planned outputs, such as capacity-building for cities and urban councils on sustainable development, the demarcation of fragile ecosystems, and the integration of sustainable development principles into education curricula. In some instances, funds were expended on activities that were not aligned with the intended interventions, further undermining performance.

Despite these setbacks, a few notable achievements were recorded. These include the establishment of 720 hectares of commercial tree plantations, the distribution of 8,994,670 seedlings, the maintenance of 176 kilometres of Central Forest Reserve (CFR) boundaries, and the demarcation of 56.1 kilometres of wetlands—including 13.6 kilometres in Kaliro (Lumbuye wetland). However, these positive outcomes were overshadowed by significant unmet targets and resource misallocations. A summary of intervention-level performance is provided in Table 3.3, with detailed performance data presented in Annex 3

**Table 3.3: Overview of the ENR interventions performance by 31st December 2024**

No	Intervention	Performance Rating	Remarks
1	Strengthen conservation, restoration of forests, wetlands and water catchments and hilly and mountainous areas	On track	The intervention achieved about 67% of its planned outputs, performing well in coordination and wetland restoration but falling short in forestry targets and management plan development.
2	Increase investment in value addition to environment and natural resources products and services	Off track	The intervention achieved 32%. It made progress in wetland restoration, climate change policy, and public awareness, but fell short on key forestry, agroforestry, and management plan targets due to budget and operational challenges.
3	Mainstream climate change resilience in programmes and budgets with clear budgets lines and performance indicators	Off track	The intervention made progress in climate risk assessments, environmental monitoring, and completing 621 ESIA's. However, it achieved only 32% of its targets, falling short due to unmet procurement goals, delays in key studies, and the failure to carry out community sensitisation and climate change adaptation capacity-building.
4	Develop and implement a framework that reduces adverse per capita environmental impact of cities (air quality and waste management practices)	Off track	The intervention achieved 34% of its targets, with key successes including the training of environmental practitioners, completion of 129 compliance monitoring operations, and 621 Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs). However, several targets were not met, including the creation of GIS spatial databases and additional enforcement operations.
5	Integrate education for sustainable development in national curricula at all levels for an environmentally literate citizenry	On track	The intervention achieved 52.6% of its targets, with significant progress in developing and translating environmental materials, executing media campaigns, and improving infrastructure. However, school programmes on environmental education were not implemented, and the integration of Education for Sustainable Development into curricula was not completed.
6	Undertake applied research and innovation on sustainable consumption and production to ensure resource use efficiency to reduce domestic material consumption per capita	Off track	The intervention achieved 43.1% of its targets. Completion of research on heavy metal contamination in vegetables and solid waste management practices, providing valuable data to inform policy and sustainable practices. Additionally, two policy briefs were drafted on pesticide contamination and plastics management.
7	Increase funding for promoting non-consumptive uses of natural resources	On track	The intervention, with a performance of 54.8%, distributed 200 million seedlings to support reforestation and biodiversity, and planned 5,000 hectares of tree plantations. A key initiative funded by UNHCR distributed 516,910 seedlings in Isingiro District, benefitting local communities and refugees in Nakivale and Orukinga Camps, contributing to environmental restoration and sustainable livelihoods.
8	Support local community-based ecotourism activities for areas that are rich in	Achieved	Achieved 93.4% of its intervention plan, surpassing its target by maintaining 62 km of ecotourism trails and producing 40,000 seedlings for planting in Bugongo CFR. However, no

No	Intervention	Performance Rating	Remarks
	biodiversity or have attractive cultural heritage sites		new concessions were issued, and there were challenges with funding for seedling production.
9	Strengthen the policy, legal and institutional framework for effective disaster risk governance, management and response	Off track	Achieved 48% 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.

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, Wetlands Department, Forest Support Services Department, and Department of Environmental Affairs.

The following activities were planned and assessed under the intervention:

The implementation of the intervention focused on a comprehensive set of activities aimed at enhancing environmental governance, ecosystem restoration, and sustainable forest management. Under (i), efforts were directed at improving coordination, regulation, and monitoring of environmental management across both central and Local Government levels to ensure streamlined service delivery and enforcement of environmental standards. As part of ecosystem protection, (ii) restoration activities were carried out in strategic fragile ecosystems, particularly wetlands and forest reserves.

For wetlands, significant actions were undertaken under (iii), which involved the demarcation, gazettement, and restoration of 900 km of wetland areas, alongside the gazettement of six critical wetlands to enhance legal protection and prevent encroachment. In addition, (iv) stakeholders were mobilised to support ecosystem restoration through the development and implementation of costed wetland management plans, ensuring sustainability and stakeholder ownership. In line with this, (v) wetland management plans were either newly developed or revised, reinforcing planning frameworks for wetland conservation. Concurrently, under (vi), both conserved and degraded wetlands were demarcated and legally gazetted, further safeguarding their ecological integrity.

Complementary efforts targeted riparian ecosystems. Under (vii), a total of 2,000 hectares of degraded riverbanks and lakeshores were restored and maintained to curb erosion, enhance biodiversity, and improve water quality. In the forestry sub-sector, (viii) saw the establishment of



23,000 hectares of forest plantations, comprising 3,000 hectares established directly under the National Forestry Authority (NFA) and 20,000 hectares under licensed operators within Central Forest Reserves (CFRs).

To enhance boundary integrity and mitigate encroachment, (ix) involved the resurveying, marking, and maintenance of 12,200 kilometres of CFR boundaries. Additionally, (x) a total of 55 Forest Management Plans were either prepared or revised to guide sustainable forest use and conservation practices. Under (xi), concerted enforcement and protection activities enabled the safeguarding of approximately 1.265 million hectares of CFRs, which were cleared of illegal activities and encroachments. In parallel, (xii), 365,000 hectares of non-degraded and restored natural forests were secured, contributing to ecological resilience and carbon sequestration.

These interventions cumulatively supported a measurable (xiii) percentage increase in national forest cover, marking a positive trend towards achieving Uganda's forest restoration targets. Furthermore, under (xiv), dedicated fuelwood plantations were established to reduce pressure on natural forests and provide alternative energy sources. Finally, (xv) progress was registered in the development of the Integrated Forest Information Management System, with updates made to forest databases to improve planning, monitoring, and reporting across forestry institutions.

The intervention performance was fair, at 66.9%, with detailed performance given hereafter:

i. Improve coordination, regulation and monitoring of environment management at both central and Local Government levels

The output aims to enhance environmental management at all levels. Key achievements include baseline surveys conducted in 17 districts to identify climate challenges and needs, providing essential groundwork. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) participated in the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP) and hosted a national forum that attracted over 200 participants, demonstrating active engagement. Ground-truthing was conducted for 35 district wetland maps along the Muzizi, Lumbuye, and Awoja Rivers, offering valuable data. Sensitisation efforts on wetland management in 24 Green Climate Fund (GCF) Project districts included dialogues through radio and TV talk shows, promoting public awareness. The ROOTs Campaign in Gulu City resulted in the planting of over 30,000 trees, a tangible success. Additionally, compliance monitoring for national projects and support for Local Governments in integrating environmental issues into their budgets was conducted, indicating policy integration. Overall, the output performance was good, achieving 72.1% of its targets, signifying commendable progress.

Baseline surveys were conducted in the districts of Kiboga, Mubende, Lyantonde, and Sembabule, accompanied by a needs assessment involving 17 districts to identify specific climate-related challenges and requirements. This foundational research establishes the groundwork for targeted interventions and policies, a strategic first step. The Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) Project was monitored for compliance, and an evaluation checklist was created to facilitate transitions from Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) activities, ensuring accountability. Additionally, the National Budget Framework Paper was assessed for its responsiveness to climate change, culminating in the issuance of a certificate of compliance to



the Minister for Finance, Planning, and Economic Development (MoFPED), highlighting policy alignment.

To enhance local capacity, training sessions on the Climate Disaster Risk Screening (CDRS) tool were conducted for Water Umbrella Authorities and district technical teams across various regions, including Eastern, Central, Northern, and Mid-Western areas. This training equips local authorities with essential skills for effectively assessing and managing climate-related risks, which is critical for informed community-level decision-making, representing skill development.

While the development of a National Climate Change Information Management System is still pending, notable progress has been made with the creation of an online tool for tracking the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This tool aims to streamline Uganda's commitments to climate change mitigation and adaptation, ultimately supporting coordinated efforts to promote sustainability and resilience across the nation. The ongoing initiatives signify strong commitment to addressing climate change impacts through research, training, and effective policy implementation, indicating technological advancement.

Communities in Katakwi, Kisoro, Kabale, and the Karamoja sub-region received training on climate change adaptation measures, demonstrating community empowerment. The National COP 29 forum successfully attracted over 200 participants from various sectors, including key Ministries, civil society, the private sector, and youth, and was preceded by two preparatory meetings for the 62nd sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB62) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), showing broad participation. However, attendance at the National Adaptation Plan Exposition (NAP EXPO 2025) was not undertaken as planned due to limited resources, highlighting a resource constraint. Training initiatives were conducted for youth and university students to enhance their awareness of climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, focusing on future leaders.

Additionally, support was provided to 47 Local Governments during the Budget Framework Paper (BFP) process to ensure the integration of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) issues, promoting mainstreaming. Mpigi District Local Government staff were trained in developing the District State of Environment Report (DSOR) and the District Environment Action Plan (DEAP), enhancing local planning. Technical support was also extended to eight MDAs, including the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), the Petroleum Authority of Uganda (PAU), Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), MoFPED, NEMA, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), the Ministry of Health (MoH), and National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC), while 14 Local Governments were assisted in their budget preparation efforts, demonstrating inter-agency collaboration.

Compliance monitoring was conducted for eight national projects related to environmental laws and standards, including initiatives like Investing in Forests and Protected Areas for Climate Smart Development (IFPACD), Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA), and Strengthening Climate Resilience in Africa (SACRIA), ensuring adherence to regulations. Trainings were held to operationalise Grievance Redress Committees focused on restoring wetlands in districts such as Kaliro, Namutumba, and Butaleja, facilitating conflict resolution. Additionally, Terms of Reference (ToRs) were developed for enhanced environmental assessment and monitoring in



urban areas, while compliance with forestry policy was monitored in 20 districts, improving urban environmental management. Training for forestry staff development at Nyabyeya Forestry College and District Forestry Services was not executed, indicating a training gap.

The ROOTs Campaign was celebrated in Gulu City, where over 30,000 trees were planted alongside community engagement through radio shows, a successful outreach. The wetland department represented Uganda at COP 28 in Azerbaijan, providing international representation. Regional technical support units were fully staffed and functional for compliance monitoring in several districts, including Masindi and Rubirizi, ensuring operational efficiency. Surveillance of wetland biodiversity took place across various regions, with sensitisation dialogues held in 24 Green Climate Fund (GCF) project districts to promote sustainable wetland management and raise awareness for the upcoming World Wetlands Day celebration in February 2025, highlighting conservation efforts.

To further promote environmental awareness, project communication materials were produced, and assessments on climate change risks were conducted nationwide, increasing information dissemination. Quarterly monitoring of wetland restoration projects was undertaken, focusing on various wetland systems, demonstrating ongoing oversight. Technical backstopping and monitoring were provided to 20 Local Governments and urban councils, offering essential support. Efforts culminated in multiple radio and TV shows promoting wetland conservation across several districts, along with the development and dissemination of brochures and other materials to strengthen wetland management at all levels, emphasising public education.

