

STRENGTHENING CLIMATE INFORMATION AND EARLY WARNING (SCIEWS)

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Introduction

- Implemented through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Uganda with funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) (2013 – 2018)
- A US\$ 4 Million project funded by the UNDP/GEF, with co-funding of US\$ 23 Million (in kind) by the Government of Uganda (GoU) and other partners
- In collaboration with other development initiatives notably the GiZ and USAID
- To enhance the capacity of hydro-meteorological services and networks to monitor and predict weather and climate events and associated risks e.g. floods, droughts and severe storms;
- To develop effective and efficient ways of packaging weather and climate information, including contextualizing with other environmental and socio-economic data to produce early warnings/alerts and advisories; and
- To support improved and timely preparedness and response to weather and climate information and early warnings, including efficient delivery mechanisms using radio and telecommunications networks



Implementation

The project was implemented by the Ministry of Water and Environment's Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) and the Department of Water Resource Management (DWRM), in collaboration with key responsible partners including:

- The Department of Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Management (DRDPM) in the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM);
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (MAAIF),
- The Ministry of Local Governments (MoLG);
- The Uganda Communications Commission (UCC),
- The Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development as the Donor Coordinator.

Implemented across the country, with pilot testing of its results in 28 Districts from four sub-regions of **Elgon, Karamoja, Teso and Lango (mostly in Eastern Uganda)**.

Planned Outcomes and Outputs

PLANNED

Enhance the capacity of UNMA and DWRM to monitor and forecast extreme weather ,hydrology and climate change

- **OUTPUTS**

- 16 **Automatic Water Level Stations (AWLSs)** and 40 manual hydro-meteorology stations were installed. Five Automatic Water Level Stations rehabilitated in the Victoria, Kyoga, Albert and Upper Nile Water Management

- **20 Automatic Weather Stations (AWS)** installed and 32 manual (12 synoptic, 10 agro-meteorological and 10 hydro-meteorological) and 32 AWSs **rehabilitated in priority districts.**
- **Weather and climate forecasting facilities upgraded** including an integrated hydro-meteorological data management and information system and an online web platform for operationalizing collaboration arrangements and procedures between DWRM and UNMA
- **Capacity developed for operating and maintaining observation networks** and related infrastructure including training 9 meteorological and 10 hydrological trainers and 50 weather observers, raising local community awareness, developing and O&M toolbox and establishing internal arrangements and procedures between UNMA and DWRM.

Recommendations

The SCIEWS project was a catalyst for improvement of hydro met services in the country, and therefore some gaps still need to be addressed to bring the level of service to a climax.

Three key recommendations for future actions are:

1. UNMA and DWRM to strengthen the collection, generation and interpretation of climate information to ensure the formulation of targeted, timely and detailed weather, climate, and hydrological forecasts, early warnings and advisories and;
2. UNMA, DWRM and OPM to strengthen and scale up dissemination and effective use of tailored weather and climate-based early warning and advisories for planning and decision making across sectors, agencies and all levels of government;
3. UNMA to improve its revenue base by hiring a full time Private Sector Development Officer, who will focus on marketing its services and products