



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

**JOINT BOARD MEETING
FOR PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY THE
THE MINISTRIES OF: ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT;
WATER AND ENVIRONMENT; AGRICULTURE ANIMAL INDUSTRIES
AND FISHERIES AND THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
HELD AT IMPERIAL GOLF VIEW HOTEL, ENTEBBE**

1st – 5th August 2017

(Record specific to GCP implemented by MEMD)

1.0. INTRODUCTION

The 5th Joint Projects Board Meetings for projects implemented by Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries (MAAIF) was held on the 1st to 5th August 2017 at Imperial Golf View Hotel Entebbe. The Joint Projects' Board meeting was organized for the following projects: Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems (SCIEWS); Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB); Inclusive Green Growth (IGG), Mount Elgon Project, Kidepo Critical Landscape Project; Rio Convention, Addressing Barriers to Sustainable land management through Improved charcoaling technologies (Green Charcoal) project, Catalyzing improved Biodiversity Financing (BIOFIN) project, Building resilience of communities, wetlands and associated catchments, Mt Elgon Integrated Landscape Management; Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans, Fostering Sustainability and Resilience for food security in Karamoja and Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN). The project Boards

comprise representatives of the Implementing Partners (IPs) and Responsible Partners (RPs) at the Policy and Technical levels.

The meeting commenced at 9.15 am with a prayer led by Mr. Wilson Kwamya and self-introductions of all the members present. The sessions were chaired by senior Officers from the respective Ministries or Implementing Partners: On day one (2nd Aug.) Mr. James Baanabe, Director of Energy Resources, MEMD, day two and three were chaired by Mr. Festus Luboyera, the Executive Director of UNMA Environment and Mr. Paul Mafabi. Director of Environment Affairs, MWE; Day 4 was chaired by Mr. Stephen Muwaya, Project coordinator SLM and Eng. Ronald Kato Kayizi Ag. Commissioner, MAAIF. All the sessions were co-chaired by Mr. Thomas Ole-Kuyan, Deputy Country Director Operations on behalf of Ms. Almaz Gebru, Country Director, UNDP.

1.1 WELCOME REMARKS BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD

Mr. James Banaabe appreciated UNDP, the Board members, Technical Committee and Project Management Units for their valuable contribution to each project. He thanked UNDP for being involved in the ministry of Energy and appreciated the good institutional linkage with UNDP and the issues under the MEMD being interlinked with other Ministries like Ministry of Water and Agriculture. He notified the meeting of the survey that was done to replace the cut down trees for energy and a strategy put in place to promote efficient energy technologies. UNDP was appreciated for the support extended to the Project. UNDP also supported development of the National Biomass Strategy and there is need to develop action plans to operationalize the strategy. He urged partners to develop a strategic plan and reflect on how the partners can work together with UNDP effectively.

1.2 OPENING REMARKS BY THE CO-CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Mr. Thomas Ole-kuyan thanked the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) for taking lead in organizing the joint projects' Board meeting. He also thanked the Government for choosing to partner with UNDP to execute the GEF-portfolio and other global environment and climate finance initiatives. He also congratulated the MWE for getting approvals of the first Uganda Green Climate Fund of \$24million project on restoration of wetlands whose launch was planned by end of August 2017. An appeal was made to the Board to find innovative ways to improve

delivery of project resources. It was noted that the delivery rate stood at 28% of the \$8,244,822 SIED portfolio which is far below the expected performance given that we are now in the second half of the year. It was also noted that if resources are mobilized, capacity to utilize these resources must be demonstrated in order to attract more funding. He called upon partners to include gender empowerment elements in all the plans and reports for the various projects.

He expressed his concern regarding the none-compliance as reflected in the audit reports and they could reflect negatively on Uganda as a country. He called for a keen review on how the following processes are handled;

- i. Procurement processes and procedures.
- ii. Recruitment processes.
- iii. Audit Compliance - Uganda is currently being classified as medium risk and hence the need to ensure due diligence in accountability.

UNDP as the leading global environment and climate finance remains committed to supporting Government of Uganda's efforts towards planning, mobilizing, delivery and reporting on development finance in realizing its sustainable development goals as reflected in Vision 2040.

2.0. PRESENTATION ON PROGRESS OF PROJECTS

Each project made a presentation on the mid-year progress reports, highlighting the key achievements, action points from the previous meeting, key challenges/lessons learnt and issues for the Board to note and decide on.