However, Environment Impact Assessments (EIAs) for four projects near wetlands were not conducted, and fact sheets for 12 Ramsar sites were not produced, highlighting missed opportunities.

ii) Protection and restoration of strategic fragile ecosystems undertaken

The output performance across various sectors was assessed, revealing several initiatives aimed at enhancing the National Inventory of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and sinks. Capacity was built in key sectors including Energy, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Uses (AFOLU), Waste, Transport, and Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU), to effectively present the results of the GHG inventory.

Additionally, a working group focused on GHG mitigation was established, emphasising the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidelines, methodologies, and related software packages under the Biennial Update Report (BUR2), with GHG data collected accordingly. Efforts were made to enhance the adoption of precision agriculture techniques in Jinja and Mbale as a strategy to reduce GHG emissions.

Technical support was provided for the implementation of a wetland wise-use model in the Katanyebwa wetland in Kapeeka-Nakaseke District and the Lwajjali wetland in Mukono District. In total, five field monitoring inspections were conducted across various wetlands and riverbanks, examining user permits and specific projects. These included: i) the Okollo Hydro Power Project; ii) the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) wetland/riverbank management permit for Katonga; iii) the Wambabya and Kafo wetland and river system; iv) a riverbank



permit for a green belt initiative by Euro Flex Limited on River Nkolokolo Kito; and v) the lakefront beach of Fairway Hotel on Lake Victoria.

Moreover, technical support was directed towards the restoration of wetlands in Lubigi, Luzira, Nansana, Ganda, and Nabweru. A final report was drafted, awaiting decisions to continue with the restoration process. In the Lubigi wetland system, 26 kilometres were demarcated with pillars across parts of Kawempe, Nsangi, and Lubaga.

Restoration of critical wetlands; demarcation, gazettement and restoration of 900 km of wetlands; gazettement six critical wetlands

During the first half of the year, drafts for the National Strategy for the Sound Management of Chemicals, the National Guidelines for the Sound Management of Chemicals, and the National Guidelines for Conducting Risk Assessment and Reduction for Hazardous Industrial and Consumer Chemicals were developed. Additionally, two concepts targeting global environmental funds were created: one focused on nature-based solutions to support resilient Ugandan ecosystems, and another aimed at enhancing the sound management of chemicals in schools and tertiary institutions. These efforts represent progress in policy development and resource mobilisation, a positive step.

Efforts were made to strengthen the capacity of environmental and climate change clubs in 11 seed schools across Central and Eastern Uganda, enabling them to implement sustainable greening strategies. This focus on youth engagement is a valuable long-term investment. Stakeholder engagement under the Mount Elgon Integrated Conservation and Management Project included participation in three meetings for the International Mountain Partnership. However, no activities were conducted in the first half of the year concerning the economic valuation of selected ecosystems and their services. This highlights a missed opportunity for crucial data collection.

In an effort to restore 44 hectares of degraded mountain ecosystems, undertakings included the survey and demarcation of 44 km of natural water bodies, riverbanks, and lakeshores. A total of 112 hectares of degraded riverbanks and lakeshores were restored, with 20 km of riverbanks demarcated along River Wambabya in Hoima and the River Nile in Kamuli. Profiling and assessments covered 20 km along Lake Kwanja and the River Nile, with 2 km of River Nile banks in Akokoro Sub-county of Apac District demarcated to resolve conflicts over grazing and cultivation. These actions demonstrate tangible restoration efforts and conflict resolution.

The goal was to restore 6,300 ha of degraded wetlands across various systems, including Kibimba, Awoja, Muzizi, and others. By mid-year, significant mobilisation and sensitisation efforts were undertaken to engage stakeholders in wetland restoration, with three community meetings held in Pader District, support provided to Kole District Local Government staff, two community sensitisation meetings in Lira City, and four meetings in Lira District. In Mbarara, 50 ha of the Rucece wetland were successfully restored. Rapid assessments and stakeholder engagement efforts were also conducted in Northern and Central Uganda to prepare for the demarcation of 900 km of conserved and degraded wetland systems. While the overall target is high, the initial restoration and preparatory work are encouraging.

There was no assessment conducted for Muzizi (Buhweju, Kibale, Kyegegwa, and Kagadi) and Lumbuye (Kaliro, Iganga, and Mayuge) community projects. This represents a gap in understanding the progress and challenges of these initiatives. However, monitoring of Ramsar site management plans for Lake Wamala and Kaku-Kiyanja highlighted significant encroachment by land grabbers. This is a serious threat to the ecological integrity of these important wetlands.



A section of Rucece wetland where encroachers were evicted; A regenerated section of Rucece wetland in Mbarara District

Additionally, the wetland inventory for Bunyanga, Pader, and Agago Districts was not completed, though the Lwajjali wetland wise-use model received necessary technical support and supervision.

While some progress was made with the Lwajjali model, the lack of completed inventories hinders comprehensive wetland management. These issues underscore the urgent need to address land encroachment and enhance site assessments for effective conservation and community involvement. Addressing these points is crucial for improving wetland conservation outcomes.

ii. Mobilise stakeholders and develop and implement costed management plans

The annual target for this output was to technically backstop and coordinate 24 Local Governments, conduct quarterly monitoring of project interventions, and perform Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and audits for four projects located near or within wetlands. However, these activities are not related to the development and implementation of cost management plans. This indicates a potential disconnect between the intended scope of this output and the activities carried out, or a lack of focus on cost management within the defined tasks.

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 develop five wetland restoration management plans. The target for developing these plans was not met because by mid-year, no plan was developed. Only one enterprise was identified for support in Ngora, situated near the Bisina Ramsar site.

In the Victoria Water Management Zone, the team held a community meeting to provide livelihood alternatives to registered wetland resource users from the Rucece wetland, offering



options such as apiary and piggery projects. Additionally, four educational and sensitisation initiatives on wetland conservation were conducted, targeting both the public and private sectors, including Eco Trust, Pakanyi village, Nyakatoogo village in Pakanyi Sub-county, and primary schools within Masindi Municipality.

iv. Conserved and degraded wetlands demarcated and gazetted

The targets include the restoration of 3,024 hectares of degraded wetlands, the review of two Framework Management Plans, and the development of a bankable project proposal for updating the National Wetland Inventory. By mid-year, progress included the restoration of 2,851 ha of wetlands in Western Uganda; however, no Framework Management Plans were reviewed, and the preparation of two bankable project proposals for the Wetlands Management Department was still underway. Partial progress was made on wetland restoration, but significant shortfalls remain in reviewing management plans and developing bankable proposals, contributing to the poor overall performance.

vii. 2,000 ha of degraded riverbanks and lakeshores restored and maintained

By the end of Q2 progress included the demarcation of 56.1 km out of a target of 168 km of conserved and degraded wetlands, along with a site suitability assessment for community projects in Lumbuye (Kaliro), for which a report was prepared on wetland-wise use models. However, several key activities were not undertaken, including surveys and demarcation of 100 km of natural water bodies and reservoirs, and the surveying, demarcation, restoration, and maintenance of river banks and lakeshores. Limited progress was made on wetland demarcation, and critical activities related to other water bodies and riverbanks/lakeshores were entirely missed, contributing to the poor performance.

viii. 23,000 ha of forest established (3,000 ha under NFA and 20,000 ha under licensees on CFRs)

The plan for the financial year is to free 8,000 hectares from encroachment and protect them through natural forest regeneration and enrichment-restoration planting. By the end of Q2, the performance was poor, at 28.3%, with a total of 1,299 hectares cumulatively freed from encroachment and protected. This represents a substantial shortfall against the annual target. In Q2 alone, 227 hectares were freed and protected, distributed as follows: 32 hectares in Kagombe CFR in Budongo Systems Range; 25 hectares in Ihimbo in South-West Range; 22 hectares in Namalemba and 30 hectares in Sala CFR in Kyoga Range; 100 hectares in Mt. Kei in West Nile Range; and 18 hectares in Bamudde Nchwanga in Muzizi Range. The Q2 performance, while contributing to the cumulative total, indicates a relatively slow pace towards achieving the overall goal.

ix. 12,200 km of CFRs boundary resurveyed, marked and maintained

By the end of Q2 FY 2024/25, a total of 176 km out of an annual target of 450 km of CFR boundaries were successfully maintained. This represents less than half of the annual target, indicating significant work remains in the second half of the fiscal year. However, there were no new ecotourism concessions issued to private investors, highlighting a lack of progress in this area. On a positive note, 43 boundary engagements were conducted, far exceeding the annual



target of 10. This strong performance in engagements suggests active community involvement and potentially improved boundary awareness.

Additionally, ArcInfo GIS Maintenance License was acquired for use by staff to ease compatibility and troubleshooting, among others. This acquisition is a positive step for technical capacity. By the end of Q2, five monitoring exercises were performed and one land cover ground-truthing exercise had been conducted, contributing to ongoing data collection and assessment.

x. 55 Forest Management Plans prepared and revised

Additionally, five Forest Management Plans (FMPs) for Budongo, Bugoma, Maramagambo, Rukungiri-Kanungu, and Kagadi CFRs were finalised and presented to the Senior Management Team (SMT), in a bid to develop sustainable forest management strategies. The finalisation and presentation of these five FMPs represent a significant step forward in establishing clear frameworks for managing these important areas. Furthermore, the forest management planning data was collected for eight CFRs in Rukungiri, Kanungu, and 16 CFRs in Kagadi through stakeholder consultations, inventories, and updates of the Land Use Land Cover (LULC).

The extensive data collection effort is crucial for informing the development of robust and effective management plans. The Technical Planning Team (TPT) conducted data collection and consolidation, and initiated the drafting of the forest management plans, indicating that the planning process for these additional CFRs is well underway.

xi. 1.265 mha of CFRs protected and freed from illegal activities/encroachment

The annual plan aimed to protect 1.265 million hectares of CFRs from illegal activities and encroachment, with the deployment of 480 patrol teams supported by a fleet of 269 vehicles and motorcycles, and the cancellation of 40 illegal land titles. By the end of Q2, significant progress had been made, with 1,194,096 ha of CFRs successfully protected across nine ranges: Acwa, Karamoja, Kyoga, Lakeshore, Sango Bay, South-West, Muzizi River, Budongo systems, and West Nile, as well as in Plantation Management Areas (PMAs) such as Lendu, Mafuga, Mwenge, Opit-Abera, Katuugo, Mbarara, and South Busoga. This achievement demonstrates substantial progress towards the annual protection target, covering a vast area of valuable forest land. Notably, six illegal land titles were cancelled during this period, indicating some action taken against illegal land claims, though more cancellations are needed to reach the annual target.

For instance, a total of 14,503 ha in the Rwemitongore, Rwoho, and Bugamba CFRs were actively protected and freed from illegal encroachment. This specific example illustrates the direct impact of the protection efforts on the ground. Additionally, 200,000 seedlings were raised for planting by the National Forestry Authority (NFA) in the Mbarara plantation. This seedling production is a positive contribution to future reforestation and plantation expansion. In the Katuugo plantation, located in Nakasongola District, 10,298 ha were safeguarded against illegal activities through vigilant patrol efforts, demonstrating the commitment to preserving forest

resources and enhancing biodiversity conservation. The successful safeguarding of this area further highlights the effectiveness of patrol efforts in preventing illegal activities.



A section of the Katuugo plantation in Nakasongora District protected from illegal activities.



