

## **Highlights of the Report on a Workshop to Adopt Drafting Guidelines and Tools to Integrate Environmental Conservation into Fresh Water WASH Activities in Masindi District**

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**Organized by:** Mr. Robert Atugonza, JGI Uganda's Natural Resources and Livelihoods Officer

A one-day workshop to adopt drafting of guidelines and tools to integrate environmental conservation into Fresh Water (FW) WASH activities was conducted in Masindi District in the Local Government Council Chambers on 31st January 2020. The workshop, convened by ABCG through JGI Uganda, was chaired by Mr. Alexander Kikwaya, Masindi District Chief Administrative Officer.

### **Objective**

Objective of the workshop was to adopt the draft Integrate Water Resource management (IWRM) tools in the District Water and Sanitation Coordination Committees (DWSCCs).

### **Summary of workshop proceedings and adoption of tools**

A total of 25 participants including 20 males and five females, all technical staff attended the workshop, drawn from the following institutions and agencies including: Masindi District Local Government, Masindi Municipal Council, National Water & Sewerage Corporation (NWSC), Water Trust, and JGI Uganda represented by Mr. Robert Atugonza, Natural Resources and Livelihoods Officer, and Mr. James Hutchins, Executive Director). The workshop proceeded through reviewing the tools for integrating forest conservation into FW WASH activities. Through this process, workshop adopted the following four (4) tools which include:

- Environment impact monitoring form;
- Environmental and social management plan;
- Environment certificate; and
- Reporting (screening) tool on WASH.

### **Key recommendations**

In addition, the workshop had the following recommendations:

1. Implement Environment and Social mainstreaming into capital development planning, budgeting, implementation, supervision, and monitoring;
2. Committees that supervise district staff receive capacity development on how to supervise and monitor implementation of the tools;
3. The tools adopted should be modified to consider environment conservation and social impacts created during and after project implementation;
4. Provide training for The District Production, Natural Resources, Works and Technical Services Committee to support their legal mandate to screen, approve, and monitor implementation of all capital development projects; and
5. The tools will be approved and adopted by the District Standing Committee and Council.



Figure 2. NWSC Manager presenting a water status report for Towns



Figure 1. Health Inspector present a WASH status report

### **Key resolutions**

After discussion of the key recommendations, the workshop resolved as follows:

1. Environment and Social mainstreaming into capital development planning, budgeting, implementation, supervision and monitoring;
2. The committees that supervise district staff have their capacity developed on how to supervise and monitor implementation of the tools;
3. The tools should not only consider environment conservation, but also social impacts created during and after project implementation;
4. The team also recommended a training for The District Production, Natural Resources, Works and Technical services Committee that is mandated by law to screen, approve and monitor implementation of all capital development projects; and
5. The tools be presented to the District Standing Committee and Council for approval and adoption.

### **Closure**

The meeting was closed by the District Planner who called on all staff to take on tasks within their specialties to ensure effective implementation of District activities related to the thematic area of FW-WASH since most projects always have an environmental and social component.