

Policies and Plans Analyzed

The following policies and plans were analyzed:

- National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan (REDD+)
- National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) 2007
- National Disaster Risk Reduction Plan (DRRP) 2010
- National Water Plan (NWP) 2015/16 -2019/20
- National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans 2015 -2025 (NBSAP)
- Second National Development Plan (NDP II) 2015/16 -2019/20
- Green Growth Development Strategies (GGSD) 2017/18 -2030/31
- Draft Third National Development Plan (NDP III) 2020/21-2024/25

The Sixth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity for Uganda was not included because it was a report on the progress of the NBSAP.

Element of Analysis

KEYWORDS USED

The following keywords guided the policy analysis and search for the Nature-Based Solutions in the policy documents and plans: ecosystem (ecosystem protection or protection actions), forest (reforestation, deforestation, forest conversion, and forest management), logging (anti-logging actions), peat, wood, mangrove, grazing (optimal grazing actions), cattle (same as grazing), wetland, Agri-crop (sustainable agriculture practices), agro (agroecology and agroforestry), salvo-pastoral, fire (fire management), conservation, degrade (degradation and degraded), conversion, avoid, improved, fresh water, soil, water, nutrient.

COMMON THEMES

The most common themes were: reforestation, afforestation. Agroforestry, smart agricultural practices, irrigation, tourism and wildlife, wetland restoration, demarcating fragile ecosystems, disaster preparedness, and protection of endangered species.

TARGETS THAT COULD BE COMPLEMENTARY/CLOSELY RELATED

Wetlands

NBSAP: Wetlands are restored. At least 11,250 hectares annually to contribute to the local government's achievements of the national targets in Vision 2040.

GGDS: Restoration of degraded wetlands to maintain the regulating systems such as hydrological services and effluent treatment.

NWP: Restore and maintain integrity and functionality of degraded wetlands.

Employment

NBSAP 3.6.6: Promote women's enterprises to enhance their participation and leadership in biodiversity conservation.

NBSAP 4.1.1: Develop economic instruments to encourage activities that enhance biodiversity conservation and discourage activities that impact negatively on biodiversity.

NBSAP 4.1.2: Identify and support women's groups to adopt more sustainable alternatives for household and income-generating activities to enhance livelihoods and biodiversity conservation.

Draft NDP III: Increase incomes and employment through sustainable use and value addition to water, forests and other natural resources.

Habitats

NBSAP: By 2020, the rate of loss of all-natural habitats including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero to reduce degradation.

NDP II 15.5: Take urgent and significant action to reduce degradation of natural habitat, halt the loss of biodiversity, and by 2020 protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.

Species

NDP II 2.5: By 2020, maintain genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants, farmed and domesticated animals and their wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at national, regional and international levels, and ensure access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge as internationally agreed.

NBSAP: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and domesticated animals including their wild relatives and other socio-economically valuable species are conserved.

MOST AMBITIOUS TARGETS AND ACTIONS

The following two targets in the Second National Development Plan (NDPII) were found ambitious because they do not specify if they are in reference to the lakes in Uganda. Uganda is a landlocked country, therefore marine and coastal areas do not apply to it.

NDP II 14.3: Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels.

NDP II 14.5: By 2020, conserve at least 10 percent of coastal and marine areas consistent with national and international law based on best available scientific information.

Other ambitious targets include:

NBSAP

By 2020, Uganda's biodiversity is reasonably protected from natural disasters. Its indicators: **3.4.1** Collect through local and gender-responsive approach information on availability of plant and animal germplasm and **3.4.4** Reintroduce germplasm of species extinct in the country, were also ambitious.

By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and domesticated animals including their wild relatives and other socio-economically valuable species are conserved

MOST PROMINENT NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

- Afforestation and reforestation
- Agroforestry
- Wetland restoration
- Habitat conservation

ELEMENTS THAT STOOD OUT IN THE ANALYSIS

Most of the policy documents and action plans do not have indicators and timeframes when the identified actions will be taken. For example, the National Adaptation Programmes of Action and the Second National Development Plan (NDP II) have targets but do not mention actions that will be taken to achieve those targets. There are also no indicators to track to show how successful the actions taken have been.

There is an improvement in the draft Third National Development Plan (NDP III). NDP III lays out the targets, the actions to be taken, the indicators to show the progress and the baselines and timelines of how much will be done every year. However, some targets do not have indicators.

The government solicited active community involvement to identify the key targets and actions of the NAPA. The community also ranked these targets according to priority.

NBSAP and NWP were the most detailed plans with well laid out targets, baselines/timelines for the actions, and the indicators of the progress of these actions.

The GGDS and NBSAP are in line with the 2040 vision of the country: "a transformed Ugandan society from a peasant to a modern prosperous country within 30 years". Implementation of the two plans will provide a key mechanism to support the delivery of Uganda's vision 2040. The GGDS in particular will be implemented as an

integral part of Vision 2040, NDP II and specifically the 10 year long-term national development plan for 2020/21-2030/31.