A section of the Bugamba CFR in Mbarara District maintained by pruning and thinning.

xii. 365,000 ha of non-degraded and restored natural forests

The planned activities for the fiscal year included the maintenance of 100 km of fire lines – 70 km in the West Nile Range and 30 km in the Budongo system – as well as conducting fire awareness campaigns across nine ranges. Additionally, the assessment of 50 Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs), the establishment of 500 inventory and biomass plots, and the evaluation of 2,000 ha were intended, alongside the collection of National Biomass data. These planned activities represent a comprehensive approach to forest management, encompassing fire prevention, monitoring, and data collection for informed decision-making.

However, by the end of Q2 FY 2024/25, a total of 26,017 kg of seed were collected while only 3,615,583 seedlings were supplied. The seed collection figure is not directly linked to a stated target, making it difficult to assess performance in that regard. The seedling supply figure is presented without a corresponding target, making it challenging to evaluate the progress of seedling distribution. Only 75 km of fire lines were maintained, indicating partial completion of the fire line maintenance target. The remaining planned activities were not executed, signifying significant shortfalls in the implementation of crucial monitoring and data collection initiatives. This lack of progress in key areas like PSP assessment, inventory/biomass plot establishment, and data collection suggests potential challenges in resources, capacity, or prioritisation, which could impact future forest management effectiveness.

xiii. Percentage increase in forest cover

By the end of Q2 FY 2024/25, the progress on planned activities was as follows: The target was to establish 450 hectares of commercial tree plantations; however, by December 2024, a total of 720 hectares had been established, reflecting an exceptional achievement. This represents a significant overachievement of the plantation establishment target, demonstrating strong performance in this area. Conversely, no maturing tree plantations had been inventoried, despite the annual target of 5,000 hectares set for the end of the period. This indicates a complete lack of progress in a crucial monitoring activity and represents a significant shortfall against the

inventory target. The failure to inventory maturing plantations could hinder effective management and harvesting planning.



Raised seedlings and sapling in the Budongo plantation, Mayuge District.

xiv. Dedicated fuelwood plantations established

The intervention aims at specific areas of land designated and cultivated exclusively for growing trees intended to be harvested for fuelwood purposes. These plantations supply wood for cooking, heating, or other energy needs, helping to reduce pressure on natural forests. This sets the context for the intervention's focus on fuelwood production and its role in sustainable resource management.

The planned annual activities included weeding 1,500 hectares of plantations, pruning 1,000 hectares of tree plantations, and protecting 13,000 hectares of NFA tree plantations from fires. Despite the activities being carried out, they do not contribute to the progress or outcomes of the fuelwood intervention because the target trees were not the ones receiving the maintenance and protection.

xv. Integrated Forest Information Management System developed; forest databases updated

The intervention ensures up-to-date and accurate forest data for effective management. This sets the overall goal of the intervention: improving forest management through data and monitoring. The plan to update the forest database by the end of Q2 was 20% achieved. This indicates limited progress in a key area for data management. In monitoring forest conditions and activities, five exercises were conducted, surpassing the annual target of four and reflecting strong commitment to continuous oversight. These highlights successful performance in a crucial monitoring activity, exceeding expectations.

The progress in environmental oversight was limited, with only one environmental audit completed out of the targeted four, indicating partial achievement in this area. This shows underperformance in a vital aspect of environmental responsibility and compliance. Additionally, the planned assessment of 10,000 hectares of commercial tree plantations was not realised, as no assessments of commercial plantations were conducted during the fiscal year. This indicates complete failure to achieve a specific, quantifiable target related to commercial forestry oversight. Overall, there is a mixed picture of the intervention's progress, with strong performance in general monitoring offset by significant shortfalls in database updates, environmental audits, and commercial plantation assessments.

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; improved compliance to agroforestry practices; quarterly sessions on public awareness, staff counselling, and the scheduled disciplinary measures. These were achieved as planned. Much as these might be beneficial for the overall organisation or staff well-being, their inclusion under this specific intervention does not directly contribute to the stated outputs. There is lack of alignment between the planned activities and the core objectives of the intervention.

Protection and restoration of strategic fragile ecosystems undertaken

The plan and progress of works were as follows: 2,000,000 seedlings of assorted tree species were procured and distributed to farmers in project target districts, refugee-hosting communities in the Albertine and West Nile Regions, as well as to individuals. However, this target was not achieved because no seedlings were produced in the first half of the financial year, primarily due to the lack of budget provision allocated to this activity.

The Katanyebwa wetland Kapeeka-Nakaseke District wetland wise-use model received technical support and supervision; however, the establishment of wetlands in Sezibwa and Lwajjali was not completed as initially planned. Technical support was provided for the restoration of wetlands in Lubigi, Luzira, Nansana, Ganda, and Nabweru, contributing to ongoing wetland restoration interventions. A wetland plant guide was produced as scheduled, supporting awareness and restoration efforts. Refugee settlements in the Albertine and West Nile Regions were supplied with wood fuel for household consumption, aiming to reduce pressure on natural forests.

By the end of December 2024, significant progress was made in climate change and disaster risk reduction sectors. The integration of national climate change mainstreaming guidelines with disaster risk reduction strategies was successfully undertaken. Additionally, training sessions on the basic concepts of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for sustainable ecosystem services, ecosystem restoration, and their application in climate change and disaster risk reduction contexts were conducted, enhancing stakeholder capacity.

The development and finalisation of the National Climate Change (Climate Change Mechanisms) Regulations were completed and submitted to the Ministry of Justice and



Constitutional Affairs (MoJCA) for approval, marking a key policy milestone. The inauguration of the National Climate Change Advisory Committee further strengthened national coordination efforts towards climate resilience.

Procurement processes for engaging a consultant to establish green schools were completed, leading to the development of a draft integrated greening strategy for schools. Twenty seed schools were selected for demonstration projects, with submissions made to MoFPED for approval. Conversely, the update of the National Forestry Plan and the amendment of the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act of 2003 were not initiated, and the standardisation of tree nursery operations and forest management plans did not receive approval, indicating gaps in policy and operational frameworks.

In efforts to bolster reforestation, 30,000 trees were planted in Gulu and Lira Cities during a campaign targeting a total of 40 million seedlings, resulting in the restoration of approximately 1,200 hectares of land. Mapping activities contributed to the restoration of 1.5 hectares. The Ramsar Centre for Eastern Africa did not receive support during this period, which may impact broader wetland conservation initiatives.

Procurement of a technical service provider to supply agricultural inputs (seeds and fertilisers) and conduct training in effective agroforestry practices in the targeted districts of the Albertine and West Nile regions was not completed. Additionally, the supply of wood fuel for household consumption in refugee settlements in these regions did not occur, although payments for wood fuel were processed, indicating logistical or operational challenges.

In terms of public awareness and community engagement, eight preparatory meetings for World Wetlands Day (WWD) were held, complemented by eight radio talk shows on local stations and one TV broadcast on Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC), all aimed at mobilising public support for wetland conservation and sustainability. Wetland inspections led to apprehensions and summonses of individuals involved in degradation activities, such as at the Lubigi wetlands in Kampala. Inspections also uncovered backfilling activities at multiple degraded sites, including near a starch factory in Adyel Division, Lira City. Furthermore, assorted oils, lubricants, and vehicle tires were procured to support enforcement activities by the Environmental Police and Patrol Unit (EPPU).

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. Notable examples include the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, both of which fall under the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). These instruments are critical for guiding international environmental action and ensuring coordinated responses to global environmental challenges.

Despite the strategic importance of this output, no activities were undertaken by the end of the first half of the financial year. This lack of implementation represents a missed opportunity for Uganda to enhance its international environmental engagement, influence global environmental governance, and fulfil its obligations under the MEAs and their associated protocols.



3.3.3 Mainstream climate change resilience in programmes and budgets with clear budgets lines and performance indicators

The intervention yielded several significant outputs aimed at enhancing climate resilience and environmental management in the country. Key achievements included the revision of national monitoring frameworks and Local Government (LG) performance assessments to incorporate climate change indicators, thereby better aligning them with contemporary environmental challenges. Local capacity-building initiatives specifically focused on climate change response were implemented, resulting in strengthened institutional capacities among relevant agencies to effectively manage and regulate environmental aspects, including oil and gas activities. Despite these achievements, the overall performance of the intervention was sub-optimal, achieving only 32% of the intended outcomes.

By the end of the second quarter, technical support had been provided to the Locally Led Initiative for Effective Adoption Resilience (LIFE-AR) districts of Pader, Kibaale, Kalungu, and Kaabong, along with the Local Climate Adaptive Living (LoCAL) pilot districts of Nebbi, Nwoya, Kasese, and Zombo. This support facilitated the development of climate risk and vulnerability assessments. Furthermore, a climate analysis for Kibaale, Kalungu, Kasese, and Nebbi was completed, and community-level data for climate risk and mitigation assessment was collected in Kibale. A roadmap for district climate change action plans was also established for Kasese, Ntoroko, Kibaale, Amudat, Katakwi, and Bududa.

Other notable output achievements involved the operationalisation of a robust environmental assessment, monitoring, and surveillance plan across cities and municipalities nationwide. The NEMA compliance enforcement activities resulted in 109 environment monitoring inspections out of the annual target of 240 in regional offices. Additionally, from the planned 1,000 environment monitoring inspections, 291 were successfully completed, along with 163 baseline verification inspections for project sites.

In total, 621 ESIAAs were finalised during joint review meetings and retreats, out of an annual target of 1,500. Other significant actions included 32 compliance assistance support visits, 163 environmental audit verification inspections, 60 environment enforcement operations, and the review of 130 environmental audit reports, alongside 96 ESIA baseline verification inspections conducted in regional offices.

In collaboration with Operation Wealth Creation (OWC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), NEMA facilitated a high-level policy engagement on environmental management and sustainability in the Bukedi sub-region. This initiative was aimed at creating awareness of the President's directive on the sustainable use and management of wetlands and exploring alternative livelihood opportunities for communities residing around these wetlands.

Despite these achievements, several targets were not met. These included the procurement of five modules of the Environmental and Land Information Management System (ELIMS) to support ESIAAs and other studies, the acquisition of 106 ICT equipment items, the procurement of five motor vehicles and five motorcycles to enhance operational efficiency, and the purchase of 100 sets of furniture. Additionally, a key study for the NEMA Infrastructure Development Project (NEMA-IDP) was not undertaken.

Other activities not carried out were: community sensitisation initiatives focused on climate change adaptation; capacity-building for the Climate Change Department (CCD) and emitting



sectors in the development and management of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventories; and the enhancement of teachers' knowledge regarding climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

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

The intervention aims at promoting sustainable natural resource management. The intervention's overall performance was poor. The only notable completed activities included implementing the NFA public relations plan and holding 21 media features related to the programme. Training for Wetlands Management Department (WMD) staff and district Local Governments on the National Wetlands Information System (NWIS) was underway in Mbale at the time of the monitoring visit; however, no additional activities had been executed according to the plan. The lack of progress in many planned activities underscored the need for renewed focus and support to enhance the effectiveness of the intervention in promoting sustainable natural resource management within the targeted areas.

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 poor, at 34%. The performance by output included the following activities:

Environmental inspectors and other Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) managers received training on environmental regulation and enforcement standards to oversee compliance with environmental laws. An enforcement strategy was developed and operationalised. Additionally, 65 water and food samples were collected from various points along the Nakivubo Channel upstream, midstream, and downstream for lead and chromium testing. Thirteen monitoring inspections of pharmaceutical companies using chemicals were also conducted.