2.1. GREEN CHARCOAL PROJECT

MINUTE NO. 2.1; 2/8/17	DISCUSSION	ACTION
MIN 2.1.1	KEY ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoU between MAAIF and MEMD is still pending signature by the former; the MoU was submitted to the former PS of MAAIF, but signing delayed because of the transition process in the office of the PS. Because of the small amounts of money involved, MAAIF could utilize the direct request modality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PS of MAAIF to sign the MoU or formally communicate to the MEMD of their intention to continue implementing via direct request modality.
MIN 2.1.2	KEY CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively higher costs of improved technologies for charcoal processing compared to the traditional methods, 	

	<p>hence need to train local artisans who can fabricate the technologies at lower costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informality of the charcoal industry and the nomadic nature of charcoal producers hinders consolidation and sustainability of the strategies. As such the project, has been targeting land owners and the charcoal business proprietors in major towns. • The changing climate and weather patterns country-wide, poses a challenge of when to plant trees or crops, hence need for closer collaboration with UNMA for up to date weather information. • Project delayed to start hence all interventions may not be completed by end of May 2018 	
MIN 2.1.3	<p>ISSUES FOR THE BOARD TO NOTE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report from the Mid Term Review (MTR) and its recommendations • The financial audit report (2016) and its recommendations • The project PIR 2016 was rated highly satisfactory (HS) by an independent reviewer of all GEF funded projects • The recruitment of the Technical Advisor • The 2017 project implementation report (PIR) • Request for no cost extension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PIR 2017 be shared with the Board members for review and approval. • The Project Manager to share the MTR and management response with Board members for consideration.
MIN 2.1.4	<p>COMMENTS ON THE PRESENTATION OF THE PROGRESS REPORT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that products from the charcoal project are on high demand. However, a clear strategy for mainstreaming the project in development plans is required, as well as integrating the farmer management approach to replace cut trees; • It was clarified that mainstreaming is included in the project workplan. This is in line with the Ministry's approach. • Based on the financial forecast, the no cost extension period requested is for 7 months; • Noted that the Government budget is already catering for the project activities for sustainability/continuity and strategies are also in place to ensure continuity of the project's initiatives; • The project is to share some of the lessons learnt to enrich designs of similar projects in future; • The project should make use of the energy week exhibition for visibility purposes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds that are not fully accounted for should be refunded to UNDP.
	<p>Issues for Board's Consideration/Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for No-Cost Extension (NCE): Based on the presentation, the Board agreed in principle that NCE should be formally requested with justification. • Audit Findings: Inconsistent supporting documents, signatures for USD 2300 not authentic. • Noncompliance of PPDA policies during procurement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project management should ensure that the signatories are authentic and where recipients of funds are illiterate, they should use thumb

	for project items; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that some of these grants are received by illiterates who need guidance on accountability. 	prints. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure compliance with PPDA guidelines during the procurement processes. Project Management should formalize the request for No Cost Extension with all the documentation.
--	--	---

Signed by:

Chairman

Name: James Baanabe

Signature: [Signature]

Date: 8th Dec 2017

Co-chair

Thomas Ole-Kuyan

Name: Deputy Country Director (Operations)

Signature: [Signature]

Date: 11/1/2018

ANNEX 1: LIST OF ATTENDEES

#	Name	Title/Agency	Tel. Contact	Email Address
1	Thomas Ole-Kuyan	Deputy Country Director UNDP (Co-Chair)	771023675	thomasole.kuyan@undp.org
2	James Baanabe	Commissioner MEMD	772629446	baanabe@gmail.com
3	Wilson Wafula	Commissioner MEMD	772867054	wafula@gmail.com
4	David Mununuzi	NFA/Director Plantations Dev't	772466498	mununuzidavid@yahoo.com
5	Ronald Mbala	MoLG	772383887	mbalaronard2013@gmail.com
6	John Tumuhimbise	MEMD	757993762	jmuimbise@agy.go.ug
7	Yiga Israel	Chairperson Kiboga	772544730	israelyiga@gmail.com
8	Charles Amooti Ntairehoki	Chairperson Kiryandongo		
9	Ignatius Koomu	Chairperson Nakaseke	782128417	
10	Kibuuka Francis Bazigatirawo	Chairperson Mubende	0772666640	fraamotiki@gmail.com
11	Stephen Muwaya	MAAIF	752642536	smuwaya@yahoo.com
12	Akidi Pauline	MoFPED		
13	Kimuli Godfrey	MEMS	772956832	kimuligm@gmail.com
14	Sarah Mujabi	UNDP	772289138	smuwaya@yahoo.com
15	Wilson Kwamya	UNDP	772289142	wilson.kwamya@undp.org

16	Simon Peter Amunau	UNDP-Charcoal project	772289205	simon.peter.amunau@undp.org
17	Omar Senyonjo	UNDP-Charcoal Project	772289215	omar.senyonjo@undp.org
18	Jastine Kabirizi	UNDP	772289173	jastine.kabirizi@undp.org
19.	Dr. Arthur Mugisha	Technical Advisor GCP MEMD	0776613987	Mugisha.arthur@gmail.com