

Uganda



# PRESENTATION ON THE STATE OF BIODIVERSITY AND NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

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**PRESENTED DURING THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR EAST AFRICA ON UPDATING  
NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTIONS PLANS**

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**United Nations Decade on Biodiversity**

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## OVERALL STATE OF BIODIVERSITY IN UGANDA

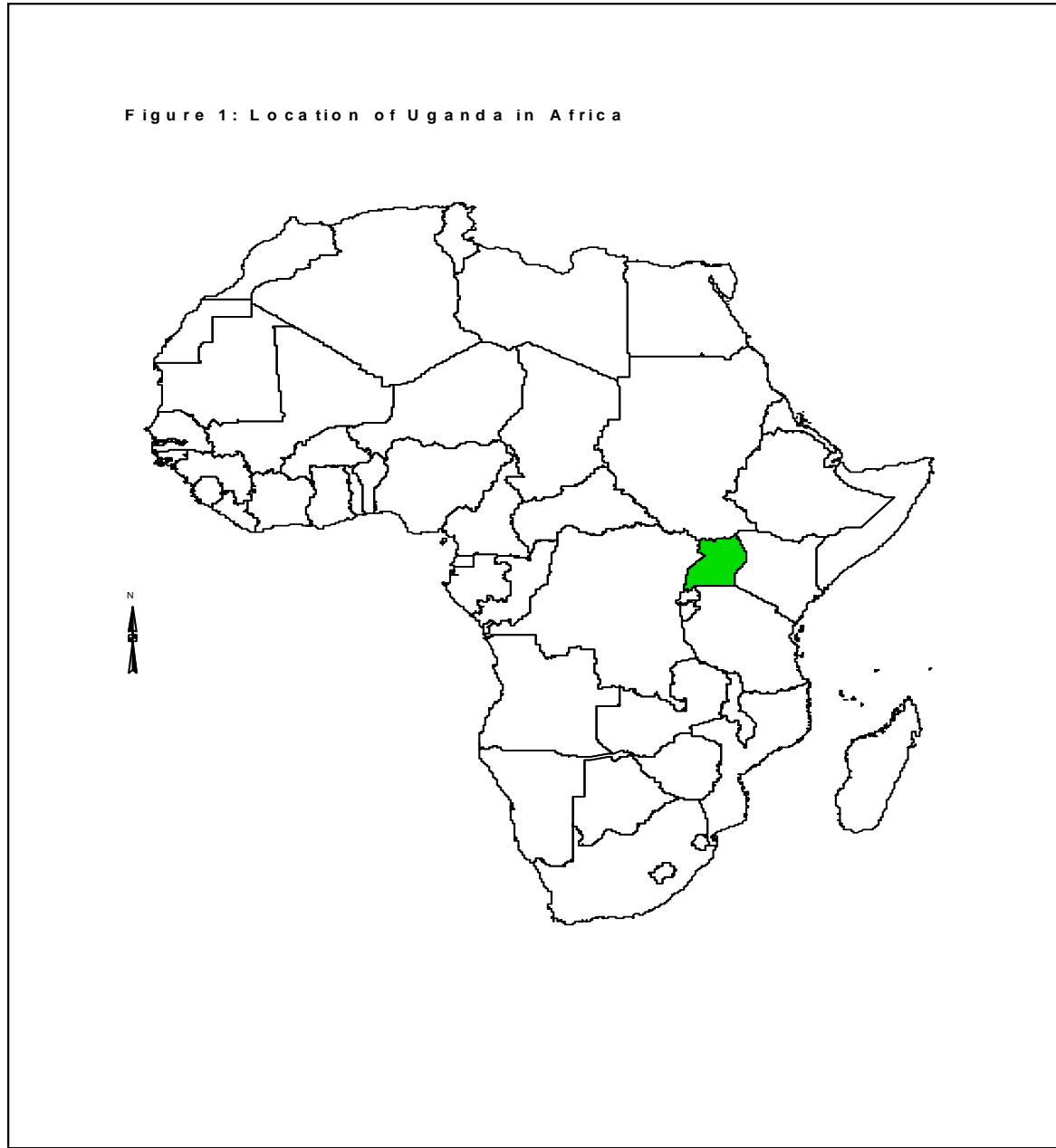
- ➔ Uganda's location in a zone between the ecological communities that are characteristic of the drier East African savannas and the more moist West African rain forests, combined with high altitude ranges, Uganda has a high level of biological diversity.
- ➔ The total number of species in Uganda is not known although a provisional list of 18,783 exists but the total number could be much higher than this figure since a large number of species have not yet been recorded
- ➔ There are 10 National Parks, 12 Wildlife Reserves, 506 Central Forest Reserves, local forest reserves and 12 Ramsar Sites. There are 33 IBAs – conservation of globally threatened species
- ➔ Uganda has been reported to harbour 7.5% of mammals, 10.2% of bird species (**there are 33 IBAs**), 6.8% of butterflies which are globally recognized