A total of 70 environmental practitioners participated in training sessions, although the training has not yet been officially gazetted. NEMA engaged 100 participants in university-based ozone contests, including training technicians on emerging technologies to reduce ozone-depleting substances. This training also involved stakeholders from industries, Government Ministries, district Local Governments, civil society organisations (CSOs), and facilitators, focusing on the sound management of chemicals, radiation, and pollution.

The intervention targeted 250 compliance monitoring and enforcement operations to support climate resilience and adaptation. By mid-year, 129 operations had been conducted, including environmental compliance inspections at 33 facilities. Results showed a mixed compliance picture: seven facilities were fully compliant, 19 partially compliant and seven non-compliant. Non-compliance was mainly due to administrative lapses such as missed audits and delays in EIA renewals. Some facilities also exhibited frequent violations of water, air quality, and noise regulations, leading to localised nuisances and resource degradation, which hindered environmental management efforts in the affected areas. (Refer to Table 3.3.4: NEMA activities in Mbale and Lira Regions.)

Table 3.3.4: Half-year performance of NEMA in Mbale and Lira Regions in FY 2024/25

Activities Undertaken	Achieved	
	Mbale Office	Lira Regional Office
Environmental monitoring and compliance inspections	82	63
Baseline verification inspections	31	14
Stakeholder support/sensitisation programmes/meetings engaged in	5	20
ESIAs reviewed and finalised	21	24
PBs reviewed and finalised	4	-
No. of audits reviewed and finalised	27	20
ESIA ToRs reviewed and finalised	29	58
PBs reviewed and finalised		19
No. of suspects arrested	9	0
Environmental crimes investigated	17	-
No. of suspects arrested	0	5
ESIA certificate extension	6	17
Environmental crimes investigated	0	8
Enforcements and pollution control operations	12	2
Fines and fees collected	60 million	-

Source: Field Findings

25 Cities/municipalities with functional solid waste/e-waste) management facilities

The target for FY 2024/25 included conducting 800 environmental enforcement and surveillance operations in support of the Environment Protection Force (EPF), and the development and validation of four Geographic Information System (GIS) spatial databases to map and monitor the ecological status of land. However, implementation fell significantly short of these objectives. By the end of the second quarter, only 291 enforcement operations had been conducted, representing just 36.4% of the annual target. Additionally, none of the planned GIS spatial databases were developed or validated.

The underperformance in enforcement operations has critically constrained the EPF's ability to monitor, regulate, and enforce compliance with environmental standards, particularly in relation to solid and e-waste management in urban areas. This is concerning, as ineffective waste management remains a persistent and growing challenge across municipalities and cities.



Solid waste disposed in the drainage channel and street in Mbale City.



The failure to develop GIS spatial databases further undermines efforts towards data-informed environmental planning and decision-making. These databases are essential for mapping land degradation, identifying high-risk zones, and guiding resource allocation for waste management infrastructure. Their absence limits the capacity to implement targeted interventions, compromises long-term ecological monitoring, and weakens institutional responsiveness to urban environmental pressures.

A legal framework for environment management strengthened

In FY 2024/25, efforts to strengthen the legal framework for environmental management focused on the development and review of four key regulations and guidelines to facilitate the effective implementation of the National Environment Act (NEA), No. 5 of 2019. The plan also targeted the initiation of 40 investigation-led prosecutions to enhance enforcement of environmental laws.

By the end of the second quarter, one regulation – pertaining to express penalties, administrative fines, and coercive measures – had been developed and submitted to the Solicitor General for legal clearance. In parallel, 25 investigation-led prosecutions were initiated, representing 62.5% progress towards the annual target. This indicates moderate implementation progress, with further efforts required to meet the planned outputs by the end of the fiscal year.

A robust environmental assessment, monitoring and surveillance plan operational in cities/municipalities and country

During the first half of FY 2024/25, NEMA made moderate progress in implementing its planned activities under the environmental assessment, monitoring, and surveillance framework. The Authority planned to represent itself in civil and criminal matters, carry out 50 prosecutions, undertake 100 intelligence-led operations, and conduct 300 audit verification inspections across its regional offices. By the end of the second quarter, NEMA had participated in 23 criminal court sessions, of which four cases were successfully concluded, while 19 remained pending. These sessions resulted in 23 prosecutions, with the same four concluded and 19 still ongoing. Additionally, 25 intelligence-led operations were executed, and only 22 audit verification inspections were conducted, indicating underperformance against the annual target for inspections.

No progress was registered in the area of stakeholder capacity-building on environmental laws and standards, as no related activities were undertaken during the reporting period. This represents a critical gap in efforts to strengthen institutional and community-level compliance.

On a more positive note, the preparation of the National State of Environment Report progressed, with the draft under review by the end of the second quarter. In support of environmental regulation, 291 ESIAs were finalised, comprising 151 full assessments and 140 ToRs, against an annual target of 1,000. Furthermore, NEMA conducted 1,056 environmental compliance audit reviews out of a planned 2,000, representing over 50% achievement by mid-year.

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: the integration of Education for Sustainable Development into educational curricula; the development and translation of environmental Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials into local languages; and the enhancement of public education programmes and campaigns on the environment. The performance of the intervention was fair, at 52.6%, and the status of the planned outputs was as follows:

Education for Sustainable Development integrated in education curricula

While NEMA had planned to conduct two school programmes focused on environmental education and awareness, these initiatives had not yet been implemented by the end of the second quarter.

Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on environment developed and translated into local languages

During FY 2024/25, NEMA planned to enhance environmental awareness and institutional visibility through the procurement of ten assorted ICT supplies – namely toner, server racks, network cables, trunking accessories, and Wi-Fi access points – supporting ICT functionality in four regional offices. In addition, the Authority aimed to implement a nationwide visibility campaign, leveraging press conferences, media tours, radio and TV talk shows, social media content, and updates to its digital noticeboard.

By the end of Q2, notable progress had been achieved. All planned ICT supplies were procured, and technical support for ICT operations in the four targeted regional offices was successfully delivered, ensuring seamless connectivity and operational continuity.

NEMA also implemented a wide-reaching public engagement strategy, conducting environmental awareness campaigns through radio and television talk shows across multiple regions. These engagements focused on disseminating information on key environmental issues and promoting citizen participation in sustainable practices.

In support of commemorative activities such as World Wetlands Day, three categories of IEC materials were produced and disseminated, including branded calendars, T-shirts, and the updated NEMA Resource Book, which serves as a reference tool for environmental education and stakeholder outreach.

Furthermore, institutional efforts in data management advanced significantly. NEMA undertook the compilation and cleaning of statistical data for FY 2023/24, building on a review of historical institutional statistics. Reports sourced from the article repository, library, and the ESIA Centre were archived systematically. This initiative contributed to the improvement of internal knowledge management systems, thereby enhancing data accessibility, integrity, and readiness for statistical reporting and policy use.



Public education programmes and campaigns on environment enhanced

By the end of December 2024, significant progress was recorded in strengthening the operational infrastructure to support public education and environmental awareness efforts by NEMA. The configuration and networking of NEMA's central office were underway, aimed at ensuring that the ICT infrastructure is aligned with modern operational requirements and service delivery standards.

In line with sustainability and efficiency objectives, preventive maintenance of ICT equipment was carried out to maintain optimal performance and extend hardware longevity. This proactive approach is essential for reducing system downtime and improving the reliability of information systems that support environmental education and public awareness initiatives.

Moreover, the procurement process for three critical software licenses was ongoing. These include the acquisition of ArcGIS Professional Plus and an upgrade from ArcGIS Enterprise Standard to ArcGIS Enterprise Advanced. These upgrades are expected to significantly enhance NEMA's geospatial analysis and mapping capabilities – an important tool for environmental monitoring, planning, and stakeholder engagement.

While the physical campaigns and educational outreach components of this intervention were not explicitly highlighted in the reporting period, the backend investments in ICT and geospatial systems indicate a strategic approach to digital transformation and data-driven environmental communication. Once fully implemented, the improved infrastructure and advanced GIS capabilities are expected to boost NEMA's capacity for real-time environmental data visualisation, dissemination of educational materials, and stakeholder engagement through digital platforms. However, to fully realise the intended outcomes of enhanced public education, there will be a need to complement these system improvements with robust content development, community outreach programs, and capacity-building initiatives for effective utilisation of the upgraded tools.

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 targeted the conduct of impactful research and the promotion of environmental innovations. By the end of the second quarter of FY 2024/25, NEMA had implemented two major research studies: the first focused on assessing heavy metal contamination in vegetables cultivated in wetlands within the Mpanga catchment; and the second examined solid waste management practices in the municipalities of Jinja, Mbale, Gulu, Hoima, and Mbarara. These studies are expected to generate critical evidence to inform environmental policy formulation and promote sustainable practices in the targeted regions. However, overall performance for this intervention stood at 43.1%, reflecting poor progress against planned targets.



Complementary to these research activities, NEMA developed a Draft Resource Mobilisation Strategy aimed at broadening funding avenues for priority environmental projects. Progress was also made in the formulation of Environmental Protection Regulations (EPRs), which are crucial for operationalising enforcement mechanisms and guiding compliance with national environmental standards.

Additionally, two bankable project proposals were prepared to attract investment in environmental management interventions. In support of evidence-based advocacy, NEMA also developed two policy briefs: one analysed pesticide concentration levels in vegetables sold in Kampala markets; and the other addressed plastic waste management challenges in Jinja, Mbale, and Soroti. These briefs are intended to raise stakeholder awareness and support policy action on critical environmental threats.

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 overall performance of this intervention was rated at 54.8%, reflecting modest progress despite several implementation constraints.

A key output under this intervention was the large-scale supply of tree seedlings to promote forest regeneration and biodiversity conservation. A total of 200 million seedlings were distributed, comprising 5 million bamboo, 50 million indigenous species, and 145 million exotic varieties. This extensive distribution supports reforestation and afforestation objectives and aligns with broader climate resilience and land restoration goals under Uganda's forestry sector strategy.

Additionally, the planned cultivation of 5,000 hectares of maturing tree plantations was initiated to enhance the sustainable management of forest resources. These outputs are consistent with the intervention's intention to generate environmental benefits without depleting the natural resource base – thus aligning with the core objective of promoting non-consumptive resource use.

A notable achievement was recorded in Isingiro District under a UNHCR-funded initiative, where 516,910 assorted seedlings were produced and distributed, including to refugee settlements in Nakivale and Oruchinga. This intervention not only contributed to environmental restoration but also enhanced community resilience and sustainable livelihoods among vulnerable populations.

However, the Namanve National Tree Seed Centre, a critical institution for sustainable forest resource development, faced significant operational and financial constraints. By December 2024, the centre had received only 22% of its approved annual budget, most of which was spent on clearing arrears rather than productive activities. Consequently, seedling production was severely affected, with only 1 million seedlings raised out of the planned 4.137 million.



Despite this setback, the centre managed to produce 26,101 kg of tree seed, achieving 92% of its annual target (28,447 kg). This was partly made possible by USh 40 million in off-budget support from UNHCR. However, structural issues such as the absence of a dedicated Government budget line, delayed disbursements, and poor institutional support continue to undermine the centre's effectiveness. Additional concerns included delayed staff salaries, loss of 5 hectares of land to a private investor, and the ongoing relocation of the Banda Seed Centre. Gaps in staffing, particularly in terms of age and gender balance, were also observed and remain unaddressed.

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) committed to (i) maintaining 30 km of ecotourism trails; (ii) conducting compliance assessments at six ecotourism sites; and (iii) issuing four new tourism concessions to private investors targeting Budongo, Bugoma, Rutoboka, and Kalinzu CFRs. By the end of the second quarter, the intervention recorded a strong performance score of 93.4%, indicating substantial progress towards its planned outputs.

