

UGANDA

PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

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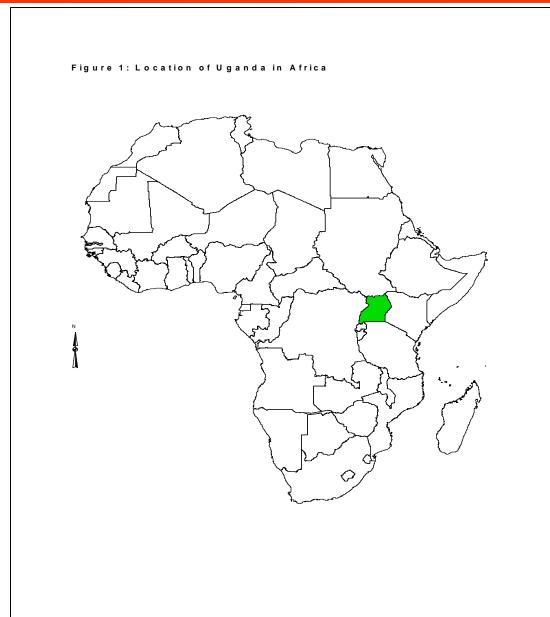


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BRIEF BACKGROUND

- Uganda signed the CBD on 12th June 1992 and ratified it on 8th September 1993.
- Uganda also signed the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on 24 May 2000 and ratified it on 30th November 2001
- Preparation of the NBSAP started in 1998 and the final document was ready by 2002
- The **preparation** of the NBSAP **involved establishing task forces** and wide stakeholder holder consultation with NEMA taking the lead.
- The goal of the NBSAP is to enhance biodiversity conservation, management and sustainable utilization and fair sharing of the benefits



PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTING NBSAP

- Institutional arrangement
- ✓ NEMA provides overall coordination for implementation of the NBSAP
- ✓ Implementation of sectoral strategies in the NBSAP is the responsibility of the respective sectors e.g. wildlife, forestry, wetlands, fisheries etc
- Key outcomes from the implementation
- ✓ Biodiversity Conservation Coordination Initiative (BCCI) has been put in place to improve institutional coordination in biodiversity conservation.



PROGRESS OF NBSAP IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ Draft Guidelines for Accessing Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing was developed in 2007
- ✓ Handbook for the conservation of biodiversity in Uganda was developed in 2007. The purpose of the handbook is to create and enhance awareness on the importance of biodiversity
- ✓ A National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan is under preparation. The Goal of the strategy is to minimize the impact of invasive species on aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems for improved livelihoods, poverty reduction and sustainable economic growth
- ✓ Policy on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture is before the highest Government authorities for approval. Stakeholder consultation and technical work completed



PROGRESS OF NBSAP IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ A National Biotrade Programme is in place and operational and contributes to one of the strategies of the NBSAP of promoting sustainable use of biodiversity which is through biotrade
- ✓ The Forest Nature Conservation Master Plan has been developed and it gives guidance on how to integrate biodiversity into forest management activities
- ✓ Indicators for Monitoring Environment Quality and Trends (including biodiversity) was prepared in 2006. This is a key milestone for monitoring progress towards the 2010 target
- ✓ A National Biosafey Committee (NBC) has been established and is comprised of experts from the different government departments and research institutions



LESSONS LEARNT

- 1. Establishment of the **BCCI** has greatly improved interinstitutional coordination, collaboration and information sharing;
- 2. Biodiversity is cross-cutting and thus requires constant networking with many stakeholders. But this is also tedious;
- 3. The Biotrade Programme is attracting more interest from the private sector in biodiversity conservation;
- **4. Biodiversity** conservation has to be **linked to government priority** programmes e.g poverty eradication, livelihood improvement
- 5. Policy makers and local leaders are more interested in, and ready to support biodiversity activities that have tangible results on ground



NEEDS FOR FURTHER SUPPORT

- Financial support is needed for the following critical areas to enhance implementation of NBSAP:
- a) Review of the NBSAP and Mainstreaming biodiversity into District and Local Environment Action Plans, District Development Plans;
- b) Development of a National Biodiversity Policy;
- c) Support to the CBD National Focal Point from the CBD Secretariat for short consultants to prepare reports requested by the Secretariat;
- d) Support for on ground activities with tangible results at local community level.