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Figure 1: Location of Uganda in Africa



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# Ecosystems in Uganda



Uganda Landcover

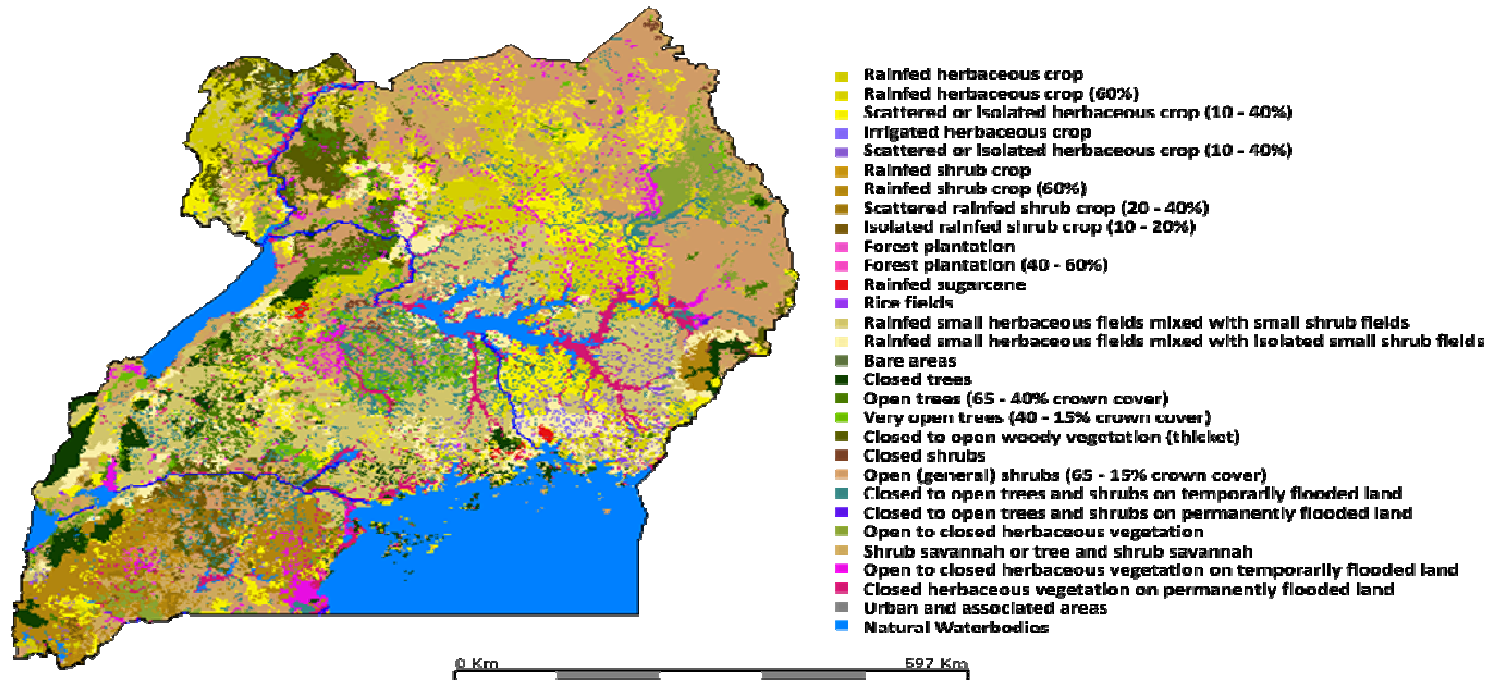


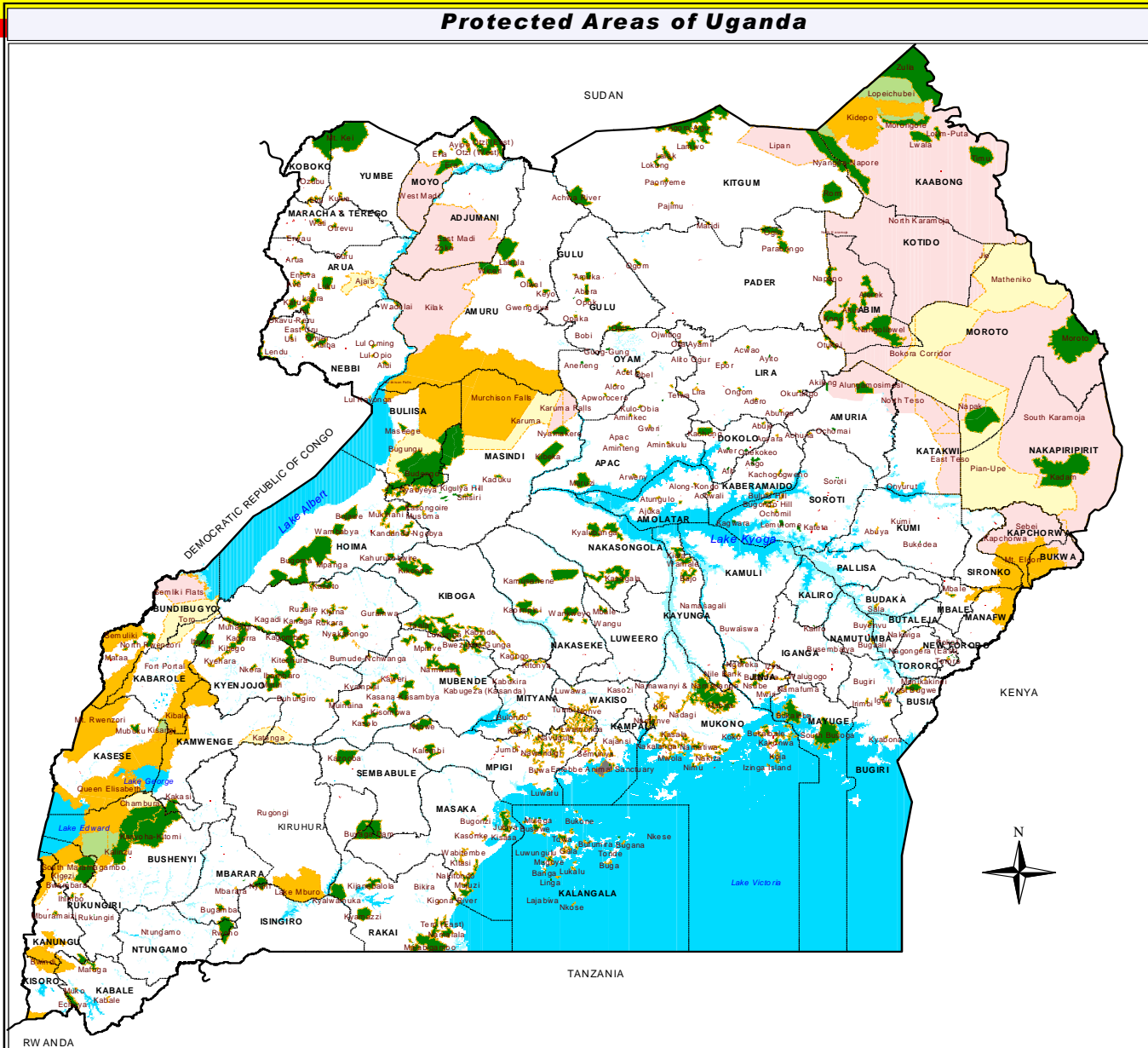
Figure prepared with data from: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Africover.  
<http://www.africover.org/webmap.htm>