Notably, NFA exceeded its trail maintenance target by over 100%, maintaining a total of 62 km of ecotourism trails. Of particular significance was the maintenance of 50 km of trails in the Budongo System Range CFR at Kaniyo Pabidi, an area with high biodiversity and tourism potential. These achievements have directly contributed to improving accessibility and the visitor experience, which are key enablers for ecotourism growth.

However, the implementation fell short in delivering on the target of issuing new concessions. Despite the identification of suitable CFRs for private investment partnerships, no new concessions had been granted by the mid-year point. This shortfall limits the private sector's role in expanding ecotourism offerings and constrains the anticipated economic spillovers to local communities.

Further supporting conservation efforts, the Integrated Forest Protection and Afforestation Community Development (IFPA-CD) Project facilitated the production of 40,000 seedlings for enrichment planting in the Bugongo CFR. Yet, limited funding for both commercial and community seedling development posed a challenge, threatening the continuity of forest regeneration efforts. Meanwhile, procurement processes were underway for establishing a 70-hectare plantation in the Nyakunyu CFR, expected to reinforce biodiversity and support sustainable land use practices in the long term.



L: Enrichment planting in the Budongo Systems Range in Kasokwa CFR; R: A maintained tourist trail in Budongo CFR.

While the physical performance is commendable, full realisation of the CBET objective – improving livelihoods through tourism while conserving biodiversity – requires deliberate acceleration of concession processes, resolution of funding shortfalls, and broader community involvement. Strengthening partnerships with local enterprises and addressing financing gaps in

nursery operations will be critical to ensuring sustainability and maximising community benefits from ecotourism.

3.3.10 Enhance access and uptake of meteorological information

All planned activities under the intervention were not implemented, as the necessary development funds had not been released to Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) in either quarter following the merger with MWE, under the Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure (RAPEX) exercise.

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

The planned outputs included the expansion of the weather and air pollution monitoring station network, as well as the installation and maintenance of functional automatic weather stations. However, these activities were not implemented due to the non-release of funds in both quarters of the reporting period.

3.3.12 Strengthen the policy, legal and institutional framework for effective 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 48% performance rate by the end of the second quarter. Progress was registered across several areas, although implementation remained below target in critical components.



Two of the four planned refugee activity monitoring visits were conducted in Kasese, Ntontoro, and Bundibugyo. Additionally, two preparatory meetings were held for the upcoming Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (DRDIP) Phase II, including household mapping in the Elgon region. A total of 18 assessments – comprising 13 preparedness and 5 needs assessments – were carried out across various Local Governments out of a national target of 116. These assessments contributed valuable data on community vulnerabilities and informed early warning and response strategies.

Community-level engagement included five hazard awareness campaigns conducted in Wakiso, Bududa, Kasese, and Ntoroko. Activities to mark the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDRRD) involved school-based programmes in Mbale and Bulambuli, as well as a national consultative meeting to update the National Risk Atlas. Preparations for both the IDRRD commemorations and the 2023/24 National Disaster Report were initiated in 53 districts.

In terms of emergency response, OPM coordinated camp management operations for survivors of the Kiteezi landfill collapse and Bulambuli landslide. This included search and rescue efforts, distribution of relief food, and provision of specialised training in digital reporting, early warning, and risk insurance. First responder training was also undertaken in the Elgon sub-region. OPM successfully produced its six-monthly disaster monitoring reports and seasonal forecasts, which serve as key tools for preparedness planning. Furthermore, 20 out of the targeted 30 District Disaster Management Committees (DDMCs) received training aimed at strengthening local disaster coordination capacity.

Policy development was also prioritised. A national consultative workshop with the National Planning Authority (NPA) and other stakeholders was convened to draft disaster risk management (DRM) guidelines and institutional mainstreaming checklists. Consultations on the National Disaster Preparedness and Management Bill progressed, and its principles were submitted to Cabinet for review.

Resettlement initiatives advanced during the reporting period, with 227 households relocated to Bunambutye, and ongoing activities in Kayunga and Kasese Districts. In support of these efforts, the Bulambuli District Local Government constructed a 7 km access road and demarcated land for landslide-affected communities. Additionally, a perimeter security wall was completed at the Namanve relief storage facility to safeguard relief supplies.

Strategically, the project concept for the Uganda Integrated Early Warning and Disaster Risk Management System remains under review. Overall, approximately 19,352 households – benefitting an estimated 96,762 individuals – received direct support across 25 districts. Funds were also transferred to the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) to facilitate timely humanitarian response to disaster victims.

Despite these achievements, performance gaps persist, particularly in the full implementation of planned assessments, DDMC trainings, and legislative finalisation. Going forward, attention should be directed towards fast-tracking policy approvals, completing outstanding interventions, and operationalising the early warning system to strengthen national disaster resilience.

3.3.13 Institutionalise disaster risk planning in programmes

The intervention had planned for the implementation of a comprehensive National Disaster Risk Management Plan; however, this activity was not undertaken during the reporting period.

Sub-programme Challenges

- i. **Unclear or unmarked boundaries of forest reserves:** A major challenge is the lack of clearly marked boundaries in areas such as the Masege Central Forest Reserve (CFR). This has facilitated encroachment by surrounding communities and complicated efforts to legally cancel fraudulent land titles. The absence of physical boundary markers also undermines effective monitoring and protection of forested areas.
- ii. **Political interference in enforcement:** Negative political influence continues to hinder the eviction of illegal settlers from protected areas. Politicians often interfere with enforcement operations, undermining the authority of environmental agencies and the rule of law. This results in prolonged illegal occupation and degradation of environmentally sensitive areas.
- iii. **Persistent encroachment and re-encroachment:** Encroachment into forest and wetland reserves remains a persistent threat, largely driven by rapid population growth, climate-induced land degradation, and competition for natural resources. Re-encroachment frequently occurs after evictions due to limited enforcement presence, as the Environment Police Force (EPF) lacks sufficient logistical capacity to maintain consistent patrols.
- iv. **Inadequate funding for priority activities:** The sub-programme faces chronic underfunding, which limits the implementation of essential activities such as boundary surveying, inventorying maturing tree plantations, seedling production, and upgrading digital infrastructure in field offices. This financial shortfall leads to delayed interventions and reduced operational effectiveness.
- v. **Infrastructural deficiencies in field offices:** Many forest stations and field offices operate from dilapidated structures, which severely compromises staff productivity, welfare, and service delivery. The poor state of infrastructure hinders efforts to maintain a functional presence in the field and to respond effectively to emerging threats to forest integrity.
- vi. **Legal and institutional challenges:** The existence of illegal land titles, disputed land claims, and frequent court injunctions continues to impede conservation and land recovery efforts. Legal processes are often slow and susceptible to manipulation, allowing encroachers to maintain their hold on protected areas while cases drag on in court, further worsening environmental degradation.
- vii. **Neglected waste management responsibilities:** Although waste management is a decentralised mandate, there is no dedicated budget to support its execution at the local level. While Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) manages high-value waste revenue streams, the remaining waste – often indiscriminately dumped in rivers and drainage channels – remains unregulated, posing severe environmental and public health risks.
- viii. **Rising impact of climate-induced disasters:** Uganda is increasingly experiencing climate-related disasters, such as erratic rainfall, severe floods, prolonged droughts, and temperature shifts that contribute to epidemics. These events now affect over 200,000 Ugandans annually, leading to displacement, food insecurity, and economic losses. The sub-programme's limited capacity to implement climate adaptation and mitigation measures heightens vulnerability to these hazards.



Conclusion

The Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Sub-Programme registered poor overall performance, at 50.2%, during the first half of FY 2024/25, reflecting substantial underachievement of key outputs despite partial successes in specific areas. While progress was evident in the establishment of commercial tree plantations (720 ha), CFR boundary maintenance (176 km), seedling distribution (8.99 million), and the demarcation of 56.1 km of wetlands, these achievements were outweighed by widespread implementation gaps, resource misallocations, and low absorption of released funds (44%).

Crucial interventions such as climate change mainstreaming, value addition to natural resources, applied research, urban waste management, and sustainable education, lagged significantly, with most achieving less than 50% of their planned outputs. The Applied Meteorology and Climate Services Department under UNMA performed particularly poorly due to non-release of funds under the RAPEX framework, indicating a structural disruption from institutional mergers.

Key systemic challenges undermining performance included: i) inadequate and delayed funding; ii) persistent encroachment exacerbated by unclear CFR boundaries and weak enforcement; iii) political interference in eviction processes; iv) legal impediments tied to fraudulent land titles and prolonged litigation; v) dilapidated infrastructure at field offices; and vi) limited disaster risk preparedness despite increasing climate-related disasters.

Sub-programme Recommendations

- i. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), through the National Forestry Authority (NFA), should prioritise the demarcation and physical marking of all Central Forest Reserves (CFRs) using durable and geo-referenced boundary pillars. A dedicated budget line should be established in the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) for systematic boundary surveys, coupled with community sensitisation to prevent encroachment.
- ii. The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), in collaboration with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Uganda Police Force, should develop a cross-sectoral enforcement framework that includes independent oversight of eviction operations. Parliament should consider enacting legislation that criminalises political obstruction of lawful environmental enforcement activities to uphold the rule of law.
- iii. MWE should operationalise a community-based forest monitoring model, empowering trained local forest stewards to complement the Environment Police Force. This should be supported with an increased budget allocation for patrol logistics (motorcycles, fuel, allowances), and integration with satellite-based deforestation monitoring tools for early detection.
- iv. MoFPED should ring-fence funds for critical ENR sub-programme priorities in the annual budget call circulars. Additionally, MWE should diversify its financing sources by engaging development partners through bankable proposals aligned with Uganda's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.



- v. MWE, through the Retooling Project, should fast-track the renovation and construction of priority forest station infrastructure. This should include the provision of prefabricated modular field offices in hard-to-reach areas, and equipping them with ICT systems for improved reporting and operational coordination.
- vi. The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD), in partnership with the Uganda Land Commission (ULC) and NFA, should establish a fast-track legal unit dedicated to handling environmental and land disputes. This should include creating a digital inventory of all CFR titles and initiating mass cancellation of illegal land titles through the Land Information System (LIS).
- vii. The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), in collaboration with Local Governments and the Ministry of Local Government, should operationalise a waste management fund through the equalisation grant mechanism. NEMA should also enforce compliance among municipalities by issuing performance-based waste permits and revoking them for non-compliance. URA should be mandated to remit a portion of waste-related revenue to LGs.
- viii. The Ministry of Disaster Preparedness under the OPM, together with MWE, should institutionalise climate risk screening for all infrastructure and land-use projects. Furthermore, MWE should expedite the rollout of the National Climate Change Fund and finalise the Climate Change Adaptation Plan, prioritising districts with high vulnerability indices. Early warning systems and climate-smart agriculture projects should be scaled up in at-risk communities.

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 prioritises the modernisation and digitisation of land services, expansion of land registration coverage, and operationalisation of land institutions at national and subnational 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. 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 prioritise 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, of which performance reviews were conducted for five, while two recorded no implementation progress during the reporting period. 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) enhancing tenure security, including access to land for women.

Additional interventions – namely 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 – are also integral to the sub-programme's objectives. 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 US\$ 172.75 billion, of which US\$ 90.56 billion (52%) was released and US\$ 41.35 billion (45% of the release) spent. The release performance was very good, whereas the absorption rate was poor.

