



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

# MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT



**H.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI**  
President Of The Republic Of Uganda

**THE MINISTER FOR WATER AND ENVIRONMENT, MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER, THE PERMANENT SECRETARY AND STAFF OF MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT, CONGRATULATE HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA GENERAL YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI, THE CABINET MINISTERS, MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF UGANDA ON THIS AUSPICIOUS OCCASION AS THE NRM GOVERNMENT MARKS 30 YEARS IN OFFICE.**



**PROF. EPHRAIM KAMUNTU**  
Minister for Water and Environment

**A**s we celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NRM government, the Ministry of Water and Environment is proud to have contributed to the process of transforming our country from peasantry to modernity. We deeply appreciate and congratulate President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and NRM for ensuring unity, stability and prosperity within the country.

I am delighted to give an update on the Water and Environment Sector Performance. The major achievements as of FY 2014/2015 include; increased population with access to safe water at 73% in the urban areas and 65% in Rural areas whereas the national household latrine coverage has also improved from 74.6% to 77%.



**HON. MUNABA NABUGERE FLAVIA**  
Minister of State for Environment

The sustainability of water services in the small towns has also improved from 89% to 92% in 2015. The improvement is largely due to back-up support for operation and maintenance which is being provided by the six regionally based Umbrella Organizations namely Northern Umbrella of Water and Sanitation (NUWS) based in Lira, Mid-Western Umbrella of Water and Sanitation (MWUWS) based in Kyenjojo, Karamoja Umbrella of Water and Sanitation (KUWS) based in Moroto, Eastern Umbrella of Water and Sanitation (EUWS) based in Mbale, South Western Umbrella of Water and Sanitation (SWUWS) based in Kabale, Central Umbrella of Water and Sanitation (CUWS) based in Wakiso.

The total existing storage capacity of water for production facilities increased from 28.4 million m<sup>3</sup> to 31.7 million m<sup>3</sup>. In addition the Government of Uganda procured additional equipment for construction of water valley dams for production facilities. The equipment is presently used through a public-private-partnership arrangement under which the Government and private farmers or developers share the construction costs at subsidized rates.

Important steps have been made in the planning and implementation of catchment based integrated water resources management through the 4 Regional Water Management Zones, namely Kyoga Water Management

Zone (KWMZ) in Mbale, Victoria Water Management Zone (VWMZ) in Mbarara, Upper Nile Water Management Zone (UNWMZ) in Lira and Albert Water Management Zone (AWMZ) in Fort portal. The Water management Zones have played and continue to play a key role in the implementation of water source protection activities for new and existing water infrastructure to ensure long term sustainability. We, however, need to increase compliance to the water resources regulations and rules in terms of compliance to waste water discharge, surface and ground water abstraction requirements by taking legal and/or punitive action against non-compliant permit holders. This will go a long way to reduce the on-going pollution of our water sources.

The Ministry has procured water quality testing/monitoring equipment for toxic wastes from oil and gas activities in the Albertine Graben. The equipment will be used to analyze and identify any pollutants in water which result from oil and gas activities.

The wetlands are important ecosystems, which contribute to the national economy and livelihoods. The Ministry has produced a National Wetlands Atlas to demarcate wetland areas and guide the process of cancellation of Land titles starting with Kampala, Mukono and Wakiso which are considered to be the hotspots. This follows a decision by Cabinet last year to cancel all land titles which were issued in wetlands. This volume 1 of the Atlas was launched by the United Nations Under Secretary General on 26th August 2015. Volume II of the Uganda National Wetland Atlas which has a national coverage is in advanced stages of completion. Wetlands boundaries were demarcated with pillars and beacons in addition to 210 Hectares of degraded wetlands being restored in the FY 2014/15.

The Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) Act, 2012, has been operationalized with a Board of Directors and key staff already appointed.

The sector still faces a challenge of inadequate financing to meet the sector targets as stated in the National Development Plan (NDP-II), and more

particularly, the funding allocated for environment and natural resources management is grossly inadequate, due to low prioritization of the sub-sector in the national budget.

In conclusion the Ministry will continue to serve all Ugandans through various initiatives and priority programs that subscribe to Uganda's development agenda, Uganda's Vision 2040: Strengthening the monitoring and enforcement of the water permit conditions to reverse the pollution of our water resources, increase access to clean and safe water and sanitation facilities to 100% coverage through construction of various water supply facilities including rain water harvesting, piped water supply and sanitation facilities.

The Ministry has implemented the NRM manifesto 2011-2016 and has increased access to safe and clean water for majority of Ugandans especially women and children who still bear the burden of carrying Jerry cans of water on their heads for long distances.

However, if we are to safe guard our resources for the present and future generations, citizens and stakeholders have the responsibility to comply with the laws and regulations governing Water and Environment sector in the nation in order to realise the countries potential.

Finally, on behalf of the Ministry of Water and Environment, let me express our gratitude to all the sector Development Partners, Civil Society Organizations, and the Private Sector for the support given to the Water and Environment sector to deliver its mandate and to deliver services for the welfare of our society.

For God and My Country!

**Prof. Ephraim Kamuntu**  
Minister of Water and Environment



**HON. RONALD KIBUULE**  
Minister of State for Water



**DAVID O. O. OBONG**  
Permanent Secretary