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# Protected Areas of Uganda



- Legend:**
- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Administrative Units   | Protected Areas        |
| International Boundary | Animal Sanctuary       |
| District Boundary      | Central Forest Reserve |
| Reserve Boundary       | Dual Joint Management  |
| Wetland                | Wildlife Reserve       |
| Open Water             | Hunting Area           |
|                        | Local Forest Reserve   |
|                        | National Park          |

Scale 1:2,300,000

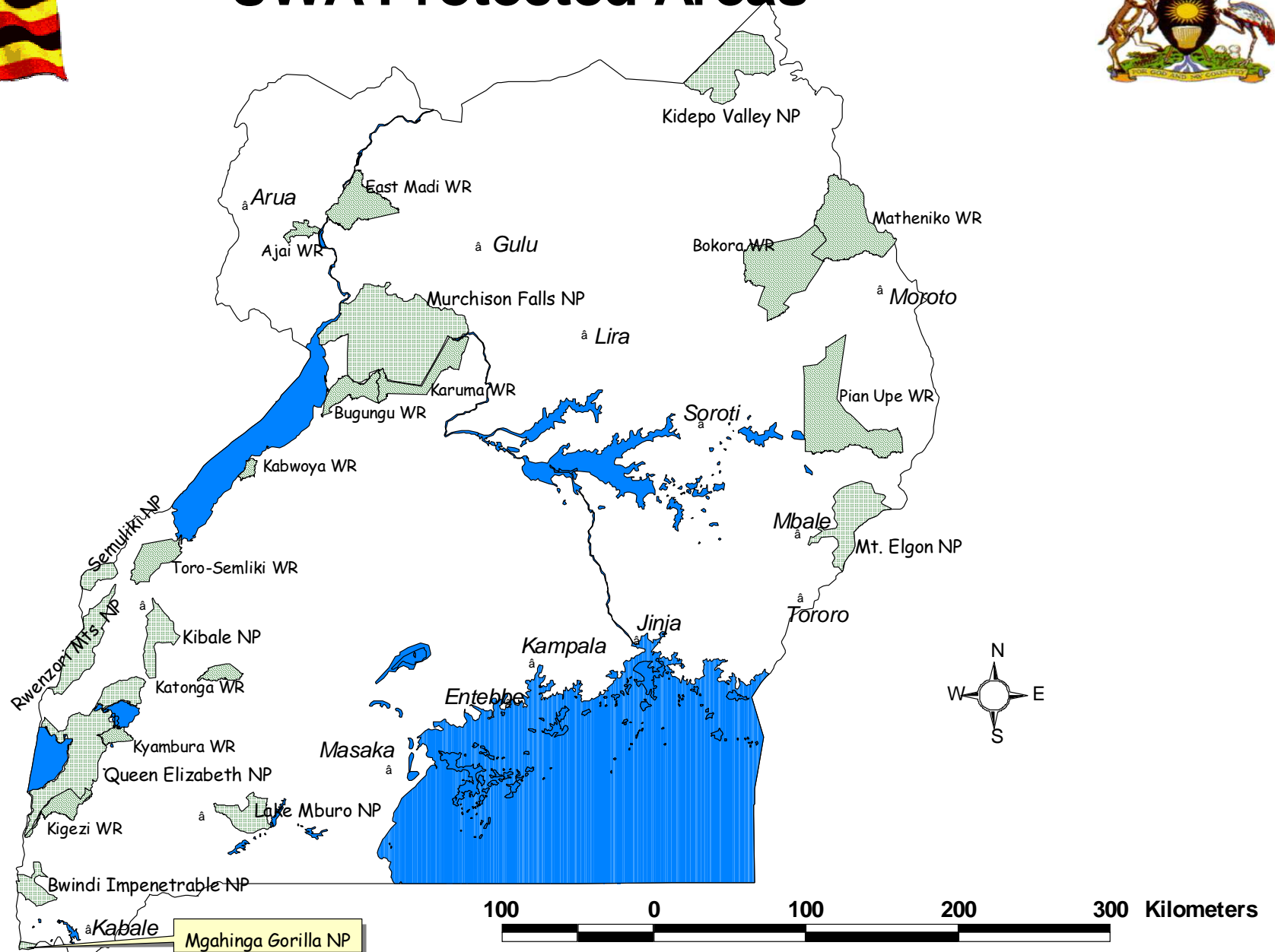


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# UWA Protected Areas



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## OVERALL STATE OF BIODIVERSITY IN UGANDA