Physical performance

The performance of the Land Management Sub-programme was rated as fair, at 52.2%. In the first half of the fiscal year, a total of 24,566 land titles were issued; however, 252 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.

However, notable gaps include the capitalisation of the Land Fund, the protection of wetlands and other ecologically sensitive areas, the completion of the formulation process and review of land laws, policies, regulations, standards, and guidelines, as well as the demarcation and gazetting of conserved and degraded wetlands. A summary of the performance of the Land Management interventions is provided in the table below.

Table 3.5: Overview of the intervention's performance by 31st December 2024

No	Intervention	Performance Rating	Remarks
1	Fast-track the formulation, review, harmonisation, and implementation of land laws, policies regulations, standards and guidelines	On track	100% achieved with 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.
2	Strengthen the capacity of land management institutions in executing their mandate geared towards securing land rights	On track	44% achieved, with 24 District Land Board appointments reviewed and approved, 7 public sensitisation drives on land matters undertaken in 5 sub-regions, trainings.
3	Promote land consolidation, titling and banking	On track	100% achieved, with 24,566 titles processed for men and women, US\$ 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.
4	Complete the rollout and integration of the Land Management Information System with other systems	On track	94.3% achieved, with 2 motor vehicles for NLIC serviced and maintained; 46,113 titles issued to men and women, 28 continuously operating reference stations (CORS) established, 391,490 parcels for men and women adjudicated and demarcated, 315 Communal Land Associations (CLAs) formed and registered; 13 km of national (inter-district) boundaries affirmed, two large maps revised, 27 topographic maps for 3 districts revised, 4 parish boundary maps developed.
5	Promote tenure security, including women's access to land	On track	31.3% achieved, with 2.371 bn NTR generated.
6	Develop and implement a Land Valuation Management Information System (LAVMIS)	On track	84.1% achieved as 32,324 property valuations were carried out and supervised.
7	Undertake a comprehensive inventory of Government land	On track	50% achieved as court cases managed, 13 inspection reports were produced, lease transactions processed.
8	Capitalise the Land Fund to ensure access to land by lawful and bona fide occupants	Off track	0% with no works done.
9	Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at catchment level	Off track	0% with no works done.

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 strong progress in strengthening Uganda's legal and policy framework for land management. Key achievements included the development of the draft Customary Land Tenure Guidelines, submission of the draft National Land Acquisition Policy, and completion of the Land Regulations review – though dissemination is still pending. Stakeholder consultations for the National Land Policy review exceeded targets, and the National Gender Strategy in Land Management was rolled out to 17 districts, enhancing gender-responsive governance. These district included Pader, Buhweju, Mbale, Tororo, Amolatar, Dokolo, Kalaki, Lira, Lamwo, Nwoya, Maracha, Oyam, Arua, Kitgum, Omoro, Moyo and Apac, and the performance of the interventions met and exceeded regional targets.

While overall performance was commendable, delayed dissemination of key regulations remains a critical follow-up area.

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 – 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 technical support to 48 DLOs, 48 DLBs, and 22 Ministry Zonal Offices (MZOs) across four regions; capacity-building for four traditional institutions – 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 Q2, the overall progress of the planned activities stood at 44%. Specifically, 24 DLB appointments were reviewed and approved, indicating a significant shortfall against the annual target. Seven public sensitisation sessions on land matters were held across five sub-regions – Buganda, Busoga, West Nile, Teso, and Ankole – with the active participation of women and other vulnerable groups. However, this remains below the planned 10 sessions.

Training was conducted for only two DLBs, two DLOs, and six ALCs in Buhweju and Bulambuli Districts – significantly lower than the annual targets of 40 DLBs, 40 DLOs, and 120 ALCs. Supervision and technical support were extended to 23 DLOs, 23 DLBs, and three MZOs in Lira, Mbarara, and Arua, indicating partial achievement of the set targets.



The capacity of the Busoga traditional institution – specifically the chiefs in Kamuli and Luuka – was strengthened in land administration and management. However, further engagement is still required with the remaining traditional institutions of Lango, Bunyoro, and Teso.

In terms of land records management, 179 new land files were opened against a target of 600, while no land files were reported closed by the end of the reporting period. The low achievement across most outputs highlights the need for improved coordination, resource mobilisation, and stakeholder engagement to meet the intervention’s objectives in the second half of the financial year.

3.4.3 Promote land consolidation, titling and banking

The intervention to improve land tenure security, facilitate access to credit, and promote optimal land utilisation for agricultural productivity and economic development recorded mixed results during the first half of FY 2024/25. While several key outputs were planned – including the generation of US\$ 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 Q2, revenue collection amounted to US\$ 39.28 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 only 24,566 titles issued – just 12.3% of the target. Similarly, no trustees were registered during the period, pointing to gaps in institutional landholding mechanisms. The procurement of title paper and covers reached 124,455 units, equivalent to 62.2% of the target.

In contrast, some outputs surpassed expectations. A total of 112,285 search letters were issued, exceeding the planned 10,000 by more than elevenfold. Likewise, 33 blue pages were converted against a target of 20, and 452 land titles issued in fragile ecosystems such as wetlands and forest reserves were cancelled – far exceeding the target of 80. These achievements reflect strong commitment to environmental compliance and public service access.

Despite these gains, institutional capacity-building lagged behind. The planned workshop on blue pages and the training of 48 staff were not conducted, indicating persistent challenges in staff development and knowledge transfer.

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



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 94.3%, reflecting notable progress in LIS maintenance and mapping, though key gaps remain. The details of the different outputs are given hereafter:

Land Information System automated and integrated with other systems

The intervention to automate the Land Information System (LIS) and integrate it with other Government systems was designed to enhance land administration, service efficiency, and data interoperability. Implementation progress has been mixed, with notable foundational achievements recorded, but key integration and capacity-building components remain outstanding.

Significant progress was made in operationalising the LIS infrastructure. The Data Processing Centre was fully established, and digital land services were maintained across all 22 Ministry Zonal Offices (MZOs). These efforts supported the core objective of ensuring continuity in digital land transactions and public service delivery. Under the Competitive Enterprise Development Project, the Land Valuation Management Information System (LAVMIS) was piloted in six out of the targeted 22 MZOs, laying the groundwork for digitising valuation services.

In terms of community land governance, the formation of 315 CLAs out of the targeted 400 reflects good progress and indicates improved outreach and stakeholder mobilisation. Likewise, mapping and surveying achievements were evident. Four of 10 parish boundary maps were completed. Thirteen kilometres of national boundaries were reaffirmed, and six combined land blocks in Wakiso District were successfully separated. City-scale maps for Gulu and Fort Portal were revised, while 27 topographic maps for Maracha, Koboko, and Moyo Districts were updated. Additionally, 47 map sheets were digitised in support of tourism planning in Murchison Falls National Park. The completion of 101 Parish Development Plans (PDPs) surpassed the annual target, aligning well with the Parish Development Model's emphasis on decentralised land use planning.

However, several critical components experienced delays or showed no progress. The integration of LIS with other Government systems such as NIRA, URA, and UBOS has not been achieved. This gap undermines the broader objective of building a harmonised national spatial data infrastructure. Furthermore, no training was conducted for LIS users or staff at the National Land Information Centre, limiting system uptake and long-term sustainability. Survey rectification activities were not initiated, and no progress was made on the planned revision of regional tourist maps or the digitisation of an additional 47 tourist map sheets. Maintenance of surveying infrastructure underperformed, with only 214 of 426 passive geodetic stations and six of 12 continuously operating reference stations (CORS) serviced. The planned construction of an additional floor at the National Land Information Centre did not commence despite the finalisation of designs and Bills of Quantities (BoQs), due to delays in implementation.



Overall, most reported activities align with the intervention's planned outputs, particularly in LIS operationalisation, mapping, and data digitisation. However, failure to implement system integration, capacity-building, and infrastructure upgrades poses serious risks to the sustainability and effectiveness of LIS. Without seamless integration across Government databases, the intended benefits of digital land management – such as efficient service delivery, reduced transaction costs, and data-driven planning – will not be fully realised. The lack of training further hinders system utilisation and public confidence in digital land services. Institutional readiness is also affected by the delay in expanding the NLIC facility, limiting the capacity to manage training, upgrades, and inter-agency coordination.

To address these constraints, it is essential to fast-track LIS integration with key Government systems, institutionalise training programmes for users and staff, and complete the expansion of the National Land Information Centre. Strengthening inter-agency coordination through a joint implementation plan and securing adequate funding for priority activities will be critical in realising the objectives of this intervention and advancing Uganda's land governance reform agenda under the NDP III.

However, several other mapping and survey-related targets saw no reported progress. This includes rectifying surveys (with a target of 50), revising regional tourist maps (target 2), and digitising/revising map sheets (target 47). Under the Competitiveness and Enterprise Development Project (CEDP) initiative, significant achievements were reported in enhancing the National Land Information System (NLIS) and establishing CORS, both of which were fully achieved. Furthermore, the target for finalising PDPs was exceeded, with 101 plans completed against a target of 100. Piloting of the LaVMIS was underway in six MZOs, although this is behind the target of 22.

The construction works for the additional floor at the National Land Information Centre (NLIC) were not commenced. In terms of infrastructure development, designs and BoQs were prepared for the construction of an additional floor at the NLIC. Notably, 101 PDPs were finalised, surpassing the annual target of 100, in the districts of Serere, Bukedea, and Soroti. LaVMIS was designed, developed, and successfully piloted in six MZOs. Out of a target of 400 CLAs, 315 were formed and registered.

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

Significant progress was made in the development of parish boundary maps for Tororo District, where four out of 10 maps were successfully created in the first half of the year. This represents a 40% completion rate for parish boundary maps in Tororo in the first half of the year. If this pace is maintained, they are on track to meet their target for the year.

Efforts to affirm national (inter-district) boundaries led to the confirmation of 13 km out of an annual target of 50 km, with 8 km in Nakasongola and 5 km in Kikuube. Through this, potential inter-district conflicts are resolved. This is a 26% achievement of their annual target for boundary affirmation so far. The breakdown by district provides specific locations of this progress.

In Busiro, Wakiso District, six combined blocks were separated from a total of 16. This refines land divisions or cadastral mapping in a specific area within Wakiso District. Separating



combined blocks eases property registration or land management improvements. This represents 37.5% of the combined blocks separated.

In terms of urban planning, two out of four large-scale town/city maps were revised for Gulu and Fort Portal. This is a 50% completion rate for the revision of large-scale urban maps, focusing on two key towns/cities. It is important for urban development, infrastructure planning, and service delivery.

In the realm of tourism, significant strides were made towards revising two regional tourist maps, where 47 map sheets at a scale of 1:50,000 were digitised and updated for Murchison Falls National Park. This highlights a focused effort on improving tourism-related mapping, specifically for a major national park. The digitisation of 47 map sheets at a detailed scale (1:50,000) is a substantial technical undertaking and is crucial for accurate visitor information and park management.

Overall, 65% of maps were digitised, and 70% of old literature was compiled in preparation for the revision of the atlas. These are preparatory steps for larger mapping projects. The upkeep of 214 out of 426 passive stations and six continuously operating reference stations (CORS) across the districts of Arua, Gulu, Lira, Soroti, Moroto, and Mbale for accurate surveying and mapping was carried out. Notably, 27 out of the 54 annual target topographic maps were revised for the three districts of Maracha, Koboko, and Moyo. This shows a 50% completion rate for the revision of topographic maps in these specific districts.

3.4.5 Promote tenure security including women's access to land

Under this intervention, notable progress was made in enhancing land tenure security and promoting inclusivity in access to land. A total of US\$ 2.371 billion was collected from leasehold holders nationwide, representing 33.9% of the annual revenue target of US\$ 7 billion. Furthermore, 292 lease transactions were processed against an annual target of 800, indicating 36.5% progress.

The processed transactions were disaggregated by gender and entity as follows: 143 (49%) were male applicants, 52 (18%) female, and 97 (33%) comprised PWDs and corporate entities. Of these, 83% were approved, 8% deferred for further review, and 9% were rejected due to non-compliance with established land administration requirements.

Additionally, one Land Inspection and Sensitisation Session Report was produced, contributing to the annual target of four such reports. This effort supported awareness creation on land rights, particularly for women and vulnerable groups, thereby advancing the intervention's equity objectives. However, performance gaps remain, particularly in revenue mobilisation and the pace of transaction processing, which require enhanced operational efficiency and targeted outreach.

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 Q2, the intervention had achieved notable progress. A total of 32,324 property valuations were completed, surpassing the annual target. The majority of these, totalling 32,028 cases, were stamp duty-related, supporting both regulatory functions and revenue mobilisation. Other valuation categories completed included market assessments, rental valuations, Custodian Board Surveys, and probate-related assessments. Monitoring of valuation activities was successfully carried out in all 22 MZOs, and the development of a comprehensive Land Valuation Databank was initiated.

Progress was also registered in reviewing and approving compensation rates, with two districts – Kanungu and Rukiga – successfully completing the process. The development of National Valuation Standards, Guidelines, and Manuals commenced; however, dissemination to DLGs had not been undertaken by mid-year. Supervision of land acquisitions for Government projects exceeded the target, with 107 exercises conducted, demonstrating strong implementation capacity.

Despite this good performance, several critical outputs had not been achieved. These included the nationwide compilation of land market values, the update of the compensation rate databank to ensure inclusivity and fairness – particularly for women, the elderly, and PWDs – and the full development and functionalisation of the LAVMIS platform. Dissemination of valuation standards to all DLGs also remained incomplete.

Overall, the intervention recorded a mid-year performance rate of 84.1%, reflecting good progress towards set targets. However, achieving full success will require intensified efforts in the remaining two quarters to complete the LAVMIS platform, update compensation databases, and finalise dissemination of key standards to ensure a standardised, transparent, and equitable land valuation framework across the country.

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.

However, the gazetting and printing of the ULC Bill 2017 for implementation was not undertaken. Instead, 12 certificates of title were processed for MDAs out of the planned 50; 12 land inspection and sensitisation session reports were produced; and 12 surveys were conducted for processing certificates of title for land under MDAs. This contributes to the formalisation of Government land ownership. Additionally, inspection session reports were prepared, and a total of 292 court 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.



Sub-programme Challenges

- i. **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.
- ii. **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.
- iii. **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.
- iv. **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.
- v. **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 due to weak enforcement and systemic irregularities.

Sub-Programme Conclusion

The sub-programme has made commendable strides in addressing land-related challenges within the framework of the NDP III, yet significant gaps remain. The overall performance of the programme has been fair, at approximately 59.5%, with notable achievements including the issuance of over 24,000 land titles, successful development and rollout of the Land Management Information System (LMIS) enhancements, and the formulation of key land policies and regulations. However, despite these successes, the programme faces critical challenges such as underfunding, understaffing, delays in land titling processes, and the lack of standardised guidelines for land compensation, all of which hinder the full realisation of its objectives and access to land, especially for vulnerable groups.

Moving forward, stakeholders, including Government, development partners, and communities, must work together to strengthen legal and institutional frameworks, promote tenure security, and ensure equitable access to land. These steps will not only support sustainable development and a more transparent land management system in Uganda, but also achieve the sub-programme objectives under the NDP III period.

Sub-programme Recommendations

- i. The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD), in consultation with Ministry of Public Service (MoPS) and 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.



ii. 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.

iii. 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.

iv. 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.

v. 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

The Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land, and Water Management (NRECCLWM) Programme recorded fair progress in the implementation of its NDP III commitments. Notable achievements were made in specific areas such as the issuance of land titles, the restoration of degraded ecosystems, and the strengthening of water quality monitoring systems. These milestones underscore the programme's critical role in promoting sustainable natural resource management, enhancing climate resilience, and supporting equitable land governance.

However, a comprehensive review of programme performance reveals that systemic and operational challenges significantly constrained the realisation of annual targets across its three constituent sub-programmes – Environment and Natural Resources, Water Resources Management, and Land Management. These constraints were predominantly associated with delayed fund disbursements, weak institutional coordination, inadequate enforcement capacity, and the limited alignment between strategic plans and operational budgets.

To address these challenges, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. MoFPED should address structural bottlenecks in fund flow mechanisms by fast-tracking the timely release and absorption of resources. This should be complemented by reforms in procurement planning to ensure readiness for execution, especially for capital-intensive and climate-sensitive investments.
2. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) should lead the establishment of a formal coordination framework involving all key agencies – including the National Forestry Authority (NFA), the Uganda Land Commission (ULC), and District Local Governments (DLGs). Such a structure would foster joint planning and implementation, minimise duplication of effort, and enable more efficient use of technical and financial resources.
3. The National Planning Authority (NPA), in collaboration with implementing institutions, should ensure that Programme Implementation Action Plan (PIAP) interventions are fully integrated into annual sectoral work plans and budgets. This alignment will facilitate the coherent implementation of NDP III priorities and improve tracking of performance at both national and local levels.
4. District Local Governments, supported by the Environmental Protection Force (EPF), should expedite the enactment and enforcement of environmental by-laws targeting plastic pollution, wetland encroachment, and forest degradation. Strengthening the regulatory role of Local Governments will empower communities to participate in conservation and improve compliance at the grassroots level.
5. MWE and NFA should accelerate the demarcation and gazetting of environmentally critical areas – such as wetlands, riverbanks, lake shores, and forest reserves – to prevent further encroachment and safeguard biodiversity. This action should be supported by updated geospatial data, legal instruments, and inter-agency enforcement mechanisms.
6. To strengthen citizen engagement in reforestation, MWE and NFA should reinstate and adequately fund the budget line for community-managed seedling production and free



seedling distribution. This approach not only enhances the ecological restoration of degraded landscapes but also promotes inclusive green livelihoods.

7. The Programme Working Group (PWG) should convene regular joint implementation reviews and learning sessions across Ministries, Agencies, and Local Governments. These platforms will enhance mutual accountability, facilitate adaptive management, and drive continuous improvement in programme delivery.

Conclusion

While commendable progress has been made, the Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land and Water Management (NRECCLWM) Programme stands at a pivotal point. Realising its full transformative potential under NDP III, and meeting the SDGs – particularly those focused on climate action, clean water, life on land, and sustainable communities – will depend on the Government's ability to enhance institutional coordination, enforce environmental safeguards, and improve the predictability and efficiency of public financing. Achieving a greener, more resilient, and inclusive development trajectory will require targeted reforms.



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ANNEXES

Annex 1: Monitored Interventions under the NRECCLWM Programme FY 2024/25

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.	Undertake applied research and innovation on sustainable consumption and production to ensure resource use efficiency to reduce domestic material consumption per capita
7.	Increase funding for promoting non-consumptive uses of the natural resources
8.	Support local community-based ecotourism activities for areas that are rich in biodiversity or have attractive cultural heritage sites
9.	Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at the catchment level
10.	Fast-track the formulation, review, harmonisation, and implementation of land laws, policies regulations, standards and guidelines
11.	Strengthen the capacity of land management institutions in executing their mandate geared towards securing land rights
12.	Promote land consolidation, titling and banking
13.	Complete the rollout and integration of the Land Management Information System with other systems
14.	promote tenure security including women's access to land
15.	Develop and implement a Land Valuation Management Information System (LAVMIS)
16.	Capitalize the Land Fund to ensure access to land by lawful and bona fide occupants
17.	Undertake a comprehensive inventory of Government land
18.	Improve coordination, planning, regulation and monitoring of water resources at catchment level



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

Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release 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	446,430,762	56.2	64	100.00	42.00	74.76	Key achievement was advancing the Angololo MPP with a near-finalised bilateral agreement.
	National Water Quality Monitoring infrastructure & networks upgraded and functional.	4,392,918,804	9.4	74	100.00	5.00	52.98	The major achievements were upgrading water monitoring infrastructure and conducting extensive water quality assessments across drinking sources and major lakes.
	Operational water information systems at the central level and in the 4 Water Management Zones.	2,764,304,322	13.7	73	100.00	50.00	100.00	The major achievements were the nationwide rollout of WIS II and notable progress on water resource reporting, monitoring, and equipment installation.
	Operational optimal surface water and groundwater monitoring network.	22,358,176,048	11.0	49	100.00	5.00	45.54	Poor performance affected by less and late release of funds.
	Water samples from water bodies collected and analysed for quality.	125,027,259	13.5	80	100.00	10.00	74.14	Significant progress was made in sample analysis, revenue generation, and the procurement of chemicals and reagents, though the targets for sample analysis and non-tax revenue were not fully achieved



Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
	National Water Quality Reference Laboratory analytical capacity upgraded and regional laboratories established to address issues related drinking water, pollution & SDGs.	2,848,714,799	6.9	93	100.00	6.00	87.07	The performance was good, with the NWQRL construction reaching 62% completion, ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation 90% complete, and the jetty for the water vessel fully constructed, while Mbarara Regional Laboratory construction progressed to 10%.
	Degraded water catchments protected and restored through implementation of catchment management measures.	10,158,465,890	17.2	75	100.00	5.00	29.12	Progress was made on several catchment management measures, including 75% completion of monitoring stations, 13 km of soil and water management structures, and 50 ha of forest restoration; however, key targets such as the construction of water harvesting structures and restoration of wetlands and riverbanks were not fully achieved.
	Water management measures implemented in priority sub-catchments.	2,761,348,606	15.8	75	100.00	11.00	69.80	Significant progress in catchment management, restoration efforts, and community livelihood support. However, the groundwater study (60% completed) and the Tangi Ajai sub-catchment plan (10% completed) did not meet the



Outputs Performance									Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance				
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)		
								planned targets.	
	Increased water storage capacity to meet water resources use requirements.	9,209,841,614	16.5	75	100.00	14.00	84.67	Key achievements include the assessment of 56 water abstraction permits and the identification of 99 illegal water abstractions. However, progress on planned actions for the Albertine Graben and flood management infrastructure was limited to planning and assessments, with no tangible implementation.	
	ESIA for water-related projects reviewed.	2,608,448,268	15.9	74	100.00	70.00	100.00	The performance exceeded the planned target, as 12 Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) were reviewed and comments were submitted to NEMA, surpassing the original target of four.	



Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (US\$)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
	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.	131,494,290	54.0	62	100.00	53.00	98.24	Very good performance as permanent staff were supervised, appraised and their salaries paid.
	Availability of adequate quantity and quality of water resources for all consumptive water uses assured.	2,763,953,989	13.7	73	100.00	10.00	72.91	Fair performance as 100 Water use permits issued for the various water uses.
	Demonstration centres for innovative catchment management measures established; degraded water catchments protected and restored through implementation of catchment	764,501,689	27.0	80	100.00	0.00	0.00	Poor performance as no work were done.



Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
	management measures.							
	Water Resources Institute and the appropriate Technology Centre strengthened to coordinate sector training, research, dialogues and outreach.	325,714,732	1,346.5	68	100.00	33.30	2.47	Poorly performed as only preparatory meeting and route mapping had been made for (UWEWK 2025).
	Catchment Management Plans in the Water Management Zones.	183,480,406	5.7	80	100.00	3.00	52.33	Poor performance as only baseline study meeting has been convened
	Functional gender-sensitive water catchment management committees established.	734,400,774	13.1	65	100.00	8.00	61.19	Fair performance; most meetings were held, and produced reports.
Average Outputs Performance							62.83	



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

Outputs Performance									Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			Physical Performance Score (%)	
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity			
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.	4,709,735,976	111.7	45	100.00	72.08	64.53	Fair performance	
	Protection and restoration of strategic fragile ecosystems undertaken.	50,995,765,740	1.1	43	100.00	50.58	100.00	30,000 trees were planted in Gulu and Lira Cities and do far 1.5 ha restored have been mapped.	
	Restoration of critical wetlands; 900 km of wetlands demarcated, gazetted and restored; 6 critical wetlands gazetted.	644,172,046	18.9	51	100.00	39.75	100.00	20 km river banks were demarcated in River Wambabya in Hoima.	
	Mobilise stakeholders and develop and implement costing management plans.	17,163,755	88.4	48	100.00	0.00	0.00	Not undertaken.	
	Wetland Management Plans prepared/revised.	192,025,439	88.4	50	100.00	50.00	56.58	1 wetland-based enterprise for improved community livelihoods was identified.	



Outputs Performance									Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance				
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)		
	Conserved and degraded wetlands demarcated and gazette.	195,995,609	9.7	51	100.00	30.80	100.00	2,851 ha of degraded wetlands were restored.	
	2,000 ha of degraded river banks and lakeshores restored and maintained.	195,995,609	9.7	51	100.00	28.30	100.00	56.1 km of wetlands were demarcated.	
	23,000 ha of forest established (3,000 ha under NFA and 20,000 ha under licensees on CFRs).	116,495,433	136.8	41	100.00	91.00	66.53	1,299 ha freed from encroachment and protected and protected cumulatively by end of FY 2024/25..	
	12,200 km of CFRs boundary resurveyed, marked and maintained.	5,148,151,643	104.5	49	100.00	70.28	67.26	176 km of CFR boundaries maintained.	
	55 Forest Management Plans prepared and revised.	5,148,151,643	104.5	49	100.00	130.00	100.00	5 Forest Management Plans (FMPs) for Budongo, Bugoma, Maramagambo, Rukungiri – Kanungu, and Kagadi CFRs were finalised	



Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
								and presented to the Senior Management Team (SMT).
	1.265 mha of CFRs protected and freed from illegal activities/encroachment.	5,148,151,643	104.5	49	100.00	94.00	89.96	1,194,096 ha of CFRs protected from illegal activities and encroachment in the nine ranges.
	365,000 ha of non-degraded and restored natural forests.	5,148,151,643	104.5	49	100.00	18.75	17.94	75 KM of fire lines were maintained.
	Percentage increase in forest cover.	196,406,473	96.3	24	100.00	0.00	0.00	Poorly performed as no funds were released in the quarter to carry out the planned activity in the quarter.



Outputs Performance									Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance				
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)		
	Dedicated fuelwood plantations established.	196,406,473	96.3	24	100.00	108.25	100.00	4,317 ha of plantations were weeded, 894 ha of tree plantations pruned, 7,525 ha of NFA tree plantations protected from fires.	
Increase investment in value addition to environment and natural resources products and services	Integrated Forest Information Management System developed; forest databases updated.	149,885,798	75.7	24	100.00	31.25	41.26	Poor performance, at 31.3%, with 5 monitoring exercises conducted.	
	Protection and restoration of strategic fragile ecosystems undertaken.	5,215,958,560	55.3	41	100.00	35.10	63.48	Poor performance. 30,000 trees were planted in Gulu and Lira Cities.	
Mainstream climate change resilience in programmes and budgets with clear budgets	Effective engagement and participation in Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and Protocol.	68,453,513	184.7	32	100.00	0.00	0.00	Poor performance as no works had been executed.	



Outputs Performance									Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance				
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)		
lines and performance indicators	National monitoring frameworks and LG performance assessment revised to include climate change indicators.	53,340,400	41.0	51	100.00	90.00	100.00	Very good performance.	
	Local capacity built in climate change response.	7,112,053	41.0	51	100.00	0.00	0.00	Poor performance. No works were executed.	
	A robust environmental assessment, monitoring and surveillance plan operational in cities/municipalities and countrywide.	256,948,258	157.2	40	100.00	25.00	15.90	Poor performance. Most of the targets were below 50% achieved.	
	Capacity of cities and urban councils in sustainable urban development (greening, pollution and waste management) enhanced.	64,897,486	194.9	32	100.00	0.00	0.00	Activity was not undertaken in the quarter.	
	Effective engagement with UN and other partners in environmental issues.	64,897,486	194.9	32	100.00	0.00	0.00	Activity was not undertaken in the quarter.	



Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
Develop and implement a framework that reduces adverse per capita environmental impact of cities (air quality and waste management practices)	Partnerships established.	64,897,486	194.9	32	100.00	0.00	0.00	Activity was not undertaken in the quarter.
	Increased funding to non-consumptive uses of the natural resources.	4,346,987,172	110.2	42	100.00	100.00	90.78	Good performance. 25% reduction in arrears.
	The institutional capacity of the relevant institutions to manage and regulate environmental aspects, including oil and gas activities, enhanced.	4,346,987,172	110.2	42	100.00	54.54	49.51	Fairly performed.
	Environmental inspectors, other ENR managers and committees trained on environmental regulation and enforcement quality standards.	590,300,425	215.5	25	100.00	100.00	46.40	Very good performance, with 248 NEMA staff enrolled on medical schemes to cater for HIV/AIDS, and other targets performed by half.
	An environmental enforcement strategy developed and operationalized.	170,689,279	53.9	51	100.00	88.80	100.00	Very good performance, at 88%.



Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
	25 cities/ municipalities with functional solid waste / e-waste) management facilities.	237,752,488	161.7	41	100.00	18.20	11.26	Poor performance registered. 291 environment enforcement and surveillance operations were undertaken to support Environment Protection Force.
	A legal framework for environment management strengthened.	97,435,130	128.3	45	100.00	29.30	22.84	Poor performance .
	A robust environmental assessment, monitoring and surveillance plan operational in cities/municipalities and country.	97,435,130	128.3	45	100.00	19.58	15.27	Poor performance.
	Capacity of relevant stakeholders on environmental laws and standards enhanced.	97,435,130	128.3	45	100.00	0.00	0.00	Activity was not undertaken in the quarter.
Integrate education for sustainable	The national state of environment report prepared	97,435,130	128.3	45	100.00	57.75	45.03	Fair performance.



Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
development in national curricula at all levels for an environmentally literate citizenry	Education for Sustainable Development integrated in education curricula.	156,219,333	76.8	97	100.00	0.00	0.00	Activity was not undertaken in the quarter.
	Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on environment developed and translated into local languages.	156,219,333	76.8	97	100.00	80.00	100.00	Very good performance. IEC categories, assorted ICT supplies procured.
Undertake applied research and innovation on sustainable consumption and production to ensure resource use efficiency to reduce domestic material consumption per capita	Public education programmes and campaigns on environment enhanced.	204,818,364	164.7	20	100.00	95.00	57.70	Very good performance.
Increase funding for promoting non-consumptive uses of the natural resources	Research and innovation conducted.	238,253,786	162.5	31	100.00	70.00	43.09	Good performance.



Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
Support local community-based ecotourism activities for areas that are rich in biodiversity or have attractive cultural heritage sites	200 million seedlings supplied (5 million – bamboo; 50 million – indigenous; and 145 million – exotic species).	116,495,433	136.8	41	100.00	75.00	54.83	Good performance. 354 staff insured against accidents at work through Group Personnel Assurance (GPA). No maturing tree plantations were inventoried.
Strengthen the policy, legal and institutional framework for effective disaster risk governance, management and response	10 new ecotourism concessions developed in partnership with the private sector and communities. Government's capacity for rapid emergency and disaster response enhanced.	329,977,101	85.7	47	100.00	80.00	93.39	Targets achieved.
		9,198,657,259	83.1	38		80.00	96.22	Resettled 227 households; facilitated the resettlement of IDPs at Muhokya IDP Camp; supported approximately 19,352 households (96,762 people) with relief



Outputs Performance								Remark
Intervention	Output	Financial Performance			Physical Performance			
		Annual Budget (USh)	% of Budget Received	% of Release Spent	Annual Target	Cum. Achieved Quantity	Physical Performance Score (%)	
								food.
	A comprehensive national disaster risk management plan.	1,955,742,171	112.2	43	100.00	0.00	0.00	Not undertaken.
Average Outputs Performance							50.24	



Annex 4: Performance of the Land Management Sub-Programme by 30th December 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.	80,000,000	67.5	99	100.00	95.00	100.00	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.	220,000,000	55.5	97	100.00	24.40	44.00	Poor performance. 24 District Land Board appointments reviewed and approved; 7 public sensitisation drives on land matters undertaken in 5 sub-regions, trainings.	
Promote land consolidation, titling and banking	Land demarcated, surveyed, registered and certified.	9,307,016,648	43.3	93	100.00	60.00	100.00	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.	9,302,560,269	91.3	74	100.00	95.00	100.00	Achieved, with both motor vehicles for NLIC serviced and maintained.	



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 (%)	
	Land Information System (LIS) automated and integrated with other systems.	129,016,980,139	52.1	46	100.00	72.10	100.00	Fair performance, with 46,113 titles issued to men and women; 28 CORS established; 391,490 parcels for men and women adjudicated and demarcated; 315 CLAs formed and registered.
	Revised topographic maps, large-scale maps and national atlas.	457,000,000	62.2	72	100.00	51.60	82.97	Fair performance. 13 km of national (inter-district) boundaries affirmed; two large maps revised; 27 topographic maps for 3 districts revised; 4 parish boundary maps developed.
	Promote tenure security, including women's access to land	Land conflict mechanisms reviewed.	93,400,000	50.0	88	100.00	0.00	0.00
	Tenure security for all stakeholders, including women, enhanced.	260,000,000	50.0	88	100.00	31.30	62.60	Fair performance, with 2.371 bn NTR generated.
Develop and implement a Land Valuation Management Information System (LAVMIS)	National Valuation Standards and Guidelines developed and disseminated.	1,441,321,000	49.0	92	100.00	41.20	84.08	Fair performance, as 32,324 property valuations were carried out and supervised.
Undertake a comprehensive inventory of Government land	Land laws, policies, regulations, standards and guidelines formulated and reviewed	16,632,000,000	58.4	-	100.00	0.00	0.00	Poor performance, as no works 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.	100,000,000	50.0	-	100.00	0.00	100.00	Very good performance, as court cases were managed, 13 inspection reports were produced, lease transactions processed.
		Land Fund capitalised and accessed by bona fide and lawful occupants.	728,375,000	50.0	75	100.00	98.40	0.00	Poor performance as no works done.
		Conserved and degraded wetlands demarcated and gazetted.	50,000,000	50.0	16	100.00	0.00	0.00	Poor performance as no works done.
Average Outputs Performance								59.51	Poor performance as no works done
Outcomes Performance									Remark
Outcome Indicator		Annual Target	Achieved	Score (%)					
Average Outcomes performance				52.5					
Overall sub-program Performance								57.1	Overall performance of sub-programme



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