- In terms of species, mammalian populations are increasing from the 1970s level when many species were decimated due to lawlessness. For example :
  - ❖ elephant population has increased by over 100% from 550 in 1995 to 3,000 in 2004.
  - ❖ buffaloes have increased by 61% from 7,000 in 1995 to 18,000 in 2004
  - ❖ mountain Gorillas have increased by 8% from 292 in 1995 to 315 in 2002
  - ❖ giraffe population has increased by 52% from 153 in 1995 to 320 in 2004
  - ❖ chimpanzee population increased by 33% from 3, 300 in 1997 to 4,950 in 2003, Uganda has the highest Chimpanzee population in Africa.
- Re-introduction of extinct species is also being undertaken. The white rhino which became extinct in Uganda in the 1980s are being re-introduced into the country and presently there are 8.
- ➔ However, the biodiversity has over the years been subjected to various threats and current estimates show that the country is losing its biodiversity at the rate of 1% per year





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## ➤ THE MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE CURRENT NBSAP FOR UGANDA

- The NBSAP was completed in 2002 has a life span of 10 years.
- It is supposed to be reviewed at the end of every 5 years, hence a rolling action plan. But the review has not been done due to financial constraints. It is overdue for revision.
- The NBSAP has a **set of Guiding Principles, a vision, goal and 5 strategic objectives**. Each objective has strategies. It also has sectoral strategies and the institutional arrangement for implementation
- The **Vision of Uganda's NBSAP** is *to maintain a rich biodiversity benefiting the present and future generations for national development.*





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## THE MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE CURRENT NBSAP FOR UGANDA

- ☞ **The goal of the NBSAP** is to enhance biodiversity conservation, management and sustainable utilization and fair sharing of the benefits arising from such utilizations at all levels
  
- ☞ **The NBSAP has 5 strategic objectives and each objective has strategies:**
  - ➔ **Strategic objective 1:** To develop and strengthen co-ordination, measures and frameworks for biodiversity management (*related to Goal E of the New Strategic Plan for CBD*)
  
  - ➔ **Strategic Objective 2:** To facilitate research, information management and information exchange on biodiversity (*related to target 18 of the Aichi targets*)
  
  - ➔ **Strategic Objective 3:** To reduce and manage negative impacts on biodiversity (*related to Goal B and its targets as well as targets* )
  
  - ➔ **Strategic Objective 4:** To promote the sustainable use and fair sharing of costs and benefits of biodiversity – (*addresses ABS issues and is also related to Goal D target 16 of Aichi targets*)
  
  - ➔ **Strategic Objective 5:** To enhance awareness on biodiversity (*related to Goal A. target 1 of Aichi Targets*)

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## ELEMENTS OF THE NBSAP CONTINUED

The NBSAP has Sectoral Strategies covering the following:

- ☞ Wetlands and Open Water Resources
- ☞ Forests Resources
- ☞ Wildlife Resources
- ☞ Domestic Animal Diversity
- ☞ Status of Soil Biodiversity
- ☞ Plant Genetic Resources
- ☞ Biotechnology and Biosafety

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## THE METHODOLOGY FOR UPDATING PREVIOUS NBSAP

Uganda has not updated its NBSAP. The process of updating has been initiated.

## THE METHODOLOGY FOR IMPLEMENTING NBSAP IN UGANDA

- ➔ The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) provides over-all coordination in the implementation of NBSAP while actual implementation is by sectoral agencies and local governments;
- ➔ The NBSAP provides roles and responsibilities for all stakeholders from sectoral agencies at the national level, local governments, local communities, NGOs and the Private sector.
- ➔ Holding stakeholders workshop to review progress of implementation by the different stakeholders (subject to availability of funds)

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## FRAMEWORK S TO ENHANCE IMPLEMENTING

- ☞ Government has put in place **adequate policies, laws and regulations** which address issues on biodiversity and promote the conservation, sustainable use and equitable sharing of benefits.
- ☞ **The Constitution has a provision on biodiversity. Objective XXVII on Environment provides for the State, including local government to promote the rational use of natural resources so as to safeguard and protect the biodiversity.**
- ☞ There are also sectoral strategies and action plans on biodiversity conservation for example the Forest Action Plan, Uganda Wildlife Authority Strategic Plan, Forest Nature Conservation Masterplan, Wetlands Sector Strategic Plan etc.
- ☞ Institutional framework have been put in place with specific mandates on biodiversity conservation. NGOs, CSOs are involved in biodiversity conservation.

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## SOME LESSONS LEARNED FROM IMPLEMENTING NBSAP

- The strategies for the different sectors were designed to fit with on-going activities and programmes on biodiversity conservation and this worked well
- Targets and indicators for monitoring is vital for reporting on the status and trends of biodiversity
- The issue of livelihood improvement is very important for any intervention on biodiversity conservation
- Stakeholders need a clear reporting format to produce good reports

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## SOME LESSONS LEARNED FROM IMPLEMENTING NBSAP

- The NBSAP can not be effective as a stand alone strategy. It has to be integrated into national and local authority development plans
- The participation of the private sector is mainly incentive driven or its part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- Implementation of the strategy needs adequate funding at all levels – national, district and local level
- Implementation of NBSAP is by different stakeholders and hence proper coordination is needed

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## PLANS FOR THE REVISION OF NBSAP

- Resource Mobilization for review of NBSAP
- Stakeholder consultations and assessments –compiling and synthesizing existing information – from 4<sup>th</sup> national reports, sectoral reports etc
- Resource Mobilization for implementation of NBSAP
- Capacity Building at the national, district and local levels for implementation of revised NBSAP
- Development of necessary tools to enhance implementation of the revised NBSAP for example format for reporting by sectoral agencies, mainstreaming of NBSAP into sectoral and district action plans

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## THE DIFFERENT STAGES FOR REVISION NBSAP IN UGANDA

- Biodiversity Technical Committee to provide overall technical guidance
- Prepare Terms of Reference for consultant
- Review the inception report of the consultant
- Hold meeting of stakeholders - obtain views on the threats to biodiversity and national targets, vision and mission of the NBSAP
- Hold a national stakeholders workshop to review the draft NBSAP
- The Biodiversity Technical Committee provides final technical input on revised draft
- The revised NBSAP is presented to Policy Committee on Environment and finally to Cabinet for approval.
- Launch and dissemination,
- Implementation.

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## BENEFITS OF THE REVISED NBSAP

- Will contribute to implementation of Government priority programmes in the NDP (growth, employment, prosperity).
- Will address emerging issues, challenges and other existing gaps in the current NBSAP
- Guiding tool for putting in place measures to halt biodiversity loss during the UN Decade on Biodiversity (2011-2020)
- Will address the goals of the new strategic plan for CBD and its targets (Aichi targets) for 2011-2020
- Will address issues on the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2011-2020)

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## MAJOR CONSTRAINTS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF NBSAP

- Adequate financial resources for implementation will be a challenge.
- Enforcement and compliance to environmental legislations
- Value addition to biodiversity products to enhance incomes
- Providing incentives to local communities to reduce biodiversity loss
  
- Human and infrastructure capacity in relevant fields of biodiversity conservation for example taxonomy, capacity for characterization of germplasm,
  
- Information sharing among institutions involved in biodiversity conservation.
  
- Sufficient information on economic value of biodiversity, biodiversity inventories to monitor trends
- Harmonizing biodiversity conservation with political goals
- Balancing economic development with biodiversity conservation

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## CONCLUSIONS

- The NBSAP provides a framework for mainstreaming biodiversity into Government programmes and plans like the National Development Plan
- Review of the NBSAP provides Government with opportunities to re-align the NBSAP to new strategic plans of CBD and that of the Biosafety Protocol
- Uganda has policies, laws, regulations and institutional framework to enhance implementation of the revised NBSAP.
- Enforcement of laws needs to be strengthened.
- More involvement of the private sector in the conservation and sustainable of biodiversity needs to be strengthened.
- Biodiversity conservation should address the livelihood concerns of people

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**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING**



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